

Belvidere Township Park District **Master Plan**

Adopted August 24, 2010

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*This is an update of the formerly adopted 2002 Belvidere Park District Master Plan prepared
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I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. REGIONAL CONTEXT: The Belvidere Township Park District is located within the southern half of Boone County and wholly within the boundaries of Belvidere Township. Belvidere Township is a "standard" township consisting of 36 square miles. Within the District lie the City of Belvidere, the southerly portions of the Village of Poplar Grove, and easterly portions of the Village of Cherry Valley and City of Loves Park. The southern boundary of the Village of Timberlane is adjacent to the Park District boundary on the north side of Orth Road. Illinois State Law enables the District to annex contiguous land outside of Belvidere Township and within the corporate limits of the City of Belvidere. It has been the policy of the District to expand its boundaries into Bonus, Spring, and Flora Townships, in conjunction with City annexation into these areas. The District has also expanded outside the boundaries of Belvidere Township, via a developer-approved annexation of the Aberdeen Knolls Subdivision on the north side of Orth Road in Caledonia Township. The Belvidere Park District covers approximately 37.4 square miles. The year 2005 population within the boundaries of the Park District was 32,438.

B. NATURAL RESOURCES: The relationship between the Belvidere township Park District and its natural features provides a valuable point of reference. It illustrates the relationship between the District and the rest of the region, sets up a framework for analysis, and suggests possible location advantages for Park District projects.

1. Rivers and Streams: The Kishwaukee River and its tributaries, Beaver Creek and Piscasaw Creek, drain most of Belvidere Township. Beaver Creek is a drainage way for the watershed north of the Kishwaukee River and drains the northwestern portion of the township. The Piscasaw Creek drains the watershed north of the Kishwaukee River in Bonus Township. Within the City of Belvidere, the Kishwaukee River gains even more prominence as the most important natural amenity within the City.

2. Floodplains: Flood hazards are located along the Kishwaukee River, Beaver Creek, Piscasaw Creek, and their tributaries. Floodways and floodplains are a natural feature associated with lower lying lands immediately adjacent to rivers and streams. In this area, floodplains generally have more mature vegetation than the highlands that were cleared for farming. While generally restrictive to building development, floodplains can be ideal resources for recreational facilities. The Kishwaukee Bottoms Conservation Area, owned by the Boone County Conservation District, is a preserved natural area within the floodplain of the Kishwaukee River.

3. Wetlands: Significant wetland areas are located throughout the District along streams and drainage-ways and in isolated low spots. These have been identified and mapped by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. These areas are significant for aquifer recharge, groundwater and surface water quality improvement, and wildlife habitat.

C. POPULATION TRENDS AND FORECASTS: Belvidere Park District has experienced a moderate increase in population growth in recent years.

Belvidere Park District Master Plan, adopted 2002

The 2002 Master Plan prepared by Vandewalle & Associates used a 20-year population forecast to determine future district needs and services. During this time period, the Park District population is projected to grow at a moderate rate. A compounded growth rate of 2.7% per year yields a population of 48,167 for the year 2020 (see table 1). The compounded growth rate presents a reasonable basis for recommendations within this plan. Other adopted Plans by the City of Belvidere will have a profound effect on growth beyond the year 2010. The West Hills Neighborhood Plan adopted in 1997, and the Flora Neighborhood Plan adopted in 2006, will add approximately 65,000 new residents at build out. For the purposes of this Master Plan, it is estimated that build out will have occurred by the year 2050. See "Development Trends" on pages 6 and 7 for discussion of both plans.

Table 1- Population: Existing and Projected

	2000 Census	2005 Special Census	2020 Projection	2050 Projection
Belvidere Twp (rural)	6,206	8,906		
City of Belvidere	20,820	23,532		
Belvidere Park District	27,026	32,438	48,167[1]	118,929[2]
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing, 2000; Belvidere-Special Census 2005; Belvidere Park District – Population Potential & Spatial Analysis Study 2006.				

[1] Vandewalle Estimate. [2] Population Potential & Spatial Analysis Study, 2006 which included:
A. Projected build out of West Hills Neighborhood Plan. **B.** Projected build out of rural and exurban portion of Belvidere Township. **C.** Projected build out of Flora Neighborhood Plan.

Population Potential & Spatial Analysis Study, 2006: This study by David Sliktas, Planning Consultant for the Belvidere Township Park District, was based on current residential growth trends in 2006 and projecting these trends to a logical build out scenario. Other non-residential land uses, such as land acquisition by the Boone County Conservation District, School District 100, churches, cemeteries, golf courses and additional business, office and industrial uses will affect the available land for residential development.

Study Process:

- Existing population within the District was determined based on the results of a Special Census completed in early 2005.

- Future population within the District was determined by delineating an urban growth boundary extending ½ mile north of Squaw Prairie Road to the north line of sections 13 through 18 of Belvidere Township. The study assumed Belvidere City annexation of undeveloped parcels within this area and the extension of municipal water and sewer, thereby increasing residential densities. Development trends, adopted future land use plans of the City of Belvidere, Boone County, and the Village of Cherry Valley, and zoning further established future population densities. Suburban residential growth densities would continue in the majority of the area north of the urban growth boundary.

Results of Study:

- The study forecasted a Park District ultimate **(low) population of 65,886**, using an average “Household size” of 2.78 (Belvidere City) and 2.87 (Belvidere Township).
- The study forecasted a Park District ultimate **(high) population of 72,083**, using an average “Family Size” of 3.32 (Belvidere City) and 3.27 (Belvidere Township).
- The study also included the total build out/population scenario of the 2006 Flora Neighborhood Plan, prepared by Vandewalle and Associates, which projected a build out population of **53,043**. (see Flora Neighborhood Plan map on page 12 and data sheet on page 13.)

D. DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS: In 2000, Belvidere Township had a median age of 33.8 years, which is slightly younger than Boone County. The percentage of population under 18 years is comparable to the county, but higher than the State. However, the County and Township’s population over 65 was generally lower than the State. (see Map #1 on page 5 for age distribution within the District via census block groups.)

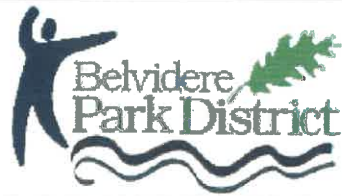
Table 2 Demographic Characteristics

	Belvidere Township	Boone County	State of Illinois
Median Age	33.8	34.5	34.0
% under 18	29.7	29.8	26.1
% over 65	10.9	10.7	12.1
% White	86.8	90.1	73.5
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing 2000			

- E. HOUSEHOLD TRENDS:** The average household size in Belvidere Township in 2000 was 2.79 persons per household, an increase since 1990 (2.68). Belvidere Township has a higher proportion of renters (28.2%) than the county. This is reflective of the fact that Belvidere Township's economy, especially within the City of Belvidere, is more diverse than other communities in the county.

Table 3 Demographic Characteristics

	Belvidere Township	Boone County	State of Illinois
Total Housing Units	9,395	15,414	4,885,615
Household Size	2.79	2.84	2.63
% Occupied	95.3%	94.7%	94.0%
% Owner Occupied	71.8%	78.6%	67.3%
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing 2000			



MAP 1

Service Area Age Distribution



Age Distribution Chart



% Of 0-4 Year Olds



% Of 5-17 Year Olds



% Of 18-21 Year Olds



% Of 22-29 Year Olds



% Of 30-39 Year Olds



% Of 40-49 Year Olds



% Of 50-64 Year Olds



% Of 65+ Year Olds



Census 2000 Block Groups



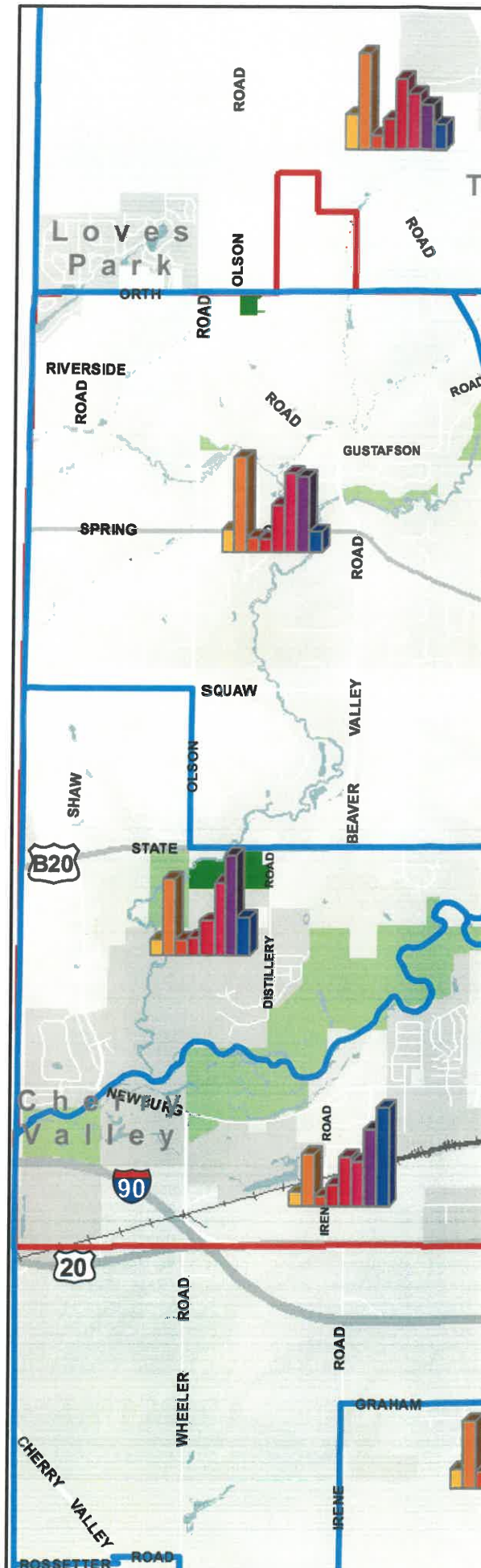
Belvidere Park District



Schools



Incorporated Municipalities



F. DEVELOPMENT TRENDS: Higher density urban development is located predominately within the City of Belvidere. Suburban development is located on the edge of the City of Belvidere, and in the Village of Poplar Grove as it continues to expand toward the south. Belvidere Township is generally characterized by larger lot exurban development, predominately located within the triangle formed by US Business 20, Beloit Road, and the County Line. Scattered rural subdivisions are located elsewhere in the Township. Urban residential development is expected to continue on the north, east and west sides of the City of Belvidere in the short term, and continue further west over the long term, into the area designated as West Hills. Southern expansion will consist of mixed-use development south and adjacent to the I-90 corridor.

- **West Hills Neighborhood Plan - July, 1997**

This detailed land use plan by Vandewalle and Associates was prepared to respond to regional development pressure from the cities of Rockford and Belvidere along the Business Route 20 corridor. The planning area is located between the Kishwaukee River on the south, Squaw Prairie Road to the north, Boone County line on the west, and the Belvidere municipal limits. This 10.65 square mile area is wholly within the Belvidere Township Park District. This same area is within the Belvidere Facility Planning Area; an area intended for expansion of Belvidere water and sewer services and is intended for annexation by the City... The West Hills Neighborhood Plan is a fully integrated long-term mixed-use land use plan, taking into consideration the needs of the sponsoring agencies:

- * City of Belvidere
- * Belvidere School District #100
- * Belvidere Township Park District
- * Boone County
- * Boone County Conservation District

When fully built out, the population of the West Hills Neighborhood Plan area is expected to culminate at approximately 12,000. Greater examination of this plan and its impact and recommendations upon the Belvidere Township Park District are covered within appropriate sections of this revised Belvidere Park District Master Plan.

- **Flora Neighborhood plan - 2006**

An emerging development trend is the recent adoption of the Flora Neighborhood Plan in March 2006 by the City of Belvidere. This Plan represents a new urbanism of high density residential, intermixed within an employment and transportation corridor. Residential densities are varied within various land use categories. Estimates of population build out potential are 53,043.

- **Irene Road Interchange Plan**

An important element of the Flora Neighborhood Plan is a proposed Irene Road interchange with I-90. The primary purpose of the interchange is to serve heavy transport from the Chrysler Assembly Plant, "Just in Time" satellite manufacturing facilities, and other industries on the west side of Belvidere. Within 2009, and pursuant to Federal stimulus monies to revive the nation's economy, a revived Amtrak rail service from Chicago to Dubuque, Iowa was targeted. In March of

2010, the rail line bisecting the City of Belvidere was approved as the final route to Rockford, Illinois and points west. An Amtrak passenger train station is proposed north of US HWY 20 and the proposed Irene Road Interchange. Direct access from I-90 to the proposed railroad station is critical to the success of passenger train service. This revived train service to Belvidere and the surrounding area further emphasizes the importance of the new Irene Road Interchange with I-90.

- **Irene Road Interchange Land Use Plan Scenarios**

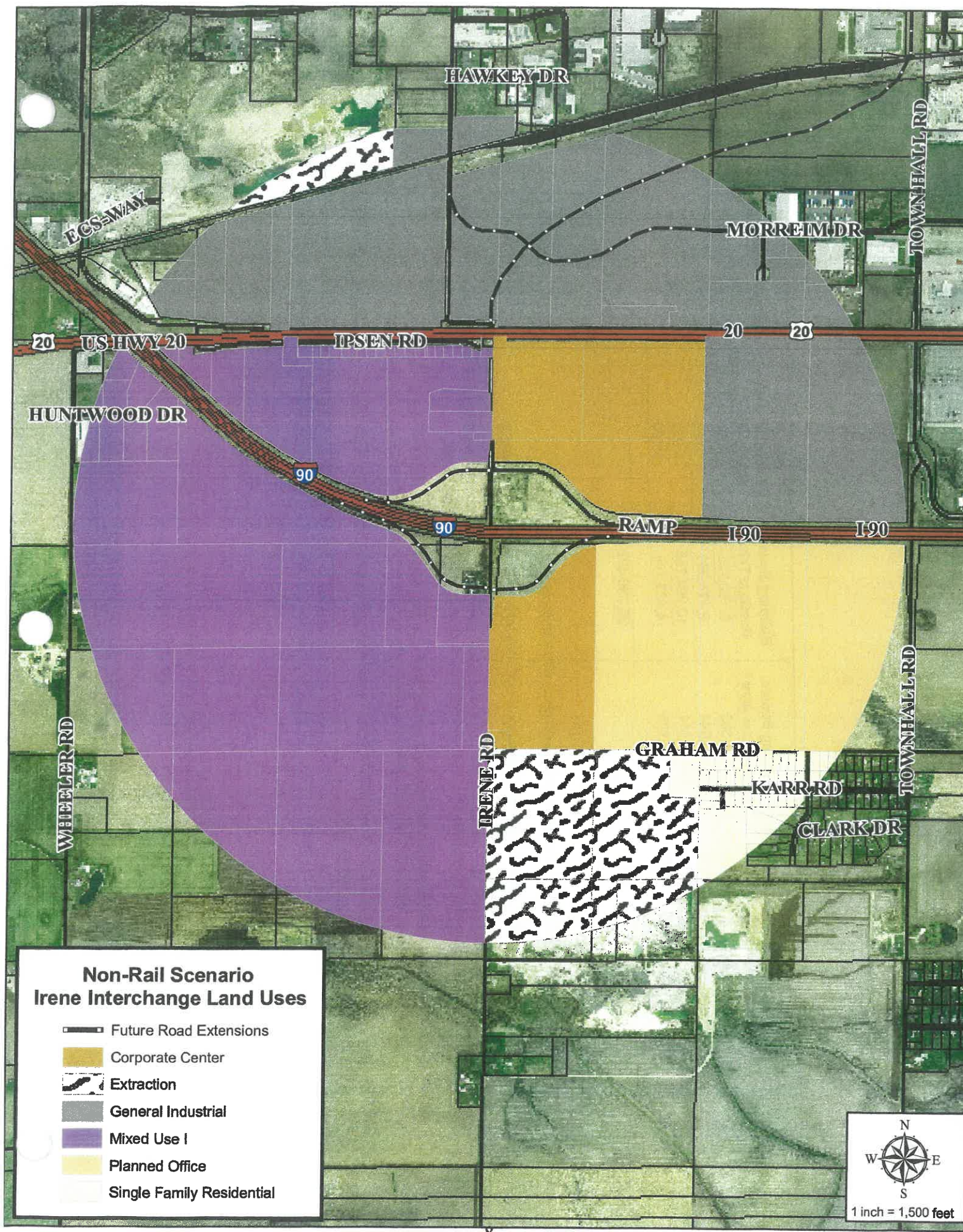
Two land use plan scenarios that are under consideration for adoption by the City of Belvidere and Boone County have been developed in anticipation of seeking federal and state funding to construct the Irene Road Interchange:

Non-Rail Scenario (Without Amtrak Service): In late 2009 Hanson Professional Services, Inc. at no charge to local governmental entities, prepared a land use plan for the proposed interchange with the assumption that passenger/freight rail would not serve the Belvidere area. This basic plan assumed, Planned Office, mixed use with some high density residential and a corporate center. General industrial development would occupy approximately 26% of the land area. Daytime employment is estimated at 27,196. See the proposed land use plan on page 8 and land use data sheet on page 9.

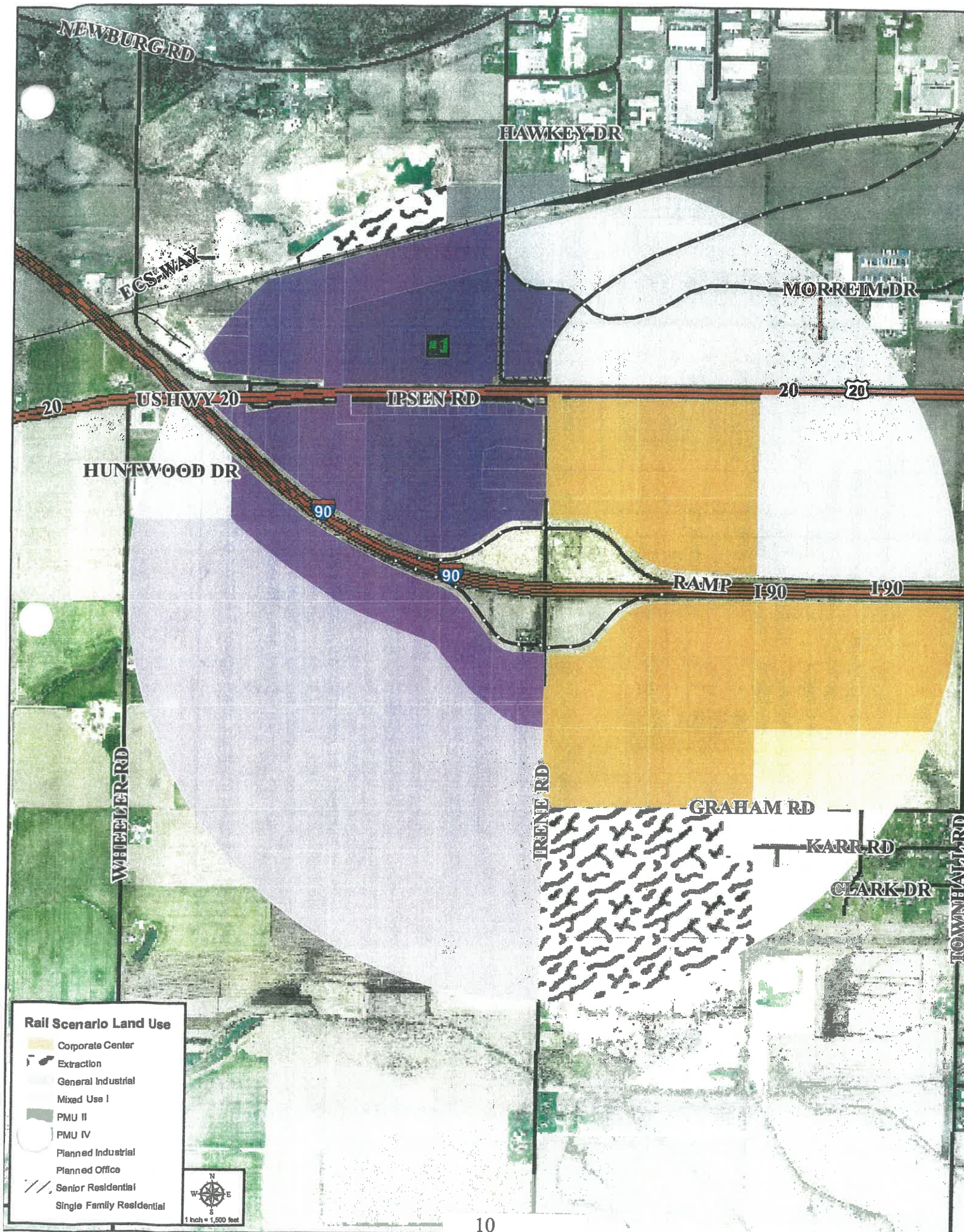
Rail Scenario (With Amtrak Service): In early 2010, the Belvidere-Boone County Plan Commission staff proposed a new land use plan based on the assumption that passenger/freight rail service would be expanded to the City of Belvidere. As stated above, Belvidere was recently approved for such service. This new proposed land use plan for the Irene Road Interchange increases the mix of potential uses affected by the new relationship between the proposed interchange and the passenger/freight rail station. A greater percentage of land is planned in this scenario for mixed use, high-density office/residential mix. Planned industrial development would be restricted to 18% of the land area. Daytime employment is estimated at 35,265. See the proposed land use plan on page 10 and land use data sheet on page 11.

Conclusion

Further engineering, review, and acceptance of the Amtrak spur line alignment and a passenger rail station will further dictate refinement of the proposed future land use plan.



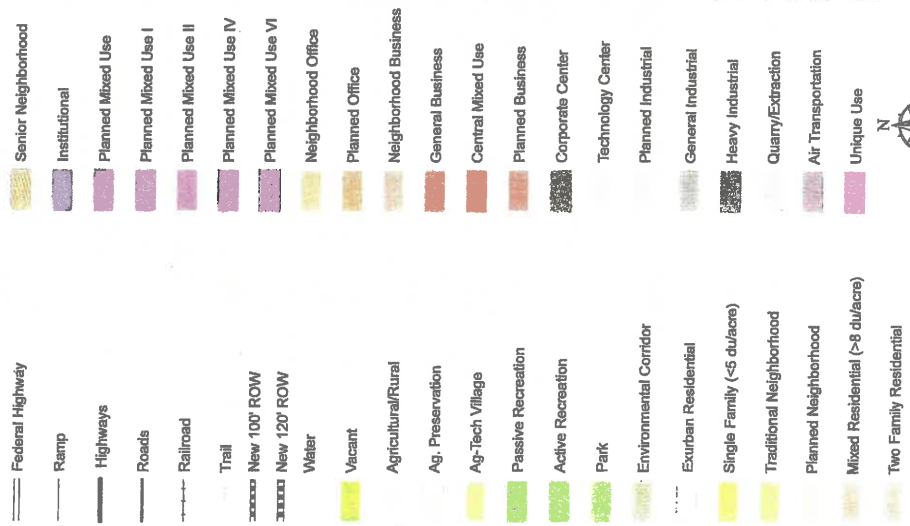
Land Use	Acres	Less 15% for R-O-W	Building Square Footage per Acre *	Building Square Footage Total	Employment to Building Square Footage Ratio *	Employment per Acre	Total Employment
General Industrial ¹	392	333	24,505	8,160,165	111,685	14.5	4,829
Planned Office ²	223	190	13,044	2,478,360	11580	22.5	4,275
Planned Mixed Use ³	680	578	17,811	10,294,758	11930	19	10,982
Corporate Center ⁴	186	158	27,868	4,403,144	11580	45	7,110
Totals	1,481	1,259		25,336,427			27,196
¹ General Industrial : Heavy industrial, storage and disposal land uses, with moderate landscaping							
² Planned Office : High-quality office, institutional and office-support land uses with very generous landscaping							
³ Planned Mixed Use : Mixed use buildings—containing one or more of office, personal and professional service, retail, entertainment, institutional and parking uses. Similar, or residential, uses may be permitted on a second and third floor or in a multistoried building.							
⁴ Corporate Center : Moderate intensity office-oriented mixed use buildings at a minimum of two stories above ground level—containing one or more of office, personal and professional service, retail, entertainment, institutional and parking uses at or below ground level, with office uses above the first floor.							
* Buildings Square Footage per Acre and Employment to Building Square Footage Ratio numbers taken from <i>Growth Management Study, City of Belvidere, Illinois</i> prepared by NIU Regional Research Institute, 2007							



Land Use	Acres	Less 15% for R-O-W	Building Square Footage per Acre *	Building Square Footage Total	Employment to Building Square Footage Ratio *	Employment per Acre	Total Employment
Planned Industrial ¹	271	230	21,430	4,928,900	111,685	12.7	2,921
Planned Office ²	48	41	13,044	534,804	11580	22.5	923
Corporate Center ³	360	306	27,868	8,527,608	11580	45	13,770
Mixed Use ⁴	477	405	17,811	7,213,455	11930	19	7,695
PMU II ⁵	188	160	22,192	3,550,720	11930	24	3,840
PMU IV ⁶	163	139	40,674	5,653,686	11930	44	6,116
Totals	1,507	1,281		30,409,173			35,265
¹ Planned Industrial : High-quality indoor manufacturing, assembly and storage land uses, with generous landscaping and limited signage							
² Planned Office : High-quality office, institutional and office-support land uses with very generous landscaping							
³ Corporate Center : Moderate intensity office-oriented mixed use buildings at a minimum of two stories above ground level—containing one or more of office, personal and professional service, retail, entertainment, institutional and parking uses at or below ground level, with office uses above the first floor.							
⁴ Mixed Use 1 : Mixed use buildings—containing one or more of office, personal and professional service, retail, entertainment, institutional and parking uses. Similar or residential, uses may be permitted on a second and third floor or in a multistoried building.							
⁵ PMU II : Carefully controlled moderate intensity mixed use buildings at a minimum of two stories - containing one or more of office, personal and professional service, retail, entertainment, institutional and parking uses. Similar or residential uses may be permitted above the second floor.							
⁶ PMU IV : Carefully controlled high intensity mixed use buildings at a minimum of four stories - containing one or more of office, personal and professional service, retail, entertainment, institutional and parking uses. Similar or residential uses may be permitted above the fourth floor.							
* Buildings Square Footage per Acre and Employment to Building Square Footage Ratio numbers taken from <i>Growth Management Study, City of Belvidere, Illinois</i> prepared by NIU Regional Research Institute, 2007							

Boone County Comprehensive Plan Map 7c: Planned Land Use South County (Projected Build-out 2050)

Adopted: November 10, 1998, Amended: January 5, 2006



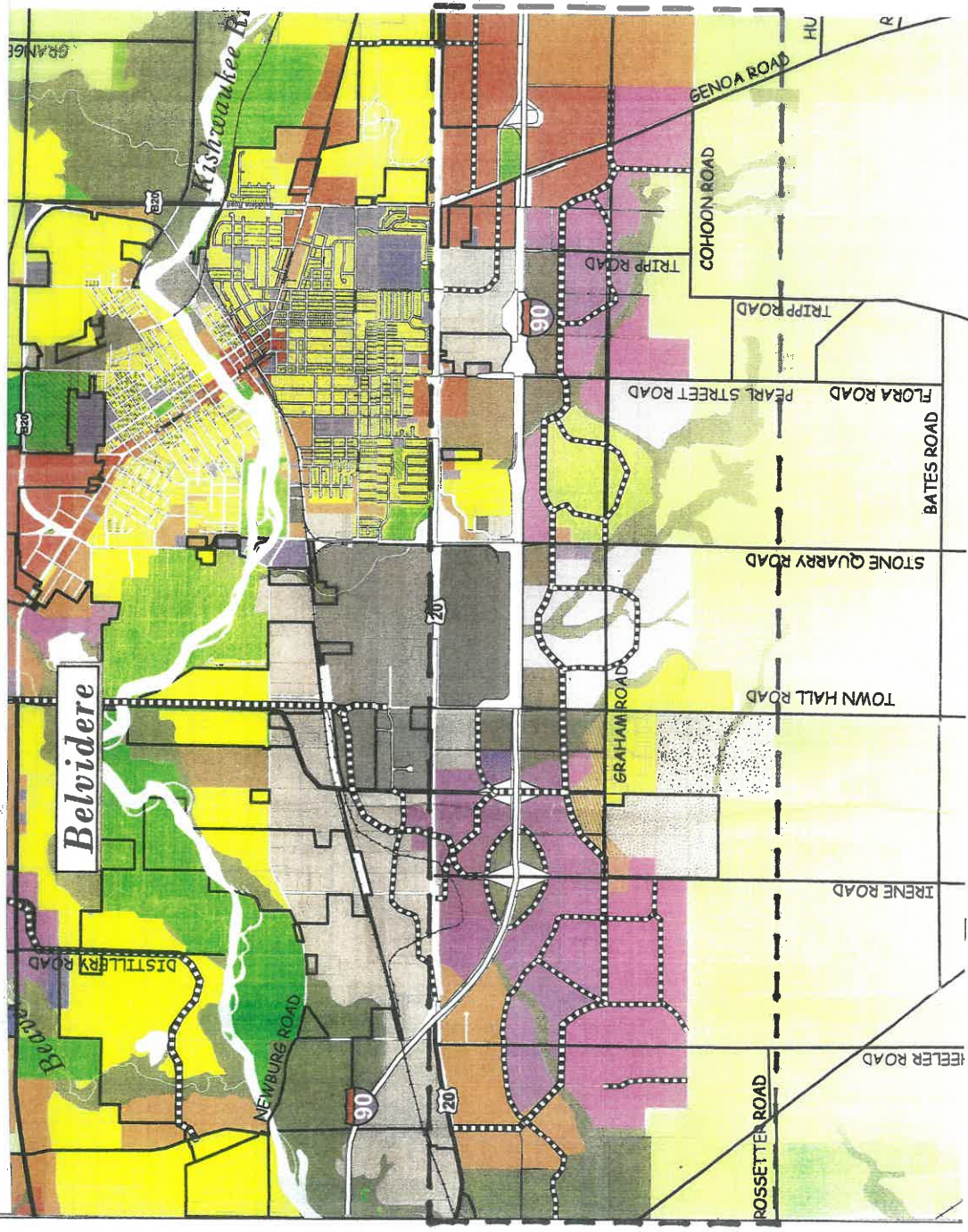
Sources: Boone County City of Belvidere, State of Illinois
Sources for Parcel Boundaries & Roads:
© 1999 Roadcraft Map Publishers, Inc.
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Vanderwall & Associates
Mapmakers, Planners, Engineers
Planning, Consulting, Researching



0 0.25 0.5 1
Miles
1 inch equals 1/3 of a mile

Flora Neighborhood Plan



Flora Neighborhood Plan- Belvidere, Illinois

**Table 2
Acreage Counts and Population Estimates**

Land Use Category:	Acreages						Total Population	Total Employment
	Gross Acres	# of dwelling units	SQFT- Office	SQFT- Commercial	SQFT- Industrial			
Environmental Corr.	402	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rural/Ag	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Single-Family	200	395	0	0	0	987	0	0
Ag-Tech Village	267	1,604	0	0	0	3,609	0	0
Senior Neighborhood	77	542	0	7,740	0	813	26	0
Institutional	20	0	0	100,470	0	0	0	335
Planned Office	370	0	2,438,700	0	0	0	0	8,128
Corporate Center	309	0	2,807,350	339,350	0	0	0	10,488
Neighborhood Busin.	24	0	26,730	102,060	0	0	0	429
Planned Business	199	0	279,160	1,056,820	0	0	0	4,453
Planned Industrial	931	0	745,120	0	13,505,300	0	0	15,989
Technology Center	621	0	1,428,760	993,920	7,143,800	0	0	15,219
Heavy Industrial	411	0	41,140	0	1,769,020	0	0	1,906
Planned Mixed Use I	885	5,312	2,213,500	4,338,460	0	12,484	21,840	0
Planned Mixed Use II	736	8,831	4,415,400	4,415,400	0	18,545	29,436	0
Planned Mixed Use IV	308	6,164	2,835,440	1,880,020	0	12,328	15,718	0
Planned Mixed Use VI	94	2,251	1,106,840	741,020	0	4,277	6,160	0
TOTAL	5,855	25,099	18,338,140	13,975,260	22,418,120	53,043	130,129	

% Land Area- Residential	Land Use Breakdown			% Land Area- Industrial
	% Land Area- Office	% Land Area- Commercial		
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
99%	0%	1%	0%	0%
0%	0%	100%	0%	0%
0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
0%	90%	10%	0%	0%
0%	20%	80%	0%	0%
0%	20%	80%	0%	0%
0%	5%	0%	95%	0%
0%	15%	10%	75%	0%
0%	2%	0%	98%	0%
83%	6%	11%	0%	0%
72%	14%	14%	0%	0%
65%	21%	14%	0%	0%
55%	27%	18%	0%	0%

II. PARK DISTRICT MISSION

A. MISSION STATEMENT

The Belvidere Park District Board of Commissioners and Staff are dedicated and committed to meet the recreational needs of the community while balancing growth with the preservation of open space.

We strive to provide excellence and integrity in every aspect of service to participants of all ages and all abilities in a responsible and cost effective manner.

B. PRINCIPLES OF PARK AND RECREATION PLANNING

The following principles of park and recreation planning reflect the mission of the Belvidere Park District and the Park District Board. The following principles were put forth in the 1979 Master Plan, amended in the 1994 Master Plan, reconfirmed in the 2002 Master Plan and amended in this 2010 Master Plan as follows:

1. Recreation Is Vital

Recreation is a vital part of peoples' lives. Webster's New Dictionary (Second College Edition) defines recreation as "refreshment in body and mind, as after work, by some form of play, amusement, or relaxation." Recreation is a change of routine, a diversion from everyday events and situations. It has value both in stimulating and relaxing the body and mind, and is a vital element in maintaining good health.

2. Recreation Requires Commitments

Recreation requires a personal and time commitment. Busy people do not wish to waste their time on programs and facilities in which they do not feel satisfied. Good recreation requires the investment of personal time and resources.

While earlier plans indicated that society would have more leisure time, recent studies have found this is not true for all age groups. There are more single parent families today than at any time in our nation's history. This group has the least discretionary time of any segment of the population. For this population sector, recreation activity must be found in relatively compact and convenient time frames. Regularly scheduled periods of activity other than employment, household care, rest, and childcare are difficult to find.

There are also more two-income families than ever before. Although these families may have more discretionary income, much of it is spent providing the time and household work substitutes that make employment possible. In some two-income households, time may be scarcer than income.

This limited leisure time has lead to people requesting more family-oriented programs. Also, recreational service providers are finding that shorter

length programs-special events and classes with just two to four sessions-are in greater demand. Further implications are that people want quality in their recreation experience and are willing to pay for it.

3. Recreation Must Be Available For All

Recreation activities and facilities must be made available to all persons with reasonable accommodation. Physical or legislative action should never be imposed to prevent participation in publicly provided recreation experiences.

4. Recreation Must Be Coordinated

Community organization for recreational services must include coordination and controlled development of all resources - natural, personal, public, quasi-public and private - for the overall benefit of the people of the community. The Belvidere Park District should be a leader of this coordinated effort.

Where overlapping agencies serve all or some of the same population, every effort should be made to cooperate in the delivery of services and facilities. Elected officials, policy boards, and staff have a responsibility to their constituents to provide them with the best returns on their investments.

5. Recreation and Government

Recreational service is a vital and sustaining function of all levels of government. Its greatest impact, however, must be made at the local level, and is the responsibility and obligation of the Belvidere Park District.

It must be realized, however, that the Park District cannot do all things. As previously noted, people are interested in quality, not necessarily quantity. The Belvidere Park District cannot be (and is not) the only provider of recreational services in the community. In its role of facilitator and coordinator, it can work to see that the duplication of recreational services is avoided. Residents should expect this leadership role of the Park District.

C. DISTRICT GUIDELINES

The first step in the park planning process is to establish goals and objectives that serve as the base for all subsequent planning efforts. The following goals and objectives are based on a review of existing plans, basic planning principals, and input gathered through Park District Staff, Board of Commissioners and cooperative agency participation.

Goals are broad value statements that express general public priorities and represent the end desires of the Park District.

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

D. GENERAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal #1: Develop parkland acquisition strategies to preserve strategically located land and/or quality natural areas to meet existing and future needs of Park District residents.

Objectives:

- a. Neighborhood parks should be sited and designed to enhance neighborhood cohesion and provide a common neighborhood-gathering place. All parks should have multiple access points from surrounding neighborhoods, roads, and multi-purpose paths.
- b. Park development should be planned to avoid creating nuisance situations between neighbors and park users.
- c. Park facilities should be scaled and located to the future needs of the area and population served.
- d. In the earliest phases of community developments, the Park District and local governing bodies should cooperatively negotiate the public acquisition and dedication of lands and facilities in areas of new development.
- e. Particular attention should be given to coordinating the land acquisition, land use control, and planning programs of all federal, state, county, city, and local agencies concerned with parks and conservation.
- f. Land acquired for recreation and park purposes should remain perpetually dedicated to these uses, and not diverted to private uses for any reason.
- g. The Park District should investigate all regulatory and acquisition tools available to preserve conservancy lands and other open space. Mandatory dedication of lands for public use as parklands and/or cash donations should be continued as provided by City and County ordinances.

Goal #2: Develop design criteria to ensure the provision and protection of sufficient parks, recreation facilities, and open space areas to satisfy the health, safety, and welfare needs of citizens and visitors including special groups such as the elderly, handicapped, and pre-school age children.

Objectives:

- a. Design park facilities and programs to complement one another.
- b. Land in fully developed neighborhoods which would be suitable for park and recreation development, should be acquired as circumstances permit.

- c. Preservation of the lowlands, natural waterways, marshes, and adjacent contributing uplands in their natural state should receive special attention to ensure their management as wildlife and fish habitats, as natural drainage areas, as areas for passive recreation and outdoor recreation, and as reservoirs for storm water management, where appropriate.
- d. Efforts should be utilized to establish and maintain buffers for sensitive environmental areas.
- e. Enhance public awareness of, and provide recreational access to, restored and protected natural areas.
- f. Balance recreational use of environmentally sensitive lands with preservation goals.

Goal #3: Provide recreation opportunities and facilities to meet the physical, social, environmental, and cultural programming needs to serve Park District residents of all ages, abilities and incomes.

Objectives:

- a. Provide a diversity of recreational opportunities so that residents of all ages, races, incomes, and abilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy the park system.
- b. Provide all-season program opportunities.
- c. Recreation facilities should be designed to be an appropriate asset for the environment and neighborhood and to make the most efficient use of the land.
- d. The plan for acquisition and development of recreational facilities for the Park District should recognize facilities outside of the present political borders of the Park District.
- e. Continue to provide recreation facilities that are designed for the safety and convenience of the age groups that use them, the effectiveness of supervision, and the quality of the recreation experience.
- f. All citizens should be provided with the opportunity for engaging in recreational experience, and such recreational facilities should be equitably situated.
- g. Recreation facilities of all types (buildings, structures, and other facilities) should be made available to the School District and other community based groups and organizations to the extent that such utilization does not interfere with established Park District Programs. The Park District should continue its reciprocal agreement with the School District.

- h. The Park District should work with other recreation facility and program providers to offer District residents a complementary and cost-effective range of recreational parks, opens spaces, facilities, and programs.
- i. Provide low impact and passive recreation opportunities and access to restored and protected natural sites while protecting environmentally sensitive lands.

Goal #4: Continue to implement the Glenn Green Open Space Plan.

Objectives:

- a. Provide environmental education opportunities for Belvidere Park District constituents.
- b. Provide passive recreation opportunities for Belvidere Park District constituents.
- c. Create a scenic vista for travelers along U.S. Business Route 20.
- d. Reshape farmed ground to enhance its return to natural floodplain conditions.
- e. Re-establish habitat for wildlife, including grassland, wetland, shallow water pond, riparian, and open woodland areas.
- f. Protect Beaver Creek by decreasing the amount of storm-water, sediment, and pollution entering the creek.
- g. Create a partnership with the Boone County Conservation District to accomplish these objectives.

Goal #5: Continue to implement the Prairie Fields Sports Park Development Program.

Objectives:

- a. Provide an opportunity for the constituents of all ages to participate at whatever level they desire in a wide variety of sports activities in a park environment.
- b. To develop a sports facility that promotes activities for people of all ages and abilities, fulfills the recreational needs of community groups, and attracts attention to our community by its ability to host major events.
- c. To develop a neighborhood park, recreation path, soccer/football complex, softball/baseball complex, senior center complex, hard surface sports area, parking, and a maintenance complex.

Goal #6: Establish cooperative relationships to expand recreation opportunities, to promote and enhance service delivery, and to preserve open space areas.

Objectives:

- a. Seek to incorporate this Master Plan into the Comprehensive plans of the City of Belvidere and Boone County.
- b. Establish an annual meeting with the City of Belvidere, Boone County, School District 100, Belvidere Township, adjacent park districts, and other pertinent jurisdictions to review common open space and recreation issues and coordinate programs, activities, and facilities.
- c. Work with other jurisdictions to encourage the creation of multi-purpose paths within selected rights-of-way, forming linkages to Park District multi-purpose paths. Jurisdictions include RMAP, IDOT, and local municipal and county highway and street departments.
- d. Encourage joint purchasing with other governmental units when feasible.
- e. Work with the development community during the early stages of development design to encourage the inclusion of open space, parks and recreation.

Goal #7: Anticipate needs and recognize trends and innovations in technology.

Objectives:

- a. Provide staff with continuing education and training.
- b. Encourage staff and Commissioners to participate in local, state, and national conferences and seminars.
- c. Identify and assess the latest technological advancements that may assist in more efficient park maintenance development.
- d. Identify and assess computer/electronic technology that can more efficiently and effectively assist in programming and management.

Goal #8: Investigate alternative energy technology and determine methods of energy conservation that can be applied to the operations of the Park District.

Objectives:

- a. Develop and implement an energy awareness program for employees.

- b. Design and build energy efficient building and purchase energy efficient appliances.
- c. Plant shade trees near buildings to reduce the use of air conditioners.
- d. Plant evergreens and shrubs along building foundations and walls as windbreaks to reduce heating and air conditioning requirements.
- e. Maintain refrigerators and air conditioners for more efficient energy cooling.
- f. Establish minimum and maximum thermostat temperature settings for all facilities. When feasible to do so, reduce heating and cooling usage when buildings are unoccupied.
- g. Maintain vehicles to reduce fuel consumption.
- h. Encourage the use of alternative transportation such as bicycles, mass transit, car-pooling and walking.

Goal #9: Purchase products that will minimize negative environmental impacts and consider products' uses, storage and disposal.

Objectives:

- a. Purchase recyclable products when feasible for recreation programs, offices, park maintenance, and development products.
- b. Utilize environmentally sensitive alternatives for cleaners, paints, solvents, sealants, wood preservatives, and office products.
- c. Avoid the use of chlorine-bleached paper products when possible.
- d. Avoid using known products harvested from the rain forests or other endangered natural communities.

III. HISTORY

A. ENABLING LEGISLATION IN ILLINOIS

On June 19, 1893, the Illinois General Assembly approved the "Pleasure Driveway and Park District" act to provide for the creation of Pleasure Driveways and Park Districts. On June 24, 1895, the "Submerged Land Park District Act" was approved allowing for the organization of Park Districts and the transfer of submerged lands to those bordering on navigable bodies of water. On May 29, 1911, an act to establish and maintain parks and parkways in towns and townships was approved and any park district organized under the provisions of this code became known as a "Township Park District." The Chicago Park District has its own statute governing its operation. (*Source: The Park District Code 70ILCS 1-1 through 13-9e.*)

B. HISTORY OF BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT

(Source: Marsha Mehl)

Although years of concern, frustration and discussion had occurred, the first referendum to incorporate the Belvidere Township Park District failed in 1918. However, with renewed vigor and the endorsement of numerous influential citizens, incorporation did succeed in 1919 by a vote of 764 to 280. The first elected board consisted of William Bowley, John Eldredge, Andrew Markley, James Goff, and Robert Andrews. Milestones of Park District achievements include:

- In 1920, the Park board purchased the 55-acre Baltic Mill tract for \$14,500 that included the mill, a residence on Lincoln Avenue, the river dam, and millrace. Two lots were purchased to construct a new swimming pool. Six acres were purchased on the south bank of the Kishwaukee River, thereby giving the new park district control over the stream. Gooseberry Island, the land between the millrace and the river, was cleared of brush and debris and improved with picnic tables, fireplaces, and city water, creating family picnic sites. Two suspension bridges over the millrace provided access. In late 1920, the Park board purchased the 3 ½ acre Doty Flats property, located upstream on the south side of the river just north of downtown Belvidere, to accommodate larger community events. (*In 1946 the Park board sold Doty Park to the school district and it was renamed Legion Field*)
- In June of 1921, a "bathing beach" called Marshall Park opened on the banks of the Kishwaukee River, off Lincoln Avenue at the rivers bend – east of downtown Belvidere. The land leased from George Marshall became a popular park containing a bathhouse and concession stand. Four clay tennis courts were installed across the street and became the site of many city tournaments.

- In 1933, during the Depression, the Park board could no longer afford the cost of operation of Marshall Park Beach. However, because of its popularity, the beach was funded through a consortium of citizen groups and individuals.
- After the summer of 1937, Marshall Park Beach was not operated by the district, but the park remained open. *(In 1946 the Marshall Park property was sold and the leased beach property was returned to the Marshall family)*
- In 1938, after the closing of Marshall Beach, plans were laid to build a park district swimming pool. WPA funding paid for over half the cost and in June 1941, the pool opened. Until its restoration in 1984, the pool and Belvidere Park itself remained substantially unchanged. The 105-acre park provided baseball fields, play areas, picnic spots, fishing, and the ever-popular swinging bridge. The Activity Center off West Locust Street was built during this period, providing sheltered picnic space in the summer and ice-skating in the winter.
- In 1979, a new era began for the district with the employment of a full-time Recreation Coordinator to provide year-round programming, and a Superintendent of Maintenance.
- In 1979, the city conveyed Harkless Park to the district. A tot lot play area on East Avenue was built and organized children's sports were becoming popular. In 1979, a new children's pool and concession stand were constructed.
- In 1982, as a result of changing community needs and park expansion, the first Park Director position was created.
- In 1985, a pool renovation project was completed. Land on Town Hall Road was leased and developed as soccer fields, in response to the popularity of the sport in 1986.
- In 1988, with assistance of state grant money, the Burgess Street Boat Launch was built.
- In 1989, the first mile loop of the Kishwaukee Riverfront Path was completed in Belvidere Park. Over the next several years, the path was extended to the boat launch site. Legion Field was re-acquired by the Park District. A pedestrian bridge was built over the Kishwaukee River, and the recreational path was extended into Legion Field (now Doty Park).
- In 1992, a Parks and Conservation Foundation was established to provide a means for local people to donate land for public use and, through its 501C3 status, receive tax deductions. Independent of the Park Board of Commissioners, the foundation membership is able to assist local groups and individuals with charitable gifts.

- In 1992, the 10-acre Aberdeen Park was constructed within Belvidere Township, on Orth Road in the northwest side of the district, to serve the suburban population.
- In 1994, Doty Park was rebuilt with a playground, a large shelter with restrooms, a boat dock, and grassy concert area.
- In 1995, Hickory Bill's Island, west of the Stone Quarry Road Bridge, was completed. The site includes a canoe launch, picnic site and parking area.
- Throughout the 1990's, a park/school concept was started in a partnership with parent/teacher organizations to help fund grade school playgrounds. Perry, Caledonia, Lincoln, Washington, Kishwaukee, and Logan Schools were all recipients of that aid. The newly constructed Meehan School extended the park/school concept further with the district contributing funds for the construction of the gym and playground in exchange for the use of those facilities for community after-hours and summer programs and activities.
- In 1995, an extensive restoration of the historic Baltic Mill included a new meeting room addition, public restrooms, and an office for the Boone County Arts Council. Adjacent to the Mill, a stage area for "Concerts in the Park" was constructed. To correct serious structural and environmental problems, the head gates on the millrace were reconstructed and millrace dredged. The weir was reconstructed and the park grounds re-landscaped.
- In 1996, the Parks and Conservation Foundation received a land donation of 20 acres from the Green Giant Pillsbury Company, along the Kishwaukee River, referred to as Red Horse Bend. Seven years later, a "Conservation 2000" grant allowed the foundation to acquire an additional 12.68 acres to the east from a private landowner.
- In 1999, the new Park District Administration Office was completed to provide sufficient space for staff and the public, and was designed to meet the future space needs.
- In 2000, a bridge from the Park District's Hickory Bill's Island to the Boone County Conservation District was built, linking both path systems.
- In 2003, the district acquired 6.7 acres in the Logan Square Subdivision for a neighborhood park to be named after Fred Winterroth. This is the first acquisition of land in the southeast quadrant of the city. Three years later, a second parcel of 4.29 acres was acquired a mile east, in the Farmington East Subdivision.
- In 2003, development began on Prairie Fields Sports Complex, a major recreation facility on 90 acres of land, east of Fairgrounds Road (Rte. 76), and south of Belvidere Bypass 20. Soccer fields and baseball diamonds

are currently available. Restrooms and paved parking areas with a paved recreational path around the site also serve the public.

- In 2004, River's Edge Recreational Center was constructed, replacing the Activity Center off W. Locust Street. Activities such as indoor rock climbing, basketball, arts and crafts, and after school programs, along with multi-function community rooms now accommodate the many needs of various age levels.
- In 2006, the Belvidere Park District entered into an agreement with the Rockford Park District and the Freeport Park District to form "Northlands Association for Special Recreation," and began to levy a tax for "Joint Recreational Programs for Handicapped."
- In 2007, a 71-acre parcel of diverse landscape, west of Belvidere and south of U.S. Business Rt. 20, was acquired from the Glenn Green estate, and is now known as the Glenn H. Green Open Space. District staff planted a 32-acre prairie in 2009.
- In 2009, a new state-of-the-art, universal playground was completed near the south side of the Administration Office.
- In 2009, the main entrance to Belvidere Park and the internal road system near the Baltic Mill were reconstructed, with additional paved parking and other improvements meeting handicap accessibility standards.

C. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The legislative body of the Belvidere Township Park District is the Board of Commissioners. The board members, known as park commissioners, consist of five members, each with a term of office of four (4) years. A commissioner must be a resident of the park district for at least one (1) year prior to election and remain so for the entire term of office. Park district elections are nonpartisan, which means that election candidates cannot run as members of national or local political parties. Park commissioners are elected at staggered terms of four years each. Two (2) are elected during one election cycle and three (3) are elected during the next park election. The park commissioners elect the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Assistant Secretary in May of every year. The office of park commissioner is non-paid. Actions of the Board are conducted by way of motions, resolutions or ordinances. As with any public body, state law concerning open meetings and freedom of information must be complied. Agendas, minutes, and records must also meet the standards as set forth in Illinois State Law. Robert's Rules of Order govern the conduct of the official meetings of the Board of Commissioners.

IV. SOURCES OF REVENUE

A. LOCAL PROPERTY TAX The park district annually levies a percentage rate on all taxable property in the district for specific purposes. The purpose and maximum rate, or amount, for funds is as follows; corporate: .10, recreation: .075, audit: .005, joint handicapped recreation: .04, municipal retirement/social security/ tort/ workers compensation/liability insurance: no limit, museum: .07, and non- referendum general obligation bonds \$948,237.00. The total current tax rate of the Belvidere Township Park District is .3954 or approximately 6-8% of the total tax bill.

B. DEVELOPMENT FEES-LAND/CASH The City of Belvidere and Boone County have adopted Land/Cash fee schedules concerning new development within their jurisdictions. The rationale is that new development will burden or impact the services and facilities of various units of government. In addition to other units of government, a portion of the Land/Cash fee is dedicated to the Belvidere Township Park District. The fee is usually paid at the construction/permit phase of development. The rationale and calculation of the adopted fee schedule by both the City and County are included as excerpts in the **Appendix** of this document. The current land/cash fee using a standard 3 bedroom detached single-family is: **City of Belvidere: \$2,174.25 & Boone County: \$1,833.00**

C. GROWTH IMPACT FEE PER ANNEXATION (additional fee)

A study titled "Capital Improvement Development Impact Fee Study – Belvidere Park District" was completed in 2007. The study was based on developments annexed to the City of Belvidere. The study, sponsored by the City and cooperatively funded by affected agencies including the Belvidere Park District, revealed that certain capital facility costs could be assigned to a development through annexation to the city. The full study, including rationale and results of cost impact to the Belvidere Park District, is listed as a support document in the **Appendix**. Fees are calculated based on number of bedrooms in single-family detached/attached, multi-family units, etc. Fair market value per unit is also included in the fee calculation. The current growth impact fee to the Park District per a development annexation to the City of Belvidere using a standard 3 bedroom detached single-family is **\$282.13**.

D. USAGE FEES AND CHARGES

The district collects fees and charges for participation in programs, facility admissions, and rentals.

E. GRANTS—STATE AND FEDERAL

1. Federal Funding - Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) (source: Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Rec. Plan – SCORP, 2003-2008)

Provides 50% matching funds for acquisition and development of outdoor recreation land and facilities. States can use the funds for state projects, or grant them to local units of government through the State Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Program of the IDNR.

2. Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Program (OSLAD) (source: Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Rec. Plan – SCORP, 2003-2008)

Provides 50% funding for land acquisition or development of parks and outdoor facilities, such as ball fields and playgrounds. Also used for renovations of existing outdoor recreational facilities. Applications submitted from May-July 1 of each year.

3. Bicycle Path Grant Program (source: IL Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Rec. Plan - SCORP, 2003-2008)

Provides 50% funding for acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of bicycle/multi-purpose paths and support facilities. Applications submitted from Jan 1 – March 1 of each year.

4. Boat access Area Development Grant Program (source: IL Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Rec. Plan - SCORP, 2003-2008)

Provides up to 100% funding for construction projects and up to 90% assistance for land acquisition. The program's main purpose is to increase access to public waters by providing more public boat launching ramps, canoe access areas, and facilities that supports their use, including courtesy docks, parking, and lighting. The program also encourages water trail development. Funds are derived from the marine motor fuel tax and from boat and canoe registration fees. Applications submitted July 1 – September 1 of each year.

5. U.S Fish and Wildlife Service

Partners for Habitat Development-Cooperative Conservation initiative to restore natural resources and establish or expand wildlife habitat up to 50% match.

6. State Wildlife Grant

Grants of up to 50% are provided for habitat development and restoration.

7. U.S. Department of Agriculture

Stream Bank Stabilization and Restoration Program – provides up to 75% of the funding for stabilizing and restoring high priority stream banks using dormant plantings, vegetative materials, stone structures, and low cost techniques.

8. Conservation 2000

Grants are provided by the Kishwaukee River Ecosystem Partnership for acquisition, restoration, preservation, and study of ecosystems and biodiversity up to 100% of funding.

V. LOCAL SUPPORT SERVICES AND COOPERATIVES

1. Parks and Conservation Foundation: The Foundation, governed by a Board of Directors, is a local private, non-profit conservation organization formed in 1992 under Illinois law. The Foundation acquires land by donation or purchase for the benefit of the Boone County Conservation District and the Belvidere Township Park District.
2. Belvidere School District No. 100 – Third Base: All Elementary Schools (except Perry, where students are transported to Lincoln Elementary School).
3. Boone County Conservation District – equipment exchange.
4. Keen Age Center – cooperative programming & committee member.
5. RAMP – District cooperates to provide resources to participants.
6. Police and Fire Departments: District works cooperatively on the Torch Run, National Lights-Out events, and teen programming.
7. Easter Seals–District provides resources & programming to participants.
8. Knights of Columbus – District supports and provides volunteers at fundraising efforts.
9. The Arc – District provides resources and programming to participants.
10. Special Olympics – District provides resources and programming to participants.
11. Chamber of Commerce – District is a participating member.
12. Kishwaukee Riverfront Committee of Growth Dimensions – The Park District is a participating member.
13. Belvidere Youth Baseball - District cooperates.
14. Belvidere Junior Tackle - District cooperates.
15. NASR – District provides resources and programming to participants.
16. Service Clubs - Rotary, Lions, Cosmopolitan, etc. Seek sponsorship and volunteerism.
17. Boone County Arts Council- Board member; participating member
18. Alerta - work with Hispanic Community groups to inform of programming and services offered by Park District.
19. Community Building Complex Committee - Board member; participating member
20. Green Giant – General Mills

VI. PLANNING EFFORTS AFFECTING PARK DISTRICT SINCE 2002

A. WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

The Belvidere-Boone Regional Planning Commission, in conjunction with other key public agencies, prepared the West Hills Neighborhood Plan in 1997 in order to mitigate the potential for intergovernmental conflicts along the Business 20 corridor, and respond to regional expansion of commercial development from Rockford and Belvidere. The Plan's recommendations focused on the area between the Kishwaukee River and Squaw Prairie Road, and the City of Belvidere to the western edge of Boone County. The Plan identified three 20-25 acre elementary school/neighborhood park sites, and 3 additional neighborhood parks ranging in size from 8 acres to 16 acres. The Plan also includes a 20-acre Community Recreational Facility site located on the north side of Business 20 in the neighborhood market center east of Beaver Valley Road. The Plan identifies a number of recreation trails throughout the area, specifically along the Kishwaukee River and Beaver Creek corridors, to link these facilities to the neighborhoods and the community-at-large. Since the City of Belvidere approved a development plan which included only a 7.5 acre site for a community recreational facility, the Belvidere Park District found it necessary to purchase 71 acres known as the Glenn Green property to insure that the district can meet the recreation needs of the West Hills Plan.

B. KISHWAUKEE RIVERFRONT PLAN

The Kishwaukee Riverfront Plan, prepared by Teska Associates in 1987, represents an analysis and conceptualization of the recreation potential and opportunities of the Kishwaukee River. The study concentrated on the portion of the river that winds through Belvidere, and recommends various water-oriented recreational facilities to be developed on the riverfront. These recreational facilities would be linked together to form a linear park, linked to the downtown as part of an overall redevelopment strategy for Belvidere.

The Belvidere Park District, in conjunction with the Kishwaukee Riverfront Committee of Growth Dimensions has worked to implement this plan.

C. BOONE AND WINNEBAGO REGIONAL GREENWAYS PLAN

This Greenways Plan, adopted in 1997 and updated in 2005, is the result of a multi-jurisdictional effort to plan for and map a regional greenway system. Included in the plan is an inventory of existing parks, open space and natural areas in Boone and Winnebago Counties, as well as suggested methods to create and preserve greenways to implement the plan. The plan identifies priority park and greenway areas that should be preserved along the Kishwaukee River corridor.

The plan also identifies proposed potential recreation multi-purpose paths along the Kishwaukee River, east and west of the City of Belvidere, and also a trail on the north side of the City that loops into the Kishwaukee River trail near Spencer Conservation Area and Red Horse Bend. The Belvidere Park District provided input into the development of the Greenways Plan. A further plan update is scheduled for 2011.

D. BOONE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

In 1999, the Boone County Comprehensive Plan was adopted. The Plan included plans for the City of Belvidere, the Villages of Caledonia, Capron, Poplar Grove, Timberlane, and the unincorporated areas of Candlewick and Garden Prairie. The above-mentioned City, Villages, unincorporated areas, and all nine Townships that comprise Boone County, approved the Boone County Comprehensive Plan. The Plan is a far-reaching document that projects land use needs for roughly 50 years. Most of Belvidere Township is planned to develop, with a combination of exurban residential development in the Township and a mix of urban residential and non-residential development in the City as it expands to the north and west. The City is also expected to expand to the east with additional residential development, and to the south with planned office and planned mixed-use development. Poplar Grove is also expected to continue expanding to the south into Belvidere Township. The Belvidere Park District is participating in a current update of the Boone County Comprehensive Plan with a completion date set for 2011.

E. BOONE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT PLAN

The Boone County Conservation District Master Plan, adopted in 2006, establishes a level of service goal for land acquisition of 50 acres of land per 1000 Boone County residents. Today the District owns and manages over 2,500 acres of prairies, woodlands and wetlands. The Plan identifies the Kishwaukee River, Coon Creek, Piscasaw Creek, Kinnikinnick Creek-South Branch, and Beaver Creek corridors, as well as the Long Prairie Trail and Union Pacific Rail corridors as high priorities. Other potential priority areas include the Kinnikinnick Creek-North Branch corridor, Mosquito Creek corridor, Flora Prairie, Hunter Road Woodland, Dry Run Creek corridor, Chicago Central & Pacific Railroad corridor, and the Belvidere to Poplar Grove Trail corridor.

F. VILLAGE OF CHERRY VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Village Plan, adopted in 1995, proposes expansion to surround the west side of the City of Belvidere. The Plan proposes light industrial development north of I-90, and commercial, retail or office development along Business 20. Park and public open space is planned along the Kishwaukee River and Beaver Creek. The current annexation policy of the Village is to annex into Flora Township in Boone County east to Wheeler Road and from the north at I-90, south and beyond Rosetta Road (2+ miles). This large area of potential annexation is planned for predominately single-family residential growth.

G. CITY OF LOVES PARK COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The adopted 1997 Comprehensive Plan proposed city expansion into Boone County, and has annexed and subsequently permitted urban residential development at the southeast corner of Orth and Argyle Roads. The Loves Park extra-territorial planning boundary extends further east into Boone County, to Olson Road and northwest to Quail Trap Road. The open space portion of the plan

proposes an extension of the Rock Cut/Pierce Lake recreation path to Caledonia, in conformance with the Boone/Winnebago County Greenways Plan. The majority of identified wetland and flood plain, with some forest areas, are also planned for preservation. Generally the open space portion of the Loves Park Comprehensive Plan conforms to the Boone/Winnebago County Greenways Plan (as amended). The comprehensive plan is currently being updated.

H. VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA PLAN

The Village Plan reflects a desire to retain its character as a small village predominated by single family residential. Some small-scale strip commercial development along Hwy 173 from its intersection with Hwy 76 is promoted in the plan. A major paved bike/trail (Long Prairie Trail) bisects the village and is an important link in the "Grand Illinois Trail" system. The Plan recommends that neighborhood parks be developed in conjunction with new residential subdivisions. The plan recommends that the Village consider cooperating with the Villages of Poplar Grove and Capron to form a joint park district. The Village supports the recommendations of the Boone/Winnebago County Greenways Plan. A recent amendment to the Plan identifies a 7-mile westerly extension of the Long Prairie Trail to connect to the existing trail at Olson Lake within Rock Cut State Park in the City of Loves Park.

I. VILLAGE OF CAPRON PLAN

The Village Plan reflects a desire to retain its character as a small village predominated by single family residential. With a larger population and more structured urban environment than Caledonia, Capron is planned with a greater mix of residential densities. Capron has a small business town center with additional larger scale commercial land use planned on the north side of State Hwy 173, on the west edge of the Village. A major paved bike trail (Long Prairie Trail) bisects the Village and is an important link in the "Grand Illinois Trail" system. The plan recommends that neighborhood parks be developed in conjunction with new residential subdivisions. The plan proposed two future Community Park locations east and west of the Village in conjunction with new development. The plan recommends that the Village consider cooperating with the Villages of Poplar Grove and Capron to form a joint park district.

J. VILLAGE OF POPLAR GROVE PLAN

The village has over the past 10 years had an aggressive annexation policy pushing its municipal boundaries into the natural growth areas of the Villages of Caledonia and Timberlane. The character of Poplar Grove has changed from a small village to a typical suburban community. Within the past two years, the Village has embarked on a new planning program to redefine the future growth boundary. Included are aggressive recommendations for commercial growth adjacent to Hwy 173 and 76, and the intersection of Hwy 173 and Poplar Grove Road. Recently, the Village has developed a park and open space plan.

K. VILLAGE OF TIMBERLANE PLAN

Incorporated in 1995, the Village desired to retain its character as a rural/exurban residential area. Recently, in 2008, the Village employed a planning professional to examine future land use and recommend future boundary expansion. Competition from adjoining municipalities, especially the Village of Poplar Grove, has forced Timberlane officials to re-examine land use recommendations from the 1999 Boone County Comprehensive Plan, which showed 90% of Timberlane and the surrounding area as Exurban Residential (1d.u/2 acres). Aggressive annexation by the Village of Poplar Grove along Hwy 76, and recently pursuant to a lawsuit against Timberlane, forced a disconnection of 60 acres at Dawson Lake Road and annexation of the same to Poplar Grove for commercial growth. Timberlane is attempting to firm up future growth borders with the City of Loves Park and Caledonia. Rapid development in this portion of Boone County is causing a re-examination of the 1999 Boone County Comprehensive Plan by the Regional Planning Commission. Although proposed by the Planning Consultant employed by Timberlane, the proposed land use plan has not been adopted. The proposed plan has identified park and open space opportunities adjacent to Beaver Creek in an undeveloped area south of Orth Road, between Caledonia Road and Beloit Road.

L. CANDLEWICK LAKE DEVELOPMENT

Developed as a residential recreational retreat, this private lake community of approximately 5,000 in population has, because of failing infrastructure, recently begun discussions concerning incorporation as a village. The primary recreation for this private community is centered on Candlewick Lake. Additional residential development will continue to infill on vacant lots. It is unknown at this time if the board of directors of the Candlewick Lake Development will be pursuing additional commercial growth or territorial expansion.

M. HAMLET OF GARDEN PRAIRIE

Recently incorporated, and after one year and an inability to self govern, the Hamlet of Garden Prairie dissolved as a municipality. Boone County retains jurisdiction over the land use decisions of the Hamlet of Garden Prairie. Little has changed from the 1999 Boone County Comprehensive Plan for this small community. Some central mixed-use development, including commercial and industrial land use, was recommended on vacant acreage and on other underutilized acreage near the Hamlet center. One community park was recommended on the northeast side, along the Kishwaukee River.

VII. REVIEW OF ORDINANCES & CODES OF THE CITY OF BELVIDERE AND BOONE COUNTY

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to review and itemize land use requirements of the City of Belvidere, Boone County Zoning Ordinances, and Subdivision Regulations that affect the Belvidere Township Park District.

City of Belvidere Zoning Ordinance

Adopted: March 6, 2006, amended April 7, 2008

Passive and Active Outdoor Public Recreation is Permitted by Right in the following zone district classifications:

- o Rural Holding (RH) District.
- o Single-Family Residential (SR-3) District. *[3 dwelling units per gross developable acre]*
- o Single-Family Residential (SR-4) District. *[4 dwelling units per gross developable acre]*
- o Single-Family Residential (SR-6) District. *[6 dwelling units per gross developable acre]*
- o Two-Family Residential (TR-7) District. *[7 dwelling units per gross developable acre]*
- o Multi-Family Residential Small (MR-8S) District. *[8 dwelling units per gross dev. acre]*
- o Multi-Family Residential Large (MR-8L) District. *[8 dwelling units per gross dev. acre]*
- o Neighborhood Office (NO) District.
- o Planned Office (PO) District.
- o Neighborhood Business (NB) District.
- o Planned Business (PB) District.
- o General Business (GB) District.
- o Central Business (CB) District.
- o Planned Industrial (PI) District.
- o General Industrial (GI) District. (Passive Recreation only)
- o Heavy Industrial (HI) District. (Passive Recreation only)
- o Institutional (I) District.
- o Planned Development Districts (flexible zone)

Passive and Active Outdoor Public Recreation is defined as follows:

Passive Outdoor Public Recreational "Passive outdoor public recreational land uses include all recreational land uses located on public property, which involve passive recreational activities. Such land uses include arboretums, natural areas, wildlife areas, hiking trails, bike trails, cross country ski trails, horse trails, open grassed areas not associated with any particular active recreational land use, picnic areas, picnic shelters, gardens, fishing areas, and similar land uses."

Active Outdoor Public Recreational "Active outdoor public recreational land uses include all recreational land uses located on public property, which involve active recreational activities. Such land uses include play courts (such as tennis courts and basketball courts), playfields (such as ball diamonds, football fields, and soccer fields), tot lots, outdoor swimming pools, swimming beach areas, fitness courses, public golf courses, and similar land uses."

[See **Appendix-B. Item H** for additional Belvidere Zoning Ordinance excerpts that pertain to recreation]

Boone County Zoning Ordinance

Adopted: July 9, 2008, amended October 1, 2009

Public Parks/Playgrounds are Permitted by Right in the following zone district classifications:

- A-1 (Agricultural Preservation Areas)
- A-2 (Agricultural Residence District)
- RE (Exurban Residential District)
- R-1 (Single-Family Residential District)
- RC (Residential Conservation Development District)
- RC2 (Residential Clustering District)
- RTN (Traditional Neighborhood Residential District)
- B-1 (Local Business District)
- B-2 (General Business District)
- FPO (Floodplain Overlay District)
- US20 (US Highway 20 Corridor Overlay District)
- CSA (Community Separation Area Overlay District)

Not Permitted

- I-1 (Light Industrial District)
- I-2 (General Industrial District)

Section 5.3.8 of the Boone County Zoning Ordinance provides Open Space Guidelines for park land development in “areas not intended to be served by the Belvidere Park District.”

In addition, Sub-Section E, of Section 5.3.8 titled: Open Space Types/Classifications states: “Except as noted herein, each of the various open space types described in this Section may be considered as park land contributions required by the Subdivision Regulations.”

[See **Appendix –B, item I** for reprint of Section 5.3.8 of the Boone County Zoning Ordinance]

City of Belvidere Subdivision Code

Adopted: January 15, 2009

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to itemize and review City Code requirements for proposed subdivision submittals that affect the Belvidere Park District.

Article II. Procedure for Subdivision Approval

Sec. 151.21. Pre-application Conference. Prior to the submission of the preliminary plat, the sub divider shall meet with the planning director and the public works director. The purpose of this conference is to discuss early and informally the purpose and effect of these regulations and the criteria and standards contained therein; and to familiarize the developer with the requirements as to the general layout of the streets, reservations of land, street improvements, drainage, fire protection, availability of existing services, and similar matters affecting land development. ***The planning director shall advise the sub divider, where appropriate, to discuss the proposed subdivision with the officials who must eventually approve these aspects of the subdivision plat coming within their jurisdiction.***

Sec. 151.41. Design requirements. *No preliminary or final plat shall be approved by the city and no completed improvements shall be accepted by the director of public works unless they conform to the following standards and specifications:*

(a) *General.*

(1) *Conformity with comprehensive Plan. The subdivision shall conform to the comprehensive plan of the city and the parts thereof.*

Consultant Comment: *A call to the Belvidere-Boone County Regional Planning Department revealed that although not a specific code requirement, the department has consistently sent submittals of preliminary and final subdivision plats for comment to all affected agencies.*

A technical review meeting whereby affected agencies are brought together with planning staff and developer has been initiated on an as-needed basis. Formalizing this process has been discussed and may be instituted in the future.

Sec. 151.48.5. Dedication of park lands and school sites or for payments of fees in lieu thereof.

This section of the City of Belvidere Subdivision Code requires a mandatory 6.25 acres per 1000 ultimate population from a proposed development for park land dedication.

The Park District Master Plan, the Boone County Conservation District Master Plan, and the City of Belvidere Comprehensive Plan are used as resources by the City Council in its determination of required land dedication.

[See **Appendix-B, item J** for reprint of Section 151.48.5 of the Belvidere Subdivision Code]

Boone County Subdivision Code

Adopted: June 13, 2001, amended December 31, 2002

Purpose: The purpose of this section is to itemize and review County Code requirements for proposed subdivision submittals that affect the Belvidere Park District.

Consultant Comment: Until recently, with the City of Belvidere annexation and approval of the residential subdivisions of Deer Hills and Deer Run, the majority of ex-urban development under Boone County control occurred in Belvidere Township. Belvidere Township, which is essentially the same boundary as the Belvidere Township Park District is the location of the area recommended for development and known as the "Growth Corridor" by Boone County Comprehensive Plans, dating back over 30 years. This corridor, bisected by US Hwy 20, lies between the Cities of Belvidere and Rockford. Within the past 10 years, the City of Loves Park and Village of Cherry Valley have annexed within Belvidere Township at the extreme Northwest and southwest areas respectively.

Process of Subdivision Review & Referral:

The Belvidere Township Park District is heavily affected by this exurban development and should be contacted and consulted early in the development review process by the governing planning authority. The governing planning authority for both the City of Belvidere and Boone County is the Belvidere-Boone County Regional Planning Commission (BBRPC). The BBRPC employs a Director and professional planning staff. According to the staff, subdivision plat referrals are sent to the Park District at the preliminary and final plat stage of review for comment. Referrals at other times are at the discretion of the Planning Director.

There are two other opportunities for review prior to the official submittal of a preliminary subdivision plat. They are:

- (1) Pre-application meeting (Sketch Plan). The purpose is to meet with the county planner to review general planning and development policies of the county, existing land use and zoning classifications in the area of the subject property, procedure for subdividing and development, and other pertinent factors.*
- (2) Subdivision Concept Plan. A concept plan contains much greater detail concerning land and subsurface information, subdivision design, proposed land use and must reflect conformance with county adopted plans and policies. Citizen participation is encouraged at this early level of review.*

Conclusion: The Belvidere Township Park District should be contacted to review and respond to development concepts within the District at the earliest opportunity.

Section 603. Requirements for dedication of park lands and school sites or for payment of fees in lieu thereof.

This section of the Boone County Subdivision Code requires a mandatory 7.25 acres per 1000 ultimate population from a proposed development for park land dedication.

[See **Appendix-B; item K** for reprint of Section 603 of the Boone County Subdivision Code]

VIII. COMMUNITY NEEDS

Excerpts: Illinois Park Districts: Citizen Perspectives, Final Technical Report, March, 2007

In joint cooperation with the Illinois Association of Park Districts, the Office of Recreation and Park Resources, the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism, and the University of Illinois employed a respected survey sampling firm of a target population located within the boundaries of park districts within the State of Illinois. The initial household sample selection of 1,100 was adjusted to 958 households because of incorrect address, vacancy, etc. Data collection took place from July through October 2006, with final report issued in March, 2007. Of the 958 households surveyed, 302 households responded for a response rate of 32%. The results of the random sample of 302 households have a 95% level of confidence with a precision of at least +/-5%; that is, the true population value is within +/-5% of the sample value.

Purpose: The purpose of this study was to conduct an evaluation of park districts across the state of Illinois to address the five (5) following questions:

- **Do residents use the programs, facilities, and park areas of their local Park District?**

In communities that have a park district, the park district is the primary provider of park and recreation programs, facilities, and park areas. The survey results indicated that the vast majority of Illinois households had utilized programs, facilities, and parks provided by their local park district during the past year. In terms of recreation providers such as park districts, forest preserves, country clubs, private fitness centers, YMCA/YWCA, churches, etc., park districts were used more frequently than other park and recreation providers.

- **Are residents satisfied with Park District programs, facilities, and park areas?**

Nearly 9 out of 10 households in Illinois were satisfied with the programs, facilities, and park areas. A majority of households expressed satisfaction with the mission/purpose of the park district and were just as satisfied with the services provided by the park district as they were with police, fire, and library services. Also, more residents were satisfied than with streets/sewers, public schools, mass transit, and city planning services.

- **What are the perceived benefits of a Park District to the community and to participants?**

Park districts have been recognized as contributing substantially and significantly to advancing the quality of life in many communities. It was recognized that opportunities are provided for citizens of all age groups, races, and those physically and mentally challenged, to participate in recreation programs, facilities, and park areas. The majority of the respondents indicated that the park district improves property values in the community. Almost one-half agreed that a park district enhances the opportunity to recruit business and industry to the community. A vast majority of the respondents rated the importance of several perceived benefits received from the park district, such as enjoying the outdoors, improving health, relaxing/releasing tension, and being with family and friends.

- **What is the perceived effectiveness of Park District operations?**

The park district is effective in its operations. Respondents felt the park district has done an excellent job of informing the public about park and recreation programs and activities, offering affordable recreational opportunities, protecting open space, providing opportunities for improving health/wellness, and serving people with disabilities. A majority of the respondents indicated that the park districts manage tax dollars responsibly, provide ample opportunity for citizen input to park district projects, felt safe in park district areas, and were satisfied with park district staff.

Most of the household respondents did not know how effective the park district was in working with other agencies or units of local government. Those respondents that did express an opinion were more positive towards the park district when the relationship with other agencies was understood. This indicates that an informed public is more supportive of park district activities than an uninformed public.

- **Can park and recreation programs and services be provided better by a special district (Park District) or consolidated government (City/Village or County)?**

There is strong citizen support with 8 out of 10 respondents in support of the park district as the unit of government that should provide recreation programs, facilities, and park areas in their community.

The vast majority of respondent households believe the park district, as a separate governmental unit, can provide greater opportunity for resident input than could be provided by the city/village government, and believe if the park district was consolidated with city/village government, residents would have less opportunity to express their interests and desires for programs and services. Further, a majority of household respondents felt that park and recreation programs and services would suffer if consolidated with city/village government. Conversely, about 10% of the respondents felt park and recreation programs and services would improve.

Conclusion:

“The study provided much needed state-wide evaluation information about how park districts are performing from the perspective of those households served. The conclusion of this study is that residents across the state of Illinois are very supportive of their local park districts. The services of the park districts are used by a majority of households in the community; there is a high level of satisfaction with park district programs, facilities, staff, and park areas; and the park districts provide several benefits to the community and participants. There is strong support from the citizens that park districts are the best provider (compared with city/village and county government) of park and recreation programs and services, and if consolidation occurred with a larger governmental unit (e.g., city/village or county government), park and recreation programs and services would suffer. Respondent households representing households in the state of Illinois have expressed such a high degree of satisfaction with park districts that any change in the type of governmental authority would not be the popular will of the people. These findings are very consistent with the ‘1980 Citizen Study’.”

Cooperative Agency Response

The Belvidere Township Park District has developed cooperative relationships with numerous public and private agencies that serve the Belvidere-Boone County community. An important element of this Master Plan is to evaluate these relationships and attempt to determine how to better serve our mutual clients. A questionnaire was developed to solicit agency response to 5 questions concerning this inter-agency cooperative relationship. The questionnaire with an introductory letter follows on pages 39 and 40 of this Plan document.

The questionnaire was sent to the following listed public and private agencies. The Park District relationship with many of these agencies is generally described in Section V., page 27 of this Plan document. In a few instances, comments were also solicited from agencies that currently do not have a cooperative relationship, but because of the nature of agency service provided, are viable candidates. Examples would include ALERTA and the Boys and Girls Club. See pages 41- 43 for a summarization of agency responses.

Questionnaire Contact Agencies

- Belvidere School District #100
 - Superintendent
 - Principals:
 - (2) High Schools
 - (2) Middle Schools
 - (7) Elementary Schools
- Special Education Center
- Boone County Conservation District
- Keen Age Center
- RAMP
 - Rockford Office
 - Belvidere Office
- Easter Seals
- The ARC
- YMCA – Belvidere
- Flodin Boys and Girls Club
- Knights of Columbus #735
- Special Olympics; Area - 1
- Growth Dimensions
 - Kishwaukee Riverfront Committee
- Belvidere Youth Baseball
- Belvidere Junior Tackle
- Access Services
- Boone County Arts Council
- ALERTA
- Community Building
- Parks & Conservation Foundation
- Boone County Soil & Water Conservation District
- General Mills (Green Giant)
- Dean's Foods

Questionnaire

The Belvidere Township Park District is in the process of updating its **Park Master Plan**. An important element of the Plan is the Park District's relationship with other community agencies in the provision of recreational services to the public. The purpose of this questionnaire is to seek your needed input and opinions of the Park District's current relationship with you, and any improvements in this relationship that you foresee could be mutually beneficial.

Please take a few moments to address the following questions. Feel free to involve other members of your organization in answering these questions. You may refer additional copies of this questionnaire to other personnel. Your responses will aid the Belvidere Township Park District in formulating recommendations for improvement to inter-agency agreements, cooperation, and understanding in the delivery of recreational services to the Belvidere-Boone County community.

Please Print:

Agency: _____ Respondent Name (Optional): _____

1. Our current cooperative relationship with the Belvidere Park District is:

Very good: _____ Good: _____ Needs Improvement: _____ Does not apply: _____
(Please explain): _____

Do you wish to further discuss your comments with the Park District? **Yes**____, **No**____.
(If "yes", we will call you for an appointment)

Your Name: _____ phone number: _____.

2. We would like to cooperate with the Park District in the following areas:

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____

3. In your opinion, the Park District is strong in providing: _____

4. What additional programs or facilities could the Park District provide?

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____

5. The Park District could improve in the following areas: _____

Please attach additional pages if necessary or use the back of this questionnaire. **Please return this questionnaire in the envelope provided by March 12, 2010.** Thank you for your response.

February 26, 2010

(Example Questionnaire Cover Letter)

Michael Houselog, Supt.
C.U.S.D. 100
1201 Fifth Avenue
Belvidere, IL 61008

Subject: Agency input to the Belvidere Township Park District Master Plan

Dear Mr. Houselog:

The Belvidere Township Park District is in the process of updating its' **Park Master Plan**. A planning consultant has been employed to conduct this task. An important element of the Plan is the Park District's relationship with other community agencies in the provision of recreational services to the public. An important element of determining direction for the future is your needed input and opinions of the Park Districts' current relationship with you and any improvements in this relationship that you foresee could be mutually beneficial.

Please take a few moments to answer questions on the attached Questionnaire. Feel free to involve other members of your organization in answering these questions. You may refer additional copies of this questionnaire to other personnel.

Your responses will aid the Park District in formulating recommendations for improvement to inter-agency agreements, cooperation and understanding in the delivery of recreational services to the Belvidere-Boone County community. **Please return the completed questionnaire in the provided envelope by March 12, 2010.** Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely

David Sliktas
Planning Consultant

Dan Roddewig
Executive Director
Belvidere Township Park District

Questionnaire Response

Fifteen (15) of 35 questionnaires were completed and returned for a response rate of 43%. Most respondents did not answer one or more of the 5 questions in the Questionnaire.

Summarization of Responses:

1. Our current cooperative relationship with the Belvidere Park District is:

Very good: 11 Good: 2 Needs Improvement: -0- Does not apply: -0- No Response: 1

(Please explain):

- We feel we have a good working relationship.
- We have a successful 3rd Base Program.
- In the past we have held park functions at the school and in turn we have used park facilities (Rivers Edge, etc.)
- Third Base is a great option for our students.
- Although we do not do a bunch of cooperative things, the park district does use our facility on occasions for various events and training. We welcome them anytime and hope to continue the relationship.
- Open communication.
- Share resources back & forth.
- Share our event information in their program catalog.
- Two representatives sit on our Board.
- Since 1991, with Concerts in the Park and then the Art Fair, we have had a great working relationship.
- Party on the Path (Harvest Festival) involves both agencies with staff support, planning, facilities, equipment, implementation, and funding.
- The Glenn Green property was an exceptional cooperative relationship. Since BCCD property is contiguous, we appreciated being involved by the park district in development of future management practices, future site improvement plans, etc. We look forward to possibly collaborating on grant applications.
- Directors of BCCD & Park District participate in monthly meetings with other community officials to discuss local government issues. This is an opportunity to collaborate on projects and share technical assistance.
- Membership with the Park District on the Parks and Conservation Foundation.
- Equipment exchange such as wood chipper, hay wagon.
- Improve universal access.

Do you wish to further discuss your comments with the Park District?

Yes: 1 No: 8 No Response: 6

2. We would like to cooperate with the Park District in the following areas:

- Before school care and possibly after school care.
- Utilization of School District gyms with YMCA and Park District.
- Continue 3rd Base.
- Prairie Fields-football fields/Fridh Park.
- Cost share.
- People with development disabilities.
- Both entities utilize one another's resources pretty well.
- Land acquisition/grant writing/holding land for matching grants.
- Concerts/Art fair/other cultural activities.
- Nature programs for people with disabilities.
- Continue to cooperate as we have in recent past.
- Cooperate to expand, develop, and share facilities and/or staff and possibly funding to implement universal programs.
- Explore funding jointly a full time police officer.
- Work jointly toward implementing the vision for a Kishwaukee River Water Trail.
- Extend multi-use or universal trail systems throughout County

3. In your opinion, the Park District is strong in providing:

- Summer services.
- Information on programs.
- All around services from Park District are excellent.
- Wide range age programming.
- Top-notch staff and professionalism to the community.
- After school care.
- Opportunity for our physical education department use.
- Variety of activities for individuals of all ages and abilities.
- Recreational opportunities for all ages, which includes passive and active opportunities.
- The Park District facilities are 1st class.
- Belvidere Park is an exceptional venue for cultural activities.
- Facilities and staff meeting the community's needs for active recreation.
- Organizing and hosting local cultural events and activities.
- Partnering with other agencies.
- Programs and activities that appeal to all age groups.

4. What additional programs or facilities could the Park District provide?

- Indoor swimming pool.
- Depending on starting times for schools into the future, the park district may need to offer a before school program (1st Base).
- Ten (10) lane Olympic sized swimming pool.
- Programming that meets on a weekly basis for all ages.
- More parking at Prairie Fields and Fridh Park.
- Add concessions, bathroom facilities at Prairie Fields near football fields.

(Con't) 4. What additional programs or facilities could the Park District provide?

- An annual meeting between the appropriate agencies such as Belvidere and Rockford Park Districts, Boys and Girls Club of Rockford, Alerta, La Voz Latina, etc. would be highly beneficial for possible collaborations and “idea sharing”. Another important aspect would be “calendar sharing” to help ensure that no unintentional duplication of special events is taking place. This would allow all agencies the opportunity to support one another in their special functions and optimize the amount of participants during events on a regular basis.
- Next phase of accessible playground.

5. The Park District could improve in the following areas:

- As most of our students are not living in Belvidere, they must pay extra for park activities – a concern in these economic times.
- As our county grows, it would be nice if a large tract of land could be designated for a park away from the city in the growth corridor.
- Park District is doing a good job!
- I have no concerns.
- More marketing of upcoming events, programs & fundraisers.
- Completing parks/playgrounds once acquired which is a funding issue.
- Parking in the park.
- An annual meeting between the Park District and the BCCD boards and respective executive staff. The meeting could explore common issues between the agencies and provide a format for even better interagency relations. Such a meeting could be formal or informal.

IX. VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY

Subsections A-C, (excerpts) – Illinois Department of Natural Resources Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2003-2008. Subsection D, (excerpts) - Real Estate Impact Review of Parks and Recreation, by Economic Research Associates, 2005

A. PUBLIC BENEFIT:

"People want to live where there is open space that provides scenic views and community character, habitat for wildlife, and recreational opportunities." A recent IDNR survey, *Public Attitudes Toward Open Space Initiatives* in Illinois, stated that 57% believe that open space is important to their quality of life. "A 1997 survey of small companies ranked recreation/parks/open space as the highest priority in choosing a new location for their business. With an economy based more on services and less on traditional industry, businesses are free to shop for an appealing location, preferring communities with a high quality of life, including abundance of open space and nearby recreation."

B. COMMUNITY DESIGN:

"In the 21st century, still another major benefit is now gaining widespread realization: parks and open space are important elements of community design. Trails and greenways connect places within communities and also serve as transportation corridors. While parks that are close to where people live have long been a goal of recreation agencies, the importance of convenient places for recreation has gained renewed momentum. Easy access to parks and open space is now viewed as contributing to Americans' lifestyle and health."

C. PUBLIC ATTITUDES:

Two independent surveys conducted for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) revealed the following:

- Overall, the IDNR and the IAPD studies found that most respondents believe open space is an important issue to their quality of life.
- When compared to other community issues, "open space" also ranked relatively high in importance in the IDNR study.
- "Protecting water quality" (Figure 1) was described as extremely or very important by the largest percentage of respondents (90%), and when asked which issue listed was the most important for their community to address, the largest number of respondents chose "managing growth/new development." "Protecting air quality" came in third and "protecting natural areas" was sixth.
- The IDNR survey (Figure 2) rated the importance of various types of open space. In general, undeveloped open space (natural areas, wildlife habitats, stream corridors, and state parks) is considered as important as developed open space (community and neighborhood parks, playgrounds, and trails). 6 out of 10 respondents described seven types of open space as being extremely or very important. Five (5) of these were undeveloped spaces.

- The IAPD study revealed that in making a community a desirable place to live, respondents chose "quality of schools" as the most important. Ranked fifth through eighth were recreation program/facilities, amount of open space, number of parks, and rate of development.

D. REAL ESTATE IMPACT

- Neighborhood Parks can provide up to a 20% increase in housing values for those homes facing the park. Benefits from a neighborhood park can extend to approximately 600 feet, with houses nearer to the park receiving the majority of the benefit.
- Community parks may provide benefits up to 33% of the residential real estate value. Homes within 1,000 feet of a large community park may receive a 9% increase in home value. Positive externalities of a community park may extend up to 2000 feet.
- The economic effect of a park has significant variance because of the variation in parks and consumer tastes. While an ideal park may produce large increases in real estate value, a park that is poorly suited to a community's needs and externalities in neighborhoods would be required to properly evaluate the economic effect of any park system.
- Greenbelts and boulevards are long, narrow green spaces to enhance the natural beauty of an area. Many greenbelts were created from former railroad lines that had fallen into disrepair. Park planners took these difficult spaces and created useable space that frequently includes hiking or biking multi-purpose paths.
- Correll, Lillydahl and Singell found that when compared to houses 1,300 feet away from a greenbelt in Boulder, those houses that are adjacent to the greenbelt experience a 25% premium. Homes next to the greenbelt have market values that are 32% higher than similar properties 3,200 feet away.
- Residential properties near golf courses generally demand a market value of 25% more than those properties not abutting a golf course. It is noted that 80% of the people living in golf course communities do not participate in the sport but value the open space provided by the golf course.

X. EXISTING FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

The Belvidere Township Park District – system consists of 354.28 acres of a full range of developed facilities such as neighborhood parks, community parks, and special use areas. Although the assumption that the current needs of the community is met, additional neighborhood and community parks will be needed as urban and exurban development continues.

A. FACILITIES

1. Mini –Parks

a. Tot Lot

1022 East Avenue

Located at the intersection of 5th Street and East Avenue in the southeast quadrant of the City, the Park District owns and maintains a 0.25-acre tot lot. A medium-sized, metal play structure, designed for 2 to 5 year olds, is located within an area with concrete edging, and is filled with wood mulch. A bench and a picnic table are also located within the park. Surrounding the raised area is a grassy area with several honey locust trees. A chain link fence surrounds the Tot Lot along the streets. The Tot Lot is not lighted at night.



2. Neighborhood Parks

a. Doty Park

303 Leonard Court

Doty Park is located on the south side of the Kishwaukee River, east of Belvidere Park. In the early 1990's, the Park District repurchased Legion Field from the School District. The acquisition of this 12.5-acre park was an important link in the continuing development of the Kishwaukee Riverfront Plan.



Facilities located at Doty Park include:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| * Football/Soccer Field | * 1.0 mile Bicycle/Recreation Path |
| * Playground Equipment | * Boat Dock |
| * Skate Park | * Riverfront Overlook |
| * Park Shelter/Restroom | * Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge over Kishwaukee River |

b. Harkless Park
918 – 9th Street

Located at the intersection of W. 9th Street and 10th Avenue in the southwest quadrant of the City. Harkless Park is a 6.0 acre park located within a residential neighborhood. This park does not have any off-street parking and has very limited frontage on W. 9th Street and 10th Avenue.



Facilities located at Harkless Park include:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| * Ball Field | * Playground Equipment |
| * Junior Soccer Field | * Basketball Court |

c. Bob's Park
524 E. Locust Street

Bounded by Meadow Street, Nebraska Street, Warren Avenue and Locust Street, this 1.23- acre neighborhood park is named in honor of Bob Howells, a long time supporter of the Belvidere Park District. Development of Bob's Park is a unique cooperative effort between the Park District and the Parks and Conservation Foundation. Prior to 2008, this block was cleared



of dilapidated residential structures. In 2008, the Foundation secured a State Grant to construct phase-one by purchasing and installing playground equipment designed for the 2-5 and the 5-12 age groups. When funding becomes available, phase two will include a shelter, basketball ½ courts, and possibly an area for soccer and shuffle board.

Facilities located at Bob's Park include:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| * Playground Equipment | * Drinking Fountain |
| * Picnic Tables | * Open Field Play Area |

d. Winterroth Park
2143 E. 6th Street

Undeveloped 6.7 acres of parkland with a 0.4 mile perimeter path.



e. Farmington East Park
2082 Hidden Green Drive

Undeveloped 3.4-acre site within Farmington East Subdivision.

3. Community Parks

a. Belvidere Park 1006 W. Lincoln Avenue

This 105-acre park is the largest holding in the Park District. Established in the early 1900's, this park spans both sides of the Kishwaukee River, and is bounded by Lincoln Avenue, Locust Street, and South Appleton Road. A new Administrative Office was built in 1999. Belvidere Park, a mature community park, is subdivided into distinct regions by the Kishwaukee River and remnants of a millrace, associated with the Baltic Mill in the core of the park. Pedestrians and bicyclists move through the park on a series of trails and multi-purpose paths, and cross the Kishwaukee River on a pedestrian-only suspension cable bridge. A bicycle path runs throughout the park along the north bank of the Kishwaukee River. A dam across the river is located at the eastern end of the park. Water is allowed into the remains of the old millrace via a manually operated water gate. Vegetation consists of large mature trees and grassy areas. Ornamental plantings have been installed in key locations, as well as a number of small sapling trees. Many of the oaks, maples, and cottonwoods are at their peak mature growth size.



Paved, curbed, and uncurbed roadways service the park. Parking off-road is provided by gravel surface adjacent to the roadway, along various points of interest such as the swinging cable bridge, pool, baseball field, and playground areas. An entrance, roadway with curb and gutter, decorative street lights, and paved parking with a turn-around in the Baltic Mill area have recently been constructed. Additional paved parking and roadway reconstruction will be accomplished in the near future. The Park District has implemented many of the recommendations of the 1995 and 2002 Master Plans including the replacement of all the older play equipment. A special-use playground for those with special needs was installed just south of the Administration Office in 2009.

Facilities located at Belvidere Park include:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| * Outdoor Pool | * 3 Playgrounds |
| * Baltic Mill Historic Bldg. | * Canoe Launch at Hickory Bill's Island |
| * 3 Basketball Courts | * Recreation Trail (+- 2 miles) |
| * 3 Tennis Courts | * Boat Launch |
| * Volleyball Court | * Historic Swinging Bridge |
| * Ball Field | * Disc Golf Course |
| * Fishing Pier | * 3 Restroom Facilities |
| * Stage Area for events | * 7 Shelters |

**b. Aberdeen Park
1343 Orth Road**

Aberdeen Park is located south of Orth Road, just east of Olson Road, on the north edge of Belvidere Township, within the Aberdeen Subdivision. This 9.60-acre park was acquired through developer donation in 1990. The first phase of development began in 1992, with the final phase completed in 1998. The park provides much needed park and recreation facilities to many of the new homes in this quadrant of the township.



Facilities located in Aberdeen Park include:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| * Ball Field | * Shuffleboard Court |
| * Soccer Field | * Playground Equipment |
| * 2 Tennis Courts | * Shelter/Restrooms |
| * Volleyball Court | * 0.5 Recreation Path |
| * Basketball Court | * 100-space Off-street Parking Lot |
| * 3 Horseshoe Pits | |

**c. Fridh Park
1420- 9th Street**

The Park District acquired Fridh Park through developer land donation in 1992. This 20.0-acre park is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of USH 20 and South Appleton Road. A large portion of this park is in the 100-year floodway zone, with the rest of the area in the 100-year floodplain zone.



The Park District began to develop this property in 2000, focusing on off-street parking and a temporary soccer field. In 2001, the District applied for an Illinois DNR Open Space land Acquisition and Development grant to help fund the development of this park.

Facilities located in Fridh Park include:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| * Soccer Field | * Shelter/Restroom |
| * Basketball Court | * 0.3 Mile Recreation Path |
| * Volleyball Court | * Off Street Parking Lot |
| * Playground Equipment | |

d. Prairie Fields Sports Park
1111 Fairgrounds Road

In 1995, the Belvidere Park District purchased 90 acres of land on Fairgrounds Road and US bypass 20, just north of the Belvidere Cemetery. This multi-use park will provide recreational activities for people of all ages. In 2009, the District completed phase 2 of park improvements with the completion of ball diamonds, playground, and a peripheral recreation path.



Facilities located in Prairie Fields Sports Park include:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| * 6 Soccer Fields | * 1 Football Field |
| * 1 Baseball Diamond | * 1.9 Mile Recreation Path |
| * 1 Softball Diamond | * 2 Shelters |
| * 2 Playgrounds | * Restroom Facility |
| * Off-Street Parking Lot | |

Future Facilities:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| * Tennis Court(s) | *Basketball Court(s) |
| * Senior Recreation Area | *Concession Stands |
| * Batting Cages | *Shelter/Restrooms |

In the future, a neighborhood park may also be developed near Prairie Fields Sports Park. The park will potentially include one basketball court, one tennis court, one sand volleyball court, playground equipment, open field for soccer and softball, a shelter, restrooms, and off-street parking.

The adopted development plan for Prairie Fields Sports Park is included as an appendix to this plan.

e. Glenn H. Green Open Space
8484 Distillery Road

Located southeast of the intersection of Distillery Road and US 20, this 71-acre parcel was acquired from the Glenn H. Green estate upon the death of Mr. Green. A master development plan was completed in 2007 and efforts are currently underway to remove invasive plant species and create a passive recreational experience, complying with the wishes of Mr. Green and his family.



4. Special Use Areas

a. William Grady Pool 916 West Lincoln Avenue

Located in Belvidere Park, the original William Grady Pool was rebuilt and the pool building was remodeled in 1985. The “L” shaped heated pool measures 82’ x 120’, with a 45’ x 50’ diving well. A 1’ to 3’ depth wading pool is adjacent to the main pool. The bathhouse was renovated in 1994. There is a large pool deck with several large sunshade structures, lounge deck chairs, concessions, and a grass picnic area.



b. Baltic Mill 920 West Lincoln Avenue

Located in Belvidere Park, the Baltic Mill was renovated in 1995 to provide historical artifacts, a meeting room, public restrooms, and to house the Boone County Arts Council office. During the summer, “Concerts in the Park” are held in the stage area adjacent to the Baltic Mill.



c. Rivers Edge 1151 W. Locust Street

Located in Belvidere Park, the Rivers Edge was constructed in 2005 and provides 4 recreation rooms, a serving kitchen, rental rooms, full-size gymnasium, and a thirty-five foot high indoor climbing wall.



d. Hickory Bill's Island 100 S. Appleton Road

Located on the west side of South Appleton Road, across from Belvidere Park, these 4.1 acres of land were purchased in 1995. Hickory Bill's Island is a peninsula bounded on the north by the Mill Race and on the south by the Kishwaukee River. The site contains a canoe launch and a rest area. There is also an extension of the recreational path from Belvidere Park via an Appleton Road bridge underpass, with an extension over a newly constructed pedestrian bridge over the millrace that connects to the path system of the Boone County Conservation District.



e. Kishwaukee Riverfront Path

The Kishwaukee Riverfront Path is a 2-mile asphalt path that extends from downtown, through Doty Park, across the river and through Belvidere Park. The path and other recreational facilities, linked to form a linear park have been underway since the adoption of the Kishwaukee Riverfront Plan in 1987. The asphalt path system has been recently extended to Hickory Bill's Island and across the millrace via a pedestrian bridge connecting to the Boone County Conservation District path system. It is important to note that the recreational path has been a continuous cooperative local fund raising effort.



**f. Burgess Street Boat Launch
111 Burgess Street**

The Park District boat launch is located at the corner of Burgess Street and River Drive. It is the only public launch in Boone County. The site has a paved parking lot for vehicles with boat trailers. The launch facility is also accessed from the Kishwaukee Riverfront path via a pedestrian bridge over the River immediately west of the launch facility. Fishing is permitted.



**g. Red Horse Bend
6301 Lawrenceville Road**

Red Horse Bend is located on Lawrenceville Road, east of Genoa Road. This 32-acre site, which is leased from the Parks and Conservation Foundation, includes a public access canoe launch, a fishing area, and an asphalt surface off-street parking. A temporary toilet facility is also on site.



**h. Meehan School Gym
1401 E. 6th Street**

Meehan School Gym represents the first joint Park/School site, in which the Park District contributed financially to assist the School District in building an expanded gymnasium in 1996. The Park District runs programs and open gym in the gymnasium during non-school hours.



B. PROGRAMS

The Belvidere Park District offers an increasing variety of recreation programs with an emphasis on sports and fitness activities. Most programs provided are for preschool and elementary aged children. Programs offered by the Belvidere Park District during the 2010 season include:

1. Preschool

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| *Instructional Baseball Classes | *Gymnastics | *Preschool in the Park |
| *Instructional Soccer Classes | *Tennis Lessons | *Night Owl Preschool |
| *Instructional Basketball Classes | *Summer Playschools | *Twilight 2's |

2. Youth

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| *Instructional Soccer Classes | *Gymnastics/Dance | *Volleyball Clinic |
| *Instructional Baseball Classes | *Tae Kwon Do | *Tennis Lessons |
| *Instructional Basketball Classes | *Soccer League | *Meehan Open Gym |
| *Third Base After School Program | *Cheer/Pom | *Arts and Crafts |

3. Teens

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| *Volleyball Clinics | *Meehan Open Gym | *Battle of the Bands |
| *Tennis Lessons | *Leader in Training | *Dances |
| *Golf Lessons | *Trips | |

4. Adult

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| *Golf Lessons | *Volleyball League | *Arts & Crafts |
| *Golf League | *Tennis Lessons | *New Horizons |
| *Basketball League | *Softball League | (ages 22 & older) |
| *Trips | | |

5. Summer Sports Camps

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| *Soccer | *Tennis | *Volleyball |
| *Baseball | *Football | *Basketball |

6. Summer Day Camps

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| *Scamper Camp (ages 3-5) | *Camp Horizon (Individuals with disabilities |
| *Stomping Grounds (ages 6-12) | ages 5-21) |

7. Pool Activities

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| *Open Swim | *Swim Lessons | *Special Events |
| *Special Admission Days | *Lifeguard Training | |

8. Special Events/Interest

- *Daddy-daughter Dance
- *Mother-Son Bowling
- *Bunny Basket Delivery
- *Spring Fling Carnival

- *Slops of Fun
- *Halloween Carnival
- *Harvest Fest
- *Holiday Lights Display

- *Easter Egg Hunt
- *Christmas Parade

9. Affiliate Programs

- *Summer Track
- *Fall Cross Country

- *Concerts in the Park
- *Junior Tackle Football

10. Special Recreation Programs

- *New Horizons Adult
- *Special Olympics
- *Camping/Overnight Trips
- *NASR Cooperative Programs

- *Bingo
- *Day program
- *Saturday Socials
- *Diners Club

- *Buddy Baseball
- *2 Thumbs Up
- *Special Olympics
- *Dances

Recreation Facilities

	Aberdeen	Belvidere	*Bob's	Doty	Fridh	*Glenn Green	Harkless	*Prairie Fields	*Red Horse Bend	Tot Lot	* Winterroth
Map 2 Location	8	7	4	2	10	11	3	9	13	1	5
Acres	9.60	105.00	1.23	12.50	20.00	71.00	6.00	90.00	30.00	0.25	6.70
Outdoor Pool	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Historic Bldg.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shelter	1	7	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
Restroom	1	4	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
Drinking Fountain	1	4	1	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
Playground	1	3	1	1	1	-	1	2	-	1	-
Special Needs Playground	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Baseball Field	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-
Soccer Field	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	6	-	-	-
Tennis Court	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basketball Court	1	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Volleyball Court	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Path Miles	0.5	1.5	-	1.0	0.3	-	-	1.9	-	-	0.4
Fishing	-	X	-	X	-	X	-	-	X	-	-
Canoe Launch	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Boat Launch	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shuffle Board	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horseshoes	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ice Skating	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Skatepark	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Concession	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Park Development in Process



MAP 2

Existing Parks & Facilities

Neighborhood Parks

1. Tot Lot
2. Doty
3. Harkless
4. Bob's
5. Winterroth
6. Farmington

Community Parks

7. Belvidere
8. Aberdeen
9. Prairie Fields Sports Park
10. Fridh
11. Glenn Green Open Space

Special Use Facilities

12. Hickory Bill's Island
13. Red Horse Bend Canoe Launch
14. Kishwaukee Riverfront Path
15. Burgess Street Boat Launch
16. Rivers Edge Recreation Center
17. Baltic Mill
18. William Grady Pool
19. Embankment Skatepark
20. Administration Building

Other Existing Park Facilities

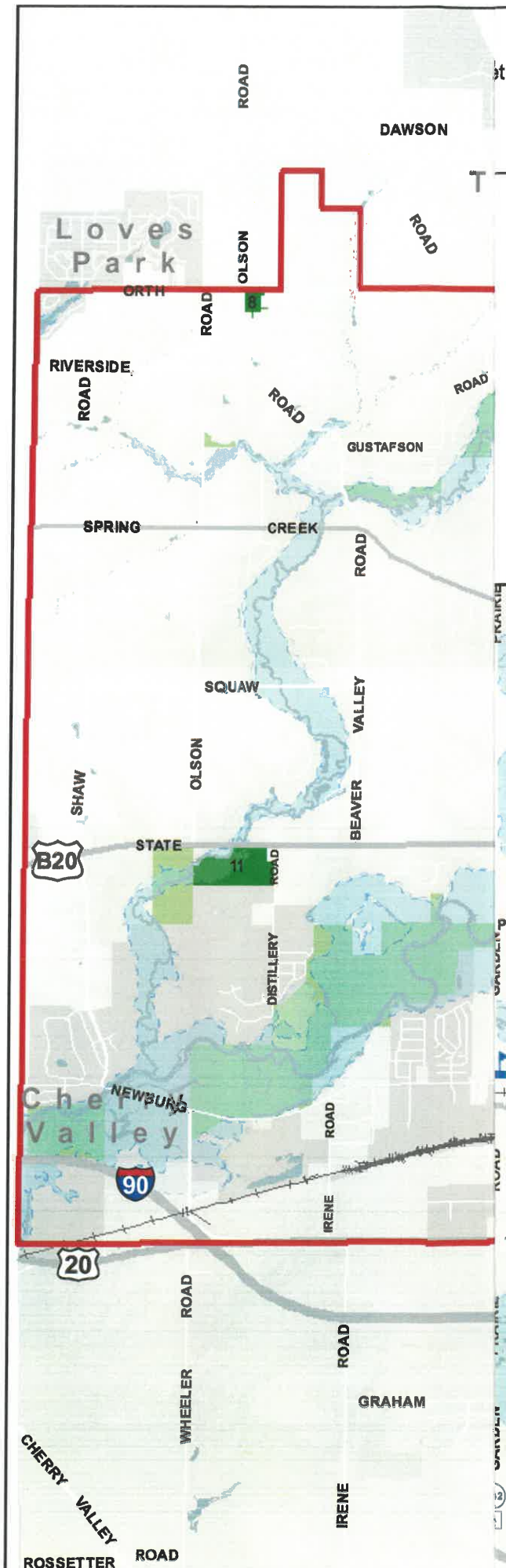
21. Big Thunder Park
22. Boone County Fairgrounds

Existing Public Schools

- A. Belvidere Senior High School
- B. Belvidere South Middle School
- C. Belvidere North Senior High School
- D. Belvidere Central Middle School
- E. Lincoln Elementary School
- F. Meehan Elementary School
- G. Perry Elementary School
- H. Washington Elementary School
- I. Seth Whitman Elementary School

Existing Private Schools

- J. Immanuel Lutheran School
- K. St. James School



XI. OTHER RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Public

A. BOONE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Boone County Conservation District is charged with the acquisition and conservation of environmentally significant lands within Boone County. The mission of the District is to: *"Preserve and manage natural areas and open spaces for the ecological, educational, and recreational benefit for present and future generations"*. The District owns and maintains approximately 2,500 acres within Boone County, a large portion of which is within the Belvidere Township along the Kishwaukee River corridor. One of the Conservation District's largest holdings is the 353-acre Spencer Conservation Area, located on the north side of the River and west of Appleton Road. As the former site of the county fairgrounds, it contains several original fairground structures. Facilities in Spencer Conservation Area include tennis courts, basketball courts, ball fields and picnicking facilities. The District also owns and maintains a large area west of Spencer referred to as Kishwaukee Bottoms, a 540-acre conservation area limited to passive recreation and fishing. The Boone County Conservation District provides numerous programs and events such as the Autumn Pioneer Festival, Holiday Walk, summer camp programs as well as various school groups and a wide array of public programs.

B. BOONE COUNTY

Boone County owns and maintains Big Thunder Park, located in the northeast quadrant of the City of Belvidere. Used as a site of festivals and art shows, it is mainly a passive recreation facility. It contains a large central gazebo, a war memorial, two paved court areas and playground equipment.

C. COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #100

Community Unit School District #100 operates six elementary schools, two middle schools, two senior high schools, and one special education center. The Belvidere schools offer a potential source of recreational open space. School District #100 and the Park District have cooperated over the past few years to upgrade play equipment at some of the schools and provide additional gymnasium space at Meehan Elementary School. The recreation facilities at each of the elementary schools essentially function as a neighborhood park in the community's overall park system.

D. ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT

The Rockford Park District is a large and active agency, with many facilities, offering diverse programs throughout the year. The Park District provides extensive recreational programs at sites throughout Rockford and Loves Park, including five golf courses, two ice skating rinks, Sportscore I and II, and a water theme park. The District offers a variety of programs such as 11 golf tournaments, and clinics for adult and junior golfers. An extensive camping program is offered during the summer months. Nearly 300 softball teams and 3,500 soccer players participate in the daily leagues throughout the Park District. In addition, there are special programs for mentally and physically challenged adults and children.

E. WINNEBAGO COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

The Winnebago County Forest Preserve District serves all of the Rockford/Winnebago County Area. The District is the steward of more than 5,000 acres. The District owns and maintains 3 golf courses located in the northeast quadrant of the county between Beloit and Rockford. The Forest Preserve District also has an active land acquisition program and works closely with the Rockford Park District in providing recreation programs.

F. ROCK CUT STATE PARK

The State of Illinois Department of Natural Resources owns and operates Rock Cut State Park. The park is located approximately 9 miles northeast of Rockford and is bordered by the Cities of Loves Park and Machesney Park. The Park crosses Interstate 90 via an auto and pedestrian bridge to a small lake with swimming and fishing. This 2,700-acre park provides camping, picnicking, boating, fishing, bicycle path and winter sports activities.

Private

A. ARTS COUNCIL

The Boone County Arts Council is a non-profit organization with the mission of expanding the availability and variety of the fine arts within the Belvidere community. Programs are provided for children, adults, and senior adults. The Arts Council sponsors art exhibitions, downtown murals, concerts, theater workshops and productions, art fairs, and other fine arts activities.

B. BOONE COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

The Keen Age Center is a senior adult center in Belvidere that is operated by the Boone County Council on Aging. This agency offers social, health, and nutritional services to the senior adult population of Boone County, including the following:

- Assist senior adults in preparation and/or applying for tax relief, income tax, emergency assistance, and insurance applications
- Outreach and community care programs to provide personal and housekeeping services to in home senior adults.
- Transportation for children between schools and day care centers, and for senior adults to doctor's appointments, shopping, and the Keen Age Center. A Medical Car is available for transportation to out-of-county medical appointments. This program is the only means of public transportation in Boone County.

C. BELVIDERE FAMILY YMCA

The Belvidere Family YMCA is located at 220 West Locust near the heart of Belvidere. This facility provides an indoor heated swimming pool, gymnasium, locker rooms, weight rooms, whirlpool, and exercise rooms. The YMCA offers many classes and sports leagues including basketball, flag football, volleyball, golf, gymnastics, karate, ballet and jazz dance classes, and swimming.

D. BOONE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

The Boone County Fairgrounds is located on Illinois Rt. 76 and is privately owned and managed by Pomona Grange. The Grange leases space to Belvidere Youth Baseball for six different youth baseball and softball leagues:

Other activities at the Fairgrounds include the Boone County Fair held the second week of August, auctions, concerts, art shows, car shows, snowmobile races and horse races.

E. SOCCER ORGANIZATIONS

Soccer is an increasingly popular sport particularly among the elementary and junior high school children. There are several youth and adult soccer organizations in the Winnebago and Boone County area.

F. GOLF COURSES

There are a number of golf courses in the vicinity of Belvidere Park District.

Boone County Area Golf Courses:

(Privately owned/opened to the public)

- * Belmar Country Club (18-hole)
- * Beaver Creek (9-hole)
- * Swan Hills (18-hole)
- * Timber Pointe (18-hole)
- * Hickory Knolls Driving Range
- * Newburg Village (9-hole)
- * Savanna Oaks (9-hole)

Winnebago County Forest Preserve District Golf Courses:

- * Ledges (18-hole)
- * Macktown (18-hole)
- * Atwood (18-hole)

Rockford Park District Golf Courses:

(Public)

- * Ingersoll (18-hole)
- * Sandy Hollow (18-hole)
- * Elliott (18-hole)
- * Sinnissippi (9-hole)
- * Aldeen (18-hole)

Rockford Area Golf Courses:

(Private)

- * Forest Hills (18-hole)
- * Rockford (18-hole)
- * Mah-Nah-Tee-See (18-hole)

XII. SPECIAL RECREATION

Summarization: The Northlands Association for Special Recreation/Belvidere (NASR/Belvidere) Master Plan Report and long-range recommendations by John McGovern, Recreation Accessibility Consultants, LLC.

It is the goal of Northlands Association of Recreation/Belvidere Park District (NASR) to continue to provide programs for people with intellectual and physical challenges. Programs offered to participants will include opportunities where they can enjoy recreation with their peers and encourage the inclusion of people with disabilities alongside people without disabilities. Various objectives will assist NASR/ Belvidere staff and Belvidere Park District Board to achieve this goal.

A. Outreach

- A key element in an outreach effort is gaining the trust of persons with disabilities and their families. The relationship the Outreach Specialist builds with these families will be the foundation of their trust in NASR/Belvidere services.
- To increase program awareness in the community, the Outreach Specialist will continue to build cooperative relationships with other groups in the community and attend, as often as possible, meetings of those groups. Through this, staff can identify un-served and under-served persons with disabilities.
- Outreach Specialist will gather information regarding the needs of the families that have a family member with a disability. By serving the families of people with disabilities, the NASR/ Belvidere provide a valuable support service.

B. Program Development

Program offerings reflect the type of activity available at Belvidere Park District for people of all abilities.

- Specific needs, such as social skill development, motor skill development, or cognitive development, may exist. These can be addressed through inclusion services and Special Recreation programs.

C. Fee Structure

A reduced fee program and/ or scholarship fund may be available for families experiencing financial hardship. The reduced fee would follow the definition of need criteria set by the established More Kids More Fun scholarship fund. Funds will be gathered through fundraising and donation efforts.

D. Transportation

Transportation is difficult with the distance between our Northlands Association of Recreation (NASR) partners. Additional transportation options may need to be developed/ purchased with program and participant growth.

E. Cooperative Programs

NASR/Belvidere staff and Belvidere Park District board will continue to invite and encourage collaborative programming for individuals with disabilities. In addition, NASR/Belvidere staff will strive to assist local cooperative agencies with training and support when possible and as needed.

F. Leisure Education

Key cooperative for gaining the trust of persons with disabilities and their families is by recreation staff collaborating with the School District in planned leisure education activities. Leisure education services, NASR/Belvidere staff will go to a special education classroom and conduct an activity. The goal of these activities is for the students to enjoy a valuable introduction to lifelong leisure skills.

XIII. PARK FACILITY STANDARDS

An important step in the park and open space planning process is to define a set of minimum standards for park and open space facilities. These standards enable the Park District to determine how well its existing recreational facilities meet the needs of its residents at the present time, as well as to project the future need for such facilities. Typically, these standards are expressed as a population ratio of a minimum number of acres per 1,000 persons. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has developed a set of recommended park and open space standards which can be used by a park district as a general guide in park and open space planning efforts. Generally, the NRPA recommends 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed open space per 1,000 persons and are intended to be used as a flexible guideline and adapted to the particular needs of the community and situation.

The following is a list of various types of park and open space facilities and their recommended NRPA standards. The NRPA standards for desirable park size have been customized for the Belvidere Park District.. This list includes a hierarchy of parks and open space facilities based on an area to population ratio and a recommended minimum service area for each type of facility.

A. MINI-PARK

General Description:	These parks are specialized facilities that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as pre-school and elementary school age children or senior citizens.
Service Area:	Less than ¼ mile radius in residential areas.
Desirable Size:	1 to 4 acres.
Acres Per 1,000 Population	0.25 to 0.5 acres
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Coordinated play equipment and structures for pre-school and elementary school age children.○ Conversation and sitting areas arranged to permit easy surveillance by parents.○ Landscaped areas that provide buffering and shade.○ Lighting for security at night. Lighting must be designed to be direct cut-off and not shine into adjacent properties.○ Parking is typically not required.
Desirable Site Characteristics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Well buffered by open space and landscape plantings for protection of young children.○ Visual access is very important○ In areas that have close access to roadways, physical barriers, such as fences, may be needed to separate play areas from vehicle areas.○ Mini-parks should be located within residential neighborhoods in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouse development, or housing and activity centers for seniors.

B. NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

General Description:	An area for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, playgrounds, skating, picnicking, wading pools, ball fields, adult areas with benches, shelter, and game tables. Trees, open fields, and undeveloped natural areas are also desirable components of neighborhood parks.
Service Area:	¼ to ½ mile radius uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.
Desirable Size:	5 acres is considered minimum size with 10 acres as the optimal size.
Acres Per 1,000 Population	2-3 acres.
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Active recreation facilities such as playground equipment, playfields (softball, soccer, football, etc.), tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts, shuffleboard areas, horseshoe courts. ○ Passive recreation facilities such as internal trails with connections to larger regional systems, picnic/sitting areas, general open space, and "people watching" areas. ○ Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms. ○ Landscaped areas which provide buffering and shade ○ Lighting for security at night. Lighting must be designed to be direct cut-off and not shine into adjacent properties. ○ 7-10 off-street spaces.
Desirable Site Characteristics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suited for intense development ○ Easily accessible to the neighborhood population. ○ Geographically centered with safe walking and biking access. ○ May be developed as a park-school facility. ○ 50% of the site should be used for active recreation facilities, with the remaining 50% used for passive activities, landscaping, and conservation as appropriate.

C. COMMUNITY PARK

General Description:	An area 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, and picnicking. May be any combination of the above, depending on the site and community needs. Desirable facilities in community parks include those listed above in neighborhood parks, along with swimming pool facilities, picnicking, lighted ball fields and tennis courts, a community center, and adequate off-street parking. It is important that community parks be located on or near major thoroughfares and also should be easily accessible by foot. Landscaping and natural areas are desirable in a community park.
Service Area:	½ to 3-mile radius uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.
Desirable Size:	10 acres or more with 20 to 50 acres being most common.
Acres Per 1,000 Population	5-8 acres
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Active recreation facilities such as playground equipment, playfields (softball, soccer, football, etc.), tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts, shuffleboard areas, horseshoe courts, ice skating areas, swimming pools, swimming beaches, archery ranges, disc golf courses. ○ Passive recreation facilities such as extensive internal trails with connections to larger regional systems, individual and group picnic/sitting areas, general open space and unique landscapes/features, natural study areas. And ornamental gardens. ○ Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays and concerts in the park. ○ Community Center building with multi-use rooms for crafts, theater, restrooms, social activities, and senior adult use. ○ Service buildings for shelter, storage, restrooms. ○ Landscaped areas which provide buffering and shade. ○ Lighting for security at night. Lighting must be designed to be direct cut-off and not shine into adjacent properties. ○ Adequate off-street parking spaces.
Desirable Site Characteristics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suited for intense development. ○ May include natural areas, such as water bodies. ○ Easily accessible to the neighborhood population. ○ Easily accessible for walking and biking. ○ May be developed as a park-school facility.

D. SPORTS COMPLEX

General Description:	Consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities to large and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community.
Service Area:	Strategically located community-wide facilities.
Desirable Size:	Determined by projected demand; usually a minimum of 40 acres, with 80 to 150 acres being optimal.
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Programmed athletic activities, such as adult organized softball, etc., and tournaments. ○ Active recreation facilities such as ball fields, soccer fields, football fields, tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts, indoor and outdoor skating rinks, and playground equipment. ○ Passive recreation facilities such as extensive internal trails with connections to larger regional systems, and individual and group picnic/sitting areas. ○ Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms.
Desirable Site Characteristics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suited for intense development. ○ Located within reasonable and equal driving distance to populations served. ○ Locations adjacent to non-residential land uses are preferred. ○ Landscape buffers where adjacent to residential uses. ○ Site should be accessible from major thoroughfares. ○ Easily accessible to surrounding area through trail network.

E. PARK-SCHOOL

General Description:	Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex, and special use.
Service Area:	No applicable standard
Desirable Size:	Variable – depends on function.
Acres Per 1,000 Population	Variable
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilities similar to those in Neighborhood and Community Parks. ○ If athletic fields are to be included, they should be oriented toward youth, rather than adult programs.
Desirable Site Characteristics:	The criteria established for Neighborhood Park and Community Park classifications should be used to determine how a park-school site should function. The key factor is to ensure that the site exhibit the physical characteristics appropriate to intended uses.

F. SPECIAL USE AREA

General Description:	Parks and recreation facilities oriented toward a single-purpose use, usually falling into three categories: Historic/Cultural/Social Sites, Recreation Facilities, or Outdoor Recreation Facilities.
Service Area:	No applicable standard
Desirable Size:	Variable
Acres Per 1,000 Population	Variable
Basic Facilities & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Historic/Cultural/Social – historic downtown areas, performing arts parks, arboretums, ornamental gardens performing arts facilities, indoor theaters, public buildings, zoo, and amphitheaters. ○ Recreation Facilities – community centers, senior centers, community theaters, hockey arenas, marinas, golf courses, miniature golf courses, shooting ranges, and aquatic parks. ○ Outdoor Recreation Facilities – tennis centers, softball complexes, sports stadium.
Desirable Site Characteristics:	Variable, depending on use.

XIV. PARK SYSTEM ANALYSIS

A. ANALYSIS OF PARK DISTRICT SYSTEM

The most commonly used method for measuring the adequacy of a community's park and open space system is to determine if the number of people it serves or has the capacity to serve meets the Park District's desired standard combined with an analysis of geographic distribution and accessibility. This analysis is done by assigning a minimum acreage standard to each type of park and to the system as a whole. Table 4 shows the total acreage of land devoted to each type of park (mini-park, neighborhood park, etc) in the District. Table 4 also includes the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommended acreage standards for each type of park per 1,000 persons and the existing acreages per park category in the District. The information in this table indicates that the Belvidere Park District is currently satisfying the recreational needs of its residents in terms of the ratio of total acreage of District recreation parkland to persons, (using the NRPA standard range of 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed park and open space land per 1,000 persons and the District's current population of 32,438 persons).

Table 4 indicates that the District satisfies the standard with an aggregate 357.68 useable acres for recreational activity that breaks down to 11.02 acres per 1,000 persons. This current level of provision is above the NRPA recommended standard range of 6.25 to 10.5 acres per 1,000 persons. However included in this number are 33.23 acres of leased land from the Parks and Conservation Foundation and 122.0 undeveloped acres. For specific park types, the District is within the NRPA suggested range for community parks, at 6.33 acres per 1,000 persons. However, the District falls short of the recommended NRPA standard for mini-park land, at 0.01 acres per 1,000 persons and neighborhood parks, at 0.91 acres per 1,000 persons. The District provides 3.76 acres per 1,000 persons of land for recreation activities in special use areas. There is no specified NRPA standard for this type of park. It should be noted the special use areas include 111 acres of undeveloped land. Without the 122.0 acres of undeveloped land the District's current level of provision is 7.60 acres per 1,000 persons, which is within the NRPA recommended standard.

When the Meehan Elementary School site is included in the calculation, the District has a total of 368.64 acres of park and open space land in recreational use. This breaks down to 11.34 acres per 1,000 persons, barely above the recommended standard. However, this facility serves a much larger geographic area and population than just the Park District and is not under the jurisdiction of the Park District.

Table 4: Active and Passive Accessible Acres in Park District Facilities and Public School Recreational Facilities.						
Type of Park	NRPA Standard Acres per 1,000 pop.	District Facilities		School Facilities		Total Park & School Acres per 1,000 pop
		Total Acres	Acres per 1,000 Pop.	Total Acres	Acres per 1,000 pop.	
Mini	0.25-0.5acres	00.2	0.01	0	0.00	0.01
Neighborhood	2-3 acres	29.8	0.91	10.96	0.33	1.24
Community	5-8 acres	205.6	6.33	0	0.00	6.33
Special Use Area	Local Standard	122.0	3.76	0	0.00	3.76
Total	6.25-10.5 acres	357.68	11.02	10.96	0.33	11.34

The current statewide median figure for the supply of local open space and parkland acreage according to the Illinois Recreation Facilities Inventory (IRFI) is approximately 10 acres per 1,000 persons for overall community parkland acreage. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) uses a criteria that approximately 20% of local parkland/open space acreage should be allocated to neighborhood and mini-park facilities and approximately 80% allocated to community parks. The District currently meets the state median figure. However, the District's neighborhood parks currently comprise roughly 8.3% of the District's total land holdings. This figure is below the IDNR recommended land allocation for neighborhood parks. The District's community parkland allocation is 57.5%, also below the IDNR recommended standard. When Prairie Fields is developed, its land area will be included as a community park bringing the District's land allocation to 82.6%, which is above the IDNR standard for community parks.

B. ANALYSIS OF EXISTING FACILITIES

1. **Tot Lot**: The Tot Lot is currently an underutilized park within the District; new playground equipment was installed in 2005 but still continues to be underutilized. It is the smallest site the district owns and has no reasonable opportunity for expansion of land or facilities. Acquisition of similar size sites in the future should be discouraged.
2. **Doty Park**. The facilities located within Doty Park, include a skate park, shelter, playground, and a path that is in good condition and receives a great deal of use. The park was redeveloped in 1995 with partial funding from an Open Space Land Acquisition and Development [OSLAD] Grant. The intended use of this park was for large community gatherings and festivals but that has not happened on a consistent basis,. The open areas are in need of grading and development. The district should consider implementing the Doty Park Athletic Field, Parking and Pedestrian Path Plan dated November 2006. This redevelopment would bring more desirable usage to the park and would reduce recent vandalism problems.

3. Harkless Park. The playground equipment was replaced and on-street parking was added in 2007 but the park is still underutilized.
4. Bob's Park: Bob's Park, a neighborhood park created as a result of cooperation between the Parks and Conservation Foundation, "Kids Around the World", citizen input and community donated labor. This neighborhood park began as a vision of a local citizen park activist, Bob Howells to provide a play area to serve a low income ethnic neighborhood. This unique collaboration of agency and citizen volunteers is a model that could successfully serve other underserved areas of the District. The site grading and preparation with play equipment installed in 2008 is in excellent condition with future phases to be determined as funding becomes available.
5. Winterroth Park: The district acquired Winterroth Park in 2003 as a combination of purchase and developer donation through the Belvidere Land Cash Ordinance. The 6.7 acre site has an open turf play area with a set of soccer goals, trees and a perimeter path. Located in a once fast growing subdivision of single family homes and townhomes is in need of development as a neighborhood park.
6. Farmington East Park: A 4.29 acre turf area donated to the district in 2007 is undeveloped and will remain that way until the surrounding residential area is developed.
7. Belvidere Park: Belvidere Park, the most recognized Park District facility, is heavily used. The facilities located within the park are in good condition except the tennis courts. New courts should be relocated within the park or at Prairie Fields Sports Park. The older playground equipment within the park has been replaced. Road and parking improvements are necessary in some areas. The Mill Race boulder edge has failed in many locations and is in need of replacement. The continued development of Prairie Fields Sports Park, the recreation path and new neighborhood parks will help to reduce the pressure on this facility.
8. Aberdeen Park: The district's first park developed outside the Belvidere City limits is heavily used. This park was developed using financial assistance from the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development [OSLAD] Grant. Facilities include a softball field, soccer field, tennis courts, sand volleyball court, basketball court, horseshoe pits, shuffleboard court, playground equipment, shelter, restrooms, recreation path and parking. The tennis courts and some sections of the recreation path will need an asphalt overlay in the near future.
9. Fridh Park: Fridh Park was developed in 2004 with assistance of an Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grant and is heavily used. Facilities include a combination soccer/football field, playground equipment, softball field, sand volleyball court, recreation path, parking, horseshoe pits and a restroom/shelter building.

10. Prairie Fields Sports Park: Prairie Fields Sports Park is currently providing soccer, football, baseball, softball, walking, biking and running opportunities. The district has an adopted master plan that is approximately 40% complete at this time. Additional parking is desperately needed. The district has received financial assistance from three Open Space Land Acquisition and Development [OSLAD] Grants for this park.
11. Glenn H. Green Open Space: An open space site master plan for 32 of the 71 acres has been prepared and adopted by the Park Board. The staff is in the process of implementing this plan. See Appendix A.
12. William Grady Pool: The wading pool piping, filter, heater, and pumps were all replaced in 2010. The filter and pump system in the main pool will be in need of replacement and upgrading in the near future. Pool expansion with slides, lazy river, splash pad and zero depth is needed to modernize this facility. Adjacent tennis courts, basketball courts, baseball field and parking all need improvements as well.
13. Baltic Mill: The historic mill area of this building is still not heated or cooled so it offers limited use. Roof and siding repairs and/or replacement will be necessary soon. The building needs a plan for scheduled maintenance and capital improvements. The Baltic Mill Race is also in need of bank erosion control improvements and boulder replacement.
14. Rivers Edge Recreation Center: This structure needs a scheduled maintenance and capital replacement program. The terrazzo floor needs repair and or replacement at the present time.
15. Hickory Hills Island: The recreation path and bridge receive a great deal of use and are in good condition. The island needs additional trees and landscaping.
16. Kishwaukee Riverfront Path: The asphalt path constructed in 1989 shows a great deal of wear and deterioration. An asphalt overlay will be needed in 2-3 years. The pedestrian bridge from Doty Park to the Burgess Street Boat Launch needs deck replacement now.
17. Burgess Street Boat Launch: The boat launch is in good condition but the courtesy dock needs to be replaced. The district needs to address accessibility issues for boaters as the river banks and launch are too steep for people with disabilities.
18. Red Horse Bend: The parking lot, grass path and canoe access are adequate for this low impact site. Much work is still needed to establish the prairie on the adjoining 12 acres to the east.
19. Meehan School Gym: This Park/School joint use facility is in good condition and is heavily used by the park district for the Third Base, Youth Basketball and Volleyball programs but the gym use is poor. The district needs to consider its' options as the 20 year Intergovernmental Agreement will expire in 2014.

7. No playground to be included as others on site will be available.
8. All facilities in this area would be lighted.

G. Parking –

1. Parking at soccer complex and hard surface sports complex would be provided based on two teams per field and at least a 50% change over taking place.
2. Parking at baseball/softball complex to be provided on the basis of the number of players per team plus a complete change over of the number of players of the next game in each area.
3. All parking areas ultimately would be hard surface with curb and gutter. At no time shall gravel parking equal more than surface parking.
4. Parking lot lighting will be provided throughout complex to meet or exceed the IESNA (Illuminating Engineering Society of North America) Lighting Handbook standards. Security lighting throughout the nighttime hours shall be provided.
5. Parking lots to be planted with the equivalent of one tree for every 10 stalls. Shaded pedestrian walkway should flow park users through parking lots to main activities.
6. All parking areas to be visually softened from perimeter roads and sports activity areas by berms and plantings.
7. District will work to lessen the parking requirements and thus the hard surface area by scheduling techniques to lessen the environmental impact of the site.

H. Maintenance Complex –

1. Six bays of equipment storage (unheated).
2. Two year-round shop bays for working on sports complex equipment is required plus an office area for two staff with large window exposure to the complex. A break area for site maintenance staff as well as restrooms and storage need to be provided.
3. Each bay will be approximately 15' wide x 40' in length for a total building size of approximately 40' x 120' or 8 bays wide plus office areas.

4. A fenced area and/or an earth berm will enclose the outdoor storage area so miscellaneous equipment that needs to be stored outside is screened from park users and off-site viewers. Fence enclosure to be vinyl covered chain link fence or wood fence. Enclosure to include perimeter gates that are automatic rolling type gates with remote controls.
5. Containment areas for herbicides, gasoline, diesel fuel, and paints will be provided.
6. A secondary covered pole building would be provided for storage of materials such as ballfield mix, mulch, compost, topsoil, etc. (see attached sketch)
7. An outdoor rinse down facility for the equipment will be provided (see attached sketch).
8. Facility would be designed in size for care of this 93-acre site only.
9. Area within the maintenance compound would be concrete surface.
10. Areas to be set aside for enclosed refuse storage and recyclable products.

I. Utilities –

1. All utilities will be provided. Sanitary sewer through agreement with the City of Belvidere, water through agreement with the City of Belvidere, gas through agreement with Nicor, electrical through agreement with ComEd, and telephone through agreement with Verizon.
2. Cablevision from the local cable company will be provided to the concession areas, offices, and maintenance facility. Two of the baseball/softball and two of the soccer/football fields will be pre-wired to accept cable coverage for any future televising of games provided this can be supplied by others at no cost to the District.
3. Park will provide storm water detention as determined by ordinance.

J. Miscellaneous –

1. All areas to have ample enclosed areas for trash storage and recyclable items.
2. The total complex to include an underground turf irrigation system that has automatic controllers located at key locations throughout complex.

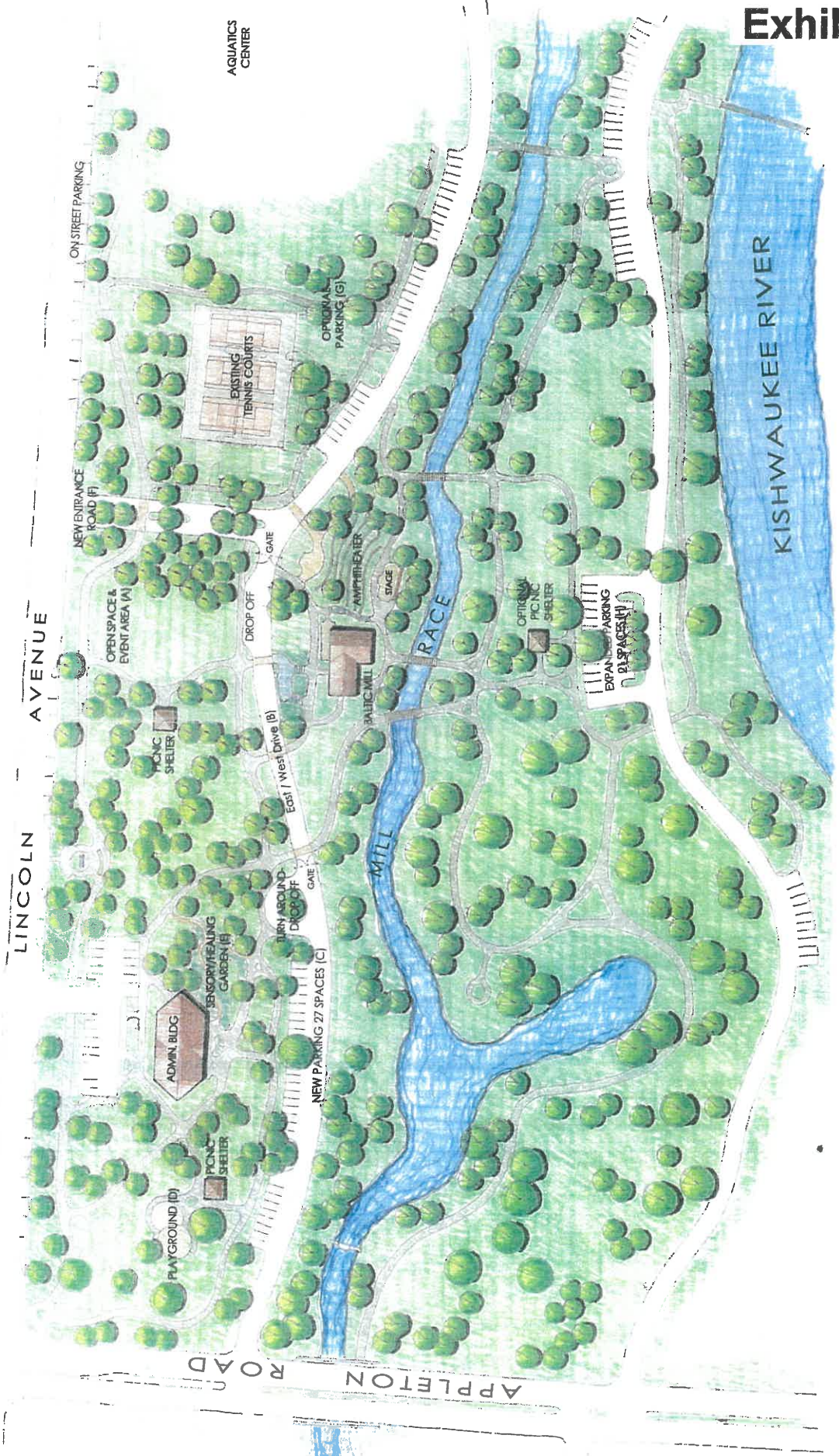
3. Each complex to have quick couplers located near each field for maintenance crews to connect hoses as needed. Quick couplers to be installed in buffalo boxes.
4. Irrigation will not be provided in area of the Neighborhood Park or parking lots.
5. Landscape plantings throughout complex to have strong emphasis on large shade trees for future participant shade and large evergreens for windbreaks and visual separation of activity areas and adjacent areas.
6. Site shall visually take on a park-like setting from the perimeter roads.
7. Site to have uniform design theme. All signage to visually unite graphics throughout project. No lighted signs will be required except major project identity signs adjacent to perimeter roads.
8. A sound system will be provided within each complex with the system controlled in the buildings.
9. All utility equipment, trash collection, and storage areas to be planted to soften visual impact.

99012programlistings

Foot Note:

- This program does not include any individual equipment items for sports activity or maintenance shop. These will be determined by staff as need arises.

Exhibit - C



JULY, 06 2007

MASTER PLAN FOR BALTIC MILL AREA

Belvidere Park District
Belvidere, Illinois

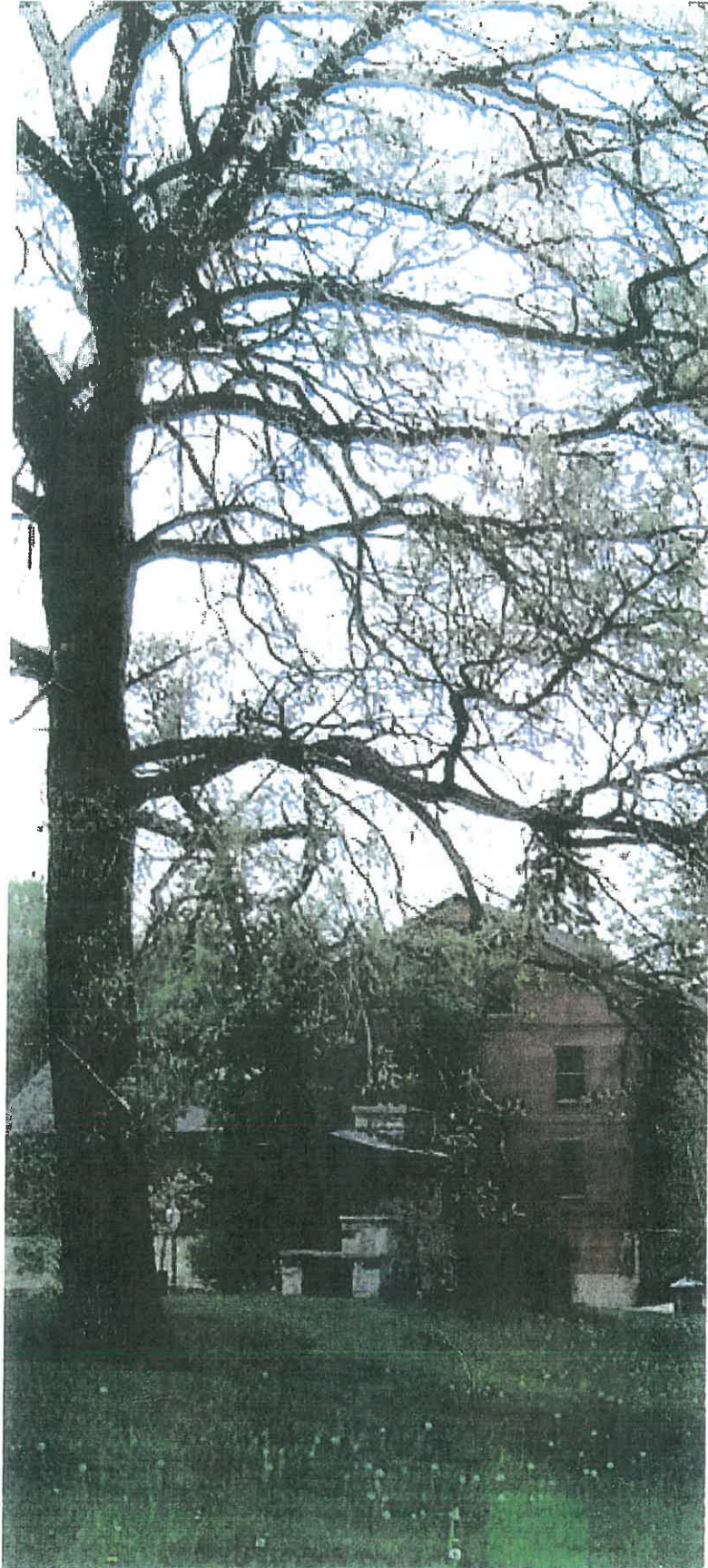


Exhibit - C
MASTER PLAN
FOR
BALTIC MILL AREA

BELVIDERE PARK

FOR THE
BELVIDERE PARK DISTRICT
BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS

PREPARED BY:

LAND DESIGN COLLABORATIVE, INC.
5142 MAIN STREET
SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60077
847-329-9777
847-329-9779 (FAX)

JULY 2007

MASTER PLAN/ RECOMMENDATIONS

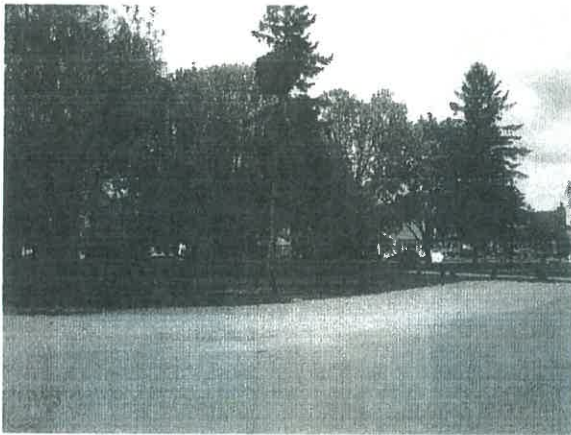
MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the review and evaluation of the three Alternative Concept Plans, a final Master Plan for the Baltic Mill Area was developed. The final Master Plan represents a consensus of the three alternative concept plans. The following is a brief description of each sub-area of the plan.

A. OPEN SPACE/EVENT AREA

The Open Space/Event Area lies between Lincoln Area and the east/west drive. Several functions of this space are accommodated, including (1) a visual setting from Lincoln Avenue to the Baltic Mill; and (2) an informal open space that can be used for events and activities.

Along the west side of the Open Space a pedestrian path is provided for access to the Baltic Mill Building and a proposed picnic shelter located west of the Open Space. The



proposed shelter can be used during special events as well as picnicking.

A proposed path is also recommended along the north side of the east/west drive to link parking areas, the Baltic Mill Building, and the Administration Building.

B. EAST/WEST DRIVE AREA

The east/west drive will continue through the area, however, the roadway has been narrowed and parking eliminated in front of the Baltic Mill. A drop-off/pick-up is provided in front of the building for servicing. Gates to close the drive temporarily are provided east and west of the building.

C. EAST/WEST DRIVE PARKING (EAST)

The east/west drive west of the Baltic Mill Building will be maintained. However, two modifications are recommended. First, parking along the north side (approximately 27 spaces can be provided to serve (1) the new picnic/playground area (D), (2) the Administration Building, and (3) the Baltic Mill Building and special events.

The second modification is to provide a cul-de-sac in order to close the drive in front of the Baltic Mill Building for special events. The cul-de-sac turnaround will eliminate vehicles from backing up on the drive, as well as providing a drop-off/pick-up area.

The drive should be narrowed to 20 feet and eventually curbed to control traffic and parking.

D. NORTHWEST PICNIC/PLAYGROUND AREA

It is recommended that the far northwest area be developed for picnicking with a shelter and new playground. Besides being used as a group picnic area, it also can be used by the Camp Horizon program during the summer. Parking is provided south along the east/west drive. Bike/pedestrian paths are suggested to provide access to the area.

E. OPEN SPACE/GARDEN AREA

Southeast of the Administration Building, a sensory garden is proposed. The garden can be designed to serve all ages and disabilities, and provide a resource for special programs offered by the District. Besides a wide variety of plantings, the garden should include seating/social areas, a small fountain, a shade structure, walks, and possible sculpture.

The area east of the garden can be maintained as open space. A new path should be extended from the Administration Building southeast linking the Baltic Mill Building.

F. ENTRANCE DRIVE AREA

It is recommended that the entrance drive from Lincoln Avenue be modified and should be designed as one of the major entrances to the park. The drive should incorporate a landscape median to improve safety for pedestrians, drivers, and enhance the entrance to the park. At the entrance on Lincoln Avenue, stone masonry columns could be installed to possibly match the columns at the eastern entrance and further define the entrance.

The drive should eventually be curbed to improve safety.

G. TENNIS COURTS/OPTIONAL PARKING AREA

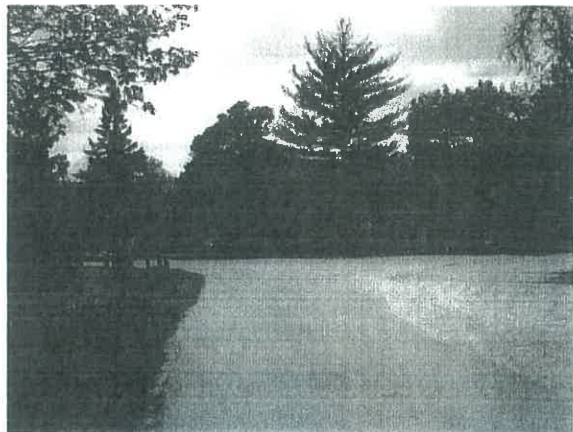
As an option, the tennis courts could be re-located in the Park, and the area developed as a parking lot if needed. The area could be designed to accommodate up to approximately 55 spaces. This location would provide convenient parking for events at the amphitheater, Baltic Mill Building, and the Open Space Area. In addition, it can serve as overflow parking for the aquatics center.

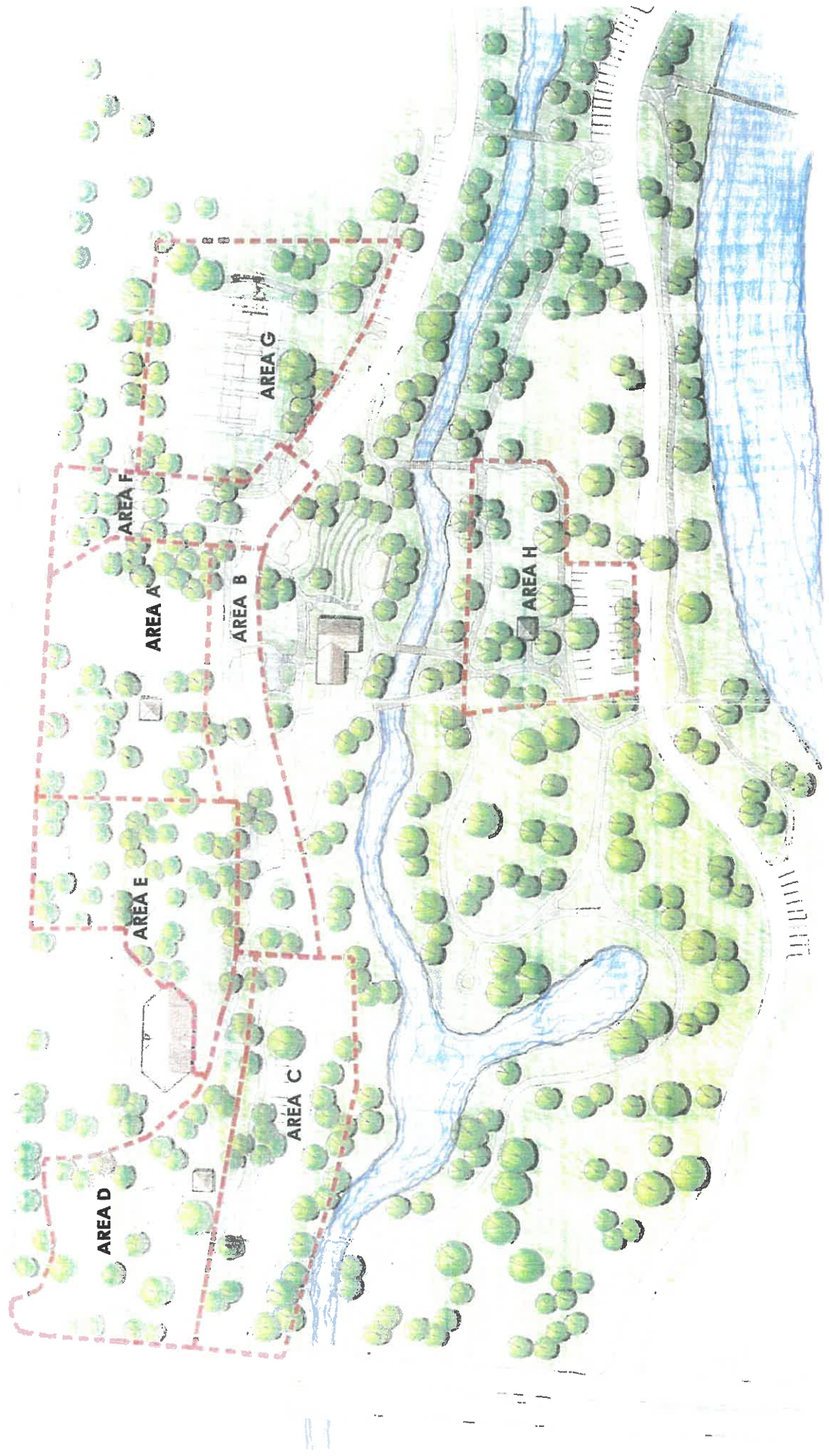
H. PICNIC SHELTER/OPTIONAL PARKING AREA

As an option, a parking lot could be developed south of the Baltic Mill Building, accommodating approximately 47 spaces. This parking lot would be within 250 feet of both the amphitheater and the Baltic Mill Building.

In addition, a picnic shelter could be developed in this area if needed.

On the following page the Master Plan for the Baltic Mill area is illustrated.





IMPROVEMENT/IMPLEMENTATION AREA FOR BAL TIC MILL

Belvidere Park District

JULY, 06 2007

Scale: 1"=50'



Exhibit - D

Bob's Park

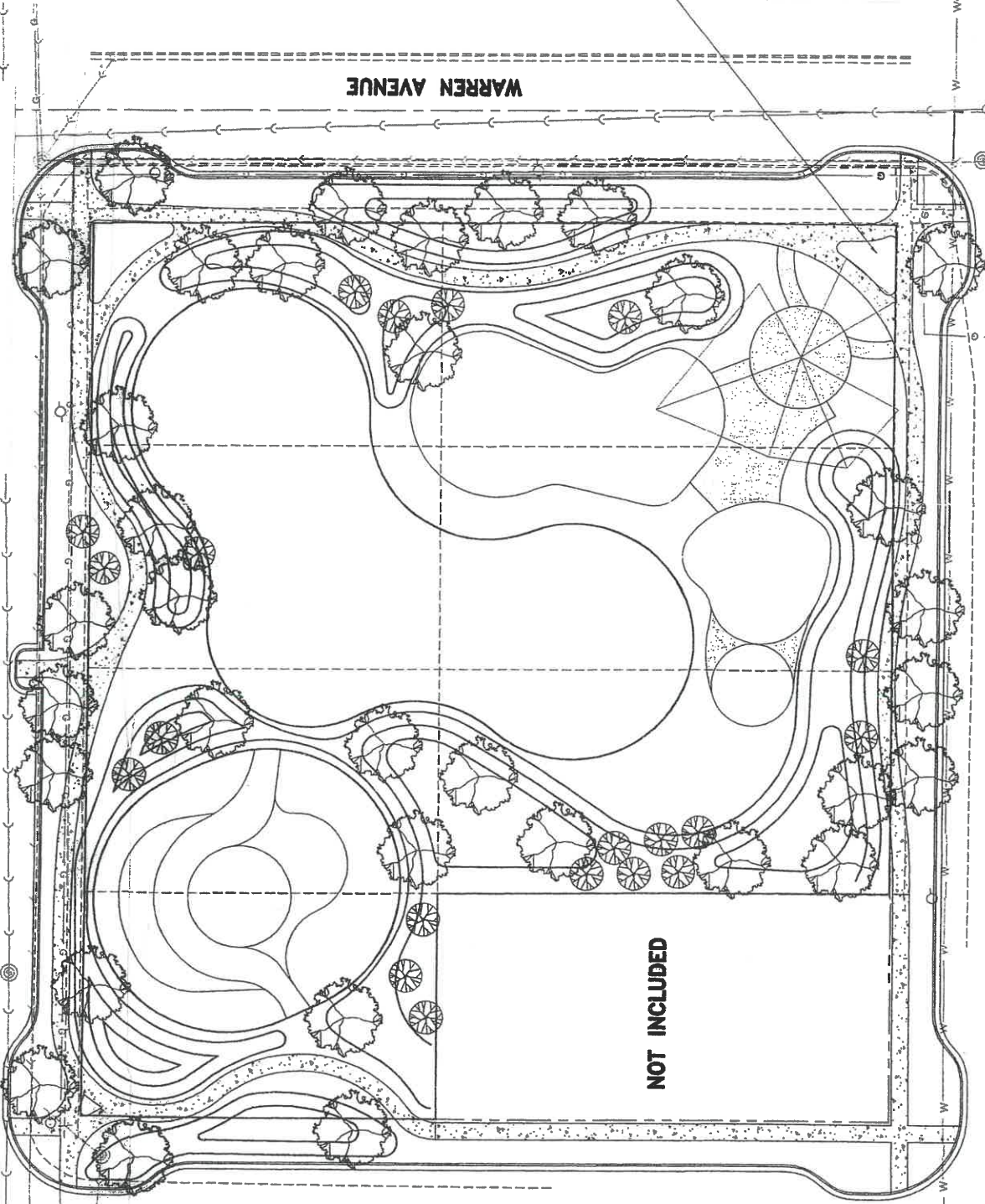
MEADOW STREET

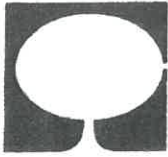
WARREN AVENUE

NEBRASKA STREET

LOCUST STREET

NOT INCLUDED





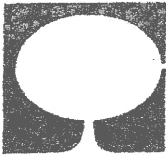
**Conceptual Site Plan
for
Meadow Street Park
Meadow Street @ Warren Avenue
Belvidere, IL
August 17, 2005**

**A Cooperative Effort of the
Park and Conservation Foundation**

1. In reviewing and studying the city block, surrounded by Meadow Street, Warren Avenue, Locust Street and Nebraska Avenue, acquired by the Park and Conservation Foundation through Bob Howell's efforts, our initial site studies indicated that the park land at 264' x 235' was a challenging site. This site is too small to accommodate a full-size soccer or softball field as incorporated in other neighborhood parks recently completed in the Belvidere area.
2. Based on that determination, we felt that this park should take on a unique character and quality from the others and be special to this neighborhood. In developing this concept, our first thought was, since there are no good sidewalks existing, to develop a new sidewalk system that is integrated into the park. This sidewalk system takes on a flowing movement along the length of the streets and then comes together at each corner, versus a typical straight 4'-6" city sidewalk on the right-of-way. This walk would flow off and on the right of way into the park and back out again. It is envisioned that this sidewalk would be a 5'-0" wide concrete walk.
3. It is envisioned, since there is a small drop in grade across the site of 2 to 3'-0", (yet to be verified by survey), that we would be able to reshuffle the existing earth to develop a series of gentle berms that would envelop the park site. These berms would be very gentle and would not be more than 2 to 3'-0" high, depending on where they are. The berms would provide a definition for the inner spaces of the park. The berms, though, would not hinder the view into the park from the adjacent streets.
4. The berms would be planted with shade trees, large evergreens and ornamental trees to provide a visual sense of enclosure and invoke a park-like feeling on the outer park perimeter along the four streets.



5. Within the berm-enclosed park, there will be five major components as follows:
 - a. A large, flat grassy area of an irregular shape would allow people to kick soccer balls, play catch, fly kites and do other activities without the ability to play a formal game of soccer, etc. This large, open space is meant for the neighborhood kids and their families to run around and play within that space. This large, informal area would be blended to the outer berms, but be very flat for open field activities
 - b. A large, irregular-shaped blacktopped area would be a colored and textured blacktop to provide an interesting pattern as part of the blacktop surface. Two basketball hoops would be installed, but would be installed in such a manner that they would work for shooting games of Horse and practicing, but not in a manner that one could play basketball games across the blacktop space.
 - c. The corner of Locust Street and Warren Avenue would become the major thrust of the park's activities. This corner would include the playgrounds: one area for children in the 2-5 year range and a second area for children in the range of 5-12 years. These playgrounds were selected by the Foundation as designed by NuToys Leisure Products using Landscape Structures Inc. playground equipment. There would also be a separate swing area with six seats adjacent to the playground, as well as a sand area.
 - d. As part of the corner area, there would be the standard restrooms (future), drinking fountains, benches, trash receptacles, etc. This area would be at the highest point in the park and would look down onto the large, grassy playfield and playgrounds. One would walk down a grassy slope onto that flat, grassy playing area and would look across to the southwest to the colorful blacktop area surface. Both of those would be approximately 3-5'-0" lower than the grade at the corner.
 - e. The portions of playgrounds and the swing area at the corner would be covered by an area which would have a large fabric structure, and which would be very open and lose with bright and mobile colors. This structure would be supported by major posts that would match the playground colors. These fabrics would provide shade in the way they would be connected. The fabric structure would provide areas where people could sit in the shade or in the sun.
6. In addition, this corner would be heavily planted in shrubs, flowers and perennials to give more of a garden effect around this area of the park versus the other areas, which would be strictly grassy berms with trees and large evergreens planted on the berms.



7. If, at some point, the southeast corner lot is acquired, the large, grassy berm could be extended up into that space, continuing the play concept. As another option, there could be a smaller grassy playfield developed, but not as large as the original one proposed on the plan. This concept would allow for more separate park user groups to be active without infringing on the others' space.
8. In discussions with the City, it would be hoped that the City would take the corners and extend the curb line out to the driving lanes and then end up with parking along all four sides of the park for users, although this park is intended for neighborhood users only and thus parking would not be an issue. This concept is noted at the southwest corner of the concept plan.
9. With this concept, we would be able to park approximately 28-30 cars around the edge of the park and not be infringing upon the neighbors' street parking.
10. It is envisioned that this project would have to be completed in phases, as the Foundation is able to raise the funds. The first phase would be at the northeast corner, with the construction of the playground, the swingsets, the seating area and possibly, the fabric structure.
11. This park is made possible by the hard work and efforts of Bob Howells, who worked diligently to help with the acquisition of this land by the Foundation. The Foundation now provides the vehicle to build this park facility in an area of Belvidere that is very underserved by parks and recreation space.

The attached park plan and this written commentary were approved and endorsed by the Park and Conservation Foundation on August 16, 2005.

Commentary prepared by

John R. Cook Associates
861 North Madison Street
Rockford, IL 61107

in conjunction with the Park and Conservation Foundation.

04018centraldesign



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861 N. Madison Street
Rockford, Illinois 61107

WORK SHEET

Project: _____

Project No.: _____

Date: _____

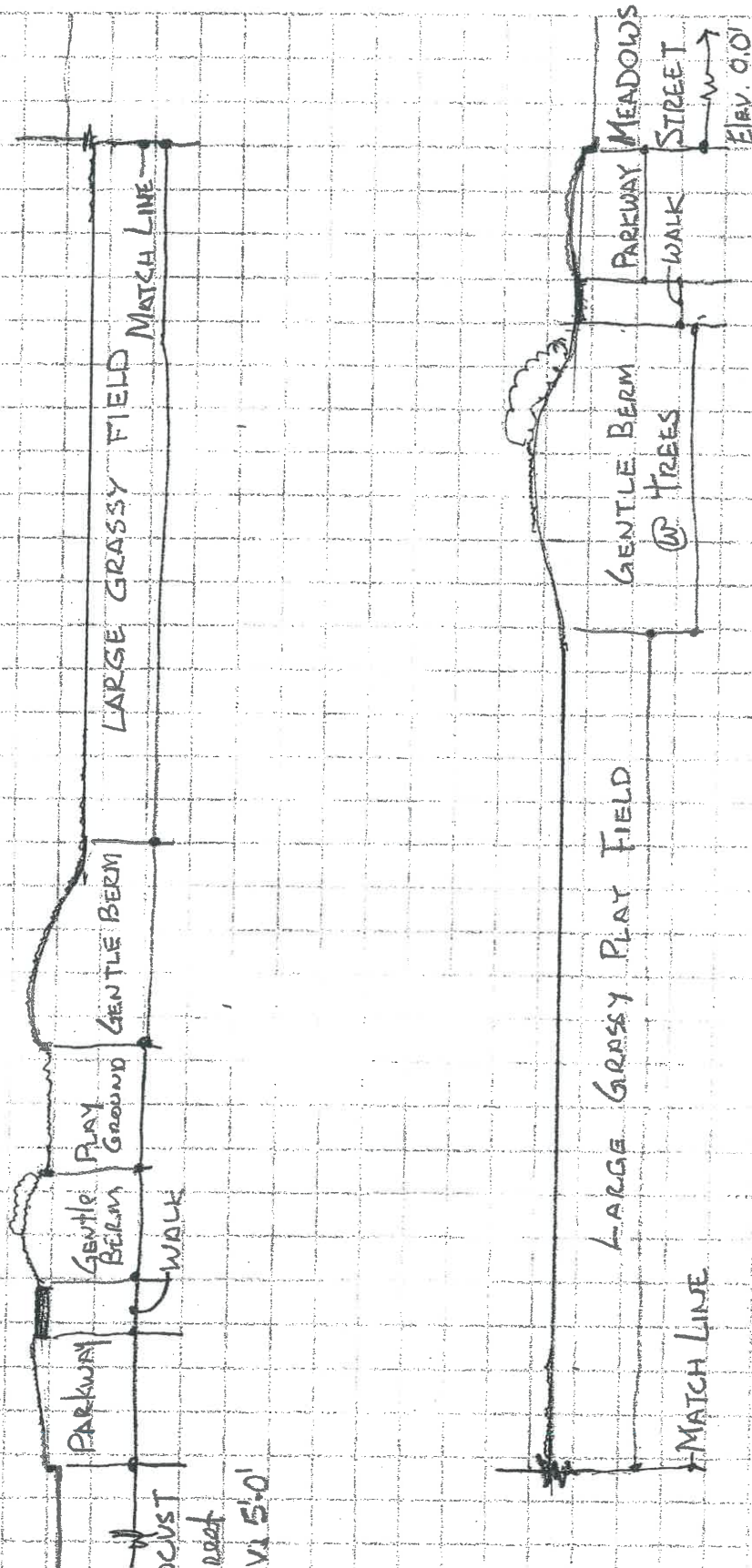
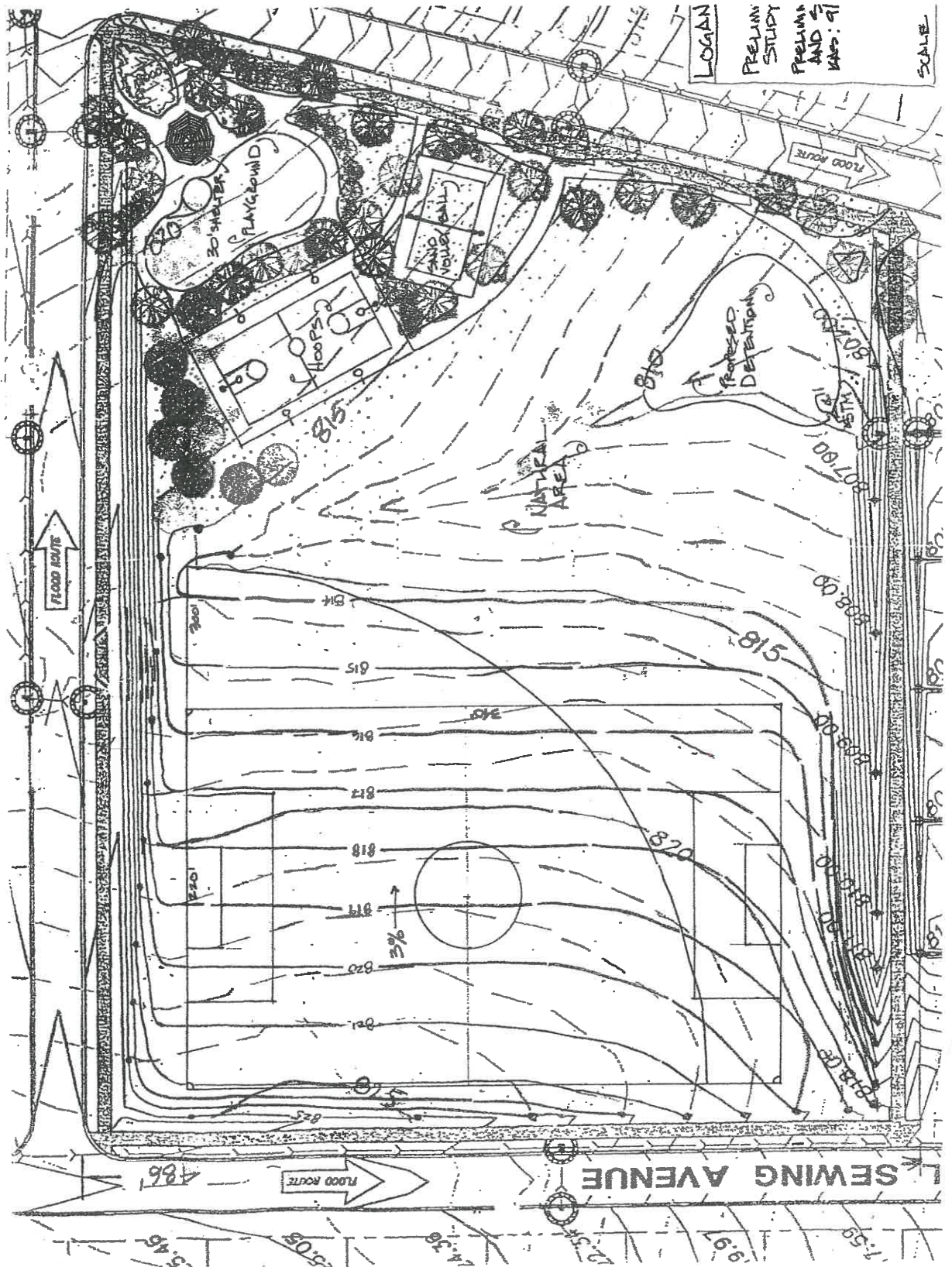
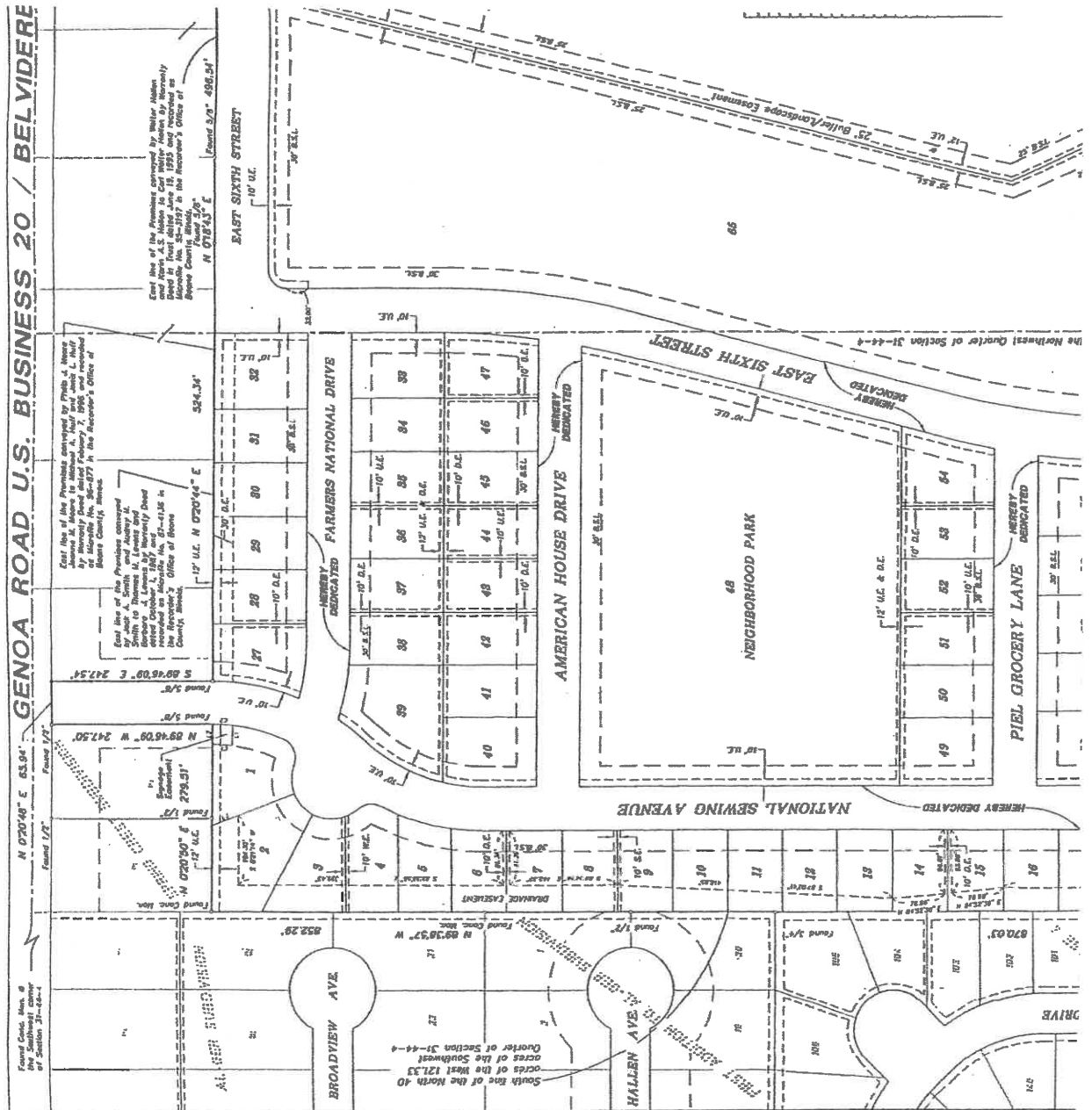


Exhibit - E



Winterroth Park





DOTY PARK

BELVIDERE, ILLINOIS

ATHLETIC FIELD, PARKING, AND PEDESTRIAN PATH IMPROVEMENTS

CONCEPT PLAN



- LEGEND**
- ① LANDSCAPE TO BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FROM BELVIDERE PARK PLANNING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT FOR RECREATION PURPOSES.
 - ② LANDSCAPE TO BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FROM THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT FOR RECREATION PURPOSES AND FOR RECREATION AND ACCESS TO THE KISHKAWA RIVER.
 - ③ LANDSCAPE TO BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FROM THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT FOR RECREATION PURPOSES AND FOR RECREATION AND ACCESS TO THE KISHKAWA RIVER.
 - ④ LANDSCAPE TO BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FROM THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT FOR RECREATION PURPOSES AND FOR RECREATION AND ACCESS TO THE KISHKAWA RIVER.
 - ⑤ LANDSCAPE TO BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FROM THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT FOR RECREATION PURPOSES AND FOR RECREATION AND ACCESS TO THE KISHKAWA RIVER.
 - ⑥ LANDSCAPE TO BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FROM THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT FOR RECREATION PURPOSES AND FOR RECREATION AND ACCESS TO THE KISHKAWA RIVER.
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 - ⑧ LANDSCAPE TO BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FROM THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT FOR RECREATION PURPOSES AND FOR RECREATION AND ACCESS TO THE KISHKAWA RIVER.
 - ⑨ LANDSCAPE TO BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FROM THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT FOR RECREATION PURPOSES AND FOR RECREATION AND ACCESS TO THE KISHKAWA RIVER.
 - ⑩ LANDSCAPE TO BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP FROM THE BELVIDERE TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT FOR RECREATION PURPOSES AND FOR RECREATION AND ACCESS TO THE KISHKAWA RIVER.

- LEGEND**
- TREE BOX
 - △ GOAL
 - PITCHING MOUND

XVI. Appendix - B

Excerpts -

- H. Belvidere Zoning Ordinance
- I. Boone County Zoning Ordinance
- J. Belvidere Subdivision Code
- K. Boone County Subdivision Code

Excerpt – H. Belvidere Zoning Ordinance

Additional Zoning Regulations:

(C) Institutional Land Uses

(1) Passive Outdoor Public Recreational. Passive outdoor public recreational land uses include all recreational land uses located on public property which involve passive recreational activities. Such land uses include arboretums, natural areas, wildlife areas, hiking trails, bike trails, cross country ski trails, horse trails, open grassed areas not associated with any particular active recreational land use (see (b), below), picnic areas, picnic shelters, gardens, fishing areas, and similar land uses.

A. Parking Requirements. One space per 3 expected patrons at maximum capacity. Per Section 150.704(G) if parking needs exceed this minimum requirement, in the opinion of the Zoning Administrator, additional parking spaces sufficient to meet the average maximum weekly peak-hour parking space demand shall be provided by the property owner.

(2) Active Outdoor Public Recreational. Active outdoor public recreational land uses include all recreational land uses located on public property which involve active recreational activities. Such land uses include playcourts (such as tennis courts and basketball courts), playfields (such as ball diamonds, football fields, and soccer fields), tot lots, outdoor swimming pools, swimming beach areas, fitness courses, public golf courses, and similar land uses.

A. Regulations.

1. Facilities using night lighting and adjoining a residentially zoned property shall install and continually maintain a bufferyard with a minimum opacity of 0.60 (see Sec. 150.607). The bufferyard shall be located at the property line adjacent to said residentially zoned property.
2. All structures and active recreational areas shall be located a minimum of 50 feet from any residentially zoned property.
3. Facilities that serve a community-wide function shall be located with primary vehicular access on a collector or arterial street.
4. Facilities that serve a regional or community-wide function shall provide off-street passenger loading area if the majority of the users will be children.

B. Parking Requirements. Five spaces per gross acre minimum and eight spaces per gross acre maximum. Parking areas available along park roads may be used to fulfill this requirement. Per Section 150.704 (G), if parking needs exceed this minimum requirement, in the opinion of the Zoning Administrator, additional parking spaces sufficient to meet the average

maximum weekly peak-hour parking space demand shall be provided by the property owner.

(3) Indoor Institutional. Indoor institutional land uses include all indoor public and not for profit recreational facilities (such as gyms, swimming pools, libraries, museums, and community centers), schools, colleges, churches, nonprofit clubs, nonprofit fraternal organizations, convention centers, hospitals, jails, prisons, and similar land uses.

A. Regulations.

1. Shall be located with primary vehicular access on a collector or arterial street.
2. Shall provide off-street passenger loading area if the majority of the users will be children as in the case of a school, church, library, or similar land use.
3. All structures shall be located a minimum of 50 feet from any residentially zoned property.

B. Parking Requirements. Generally, one space per three expected patrons at maximum capacity.

- **Community or Recreation Center:** One space per 250 sq. feet of gross floor area, or one space per four patrons to the maximum capacity, whichever is greater, plus one space per employee on the largest work shift.

(4) Outdoor Institutional. Outdoor institutional land uses include public and private cemeteries, privately held permanently protected natural resource areas, country clubs, non-public golf courses, and similar uses.

A. Regulations.

Same as “Active Outdoor Public Recreational” above

B. Parking Requirements. Generally, one space per three expected patrons at maximum capacity. Except:

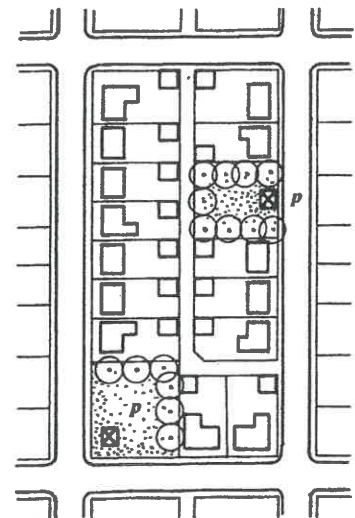
- **Swimming Pool:** One space per 75 square feet of gross water area.
- **Tennis Court:** Three spaces per court.

Excerpt – I. Boone County Zoning Ordinance

5.3.8. Traditional Neighborhood Development Open Space Guidelines. Public open space provides an orientation hierarchy and communal structure to a neighborhood. The series of specialized open spaces described herein are integral to the neighborhood environment. Open space is defined as all areas not covered by buildings or parking lots, streets, required setbacks, easements or golf courses. The following regulations are intended for areas not intended to be served by the Belvedere Park District.

- A. Every neighborhood needs places where people can meet.
- B. Open space shall be planned and improved, accessible and usable by persons living nearby. Improved shall mean clear of underbrush and debris, graded, landscaped, and may contain one or more of the following improvements: gazebos, benches, walls, fences, fountains, statues, memorials, ball fields, and/or play equipment. Walls and fences shall be made of stone, masonry, wrought iron, or wood and shall not exceed four (4) feet in height, except that fences used in conjunction with ball fields may be of chain link constructions and may exceed four (4) feet in height. Playground equipment, statues, memorials and fountains should be located towards the center of squares and parks.
- C. Except for greenways and parkways, required open space shall be located at or adjacent to the higher residential densities in the neighborhood. Yard sizes and layout will vary with housing types. Lots with small yards should be compensated by being located in close proximity to parks.
- D. Parks shall have public street frontage on at least two sides
- E. OPEN SPACE TYPES/CLASSIFICATIONS. Except as noted herein, each of the various open space types described in this Section may be considered as park land contributions required by the Subdivision Regulations. The open spaces in the TND fall into eight types that are defined as follows:

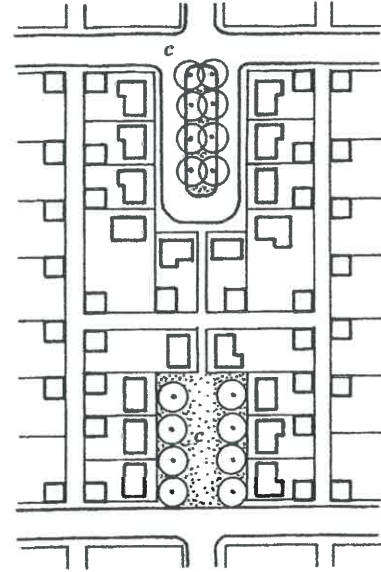
- 1. **PLAYGROUND.** Playgrounds provide sunny and shaded play areas for children as well as open shelter with benches for adults. Playgrounds may be built within Squares and Parks or may stand alone within a residential block. Playgrounds shall be fenced, securable and illuminated if not part of a Square or Park. The minimum size for a playground shall be eight thousand (8,000) square feet; the maximum size for a playground shall be fifteen thousand (15,000) square feet. There should be a playground within one thousand (1,000) feet of every residence. Playgrounds may be covered in sand, crushed stone or other surface approved by the County. Trees shall be planted along the perimeter of a playground. Trees shall be spaced between fifteen (15) and forty (40) feet on center. Trees



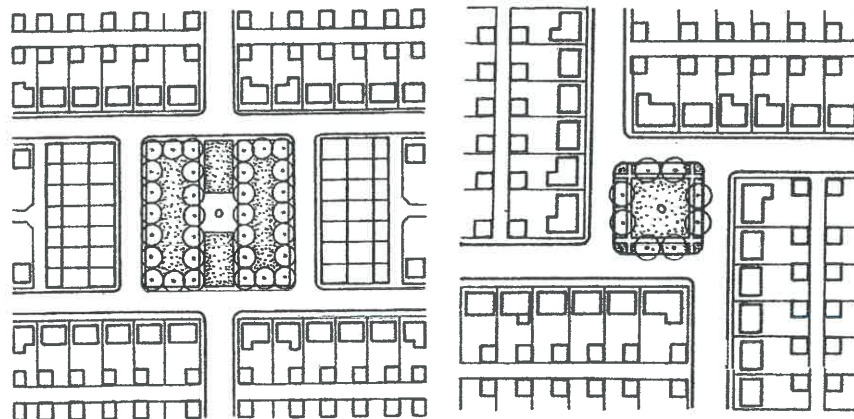
Playground (p)

shall limb up to a minimum of fifteen (15) feet at maturity. Tree planting required along the perimeter of a playground is in addition to trees required to be planted in the adjacent public right-of-way.

2. CLOSE. A close is a front space for buildings interior to the block. It may be pedestrian or it may have a roadway loop around a green area within the roadway. Its minimum width must coincide with emergency vehicle turning standards. Trees shall be planted along the perimeter of a close. Trees shall be spaced between fifteen (15) and forty (40) feet on center. Trees shall limb up to a minimum of fifteen (15) feet at maturity. Tree planting required along the perimeter of a close is in addition to trees required to be planted in the adjacent public right-of-way.

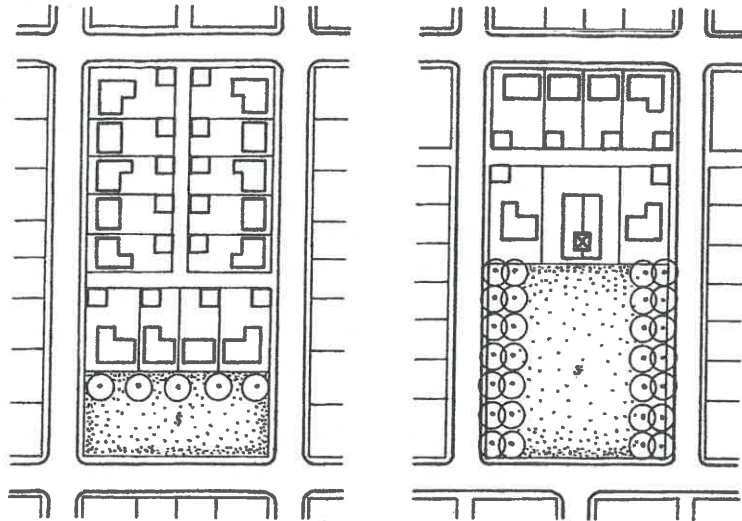


3. SQUARE. Squares are green spaces which are inherently civic in nature. They are the setting for civic buildings and monuments, located either at their centers or edges. Formal tree planting maintains spatial definition of the square. Squares should be maintained to a higher standard than playgrounds and parks. Squares are areas for passive recreational use. Attached squares shall be bounded by streets on a minimum of three sides or seventy-five percent (75%) of their perimeter. Detached squares are entirely bounded by streets. The recommended minimum size of a Square shall be twenty thousand (20,000) square feet; the recommended maximum size shall be two (2) acres. Squares may be entirely paved in crushed gravel, brick paver, or similar material, or partially paved. Areas not landscaped shall be landscaped. Squares shall have trees planted parallel to all right-of-ways with not less than two (2) tree species a minimum of ten (10) feet and maximum of thirty (30) feet on center. Trees shall limb up to a minimum of fifteen (15) feet at maturity. Tree planting required along the perimeter of a close is in addition to trees required to be planted in the adjacent public right-of-way.



Detached Square

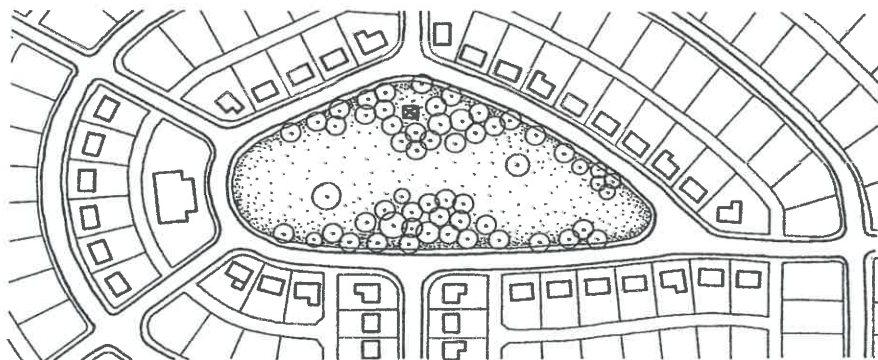
Detached Square



Attached Square (s)

4. **PARKWAY.** Parkways are open spaces designed to incorporate natural settings such as creeks and significant stands of trees within neighborhoods. Parkways are to be entirely bounded by streets or pedestrian right-of-ways within developed areas. Parkways differ from Parks and Squares in that their detailing is natural, i.e. informally planted, except along right-of-ways, and may contain irregular topography. Parkways may be used for certain active recreational uses such as walking, jogging, or bicycling. Trees shall be planted along all right-of-ways with not less than two (2) tree species a minimum of ten (10) feet and maximum of thirty (30) feet on center. Interior areas shall remain natural and any additional plantings shall be informal in design. Tree planting required along the perimeter of a parkway is in addition to required tree planting in the adjacent public right-of-way. Parkways are encouraged but shall not be considered as park land contributions required in the Subdivision Regulations.
5. **GREENBELT.** Greenbelts run along a creek or other unnamed waterways, or along the perimeter of a neighborhood, and serve to buffer a neighborhood from surrounding non-compatible uses such as a highway corridor or industrial district, or one neighborhood from another adjacent neighborhood. Generally, greenbelts are left in a natural state and are not for recreational purposes. Agricultural land may be used as a greenbelt. There is no tree planting requirement along the perimeter of greenbelts. Tree planting required in the public right-of-way along greenbelts shall be provided as required. Greenbelts are encouraged but shall not be considered as park land contributions required in the Subdivision Regulations.

6. **PARKS.** Parks may be designed for passive and/or active recreational use. Parks shall be bounded by public streets on a minimum of fifty-percent (50%) of their perimeter. Parks are encouraged to be entirely bounded by streets. The minimum size shall be one (1) acre; the maximum size shall be five (5) acres. The maximum park size may exceed five acres if through design, the park creates a central open space which serves an entire neighborhood or group of neighborhoods, or incorporates physical features which are an asset to the community, e.g. lake or river frontage, high ground, significant stand of trees. Trees shall be planted along all right-of-ways with not less than two (2) tree species a minimum of ten (10) feet and maximum of thirty (30) feet on center. Interior areas shall remain natural and any additional plantings shall be informal in design. Tree planting required along the perimeter of a Park is in addition to tree planting required in the adjacent public right-of-way. Promenades and esplanades within a Park may be formally planted with trees parallel to the walkway. Interior portions of the Park are encouraged to be kept free of plantings. Areas for active use and any facilities which accompany such use shall have a tree planting design which integrates the structures into the Park and defines the areas set aside for active recreation use from areas of passive use. Plantings in the interior portions of the Park are encouraged to follow topographical lines. There shall be no area within a park of undergrowth or limbs lower than twelve (12) feet from the ground.
7. **GREEN.** Like the Square, it is small, civic, and surrounded by buildings. Unlike the Square, it is informally planted and may have an irregular topography. Greens are usually landscaped with trees at the edges and sunny lawns at the center. Greens should contain no structures other than benches, pavilions and memorials. Paths are optional. Tree planting required in the public right-of-way along a Green shall be provided as required.



Green

8. **BUFFER.** The Buffer has the basic elements of a Green with the added purpose of buffering the impact of traffic from a highway or boulevard. Buffers are encouraged but shall not be considered as park land contributions required in the Subdivision Regulations.

Excerpt – J. Belvidere Subdivision Code

Section 151.48.5: Dedication of park lands and school sites or for payment of fees in lieu thereof.

be located within street or alley rights-of-way unless topography dictates otherwise. When located in easements on private property, access shall be provided by dedication of right-of-way from the public street or alley to the easement. No less than six feet of cover shall be provided over the top of pipe in street and alley rights-of-way or three feet in all other areas.

- (9) *Cleanouts.* Cleanouts are required for all services and shall be installed in accordance with city standards.
- (10) *Water supply interconnections.* There shall be no physical connection between a public or private potable water supply system and a sewer which will permit the passage of any sewage or polluted water into the potable supply. Sewers shall be kept removed from water supply wells or other water supply sources and structures.
- (11) *Relationship of sewers to water mains.* The relationship (location) of sanitary sewers to water mains shall be in accordance with section 212F, Distribution Division of Public Water Supplies Technical Policy Statements, latest revised edition.
- (12) *Services.* Any sewer service below the rim elevation of the nearest downstream manhole within 1,500 lineal feet of a sanitary pump station shall be lifted and dis-

(b) Reservation of land for public use.

- (1) The city council may require that land be reserved on a plat for a specific public use for future acquisition by the city or other public agency when a need for such use is evident in the vicinity of the proposed subdivision.
- (2) The acquisition of land reserved by a public agency on the final plat shall be initiated within 12 months of the final plat approval for that portion of the plat containing the reserved land. Failure on the part of the public agency to initiate acquisition within the prescribed time shall result in the removal of the reserved designation from the property involved and the freeing of the property for development in accordance with this chapter. This section does not refer to dedications that may be required by the city council for specific reasonable improvements.

(Code 1982, § 151.48; Ord. No. 788F, § 1, 5-17-93; Ord. No. 972F, § 1, 7-3-95)

Sec. 151.48.5. Dedication of park lands and school sites or for payments of fees in lieu thereof.

As a condition of approval of a final plat of subdivision, of a final plat of a planned unit development, or of a final plat of a mobile home park, each subdivider or developer will be re-

quired to dedicate land for park, recreational, conservation and school purposes to serve the immediate and future needs of the residents of the development, or will be required to make a cash contribution in lieu of actual land dedication, or a combination of both, at the option of the city after consultation with the affected district, in accordance with the following criteria and formulas:

(1) *Criteria for requiring park, recreational and conservation land dedication.*

- a. *Requirement and population ratio.*
The ultimate density of a proposed development shall bear directly on the amount of land required for dedication. The total requirement for parks and recreational areas shall be 6.25 acres of land per 1,000 of ultimate population and may be allocated by the city council in its discretion based upon the following criteria. The total requirement for conservation areas shall be 6.25 acres of land per 1,000 of ultimate population.

PARKS:

	<i>Types of Acres Recreation Area</i>	<i>Minimum Size</i>	<i>Park Acreage per 1,000 People</i>
1.	Play lot	1 acre	0.025
2.	Neighborhood park	5 acres	1
3.	Community-wide recreation park	15 acres	5
	Total		6.25 Acres of Land per 1,000 People

CONSERVATION AREA:

<i>Conservation Area</i>	<i>Minimum Size</i>	<i>Acres Per 1,000 People</i>
	12 Acres	12

These requirements for acreage are based upon a review of available data studies and literature on the subject, including but not limited to, the National Land Park Association's Recreation, Park and Open Space

Standards and Guidelines, 1990 and A Report to Belvidere Park District and Boone County Conservation District on the Costs of Growth, completed by the Center for Governmental Studies, Northern Illinois University, November 17, 1993. These requirements shall be presumed as the appropriate acreage requirements and shall be used in calculating any cash in lieu of land contribution herein unless timely objected to as provided herein. Objections to these acreage requirements for any particular development shall be made in accordance with subsection (9) of this section to the planning and zoning commission (P&Z). Failure to timely object to these acreage requirements in accordance with subsection (9) of this section shall thereafter waive any right to raise an objection at a later time.

- b. *Location.* The park recreation and conservation plans as adopted by the township park district, the county conservation district, and the city's comprehensive plan shall be used as a guideline in locating sites. A central location that will serve equally the entire development is most desirable. In large developments, these sites can be located throughout the development according to established standards for park area distances.
- c. *Credit for private open spaces and recreation areas.* When subdividers or developers provide their own open space for recreation areas and facilities, it may have the effect of reducing the demand for local public recreational services. Depending on the size of the development, a portion of the park, recreation or conservation area in subdivisions or planned unit developments may, at the sole option of the city council after consultation with the affected district, be provided in the form of "private" open

space in lieu of dedicated "public open space." The extent of the space shall be determined by the city council based on the needs of the projected residents and in conformance to the total park, recreation and conservation land for the general area.

In general, a substitution of private open space for dedicated parks will imply a substantially higher degree of improvement and the installation of recreation facilities, including equipment, by the developer as part of his obligation. Detailed plans of such areas, including specifications of facilities to be installed, must be approved by the city after consultation with the affected district; and before any credit is given for private recreation areas, the subdivider or developer must guarantee by the execution of the appropriate legal documents, that these private recreation areas will be permanently maintained for such use. When an adjustment for private recreation areas is warranted, it will be necessary to complete the total park land dedication that would have been required from the subdivision or planned unit development and then subtract the credit to be given.

(2) *Criteria for requiring school site dedication.*a. *Requirement and population ratio.*

The ultimate number of students to be generated by a subdivision or planned unit development shall bear directly on the amount of land required to be dedicated for school sites. The land dedication requirement shall be determined by obtaining the ratio of: (a) Estimated children to be served in each such school classification over the (b) maximum recommended number of students to be served in each such school classification as stated herein, and then applying such ratio to (c) the appropriate number of acres for a school site of each such school classification as stated herein. The product thereof shall be the acres of land deemed needed to have sufficient land for school sites to serve the estimated increase in number of children in each such school classification.

b. *School classifications and size of school site.* School classifications and size of school sites within the city shall be determined in accordance with the following criteria:

<i>School Classification by Grades</i>	<i>Maximum Number of Students for Each School Classification</i>	<i>Appropriate Number of Acres of Land for Each School Site of Such Classification</i>
Elementary schools, grades K-5	600	16
Junior high schools, grades 6-8	900	30
High schools, grades 9-12	1,500	70
Total for unit (K-12) school district	3,000	116

These requirements for acreage are based upon a review of available data studies and literature on the subject, including but not limited to information provided by the state

superintendent of education, state board of education; A Report to Belvidere Community Unit School District #100 and North Boone School District #200 on the Costs of Growth, completed by the Center for Governmental Studies, Northern Illinois University, November 17, 1993, and the unique characteristics of Boone County, including its generally rural character and its open spaces and the desire of its residents to maintain this character and open space in their future school sites. These requirements for acreage shall be presumed as the appropriate acreage requirements and shall be used in calculating any cash in lieu of land contribution herein unless timely objected to as provided in subsection (9) of this section.

Objections to these acreage requirements for any particular development shall be made in accordance with subsection (9) of this section to the planning and zoning commission (P&Z).

Failure to timely object to these acreage requirements in accordance with subsection (9) of this section shall thereafter waive any right to raise an objection at a later time.

c. *Location.* The comprehensive school plan and/or the standards adopted by the affected school district shall be used as a guideline in locating sites.(3) *Criteria for requiring a cash contribution in lieu of park and school sites.* When the development is small and the resulting site is too small to be practical, or when the available land is inappropriate for park recreational and conservation purposes or a school site, the city, after consultation with the affected district, shall require the subdivider or developer to pay a cash contribution in lieu of the land dedication. The cash contribution in lieu of park, recreation and conservation land

dedication shall be held in trust by the city or other public body designated by the city to serve the immediate or future needs of the residents of that subdivision or development and may be used for any purpose authorized by state statute or by agreement of the owner/developer. The cash contributions in lieu of school sites shall be held in trust by the city or other public body designated by the city and shall be used for any purpose authorized by state statute or by agreement of the owner/developer, to serve the immediate or future needs of children from that subdivision or development or for the improvement to any existing school site that already serves such needs. If any portion of a cash contribution in lieu of park, recreation and conservation land dedication or cash contribution in lieu of school site is not expended for the purposes set forth herein within 13 years from the date of receipt, it shall be refunded to the then current owner(s) of the subdivided property. If there is more than one record owner of the subdivided land or of the land that comprises the planned unit development, as applicable, such record owners shall share in the refund on a pro rata basis using the latest assessed valuation for all such land. The city may deduct its expenses, not to exceed ten percent of the amount refunded, in making the refund.

- a. *Fair market value.* The cash contributions in lieu of land shall be based on the fair market value of the acres of land in the area that otherwise would have been dedicated as park, recreation, conservation and school sites. The fair market value, on a per-acre basis, shall assume, unless determined otherwise pursuant to subsection (9) of this section, that the land is zoned residential, subdivided, stubbed with city sewer and water, has all appropriate utilities available, is improved as set forth in subsections (7) and (8) of this section, and is otherwise property capable of being used for residential de-

velopment. Based upon a study of real estate transactions in the city and county for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003, it has been determined that the present fair market value of such improved land for parks, recreation and school purposes in and surrounding the city is, as of the effective date of the ordinance from which this section is derived \$120,000.00 per acre. This figure may be adjusted by the city council from time to time. The fair market value as defined above shall be used in calculating any cash in lieu of land contribution herein unless timely objected to as provided in subsection (9) of this section. Objections to the fair market value as defined above shall be made in accordance with subsection (9) of this section to the planning and zoning commission (P&Z). Failure to timely object to the fair market value as defined above in accordance with subsection (9) of this section shall thereafter waive any right to raise an objection at a later time.

- b. *Criteria for requiring dedication and a fee.* There will be situations in subdivisions or planned unit developments when a combination of land dedication and a contribution in lieu of land are both necessary. These occasions will arise when:

1. Only a portion of the land to be developed is proposed as the location for a park site, school site or conservation site (that portion of the land within the subdivision falling within the park, conservation or school location shall be dedicated as a site as stated above, and a cash contribution in lieu thereof shall be required for any additional land that would have been required to be dedicated); and

2. A major part of the local park site or conservation site or school site has already been acquired by the particular district and only a small portion of land is needed from the development to complete the site (the remaining portion shall be required by dedication, and a cash contribution in lieu thereof shall be required).
- c. *County conservation district.* It is recognized that it is more likely than not that land will not usually be available from a proposed development at locations reasonably usable for the county conservation district. It is also realized that the majority of land utilized by the conservation district need not be fully improved

and stubbed with city utilities and is frequently of a lower value than other lands. Accordingly, and notwithstanding any other provision of this section, when cash is payable instead of land, the city council finds that cash for the district is based upon \$20,700.00 per acre with an acreage requirement of 12 acres.

(4) *Density formula.*

- a. The following table of population density is generally indicative of current and short-range projected trends in family size for new construction and shall be used in calculating the amount of required dedication of acres of land or the cash contributions in lieu thereof unless a written objection is filed thereto by the subdivider or developer:

Table of Estimated Ultimate School Population per Dwelling Unit

	Children per Unit					Adults per Unit 18 years +	Total per Dwelling Unit
Type of Unit	Preschool 0—4 years	Elementary Grades K—5 5—10 years	Junior High Grades 6—8 11—13 years	Total Grades K—8 5—13 years	High School Grades 9—12 14—17 years		
Detached Single-Family:							
2-bedroom	0.113	0.136	0.048	0.184	0.020	1.700	2.017
3-bedroom	0.292	0.369	0.173	0.542	0.184	1.881	2.899
4-bedroom	0.418	0.530	0.298	0.828	0.360	2.158	3.764
5-bedroom	0.283	0.345	0.248	0.593	0.300	2.594	3.770
Attached Single-Family:							
1-bedroom	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.193	1.193
2-bedroom	0.064	0.088	0.048	0.136	0.038	1.752	1.990
3-bedroom	0.212	0.234	0.058	0.292	0.059	1.829	2.392
4-bedroom	0.323	0.322	0.154	0.476	0.173	2.173	3.145
Apartments:							
Efficiency	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.294	1.294
1-bedroom	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.003	0.001	1.754	1.758
2-bedroom	0.047	0.086	0.042	0.128	0.046	1.693	1.914
3-bedroom	0.052	0.234	0.123	0.357	0.118	2.526	3.053
Mobile Homes:	Grades K—6	Grades 7—8	Grades 9—12				
1-bedroom/ 2-bedroom	.19	.02	.085				
3+ bedrooms	.48	.13	.15				

* Source: Illinois School Consulting Service/Associated Municipal Consultants, Inc., Naperville, Illinois, 1993 and A report to Belvidere Community Unit School District #100 and North Boone School District #200 on the Costs of Growth, completed by the Center for Governmental Studies, Northern Illinois University, November 17, 1993.

- b. A bedroom as used in this section shall include any den, study or extra room located on any floor in a dwelling unit which may be used or converted into a sleeping area and which is not clearly identified for some other specific purpose such as for a kitchen (one per unit), a dining room (one per unit), a living room (one per unit), a bathroom, and a family room (one per unit), provided the family room is at least the same size as or larger than the living room or there is no living room but only a family room.

- c. In the event a subdivider or developer files a written objection to the table of estimated ultimate population listed above, he shall submit his own demographic study showing the estimated additional population to be generated from the subdivision or planned unit development, and in that event, final determination of the density formula shall be made in accordance with subsection (9) of this section. This table of estimated ultimate population per dwelling unit shall be used in calculating any cash in lieu of land contribution herein unless objected to as provided in subsection (9) of this section. Objections to the table of estimated ultimate population per dwelling unit shall be made in accordance with subsection (9) of this section to the planning and zoning commission (P&Z). Failure to object to the table of estimated ultimate population per dwelling in accordance with subsection (9) of this section shall thereafter waive any right to raise an objection at a later time.

- (5) *Reservation of additional land.* When the comprehensive plan or the standards of

the city indicate necessity for providing a larger amount of park recreational or conservation land or school sites within the proposed subdivision, planned unit development, or mobile home park than the developer is required to dedicate pursuant to this section, the land needed beyond the developer's contribution shall be set aside and reserved and designated by the developer for subsequent purchase by the city or other public body designated by the city, provided that such acquisition is made by purchase or commencement of condemnation proceedings within one year from the date of approval of the final plat.

- (6) *Combining with adjoining developments.* If the subdivision, planned unit development or mobile home park is less than 40 acres, public open space or a school site that is to be dedicated should, if possible, be combined with dedications from adjoining developments in order to produce usable recreation, park and conservation areas and/or school sites without hardship on a particular developer.

- (7) *Land dedication / site requirements:*

- a. *Topography and grading.* The slope, topography and geology of the dedicated site as well as its surroundings must be suitable for its intended purpose. No wetlands nor any portion of the floodway shall be accepted for city ownership and maintenance, and shall not serve as a credit toward the park, recreational, conservation or school site contribution. Storm water detention areas shall not be accepted for city ownership and maintenance, and the portion of a detention area designed to function primarily as a component of the storm water control system shall not serve as a credit toward the required park, recreational, conser-

vation or school site contribution. Retention areas shall not be accepted for city ownership and maintenance and shall not serve as a credit toward the required park, recreational, conservation or school site contribution. A park, recreational, conservation or school site shall be not less than one acre in area. Wetlands, floodplains, floodways, detention areas, retention areas, and areas of steep slope shall not be accepted as school sites and shall not serve as a credit toward the required school site cash in lieu of land contribution.

For any land to be dedicated, the slope shall not vary significantly from existing and adjacent slopes and shall have an optimum range between two (2) and five percent. In no case shall the slope be less than two percent nor more than ten percent. All on site drainage shall conform to the reasonable directives of the city's public works department and shall ensure drainage into appropriate swales and away from the intended active use of the area. All dedicated lands shall be rough-graded at the owner/developer's expense at the time of rough-grading of adjacent areas. The grading shall comply with city-approved plans by the department of public works. The subgrade material shall be loosened and fine-graded with all stones (of more than four inches in size), natural debris (e.g. sticks, twigs, brush) and foreign substances removed.

The dedicated land shall include not less than six inches of topsoil over the entire site. All soils shall be compatible with those naturally occurring. developer shall provide an environmental risk audit (phase I) as set forth herein and shall provide any further audits or remediation recommended by the phase I audit or required further audits.

b. Improved sites. All sites shall be dedicated in a condition ready for full service of electrical, cable television, high speed internet fiber (if available in areas adjacent to the development), telephone, water, sewer and streets (including enclosed drainage and curb and gutter), as applicable to the location of the site, and shall otherwise comply with the requirements of this chapter. The landscaping normally included within the definition of "improved" sites under this chapter may be deleted due to the delay time between dedication of any such school site and the construction of school facilities thereon. All school sites and park sites shall be accessible by a 25-foot wide bicycle/pedestrian trail acceptable to the city. If a development contains both a park site and a school site and/or i a bicycle/pedestrian trail exists adjacent to the proposed development, then the bicycle/pedestrian trail required by this section shall be interconnected directly with the adjacent trail and the other park/school site. Consistent with the city's subdivision code, all dedicated sites shall be improved with sidewalks fronting upon all adjacent streets. Every site to be dedicated shall have direct access to a fully improved and dedicated street with at least 20 percent frontage upon said street. All access routes and required paths shall be dedicated to the city upon completion.

c. Environmental conditions.

1. *Hazardous substance:* Hazardous substances shall include, without limitation, any hazardous substance or waste, extremely hazardous substance, toxic substance, toxic chemical, toxic wastes, hazardous chemicals, hazardous wastes, solid waste or pesticides as defined

- by any present or future federal, state, county or local law, statute or ordinance or regulation relating to the protection of the environment, including but not limited to, CERCLA, OSHA, RCRA, the Illinois Responsible Property Transfer Act and the Federal Environmental Protection Act and the regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency. Hazardous substances shall also include petroleum, its byproducts including, but not limited to, MTBE, as regulated under RCRA and any applicable state or local laws or regulations.
2. Prior to the transfer of any dedicated land, the owner/developer shall provide the city and the intended grantee district an environmental audit reasonably acceptable to the grantee district and the city which meets the minimum pre-acquisition requirements of section 22.2 of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (the Act) (commonly referred to as a phase I audit). The audit shall be performed and certified by an environmental professional as defined by section 22.2(j) of the Act.
 3. If the phase I audit fails to conclude that there is no presence or release or likely presence or likely release of hazardous substances or pesticides on, under to or from the dedicated site, the owner/developer shall obtain and provide a phase II environmental audit as set forth in section 22.2 of the Act. The phase II audit shall include a soil toxicity analysis and recommendations from the environmental professional which complies with section 22.2 of the Act and concludes that there is no presence or release or likely presence or likely release of hazardous substances or pesticides on, under to or from the dedicated site and that the environmental professional is of the opinion that there is no reasonable probability that the dedicated site contains any hazardous substances in violation of any federal, state or local environmental law or regulation.
 4. If the phase II audit discloses the existence, or reasonably likely presence, of a hazardous substance or the release or a substantial threat of a release of any hazardous substance on, under, to or from the dedicated land, the owner/developer shall, at the grantee sole district's option, either:
 - (i) Not dedicate the subject property and instead either pay the cash in lieu of land or provide an alternative site acceptable to the grantee district; or
 - (ii) Cause all hazardous substances to be removed at the owner/developer's sole expense and furnish the grantee district a "no further remediation" letter from all relevant governmental agencies.
 - d. **Soils.** The owner/developer shall, at its sole expense, obtain and provide the grantee district typical soils test and data, including but not limited to, soil boring tests and data, soil compaction test results, and such other data and test results which the grantee district or the city may reasonably request. If the results of any such test are not acceptable to the grantee district, it may reject the

site, in which case the owner/developer shall, at the grantee district's option, either:

1. Not dedicate the subject property and instead pay the cash in lieu of land; or
 2. Provide an alternative site acceptable to the grantee district.
- e. Prior to conveyance, the owner/developer shall have the dedicated property surveyed by a licensed state land surveyor and shall establish monuments and land stakes identifying the lot lines of the dedicated property.
- f. Conveyance. All dedicated property shall be dedicated to the grantee district by recordable warranty deed subject only to real estate taxes and special assessments (hereinafter real estate taxes) which are not yet due and payable, utility easements located on the perimeter of the dedicated property, drainage ditches, feeders, laterals, underground pipe and other conduit, all located upon the perimeter of the dedicated property (jointly referred to as the permitted exceptions).

Each warranty deed shall be accompanied by a written commitment issued by a title insurance company (the title company) licensed to do business in the state to insure title and who is reasonably acceptable to the grantee district. The title policy shall be in an amount equal to the fair market value of the dedicated property as set forth in this chapter (\$120,000.00 per acre or part thereof) and will contain extended coverage over the general exceptions and shall only be subject to the permitted exceptions.

The owner/developer shall provide a current ALTA boundary line survey, prepared by the surveyor identified in subsection e. above, certified to the grantee district and

in compliance with the American Land Survey Standards, showing no encroachments or other defects.

If the dedicated property is not a lot in a recorded subdivision, the owner/developer shall prepare an assessment plat and tax division petition in a form acceptable to the city and grantee district.

The real estate taxes not yet due and payable shall be prorated as of the conveyance date on the basis of 110 percent of the tax assessor's latest assessed valuation, latest known equalization factors and tax rate for the dedicated property. The owner/developer shall deposit said amount in escrow with the title company who shall pay the real estate taxes when they are due and payable. The owner/developer shall pay the cost of said escrow. If the latest known tax information on the last tax bill covering the dedicated property includes property not being indicated, the escrow sum shall be adjusted ratably based upon net acreage. The owner/developer shall indemnify and hold the city and the grantee district harmless from any such real estate taxes and in the event the amount in the real estate tax escrow is insufficient to pay said real estate taxes, the owner/developer shall deposit such additional sums necessary to cover the short fall.

(8) *Reserved.*

(9) *Objections.*

- a. *First referral.* All objections relating to acreage requirements, presumptions as to fair market value, the table of estimated ultimate population per dwelling unit or any other application of this section to a particular subdivision or planned development shall first be referred to the planning and zoning commission (P&Z) for hearing. In the event the planning and zoning commission has not been created as of the date of the appeal, the appeal will be to the planning commission. An objection must be

made, if at all, prior to the approval by the city of the final plat. A failure to object by such time shall constitute a waiver of the right to object to the provisions of this section.

- b. *Duties of the planning and zoning commission (P&Z).* The planning and zoning commission (P&Z) shall serve in an advisory capacity and shall have the following duties:

1. Advise and assist the city in resolving objections regarding the table of ultimate population in subsection (4) of this section, the size of the dedicated sites in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the fair market value of the land used to calculate the cash contribution or any other application of this section to a particular subdivision, planned development or mobile home park.

2. The city shall adopt procedural rules to be used by the planning and zoning commission (P&Z) in carrying out the duties imposed by this section.

- c. *Resources available.* The city will cooperate with the planning and zoning commission (P&Z) in fulfilling its duties herein. The city shall make available to the planning and zoning commission (P&Z), all professional reports relating to the table of ultimate population, the size of the dedicated sites, and the fair market value of land used in calculating these fees. The planning and zoning commission (P&Z) may also retain the services of professionals (attorneys, appraisers, statisticians, etc.) to assist them in their review of issues raised by any objection.

- d. *Procedure for resolving an objection.*

1. Upon receipt of an objection, the city clerk shall place the same on the next regular agenda

of the city council. Thereafter, the city council shall refer the objection to the planning and zoning commission (P&Z), and the planning and zoning commission (P&Z) shall establish a hearing date.

2. The objector shall provide notice, at the objector's expense, of the hearing date to consider the objection by notifying affected school, park and conservation districts by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the filing of the objection and circulation within the city. The notice shall be entitled "notice of public hearing to consider an objection to the application of an ordinance requiring the dedication of park, conservation and school lands or cash in lieu thereof". The notice shall state the time, place and purpose of the public hearing as well as a general description of the lands to be subdivided and shall be approved by the city attorney, as to form, prior to publication. Strict conformance with these notice procedures is jurisdictional and a failure to provide evidence (i.e. publisher's affidavit and certified mail receipts) prior to the public hearing shall prevent the holding of the public hearing. In the event that notice is not properly demonstrated, the planning and zoning commission (P&Z) shall set a new date for a public hearing with sufficient time for the objector to provide new notice in conformance with these requirements.

3. A public hearing shall be held for the consideration of the objection. Any affected school, park and conservation district shall

be allowed to participate in such hearing as a party thereto to present evidence, cross examine witnesses and make arguments to the planning and zoning commission (P&Z) regarding the issues raised in objection. The planning and zoning commission (P&Z) shall make a recommendation to adopt, reject in whole or in part, or modify the objection presented at the hearing, by written report to the city. The city shall then have at least 60 days to approve, disapprove or modify, by ordinance or resolution, the findings in this section as it pertains to the development in question.

- e. *Costs and fees.* The objector shall bear all costs of a hearing before the planning and zoning commission (P&Z), including attendance fees paid by the planning and zoning commission (P&Z) members, notification costs, professional consultants and any other expenses. Before a hearing date is set, the objector shall deposit with the city a \$10,000.00 escrow to cover these costs, which shall be replenished monthly by the objector after payment of any outstanding expenses incurred by the city.

(10) *Annexations.* The dedications of land or cash contribution in lieu thereof required by this section shall also be required as a condition to the annexation of any land to the city, and provisions thereof shall at a minimum be incorporated in any annexation agreement governing such land. However, the city reserves the right to negotiate dedications of land or cash in lieu of land or a combination thereof greater than those set forth herein.

(11) *Indemnification.* As a precondition to the city's collecting school, park and conservation dedications and/or fees in lieu thereof, any district receiving the benefit

of such dedication or fee in lieu thereof shall execute an indemnification agreement in the form set forth in exhibit A [attached to Ordinance 609G and available for inspection in the office of the city clerk]. The city may elect not to collect any fees in lieu of land until such time as the indemnification agreement is signed by the benefiting district and returned to the city. The indemnification shall be executed on a yearly basis on or before May 1st. Additionally, the city will withhold any fees in lieu of land until a benefiting district, in writing, requests payment of those fees and submits a signed indemnification agreement and a statement that the benefiting district has complied with subsection (12) herein.

(12) *Distributions.*

- a. The cash in lieu of land contribution imposed by this section shall be collected and held by the city to be distributed in accordance with the standards in this section to the appropriate benefiting district and to be used for the purposes set forth in this section.
- b. As a condition of distribution of these dedications and/or cash in lieu of land contribution, the city shall require that the school, park district or conservation district benefiting from such dedications and/or fees conduct a needs assessment and adopt a plan for acquisition of land and capital facilities needed to accommodate growth.
- c. Needs assessment and land and capital facilities acquisition plan. A needs assessment shall contain the following information for each district (school, park and conservation):
 1. A description of the nature and location of the existing park, conservation and school lands and existing park, school and conservation capital facilities within each district.

2. Any identification of the capacity of each school building and park and conservation site within the particular district and of the number of students then enrolled in each school building.
 3. A projection of the character and location of new development that is expected to occur within each district during the succeeding ten-year period.
 4. An identification of the amount of park, conservation and school lands that will be necessary within each district in order to accommodate the demands of such projected new development, and an estimate of the public grounds acquisition costs that will be incurred by each district in acquiring such lands.
 5. A general description of each classification of park, conservation and school capital facilities (including construction, expansion or enhancement of any public facilities and the land improvement, design, engineering and professional costs related thereto) that will be necessary within each district in order to provide park, conservation and school capacity for the projected new development, and an estimate of the capital facilities costs that will be incurred by each benefiting district in constructing such capital facilities.
- d. Based upon the needs assessment, each benefiting district shall provide the city an acquisition plan for park, conservation and school lands and capital facilities. This acquisition plan shall:
1. Project for a planning period of at least five years, the need for park, conservation and school lands and capital facilities within the district.
 2. Set forth a schedule for the acquisition of such lands and facilities to meet the projected need (which schedule may be conditioned upon the availability of financing).
 3. Indicate the size and general location of the needed lands and facilities.
 4. Identify the estimated costs of acquiring such needed lands and facilities.
 5. Set forth the anticipated funding sources for the acquisition of such needed lands and facilities.
 6. Determine the feasibility of acquiring the needed land and facilities based upon the district's current financial condition.
 7. Determine the feasibility of acquiring the needed land and facilities based upon the district's estimate of the revenues (including, without limitation, cash in lieu of land contribution required by this section) pursuant to the plan.
 8. The impact on property taxes in the city assuming the plan is implemented.
- e. The city shall require an updated needs assessment and plan for acquisition of land and capital facilities from the district annually.
- (13) Time.
- a. All dedications and fees imposed by this section shall be due and payable upon final plat approval. However, the city may agree that payment of fees may be made at time of building permit issuance in consideration of which the subdivider or developer

shall execute an agreement attached as exhibit B [to Ordinance 609G, available for inspection in the office of the city clerk], agreeing that the fees payable will be adjusted in accordance with the requirements of subsection (b) below and further agreeing that the fees may be expended for the purposes described in exhibit B, together with any other agreement required by the city to guarantee the payments or limit the time before which full payment may be required. A copy of the exhibit B agreement shall be recorded along with the final plat of subdivision after approval by the city council. Where property subject to this section is also subject to an annexation agreement, the owner/developer and city may rely upon the annexation agreement in lieu of exhibit b, provided the annexation agreement embodies substantially the same terms as exhibit B.

- b. In the event the owner/developer elects to pay any fee in lieu of land at the time of final plat approval, the fee dedication shall be calculated assuming the maximum density permitted for the zoning district (i.e. if the property is zoned single family residential, the fee will be calculated based upon a 5-bedroom single family detached dwelling). When the building department issues a final certificate of occupancy for a dwelling unit, the owner/developer may receive a refund of any excess fee paid (i.e. if the actual home built is a 4 bedroom single family detached unit, the owner/developer would receive a refund of the difference in the fee between a 5- and 4-bedroom home). In order to ensure the city's ability to make such refund, the city shall withhold sufficient funds from the fees in lieu of land to cover this obligation and shall not distribute said funds to the benefiting districts.

- c. In calculating any cash in lieu of land contribution payable at time of issuance of building permit as provided in this subsection (13), the city shall use the fair market value as set forth in subsection (3)a. (\$120,000.00) or any amendment thereto and in effect at the time of the contribution and building permit issuance.

- d. This section shall not affect in any way dedications or payments made pursuant to the provisions of any previous ordinance, including those portions of the subdivision code amended by this section. However, any lot which is vacant at the time the ordinance from which this section is derived is adopted, and for which fees in lieu of land have not been previously paid (i.e. at plat approval), shall pay the fees adopted by this section or any subsequent amendment hereto at the time building permit is issued.

(Ord. No. 973F, § 2(151.48.5), 7-3-95; Ord. No. 110G, § 2a—c, 4-7-97; Ord. No. 173G, § 1, 11-17-97; Ord. No. 174G, § 1, 11-17-97; Ord. No. 609G, § 2, 3-15-04)

Sec. 151.49. Landscaping and preservation of unique features.

(a) General requirements.

- (1) There shall be compliance with chapter 118 which pertains to vegetation.
- (2) Existing features that would add value to developments, such as mature trees, watercourses, historic spots, and similar irreplaceable assets shall be preserved in the design of the subdivision.
- (3) No trees shall be removed from any subdivision site until preliminary plat approval has been granted.

(b) *Landscaping plan.* A landscaping plan shall be submitted as part of the preliminary plat application. The plan shall include but not be

Excerpt – K. Boone County Subdivision Code

Section 603: Requirements for dedication of park lands and school sites or for payment of fees in lieu thereof..

~~B. *Bridges.* Bridges of primary benefit to the subdivider, as determined by the county board, shall be constructed at the full expense of the applicant without reimbursement from the county board. The sharing of expenses for the construction of bridges not of primary benefit to the subdivider will be fixed by special agreement between the county and the subdivider. Such cost shall be charged to the applicant pro rata as the percentage of the land developed and so served.~~

~~C. *Ponds.* Small, private ponds are permitted on individual lots provided such ponds are not located closer than 500 feet from any existing public right-of-way unless approved otherwise by the county engineer.~~

~~D. *Model homes.* For the purpose of allowing the early construction of model homes in a subdivision prior to the completion of all final improvements, the plat committee may permit a portion of a major subdivision to be developed with no more than three homes to be constructed on separate individual lots, provided such homes have access from existing, improved public roads and provided no residential occupancy occurs until all proposed improvements have been made.~~

ARTICLE VI PARK, SCHOOL, AND OTHER PUBLIC PURPOSE CONTRIBUTIONS

Section 600. Park, school, and other public purpose contributions required.

The plat committee may recommend and the county board may require each applicant for land

Section 601. Compliance with local plans.

All subdivision plats shall comply with the official Boone County Land Use Plan and any additional adopted plans such as the Boone County Comprehensive Plan, official map, public utilities plan, annexation policies, capital improvements program and any other such relevant plans.

Section 602. Reservation of land for public use.

A. The county board may require that land be reserved on a plat for a specific public use for future acquisition by the county or other public agency when a need for such use is evident in the vicinity of the proposed subdivision.

B. The acquisition of land reserved by a public agency on the final plat shall be initiated within 12 months of the final plat approval for that portion of the plat containing the reserved land. Failure on the part of the public agency to initiate acquisition within the prescribed time shall result in the removal of the reserved designation from the property involved and the freeing of the property for development in accordance with this ordinance. This section does not refer to dedications which may be required by the county board for specific, reasonable improvements.

Section 603. Requirements for dedication of park lands and school sites or for payment of fees in lieu thereof.

As a condition of approval of a final plat of subdivision or of a final plat of a planned unit

development, not including the combining or separation of less than three lots, each subdivider or developer will be required to dedicate land for park, recreational, conservation, and school purpose to serve the immediate and future needs of the residents of the development or will be required to make a cash contribution in lieu of actual land dedication, or a combination of both, at the option of the county with the concurrence of the affected district, in accordance with the following criteria and formulas:

A. *Criteria for requiring park, recreational and conservation land dedication.*

1. *Requirement and population ratio.* The ultimate density of a proposed development shall bear directly on the amount of land required for dedication. The total requirement shall be 6.25 acres of land per 1,000 of ultimate population and may be allocated by the county board in its discretion based upon the following criteria:

<i>Types of Acres Recreation Area</i>	<i>Minimum Size</i>	<i>Minimum Park Acreage per 1,000 People</i>
Play Lot	1 acre	0.25
Neighborhood park	5 acres	1.00
Community-wide Recreation Park	15 acres	5.00
Conservation area	N/A	1.00
TOTAL		7.25

These requirements for acreage are based upon a review of available data studies and literature on the subject, including, but not limited to, the National Land Park Association's Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, 1990, and "A Report to Belvidere Park District and Boone County Conservation District in the Costs of Growth" completed by the Center for Governmental Studies, Northern Illinois University, November 17, 1993. These requirements shall be presumed as the appropriate average requirements and shall be used in calculating

any cash in lieu of land contribution herein unless timely objected to as provided herein. Objections to these acreage requirements for any particular development shall be made in accordance with section 604 of these regulations to the administrative and legislative committee. Failure to timely object to these acreage requirements in accordance with section 604 of these regulations shall thereafter waive any right to raise an objection at a later time.

2. *Location.* The park recreation and conservation plans as adopted by the Belvidere Township Park District, the Boone County Conservation District and the county's Comprehensive Plan shall be used as a guideline in locating sites. A central location that will serve equally the entire development is most desirable. In large developments, these sites can be located throughout the development according to established standards for park area distances.
3. *Credit for private open spaces and recreational areas.* When subdividers or developers provide their own open space for recreation areas and facilities, it may have the effect of reducing the demand for local public recreational services. Depending on the size of the development, a portion of the park and recreation area in subdivisions or planned unit developments may, at the sole option of the county board with the concurrence of the affected district, be provided in the form of "private" open space in lieu of dedicated "public open space". The extent of the space shall be determined by the county board based on the needs of the projected residents and in conformance to the total park and recreation land for the general area. In general, a substitution of private open space for dedicated parks will imply a sub-

stantially higher degree of improvement and the installation of recreation facilities, including equipment by the developer as part of his obligation. Detailed plans of such areas, including specifications of facilities to be installed, must be approved by the county with the concurrence of the affected district, and before any credit is given for private recreation areas, the subdivider or developer must guarantee that these private recreation areas will be permanently maintained for such use by the execution of the appropriate legal documents. When an adjustment for private recreation areas is warranted, it will be necessary to complete the total park and land dedication that would have been required from the subdivision or planned unit development and then subtract the credit to be given.

B. *Criteria for requiring school site dedication.*

1. *Requirement and population ratio.*

The ultimate number of students to be generated by a subdivision or planned unit development shall bear directly on the amount of land required to be dedicated for school sites. The land dedication requirement shall be determined by obtaining the ratio of (a) estimated children to be served in each such school classification over the (b) maximum recommended number of students to be served in each such school classification as stated herein, and then applying such ratio to (c) the appropriate number of acres for a school site of each such school classification as stated herein. The product thereof shall be the acres of land deemed needed to have sufficient land for school sites to serve the estimated increase in number of children in each such school classification.

2. *School classifications and size of school site.* School classifications and size of school sites within the county shall be determined in accordance with the following criteria:

<i>School Classification by Grades</i>	<i>Maximum Number of Students</i>	<i>Minimum Number of Acres of Land</i>
Elementary schools grades K—5	600	11
Junior high schools grades 6—8	900	19
High schools grades 9—12	1,500	48
Total	3,000	78

These requirements for acreage are based upon a review of available data studies and literature on the subject, including, but not limited to, information provided by the State Superintendent of Education, Illinois State Board of Education, "A Report to Belvidere Community Unit School District #100 and North Boone School District #200 on the Costs of Growth," completed by the Center for Governmental Studies, Northern Illinois University, November 17, 1993, and the unique characteristics of Boone County including its generally rural character and its open spaces and the desire of its residents to maintain this character and open space in their future school sites. These requirements for acreage shall be presumed as the appropriate acreage requirements and shall be used in calculating any cash in lieu of land contribution herein unless timely objected to as provided herein. Objections to these acreage requirements for any particular development shall be made in accordance with subsection 1. of this section to the administrative and legislative committee. Failure to timely object to these acreage requirements in accordance with subsection 1. of this section shall thereafter waive any right to raise an objection at a later time.

3. *Location.* The comprehensive school plan and/or the standards adopted by the affected school district shall be used as a guideline in locating sites.

C. *Criteria for requiring a cash contribution in lieu of park and school sites.* When the development is small and the resulting site is too small to be practical or when the available land is inappropriate for park and recreational purposes or a school site, the county, with the concurrence of the school district, shall require the subdivider or developer to pay a cash contribution in lieu of the land dedication. The cash contribution in lieu of park and recreation land dedication shall be held in trust by the county or other public body designated by the county and shall be used solely for the acquisition of park, recreation and conservation land as classified above, which will be available to serve the immediate or future needs of the residents of that subdivision or development or for the improvement of other existing local park and recreation land that already serve such needs or for any other lawful park purpose or for any park purpose agreed to by the subdivider or developer at the time of platting. The cash contributions in lieu of school sites shall be held in trust by the county or other public body designated by the county and shall be used solely for the acquisition of land for a school site to serve the immediate or future needs of children from that subdivision or development or for the improvement to any existing school site that already serves such needs, but not for the construction of school buildings or additions thereto unless agreed to otherwise by the subdivider or developer at the time of platting. If any portion of a cash contribution in lieu of park, recreation and conservation land dedication or cash contribution in lieu of school site is not expended for the purposes set forth herein within 13 years from the date of receipt, it shall be refunded to the record owner of the subdivided land at the time of the

refund. If there is more than one record owner of the subdivided land or of the land that comprises the planned unit development, as applicable, such record owners shall share in the refund on a pro-rata basis using the then latest assessed valuation for all such land.

1. *Fair market value.* The cash contributions in lieu of land shall be based on the "fair market value" of the acres of land in the area that otherwise would have been dedicated as park and recreation and school sites. The fair market value, on a per-acre basis, shall assume, unless determined otherwise pursuant to section 604 of these regulations, that the land is zoned residential, subdivided, capable of being served by well and septic, has all appropriate utilities available, is improved as set forth in subsections 603 E. and F. of these regulations, and is otherwise property capable of being used for residential development. Based upon a study of real estate transactions in Boone County for the past three years, it has been determined that the present "fair market value" of such improved land in the county is, as of September 10, 1997, \$26,902.00 per acre. This figure shall annually on the anniversary date of this section be adjusted by the county board. The "fair market value" as defined above shall be used in calculating any cash in lieu of land contribution herein unless timely objected to as provided in subsection B.1. of this section. Objections to the fair market value as defined above shall be made in accordance with subsection B.1. of this section to the administrative and legislative committee. Failure to timely object to the "fair market value" as defined above in accordance with section 604 of these regulations shall thereafter waive any right to raise an objection at a later time.

2. *Criteria for requiring dedication and a fee.* There will be situations in subdivisions or planned unit developments when a combination of land dedication and a contribution in lieu of land are both necessary. These occasions will arise when (a) only a portion of the land to be developed is proposed as the location for a park or school site (that portion of the land within the subdivision falling within the park or school location shall be dedicated as a site as stated above

and a cash contribution in lieu thereof shall be required for any additional land that would have been required to be dedicated) and b) a major part of the local park or conservation site or school site has already been acquired by the particular district and only a small portion of land is needed from the development to complete the site (the remaining portion shall be required by dedication, and a cash contribution in lieu thereof shall be required).

- D. *Density formula.* The following table of population density is generally indicative of current and short-range projected trends in family size for new construction and shall be used in calculating the amount of required dedication of acres of land or the cash contributions in lieu thereof unless a written objection is filed thereto by the subdivider or developer:

TABLE OF ESTIMATED ULTIMATE POPULATION PER DWELLING UNIT

		Children Per Unit						
		Elementary	Junior	Total	High	Total	Adult	Total Per-
Type of Unit	Preschool	Grades	High	Grades	School	Children	Per Unit	sons
		K—5	6—8	K—8	9—12	Per Unit		Per Unit
Detached Single-Family:								
2-Bedroom	0.102	0.122	0.041	0.163	0.020	285	1.694	1.979
3-Bedroom	0.254	0.346	0.138	0.484	0.142	88	1.921	2.801
4-Bedroom	0.413	0.470	0.303	0.773	0.303	1,489	2.142	3.631
5-Bedroom	0.236	0.314	0.231	0.545	0.212	.993	2.637	3.630
Attached Single-Family:								
1-Bedroom	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	—	1.068	1.068
2-Bedroom	0.092	0.095	0.077	0.172	0.037	.301	1.776	2.077
3-Bedroom	0.231	0.237	0.064	0.301	0.066	.598	1.805	2.403
4-Bedroom	0.332	0.345	0.155	0.500	0.168	1.000	2.243	3.243
Apartments:								
Efficiency	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	—	1.360	1.360
1-Bedroom	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.003	0.001	.004	1.749	1.753
2-Bedroom	0.042	0.082	0.041	0.123	0.042	.207	1.614	1.821
3-Bedroom	0.050	0.230	0.123	0.353	0.116	.519	2.499	3.018
Mobile	Grades	Grades						
Homes:	K—6	7—8						
1-Bedroom								
2-Bedroom	.19	.02						
3 + Bed-	.48	.13						
rooms								

A "bedroom," as used in this section shall include any den, study, or extra room located on any floor in a dwelling unit which is not clearly identified for some other specific purpose such as a kitchen

(one per unit), dining room (one per unit), living room (one per unit), bathroom, and family room (one per unit).

In the event a subdivider or developer files a written objection to the Table of Estimated Ultimate Population listed above, he shall submit his own demographic study showing the estimated additional population to be generated from the subdivision or planned unit development, and in that event final determination of the density formula shall be made in accordance with section 604 of these regulations. This table of estimated ultimate population per dwelling unit shall be used in calculating any cash in lieu of contribution herein unless objected to as provided in section 604 of these regulations. Objection to the table of estimated ultimate population per dwelling unit shall be made in accordance with section 604 of these regulations to the administrative and legislative committee. Failure to object to the table of estimated ultimate population per dwelling in accordance with section 604 of these regulations shall thereafter waive any right to raise an objection at a later time.

E. *Reservation of additional land.* When the Comprehensive Plan or the standards of the county call for a larger amount of park and recreational land or school sites in a particular subdivision or planned unit development than the developer is required to dedicate pursuant to this section, the land needed beyond the developer's contribution shall be set aside and reserved by the developer for subsequent purchase by the county or other public body designated by the county; provided, that such acquisition is made within one year from the date of approval of the final plat.

F. *Combining with adjoining developments.* If the subdivision or planned unit development is less than 40 acres, public open space or a school site that is to be dedicated should, if possible, be combined with dedications from adjoining developments in order to produce usable recreation acres and/or school sites without hardship on a particular developer.

G. *Topography, grading, and other site characteristics.* The slope, topography, and geology of the dedicated site as well as its surroundings must be suitable for its intended purpose. Wetlands, floodplains and floodways shall not be accepted for county ownership and maintenance and shall not serve as a credit toward the park site contribution. Stormwater detention areas shall not be accepted for county ownership and maintenance, and the portion of a detention area designed to function primarily as a component of the stormwater control system shall not serve as a credit toward the required park site contribution. Retention areas shall not be accepted for county ownership and maintenance and shall not serve as a credit toward the required park site contribution. A park site shall be not less than one acre in area. Wetlands, floodplains, floodways, detention areas, retention areas, and areas of steep slope shall not be accepted as school sites and shall not serve as a credit toward the required school site cash in lieu of land contribution.

H. *Improved sites.* All sites shall be dedicated in a condition ready for full service of electrical, water, sewer, and streets, as applicable to the location of the site, and shall otherwise comply with the requirements of the county's Subdivision Regulations. The landscaping normally included within the definition of "improved" sites under the county's Subdivision Regulations may be deleted due to the delay time between dedication of any such school site and the construction of school facilities thereon.

Section 604. Objections.

All objections relating to acreage requirements, presumptions as to fair market value, the table of estimated ultimate population per dwelling unit, or any other application of this section to a particular subdivision or planned development shall first be referred to the administrative and legislative committee for hearing. An objection

expected to occur within each district during the succeeding ten-year period.

4. An identification of the amount of park, conservation, and school lands that will be necessary within each district in order to accommodate the demands of such projected new development, and an estimate of the public grounds acquisition costs that will be incurred by each district in acquiring such lands.

5. A general description of each classification of park, conservation, and school capital facilities, including construction, expansion, or enhancement of any public facilities and the land improvement, design, engineering, and professional costs related thereto, that will be necessary within each district in order to provide park, conservation, and school capacity for the projected new development, and an estimate of the capital facilities costs that will be incurred by each district in constructing such capital facilities.

B. *Land and capital facilities acquisition plan.* Based upon the needs assessment, each district shall provide the county an acquisition plan for park, conservation, and school lands and capital facilities. This acquisition plan shall:

1. Project for a planning period of at least five years, the need for park, conservation, and school lands and capital facilities within the district.
2. Set forth a schedule for the acquisition of such lands and facilities to meet the projected need, which schedule may be conditioned upon the availability of financing.
3. Indicate the size and general location of the needed lands and facilities.
4. Identify the estimated costs of acquiring such needed lands and facilities.

5. Set forth the anticipated funding sources for the acquisition of such needed lands and facilities.

6. Determine the feasibility of acquiring the needed land and facilities based upon the district's current financial condition.

7. Determine the feasibility of acquiring the needed land and facilities based upon the district's estimate of the revenues, including, without limitation, cash in lieu of land contribution required by this section, pursuant to the plan.

8. The impact on property taxes in the county assuming the plan is implemented.

- C. *Annual update required.* The county shall require an updated needs assessment and plan for acquisition of land and capital facilities from the district annually.

Section 608. Collection of contributions.

All dedications and fees imposed by this section shall be due and payable upon final plat approval. However, the county may agree that payment of fees may be made at time of building permit issuance in consideration of which the subdivider or developer shall execute an agreement included as Exhibit B of this regulation agreeing that the fees payable will be adjusted in accordance with the requirements of section 609 and further agreeing that the fees may be expended for the purposes described as defined in Exhibit B.

Section 609. Effect on building permits.

In calculating any cash in lieu of land contribution payable at time of issuance of building permit as provided in section 608, the county shall use the fair market value as set forth in subsection 603 C.1. or any amendment thereto and in effect at the time of the contribution and building permit issuance.

Section 610. Separability.

If any provision of this section or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is

declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such partial invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or applications of this section, the invalid provision shall be deemed stricken from this section as if it were not a part hereof, ab initio, and the remainder of this section shall continue in full force and effect.

EXHIBIT A

AGREEMENT REGARDING THE RECEIPT OF DEVELOPER SUBDIVISION CONTRIBUTIONS

WHEREAS, Boone County, Illinois, on behalf of itself, its officers, employees and independent contractors (the "County"), through its ordinances or through the provisions of its annexation agreements has required that developers may [make] contributions to the County, that the County, in turn, may make available for other government bodies that are affected by the subdivision improvements; and

WHEREAS, such contributions may be in land or in dollars and, when transferred or paid over to those government bodies, inure to the benefits of those government bodies and not entirely to the direct benefit of the County; and

WHEREAS, from time to time within the County, and within other municipalities, disputes have arisen regarding the validity and amount of such contributions; and

WHEREAS, the County is willing, at its discretion, to continue seeking the contribution of land or money but wishes to procure a commitment from other government bodies benefitted by the receipt of such contributions that those government bodies will (a) acknowledge that the requirement that such subdivision contributions be made are totally within the discretion of the County as to their existence, manner and amount; (b) the other government body that benefits from the contribution will pay the cost of defending any lawsuit that is filed challenging the appropriate amount of the contributions, the time at which they are to be made or any other aspect of the contributions; and (c) that the benefitted government body will comply with the terms of a final

and nonappealable judicial determination by a court of competent jurisdiction rendered in connection with the lawsuit; and

WHEREAS, the County is willing, in its discretion, to pay over or require contributions only to other government bodies that execute this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED between the County on behalf of itself and its officers, employees, and independent contractors, and _____ a government body within the State of Illinois (Benefitting Government), and in consideration for the payment of money or the transfer of the land to the Benefitting Government, which the County from time to time may within its discretion cause to be made by subdividing developers, the Benefitting Government does agree, as follows:

1. The Benefitting Government acknowledges that, except as otherwise provided in the County's ordinances and/or annexation agreements, the County is not obligated to cause the payment of money or the transference of land to the Benefitting Government. The Benefitting Government recognizes that the County may, at its sole discretion, amend its ordinances or annexation agreements or its practices to discontinue the payment of subdivision contributions to the Benefitting Government.
2. A. In the event a lawsuit is filed against the County, the Benefitting Government and/or others by a subdividing developer or any other person, corporation or entity that challenges the appropriateness, amount, timing or any other aspect of a subdivision contribution that, pursuant to the terms of the County's ordinances or annexation agreements, has been paid or is due to the Benefitting Government, then the Benefitting Government does agree to pay the costs and litigation expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) incurred in defending such lawsuit. The costs and expenses shall be paid by the Benefitting Government when and as incurred by the County but in no event

more than once a month. As a condition precedent to the payment of these costs and expenses, the County shall submit to the Benefitting Government copies of the original statements reflecting the costs and expenses, together with the supporting documentation that may be reasonably requested by the Benefitting Government.

- B. The County covenants and agrees that it shall employ competent and skilled legal counsel to represent the Benefitting Government and the County, and further covenants and agrees that it shall keep the Benefitting Government fully advised as to the progress and status of the litigation. In particular, the County shall provide to the Benefitting Government copies of all pleadings filed in the litigation and shall consult regularly (and shall cause its attorneys to consult regularly) with the Benefitting Government or its attorneys, as applicable, as to the strategy for defending the lawsuit. In no event may such litigation be compromised or settled by the County without at least 30 days' prior written notice to the Benefitting Government. In the event that the Benefitting Government decides that it would prefer to be represented in the litigation by legal counsel of its own choosing, then the Benefitting Government shall be free to retain its own legal counsel for that purpose and to intervene in the litigation. In the event the Benefitting Government shall intervene in the litigation, this Agreement shall terminate from and after the date of the intervention and neither party to this Agreement shall have any further obligations from and after that date; provided, however, that the Benefitting Government shall still be liable for all sums that have accrued pursuant to the above subparagraph 2-A and that

remain due and owing from the Benefitting Government to the County.

3. In the event that a final and nonappealable judicial determination is made by a court of competent jurisdiction that contributions of land or money received by the Benefitting Government are, in whole or in part, excessive, the Benefitting Government shall promptly repay to the person who procures such a judgment, together with all other amounts judged by the court to be owing from the Benefitting Government. Provided, however, that in the event that a judicial determination should require the payment of damages or for the attorneys' fees of the plaintiffs attorneys, in addition to the return of contributions held to be excessive, the Benefitting Government shall pay all additional amounts in the same manner as is provided in paragraph 2-A.
4. In further consideration of the continued payment by the County to the Benefitting Government of the subject contributions of land or money, the Benefitting Government agrees that its obligations under paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Agreement shall extend to both past and future cash and land contributions.
5. On or before June 1st of each year, every Benefitting Government that receives payments from the County under this Agreement shall submit a report to the County describing the manner in which the payments have been used. When this agreement provides that money turned over to Benefitting Government is to be used for a specific purpose or within a specific time period, the report shall address those issues. If the Benefitting Government should fail to file such a report with the County, the County may delay the payment of any additional funds due the Benefitting Government until such time as a full report containing adequate information is transmitted to the County.

6. This Agreement shall be terminable by either party for any reason or no reason at all upon 30 days' prior written notice to the other party evidencing the intention to so terminate this Agreement. But the termination of this Agreement shall not affect the continuing obligation of the Benefitting Government or the County with regard to claims or damages allegedly arising out of the County's efforts prior to termination to collect or the actual collection of subdivision contributions.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____

BOONE COUNTY:

Chairman, Boone
County Board

Title

(Seal)
ATTEST:

Boone County
Clerk

Secretary

XVI. Supporting References:

- L. Boone County Land/Cash Fee Table, October, 2007.
- M. City of Belvidere Land/Cash Fee Table, March, 2004.
- N. Needs Assessment & Land & Capital Facilities Plan.
- O. Handicap & Special Needs Recreation Plan.
- P. West Hills Neighborhood Plan, 1997.
- Q. Burback Aquatics Plan, 2004.
- R. Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2003-08.
- S. Boone-Winnebago County Greenways plan, 2005.
- T. Real Estate Impact Review of Parks & Recreation, 2005.
- U. Population Potential & Spatial Analysis Study, 2006.
- V. Capital Improvement Development Impact Fee Study, 2007.
- W. Illinois Park Districts: Citizen Perspectives – Final Technical Report, March 2007.
- X. Recreation Accessibility Consultants (RAC) Special Recreation Report, 2010.

