

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE
PLANNING REPORT NO. 199
(4TH EDITION)

A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT: 2050



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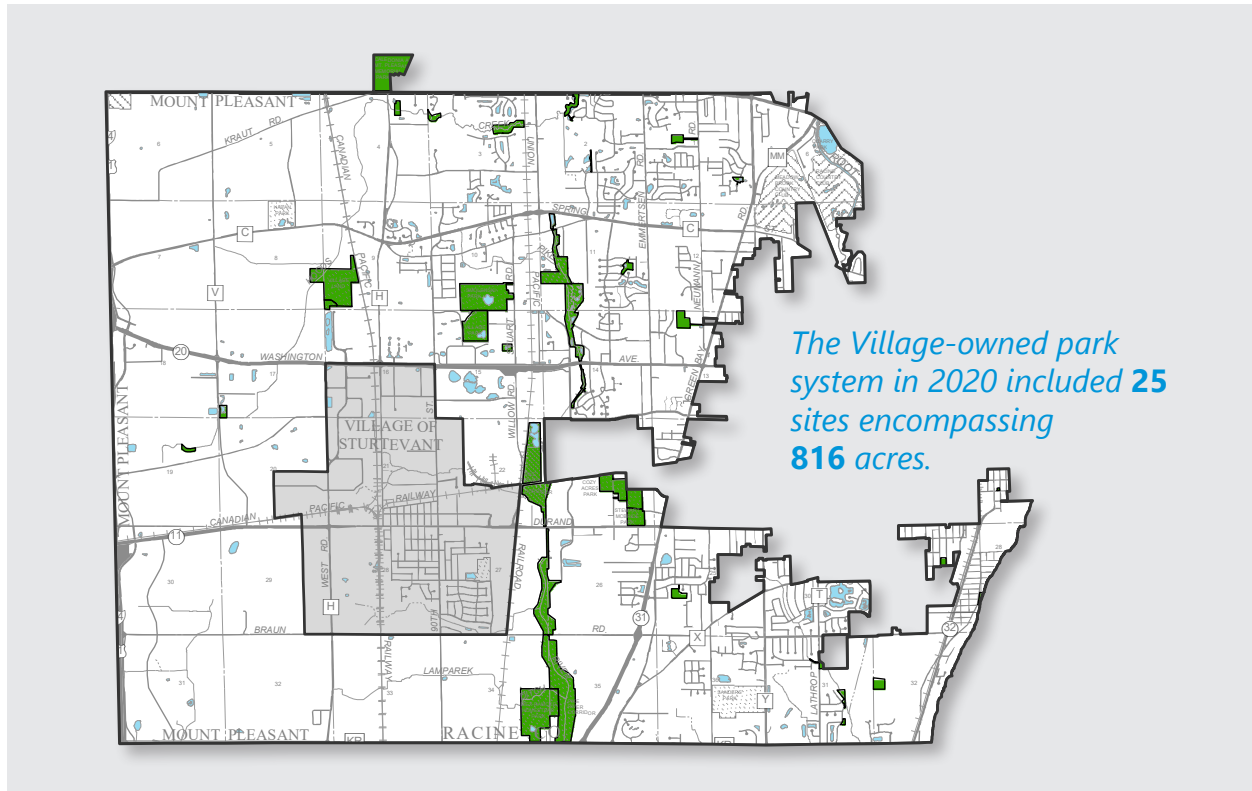
**A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN
FOR THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT: 2050**

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A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT: 2050

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The Village of Mount Pleasant Park and Open Space Plan is intended to assist the Village in promoting environmental stewardship; assess current and future park, recreation, and open space needs within the Village; and guide the preservation, development, and acquisition of land for park, outdoor recreation, and open space purposes. While the plan looks ahead to the year 2050, it includes short-term recommendations targeted for implementation in the next five or so years and long-term recommendations to the year 2050 with some of those recommendations not likely to occur until after 2050.

This Plan also ensures that the Village remains eligible to apply for and potentially receive Federal and State aids through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to support acquiring and developing park and open space sites and facilities. To become or remain eligible for available State and Federal outdoor recreation grants, the WDNR typically requires a plan that was adopted within five years preceding the submittal of any grant application.

Mount Pleasant has an extensive history of park and open space planning. The first edition of the park and open space plan for the Town of Mount Pleasant was designed to the year 2010 and was adopted in 1991. The second edition of the plan for the Town was designed to the year 2020 and was adopted in April 2003. In September 2003, the entire Town of Mount Pleasant incorporated as a village. The Village then adopted the third edition of the plan in 2015 with a design year of 2035. This plan is the fourth edition and has a design year of 2050.

A Park and Open Space Plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant

Plan Content

This Mount Pleasant Park and Open Space Plan is comprised of five chapters and three appendices. The first four chapters provides background information about the Village and how the Plan was developed, provides the implementation status of the recommendations from the 2035 park and open space plan, identifies the other plans and planning programs affecting the Village's park and open space plan, and identifies the objectives, principles, and standards used to guide this plan. The fifth chapter includes updated park, outdoor recreation facility, trail, and open space recommendations for Village-owned sites and facilities. It also provides recommendations for those park and open space sites and facilities owned by Racine County located within the Village.

Park and open space sites located in the Village are established through the efforts of other partners, including Racine County, the Racine Unified School District, the City of Racine, and a number of private organizations

Mount Pleasant also has an extensive history of land use planning. Other localized plans that help guide the growth and development of the Village are also incorporated into this Plan. In particular, this includes those plans that provide recommendations for parks, outdoor recreation, or open space uses, such as the amended Village Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan, the Master Bicycle Plan, the Pike River Watershed-Based Plan, the Root River Watershed Restoration and Revitalization Plans, and the Des Plaines Watershed Plan.

The 2020 population for the Village is 27,732 people and the forecasted 2050 Village population is expected to be about 44,700 people

Plan Recommendations

The recommendations included in this Park and Open Space Plan are the most important output of this planning effort, providing guidance to the Village as it seeks to maintain a high-quality park system that meets the needs of the Village, Village residents, and visitors, and enhances the natural resource base in the Village and its environs. Some of the key Village recommendations include:

At full buildout of the Village, the recommended Village park system is expected to include about 37 sites encompassing nearly 1,160 acres

- Providing seven Village community parks (including five existing sites), 15 Village neighborhood parks (including four existing sites), and three playlots to adequately serve the existing and future population of the Village
- Developing or improving recreational facilities at 11 existing Village sites between 2021 and 2025
- Developing recreational facilities at two existing undeveloped Village sites, Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park and a Village-owned site
- Acquiring additional land for park expansion at Smolenski and Drozd Parks



Preliminary conceptual design of the Village Civic Campus Park



Canoeing/kayaking on Lake Michigan near the City of Racine. In 2017, the WDNR designated the Lake Michigan Water Trail as a State trail. The Trail is designed to navigate Lake Michigan along Wisconsin's shoreline.



A portion of the Village of Mount Pleasant Pike River Pathway. The Pathway totals about seven miles within the Village.



A portion of the Racine County Racine-Sturtevant Trail. It is recommended that this trail be further developed by Racine County within the Village to connect to the proposed White River State Trail.

- Continuing to develop and maintain the Village Pike River Pathway
- Developing additional recreational trails and bikeways for bicycle and pedestrian use
- Acquiring and restoring lands within the Hoods Creek corridor and developing a multi-use trail within the corridor
- Continuing to maintain and improve all existing Village parks
- In cooperation with Racine County, develop the Root River Water Trail

The Mount Pleasant Park and Open Space Plan can be accessed online at:
www.sewrpc.org and **www.mtpleasantwi.gov**

For more information, please contact the Village of Mount Pleasant
Community Development-Planning Department at:
planning@mtpleasantwi.gov

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Credit: Village of Mount Pleasant

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This park and open space plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant is intended to assist in promoting environmental stewardship and to assess current and future park, recreation, and open space needs within the Village. The plan is further intended to guide preserving, developing, and acquiring land for park, outdoor recreation, and open space purposes through implementing over time the recommendations set forth in Chapter 5. The plan seeks to provide a variety of recreational sites and facilities that will offer opportunities for Village residents to participate in an appropriate range of active and passive recreational pursuits and to protect and enhance natural resources within the Village. A public hearing, prior to a Village of Mount Pleasant Village Board meeting, was held on November 8, 2021. This plan, which is an update of the park and open space plan adopted in 2015, was approved by the Village Plan Commission in November 2021. This plan was adopted by the Village Board on December 13, 2021, as an amendment to and component of the Village's comprehensive plan.¹

Broadly defined, recreation is an activity or experience undertaken solely for the pleasure or satisfaction derived from it. Recreation can be experienced indoors or outdoors, encompasses a wide variety of activities, and permits the opportunity for participation in many resource and nonresource-oriented activities. It includes both mental and physical exercise, personal enjoyment, enhances the quality of life, and provides various social, environmental, and economic benefits. Such benefits include improving physical health and mental well-being for individuals, protecting biological communities and natural resources, attracting tourism and commercial and residential development, and potentially increasing property values for communities.

¹ In July 2009, the Village Board adopted the Racine County multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan as the comprehensive plan for the Village, which is documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 301, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035, November 2009. The County plan supplements the Village master land use plan, which is documented in a report entitled, Year 2030 Master Plan for Land Use and Transportation, Mt. Pleasant, Racine County, Wisconsin, January 2003. In January 2014, the Village Board adopted an amendment to the 2030 Master Plan and the County comprehensive plan that affected the land use classification of 318 parcels in the Village. The amended Village master plan was renamed the 2035 Village of Mount Pleasant Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan to be consistent with the design year of the County comprehensive plan. The Village comprehensive land use plan was amended again in June 2019 to include the Foxconn development and other urbanized recommendations.

Although recreational preferences may vary from individual to individual, recreation occupies a necessary and significant place in every person's life. For the purpose of this report, recreation will be viewed in a narrower framework as including only those recreational activities typically carried on outdoors.

1.2 PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Regional and County Park and Open Space Planning

Owing to the importance of outdoor recreation sites and protecting natural resource areas, park and open space development and use have long been issues of concern to public officials and citizen leaders. On December 1, 1977, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission adopted SEWRPC Planning Report No. 27, *A Regional Park and Open Space Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2000*, which identified existing and probable future park and open space needs within the Region and recommended a system of large resource-oriented parks, recreational corridors, a regional trail system, smaller nonresource-oriented urban parks, and attendant recreational facilities. The regional park and open space plan was refined and detailed within Racine County through preparation of a park and open space plan for the County in 1988. A second edition—with a design year of 2020—was adopted by the County Board in May 2001, and a third edition²—with a design year of 2035—was adopted by the County Board in December 2012. In March 2013, that plan was subsequently adopted as an amendment to the regional park plan by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

The County park and open space plan includes recommendations to provide a system of large, nature-based regional parks and natural resource-based recreational facilities such as swimming beaches, golf courses, and group picnicking facilities. The County plan also recommends developing and/or maintaining public boat access facilities on inland lakes and rivers for fishing and boating (both motor boats and carry-in canoes and kayaks) and a County trail system for such uses as biking, hiking, nature study, and ski touring. Existing and planned County trails are located on or within street and highway rights-of-way, within utility and/or former railway corridors, and within recreation corridors (Fox River, Pike River, Root River, and Lake Michigan shoreline). The County plan further recommends developing a water trail system. Potential water trails are planned to be developed along the Fox River, Root River, and along the Lake Michigan shoreline. An inventory of Racine County park and open space sites and facilities within the Village is included in Chapter 2.

Village Plans

The Village of Mount Pleasant has a long history of land use planning. In addition to the previous editions of this park and open space plan, the Village has prepared master plans, detailed neighborhood plans, and most recently, an amended Village Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan³ to guide growth and development of the Village, while protecting important natural resource areas. The Village has also adopted a Master Bicycle Plan⁴ that identifies the location of existing Village and County bikeways and trails, future Village bikeways⁵ (bike lanes and routes) and trails, and future County trails in the Village. A Pike River Watershed-Based Plan⁵ was completed in August 2013 and was adopted by the Mount Pleasant Village Board in January 2014. The Pike River, which primarily divides the Village from north to south, is a vital natural resource feature and recreation corridor in the Village. The plan is focused on modifying the stream channel to control stormwater runoff and reduce flooding, restore wetlands, and improve stream bank erosion and water quality, as well as providing recreational activities, such as a multi-use trail and fishing areas. Additional information regarding plans that provided a framework for the update of this park and open space plan is provided in Chapter 4.

² Documented in *SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 134, 3rd Edition, A Park and Open Space Plan for Racine County, Wisconsin, February 2013*.

³ Documented in a report entitled, *Year 2030 Master Plan for Land Use and Transportation, Mt. Pleasant, Racine County, Wisconsin, January 2003*. In January 2014, the plan was amended by the Village Board and was renamed the 2035 Village of Mount Pleasant Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan. The comprehensive land use plan was amended again in 2019 to include the Foxconn development and other urbanized recommendations.

⁴ Documented in a report entitled, *Village of Mount Pleasant Master Bicycle Plan 2030, Racine County, Wisconsin, January 2007*. The plan was prepared by the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin.

⁵ Documented in a report entitled, *Pike River Watershed-Based Plan, prepared by Applied Ecological Services, Inc. for the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network, August 2013*.

Village/Town Park and Open Space Planning

The first edition of this park and open space plan for the Town of Mount Pleasant, which was designed to the year 2010, was adopted in 1991. The Regional Planning Commission assisted the Town in preparing the second edition of the plan, which was subsequently adopted in April 2003. Shortly thereafter, in September 2003, the Town of Mount Pleasant incorporated as a village. In 2015, the Village adopted the third edition of the Village park and open space plan, which had a design year of 2035. In January 2020, the Village of Mount Pleasant requested that the Regional Planning Commission assist the Village in updating the 2035 Mount Pleasant park and open space plan. The Commission initiated the plan update in February 2020.

This updated plan reflects recent park and open space acquisition and development activities within the Village and takes into account the recommendations of the amended 2019 Village Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan and the Village Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. In addition to updating the recommended park and open space plan for the Village, this plan will provide the Village to qualify for and potentially receive Federal and State aids in support of acquiring and developing park and open space sites and facilities. Applications to potentially receive Federal or State aids must be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources prior to May 1 every year.

1.3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND PLAN ADOPTION

This park and open space plan was adopted as a component of the Village's comprehensive plan. Section 66.1001(4) of the *Wisconsin Statutes* sets forth the required procedure for adopting or amending a comprehensive plan, which includes adopting written procedures designed to foster public participation in developing a comprehensive plan or a plan amendment. The procedures must describe the methods the Village will use to distribute proposed, alternative, or amended elements of a comprehensive plan or plan amendment, and provide an opportunity for written comments on the plan or amendment to be submitted by members of the public to the Village and for the Village to respond to such comments.

The park and open space plan was reviewed and discussed at meetings of the former Village Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in 2020 and 2021 and the Village Plan Commission in 2021. All meetings were open to the public, and meeting agendas were posted on the Village website in advance of the meetings. Upon completion of a draft plan report, a public hearing was held by the Village Board on November 8, 2021 to provide an opportunity for the public to review the plan and provide comments. Notice of the public hearing was published in the *Racine Journal-Times* on October 8, 2021. Any comments and responses from the public hearing are summarized in Chapter 5.

In addition to the public participation procedures described above, the Village followed the other procedural steps required by the *Statutes* adopting this plan as an amendment to the Village comprehensive plan, which included:

- Holding a public hearing regarding the proposed plan
- Publishing a Class 1 public notice at least 30 days in advance of the hearing
- Distributing the public notice to nonmetallic mining interests and to people who have submitted a written request for notification to the Village Clerk under Section 66.1001(4)(f) of the *Statutes*
- A plan commission recommendation regarding adopting the plan in the form of a resolution
- Village Board adopting the plan by ordinance
- Distributing the plan to the local library, Racine County, SEWRPC, the Wisconsin Department of Administration, adjacent local governments, and special-purpose units of government such as school districts

1.4 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The planning process was initially conducted under the guidance of the Village of Mount Pleasant Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in 2020 and 2021. In summer 2021, the planning process was reassigned to the Village Plan Commission until the plan's adoption. Staff support was provided by the Department of Community Development - Planning and Department of Community Development - Parks and Recreation. A list of the Village Board and Plan Commission members and Village support staff is provided on the inside front cover of this report.

1.5 PLANNING AREA

The planning area, shown on Map 1.1, consists of the entire Village of Mount Pleasant, which is located in U. S. Public Land Survey Township 3 North and Ranges 22 and 23 East in the eastern portion of Racine County along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The Village currently encompasses 21,754 acres, or about 34 square miles. This represents an increase of 68 acres since the previous Village park plan was adopted in 2015 when the Village encompassed 21,686 acres. Most of the increase is due to a cooperative boundary agreement plan that includes a transfer of lands between the Villages of Mount Pleasant and Sturtevant that was authorized by both Villages and the Wisconsin Department of Administration in August 2013. The transfer of lands between the two Villages was effective on January 1, 2017, and includes:

- Two separate areas totaling 120 acres located north of STH 20 (Washington Avenue) that were transferred from Sturtevant to Mount Pleasant
- One area totaling 66 acres of land located in Township 3 North, Range 22 East in the southeastern one-quarter of Section 20 and north of and adjacent to the Canadian Pacific Railway that was transferred from Mount Pleasant to Sturtevant

The other area responsible for the Village of Mount Pleasant increase, an additional 14 acres, is due to the more accurate mapping of the interstate highway system (IH 94) along the western boundary of the Village.

The Village is bounded on the north by the Village of Caledonia; on the east by the City of Racine, the Village of Elmwood Park, and Lake Michigan; on the west by the Village of Yorkville and IH 94; and on the south by the Village of Somers in Kenosha County. The Village of Sturtevant is located in Township 3 North, Range 22 East, and is completely surrounded by the Village of Mount Pleasant.

1.6 REPORT FORMAT

The findings and recommendations of the Village park and open space plan update are set forth in this report. Following this introductory chapter, Chapter 2 presents information about the Village pertinent to park and open space planning, including information on the resident population, the land use pattern, existing park and open space sites and facilities, and important natural resource areas and features within the Village. The implementation status of plan recommendations from the 2035 park plan is presented in Chapter 3. Chapter 4 summarizes other planning programs affecting this park and open space plan, including the Village's comprehensive (master) land use plan and bicycle plan; describes the park and open space objectives, principles, and standards used to prepare this plan; and the results of applying those standards to the existing park system. Updated park and open space recommendations are presented in Chapter 5.



Credit: Village of Mount Pleasant

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Existing resources and other factors that affect developing a system of parks and open space areas within the Village were inventoried to assist in formulating plan recommendations. Information about population and population distribution, the pattern of land use development, existing park and open space sites and facilities, and natural resources within the Village of Mount Pleasant was collected and is presented in this chapter. A comparison of similar data from the 2035 Mount Pleasant park plan that was adopted in 2015, and included inventory information gathered in 2014, is also provided.

2.2 RESIDENT POPULATION

Existing and projected⁶ resident population levels are an important consideration in any park and open space planning effort. Data on the historical, existing, and anticipated resident population for Mount Pleasant are presented in Table 2.1 and shown in Figure 2.1. It should be noted that the Town of Mount Pleasant incorporated as a village in September 2003, thus all population data prior to 2003 was documented as the Town of Mount Pleasant. As indicated in Table 2.1, the resident population for Mount Pleasant increased between 1900 and 1910 from 2,911 persons to 4,219 persons. The incorporation of the Village of Sturtevant also occurred during this time period, in 1907. Between 1910 and 1920, Mount Pleasant experienced a 4 percent decrease in population, from 4,219 persons to 4,070 persons. From 1920 to 2020, the population has increased steadily, with the smallest increases occurring between the years 1950 and 1960, 1980 and 1990, and 2010 and 2020. The Village population level for 2020, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, was 27,732 persons, an increase of 1,535 persons, or about 6 percent, from 2010.

2.3 LAND USE BASE

Land use is an important determinant of both the supply of, and the demand for, outdoor recreation, parks, and related open space sites and facilities. Accordingly, an understanding of the amount, type, and spatial distribution of urban and rural land uses within the Village, as well as the historical conversion of rural lands to urban uses, is an important consideration in this park and open space planning effort.

⁶ *Projected population levels are presented in Chapter 4 of this report, Framework for Plan Development.*

The historic pattern of urban growth in the Village of Mount Pleasant for selected years beginning in 1920 is shown on Map 2.1. Map 2.1 identifies areas of the Village where residential structures or other buildings have been constructed in relatively compact groups, thereby indicating concentrations of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, institutional, or other urban land uses. From 1920 to 1940, urban land uses were concentrated in the eastern portion of Mount Pleasant, south of the City of Racine near Lake Michigan. From 1941 to 1950, urban land uses were largely concentrated in the eastern and southeastern portions of Mount Pleasant along major streets and highways, adjacent to or near the City of Racine, and Lake Michigan. From 1920 to 1950, urban growth encompassed approximately 719 acres. By 1963, urban development continued to occur adjacent to the City of Racine, particularly around the Root River area, along Lake Michigan, near STH 31 (Green Bay Road) and STH 11 (Durand Avenue), and for the first time, in areas scattered throughout Mount Pleasant as far west as IH 94.

Table 2.1
Resident Population of the
Village of Mount Pleasant: 1900-2020

Year	Population	Change From Preceding Census	
		Number	Percent
1900	2,911	--	--
1910	4,219	1,308	44.9
1920	4,070	-149	-3.5
1930	5,379	1,309	32.2
1940	6,760	1,381	25.7
1950	11,339	4,579	67.7
1960	12,358	1,019	9.0
1970	16,368	4,010	32.4
1980	19,340	2,972	18.2
1990	20,084	744	3.8
2000	23,142	3,058	15.2
2010	26,197	3,055	13.2
2020	27,732	1,535	5.9

Note: The Town of Mount Pleasant incorporated as a village in September 2003.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census and SEWRPC

Mount Pleasant experienced the largest increase in urban development between 1951 and 1963 when an additional 1,963 acres were developed. By 1970, large residential subdivisions scattered throughout Mount Pleasant accounted for an additional 1,054 acres of urban development. In the years following 1970, the rate of urban growth slowed somewhat, but remained relatively constant at an average of about 735 acres for each 10-year period ending in 1980, 1990, and 2000. New residential subdivisions and expansions of existing subdivisions were prevalent during this period, as well as new commercial and industrial development, especially along major streets and highways. From 2000 to 2010, urban growth continued to occur throughout Mount Pleasant as residential subdivision development increased, particularly in the northern portion of the Village. From 2000 to 2010, about 1,065 acres were developed.

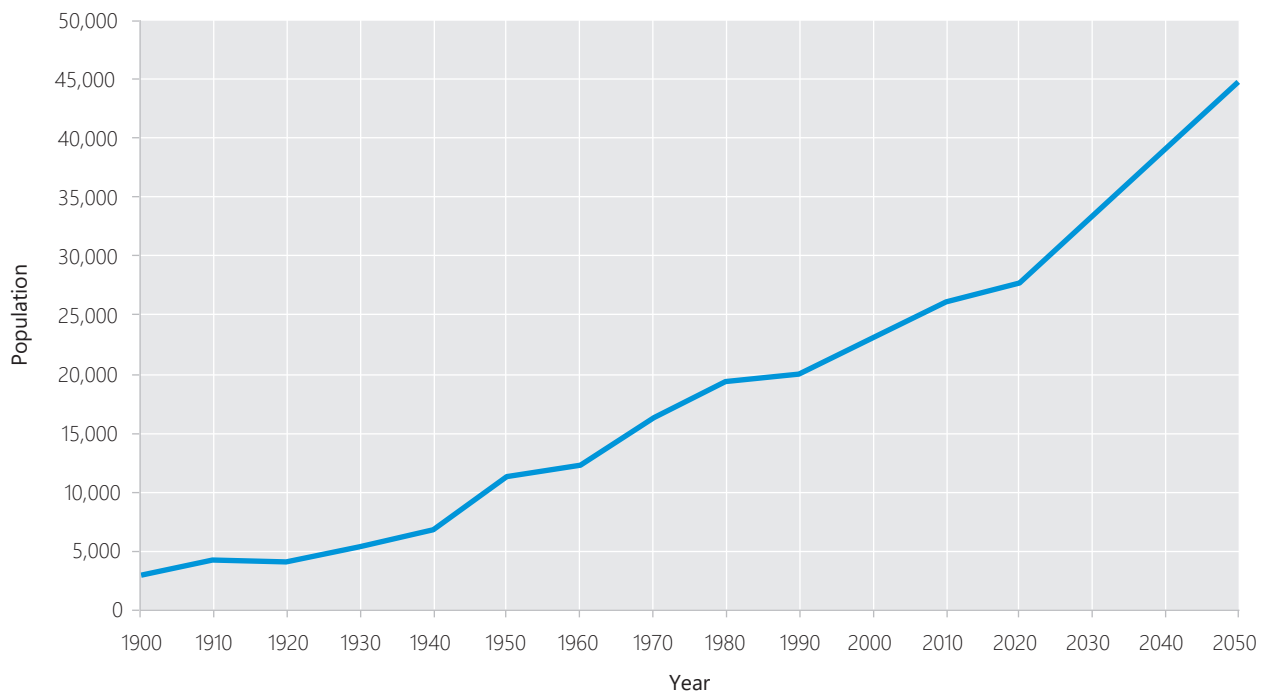
Information on the amount of land devoted to various types of land uses in the Village of Mount Pleasant in 2015 is presented in Table 2.2 and shown on Map 2.2 (both the table and the map reflect the 2017 municipal boundary as previously referenced in Chapter 1). With the Town of Yorkville incorporating as a village in 2018, Mount Pleasant is now completely surrounded by other incorporated municipalities (city and villages), which will prevent annexations by the Village.

Residential uses accounted for the largest percentage of lands developed for urban use, encompassing 4,239 acres, or about 20 percent of the total area of the Village and about 51 percent of lands developed for urban use as of 2015. Lands devoted to other urban uses, including commercial; industrial; transportation, communication, and utilities; governmental and institutional; and parks and recreational, together encompassed 4,041 acres, or about 18 percent of the total area of the Village in 2015. Thus, 8,280 acres, comprising about 38 percent of the total area of the Village, were devoted to urban uses in 2015.

About 13,474 acres, comprising about 62 percent of the total area of the Village, were devoted to nonurban uses in 2015. Agricultural lands occupied a significant portion of the Village, encompassing 10,321 acres, or about 47 percent of the total area of the Village and about 77 percent of lands in nonurban use in 2015. Natural resource areas, including wetlands, woodlands, and surface water, together encompassed 1,303 acres, or about 6 percent of the total area of the Village. Undeveloped/open space lands encompassed 1,849 acres, or about nine percent of the total area of the Village, and landfill areas encompassed one acre, or less than 1 percent of the Village.

The Village of Mount Pleasant is served by a well-developed highway transportation system. Arterial streets and highways serving the Village include IH 41/94, STH 11 (Durand Avenue), STH 20 (Washington Avenue),

Figure 2.1
Historical and Projected Population Levels in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 1900-2050



Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census and SEWRPC

STH 31 (Green Bay Road), STH 32 (Sheridan Road), STH 38 (Northwestern Avenue), CTH C, CTH H, CTH K, CTH KR, CTH MM, CTH T, CTH V, CTH X, CTH Y, Airline Road, Braun Road, Chicory Road, Emmertsen Road, Kraut Road, Neumann Road, Stuart Road, Willow Road, and Wood Road.

In addition, three railway rights-of-way traverse the Village from north to south, including two lines owned by the Union Pacific Railroad and one line owned by the Canadian Pacific (CP) Railway. All three lines carry freight traffic, and Amtrak trains also operate on the CP line. A shorter CP line extends east-west through the Village from IH 41/94 to the Village of Sturtevant. John H. Batten Airport, located in the City of Racine northeast and adjacent to the Village, is a privately-owned, open for public use airport that provides two paved, lighted runways. The airport provides services to corporate, business, and private aircraft, and is the largest privately-owned, public-use, reliever airport in the United States.

2.4 PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

Existing Park and Open Space Sites

An inventory of existing park and open space sites and outdoor recreation facilities in the Village of Mount Pleasant was conducted in 2020. As indicated in Table 2.3 and shown on Map 2.3, there were 41 park and open space sites encompassing 1,503 acres, or about 7 percent of the Village. There were 33 publicly-owned sites encompassing 1,049 acres, or about 70 percent of the total park and open space site acreage. The remaining eight sites, encompassing 454 acres, or about 30 percent of the total park and open space site acreage, were privately owned.

Table 2.3 includes sites owned by Racine County, the Village of Mount Pleasant, the Village of Caledonia, the City of Racine, and the Racine Unified School District as public sites. School events and school district policies may limit the availability and use of facilities located on public school grounds to the general public.

As indicated in Table 2.4, the following recreational facilities were located in Village of Mount Pleasant-owned parks and at the Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park in 2020: three league ball diamonds, five sandlot ball diamonds, two tennis courts, 10 playgrounds, nine playfields, three basketball goals, and 10

**Map 2.1
Generalized Historical Urban Growth in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 1920-2010**

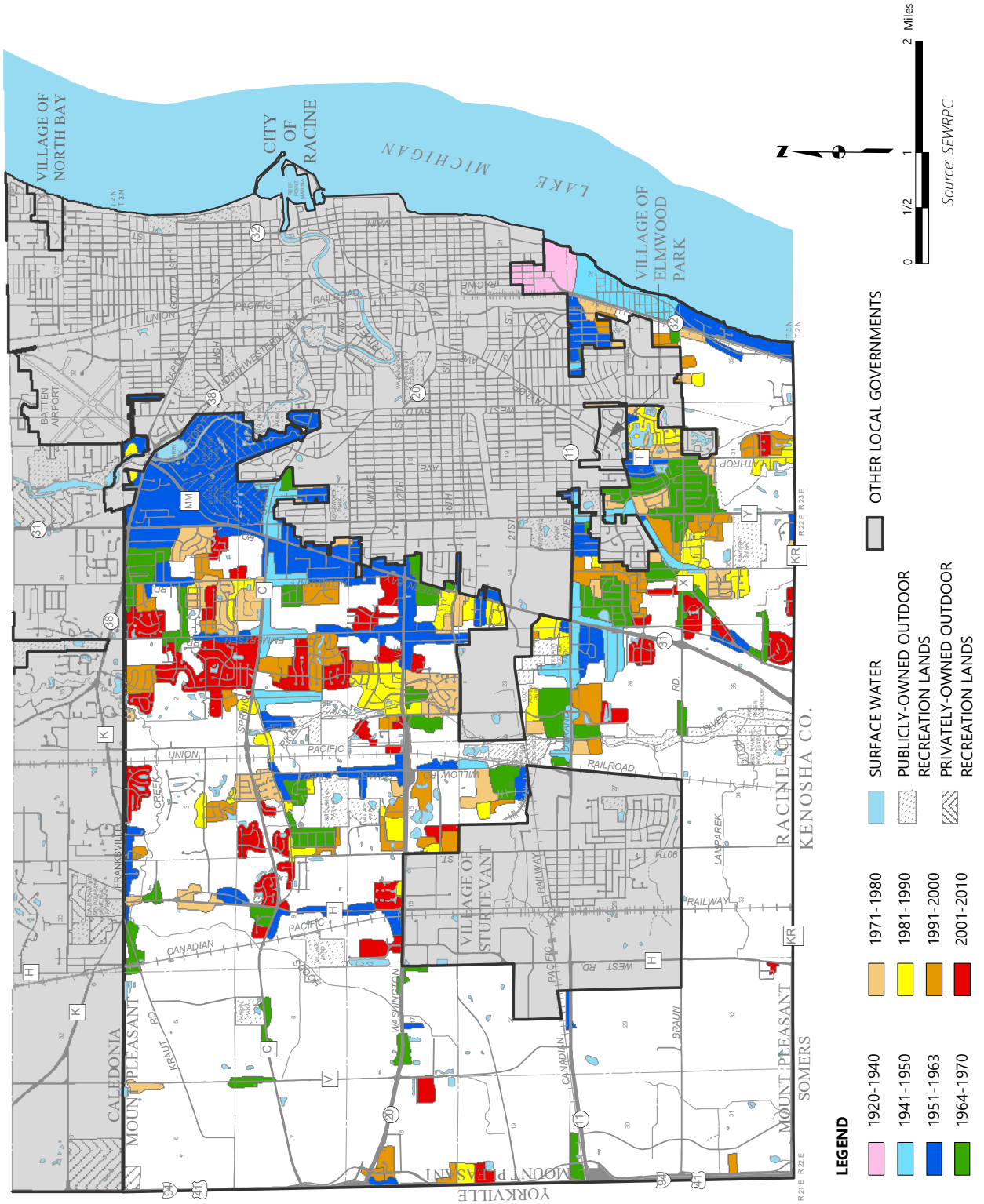


Table 2.2
Existing Land Uses in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2015

Land Use Category ^a	Acres	Percent of Subtotal	Percent of Total
Urban			
Residential			
Single-Family Residential	3,815	46.1	17.5
Multifamily Residential ^b	424	5.1	2.0
Residential Subtotal	4,239	51.2	19.5
Commercial	538	6.5	2.5
Industrial	659	7.9	3.0
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities (TCU)			
Streets and Highways	1,874	22.6	8.6
Airports and Railways	164	2.0	0.8
Communications, Utilities, and Other Transportation	49	0.6	0.2
TCU Subtotal	2,087	25.2	9.6
Governmental and Institutional	313	3.8	1.4
Parks and Recreational ^c	444	5.4	2.1
Urban Subtotal	8,280	100.0	38.1
Nonurban			
Agricultural Lands	10,321	76.6	47.4
Undeveloped/Open Space Land	1,849	13.7	8.5
Landfill	1	-- ^d	-- ^d
Wetlands	670	5.0	3.1
Woodlands	388	2.9	1.8
Surface Water	245	1.8	1.1
Nonurban Subtotal	13,474	100.0	61.9
Total	21,754	--	100.0

^a Includes associated off-street parking areas for each land use category.

^b Includes two-family residential areas and mobile home parks in addition to buildings with three or more apartments.

^c Includes only those lands developed and used for intensive recreational purposes (ball fields, tennis courts, group picnic areas, etc.). Developed land within park sites used for hiking trails or other passive uses is included in the "undeveloped/open land" category.

^d Less than 0.05 percent.

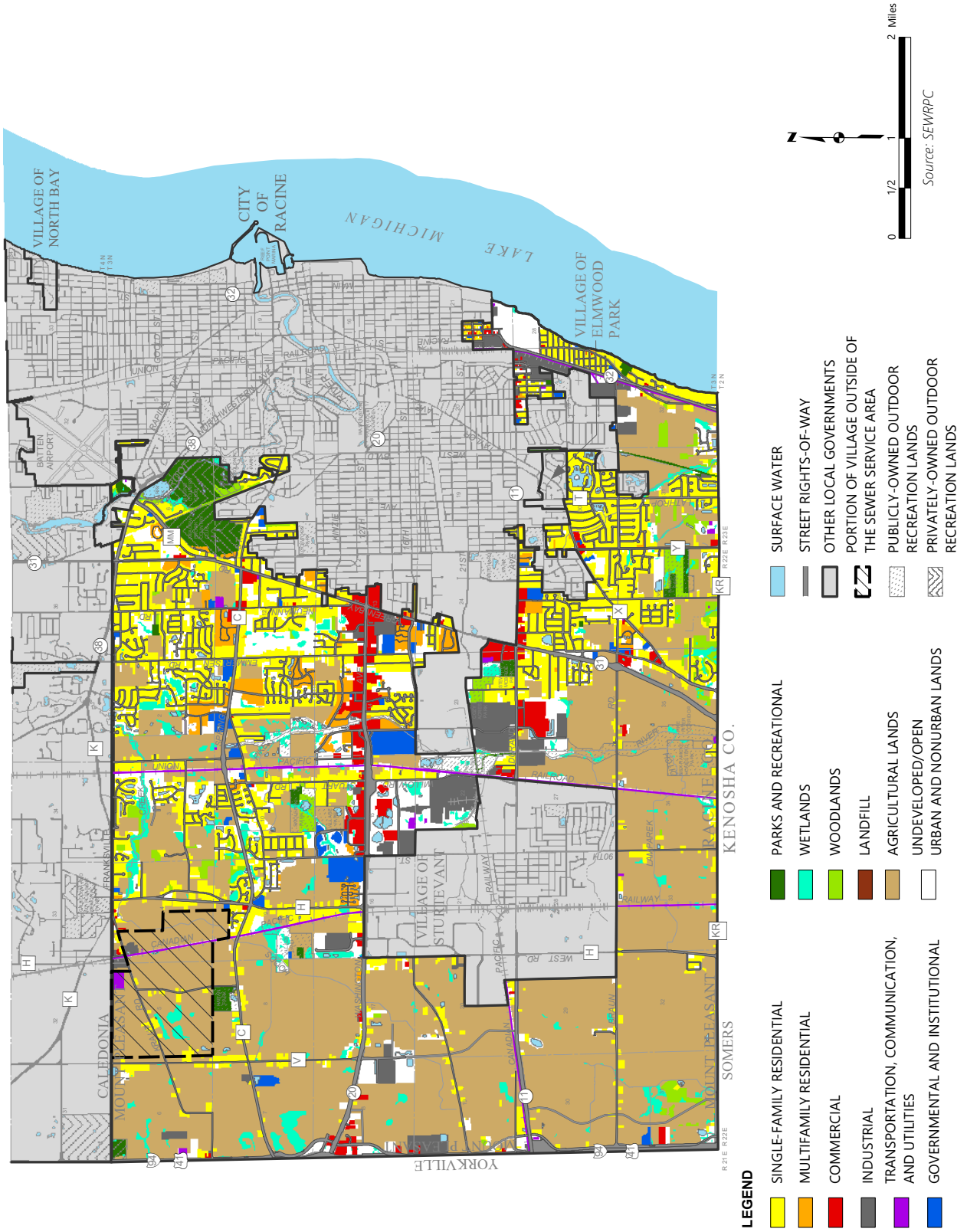
Source: SEWRPC

soccer fields. Other significant outdoor recreation facilities available within Mount Pleasant parks and at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park include a dog park, a Kids Connection playground, sand volleyball courts, fishing areas, hiking trails, horseshoe pits, group picnic facilities, and multi-purpose trails.

Also indicated in Table 2.4, the following recreational facilities were located in Racine County parks, City of Racine parks, and Racine Unified School District sites within the Village of Mount Pleasant in 2020: 13 baseball diamonds, nine league ball diamonds, two sandlot ball diamonds, 12 tennis courts, three playgrounds, four playfields, two basketball goals, three soccer fields, and two swimming areas. Other significant outdoor recreation facilities located at County and City parks and school district sites within the Village include a football field, a running track, dog parks, a boat/canoe launch, a camping area with camp sites, sand volleyball courts, fishing areas, horseshoe pits, and hiking trails.

Recreational facilities available at privately-owned sites included one sandlot ball diamond, one playfield, two playgrounds, one basketball goal, 11 tennis courts, 18 soccer fields, three swimming pools, three 18-hole regulation golf courses, and platform tennis courts.

**Map 2.2
Existing Land Uses in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2015**



**Table 2.3
Park and Open Space Sites in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2020**

Number on Map 2.3	Site Name	Location	Ownership	Size (acres) ^a
Public				
1	Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park – Undeveloped Park Site	T3N, R22E, Sections 34 and 35	Village of Mount Pleasant	87 ^b
2 ^c	Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park	T4N, R22E, Section 33	Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant	52
3	Colonial Park	T3N, R23E, Sections 7 and 8	City of Racine	6 ^d
4	Cozy Acres Park	T3N, R22E, Section 23	Village of Mount Pleasant	27
5	County-owned Land	T3N, R22E, Section 22	Racine County	3
6	Dirkse Park	T3N, R23E, Section 31	Village of Mount Pleasant	1
7	Drozdz Park	T3N, R22E, Section 1	Village of Mount Pleasant	6
8	Haban Park	T3N, R22E, Section 8	Racine County	41
9	Hoods Creek Corridor (10 Parcels ^e)	T3N, R22E, Sections 2, 3, 4, 17, and 19	Village of Mount Pleasant	36
10	Horlick Park	T3N, R23E, Section 6	Racine County	14 ^f
11	James Turek Park	T3N, R22E, Section 25	Village of Mount Pleasant	6
12	J.I. Case High School	T3N, R22E, Section 14	Racine Unified School District	38 ^g
13	K-9 Commons Dog Park	T3N, R22E, Section 9	Village of Mount Pleasant	4
14	Lake Park	T3N, R23E, Sections 28 and 29	Village of Mount Pleasant	2
15	Lathrop Manor Subdivision Park	T3N, R23E, Section 31	Village of Mount Pleasant	3
16	Pheasant Creek Park	T3N, R22E, Section 11	Village of Mount Pleasant	4
17	Pike River Corridor	T3N, R22E, Sections 11, 14, 22, 23, 26, 27, 34, and 35	Village of Mount Pleasant	346 ^h
18	Polzin Park	T3N, R23E, Section 21	Village of Mount Pleasant	1
19	Quarry Lake Park	T3N, R23E, Section 6	Racine County	38 ⁱ
20	Sanders Park	T3N, R22E, Section 36	Racine County	84
21	Sheridan Woods Park	T3N, R23E, Section 29	Village of Mount Pleasant	2
22	Smolenski Park	T3N, R22E, Section 10	Village of Mount Pleasant	72
23	Stewart-McBride Park	T3N, R22E, Section 23	Village of Mount Pleasant	16
24	Village Civic Campus Park	T3N, R22E, Section 15	Village of Mount Pleasant	38
25	Village Land – Open Space/Conservancy	T3N, R22E, Sections 8 and 9	Village of Mount Pleasant	70
26	Village Land – Open Space/Trail	T3N, R22E, Section 2	Village of Mount Pleasant	1
27	Village Land – Open Space/Conservancy	T3N, R23E, Section 31	Village of Mount Pleasant	2 ^j
28	Village Land – Open Space/Conservancy	T3N, R23E, Section 32	Village of Mount Pleasant	7
29	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	T3N, R22E, Section 1	Village of Mount Pleasant	2
30	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	T3N, R22E, Section 15	Village of Mount Pleasant	4
31	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	T3N, R22E, Section 13	Village of Mount Pleasant	11
32	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	T3N, R22E, Section 23	Village of Mount Pleasant	16
33	West Ridge Elementary School	T3N, R22E, Section 13	Racine Unified School District	9 ^g
Public Subtotal: 33 Sites				1,049
Private				
34	Holleb Acres	T3N, R23E, Section 21	Private	7
35	Meadow Brook Country Club	T3N, R23E, Sections 6 and 7	Private	149
36	Pike River Corridor Easements – (Seven Parcels)	T3N, R22E, Sections 14, 22, and 23	Private and Racine Unified School District	36 ^k
37 ^l	Racine Area Soccer Association	T4N, R22E, Section 33	Organizational	59
38	Racine Country Club	T3N, R23E, Sections 5, 6, and 7	Private	163 ^m
39	RCOC, Inc.	T3N, R23E, Section 29	Organizational	4
40	South Hills Country Club	T4N, R22E, Section 31; T3N, R22E, Section 6	Private	19 ⁿ
41	YMCA of Racine	T3N, R22E, Section 15	Organizational	17
Private Subtotal: 8 Sites				454
Total: 41 Sites				1,503

Table continued on next page.

Table 2.3 (Continued)

^a Sites smaller than one acre were rounded up to one acre on this table. The narrative provides the exact size for Village-owned sites less than one acre.

^b The site is adjacent to the Village-owned Pike River Corridor.

^c Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park is located in the Village of Caledonia and is jointly owned by the Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant. In December 2020, an agreement between the Caledonia and Mount Pleasant Village Boards determined that both communities will retain ownership in the park; however, Mount Pleasant will only provide limited funding for maintaining and improving existing facilities while Caledonia will solely staff, maintain, and operate the park effective January 2021. Previously, both communities provided equal funding for developing and maintaining the park.

^d Includes only the acreage located within the Village. The remaining 68 acres of the park are located in the City of Racine.

^e Total of 10 parcels, including a portion of the Caledonia-Mount Pleasant Fire Station parcel located on Northwestern Avenue (CTH K) in Section 4 of the Village of Mount Pleasant.

^f Includes only the acreage located within the Village. The remaining one acre of the park is located in the City of Racine.

^g Includes only the acreage located within the active recreational areas or open space areas of the school site.

^h Includes about nine acres located in the City of Racine and 37 acres of easement lands. The acreage does not include lands associated with the Village-owned, undeveloped Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park, which is adjacent to the corridor.

ⁱ Includes only the acreage located within the Village. The remaining four acres of the site are located in the City of Racine.

^j Includes only the acreage located within the Village. The remaining one acre of the site is located in the City of Racine.

^k Includes about six acres located in the City of Racine.

^l Racine Area Soccer Association (SCORE Soccer Complex) is located adjacent to the Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park in the Village of Caledonia.

^m Includes only the acreage located within the Village. The remaining 24 acres of the site are located in the City of Racine.

ⁿ Includes only the acreage located within the Village. The remaining 141 acres of the site are located in the Village of Caledonia.

Source: Village of Mount Pleasant and SEWRPC

Village of Mount Pleasant Park System

In 2020, the Village of Mount Pleasant owned 25 park and open space sites, encompassing a total of 816 acres, or about 4 percent of the Village. This represents an increase of one site since 2014, as Polzin Park was subsequently acquired and developed. The Village of Mount Pleasant park and open space sites range from one acre (Dirkse Park) to 346 acres (Pike River Corridor) in size. Park and open space sites owned by the Village are shown on Map 2.4 and listed in Table 2.5. A brief description of each of the 25 Village-owned park and open space sites is presented below.

Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park

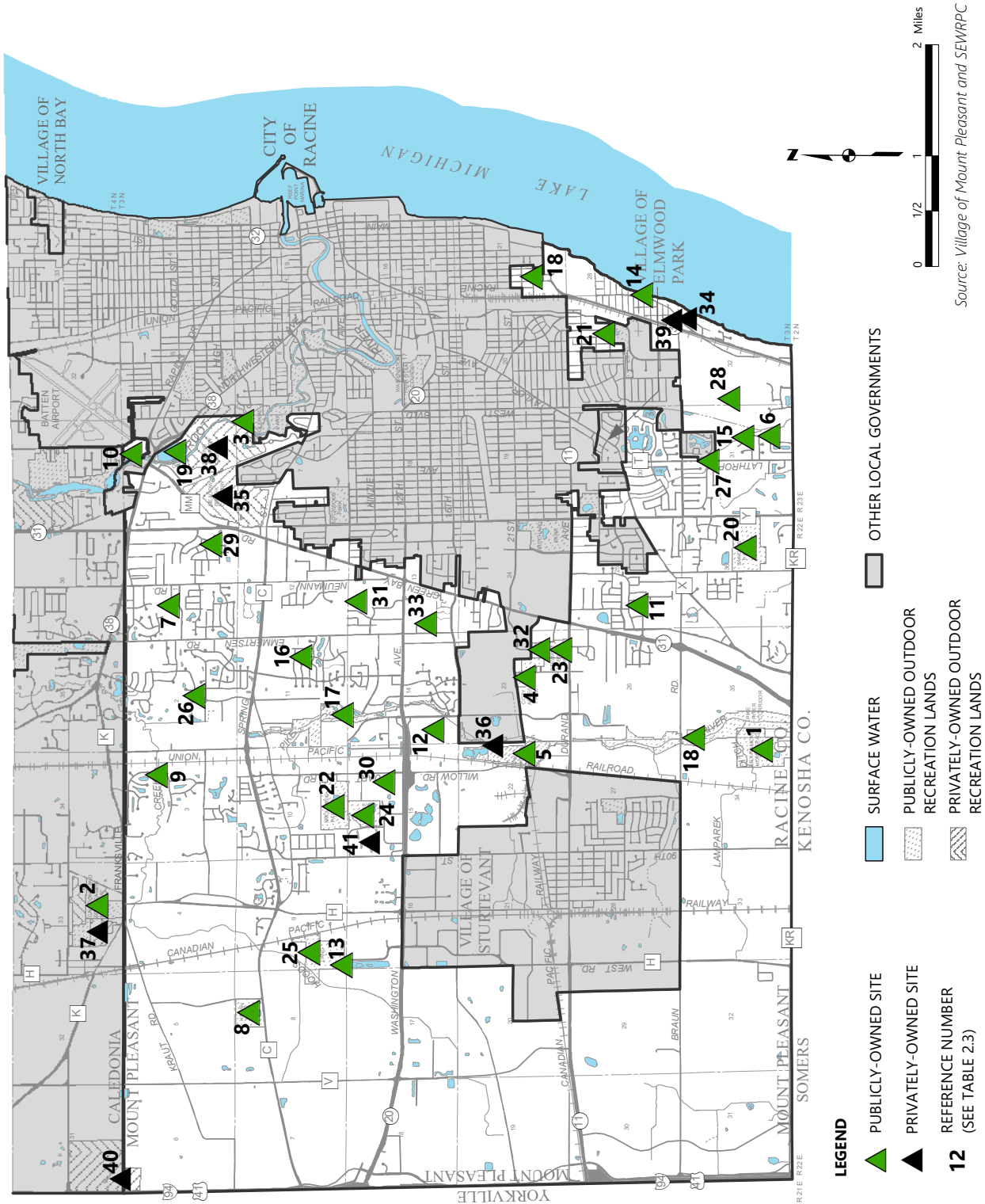
Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park is an 87-acre undeveloped community park located along the Pike River and Lamparek Ditch in the south-central portion of the Village. The site was used for the disposal of excavated material from the Pike River Restoration Project between Braun Road and CTH KR. The park is expected to be developed when the appropriate funds are available. The site contains a pond and wetlands.

Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park

Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park is a 52-acre community park located in the southern portion of the Village of Caledonia that is jointly owned by the Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant. In December 2020, an agreement between the Caledonia and Mount Pleasant Village Boards determined that both communities will retain ownership of the park; however, Mount Pleasant will only provide limited funding for maintaining and improving existing facilities while Caledonia will solely staff, maintain, and operate the park effective January 2021. Previously, both communities provided equal funding for developing and maintaining the park, and the park was operated and managed by a Parks Superintendent who was an employee of Caledonia and was considered a contractor for Mount Pleasant. Facilities at this site include a league softball diamond, two basketball half-courts (one goal each), four soccer fields, a playfield, a playground, two sandlot softball diamonds, two tennis courts, sand volleyball courts, a Kids Connection Playground (a playground that provides various equipment so children of all ages and abilities are able to play at the same time in the same

Map 2.3

Park and Open Space Sites in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2020



**Table 2.4
Selected Outdoor Recreation Facilities for General Use in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2020**

Number on Map 2.3	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball- League Diamonds	Softball- Sandlot Diamonds	Playfield	Playground	Tennis Courts	Basketball Goals	Soccer Field	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Other
Public												
1	Bix-Ramcke Homestead Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Undeveloped
2	Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park ^a	--	1 ^b	2	X	X	2	2	10 ^c	--	--	Sand Volleyball Courts, Picnicking, Restrooms, Kids Connection Playground, Horseshoe Pits, Shelters
3	Colonial Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Nature Area, Trail, Hiking Trails, Picnic Area, Fishing, Shelter, Restrooms
4	Cozy Acres Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space, Trail
5	County-owned Land	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail
6	Dirkse Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
7	Drozdz Park	--	--	1	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
8	Haban Park	12 ^d	7 ^e	--	X	X	--	1	--	--	--	Picnic Shelter, Sand Volleyball Court
9	Hoods Creek Corridor (10 Parcels)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit, Shelters, Informal Picnic Areas, Restrooms, Concessions
10	Horlick Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
11	James Turek Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Fishing, Restrooms, Shelter, Boat/Canoe Launch
12	J.I. Case High School	1	2	--	X	--	12	--	3	--	X	--
13	K-9 Commons Dog Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Running Track, Football Field, Scientific Area
14	Lake Park	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	Dog Park
15	Lathrop Manor Subdivision Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
16	Pheasant Creek Park	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
17	Pike River Corridor	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space, Trail, Fishing
18	Polzin Park	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	Shelter
19	Quarry Lake Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	Sand Volleyball Courts, Picnicking, Pier, Fishing, Bath House, Trail, Karen A. Nelson Memorial Dog Park
20	Sanders Park	--	--	1	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Camping (23 Sites), Hiking Trails, Eight Group Picnic Areas, Restrooms, Scientific Area

Table continued on next page.

Table 2.4 (Continued)

Number on Map 2.3	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball-League Diamonds	Softball-Sandlot Diamonds	Playfield	Playground	Tennis Courts	Basketball Goals	Soccer Field	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Other
Public (Continued)												
21	Sheridan Woods Park	--	--	1	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
22	Smolenski Park	--	--	1	X	X	--	1	--	--	--	Hiking Trails, Shelters, Picnicking, Horseshoe Pits, Sand Volleyball Court, Pavilion, Restrooms
23	Stewart-McBride Park	--	2	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Sand Volleyball Courts, Hiking Trails, Shelter, Picnicking, Restrooms
24	Village Civic Campus Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Greenwood Family Playground, Shelter,
25	Village Land – Open Space/Conservancy	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Hiking Trails
26	Village Land – Open Space/Trail	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Undeveloped, Open Space, Racine R/C Club
27	Village Land – Open Space/Conservancy	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space, Trail
28	Village Land – Open Space/Conservancy	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
29	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
30	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
31	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
32	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
33	West Ridge Elementary School	--	--	1	X	X	--	1	--	--	--	--
Public Subtotal: 33 Sites		13	12	7	13	13	14	5	13	--	2	--
Private												
34	Holleb Acres	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	X	--
35	Meadow Brook Country Club	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	X	18-Hole Golf Course
36	Pike River Corridor Easements (Seven Parcels)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area
37	Racine Area Soccer Association ¹	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18	--	--	Shelters, Restrooms
38	Racine Country Club	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	X	18-Hole Golf Course, Bath House, Platform Tennis Courts
39	RCOC, Inc	--	--	1	X	X	--	1	--	--	--	--
40	South Hills Country Club	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
41	YMCA of Racine	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	18-Hole Golf Course
Private Subtotal – Eight Sites		--	--	1	1	2	11	1	18	--	3	--
Total: 41 Sites		13	12	8	14	15	25	6	31	--	5	--

Table continued on next page.

Table 2.4 (Continued)

^a Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park is located in the Village of Caledonia and is jointly owned by the Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant. In December 2020, an agreement between the Caledonia and Mount Pleasant Village Boards determined that both communities will retain ownership in the park; however, Mount Pleasant will only provide limited funding for maintaining and improving existing facilities while Caledonia will solely staff, maintain, and operate the park effective January 2021. Previously, both communities provided equal funding for developing and maintaining the park.

^b May also serve as a baseball diamond.

^c Includes four soccer fields located at Caledonia-Mount Pleasant Memorial Park and six soccer fields located on adjacent Village of Caledonia-owned land. Both sites are located in the Village of Caledonia.

^d The outfield grass areas of the baseball diamonds are also used for youth football fields (seven fields) when baseball is not being played.

^e The league softball diamonds are baseball diamonds that may also serve for softball use.

^f Located adjacent to the Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park in the Village of Caledonia.

Source: Village of Mount Pleasant and SEWRPC

**Map 2.4
Village of Mount Pleasant Park System: 2020**

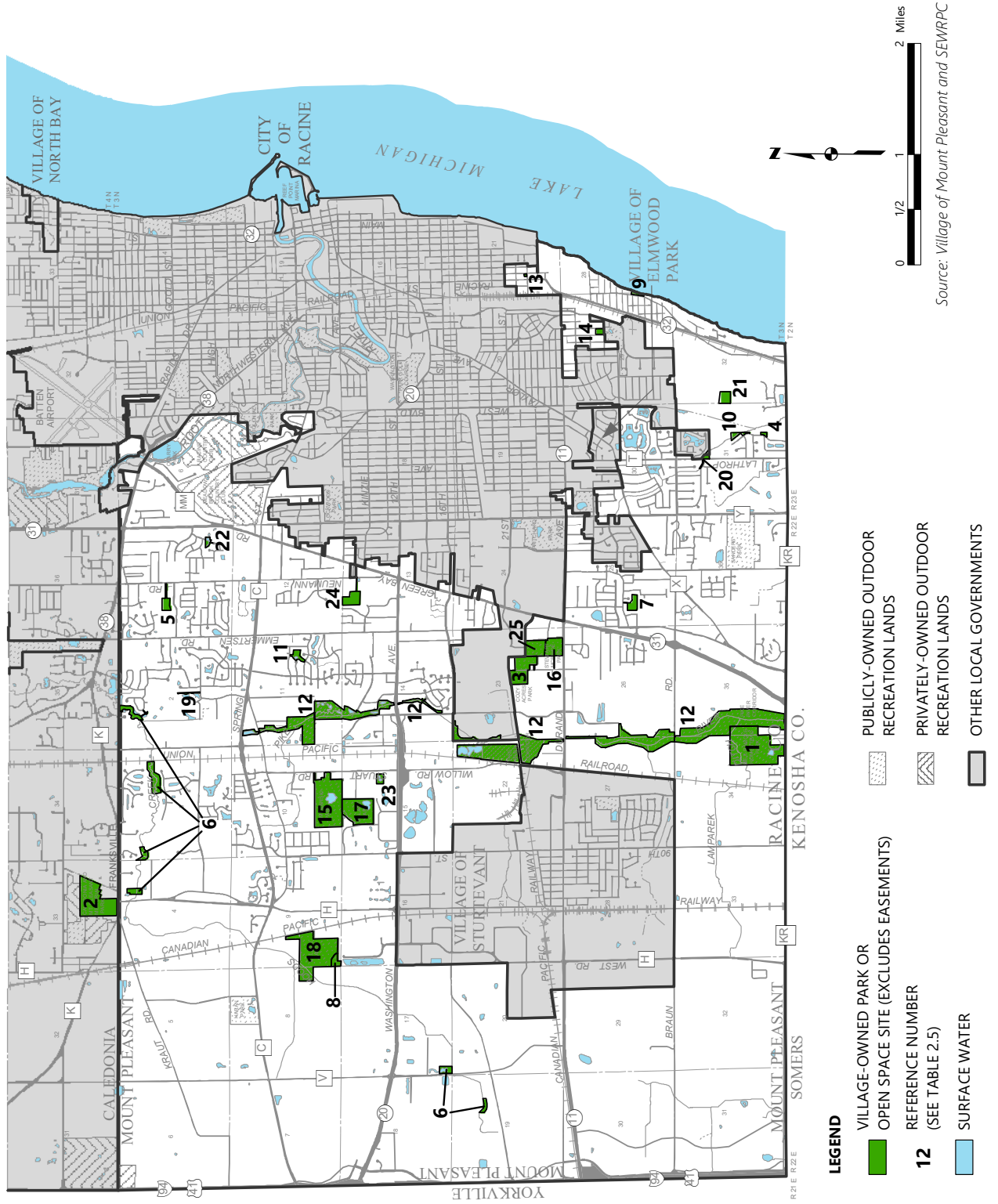


Table 2.5
Village of Mount Pleasant Park System: 2020

Number on Map 2.4	Site Name	Location	Type	Size (acres)
1	Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park – Undeveloped Park Site	T3N, R22E, Sections 34 and 35	Undeveloped Community Park	87 ^a
2 ^b	Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park	T4N, R22E, Section 33	Community Park	52
3	Cozy Acres Park	T3N, R22E, Section 23	Conservancy Area	27
4	Dirkse Park	T3N, R23E, Section 31	Playlot	1
5	Drozd Park	T3N, R22E, Section 1	Neighborhood Park	6
6	Hoods Creek Corridor (10 Parcels) ^c	T3N, R22E, Sections 2, 3, 4, 17, and 19	Conservancy Area	36
7	James Turek Park	T3N, R22E, Section 25	Neighborhood Park	6
8	K-9 Commons Dog Park	T3N, R22E, Section 9	Dog Park	4
9	Lake Park	T3N, R23E, Sections 28 and 29	Playlot	2
10	Lathrop Manor Subdivision Park	T3N, R23E, Section 31	Open Space Site	3
11	Pheasant Creek Park	T3N, R22E, Section 11	Neighborhood Park	4
12	Pike River Corridor	T3N, R22E, Sections 11, 14, 22, 23, 26, 27, 34, and 35	Conservancy Area/Trail Corridor	346 ^d
13	Polzin Park	T3N, R23E, Section 21	Playlot	1
14	Sheridan Woods Park	T3N, R23E, Section 29	Neighborhood Park	2
15	Smolenski Park	T3N, R22E, Section 10	Community Park	72
16	Stewart-McBride Park	T3N, R22E, Section 23	Community Park	16
17	Village Civic Campus Park	T3N, R22E, Section 15	Community Park	38
18	Village Land – Open Space/Conservancy	T3N, R22E, Sections 8 and 9	Open Space Site	70
19	Village Land – Open Space/Trail	T3N, R22E, Section 2	Conservancy Area/Trail	1
20	Village Land – Open Space/Conservancy	T3N, R23E, Section 31	Conservancy Area	2 ^e
21	Village Land – Open Space/Conservancy	T3N, R23E, Section 32	Open Space Site	7
22	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	T3N, R22E, Section 1	Open Space Site	2
23	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	T3N, R22E, Section 15	Open Space Site	4
24	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	T3N, R22E, Section 13	Open Space Site	11
25	Village Land – Stormwater Basin	T3N, R22E, Section 23	Open Space Site	16
Total: 25 Sites				816

^a The site is adjacent to the Village-owned Pike River Corridor.

^b Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park is located in the Village of Caledonia and is jointly owned by the Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant. In December 2020, an agreement between the Caledonia and Mount Pleasant Village Boards determined that both communities will retain ownership in the park; however, Mount Pleasant will only provide limited funding for maintaining and improving existing facilities while Caledonia will solely staff, maintain, and operate the park effective January 2021. Previously, both communities provided equal funding for developing and maintaining the park.

^c Total of 10 parcels, including a portion of the Caledonia-Mount Pleasant Fire Station parcel located on Northwestern Avenue (CTH K) in Section 4 of the Village of Mount Pleasant.

^d Includes about nine acres located in the City of Racine and 37 acres of easement lands. The acreage does not include lands associated with the Village-owned, undeveloped Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park, which is adjacent to the corridor.

^e Includes about one acre located in the City of Racine.

Source: Village of Mount Pleasant and SEWRPC

area; typically, the equipment is separated by age-appropriate abilities and sometimes the total area of the playground is fenced in), horseshoe pits, informal and group picnic areas and shelters, and restrooms. The league softball diamond at the park may also serve as a baseball diamond.

Cozy Acres Park

Cozy Acres Park is a 27-acre conservancy area centrally located within the Village adjacent to the City of Racine. A portion of the County's Racine-Sturtevant Trail runs through the site. The site also includes woodlands and wetlands within 17 acres of isolated natural resource area.

Dirkse Park

Dirkse Park is a one-acre playlot located in the southeastern portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include a playfield and a playground. The site also provides access to the County's North Shore Trail, which abuts the park.

Drozd Park

Drozd Park is a six-acre neighborhood park located in the northeastern portion of the Village. Facilities at this site include a playfield, a playground, a sandlot softball diamond, and a picnic shelter. Since adopting the previous park plan, a sand volleyball court was developed at the park.

Hoods Creek Corridor

Hoods Creek Corridor includes Village-owned lands located along Hoods Creek, which is located in the northern and western portions of the Village. The Village owns these lands for conservancy purposes. The Village owns 10 parcels along the creek, including a four-acre portion of a parcel that contains the Caledonia-Mount Pleasant Fire Station. Together, these parcels encompass 36 acres, including 17 acres of secondary environmental corridor. Portions of the site also include the Hoods Creek Woods natural area.

James Turek Park

James Turek Park is a six-acre neighborhood park located in the southeastern portion of the Village. The park includes a playfield and a playground. A wetland is also located within the park.

K-9 Commons Dog Park

K-9 Commons Dog Park is a four-acre, non-fenced dog park located adjacent to West Road north of STH 20 (Washington Avenue) in the northwestern portion of the Village. A wetland is also located within the park.

Lake Park

Lake Park is a two-acre playlot located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the southeastern portion of the Village. The park includes a playground. A primary environmental corridor encompasses the park. The Village plans to install children's play equipment at the park in 2021.

Lathrop Manor Subdivision Park

Lathrop Manor Subdivision Park is a three-acre open space site located in the southeastern portion of the Village. The park includes wetlands and woodlands within an isolated natural resource area and a small portion of Sorensen Creek.

Pheasant Creek Park

Pheasant Creek Park is a four-acre neighborhood park located in the northeastern portion of the Village. A playfield and a pond are located at the park.

Pike River Corridor

The Pike River Corridor consists of Village-owned lands or lands associated with conservation easements located along the Pike River, which is centrally-located within the Village from north to south. The Village owns these lands for conservancy purposes, but the corridor also includes fishing areas and the Pike River Pathway, a multi-use trail that currently extends the entire length of the river from Old Spring Street southward to CTH KR (Racine/Kenosha County line). These lands were acquired as part of the Pike River project, an ecologically-based watershed restoration and management plan for the Pike River watershed. The project focused on increasing public education of the watershed area, protecting and restoring the river corridor, increasing and improving recreational access, increasing protected open space within the watershed, and achieving applicable water quality standards. The site encompasses 346 acres, including 37 acres over which the Village has an easement. About 110 acres of secondary environmental corridor are included within Village ownership.

Since adopting the previous park plan, the Village acquired an additional seven acres of land along the corridor, completed development of the pathway, and installed benches within the corridor.

Polzin Park

Polzin Park is a one-acre playlot located in the southeastern portion of the Village. Facilities at the site include a playground and a shelter. The site is new since adopting the previous park plan.

Sheridan Woods Park

Sheridan Woods Park is a two-acre neighborhood park located in the southeastern portion of the Village. Facilities at the site include a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, and a playground. Since adopting the previous park plan, trees were planted at the park.

Smolenski Park

Smolenski Park is a 72-acre community park located in the north-central portion of the Village. Facilities at the site include a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball half-court (one goal), a sand volleyball court, horseshoe pits, picnic areas, open-air shelters, an enclosed pavilion, and appropriate support facilities, including parking and restrooms. The park also provides hiking trails and includes woodlands, wetlands, and a pond within a 39-acre isolated natural resource area.

Stewart-McBride Park

Stewart-McBride Park is a 16-acre community park centrally located in the Village adjacent to STH 11 (Durand Avenue). Facilities at this site include two league softball diamonds, a playfield, a playground, two sand volleyball courts, hiking trails, picnic areas, and appropriate support facilities, including parking, restrooms, and a shelter. Since adopting the previous park plan, a connecting path to the County-owned Racine-Sturtevant Trail, a shelter, and an ADA-accessible walkway to and around the restrooms were developed; benches were installed; and playground features were replaced at the park.

Village Civic Campus Park

Village Civic Campus Park is a 38-acre community park centrally located within the Village. The site is part of the Village Civic Campus area developed in 2011 and is located along 90th Street north of STH 20 (Washington Avenue). Since adopting the previous park plan, the Greenwood Family Playground was developed, as well as, a playfield, a shelter, hiking trails, and a parking lot and access drive at the park. The site also contains a wetland.

Village Land (Open Space/Conservancy)

This site is a 70-acre open space site located in the northwestern portion of the Village, north of the Village of Sturtevant and west of and adjacent to the Canadian Pacific Railway (number 26 on Map 2.3). The site contains wetlands and woodlands within 16 acres of secondary environmental corridor. The Racine R/C Club, a private radio-controlled model aircraft organization, utilizes a portion of the site. The Village allows the R/C Club to use the land as long as the club members devote a total of four hours once a week during the summer months at the Village compost site, which is also part of the site. Approximately 40 acres of the site is either conservancy area or open space that may be utilized for the potential development of recreational facilities. A portion of Hoods Creek traverses the site.

Village Land (Open Space/Trail)

This site is a one-acre conservancy area/trail located in the northern portion of the Village, north of Heritage Avenue and west of Raintree Lane (number 27 on Map 2.3). The site contains a 0.2-mile portion of a paved trail that the Village plans to extend to the north and south when additional residential development occurs. The site contains a small portion of a wetland.

Village Land (Open Space/Conservancy)

This site is a two-acre conservancy area located in the southeastern portion of the Village. The site is located primarily on the east side of CTH T (Lathrop Avenue). A small portion of the site is also located in the City of Racine. A passive use area and manicured lawn are located on the west side of CTH T along the north side of Garden Drive (number 28 on Map 2.3). The site contains a wetland and a small portion of Sorenson Creek.

Village Land (Open Space/Conservancy)

This site is a seven-acre open space site located in the southeastern portion of the Village, east of the County MRK Bike Trail and between Chicory Road and CTH KR (number 29 on Map 2.3). The site encompasses woodlands within an isolated natural resource area.

Village Land (Stormwater Basin)

This site is a two-acre open space site located in the northeastern portion of the Village, west of STH 31 (Green Bay Road) and south of Flambeau Drive and Menomonee Avenue (number 30 on Map 2.3). The site contains a stormwater detention pond.

Village Land (Stormwater Basin)

This site is a four-acre open space site centrally located in the Village, north of STH 20 (Washington Avenue) and west of Stuart Road (number 31 on Map 2.3). The site contains a wetland and a stormwater detention pond.

Village Land (Stormwater Basin)

This site is an 11-acre open space site centrally located within the Village, north of Kinzie Avenue and east of Hunter Drive (number 32 on Map 2.3). The site contains a wetland encompassed within a seven-acre isolated natural resource area and serves as a stormwater detention basin.

Village Land (Stormwater Basin)

This site is a 16-acre open space site centrally located within the Village, north of and adjacent to Stewart-McBride Park, east of and adjacent to Cozy Acres Park, and south of Regency West Drive and Loni Lane (number 33 on Map 2.3). The site contains a wetland/stormwater detention basin encompassed within a 10-acre isolated natural resource area. A portion of the County's Racine-Sturtevant Trail abuts the site.

Racine County Parks

Racine County owns six park sites within the Village of Mount Pleasant: an open space site, land associated with a portion of the Racine-Sturtevant Trail, Haban Park, Horlick Park, Quarry Lake Park, and Sanders Park. Haban Park is located in the northwestern portion of the Village at the intersection of CTH C (Spring Street) and Borgardt Road. The park encompasses 41 acres and includes 12 baseball diamonds, seven youth football fields, a playground, a playfield, a basketball half-court (one goal), shelters, a concession stand, and restrooms.

Sanders Park is located in the southeastern portion of the Village north of CTH KR and between CTH Y (Meachem Road) and Wood Road. The park encompasses 84 acres and includes a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, 23 camping sites, hiking trails, eight group picnic areas, and restrooms. The park also includes a 65-acre isolated natural resource area consisting of woodlands that contains the Sanders Park Hardwoods State Natural Area.

Quarry Lake Park is a 42-acre park located in the northeastern portion of the Village along STH 38 (Northwestern Avenue) and the Root River. A four-acre portion of the park is located in the City of Racine. The park includes a swimming beach, a sand volleyball court, a bath house, fishing areas, a picnic area, a trail, restrooms, and the Karen A. Nelson Memorial Dog Park. The park also contains a 29-acre portion of a primary environmental corridor and a 23-acre portion of the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries geological area identified in the regional natural areas plan.⁷

Horlick Park is a 15-acre park located in the northeastern portion of the Village along the Root River north of Rapids Drive and southwest of the airport. A one-acre portion of the park is located in the City of Racine. The park includes a boat/canoe launch, a shelter, fishing areas, and restrooms. The park also contains a seven-acre portion of primary environmental corridor and a small portion of the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries geological area.

⁷ Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997. An update to the plan was adopted by the Regional Planning Commission in December 2010.

The County also owns an open space site within the Village of Mount Pleasant. The open space site encompasses three acres, is centrally located within the Village, east of Willow Road and west of the Pike River, and is part of the County's Racine-Sturtevant Trail. The site is a portion of an abandoned Canadian Pacific Railway right-of-way that the County acquired for trail development (number 5 on Map 2.3).

Trail Facilities

Opportunities for trail-related outdoor recreation activities, such as bicycling, hiking, nature study, and cross-country skiing, are provided at trail facilities within park and open space sites in the Village, as noted on Table 2.4. The Village also provides the Pike River Pathway for biking and hiking and on-street bikeways on the north Frontage Road of STH 20 (Washington Avenue), 90th Street, Stuart Road, Old Spring Street, Sunnyslope Drive, and Mariner Drive. The Pike River Pathway is an off-street trail that runs along the entire length of the Pike River within the Village. The trail extends about seven miles from Old Spring Street south to CTH KR (Racine/Kenosha County line). In 2018, subsequent to adoption of the previous park plan, the southern-most 1.5-mile portion of the trail was constructed, thus completing the Pike River Pathway. The pathway extends into Kenosha County along CTH KR and STH 31 (Green Bay Road) to the County-owned Petrifying Springs Park. The pathway is also linked to an on-street bikeway segment at Old Spring Street, which in turn is linked to Stuart Road, the Frontage Road, and 90th Street. These bikeways provide access to Smolenski Park and the Village Civic Campus Park and the Village Public Campus area. The pathway is also linked to an on-street bikeway segment at Mariner Drive that extends east to Sunnyslope Drive and provides access to businesses along STH 20 (Washington Avenue). Overall, the Village provides about 12 miles of trails and bikeways. Existing Village trails and bikeways outside of looped trails in park and open space sites are shown on Map 2.5.

Racine County maintains the MRK Trail, the North Shore Trail, and the Racine-Sturtevant Trail, which provide opportunities for hiking and biking within the Village and environs. The MRK Trail extends from the northern portion of the City of Racine northward to Milwaukee County. The North Shore Trail extends from the southern portion of the City of Racine southward to Kenosha County. The Racine-Sturtevant Trail extends westward from the North Shore Trail near West Boulevard in the City of Racine, westward and northward through the Village of Mount Pleasant, to 96th Street in the Village of Sturtevant. Racine County has also developed a 100-mile, signed on-street bike route throughout the County. A portion of the on-street bike route within the Village runs from the North Shore Trail along CTH KR, west to Wood Road, north to CTH X (Taylor Avenue), west along Braun Road to CTH H, south to CTH KR, west to IH-94, and continues into the Village of Yorkville. Existing County trails/bike routes within the Village are about 12 miles in length, and are also shown on Map 2.5.

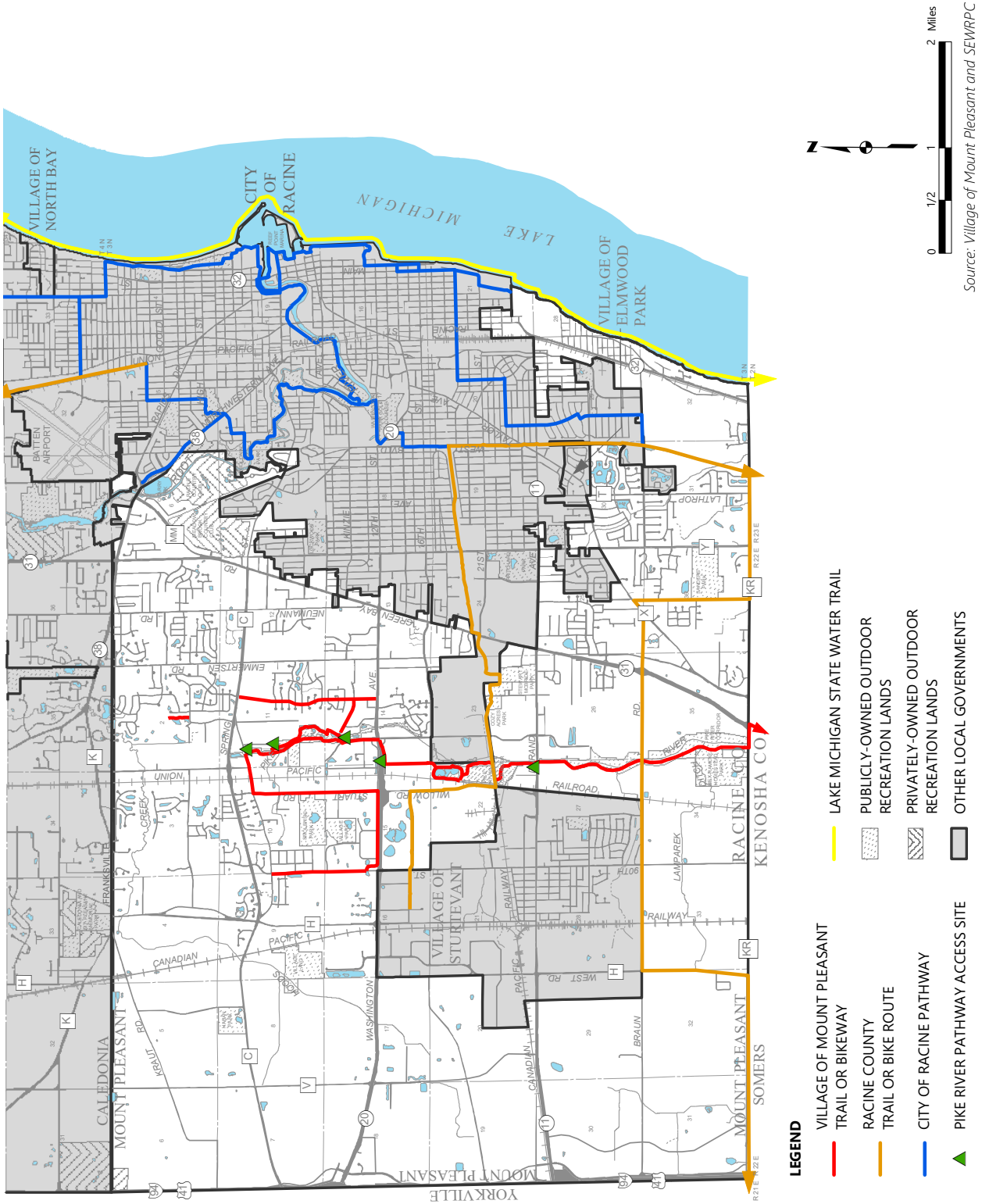
The City of Racine also provides two pathways, the Lake Michigan Pathway and the Root River Pathway, for biking and hiking. These pathways provide Village residents with access to destination points within the City, such as the downtown area and Lake Michigan. Village residents can access the Root River Pathway through the County's Racine-Sturtevant or North Shore Trails, while the Lake Michigan Pathway can be accessed by the North Shore Trail. The Lake Michigan Pathway is about 10 miles in length and traverses north to south within the City near the Lake Michigan shoreline. The Root River Pathway is about four miles in length and is primarily located along the Root River. The pathway also connects to the County's MRK Trail on the north side of the City. These pathways are also shown on Map 2.5.

Water Trail

Water trails, sometimes referred to as a paddling trail or canoeing/kayaking trail, typically consist of those portions of navigable streams, or the shoreline of major lakes, that could accommodate low-impact, non-motorized watercraft such as a canoes and kayaks. Important factors for establishing water trails include safe and convenient access to a waterway or shoreline with unobstructed passageways, adequate support facilities, and safe portaging areas. Establishing water trails promotes the responsible use and enjoyment of streams and would further serve as a place for solitude and respite from the urban environment, while providing educational and recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts.

As shown on Map 2.5, opportunities for water-related outdoor recreation activities, such as canoeing and kayaking, are provided near the Village along the Lake Michigan shoreline. In July 2017, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) designated the Lake Michigan Water Trail as a State trail. The Lake Michigan State Water Trail is the State of Wisconsin's first designated State Water Trail and navigates about

**Map 2.5
Existing Trails in the Village of Mount Pleasant and Environs: 2020**



523 miles along the State of Wisconsin's shoreline. Canoeing/kayaking opportunities of varied lengths is possible by evenly spacing access sites, public camping sites, and restroom facilities. Access sites are located in 11 lakeside counties and are managed by an assortment of public agencies and private organizations.

The Lake Michigan Water Trail extends along the approximately six-mile portion of the Lake Michigan shoreline located within the Village of Mount Pleasant and environs. Existing public access sites near the Village of Mount Pleasant are located at the City of Racine-owned North Beach Park, Pershing Park, Rooney Recreation Area, and Samuel Myers Park and the City of Kenosha-owned Alford Park, Pennoyer Park, and Simmons Island Park.

2.5 NATURAL RESOURCE FEATURES

The natural resources of an area are important determinants of that area's ability to provide a pleasant and habitable environment for all forms of life and to maintain its social and economic well-being. The park and open space plan should seek to preserve the most significant remaining features of the natural resource base to help retain the ecological balance and natural beauty of the Village of Mount Pleasant. A description of natural resources within the Village, including surface water resources, wetlands, woodlands, environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, natural areas, critical species habitat and aquatic sites, and geological areas, is presented in this section.

Surface Water Resources

Surface water resources and associated floodplains form an important element of the natural resource base of the Village of Mount Pleasant. The Village consists of the Root River watershed, the Pike River watershed, Des Plaines River watershed, and a watershed that drains directly to Lake Michigan. The Root River, Pike River, and direct drainage watersheds drain to Lake Michigan, while the Des Plaines River watershed, located in the southwestern portion of the Village, ultimately drains to the Mississippi River. Major streams, lakes, and watersheds are shown on Map 2.6.

Surface water resources provide recreational opportunities, influence the physical development, and enhance the aesthetic quality of the Village. Lakes and streams constitute a focal point for water-related recreational activities and greatly enhance the aesthetic quality of the environment. Lake Michigan provides the Village numerous opportunities for water-related recreational activities, such as swimming, fishing, canoe/kayaking, and other watercraft activities. Lake Michigan is also the major source of supply for domestic, municipal, and industrial water users in the Village.

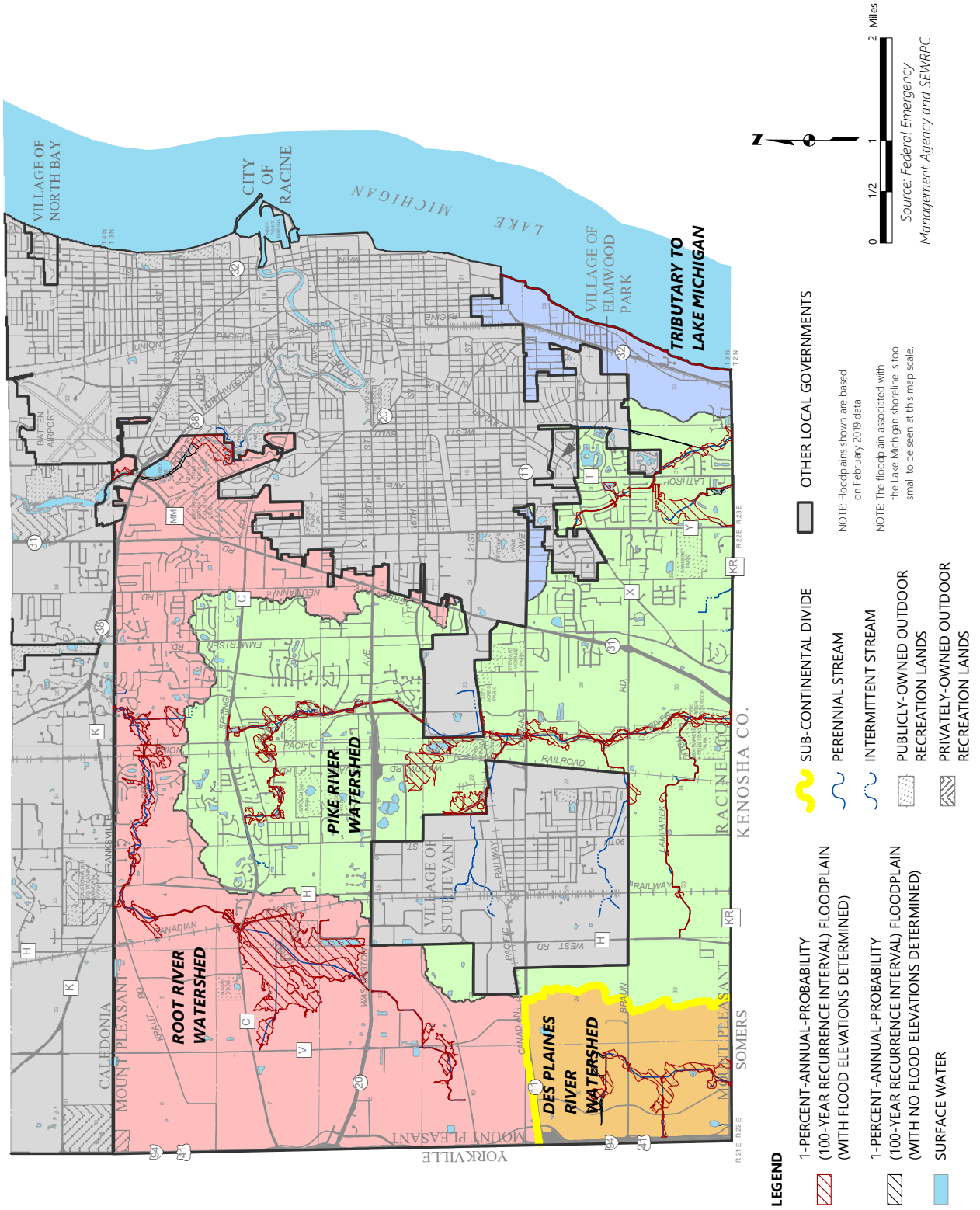
Approximately 24 linear miles of streams have been identified in the Village. Perennial streams⁸ within the Village include the Root River, Pike River, Hoods Creek, Sorenson Creek, Waxdale Creek, Chicory Creek, Nelson Creek, Kilbourn Road Ditch, and Lamparek Ditch. The Root River provides opportunities for fishing and canoeing/kayaking and the Pike River provides fishing within the Village.

The floodplains of a river or stream are the wide, gently sloping areas contiguous to, and usually lying on both sides of, the river or stream channel. Rivers and streams occupy their channels most of the time. However, during even minor flood events, stream discharges increase markedly, and the channel may not be able to contain and convey all of the flow. As a result, water levels rise and the river or stream spreads laterally over the floodplain. The periodic flow of a river or stream onto its floodplains is a normal phenomenon and, in the absence of flood control works, can be expected to occur periodically regardless of whether urban development exists on the floodplain or not.

For planning and regulatory purposes, floodplains are normally defined as the areas, excluding the stream channel, subject to inundation during a 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) flood event. This is the flood event that may be expected to be reached or exceeded in severity once in every 100 years—or stated another way—there is a one percent chance of this event being reached or exceeded in severity in any given year. Floodplain areas are generally not well suited to urban development, not only

⁸ *Perennial streams are defined as watercourses that maintain, at a minimum, a small continuous flow throughout the year except under unusual drought conditions. Intermittent streams are defined as watercourses that do not maintain a continuous flow throughout the year.*

Map 2.6
Surface Water Resources in the Village of Mount Pleasant



because of the flood hazard, but also because of the presence of high water tables and of soils poorly suited to urban use. The floodplain areas, however, generally contain such important elements of the natural resource base as woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat and, therefore, constitute prime locations for needed open space areas. Every effort should be made to discourage indiscriminate and incompatible urban development on floodplains, while encouraging compatible park and open space use.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conducted a Map Modernization Program for Racine County that updates floodplain maps for both incorporated and unincorporated areas. Final floodplain maps for the Village of Mount Pleasant and Racine County were completed in February 2019. The floodplain delineations are shown on Map 2.6, and include floodplains located along the Lake Michigan shoreline, the Root River, the Pike River, Hoods Creek, Sorenson Creek, Nelson Creek, Chicory Creek, Waxdale Creek, Kilbourn Road Ditch, and Lamparek Ditch. Floodplains in the Village have been updated since the previous park plan was adopted. The updates within the Village are located along the entire stretch of Hoods Creek and along the Kilbourn Road Ditch.

From 2002 to 2018, the entire stretch of the Pike River within the Village of Mount Pleasant, approximately six miles, undertook river and corridor restoration. The Pike River Restoration Project is intended to control flooding to protect personal property, enhance stormwater management, improve water quality and fish habitat, protect wetlands, and establish an improved environmental corridor. Floodplain storage areas included in the restoration project created a new riparian corridor with improved biodiversity through the installation of ponds, shallow and deep marshes, and a new meandering base flow channel.

Certain portions of the Pike River floodplain associated with the Pike River Restoration Project have been incorporated into the FEMA Map Modernization Program. Phases 1 through 3 have been included in the Map Modernization Program, and include those stretches of the Pike River from Old Spring Street south through the J.I. Case High School property, which abuts the City of Racine. The remaining portion of the Pike River floodplain downstream within the Village has been delineated on the FEMA maps to account for the stream channel and stormwater management restoration and improvements made upstream. The WDNR will continue to evaluate the remaining portions of the Pike River floodplain downstream within the Village through a phase-by-phase process and plans to revise and amend the floodplain maps once the formal application and review process has been completed.

The Map Modernization Program identifies the 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) floodplain, including floodway and floodfringe areas, and the 500-year floodplain. The 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) flood event information consists of floodplains delineated by known flood elevations, often referred to as "detailed" floodplains, and "approximate" floodplains where flood elevations have not been precisely determined. These "approximate" floodplains were based on less precise floodplain maps and other factors, such as soil type and vegetative growth. Detailed floodplains have been identified along all major streams and tributaries and along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Approximate floodplains have been identified along the Root River near Quarry Lake Park, along Nelson Creek west of CTH T (Lathrop Avenue), along the northern reaches of the Kilbourn Road Ditch, and along an intermittent stream east of CTH T. The 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) floodplain encompasses 1,329 acres, or about 6 percent of the Village.

The dispersal of urban land uses over large areas and the accompanying increase in impervious areas increases stormwater runoff, which must be accommodated by a stream network or by engineered stormwater management systems. Such facilities may include 1) curbs and gutters, 2) catch basins and inlets, 3) storm sewers, 4) infiltration facilities, and 5) stormwater storage facilities for quantity and quality control such as dry and wet detention basins, respectively. Detention basins serve to moderate peak rates of runoff following rainstorms and wet detention basins further provide a permanent volume of water to capture and store pollutants. The ponds or storage basins provide floodwater and stormwater management benefits, and may provide opportunities for limited outdoor recreation use, such as fishing and ice skating. There are numerous stormwater basins located in the Village, including some located within Village-owned parks or open space sites.

Wetlands

For planning and regulatory purposes,⁹ wetlands are commonly defined as areas in which the water table is at, near, or above the land surface and which are characterized by both hydric soils and the growth of sedges, cattails, and other wetland vegetation. Wetlands generally occur in depressions and near the bottom of slopes, particularly along lakeshores and stream banks, and on large land areas that are poorly drained.

Wetlands perform an important set of natural functions that include supporting a wide variety of desirable, and sometimes unique, forms of plant and animal life; stabilizing lake levels and stream flows; entrapping and storing plant nutrients in runoff, thus reducing the rate of enrichment of surface waters and noxious weed and algae growth; contributing to the atmospheric oxygen and water supplies; reducing stormwater runoff by providing areas for floodwater impoundment and storage; protecting shorelines from erosion; entrapping soil particles suspended in runoff and reducing stream sedimentation; providing groundwater discharge areas; and providing opportunities for certain scientific, educational, and recreational pursuits.

Wetlands within the Village of Mount Pleasant are shown on Map 2.2, and in 2015, encompassed 670 acres, or about 3 percent of the Village. A good portion of wetlands within the Village are located north of STH 20 (Washington Avenue).

Woodlands

Woodlands are defined by the Regional Planning Commission as those upland areas one acre or more in size with 17 or more deciduous trees per acre, each measuring at least four inches in diameter at breast height and having 50 percent or more tree canopy coverage.

Woodlands provide an attractive natural resource of immeasurable value. Under good management, woodlands can serve a variety of beneficial functions. In addition to contributing to clean air and water and regulating surface water runoff, woodlands can contribute to maintaining a diversity of plant and animal life. Woodlands, which may require a century or more to develop, can be destroyed through mismanagement within a comparatively short time. Deforesting hillsides contributes to rapid stormwater runoff, the siltation of lakes and streams, and the destruction of wildlife habitat. Woodlands can and should be maintained, to the extent practicable, for their scenic, wildlife habitat, educational, and recreational value and for air and water quality protection.

Woodlands encompass 388 acres, or about 2 percent of the Village. As shown on Map 2.2, woodlands are scattered throughout the Village, but larger areas of woodlands are located within the County-owned Sanders Park, the Village-owned Cozy Acres Park and Smolenski Park, and along the Kilbourn Road Ditch.

Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas

One of the most important tasks completed under the regional planning program for Southeastern Wisconsin has been identifying and delineating those areas in the Region in which concentrations of remaining natural resources occur. Protecting and preserving such areas in essentially natural, open uses is crucial in maintaining both the ecological balance and natural beauty of the Region, the County, and the Village.

Identifying environmental corridors is based upon the presence of one or more of the following important natural resources: 1) rivers, streams, lakes, and associated shorelands and floodplains; 2) wetlands; 3) woodlands; 4) prairies; 5) wildlife habitat areas; 6) wet, poorly drained, and organic soils; and 7) rugged terrain and high relief topography. Certain other features with recreational, aesthetic, ecological, and natural resource values, including existing and potential parks, open space sites, natural areas, historic sites, and scenic viewpoints, are also considered in the delineation of environmental corridors.¹⁰

⁹ *Wetlands are regulated under Chapters 103 and 117 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code and Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act.*

¹⁰ *A detailed description of refining the delineation of environmental corridors in Southeastern Wisconsin is presented in SEWRPC Technical Record, Vol. 4, No. 2, Pages 1 through 21, Refining the Delineation of Environmental Corridors in Southeastern Wisconsin, March 1981 (available at www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/LandUse/EnvironmentalCorridors.htm or by contacting the Commission).*

Delineating these natural resource and resource-related elements on a map results in an essentially linear pattern of relatively narrow, elongated areas that have been termed “environmental corridors” by the Regional Planning Commission. Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety of important natural resource and resource-related elements and are at least 400 acres in size, two miles in length, and 200 feet in width. Secondary environmental corridors serve to link primary environmental corridors, or encompass areas containing concentrations of natural resources between 100 and 400 acres in size and at least one mile long. Where secondary corridors serve to link primary environmental corridors, no minimum area or length criteria apply. Isolated natural resource areas consist of smaller concentrations of natural resources, have a minimum of five acres, and are separated physically from the environmental corridors by intensive urban or agricultural land uses.

Preserving environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas in essentially natural, open uses can help reduce flood flows, reduce noise pollution, and maintain air and water quality. Preserving corridors is important to the movement of wildlife and for the movement and dispersal of seeds for a variety of plant species. In addition, because of the many interacting relationships between living organisms and their environment, destructing and deteriorating any one element of the natural resource base may lead to a chain reaction of deterioration and destruction. The draining and filling of wetlands, for example, may destroy fish spawning grounds, wildlife habitat, and the natural filtration action and flood water storage functions of interconnecting stream systems. The resulting deteriorating surface water quality may, in turn, lead to deterioration of the quality of groundwater, which serves as a source of domestic, municipal, and industrial water supply in many areas and on which low flows in rivers and streams may depend. Similarly, destructing woodland cover may result in soil erosion and stream siltation, more rapid stormwater runoff and attendant increased flood flows and stages, and destruction of wildlife habitat.

Although the effects of any one of these environmental changes may not in and of itself be overwhelming, the combined effects will eventually create serious environmental and developmental problems. These problems include flooding, water pollution, deterioration and destruction of wildlife habitat, loss of groundwater recharge areas, and destruction of the unique natural beauty of the area. The need to maintain the integrity of the remaining environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas thus becomes apparent.

Primary Environmental Corridors

As shown on Map 2.7, primary environmental corridors are located along the Lake Michigan shoreline and the Root River. As indicated in Table 2.6, these corridors encompassed a total area of 155 acres, or about 1 percent of the Village, which is almost the same acreage as documented in the previous edition of this report.

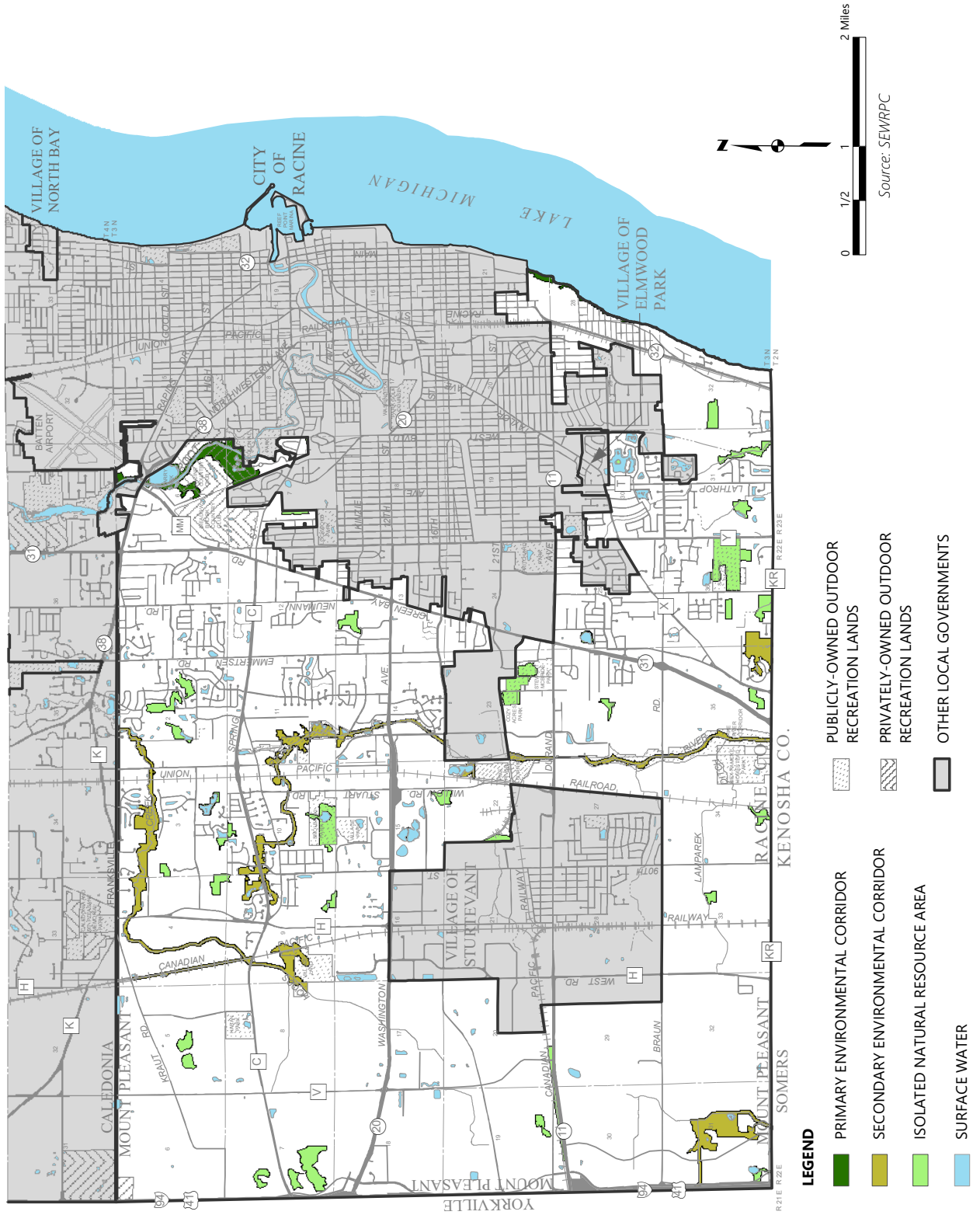
Primary environmental corridors include the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat areas, and are, in effect, composites of the best remaining residual elements of the natural resource base of the Village. These corridors have truly immeasurable environmental and recreational value. Protecting the primary environmental corridors from intrusion by incompatible uses, and thereby from degradation and destruction, should be one of the principal objectives of the Village park and open space plan. Preserving them in an essentially open, natural state, including park and open space uses and very low density residential uses, will serve to maintain a high level of environmental quality in the Village, protect its natural beauty, and provide valuable recreation opportunities.

Secondary Environmental Corridors

As shown on Map 2.7, secondary environmental corridors in the Village of Mount Pleasant are located along the Pike River, Hoods Creek, Kilbourn Road Ditch, and the Campbell Woods area located in the south-central portion of the Village. As indicated in Table 2.6, secondary environmental corridors encompass 519 acres, or about 2 percent of the Village, which is an increase of five acres from the previous edition of this report.

Secondary environmental corridors facilitate surface water drainage and provide corridors for the movement of wildlife. Such corridors should also be preserved in essentially open, natural uses as development proceeds within the Village, particularly when the opportunity is presented to incorporate the corridors into drainageways, neighborhood parks, or trail corridors.

**Map 2.7
Environmental Corridors in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2015**



Isolated Natural Resource Areas

In addition to the environmental corridors, other smaller concentrations of natural resource base elements exist within the Village. These pockets are generally isolated from the environmental corridors by urban or agricultural development. Although separated from the environmental corridor network, these isolated natural resource areas have important natural values. Isolated natural resource areas may provide the only available wildlife habitat in an area, provide good locations for local parks and open space areas, and lend aesthetic character and natural diversity to an area.

As shown on Map 2.7 and Table 2.6, isolated natural resource areas are scattered throughout the Village with a good portion of the areas located within publicly-owned park and open space sites. Isolated natural resource areas encompass 533 acres, or about 3 percent of the Village.

Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and Geological Sites

A comprehensive inventory of natural areas and critical species habitat sites in Southeastern Wisconsin was completed in 1994 by the WDNR and SEWRPC. The natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological sites inventory was updated in 2009.¹¹ Natural areas are defined as tracts of land or water so little modified by human activity, or sufficiently recovered from the effects of such activity, that they contain intact native plant and animal communities believed to be representative of the pre-European-settlement landscape. Natural areas are classified into one of the following three categories: natural areas of Statewide or greater significance (NA-1); natural areas of countywide or regional significance (NA-2); or natural areas of local significance (NA-3). Classifying an area into one of these three categories is based on consideration of the diversity of plant and animal species and community types present; the structure and integrity of the native plant or animal community; the extent of disturbance by human activity, such as logging, grazing, water level changes, and pollution; the commonness of the plant and animal communities present; any unique natural features within the area; the size of the area; and the educational value and animal communities believed to be representative of the landscape before European settlement.

As indicated on Map 2.8 and described in Table 2.7, five natural areas, two of which are considered to be of Statewide or greater significance, were identified in the Village of Mount Pleasant. The four-acre Franksville Railroad Prairie located along the Canadian Pacific Railway north of CTH C (Spring Street) and the 56-acre Sanders Park Hardwoods State Natural Area located in the County-owned Sanders Park are the two sites of statewide or greater significance identified in the 2009 inventory. A 21-acre portion of the Colonial Park Woods natural area is also located in the Village of Mount Pleasant. The natural area is located in the northeastern portion of the Village along the Root River and is considered to be of countywide or regional significance. Two natural areas of local significance were also identified within the Village, the 11-acre Sylvania Railroad Prairie and the 72-acre Hoods Creek Woods natural areas.

Critical species habitat sites are defined by the Regional Planning Commission as areas outside natural areas that support rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species. Three critical species habitat sites have been identified within the Village. The three sites are also shown on Map 2.8 and Table 2.7 and encompass 48 acres. The Campbell Woods critical species habitat site encompasses 43 acres and is located in the south-central portion of the Village. The site was a natural area of local significance in the 1994 inventory; however, the size of the site was reduced due to residential development and is now classified as a critical species habitat site. The site was not included in the previous park and open space plan, because it was anticipated that the entire site would be developed for residential use, thus diminishing all of the natural features of the site; however, residential development in the area has been slow and efforts to

Table 2.6
Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2015

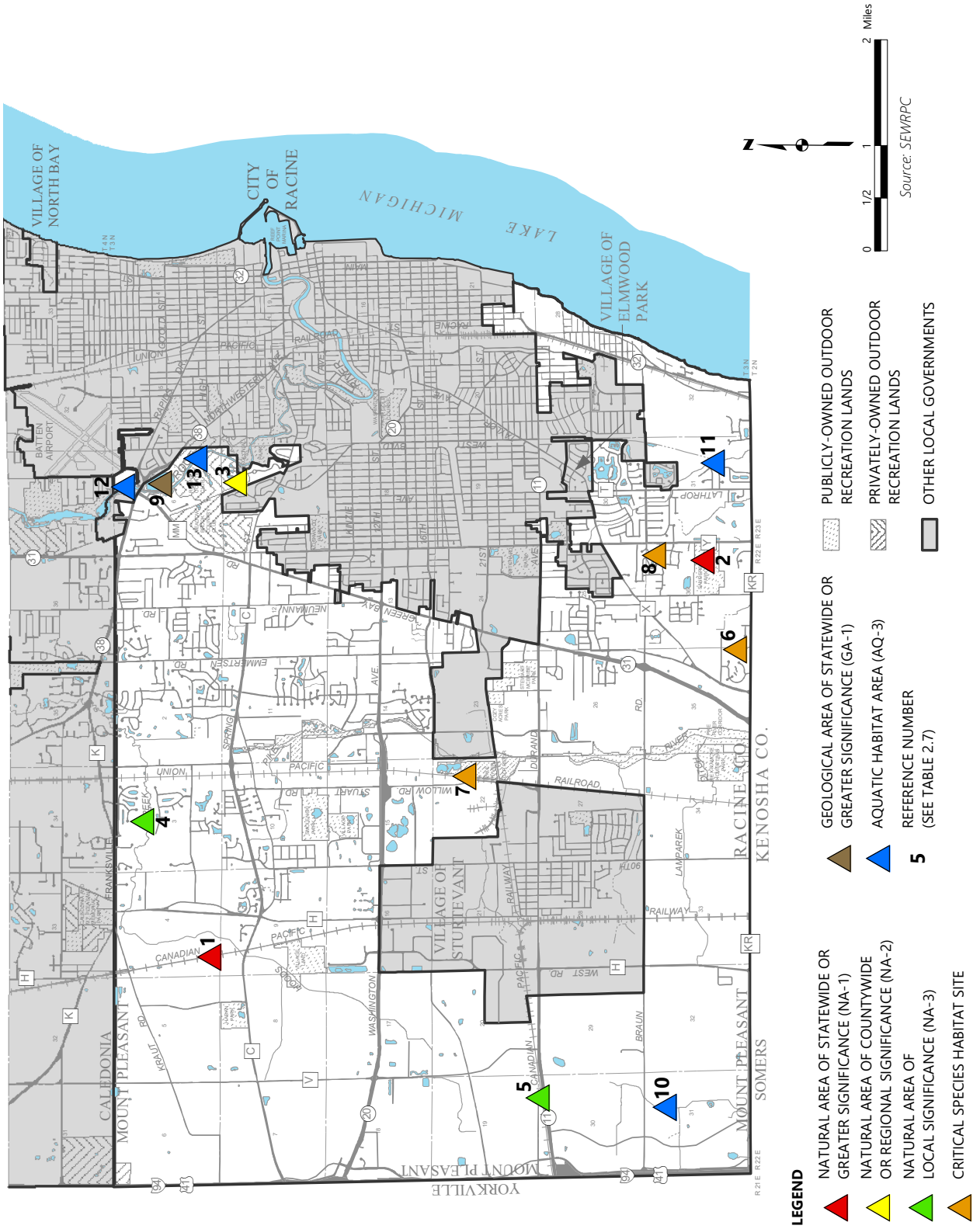
Corridor Type	Acres	Percent ^a
Primary Environmental Corridor	155	0.7
Secondary Environmental Corridor	519	2.4
Isolated Natural Resource Area	533	2.5
Total	1,207	5.6

^a Percent of the Village (21,754 acres) within corridor.

Source: SEWRPC

¹¹ The results of the 1994 inventory are documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997. The plan update is documented in SEWRPC Amendment to Planning Report No. 42, Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, December 2010.

Map 2.8
Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and Geological Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2009



**Table 2.7
Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and Geological Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2009**

Number on Map 2.8	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
1	Frankville Railroad Prairie	NA-1	T3N, R22E Sections 4 and 9	Private	4	A very rich and diverse remnant of mesic and wet-mesic prairie, located on west side of railway right-of-way. Contains some of the best such remnants in the Region. Regionally uncommon species include wild quinine (<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>), prairie Indian plantain (<i>Cacalia tuberosa</i>), and marsh blazingstar (<i>Liatris spicata</i>)
2	Sanders Park Hardwoods State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	T3N, R22E Section 36	Racine County	56	Good-quality southern dry-mesic forest on two low ridges separated by a lowland swale. Good size-class distribution of tree species, including a number of large walnut trees. The ground flora is rich and diverse, including several large patches of goldenseal (<i>Hydrastis canadensis</i>), a State-designated special concern species
3	Colonial Park Woods	NA-2	T3N, R23E Sections 6 and 7	City of Racine and Private	21 ^b	Complex of lowland hardwoods, floodplain forest, and upland mesic to dry-mesic woods bordering the Root River. A number of uncommon species are present, including the State-designated endangered bluestemmed goldenrod (<i>Solidago caesia</i>) and the State-designated threatened forked aster (<i>Aster furcatus</i>)
4	Hoods Creek Woods	NA-3	T3N, R22E Sections 3 and 4	Village of Caledonia, Village of Mount Pleasant, and Private	72	Mix of upland and lowland woods along Hoods Creek
5	Sylvania Railroad Prairie	NA-3	T3N, R22E Sections 20 and 30	Private	11	Mesic prairie remnant extending one mile east of IH 94 along railway right-of-way. Moderate quality, with a good population of wild quinine (<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>), a State-designated threatened species
6	Campbell Woods	CSH	T3N, R22E Sections 35 and 36	Private	43	Formerly of NA-3 status, extensive residential development has reduced the wooded acreage. The State-designated special concern red trillium (<i>Trillium recurvatum</i>) remains
7	Waxdale Railroad Prairie	CSH	T3N, R22E Section 22	Village of Mount Pleasant and Private	1	Small, disturbed patches of remnant prairie supporting two critical species: wild quinine (<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>) and waxy meadow rue (<i>Thalictrum revolutum</i>)
8	Willow Woods	CSH	T3N, R22E Section 36	Private	4	Small woodland supporting red trillium (<i>Trillium recurvatum</i>), a State-designated special concern species
9	Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries	GA-1	T3N, R23E Section 6	Racine County and Private	31 ^c	Natural bluffs and old quarries along the Root River, with exposures of richly fossiliferous Racine Dolomite reef strata. Site has produced the largest known diversity of fossil marine organisms from any Silurian reef in the world. Considered for designation as a National Historic Landmark in the History of Science

Table continued on next page.

Table 2.7 (Continued)

Number on Map 2.8	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
10	Kilbourn Road Ditch	AQ-3 (RSH)	T3N, R22E Sections 30 and 31	--	2.8 ^d miles	Sedimentation and other water quality problems exist, but this reach is an important reservoir for the pirate perch, a special concern fish species
11	Pike River downstream from Pike Creek (includes Sorenson Creek)	AQ-3 (RSH)	T3N, R23E Section 31	--	1.0 ^d miles	Bisects Identified Natural Area; critical fish species present
12	Root River downstream from Nicholson Road to STH 38	AQ-3 (RSH)	T3N, R23E Section 6	--	0.2 ^d miles	Critical herptile species habitat
13	Root River downstream from STH 38 to Spring Street	AQ-3 (RSH)	T3N, R23E Sections 6 and 7	--	1.1 ^d miles	Critical herptile species habitat

^a Classification code:

- NA-1 identifies Natural Areas of statewide or greater significance
- NA-2 identifies Natural Areas of countywide or regional significance
- NA-3 identifies Natural Areas of local significance
- CSH identifies Critical Species Habitat sites
- GA-1 identifies Geological Areas of statewide or greater significance
- RSH, or Rare Species Habitat, identifies those Aquatic Areas which support habitat for endangered, threatened, or "special concern" species officially designated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- SNA, or State Natural Area, identifies those sites officially designated as State Natural Areas by the State of Wisconsin Natural Areas Preservation Council
- AQ-3 identifies Aquatic Areas of local significance.

^b Includes only the acreage located in the Village. Total acreage is 94 acres. The City of Racine owns a 64-acre portion of the site. The remaining acreage is under private ownership.

^c Includes only the acreage located in the Village. Total acreage is 32 acres. Racine County owns a 24-acre portion of the site. All remaining acreage is under private ownership.

^d Portion of the site extends outside of the Village and miles given are entirely within the Village.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEMRPC

protect the remaining portions of the critical species habitat site by local residents and interest groups is still possible. The one-acre Waxdale Railroad Prairie and the four-acre Willow Woods critical species habitat sites were also identified within the Village.

Aquatic habitat areas consist of rivers, streams, and lakes that support endangered, threatened, or rare fish, herptile, or mussel species; support extensive beds of mussel species; or are located within or adjacent to a natural area. Based on a ranking system developed as part of the regional natural areas plan, aquatic areas were designated as AQ-1, aquatic areas of Statewide or greater significance; AQ-2, aquatic areas of countywide or regional significance; or AQ-3, aquatic areas of local significance. Four aquatic habitat areas were identified within the Village. All four areas are considered to be of local significance. These aquatic habitat areas, inventoried in 1994, are also identified in Table 2.7 and shown on Map 2.8 and encompass about five linear miles within the Village.

In addition, a portion of the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries geological area, encompassing approximately 31 acres, was identified within the Village. The Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries site has been identified as a geological area of statewide or greater significance. The majority of the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries site is located in the Village of Mount Pleasant within the County-owned Quarry Lake Park and along the Root River. The site is also identified in Table 2.7 and shown on Map 2.8.

STATUS OF PREVIOUS VILLAGE PARK PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

3



Credit: Village of Mount Pleasant

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The Village of Mount Pleasant Park and Open Space Plan for the year 2035,¹² adopted in 2015, includes a number of recommendations regarding acquiring land for preserving parks and open space and developing and/or improving recreational facilities. While most of the recommendations are directed to the Village of Mount Pleasant, there are also recommendations directed to other units and agencies of government with jurisdiction within the Village, including Racine County and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. This chapter summarizes the recommendations made in the previous Village park and open space plan and identifies the status of those recommendations as of the end of 2019. Recommendations that had not been implemented as of 2019 are also summarized and were reevaluated as part of this plan update. Plan recommendations for the year 2050 are presented in Chapter 5.

3.2 STATUS OF PARK PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT

Since the previous Village park and open space plan was completed, the Village has undertaken a major effort to continue to make improvements to mitigate flooding, improve plant and wildlife habitat, and enhance recreational use of the Pike River corridor, including completing the construction of portions of the Pike River Pathway. The Village has also developed a number of the recreational facilities at Village Civic Campus Park that were recommended in the previous Village park plan. In addition, the Village acquired and developed facilities at a new pocket park (Polzin Park) in the southeastern portion of the Village. The following sections provide additional information on the status of the previous Village park plan recommendations.

¹² Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 199, 3rd Edition, A Park and Open Space Plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant, Racine County, Wisconsin, April 2015.

Outdoor Recreation Element

Parks Recommendations

The following recommendations cited in the previous Village park plan relating to acquiring land and developing and/or improving parks and trails that have completed by the Village through 2019 include:

- Acquired and developed a new pocket park, Polzin Park
- Developed park facilities at the Village Civic Campus Park, including a playfield, a playground, walking trails, a fishing pond, and support facilities, such as an access drive and a parking lot
- Developed a sand volleyball court at Drozd Park
- Developed children’s play equipment at Lake Park
- Planted trees at Sheridan Woods Park
- Developed a connecting path to the County Racine-Sturtevant Trail and an additional shelter and installed benches at Stewart-McBride Park
- Developed a pavilion (enclosed shelter) and restrooms at Smolenski Park
- Continued to maintain existing park facilities at Dirkse Park, Drozd Park, Lake Park, Pheasant Creek Park, James Turek Park, Sheridan Woods Park, Stewart-McBride Park, and Smolenski Park
- Continued to jointly maintain park facilities at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park¹³ with the Village of Caledonia
- Acquired additional lands within the Pike River Corridor, completed developing the Pike River Pathway, and installed benches and signage along the pathway from Old Spring Street to CTH KR (Racine/Kenosha Countyline)
- Maintained existing portions of the Pike River Pathway from Old Spring Street to STH 11 (Durand Avenue)
- Acknowledged the designation of the Lake Michigan State Water Trail as a State water trail by the WDNR

Since 2014, the Village has also pursued new developments and/or improvements at various park sites that were not specifically recommended in the previous Village park plan, which include: developing a shelter at Lake Park; installing bike repair stations along the Pike River Pathway; replacing playground features and installing an ADA accessible walkway to and around the restrooms at Stewart-McBride Park; and developing a shelter at Village Civic Campus Park.

The following recommendations from the previous Village park plan that have not been implemented as of 2019, and were reevaluated as part of this plan update:

- Acquiring and developing one new community park
- Developing recreational facilities at two undeveloped community parks (Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park and Village-owned land located north of STH 20 and west of CTH H)
- Acquiring and developing nine new neighborhood parks

¹³ In December 2020, an agreement between the Caledonia and Mount Pleasant Village Boards determined that Mount Pleasant will only provide limited funding for maintaining and improving existing facilities while Caledonia will solely staff, maintain, and operate the park effective January 2021. Previously, both communities provided equal funding for developing and maintaining the park.

- Acquiring additional land and developing a basketball court (two goals), a disc golf course, an archery range, and community gardens; replacing the ball diamond infield; and improving the hiking trails and repairing the trail bridge at Smolenski Park
- Developing additional recreational facilities at Village Civic Campus Park, including an aquatic facility/swimming pool/splash pad, ball fields, restrooms and concessions, an ice skating area, outdoor ping pong, additional playfields, tennis/pickleball courts, community gardens, multi-use trails, and an ADA-accessible pier
- Providing new basic park amenities at Dirkse Park, such as a bike rack, picnic tables, a bench, etc
- Acquiring additional land and developing a basketball half-court (one goal); paving the access area and parking lot; and constructing restrooms with sewer and water at Drozd Park
- Developing a playground, two tennis courts, sand volleyball courts, outdoor fitness equipment, a trail, and a basketball half-court (one goal) and improving native plantings at Pheasant Creek Park
- Developing a basketball court (two goals), a sandlot softball diamond, and sand volleyball courts and improving native plantings at James Turek Park
- Developing a basketball court (two goals) and sand diggers and replacing the ball diamond infield at Sheridan Woods Park
- Developing a basketball half-court (one goal) and outdoor fitness equipment; installing ten spin; and replacing the shelter roof at Stewart-McBride Park
- Developing restrooms, a driveway and parking lot, and fishing piers and provide basic park amenities, such as picnic tables, bike racks, etc. along the Pike River Pathway
- Develop the Root River Water Trail, in cooperation with Racine County

Trails Recommendations

The outdoor recreation element of the previous Village park plan recommended developing a trail along the Pike River and Hoods Creek within the Village. The trail is proposed to run from the northern boundary of the Village at Hoods Creek, along the creek, then to a one-mile portion that serves as a link between the creek and the river, and ultimately, to and along the Pike River from CTH C (Spring Street) to the southern boundary of the Village at CTH KR. To date, the Village has completed the segment from CTH C to CTH KR. The trail is known as the Pike River Pathway.

The previous Village park plan also recommended developing 44 miles of on-street bikeways along State, County, and local streets and developing an additional 27 miles of trails associated with environmental corridors, potential abandoned railway rights-of-way, or open space areas within the Village. Both of these recommendations have been partially implemented. The Village has developed about five miles of on-street bikeways and about seven miles of trails. Map 2.5 in Chapter 2 shows trails and bikeways within the Village.

Open Space Preservation Element

The previous Village park plan recommended that all primary and secondary environmental corridors, isolated natural resource areas, 100-year floodplain areas (now termed, the 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) flood event), and stream and lakeshore buffers, together identified as open space preservation areas, currently in public ownership be preserved in essentially natural, open space uses. In 2014, the Village and County combined to own 783 acres of open space preservation areas within the Village. The Village has acquired an additional 44 acres of open space preservation lands in the Pike River Corridor and the Kilbourn Road Ditch since 2014.

3.3 STATUS OF PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY OTHER UNITS OF GOVERNMENT

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) administers State and Federal grant programs for acquiring and developing land for outdoor recreation and resource protection purposes. In order for the Village to qualify to apply for such funds, it must adopt a park plan that complies with WDNR requirements. The previous Village park plan was approved by the WDNR. It is anticipated that this plan will also meet the WDNR standards so the Village can continue to apply for and potentially receive available State and Federal grant funds to help implement the plan.

Racine County

County Parks Recommendations

The previous Village park plan recommended that Racine County continue to provide and maintain facilities at Sanders Park, Haban Park, Horlick Park, and Quarry Lake Park within the Village. The plan also recommended that the County acquire additional land at Sanders Park and develop additional picnic facilities at the park.

In addition, the previous Village park plan recommended that the County continue to maintain Pritchard Park and Ives Grove Golf Course, two County-owned sites located adjacent to the Village. In 2017, S.C. Johnson funded the development of an aquatic center at Pritchard Park. In 2018, the aquatic center was completed and was developed with two swimming pools, water slides, water play structures, spray areas, concessions, and other support-related amenities. The aquatic center is open to the public and operated by the Racine Family YMCA with the County making improvements and providing some maintenance to the facility. The aquatic center is referred to as the SC Johnson Community Aquatic Center.

In late 2019, the development of the SC Johnson Community Sports Complex was initiated at Pritchard Park. The complex will consist of a multi-purpose turf field and stadium that can be used for football, soccer, and lacrosse events and also include league softball diamonds and baseball diamonds. The development of the multi-purpose field and stadium was completed in early 2021 and is expected to be used by all area schools and sports teams, youth teams, community organizations, and residents.

The previous Village park plan also recommended that Racine County acquire the Sylvania Railroad Prairie natural area located along the Canadian Pacific Railway and STH 11 (Durand Avenue) in the southwestern portion of the Village, which had not been implemented as of 2019, and continue to manage and restore native plant species at Sanders Park, which contains the Sanders Park Hardwoods State Natural Area.

County Trails Recommendations

The previous Village park plan calls for Racine County to continue to maintain the North Shore Trail located in the southeastern portion of the Village, continue to maintain and develop the Racine-Sturtevant Trail, and develop the Racine-Kansasville Trail. The Racine-Kansasville Trail¹⁴ is proposed to extend from the Village of Sturtevant to the City of Burlington, partially within an abandoned railway right-of-way. An existing segment of the Racine-Sturtevant Trail includes about a 1.5-mile portion located within Village street rights-of-way. It should also be noted that the City of Racine's Lake Michigan Pathway and Root River Pathway provide a connection to Racine County trails that connect to Milwaukee County trails to the north and Kenosha County trails to the south.

¹⁴ Since the adoption of the County park plan, the WDNR, with a financial contribution from Racine County, acquired portions of an abandoned railway from 105th Street in the Village of Sturtevant westward to Kansasville, with a plan to cooperatively develop an extension of the White River State Trail in partnership with the County. When the County park plan is updated, the proposed Racine-Kansasville Trail will become an extension of the White River State Trail.



Credit: Village of Mount Pleasant

Previous chapters of this report have presented the results of inventories of existing population, land uses, natural resources, and park and open space sites in the Village. This chapter describes additional important factors when preparing the park and open space plan update. Specifically, this chapter describes relevant Village, County, and regional plan recommendations; probable future population levels in the Village in the year 2050; and uses a set of park and open space objectives, principles, and standards as a guide to prepare the plan update. This chapter also includes goals and objectives developed by the Village staff to help implement the 2035 park and open space plan.

4.1 VILLAGE PLANS AFFECTING THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Sound planning practice requires that each community plan or plan element be properly related to adopted local, county, and regional plans. Plans that have been considered and appropriately incorporated into this updated park and open space plan include the amended 2035 Village of Mount Pleasant Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan; the Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035; the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan; the Racine County Farmland Preservation Plan; the Village of Mount Pleasant Master Bicycle Plan 2030; the Pike River Watershed Plan; the Root River Watershed Restoration Plan; the Des Plaines River Watershed Plan; and the updated natural areas plan for Southeastern Wisconsin.

Park and Open Space Plans and Related Plans

The Park and Open Space Plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2050 is the fourth park and open space plan prepared by SEWRPC for the Village. Chapter 3 provides background information on the previous plan (with a design year of 2035). The previous chapter also includes information on the implementation status of recommendations from the previous park and open space plan.

In 2003, the Village of Mount Pleasant prepared and adopted the Year 2030 Village of Mount Pleasant Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and the plan was subsequently amended in 2014 as the 2035 Village of Mount Pleasant Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan. The 2035 comprehensive (master) land use plan includes generalized park, open space, and trail location recommendations, as well as transportation and land use recommendations for continued development of the Village. In June 2019, the Village amended the land use map to revise the land use areas associated with the Foxconn development in the southeastern

portion of Village and identify other new potential business, commercial, or manufacturing areas along the IH 94/41 corridor, particularly from STH 11 (Durand Avenue) to CTH C (Spring Street). The amended plan also includes most of the park, recreation, and natural areas recommendations from the 2035 Village comprehensive plan. Conversely, the amended plan map does not show trail recommendations for the Village, but are included in the Village's 2030 master bicycle plan.

Village of Mount Pleasant Master Bicycle Plan 2030

The Village of Mount Pleasant Master Bicycle Plan 2030 was prepared by the Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin in 2007. The bicycle plan complements the Village 2035 comprehensive (master) land use plan adopted in 2014. The plan identifies existing and proposed bikeways within the Village, including potential connections to bikeways in adjacent communities. The plan also identifies and prioritizes bike facility needs within the Village and provides goals and measures to implement those needs. The bike plan placed an emphasis on biking for transportation purposes as well as for recreational purposes; for example, planning bikeways within the Village for residents to commute to and from work or school.

Public participation and input for the bike plan was solicited through an online survey and by mailing the survey to every household in the Village in association with the Village newsletter. About 250 to 257 residents responded to each of the survey questions. Of the 257 respondents, almost 40 percent and 10 percent replied that they bike "multiple" times a month or "daily," respectively, while 20 percent of respondents "never" bike. Of the 253 respondents, almost 73 percent replied that it is "very important" or "somewhat important" to improve biking conditions in the Village. Survey respondents were asked which factors would affect their decision to bicycle more, and of the 252 respondents, 91 percent replied that more on-street facilities (marked lanes or shoulders) would "greatly affect" or "moderately affect" their decision to bike more. Eighty-seven percent and 86 percent of respondents, respectively, replied that more greenway trails and a bicycle facilities map would "greatly affect" or "moderately affect" their decision to bike more. Ninety percent of respondents were "greatly discouraged" or "moderately discouraged" from biking within the Village due to unfriendly roadways for bike use.

The goal of the Village bike plan is to improve the levels, safety, and convenience of biking in the Village by providing biking features in every road/street project in or connecting to the Village. The plan lists recommended actions to encourage bicycling and make it more attractive and safer for users. The plan also lists numerous potential Federal and State funding sources to assist in bikeway development.

The plan provides detailed recommendations for the location of on-street and off-street bike segments within the Village. Since adopting the bike plan in 2007, some recommended on-street and off-street bike segments have been implemented, including the entire development of the Pike River Pathway and the continued development of the Racine-Sturtevant Trail from STH 31 (Green Bay Avenue) in the City of Racine to 96th Street in the Village of Sturtevant. The plan also identifies County trails and City of Racine pathways and locations where County, City, and Village bikeways and trails connect, providing increased biking opportunities for Village residents. On-street and off-street recommendations were subsequently amended when the Village Board adopted the amended Village comprehensive land use plan in 2014. However, when the Village amended the comprehensive land use plan in 2019, on-street and off-street recommendations were not included on the plan map. Chapter 5 includes additional recommendations and updates to the Village bike plan.

Village of Mount Pleasant Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan and Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County

The Mount Pleasant Village Board adopted a master land use plan¹⁵ in 2003 coinciding with Mount Pleasant incorporating as a village. The master plan was amended in 2006 to include the Lakota I-94 Area Plan. In July 2009, the Village Board adopted the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan for Racine County¹⁶ as the Village's comprehensive plan, which included the Village master land use plan map and other information pertinent to the Village. In 2014, the Village Board adopted an amendment to the Village 2030 master land

¹⁵ Documented in a report entitled, *Year 2030 Master Plan for Land Use and Transportation, Mt. Pleasant, Racine County, Wisconsin, January 22, 2003.*

¹⁶ Documented in *SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 301, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035, November 2009.*

use plan and the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan for Racine County (the Village's comprehensive plan), which affected the land use classification of 318 parcels throughout the Village. The design year of the amended Village master plan was also changed to 2035 to be consistent with the design year of the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan. In 2019, the Village adopted an amendment to the 2035 Village comprehensive (master) land use plan map to revise land uses associated with the Foxconn manufacturing development and other areas along the IH 94/41 corridor. Map 4.1 shows the amended Village land use plan map.

As required by the Wisconsin comprehensive planning law (Section 66.1001 of the *Wisconsin Statutes*), the County comprehensive plan includes recommendations for future land uses, parks and open space, and natural resource preservation; and includes projections of future population and households pertinent to the Village. The comprehensive plan contains park, open space, and trail recommendations and goals, objectives, policies, and programs relevant to this park and open space plan update. The design year of the County plan is 2035.

The 2019 amended Village comprehensive (master) plan anticipates that existing parks and open space sites owned by the Village, which are identified on the amended Village land use plan map, will continue to be maintained to provide a wide range of recreational opportunities to the existing and future population of the Village. The amended Village land use plan map anticipates acquiring additional lands for Village park use and/or conservancy purposes, including the park sites recommended by the 2035 Village park and open space plan. As recommended in this updated park and open space plan, some existing sites may also expand and/or additional recreational facilities may also be developed to serve Village residents (see Chapter 5).

Goals, Objectives, Policies, and Programs

This plan takes the following goals, objectives, policies, and programs related to developing the Village park and open space system from the Village's comprehensive plan (the County multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan). The goals, objectives, policies, and programs complement the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission's (SEWRPC's) Regional Park and Open Space Objectives, Principles, and Standards included in Appendix A.

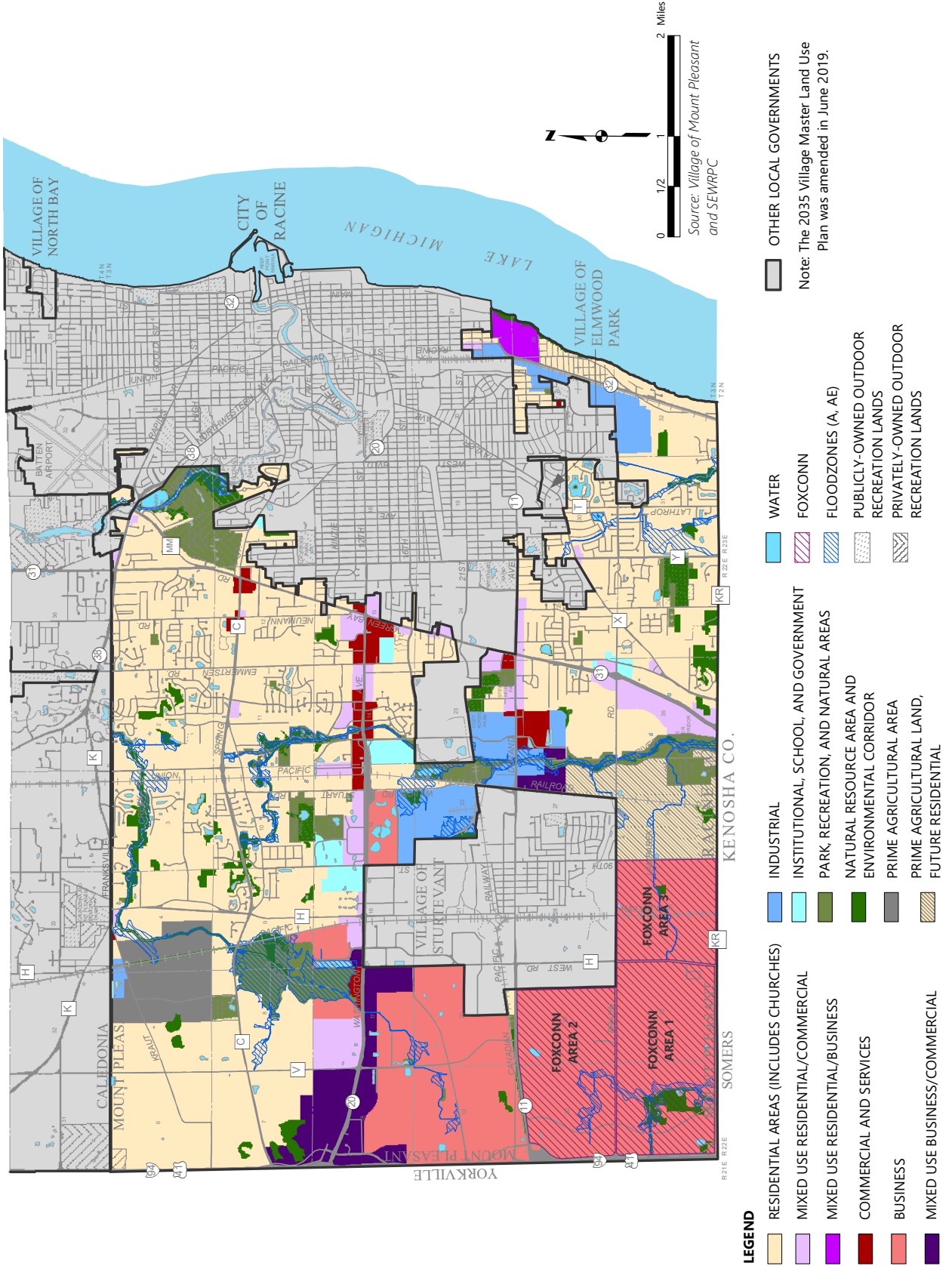
Goals

- Preserve open space to enhance the total quality of the environment, maximize essential natural resource availability, give form and structure to urban development, and provide opportunities for a full range of outdoor recreation activities
- Maintain the environmental assets of the community and develop methods to protect and preserve valuable natural features, including wetlands, wildlife habitats, lakes, woodlands, open spaces, groundwater resources, and floodplains

Objectives

- Preserve the natural character and vistas in Racine County
- Preserve open spaces and natural resources as part of future development proposals in the County
- Provide a comprehensive system of parks and open spaces within Racine County to enhance the quality of the environment and life
- Provide County residents adequate opportunities to participate in resource and nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities, including water-based outdoor recreation activities
- Support recommendations in regional, county, and local plans related to land use, transportation, water quality management, water supply, lake districts, and parks and open spaces

**Map 4.1
Village of Mount Pleasant Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan: 2035**



- Provide a comprehensive system of parks and outdoor recreation sites and facilities to allow County residents adequate opportunities to participate in resource and nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities, including water-based outdoor recreation activities which are consistent with enjoyable surface water use and maintenance of adequate water quality
- Provide an integrated and accessible system of trails that will provide County residents with a transportation alternative to motor vehicles
- Foster social, educational, recreational, and leisure-time opportunities for residents

Policies and Programs

- Implement strategies regarding the preservation and protection of environmental corridors, natural areas, and critical species habitat sites recommended in the County land and water resource management plan, and the Racine County park and open space plan, including updates to the plans
- Implement strategies regarding the protection and restoration of wetlands, stream corridors, floodplain areas, the Lake Michigan shoreline and bluff, and protection of natural systems, pollution reduction and control, and protection of public safety and public recreation and access recommended in the County land and water resource management plan
- Implement the recommendations of the Racine County park and open space plan and any subsequent updates
- Consider the preparation and implementation of local park and open space plans
- Update County and local park and open space plans as necessary to maintain eligibility for Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Stewardship funding
- Continue to partner with appropriate Federal, State, and Nonprofit Conservation Organizations (NCOs) to promote natural resource enhancements and restorations in Racine County
- Support carefully planned efforts to restore open space lands to more natural conditions that could result in the expansion of the environmental corridor network. This should include linkages between existing environmental corridors and isolated natural resources, especially those areas that are identified in local and neighborhood land use plans.
- Work with the Kenosha/Racine Land Trust and other NCOs to protect environmental corridors, natural areas, and critical species habitat sites through Purchase of Development Rights (PDR), easements, and/or land purchases
- Work with local governments to provide a system of public neighborhood and community parks in urban areas that complement the County park and trail system
- Continue to provide information to local governments about County park and open space sites and recreational facilities, and coordinate with local governments for the joint development and use of facilities, where appropriate
- Continue to update the County park and open space plan, including updates from the regional natural areas and critical species habitat protection plan, to maintain eligibility for available State and Federal outdoor recreation grants and stewardship program funds
- Identify and seek grant funds to study future needs and demands for recreational programs and facilities for school-age children and teenagers
- Work with local governments to promote State, County, and local parks and trails to encourage economic development and tourism

- Consider park and recreation standards developed by SEWRPC, the National Recreation and Park Association, and the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association when updating the County and local park and open space plans to ensure an appropriate number, size, and distribution of parks and recreational facilities
- Coordinate county-wide on-street and off-street (multi-use) bicycle, pedestrian, equestrian, and waterway trail planning and development to provide connections to local trails and trails in adjacent counties
- Racine County and its communities should continue to work with the WDNR and non-government organizations to acquire and develop parks, trails, and other recreation facilities, and to acquire and protect valuable natural resource areas as called for in County or local park and open space plans

Pike River Watershed Plan

In August 2013, the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network (Root-Pike WIN) and Applied Ecological Services, Inc., with assistance from UW-Extension and Hawthorn Hollow Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum, completed a Pike River Watershed Plan.¹⁷ The Village of Mount Pleasant adopted the watershed plan in January 2014 as a guide to water quality management in the Pike River watershed. The Pike River is centrally located, running north to south within the Village from Spring Street (CTH C) to the Racine-Kenosha county line. About 10,249 acres, or about 47 percent of the Village is within the Pike River Watershed, and this portion of the Village makes up about 30 percent of the total watershed. Map 2.6 in Chapter 2 of this report shows the extent of the Pike River watershed within the Village. The purpose of the plan is to restore and manage an ecologically enhanced watershed area that focuses on protecting and restoring the river corridor, protecting open space areas, increasing and improving recreational access, utilizing a more sustainable development pattern, increasing public education, and ultimately, achieving applicable water quality standards.

The plan also establishes goals and objectives to address the issues and opportunities raised at public input meetings or sessions. Park, trail, and open space-related goals and objectives are:

Goal:

- Identify, enhance, and protect important natural areas and provide open space for appropriate recreational benefits

Objectives:

- Increase appropriate water- and land-based recreational opportunities to the Pike River
- Permanently protect all sites with high-quality natural areas or threatened and endangered species, as identified by primary and secondary environmental corridors by SEWRPC
- Identify and protect open space that provides important green infrastructure, preserves corridor connections, and can provide appropriate recreational opportunities
- Develop recommendations for adoption of conservation and/or low-impact design standards for all new development or redevelopment
- Increase environmental and recreational stewardship with volunteers and instructors
- Create environmental interpretive signage on trails explaining watersheds and water quality

¹⁷ Documented in a report entitled, *Pike River Watershed-Based Plan, prepared by Applied Ecological Services, Inc. for the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network, August 2013.*

An important component of the Pike River watershed plan was an examination of open space areas that would ultimately form a “Green Infrastructure Network” for the watershed. The plan defines “Green Infrastructure Network” as an interconnected network of natural resource areas and other open spaces that would conserve the natural ecosystem, sustain clean air and water, and benefit people and wildlife. Natural features such as stream corridors, wetlands, floodplains, woodlands, and grasslands within the watershed are the primary components of open space and green infrastructure.

The plan identifies and classifies “open space” parcels, which are: undeveloped; “partially open” parcels, which have been partially developed, but offer some green infrastructure potential; and “developed” parcels, which are mostly developed. The plan then identifies “open” and “partially open” parcels within the watershed as public or private and protected or unprotected. Lastly, the plan prioritizes “open” and “partially open” parcels within the watershed for inclusion in a Green Infrastructure Network based on criteria documented in the report. Map 4.2 shows the Green Infrastructure Priority Protection Areas identified in the plan. Parcels identified as “high priority” for inclusion in the Green Infrastructure Network are located adjacent to or near the Pike River, Chicory Creek, Lamparek Ditch, Nelson Creek, and Sorenson Creek. These lands may be protected through fee-simple purchase, donation, conservation easements, or local regulatory actions, such as zoning, subdivision, or stormwater management ordinances.

In some cases, it would be possible to develop a portion of a parcel shown in a protection area while preserving the natural resources within the parcel. Identifying and prioritizing the Green Infrastructure Network for the watershed allows units of government to evaluate conservation opportunities and land use development on the parcels and identify areas as: not suitable for development; suitable for development if conservation design standards are implemented; or green infrastructure not affected by proposed development. The watershed plan also recommends that local governments should continue to plan for new trails and possible trail connections within the Green Infrastructure Network, when applicable. Case in point is the “Priority Protection Area” identified between the Village of Sturtevant and CTH KR and CTH H and the Canadian Pacific Railway. Since adopting the previous park plan, this area, which was originally proposed to remain farmland, is now part of the Foxconn development. The Village, at a minimum, should consider implementing “the portion” recommendation for this area and conserve the natural resource features associated with the Lamparek Ditch and the areas abutting the ditch to serve as riparian buffer.

The plan also includes recommendations for improving water quality and managing stormwater through such measures as establishing stream buffers, restoring wetlands, naturalizing detention basins, and managing agricultural practices to reduce soil and pollutant runoff. The plan further provides program recommendations, which are watershed-wide preventative and remedial actions, and site-specific recommendations, which identify site-specific locations within the watershed where units of government should implement green infrastructure, aquatic and terrestrial habitat, and overall water quality improvements.

Root River Watershed Restoration Plan

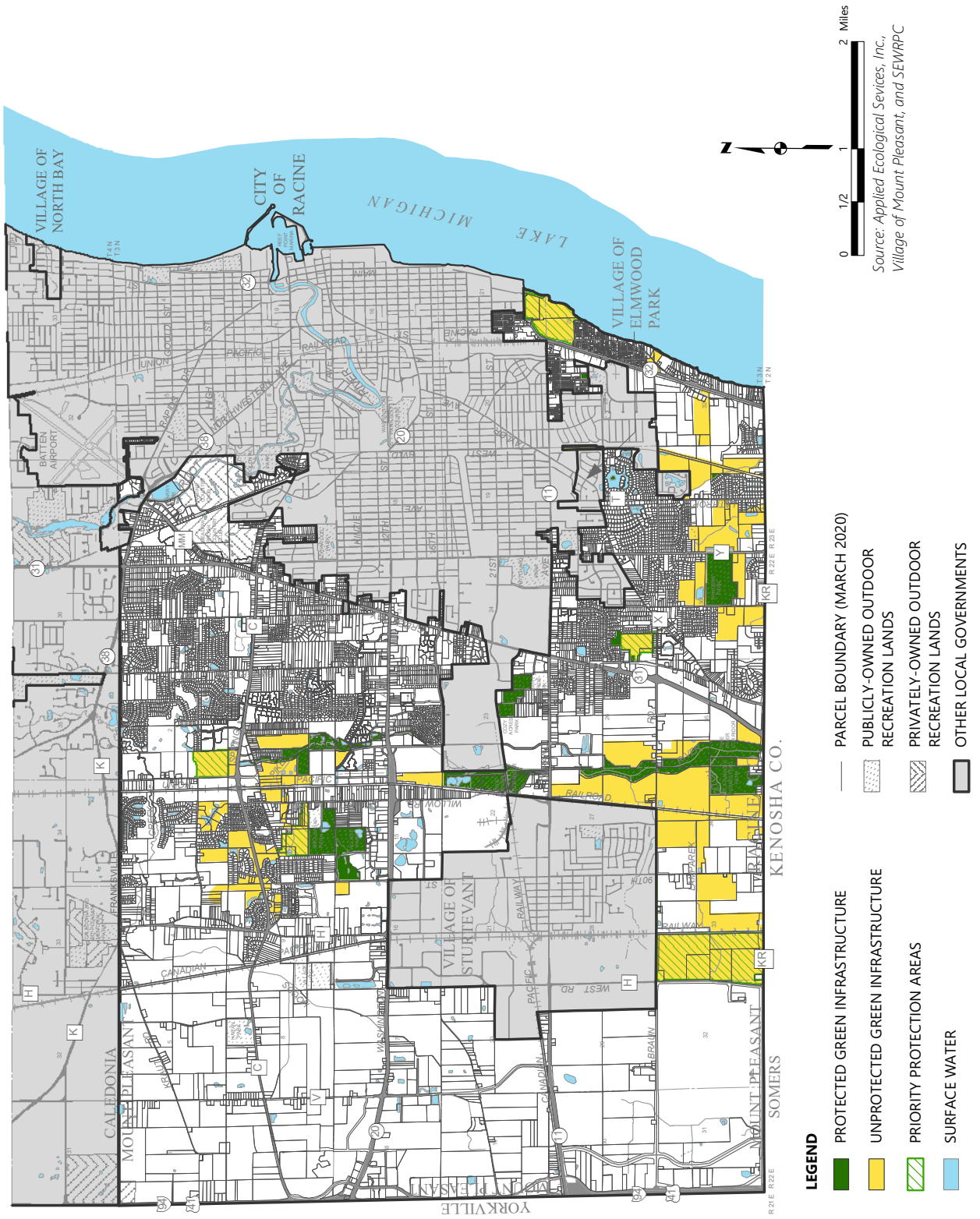
The Root River watershed restoration plan¹⁸ was prepared by SEWRPC in response to a request from Racine County, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), the Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, Inc. (Sweet Water), and the Root-Pike WIN because the watershed historically shows signs of degradation due to changing land use patterns and water resource-related problems. The Root River watershed plan builds upon the findings and recommendations of the 2007 regional water quality management plan,¹⁹ and is a comprehensive update to help guide the management and restoration of water resources in the watershed.

The purpose of the watershed plan is to provide specific, targeted recommendations that address improving watershed-related conditions with the overall goal of restoring and improving water resources in the Root River watershed. The plan design also assists units of government, State and Federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and private landowners in identifying methods that will restore and benefit the natural assets of the watershed. County-owned parks (Horlick and Quarry Lake) and private golf courses

¹⁸ Documented in *SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 316, A Watershed Restoration Plan for the Root River Watershed, July 2014.*

¹⁹ Documented in *SEWRPC Planning Report No. 50, A Regional Water Quality Management Plan Update for the Greater Milwaukee Watersheds, Parts One and Two, December 2007.*

**Map 4.2
Green Infrastructure Priority Protection Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant as Identified in the Pike River Watershed Plan**



(Meadow Brook Country Club and Racine Country Club) surround about one mile of the Root River in the northeastern portion of the Village. The Root River watershed within the Village encompasses 8,811 acres, or about 41 percent of the Village and about 7 percent of the total watershed. Map 2.6 in Chapter 2 of this report shows the extent of the Root River watershed within the Village.

The watershed restoration plan focuses on four issues: water quality, recreational use and access, habitat condition, and flooding. The Root River provides many recreational opportunities to Village residents, including fishing, hunting, boating, wading, canoeing, kayaking, wildlife watching, and scenic viewing. The portion of the Root River downstream from the Horlick Dam supports a trout and salmon fishery that links to Lake Michigan. The fishery is based upon stocking of these species by the WDNR.

The watershed plan recommends expanding and/or protecting riparian buffers along all streams and tributaries within the Root River watershed, which includes the Root River, Hoods Creek, and Ives Grove Ditch located in the Village. The plan recommends a minimum 75-foot setback (buffer) along both sides of navigable streams within the watershed, with consideration given to establishing a riparian buffer up to 1,000 feet on both sides of the Root River, Hoods Creek, and Ives Grove Ditch when development proposals are submitted to the Village for review.

Establishing a minimum 75-foot buffer provides quality in-stream habitats and reduces pollution entering the stream, while establishing larger setback requirements provides these in-stream benefits and also provides essential habitats for a variety of wildlife populations. The Root River watershed plan also supports the Village comprehensive (master) land use plan recommendation for a 150-foot tributary setback, as an alternative to the 75-foot setback currently required under the Village zoning ordinance, but recommends that a 1,000-foot setback be considered as an optimum setback for the Root River, Hoods Creek, and Ives Grove Ditch. Buffers between 75 feet and 1,000 feet would be consistent with the plan.

The plan also recommends site-specific management measures for the Root River watershed, including those within the Village. A recommendation includes acquiring a floodplain area along Hoods Creek between CTH C (Spring Street) and STH 20 (Washington Avenue) and designating the land use in this area as a park, recreation, or natural area. The Village's 2019 land use plan map also shows this recommendation.

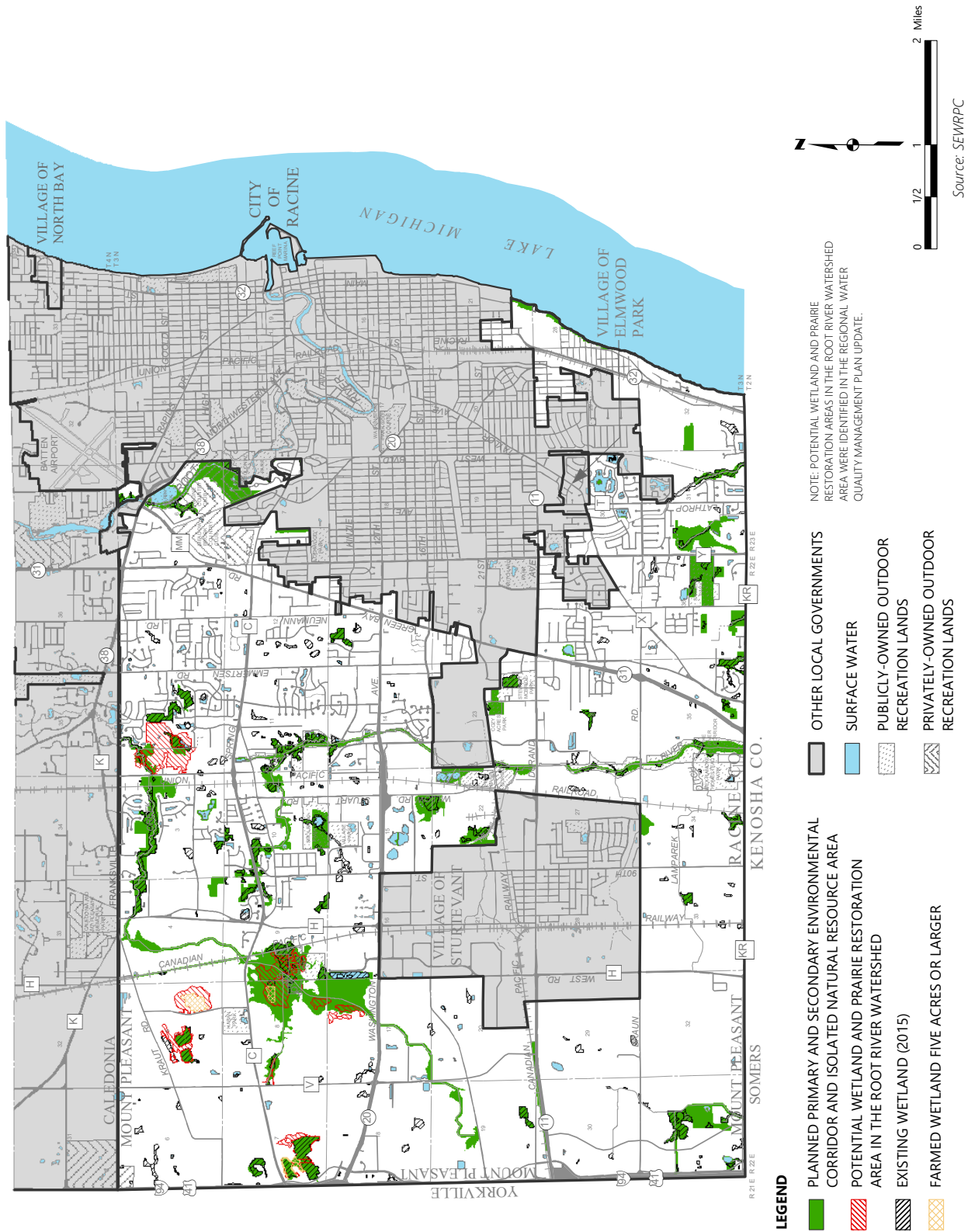
The watershed plan further recommends efforts to restore farmland and other open space land to more natural conditions, such as wetlands or prairies, especially in areas planned for urban development or in areas where agricultural production no longer occurs. The watershed plan carries forth a recommendation from the regional water quality management plan update that a total of 10 percent of existing farmland and pasture be converted to either wetland or prairie conditions. The benefits of this practice include reducing fecal coliform bacteria, total suspended solids, total nitrogen, and total phosphorus loads delivered to streams, and to a limited degree, reduced peak stormwater runoff rates. The focus of this effort should be on marginally productive lands, which the plan defines as agricultural lands other than those identified as having Class I or Class II soils by the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service. Consistent with this, the water quality management plan update identifies candidate areas for first consideration when identifying marginally productive lands for converting to wetlands or prairies. Map 4.3 shows the location of selected candidate areas in the Village. The areas selected are within or adjacent to planned environmental corridors or isolated natural resource areas, and existing farmed wetlands larger than five acres. Farmed wetlands larger than five acres would meet the criteria for designation as isolated natural resource areas if farming activities cease and the wetland reverts to natural conditions. All of the potential restoration areas shown on Map 4.3 have soils that indicate they would be suitable for restoration as wetlands, but an on-site evaluation would be necessary prior to any restoration efforts.

Root River Revitalization Plan

In July 2008, the Root River Council and the River Alliance of Wisconsin, with assistance from the City of Racine, completed a Root River Revitalization Plan.²⁰ The purpose of the plan is to guide and inform the redevelopment and revitalization of the Root River in the City of Racine and environs, which includes encouraging innovative, mixed use development along the river, improving and protecting the natural

²⁰ Documented in a report titled, *Back to the Root: An Urban River Revitalization Plan, prepared by the Root River Council and River Alliance of Wisconsin, July 2008.*

Map 4.3
Potential Wetland and Prairie Restoration Areas in the Root River Watershed within the Village of Mount Pleasant



habitat and water quality of the river, and promoting public awareness and use of the river and river corridor. The planning area includes a portion of the Village within the Root River corridor from the Horlick Dam, located just north of STH 38 (Northwestern Avenue), to the mouth of the river at Lake Michigan.

The plan recommends creating continuous public access along the riverfront by combining a Riverwalk, the Root River Pathway, and various access points. The plan also recommends developing a boat launch at the County-owned Quarry Lake Park; prohibiting boat and viewing access points at the City-owned Colonial Park to avoid disturbing ecologically sensitive areas; modifying the boat launch upstream from the weir and steelhead fishery facility; developing a boat launch downstream of the weir and steelhead fishery facility; developing a boat launch at Island Park; and providing signage at parks and along pathways/trails to direct the public to recreational opportunities along the river. Since completing the revitalization plan in 2008, the City of Racine has developed boat launches at Island Park and Lincoln Park downstream from the weir and steelhead fishery facility and has installed signs along the Root River Pathway and City streets.

Des Plaines River Watershed Plan

The Des Plaines River watershed plan²¹ documents the findings and recommendations of the critical flooding, water pollution, and related land use problems of the Des Plaines River watershed. The study was undertaken by SEWRPC in response to requests received from Kenosha and Racine Counties. The plan identifies and quantifies the water resource-related problems of the watershed; sets forth recommended watershed development objectives, principles, and standards; presents alternative floodplain and stormwater management, water quality management, fisheries management, and related land use plan elements; and presents a recommended comprehensive plan for the development of the watershed. A portion of the Des Plaines River watershed is located in the southwestern portion of the Village, which includes a portion of the Kilbourn Road Ditch. The Des Plaines River watershed within the Village encompasses 1,771 acres, or about 8 percent of the Village and about 2 percent of the total watershed. Map 2.6 in Chapter 2 of this report shows the extent of the Des Plaines River watershed within the Village.

Recommendations in the plan pertaining to the Village of Mount Pleasant include adopting the plan as a guide to future land use development and open space preservation; adopting a stormwater management ordinance to establish riparian buffers in areas of new development or redevelopment; and developing a detailed stormwater management plan for the upper portion of the Kilbourn Road Ditch. Although it is important to note that the Foxconn development is affecting the entire watershed within the Village, the park and open space plan still recommends that the Village use the watershed plan as a guide to protect the natural resources, especially along the Kilbourn Road Ditch, and manage the stormwater properly with any development that occurs in the watershed.

Racine County Farmland Preservation Plan

In 2009, the Wisconsin Legislature passed Wisconsin Act 28 to repeal and recreate the Wisconsin farmland preservation law under Chapter 91 of the *Wisconsin Statutes* and related tax credits under Chapter 71 of the *Statutes*. The new law, also referred to as the "Working Lands Initiative," requires counties to update their farmland preservation plans. The Racine County farmland preservation plan, adopted in 1982, was updated and recertified by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) in order for farmers to remain eligible to claim farmland tax credits.

Lands identified as farmland preservation areas are intended to be preserved for agricultural and agricultural-related uses, including resource protection. Landowners with parcels identified as farmland preservation areas, and which meet certain criteria, are eligible to receive farmland preservation tax credits. Farmland preservation areas may include undeveloped natural resource and open space lands but may not include any areas that are planned for nonagricultural development within 15 years after the date on which the farmland preservation plan is adopted, in accordance with the *Statutes*. The farmland preservation plan must also be updated at least once every 10 years to remain in compliance with State law.

²¹ Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 44, A Comprehensive Plan for the Des Plaines River Watershed, Parts One, Two, and Three, June 2003.

On December 10, 2013, the updated Racine County farmland preservation plan was adopted by the Racine County Board. The updated plan was certified by DATCP on December 19, 2013. Farmland preservation areas²² shown in the previous Village park plan were located in the southwestern portion (T3N, R22 E, Sections 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33) and northwestern portion (T3N, R22E, Sections 4 and 5) of the Village. Since the previous park plan was adopted, the Village amended the 2035 comprehensive (master) land use plan in 2019 to re-designate the entire farmland preservation area in the southwestern portion of the Village to "Business" to accommodate the Foxconn manufacturing development. The Village land use plan map still identifies farmland preservation areas in the northwestern portion of the Village as a prime agricultural area, however, the western one-third of this area is now planned for residential use by the Village. When the County farmland preservation plan is updated, it is possible that farmland preservation areas within the Village will no longer exist.

Public Facilities Needs Assessment and Impact Fee Ordinance

A public facilities needs assessment²³ for the Village was prepared in January 2007. A needs assessment is required by Section 66.0617 of the *Wisconsin Statutes* to demonstrate a need for and determine the amount of impact fees that may be placed on new development to cover the cost of providing public sites and facilities to serve that development. Impact fees for Village park facilities are only assessed for residential developments, because park facilities are generally used only by the residential portion of Village, while other types of facilities, such as fire and rescue, law enforcement, and transportation, are used by residential and nonresidential entities.

Currently, the Village charges a parks-related impact fee of \$1,100.00 for each residential dwelling unit constructed within the Village. The Village also accepts land dedication for a park in lieu of fees if the dedicated land is compliant with the existing adopted Village park and open space plan. Collecting these fees will help offset the costs associated with acquiring parklands, developing additional park facilities, developing existing Village community and neighborhood parks, and acquiring and developing bicycle routes provided by the Village to serve new residential development. From 2015 to October 2019, the Village has collected, with interest, about \$184,800, or about \$36,960 per year, in parks-related impact fees.

The Village also collects impact fees for stormwater facilities associated with the Pike River and Hoods Creek. In 2002, the Village began a restoration program for the entire segment of the Pike River within the Village, which has reduced flooding, provided new habitats, improved water quality, and limited stormwater runoff. The Pike River restoration program for the entire stretch of the Pike River in the Village was completed in 2018. About 5.5 miles of Hoods Creek are also expected to be restored, and improvements to Hoods Creek are similar to the Pike River improvements. Impact fees for stormwater facilities are assessed for both residential and nonresidential developments within the respective watershed areas.

Currently, the Village charges a Pike River improvement impact fee of \$600.00 for each residential dwelling unit constructed in the Pike River watershed within the Village and an \$800.00 Hoods Creek improvement impact fee for each residential dwelling unit constructed in the Hoods Creek watershed within the Village. Impact fees for stormwater facilities will help offset the costs associated with continued engineering, real estate acquisition, and construction. From 2015 to October 2019, the Village has collected about \$281,553, or about \$56,311 per year, in Pike River improvement impact fees and about \$172,305, or about \$34,461 per year, in Hoods Creek improvement impact fees.

²² *The farmland preservation areas in the Village were based on the Village's 2030 master land use land plan. However, when the Village amended the 2030 master plan in January 2014 and renamed the plan as the 2035 Village comprehensive (master) land use plan, some parcels or portions of parcels in the southwestern portion of the Village that were identified as farmland preservation areas in the 2030 plan were to be planned for urban development in the 2035 plan, thus decreasing the farmland preservation areas between the two plans.*

²³ *Documented in a report entitled, Needs Assessment Study for Parks, Law Enforcement, Fire and Rescue, Stormwater, and Transportation Impact Fees for the Village of Mt. Pleasant, Racine County, Wisconsin, prepared by Crispell-Snyder, Inc., January 2007. The impact fee ordinance (Ordinance 3-2007, now Section 91 of the Village Code of Ordinances) was adopted by the Village Board on March 12, 2007 and took effect on July 1, 2007.*

In addition to the impact fee law that the Wisconsin Legislature enacted in 2007 as part of Wisconsin Act 44, additional changes were also enacted in 2017 as part of Wisconsin Act 243. Changes to the impact fee law in 2017, included:

- A county or local government must provide detailed reports to impact fee payers on how the fee will be spent
- Developers may defer payment on impact fees exceeding \$75,000 for four years; (if the developer constructs the impact fee-funded facilities earlier, the developer must pay the full impact fee six months before the county or local government spends the revenue)
- Impact fee revenue must be spent within eight years (some longer time limits may apply in specific cases), where previously, county and local governments were allowed to specify their own practical timeframe
- Aggrieved parties have 90 days following the fee's due date to file a petition
- County and local governments are no longer allowed to use impact fees for operation or maintenance expenses of public facilities

Impact fees not used within the statutory timeframe must be refunded to the current owner of the property on which the fee was assessed, plus interest. Impact fee laws enacted by the Wisconsin Legislature in 2007 as part of Wisconsin Act 44 are identified in Chapter 4 of the previous Village park and open space plan.

4.2 COUNTY AND REGIONAL PLANS AFFECTING THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Regional and County Park and Open Space Plans

The adopted regional park, outdoor recreation, and related open space plan, as described in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 27, *A Regional Park and Open Space Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2000*, November 1977, identifies existing and probable future park and open space needs within the Region and recommends a system of large regional resource-oriented parks, recreation corridors, and smaller urban parks, together with their attendant recreational facility requirements, to meet these needs. The portion of the regional park plan that applies to Racine County, including the Village of Mount Pleasant, was revised in 1988 through preparing and adopting a County park and open space plan. An updated County park and open space plan, a second edition, was adopted by the County Board in 2001, and was designed to the year 2020. In 2012, another update to the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan,²⁴ a third edition, was adopted by the County Board. That plan is designed to the year 2035 and consists of both an open space preservation element and an areawide outdoor recreation element, intended to, respectively, protect areas containing important natural resources and to provide resource-oriented recreational sites and facilities, including trails.

The outdoor recreation sites recommended by the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan within the Village of Mount Pleasant include one existing major park within the Village, the 84-acre Sanders Park, located in the south-southeastern portion of the Village, and three other County parks: Haban Park, Horlick Park, and Quarry Lake Park. The plan recommends additional acquisition and development at Sanders Park. The plan also recommends that Racine County continue to maintain and provide additional facilities at other major parks located near the Village, where necessary; such as Pritchard Park, located adjacent to the Village in the City of Racine, and Ives Grove Golf Links, located just west of the Village in the Village of Yorkville. Since the previous Village park plan was adopted, an aquatic center was developed in 2018 and a multi-purpose turf field and stadium was developed in 2021 at Pritchard Park. League softball diamonds and baseball diamonds are also planned to be developed at Pritchard Park which would complete the development of the sports complex at the park.

²⁴ Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 134, 3rd Edition, A Park and Open Space Plan for Racine County, Wisconsin, February 2013.

The County park plan recommends developing a trail within the Root River Recreation Corridor in the northeastern portion of the Village, the Lake Michigan Recreation Corridor along Lake Michigan, and the Racine-Kansasville Trail.²⁵ The entire portion of the Lake Michigan Trail has been fully developed within the Village and environs; a portion of the Racine-Sturtevant Trail has been developed, including portions within the Village; and the Root River Trail remains to be developed.

The County plan also recommends the County continue to maintain signage and other route amenities associated with the Racine County Bicycle Route, which includes about a nine-mile portion within the Village, and that the Village of Mount Pleasant continue to maintain the Pike River Pathway within the Pike River Corridor. Since adopting the previous Village park plan in 2015, the Village completed developing the Pike River Pathway within the Village.

In addition, the County plan recommends developing water trails. Potential water trails may be located on the Root River and along the Lake Michigan shoreline within and adjacent to the Village. In July 2017, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) designated the Lake Michigan Water Trail as a State trail. The Lake Michigan State Water Trail is the State of Wisconsin's first designated State Water Trail and navigates about 523 miles along the State of Wisconsin's shoreline.

Regional Natural Areas Plan

Natural areas and critical species habitat sites in southeastern Wisconsin were identified in 1994 as part of the regional natural areas study. The inventory of natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological sites was updated in 2009.²⁶ A second update to the inventory of these areas and sites was underway as of the production of this park and open space plan, and is expected to be completed in 2021. Five natural areas, three critical species habitat sites, and one geological area were identified, wholly or partially, in the Village in 2009. The natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological site in the Village are shown on Map 2.8 and described on Table 2.7 in Chapter 2.

Natural areas and critical species habitat sites are defined as tracts of land or water so little modified by human activity, or sufficiently recovered from the effects of such activity, that they contain intact native plant and animal communities believed to be representative of the pre-European-settlement landscape or are areas that support rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species. The regional natural areas plan recommends protecting and preserving such areas in the Region. The natural areas plan identifies potential sites to be placed in public or private protective ownership, and other sites to be protected, insofar as it is possible, through zoning and other regulatory means without protective ownership. It also recommends that a detailed management plan be prepared and implemented for each site placed under protective ownership.

The existing and recommended ownership of each natural area, critical species habitat site, and geological site is summarized in Table 5.2 in Chapter 5. Prior to acquisition by a public agency or nonprofit conservation organization (NCO), boundaries of the natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological site should be precisely identified based on a field delineation. Acquisition may be through fee-simple purchase or by acquisition of a conservation easement.

4.3 REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AND STANDARDS

The Regional Planning Commission, as part of the regional park and open space plan completed in 1977, formulated a comprehensive set of park and related open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives. Because the study viewed all park and open space sites and facilities as an integral part of an

²⁵ Since the adoption of the County park plan, the WDNR, with a financial contribution from Racine County, acquired portions of an abandoned railway from 105th Street in the Village of Sturtevant westward to Kansasville, with a plan to cooperatively develop an extension of the White River State Trail in partnership with the County. When the County park plan is updated, the proposed Racine-Kansasville Trail will become an extension of the White River State Trail.

²⁶ Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997. An update to the plan is documented in SEWRPC Amendment to Planning Report No. 42, Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, December 2010.

areawide system, the objectives addressed neighborhood, community, and multi-community or regional park and open space sites and facilities.

The objectives, principles, and standards developed for the Regional Park and Open Space Plan were used to prepare the Racine County park and open space plan described in the previous section, and this Village park plan. The regional standards have been modified over time to incorporate State regulations regarding lake access and to incorporate a standard for soccer fields. The regional park and open space objectives, principles, and standards are set forth in Appendix A. Applicable goals, objectives, policies, and programs from the Village's comprehensive plan were also used to help guide preparation of this plan.

The desired attainment of all objectives is to provide residents of the Village with opportunities for high-quality recreational experiences. Under the regional park and open space plan and the Racine County park and open space plan described earlier in this chapter, the responsibility for providing the necessary parks, open space lands, and associated recreational facilities is shared among various levels of government. The responsibility for acquiring and developing major resource-oriented parks and recreational facilities²⁷ is largely delegated to the State and County levels of government, although larger cities sometimes provide major parks. The need for major parks will be met within the Village of Mount Pleasant by Racine County continuing to maintain and develop Sanders Park. Additional major parks, Pritchard Park and Ives Grove Golf Links, located nearby in the City of Racine and Village of Yorkville, respectively, should continue to be maintained and developed by Racine County.

The responsibility for providing smaller community and neighborhood parks and facilities for intensive outdoor recreational activities is delegated to cities, village, and towns. The need for community and neighborhood parks and associated recreational facilities in the Village of Mount Pleasant is described in the following sections.

4.4 PARK AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS

Forecast Population

The need for outdoor recreation sites and facilities within the Village is determined by applying the standards set forth in Appendix A for the size, number, and spatial distribution of public parks and outdoor recreation facilities to the anticipated future resident population of the Village of Mount Pleasant.

In 2020, there were 27,732 residents and 12,090 households in the Village. Based on VISION 2050²⁸ population forecasts, which includes the Foxconn development, the plan forecasts 44,700 residents and 19,700 households in the Village of Mount Pleasant in the year 2050. The forecasted population of 44,700 residents is the amount upon which the needs analysis presented in this chapter is based. Under the plan, the number of Village residents would increase by 16,968 people, or by 61 percent, and the number of households would increase by 7,610 households, or by 63 percent, between 2020 and 2050.

Community and Neighborhood Parks

The standards set forth under Objective 2 in Appendix A are concerned with providing adequate sites and facilities for nonresource-oriented recreation activities. Nonresource-oriented activities are those that do not depend upon the presence of such natural resources as woodlands, slopes, lakes, rivers, or large expanses of land. Nonresource-oriented facilities include ball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis courts, swimming pools, and basketball courts and goals, which are typically provided at community and neighborhood parks and public schools.

Community parks range in size from 25 to 99 acres, have a service radius of two miles, and generally provide community-oriented facilities such as baseball diamonds, softball diamonds, and swimming pools. Neighborhood parks range in size from five to 24 acres and have a service radius of 0.5 miles in high-density

²⁷ Resource-oriented recreational facilities include camping, golfing, picnicking, skiing, and beach swimming. Such facilities are dependent on the natural resources, such as woodlands and rivers or lakes, of the site in which they are located. Facility requirements for these activities are set forth under Objective 3 in Appendix A.

²⁸ Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 55, VISION 2050: A Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2050. The plan was adopted by the Regional Planning Commission on July 28, 2016.

residential areas, 0.75 miles in medium-density residential areas, and 1.0 miles in low-density residential areas. The Village of Mount Pleasant generally consists of medium-density residential areas, thus, a service radius of 0.75 miles was applied. Neighborhood parks provide facilities for children's outdoor recreation activities, such as playground and playfield activities, basketball, and other court games.

Community parks can fill the need for neighborhood parks because community parks generally include typical neighborhood park facilities (playfields and playgrounds) in addition to community park facilities (baseball diamonds and swimming pools). Both community and neighborhood parks should also provide landscaped areas for passive recreation uses such as picnicking, walking, and general relaxation.

School outdoor recreation sites, while not generally perceived as parks, provide areas for the pursuit of active, nonresource-related activities in urban areas. Public school outdoor recreation sites, therefore, take into account the per capita acreage standards for urban outdoor recreation sites and facilities and also apply the service area standards for active recreation facilities. Because school sites generally do not provide areas for picnicking and other passive uses, school sites are not considered when applying the service area standards for passive outdoor recreation sites. Even though the Racine Unified School District sites are public, events and policies of the District may limit the availability and use of certain facilities by the general public.

As previously noted, neighborhood park sites provide facilities for children's outdoor recreation activities. Such facilities should be accessible through a convenient and safe pedestrian circulation pattern. In the accessibility analysis for neighborhood parks, features such as rivers and railroads were considered as barriers preventing pedestrian access from residential areas to neighborhood parks and recreation facilities, unless a bridge or street provided convenient access across the river or railroad. Arterial streets were also considered barriers to neighborhood parks, except in cases where stop signs or signals provided convenient pedestrian access to the parks from surrounding residential areas.

Site Needs Based on Per Capita Standards

The result of applying the per capita standards for the amount of land needed for community and neighborhood parks to serve Village residents in the year 2050 is presented in Table 4.1. The 2050 population forecast of 44,700 Village residents is based on SEWRPC's regional land use and transportation report, VISION 2050. Applying the per capita standards indicates a need for about 37 additional acres of public outdoor recreation lands at public school sites that serve the Village. However, the amount of acreage in existing Village- and County-owned park sites within the Village compensates for the low amount of recreation land at public school sites, and therefore, there is no need for additional park land within the Village to meet the per capita standard. Even when per capita acreage standards are met, however, additional parks may be needed if the distribution of existing parks does not provide convenient access for current and future residents. The accessibility, or service area, analysis is provided in the following section.

Site Needs Based on Service Area Standards

The accessibility or service area standards intend to ensure that public parks are spatially distributed in a manner that is convenient and efficient for the population they are intended to serve. It is important to note that areas developed with nonresidential uses need not be served with community or neighborhood parks. Those areas developed or planned to be developed with commercial, industrial, and institutional uses are, therefore, not considered in determining the need for additional park sites.

As shown on Map 4.4, applying the two-mile service area radius to existing parks providing community facilities indicates that small areas in the south-central and southeastern portions of the Village are not adequately served by a community park. The existing parks providing community park facilities utilized in this analysis include Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park, Haban Park, Quarry Lake Park, Sanders Park, Smolenski Park, Stewart-McBride Park, Village Civic Campus Park, and Lockwood Park and Pritchard Park in the City of Racine. The undeveloped Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park was not included in this service radius analysis due to the fact, while considered a community park by size, there are currently no existing community park facilities at the site.

**Table 4.1
Per Capita Acreage Requirements for Community and
Neighborhood Parks in the Village of Mount Pleasant**

Park and School Sites	Minimum Standard Net Acreage Requirements (acres per 1,000 people) ^b	Existing Net Acreage	Per Capita Acreage Requirements			
			Existing 2020 Population: 27,732 Residents		Planned 2050 Population: 44,700 Residents	
			Net Acreage Requirement ^c	Net Acreage Need ^d	Net Acreage Requirement ^c	Net Acreage Need ^d
Parks ^a	3.9	561 ^e	108	--	174	--
Schools	2.5	75 ^f	69	--	112	37
Total	6.4	636	177	--	286	-- ^g

^a Includes eight Village-owned community and neighborhood park sites, including Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park, Drozd Park, James Turek Park, Pheasant Creek Park, Sheridan Woods Park, Smolenski Park, Stewart McBride Park, and Village Civic Campus Park and Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park located in the Village of Caledonia. Also included are four sites owned by Racine County (Haban Park, Pritchard Park, Quarry Lake Park, and Sanders Park) and one site owned by the City of Racine (Lockwood Park), which provide community and neighborhood recreational facilities to Village residents.

^b Standard per capita acreage requirements are set forth under Objective 1 in Appendix A.

^c The acreage requirement for park and school sites was determined by multiplying the standard acreage requirement times the appropriate population in thousands of people.

^d Acreage need was determined by subtracting the existing acres from the acreage requirement. Since the remainder was a negative number, the minimum acreage requirement was exceeded and no need for additional parks was identified based on per capita standards. See Maps 4.4 and 4.5 for areas located outside the recommended service area for community and neighborhood parks, respectively.

^e Includes about 220 acres of existing developed (145 acres) and potential developable (75 acres) areas at 14 existing major, community, and neighborhood parks. Developable area excludes wetlands, lowland portions of primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, and floodplains within existing parks.

^f This total includes acreage used for outdoor recreation purposes at two public school sites within the Village of Mount Pleasant and three public school sites (Goodland Elementary, Johnson Elementary, and Jones Elementary) located in the City of Racine that serve Village residents.

^g Because the amount of acreage in existing Village and County-owned park sites within the Village compensates for the low amount of recreation land at public school sites, there is no need for additional park land to meet the per capita standard.

Source: Village of Mount Pleasant and SEWRPC

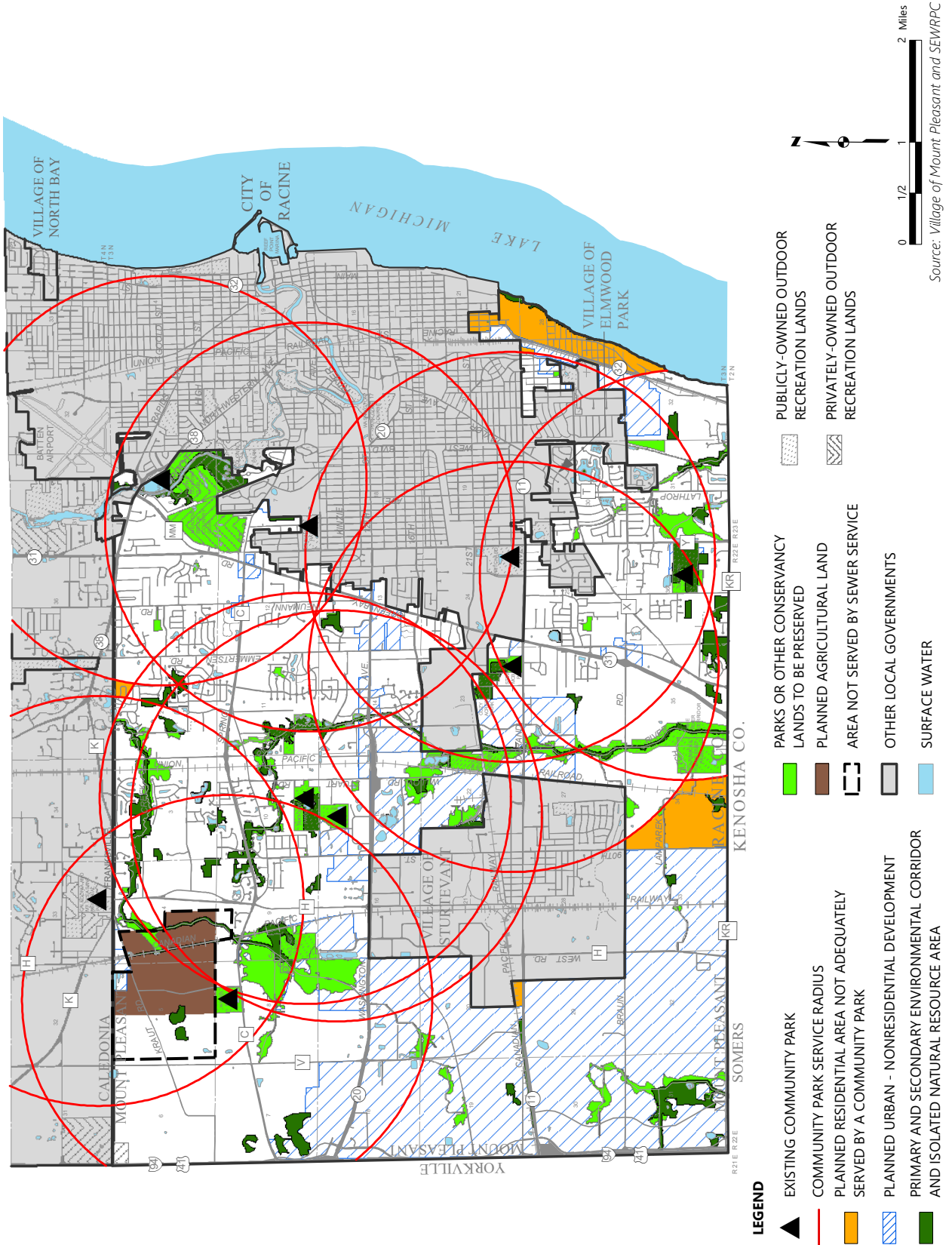
As shown on Map 4.5, applying the 0.75-mile service area radius to existing parks providing neighborhood facilities indicates that areas in the southeastern, southern, northern, northwestern, and central portions of the Village are not adequately served by a neighborhood park. In addition, there are areas within the Village that, although within the 0.75-mile service area radius, are considered inadequately served due to accessibility barriers.

Existing neighborhood parks used in this analysis include Drozd Park, James Turek Park, Pheasant Creek Park, Sheridan Woods Park, and the community parks noted above.

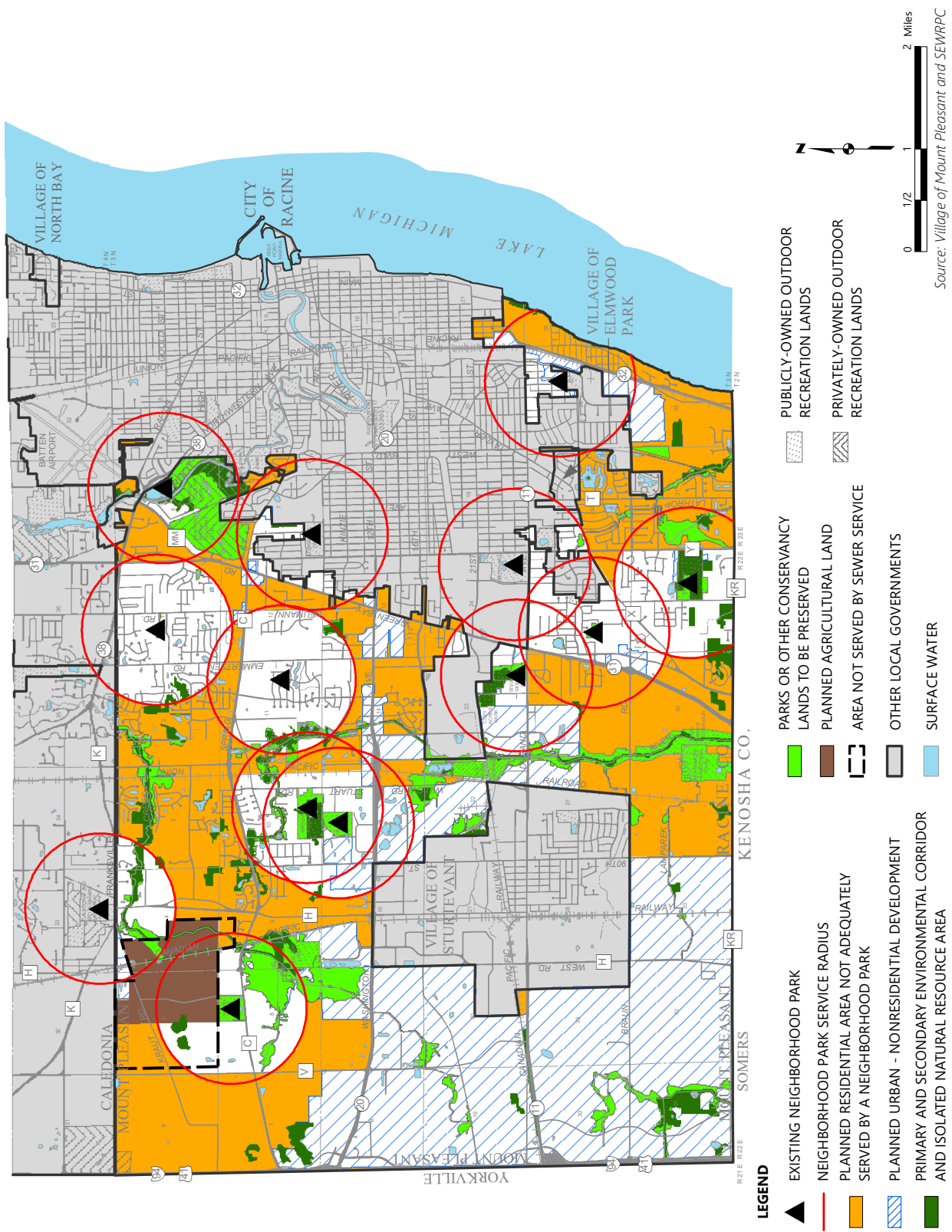
Facility Needs Based on Per Capita Standards

The facility standards set forth under Objective 2 in Appendix A are concerned with providing an adequate number and distribution of outdoor recreation facilities to ensure Village residents have adequate opportunities to participate in intensive outdoor recreation activities such as baseball, softball, and tennis. The results of applying the adopted per capita facility standards to the projected 2050 population level for the Village of Mount Pleasant are presented in Table 4.2. The existing quantity of each facility includes those located in public and private sites within the Village. Facilities at public sites include those at community parks, neighborhood parks, and public schools. Facilities at private sites include those at private schools and commercial and organizational recreation sites.

**Map 4.4
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a Community Park**



**Map 4.5
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a Neighborhood Park**



**Table 4.2
Per Capita Requirements for Selected Outdoor Recreation Facilities in the Village of Mount Pleasant**

Minimum Per Capita Facility Requirements ^a				Facility Requirement ^b	Existing Number of Facilities	Facility Need ^c
Activity	Facility	Owner	Facility per 1,000 Residents			
Baseball	Diamond	Public	0.09	4	14 ^d	--
		Nonpublic	<u>0.01</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	
		Total	0.10	5	14	
Basketball	Goal	Public	0.91	41	5	45 Public
		Nonpublic	<u>0.22</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>1</u>	
		Total	1.13	51	6	
Playfield Activities	Playfield	Public	0.39	17	13	8 Public
		Nonpublic	<u>0.11</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	
		Total	0.50	22	14	
Playground Activities	Playground	Public	0.35	16	13	4 Public
		Nonpublic	<u>0.07</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	
		Total	0.42	19	15	
Soccer	Field	Public	0.69	31	13 ^e	18 Public
		Nonpublic	<u>0.17</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>18</u> ^f	
		Total	0.86	39	31	
League Softball	Diamond	Public	0.53	24	12 ^g	15 Public
		Nonpublic	<u>0.07</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	
		Total	0.60	27	12	
Tennis	Court	Public	0.41	18	14 ^h	4 Public
		Nonpublic	<u>0.09</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>	
		Total	0.50	22	25	

^a Per capita facility requirements are set forth under Objective 2 in Appendix A.

^b The facility requirement was determined by multiplying the facility requirement per 1,000 residents anticipated under the VISION 2050 projected population (44,700 residents).

^c The facility need was determined by subtracting the existing number of facilities from the facility requirement. In cases where the existing number of facilities exceeds the facility requirement, no facility need was identified. In cases where either the number of existing public facilities or the total number of facilities was less than the number called for under the standards, a need for additional public facilities to fulfill the requirement was identified.

^d Includes the league softball diamond at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park in the Village of Caledonia, which may also be used for baseball.

^e Includes four soccer fields located at the Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park and six soccer fields located on Village of Caledonia-owned land. Both sites are located in the Village of Caledonia.

^f Soccer fields are located at the Soccer Complex of Racine (SCORE) adjacent to Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park, which is located in the Village of Caledonia.

^g Includes seven baseball diamonds at the County-owned Haban Park, which can be used for softball.

^h Includes 12 tennis courts located at J.I. Case High School. Even though the Racine Unified School District sites are public, events and policies at the school may limit the availability and use of the facilities to the general public.

Source: Village of Mount Pleasant and SEWRPC

As shown in Table 4.2, a need was identified through applying the standards for 45 additional public basketball goals, eight additional public playfields, 15 additional public softball diamonds, four additional public playgrounds, 18 additional public soccer fields, and four additional public tennis courts. In cases where the number of private facilities falls below the recommended standard, a need for additional public facilities to fulfill the need was identified, even though the public sector has no control over providing additional privately-owned recreation facilities. As documented in Chapter 5 of this report, Village staff refined the results of this needs analysis as it applies to the Village park system.

Facility Needs Based on Service Area Standards

In addition to meeting the per capita acreage standards, the spatial distribution of outdoor recreation facilities should provide ready access to Village residents. Applying the service radius standards set forth under Objective 2 in Appendix A determined which portions of the Village may lack adequate access to selected nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation facilities. Portions of the Village are not adequately served by such facilities, based on applying the standards, are identified below.

Baseball Diamonds

As shown on Map 4.6, baseball diamonds were provided at two public outdoor recreation sites in the Village in 2020. The league softball diamonds at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park located in the Village of Caledonia and at Lockwood Park located in the City of Racine also serve as baseball diamonds. Since the maximum service radius of a baseball diamond is two miles, applying the accessibility requirement indicates that areas in the southeastern, south-central, and northern portions of the Village are not served by the existing distribution of baseball diamonds.

Basketball Goals

As shown on Map 4.7, basketball goals were provided at two public outdoor recreation sites in the Village in 2020. Basketball goals were also provided at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park located in the Village of Caledonia and at Lockwood Park located in the City of Racine. Since the maximum service radius of a basketball goal is 0.5 mile, applying the accessibility requirement indicates that large portions of the Village are not served by the existing distribution of basketball goals. In addition, there are limited areas within the Village which, although within the 0.5-mile service area radius, are considered inadequately served due to accessibility barriers.

Playfields

As shown on Map 4.8, playfields were provided at 12 public outdoor recreation sites in the Village in 2020. Playfields were also provided at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park located in the Village of Caledonia, and the County-owned Pritchard Park and the City-owned Lockwood Park both located in the City of Racine. Since the maximum service radius of a playfield is 0.5 mile, applying the accessibility requirements indicates that areas in the southeastern, south-central, northern, and northwestern portions of the Village are not served by the existing distribution of playfields. In addition, there are limited areas within the Village which, although within the 0.5-mile service area radius, are considered inadequately served due to accessibility barriers.

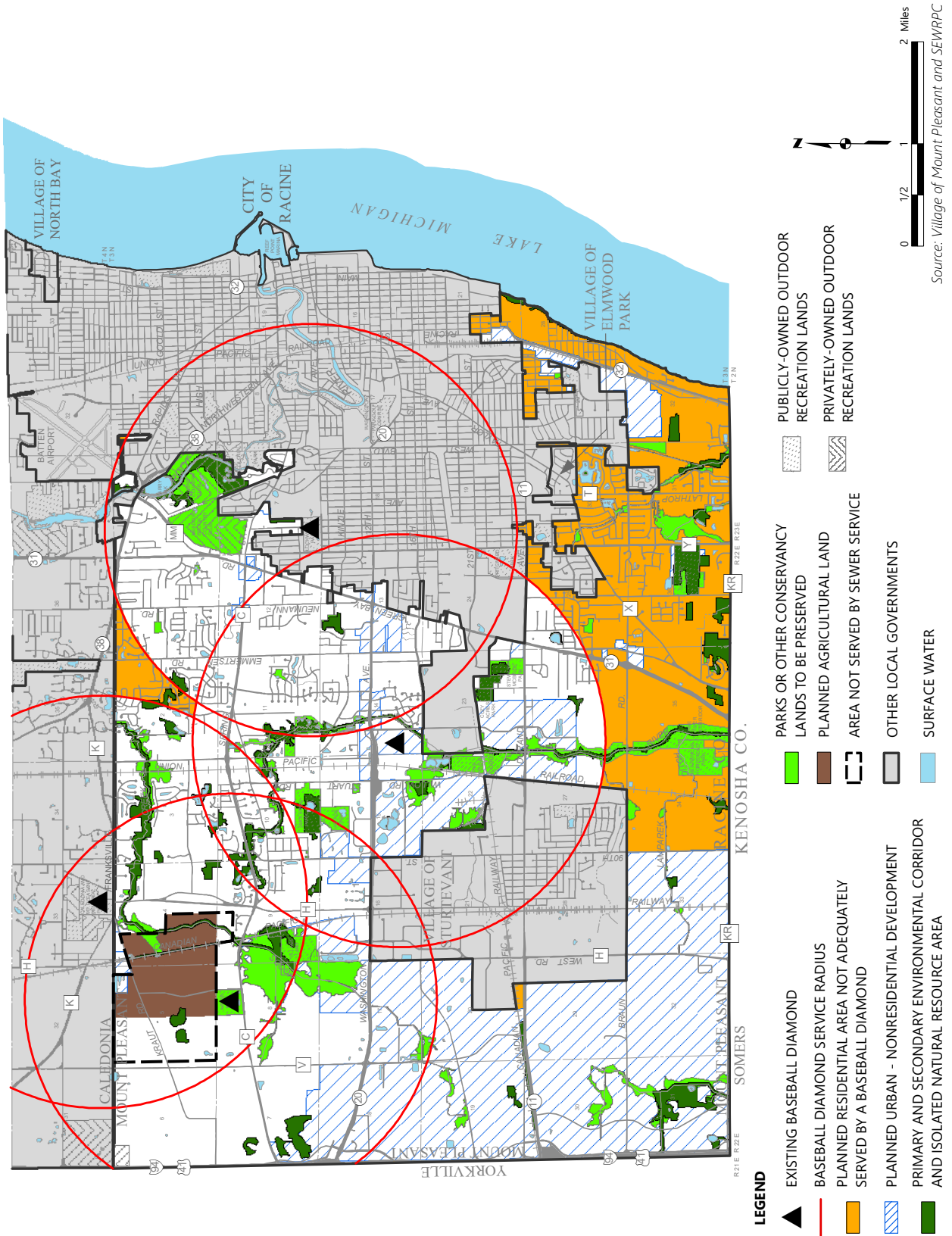
Playgrounds

As shown on Map 4.9, playgrounds were provided at 12 public outdoor recreation sites in the Village in 2020. Playgrounds were also provided at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park located in the Village of Caledonia, and the County-owned Pritchard Park and the City-owned Lockwood Park both located in the City of Racine. Since the maximum service radius for a playground is 0.5 mile, applying the accessibility requirement indicates areas in the southeastern, south-central, northern, northwestern, and central portions of the Village are not served by the existing distribution of playgrounds. In addition, there are limited areas within the Village which, although within the 0.5-mile service area radius, are considered inadequately served due to accessibility barriers.

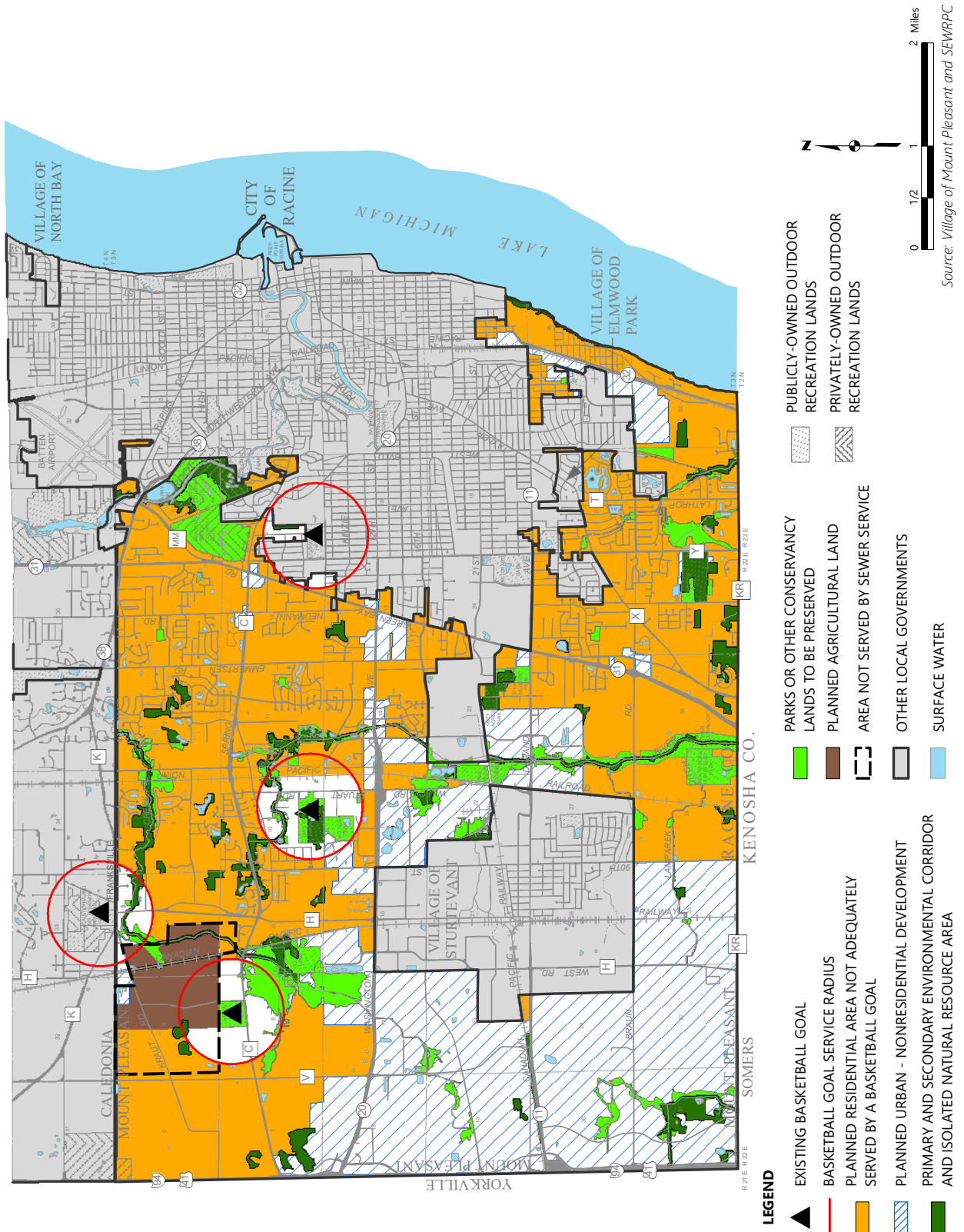
Soccer Fields

As shown on Map 4.10, public soccer fields were provided at one public outdoor recreation site in the Village in 2020. Public soccer fields were also provided at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park and at Village of Caledonia-owned land both located in the Village of Caledonia, and at the County-owned Pritchard Park and the City-owned Lockwood Park both located in the City of Racine. Private soccer fields were also located nearby at the Soccer Complex of Racine (SCORE) in the Village of Caledonia. Since the maximum service radius of a soccer field is one mile, applying the accessibility requirement indicates that areas in the northern, northwestern, southeastern, and south-central portions of the Village are not served by the existing distribution of soccer fields.

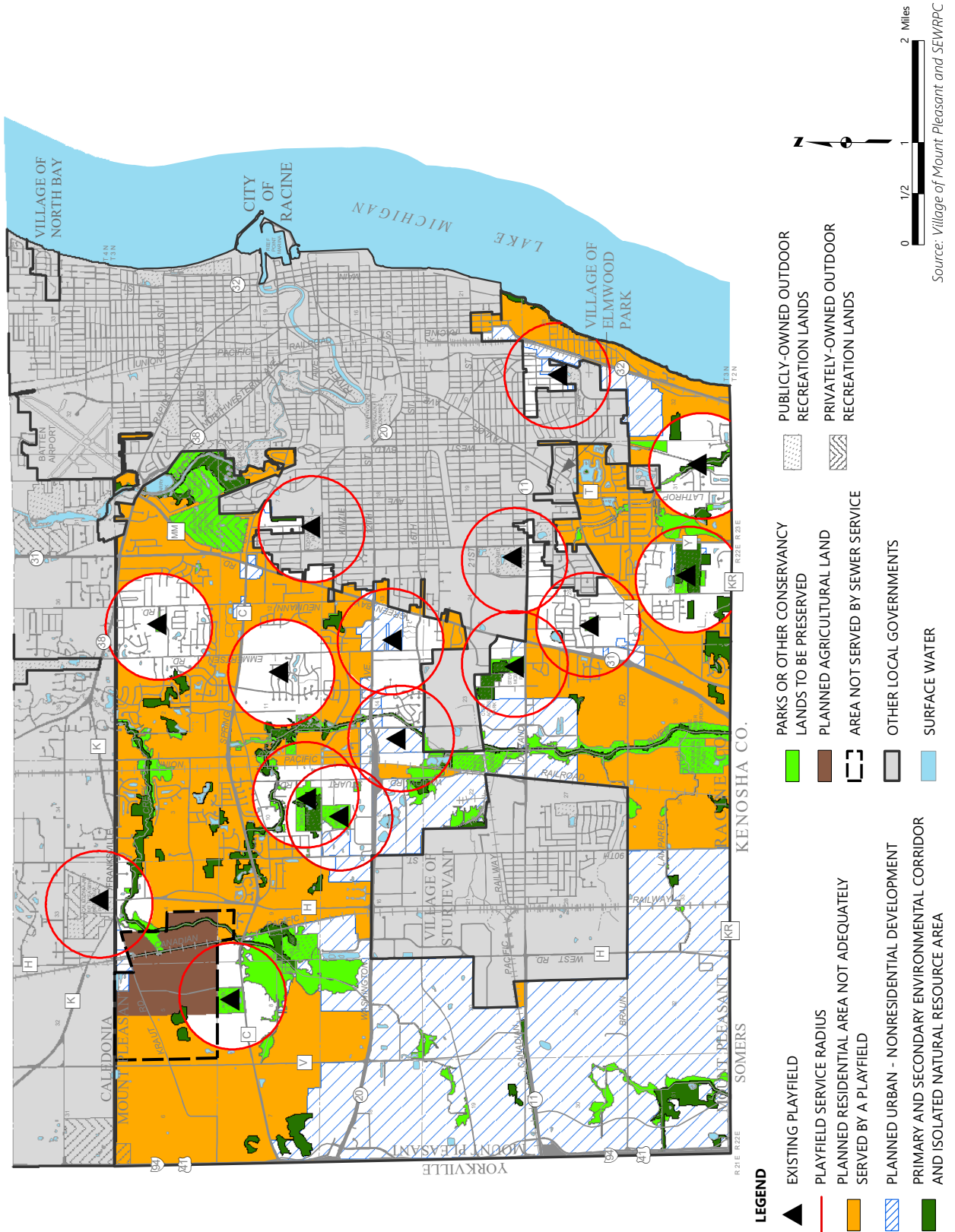
Map 4.6
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a Baseball Diamond



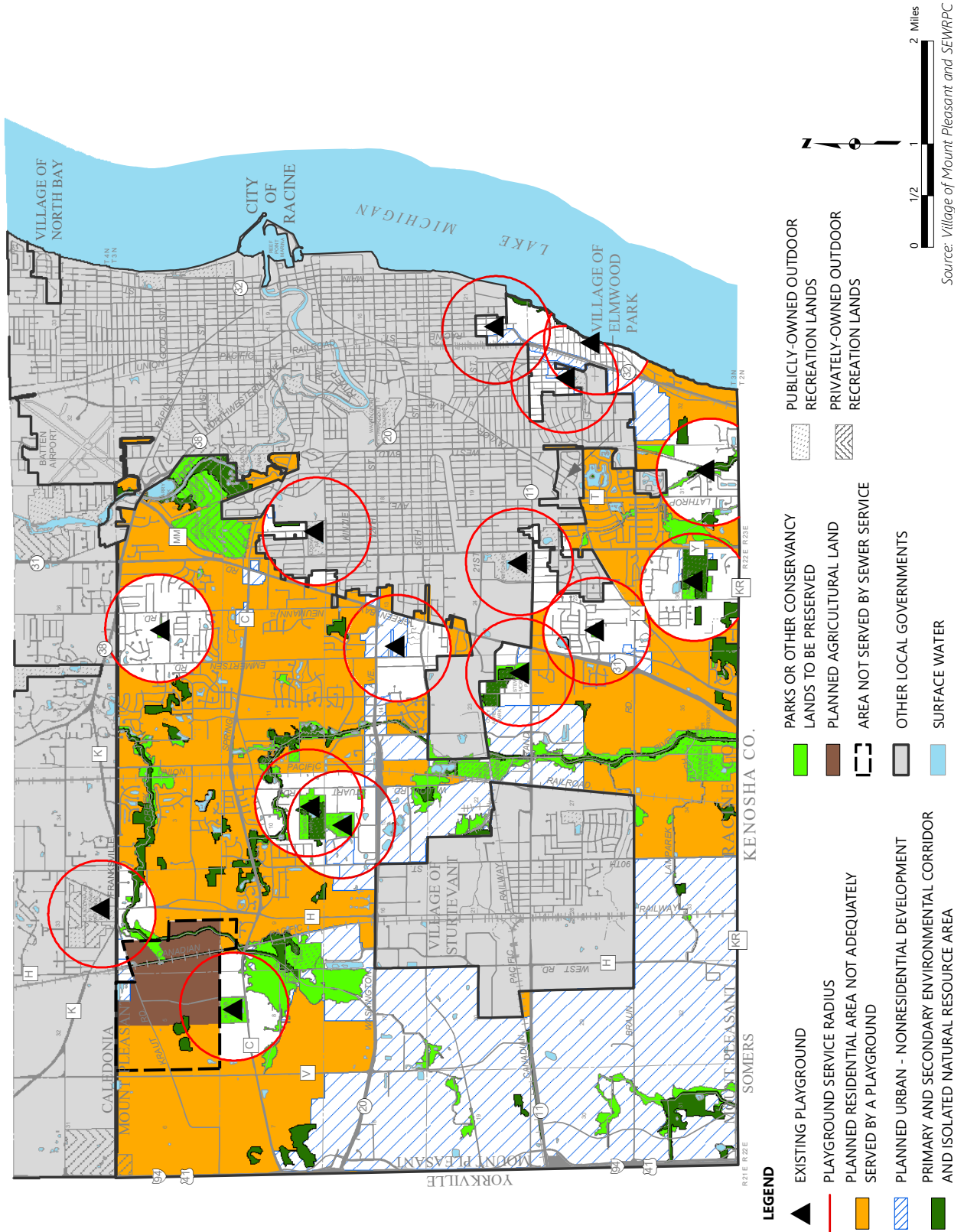
**Map 4.7
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a Basketball Goal**



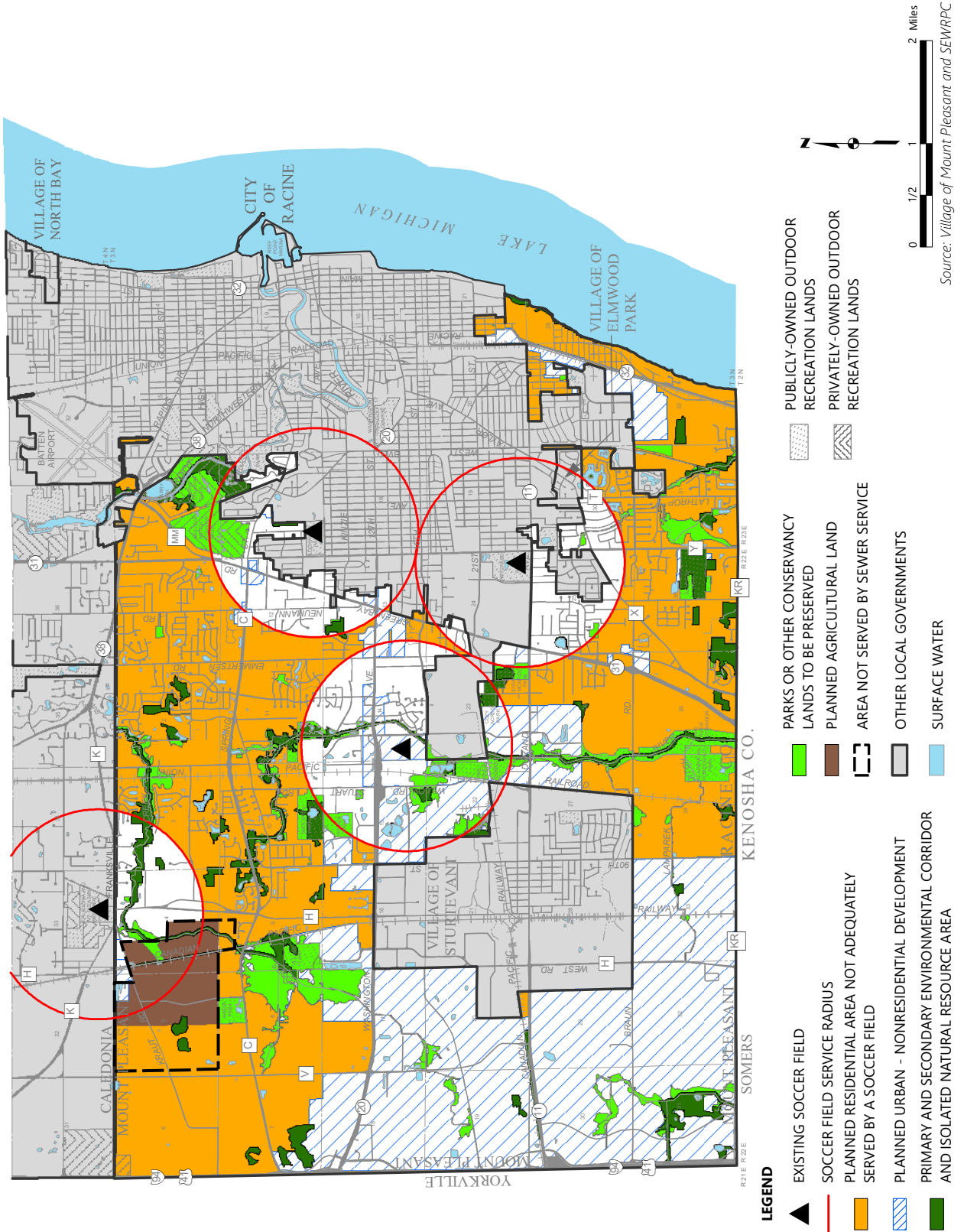
Map 4.8
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a Playground



**Map 4.9
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a Playground**



Map 4.10
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a Soccer Field



Softball Diamonds (Sandlot)

As shown on Map 4.11, sandlot softball diamonds were provided at five public outdoor recreation sites in the Village in 2020. Sandlot softball diamonds were also provided at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park located in the Village of Caledonia. Since the maximum service radius for a sandlot softball diamond is one mile, applying the accessibility requirement indicates that areas in the northern, northwestern, southeastern, and south-central portions of the Village are not served by the existing distribution of sandlot softball diamonds. In addition, there are limited areas within the Village which, although within the 1.0-mile service area radius, are considered inadequately served due to accessibility barriers.

Softball Diamonds (League)

As shown on Map 4.12, league softball diamonds were provided at three public outdoor recreation sites in the Village in 2020. League softball diamonds were also provided at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park located in the Village of Caledonia, and at the County-owned Pritchard Park and the City-owned Lockwood Park both located in the City of Racine. Since the maximum service radius for a league softball diamond is one mile, applying the accessibility requirement indicates that areas in the northern, northwestern, southeastern, and south-central portions of the Village are not served by the existing distribution of league softball diamonds.

Tennis Courts

As shown on Map 4.13, tennis courts were provided at one public outdoor recreation site in the Village in 2020. Tennis courts were also provided at Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park located in the Village of Caledonia and at the City-owned Lockwood Park located in the City of Racine. Since the maximum service radius for a tennis court is one mile, applying the accessibility requirement indicates that areas in the central, northern, northwestern, southeastern, and south-central portions of the Village are not served by the existing distribution of tennis courts.

Swimming Pool or Beach

One public beach was provided within the Village in 2020, at the County-owned Quarry Lake Park. In 2018, the SC Johnson Community Aquatic Center was developed with two swimming pools, water slides, water play structures, spray areas, concessions, and other support-related amenities at the County-owned Pritchard Park, which is located in the City of Racine, but adjacent to the Village. Village residents are also served by a public beach on Lake Michigan. The beach is located at North Beach in the City of Racine, which is north of the downtown area. Beaches along Lake Michigan have a 10-mile service radius; hence, the entire Village would be served by the existing distribution of public beaches in and near the Village. An indoor swimming pool provided at J.I. Case High School is also located in the Village; however, events and policies of the school district may limit the availability and use of the facility.

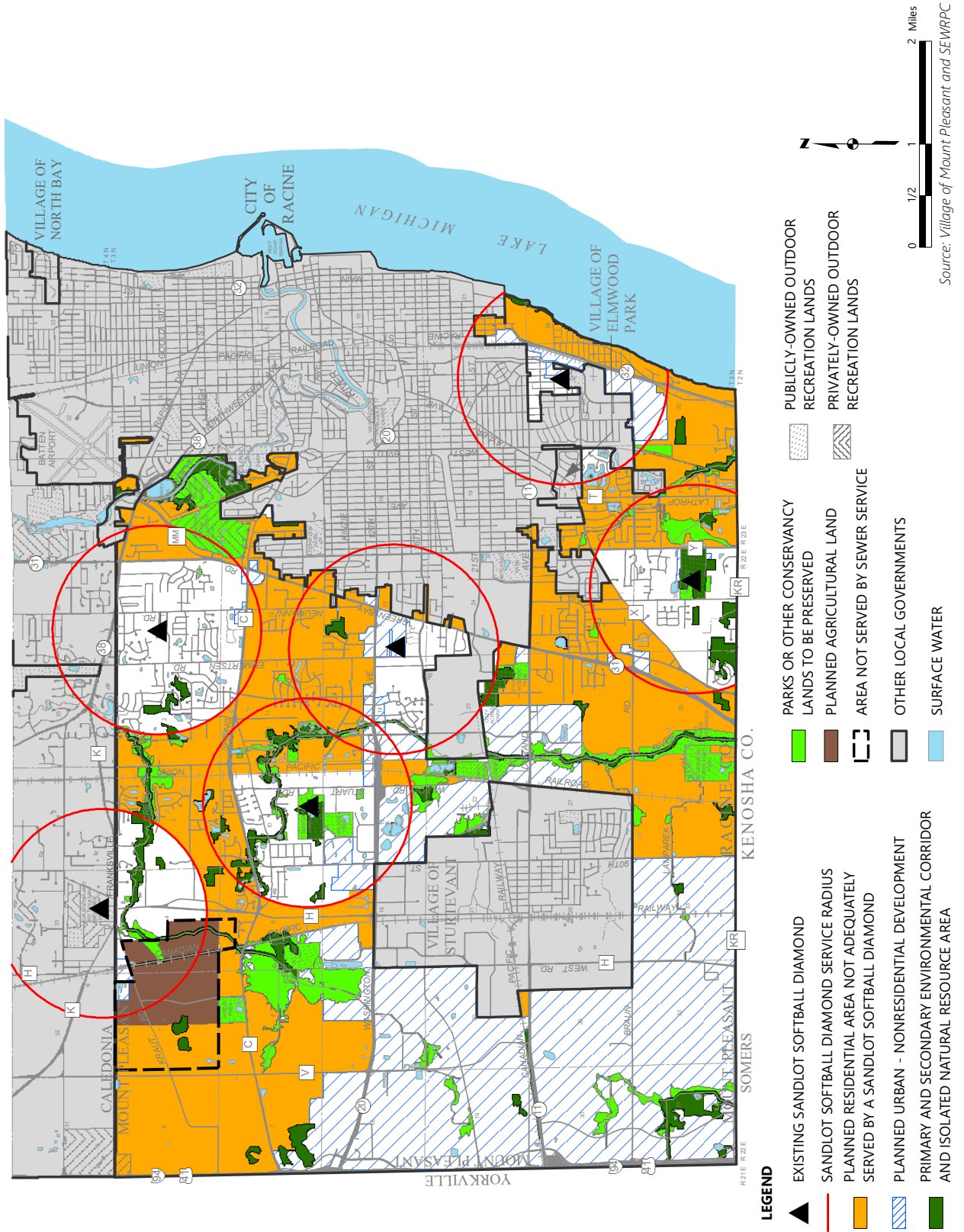
Applying Standards to Recreational Facilities

As shown by Table 4.2, applying the per capita standards identified a need for 45 additional basketball goals, eight additional playfields, 15 additional softball diamonds, four additional playgrounds, 18 additional soccer fields, and four additional tennis courts. The accessibility analysis for recreational facilities contained in the 2035 Village park plan also called for developing additional baseball diamonds, playfields, playgrounds, basketball goals, softball diamonds, soccer fields, and tennis courts to assure that such facilities are conveniently located to serve neighborhood residents. Chapter 3 identifies the number of recreational facilities recommended in the 2035 Village park plan that have not yet been developed. Developing these facilities would help meet per capita and park distribution standards within the Village.

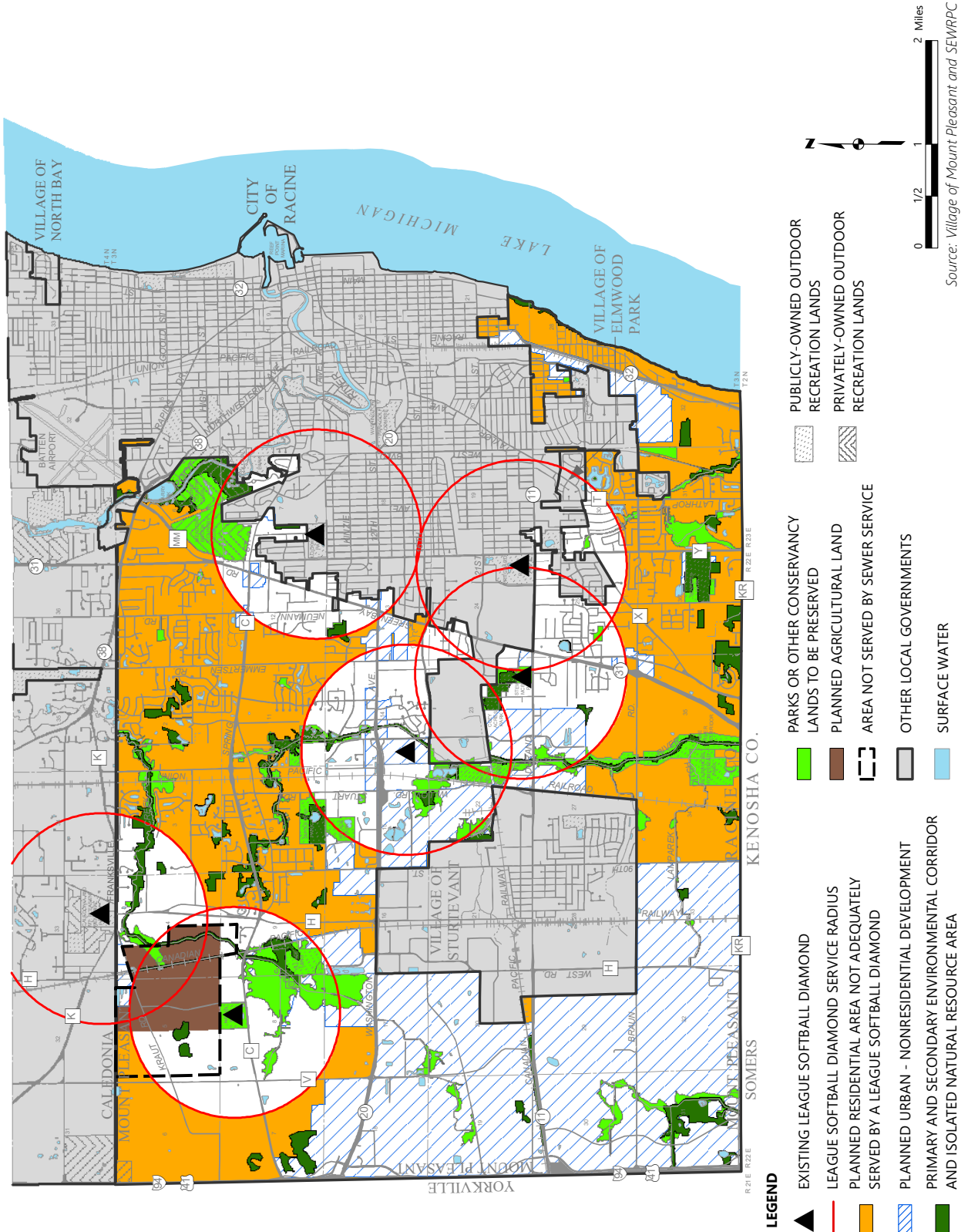
Village of Mount Pleasant Parks and Recreation Survey

In 2008, the Village of Mount Pleasant conducted a mail survey about the usage and preferences for parks and recreation facilities. The survey was funded by the Village and the results of the survey were collated and analyzed by Carthage College-Department of Sociology in 2009. A summary of the survey conducted in 2008 is listed in Chapter 4 of the Village park and open space plan adopted in 2015. The results from 2008 survey will continue to be utilized by the Village to guide in the development of the Village park and trail systems.

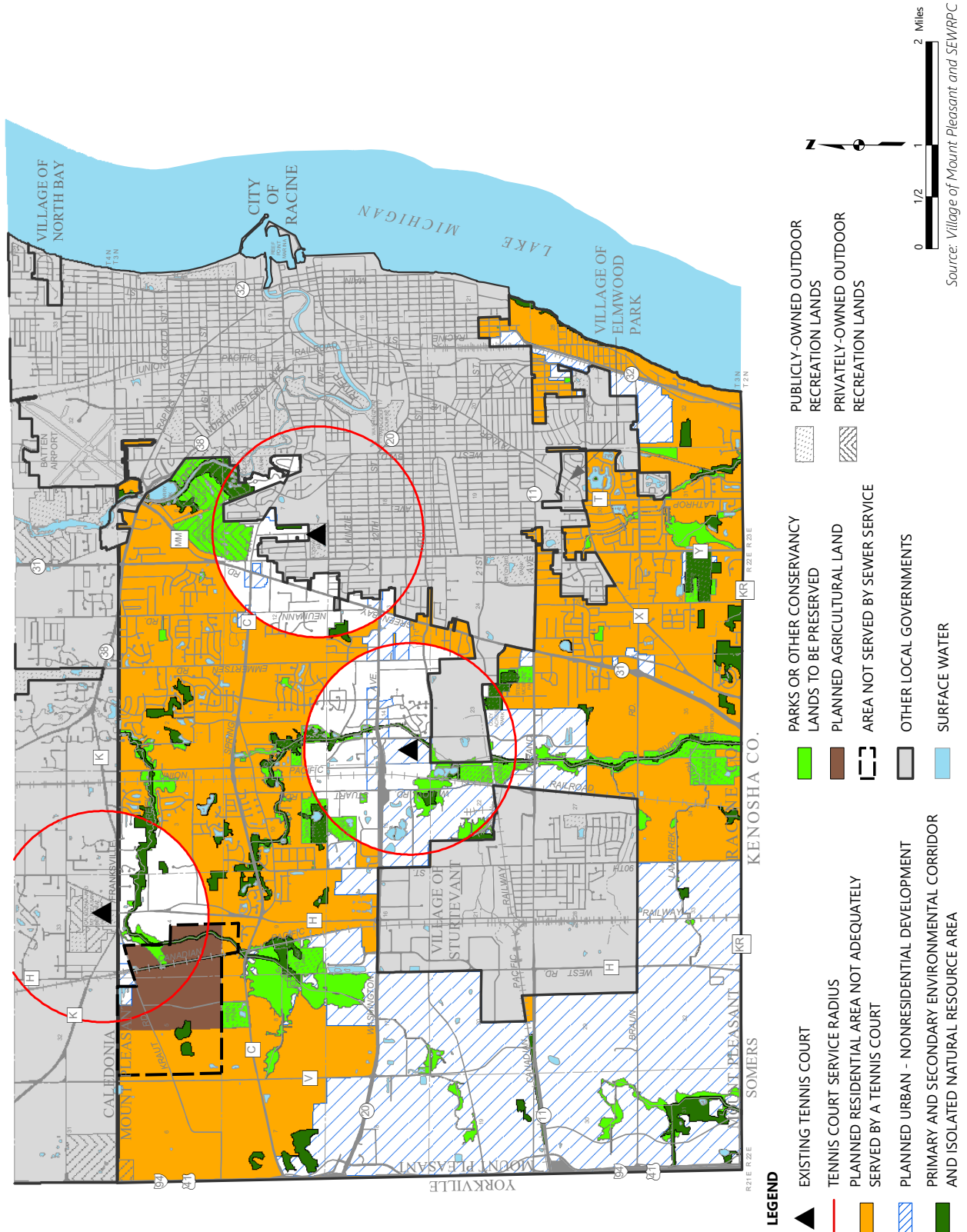
**Map 4.11
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a Sandlot Softball Diamond**



Map 4.12
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a League Softball Diamond



Map 4.13
Planned Residential Areas in the Village of Mount Pleasant Urban Service Area Not Adequately Served by a Tennis Court





Credit: Village of Mount Pleasant

5.1 INTRODUCTION

A high-quality parks system provides cultural, environmental, recreational, and aesthetic benefits that directly contribute to the Village's quality of life. The primary purposes of this park and open space plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant are to provide a sound and workable plan to guide the acquisition of land and the development of recreational facilities to meet the outdoor recreation needs of Village residents, to protect and enhance the underlying and sustaining natural resource base, and to contribute to the economic value and development of the community. The recommended park and open space plan is presented in this chapter. This plan updates the park and open space plan that was adopted by the Village in 2015.

This plan is intended to provide a long-range vision to the year 2050 and guide and assist Village officials and staff in making the day-to-day decisions needed for continuing to develop the Village's park and open space system. To assist in implementing the plan, both long-term recommendations for the next 30 years, and an "action plan" for the next five years, are presented in this chapter. The plan includes recommendations to: acquire additional land for new Village parks and for open space preservation purposes; develop recreational facilities at existing and proposed parks; update, improve, or maintain recreational facilities at existing parks; continue to develop a Village-wide system of recreational trails and bikeways; and continue to protect areas having important natural resources.

Important preliminary steps in developing this plan includes a review of park acquisition and development activities conducted to date to implement the previous park plan, and collecting updated information regarding land use, population, natural resources, and park and open space sites and recreational facilities within the Village. New or changed conditions affecting park and open space sites and recreational facilities, including pertinent recommendations from the updated Village of Mount Pleasant Comprehensive (Master) Land Use Plan (2019), the Village of Mount Pleasant Bicycle Plan, the Root River Watershed Restoration Plan, the Pike River Watershed Plan, the Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County, the Racine County Farmland Preservation Plan, the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan, and the updated natural areas plan for Southeastern Wisconsin were also identified and incorporated, as appropriate, into this plan update.

The responsibility for implementing recommendations to meet park and open space objectives is shared by several levels of government. Resource-oriented outdoor recreation objectives for large parks, areawide trail facilities, and facilities for such activities as golfing, camping, and boating, are typically the responsibility of the State and County levels of government, although larger cities and villages sometimes provide large parks and associated recreational facilities and segments of areawide trails. Nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation objectives for community and neighborhood parks for activities such as softball, tennis, soccer, and children's playground activities are typically the responsibility of the local (city, village, or town) level of government. Objectives intended to protect important natural resource features, including environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, are the responsibility of all levels of government.

The first part of this chapter summarizes the areawide park and open space plan recommendations for the Village, which are presented in the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan.²⁹ Included in that plan are recommendations for providing resource-oriented outdoor recreation sites and facilities and protecting primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas in Racine County, including the Village of Mount Pleasant. The second section of this chapter sets forth recommendations for providing Village park and open space sites and facilities. A third section describes actions needed to implement the plan.

5.2 AREAWIDE PARK AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

The park and open space plan for Racine County includes recommendations which, if implemented, would provide residents of the County with opportunities to participate in a wide range of resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities. Those recommendations, which have been incorporated into this Village plan, are concerned with providing major parks, which provide opportunities for resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities, and recreation corridors that may provide opportunities for various trail-oriented activities. In addition, the plan includes recommendations for protecting and preserving open space lands, including natural resource features such as woodlands, wetlands, and floodplains, located within environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas. The County park and open space plan is summarized in Chapter 4. Recommendations from the plan pertinent to this Village plan are described in this section.

In addition to the County park and open space plan, area-wide plans have been prepared for the Pike River and Root River watersheds. The watershed plans are summarized in Chapter 4. Recommendations from the watershed plans pertinent to this Village park and open space plan are included in the "Open Space Preservation" section of this chapter.

Racine County Park and Open Space Plan Recommendations

Major Parks

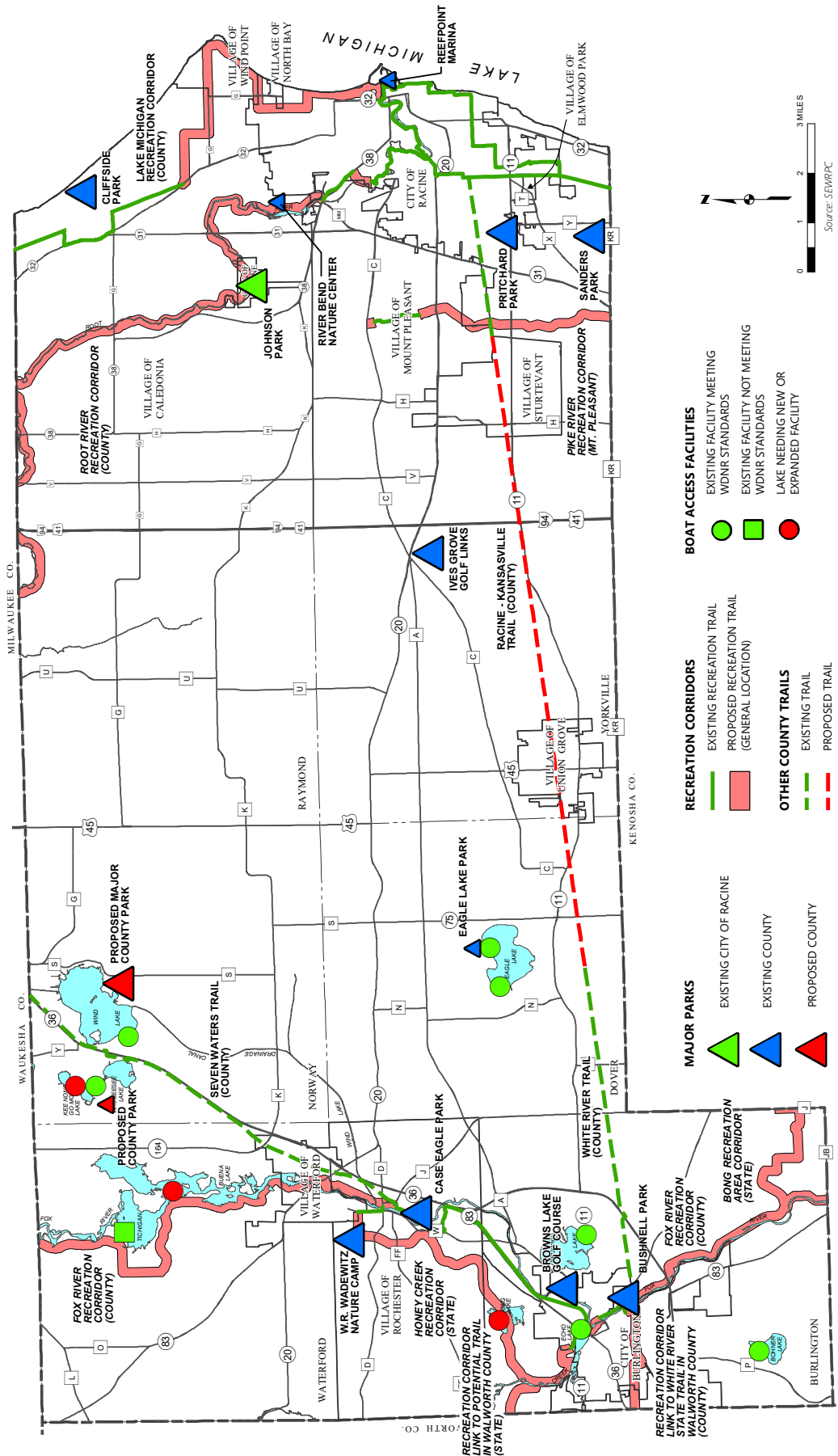
The outdoor recreation element of the Racine County park and open space plan is shown on Map 5.1.³⁰ The plan recommends that a total of 10 major public outdoor recreation sites be provided in the County. One major park, Sanders Park, currently exists within the Village of Mount Pleasant and would continue to be maintained by Racine County. The County plan recommends acquiring an additional 30 acres of land and developing additional picnic facilities at the park. The plan also recommends that the County continue to maintain other County-owned sites within the Village of Mount Pleasant, including Haban Park, Horlick Park, and Quarry Lake Park.

In addition, the plan recommends that Racine County continue to maintain and provide additional facilities at other major parks located near the Village, where necessary; such as Pritchard Park, located adjacent to the Village in the City of Racine, and Ives Grove Golf Links, located just west of the Village in the Village of Yorkville. Since the previous Village park plan was adopted, an aquatic center was developed with two swimming pools, water slides, water play structures, spray areas, concessions, and other support-related amenities at Pritchard Park. In 2019, the development of the SC Johnson Community Sports Complex was

²⁹ Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 134, 3rd Edition, A Park and Open Space Plan for Racine County, Wisconsin, February 2013.

³⁰ Some of the proposed recreation trails shown on Map 5.1 have been developed, including the Lake Michigan Trail through the City of Racine and the Pike River Pathway in the Village. Map 5.3 and Map 5.4 show existing trails in 2020.

Map 5.1
Outdoor Recreation Element of the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan: 2035



initiated at Pritchard Park. The development of a multi-purpose turf field and stadium that can be used for football, soccer, and lacrosse events was completed in 2021. The development of league softball diamonds and baseball diamonds are also planned at the park.

The County park plan further recommends that the City of Racine continue to maintain and provide additional facilities for resource-oriented activities as needed at the City-owned Johnson Park and Golf Course, which is located just north of the Village.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Trails

The County plan recommends that about 88 miles of bicycle and pedestrian trails be provided in the County as part of the regionwide trail system, including trails within the Pike River, Root River, Fox River, and Lake Michigan corridors and a trail along a railway right-of-way, which has been mostly abandoned, extending from the City of Racine to Walworth County. Recommended bicycle and pedestrian trails include:

- A trail within the Root River corridor. The City of Racine has developed that portion of the trail, known as the Root River Pathway, within the City. The pathway extends from the Main Street Bridge, near downtown, to Colonial Park. On-street connections are provided to the County's Racine-Sturtevant Trail to the south and the County's Milwaukee-Racine-Kenosha (MRK) Trail to the north. The County plan recommends that the County acquire land and develop those portions of the Root River trail north of the City to the Racine-Milwaukee County line.
- A trail within the Fox River corridor on the west side of the County, to be developed by the County.
- A trail along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The City of Racine has developed that portion of the trail, known as the Lake Michigan Pathway, within the City. The pathway connects to the MRK Trail and the North Shore Trail on the north and south sides of the City, respectively. The MRK Trail extends north to Six Mile Road in the Village of Caledonia. A gap exists between Six Mile Road and Seven Mile Road,³¹ before the Trail resumes north of Seven Mile Road and extends into the City of Oak Creek in Milwaukee County. The North Shore Trail extends south and connects to the Kenosha County North Shore Trail.
- A trail within the Pike River corridor. The Village of Mount Pleasant completed development of the Pike River Pathway in 2018. The pathway extends along the entire length of the Pike River within the Village from Old Spring Street to CTH KR (Racine-Kenosha Countyline). The trail extends into Kenosha County to the County-owned Petrifying Springs Park.
- The Racine-Sturtevant Trail, developed by Racine County. The trail extends from West Boulevard in the City of Racine to 96th Street in the Village of Sturtevant. Within the Village of Mount Pleasant, the existing trail is located on Village-owned lands, County-owned lands, and Village street rights-of-way. Since the adoption of the County park plan, the WDNR, with a financial contribution from Racine County, acquired portions of an abandoned railway from 105th Street in the Village of Sturtevant westward to Kansasville, with a plan to cooperatively develop an extension of the White River State Trail in partnership with the County. As shown on Map 5.1, the County park plan identifies this portion of railway to be developed as the Racine-Kansasville Trail. Due to this segment now proposed to be an extension of the White River State Trail, it is recommended that the County develop the remaining portions of the Racine-Sturtevant Trail, west of 96th Street, on local, low-volume traffic streets to link to the proposed White River State Trail at 105th Street. The abandoned railway right-of-way from Kansasville westward to the City of Burlington was previously acquired by the WDNR and the White River State Trail was developed by Racine County. The trail is proposed to be extended to the west by approximately three miles to connect to the White River State Trail in Walworth County.
- The County park plan also recommends the County continue to maintain signage and other route amenities associated with the Racine County Bicycle Route, which includes about a nine-mile portion within the Village.

³¹ Map 5.1 shows the gap in the off-road trail between Six Mile Road and Seven Mile Road as an on-street trail segment.

Water Trails

The County plan recommends developing water trails for canoeing and kayaking. Potential water trails may be located on the Root River and along the Lake Michigan shoreline within and adjacent to the Village. In July 2017, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) designated the Lake Michigan Water Trail as a State trail. The Lake Michigan State Water Trail navigates along the State of Wisconsin's shoreline. Canoeing/kayaking access sites are located in 11 lakeside counties and are managed by an assortment of public agencies and private organizations. The water trail extends along the approximately six-mile portion of the Lake Michigan shoreline located within the Village of Mount Pleasant and environs. Existing public access sites near the Village of Mount Pleasant are located at the City of Racine-owned North Beach Park, Pershing Park, Rooney Recreation Area, and Samuel Myers Park and the City of Kenosha-owned Alford Park, Pennoyer Park, and Simmons Island Park.

The proposed Root River Water Trail, located in the northeastern portion of the Village, would extend about 1.5 miles in the Village and would connect with the existing Lake Michigan State Water Trail. An existing public canoe access site is currently located at the County-owned Horlick Park within the Village. Existing public canoe access sites are also located at the City of Racine-owned Island Park and Lincoln Park. Efforts are also underway to develop the Fox River Water Trail in Wisconsin and Illinois with the potential of the trail being designated as a National Water Trail. The Fox River is located in the western portion of the County and extends from north to south through the County. The water trail is proposed to extend 187 miles from the City of Brookfield in Waukesha County, Wisconsin to the City of Ottawa in LaSalle County, Illinois. The water trail would traverse about 70 miles in the State of Wisconsin.

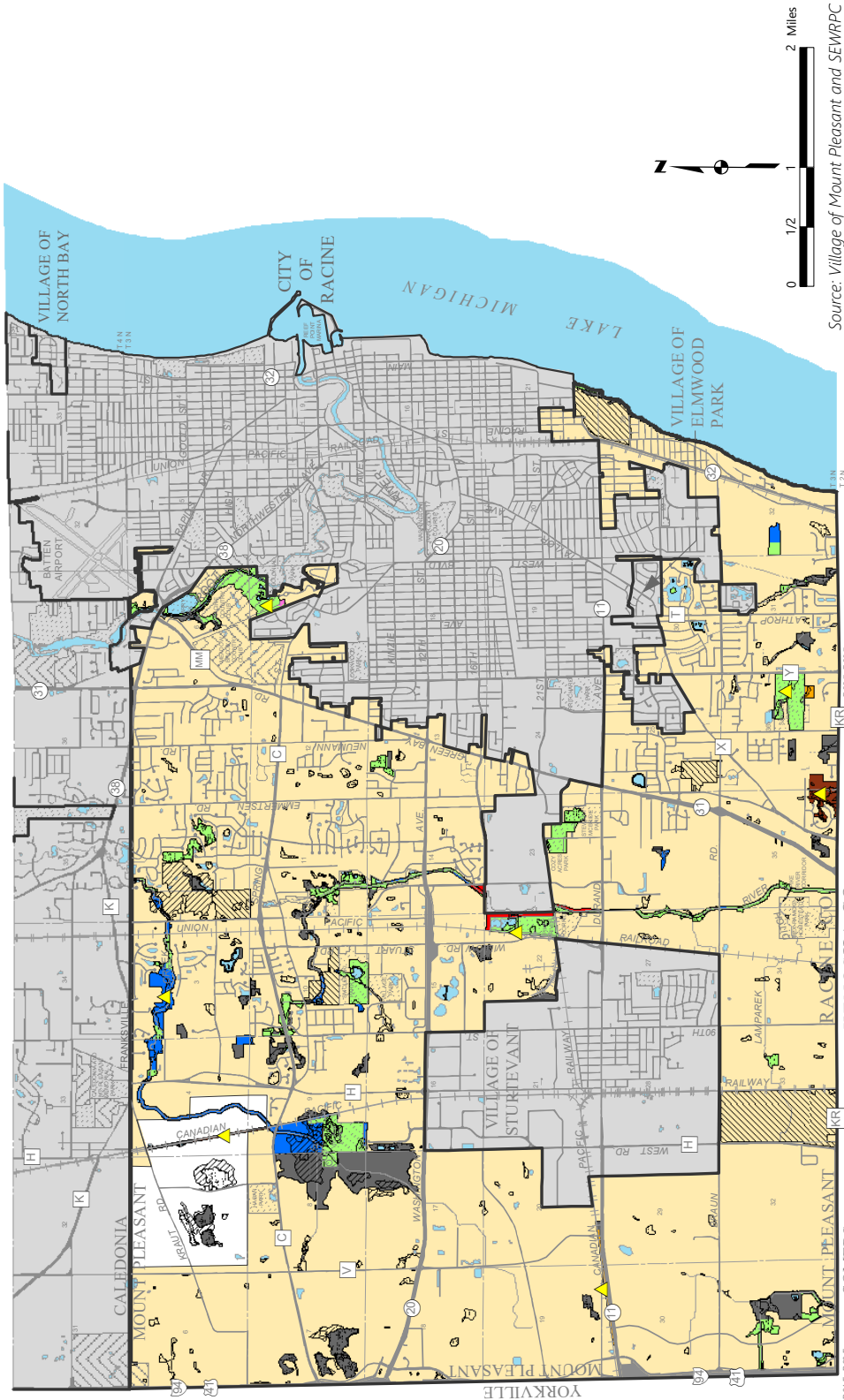
5.3 OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION

The location and extent of the important open space lands in the Village of Mount Pleasant, including wetlands, floodplains, woodlands, surface water, natural and geological areas, and critical species habitat sites are described in Chapter 2. Many of these important natural resources are located within environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, which are also described in Chapter 2. Preserving these open space lands in essentially natural, open uses would serve to maintain a high level of environmental quality in, and protect the natural beauty of, the Village of Mount Pleasant, as well as provide valuable recreational opportunities for residents of the Village. Preserving these areas will also help to avoid critical and costly environmental and developmental problems within the Village.

The 2019 Village comprehensive (master) land use plan map includes a category ("Park, Recreation, and Natural Areas") applied to existing and planned public parks and private recreational areas and a category ("Natural Resource Area and Environmental Corridor") applied to areas with natural resource features. The "Natural Resource Area and Environmental Corridors" category includes 2015 environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas. The Village land use plan map also includes an overlay identifying floodplains or the 1-percent-annual-probability (100-year recurrence interval) flood event. The open space preservation element for this Village park and open space plan will consist of the "Natural Resource Area and Environmental Corridor" land use category and the "Park, Recreation, and Natural Areas" land use category, excluding those areas that are existing Village or County parks or private recreation areas (e.g. country club), as shown on the Village 2019 land use plan map. The open space preservation component of this park and open space plan is shown on Map 5.2. There are two "Park, Recreation, and Natural Areas" features not associated with a park or recreation area identified on the Village 2019 land use plan map and are located:

- South of CTH C (Spring Street), north of STH 20 (Washington Avenue), and west of the Canadian Pacific Railway along Hoods Creek
- South of STH 20 (Washington Avenue), north of STH 11 (Durand Avenue), east of the Union Pacific Railroad, and west of the City of Racine corporate limits along the Pike River

Map 5.2
Open Space Preservation Plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant



Source: Village of Mount Pleasant and SEWRPC

LEGEND

EXISTING PUBLIC INTEREST OWNERSHIP OF OPEN SPACE LANDS	PROPOSED PUBLIC INTEREST OWNERSHIP OF OPEN SPACE LANDS	NATURAL AREA OR CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITE	SURFACE WATER
COUNTY, CITY, VILLAGE, SCHOOL DISTRICT, COMPATIBLE PRIVATE OUTDOOR RECREATION OR OPEN SPACE SITE, OR COMMON OPEN SPACE AREAS IN CONSERVATION SUBDIVISIONS	RACINE COUNTY	PRIORITY PROTECTION AREA - PIKE RIVER WATERSHED PLAN	PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
LANDS UNDER CONSERVATION EASEMENT	VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT	POTENTIAL RESTORATION AREA - ROOT RIVER WATERSHED PLAN	PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	CITY OF RACINE	EXISTING WETLAND (INCLUDES FARMED WETLANDS)	
VILLAGE SEWER SERVICE AREA	NONPROFIT CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION		
	OPEN SPACE LANDS TO BE PROTECTED THROUGH PROPER ZONING		

The Root River watershed plan³² recommends that riparian buffers be expanded and/or continue to be protected along all streams and tributaries within the Root River watershed, which includes the Root River, Hoods Creek, and Ives Grove Ditch located within the Village. A 75-foot stream setback is recommended as the minimum for establishing a riparian buffer; however, when development plans are submitted to the Village for review, it is recommended that the Village consider additional setbacks up to an optimum stream setback of 1,000 feet from the ordinary high-water mark. Establishing a minimum 75-foot setback provides quality in-stream habitats and reduces pollution, while establishing larger setback requirements provides these same in-stream benefits, and also provides essential habitats for a variety of wildlife populations. The Root River watershed plan also supports the Village recommendation for a 150-foot tributary setback, as an alternative to the 75-foot setback currently required by the Village zoning ordinance, but recommends that a 1,000-foot setback be considered as an optimum setback.

The Root River watershed plan also recommends efforts to restore farmland and other open space land to more natural conditions, such as wetlands or prairies, especially in areas planned for urban development or in areas no longer being utilized for agricultural production. Selected potential wetland/prairie restoration areas in the Root River watershed area within the Village are shown on Map 5.2. These selected areas are within or adjacent to environmental corridors or isolated natural resource areas and existing farmed wetlands larger than five acres.

The Pike River watershed plan recommends establishing a “Green Infrastructure Network,” which is “an interconnected system of natural areas and other open space that conserves natural ecosystem values and functions, sustains clean air and water, and provides a wide array of benefits to people and wildlife.” Several of the Green Infrastructure Priority Protection Areas are included in the open space preservation network described above. Additional Priority Protection Areas in the Pike River watershed within the Village are shown with a hatch on Map 5.2. In some cases, it may be possible to develop a portion of a parcel shown as a priority protection area while preserving the natural resources within the parcel.

The Green Infrastructure Priority Protection Areas identified in the Pike River Watershed-Based Plan are incorporated into the open space preservation areas, and include:

- Priority Protection Areas owned by the Village or Racine County
- Priority Protection Areas within common open space areas in conservation subdivisions
- Priority Protection Areas located within an environmental corridor or isolated natural resource area

About 31 percent, or 503 acres, of open space preservation areas in the Village are existing publicly-owned lands. About 155 acres of open space preservation areas in the Village are existing privately-owned lands, which includes lands within golf courses, country clubs, and common open space areas in conservation subdivisions. About 26 acres of open space preservation areas in the Village are protected by existing conservation easements. As shown on Table 5.1, about 379 acres of open space preservation areas are owned by the Village, and Racine County owns 102 acres of open space preservation areas. All publicly-owned open space preservation areas should be maintained in public ownership and preserved in open space.

It is recommended that the Village acquire about 203 acres of open space preservation areas associated with the Hoods Creek Woods Natural Area and Restoration Project, the Pike River Restoration Project, and acquiring parklands for new or existing park sites or for natural resource protection. These areas could be acquired through fee-simple purchase, dedication, or through conservation easements. Acquisition of the Hoods Creek Woods Natural Area by a nonprofit conservation organization would also serve to protect the area and its resources.

It is recommended that 643 acres of the open space preservation areas that are not publicly owned be protected through conservancy zoning. Because the Village zoning ordinance currently does not include

³² Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 316, A Restoration Plan for the Root River Watershed, July 2014.

Table 5.1
Existing and Proposed Ownership of Open Space Land^a in the Village of Mount Pleasant

Ownership	Existing^b (Acres)	Plan (Acres)	Planned Change (Acres)
Village of Mount Pleasant	379	582	203
Racine County	102	121	19
Other Public	22 ^c	24	2 ^d
Nonprofit Conservation Organization	--	49	49
Private Recreation ^e	72	72	--
Private Common Open Space Land in Conservation Subdivisions	83	83	--
Private - Protect Through Zoning ^f	--	643	643
Conservation Easement	26	33	7 ^g
Total	684	1,607	923

^a Includes primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, isolated natural resource areas, common open space lands in conservation subdivisions, and portions of the "Park, Recreation, and Natural Areas" land use category on the Village's 2019 Land Use Plan map.

^b Reflects existing ownership as of 2020.

^c Includes lands owned by the State of Wisconsin associated with the Root River (12 acres), the City of Racine (nine acres), and the Racine Unified School District (one acre).

^d Lands recommended to be acquired by the City of Racine as part of the Colonial Park Woods Natural Area.

^e Includes private open space lands held in private ownership for recreational use (for example, golf courses and country clubs).

^f Includes private open space lands proposed to be protected through Village zoning.

^g A conservation easement is proposed to be acquired by Racine County on lands associated with the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries Geological Area that are currently privately owned

Source: Village of Mount Pleasant and SEWRPC

conservancy zoning districts, other than incorporating County shoreland regulations as an overlay district, it is recommended that the Village consider adopting and applying regulations to protect open space preservation areas.³³ Such regulations should limit development in wetland and floodplain areas to open space uses, and limit development in upland wooded areas to very low density residential use (minimum of five acres per dwelling unit) or compatible recreational uses.

The open space preservation areas may change over time due to updated floodplain and wetland mapping, natural changes in wetland boundaries, stream and stream corridor restoration, and field surveys that precisely identify the boundaries of wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas. It should be noted that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps identify larger floodplains or additional floodplain areas in various stream or drainage areas within the Village. These larger floodplains or additional floodplain areas are included in the local sewer service area plan and plan amendments,³⁴ which in turn, those floodplain areas that are not developed for urban or recreational uses may revert to natural vegetation and be added to the environmental corridor network, thus potentially be incorporated as part of the Village's open space preservation area. Public acquisition or conservancy zoning of wetlands and environmental corridors/isolated natural resource areas should, therefore, be based on a field delineation of such areas prior to acquisition.

Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and Geological Sites

The regional natural areas and critical species habitat protection and management plan, as documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, *A Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management*

³³ It can be noted that the Village's Post-Construction Stormwater Management regulations also requires "Protective Areas" in and adjacent to certain wetlands, lakes, and streams for residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional land uses and associated roads.

³⁴ The Village of Mount Pleasant is part of the City of Racine and environs sanitary sewer service area.

Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin,³⁵ sets forth a number of recommendations related to preserving identified natural areas and critical species habitat sites within the Village of Mount Pleasant. The regional natural areas plan is summarized in Chapter 4.

As noted in Chapter 2, there are five natural areas, three critical species habitat sites, four aquatic areas, and one geological site partially or wholly located in the Village. The regional natural areas plan recommends that the Village of Mount Pleasant acquire and protect the Hoods Creek Woods natural area. Through acquisition of wetlands and woodlands located in a secondary environmental corridor, the Village should acquire the remaining 58 acres of the natural area that are not currently in public ownership within the Village by fee-simple purchase, dedication, or through a conservation easement. It is also recommended that the Village continue to retain other Village open space or conservancy areas that contain critical species habitat sites for resource protection purposes.

Specific aquatic habitat area plan recommendations were not formulated under the natural areas planning effort since such habitats are under the direct management authority of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). The natural areas plan update recommends that the WDNR implement management and regulatory efforts necessary to ensure the long-term viability of the aquatic habitats and their critical species.

The regional natural areas plan update and this park and open space plan recommend that Racine County continue to retain and maintain the Sanders Park Hardwoods State Natural Area and also acquire the entire 11-acre Sylvania Railroad Prairie natural area, which is not currently under protective ownership. The natural areas plan also recommends that Racine County acquire a conservation easement to protect the remaining portions of the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries geological site that are not currently under protective ownership.

The recommendations made in this plan differ somewhat from those made in the regional natural areas protection and management plan (as amended). The regional plan anticipated that such refinements would be made when County open space plans were updated. Specific refinements made as part of this park and open space plan as shown on Table 5.2 are:

- The Hoods Creek Woods natural area was reclassified from NA-2 (Countywide or Regional significance) to NA-3 (local significance)
- The Willow Woods critical species habitat sites was removed from the inventory

In all, the natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological site recommended for preservation encompass 238 acres within the Village.

Farmland Preservation Areas

As described in Chapter 4 of this report, the Racine County Farmland Preservation Plan³⁶ identifies farmland preservation areas in the southwestern portion (T3N, R22 E, Sections 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33) and northwestern portion (T3N, R22E, Sections 4 and 5) of the Village. However, since the previous park plan was adopted, the Village approved the area in the southwestern portion of the Village for a significant urbanized development that occupies the entire farmland preservation area. When the Village amended the 2035 comprehensive (master) land use plan in 2019, the Village re-designated the entire farmland preservation area in the southwestern portion of the Village to “Business” (to accommodate the Foxconn manufacturing development). The Village land use plan map amended in 2019 still identifies farmland preservation areas in the northwestern portion of the Village as a prime agricultural area, however, the western one-third of this area is now planned for residential use by the Village. When the County farmland preservation plan is updated, it is possible that farmland preservation areas within the Village will be removed.

³⁵ *An update to the regional natural areas and critical species habitat plan is documented in SEWRPC Amendment to Planning Report No. 42, Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, December 2010.*

³⁶ *Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 46, 2nd Edition, A Farmland Preservation Plan for Racine County, Wisconsin, December 2013.*

Table 5.2**Recommended Protection of Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and a Geological Site in the Village of Mount Pleasant**

Number on Map 2.8	Site Identification		Site Area (acres)			Proposed Acquisition Agency
	Area Name	Classification Code ^a	Existing Protective Ownership	Proposed to Be Acquired	Total	
1	Franksville Railroad Prairie	NA-1	--	4	4	Nonprofit Conservation Organization Racine County
2	Sanders Park Hardwoods State Natural Area	NA-1 (SNA)	56	--	56	
3	Colonial Park Woods	NA-3	7	14	21 ^b	City of Racine
4	Hoods Creek Woods	NA-3	14	58	72	Village of Mount Pleasant Racine County
5	Sylvania Railroad Prairie	NA-3	--	11	11	
6	Campbell Woods	CSH	--	43	43	Nonprofit Conservation Organization
7	Waxdale Railroad Prairie	CSH	--	--	--	-- ^c
9	Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries	GA-1	24	7	31 ^d	Racine County
10	Kilbourn Road Ditch	AQ-3 (RSH)	--	--	2.8 miles ^e	State of Wisconsin ^f
11	Pike River downstream from Pike Creek (includes Sorenson Creek)	AQ-3 (RSH)	--	--	1.0 miles ^e	State of Wisconsin ^f
12	Root River downstream from Nicholson Road to STH 38	AQ-3 (RSH)	--	--	0.2 miles ^e	State of Wisconsin ^f
13	Root River downstream from STH 38 to Spring Street	AQ-3 (RSH)	--	--	1.1 miles ^e	State of Wisconsin ^f
Total: 12 Sites		--	101	137	238	--

Note: Site Number 8 (Willow Woods critical species habitat site) was identified in Chapter 2 (Table 2.7) of this report and is based on inventory data approved in 2009 as part of the Regional Natural Areas Plan. This Village park plan may provide detailed information that may help refine the Regional Natural Areas Plan when that plan is updated. Based on field evaluations since the natural areas plan was adopted and the last Village park plan was adopted, conditions with this critical species habitat site have diminished, thus the site no longer classifies as a critical species habitat site and will be excluded from this table. The site will also be excluded from the subsequent regional natural areas plan update.

^a NA-1 identifies Natural Areas of statewide or greater significance

NA-3 identifies Natural Areas of local significance

CSH identifies Critical Species Habitat sites

GA-1 identifies Geological Areas of statewide or greater significance

SNA, or State Natural Area, identifies those sites designated as State Natural Areas by the State of Wisconsin Natural Areas Preservation Council

RSH, or Rare Species Habitat, identifies those Aquatic Areas which support habitat for endangered, threatened, or "special concern" species designated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

AQ-3 identifies Aquatic Areas of local significance.

^b Includes only the acreage located in the Village. Total acreage is 94 acres. Of the 21 acres located within the Village, seven acres are owned by the City of Racine (Colonial Park). The remaining 14 acres includes 13 acres located within the privately-owned Racine Country Club and one acre located on private residential lots. Those 14 acres are proposed to be protected through acquisition of a conservation easement by the City of Racine.

^c This site, totaling one acre, is not proposed to be acquired for protective ownership and is recommended to be protected through appropriate zoning.

^d Includes only the acreage located in the Village. Total acreage is 32 acres. Of the 31 acres located within the Village, 24 acres are owned by Racine County as part of Quarry Lake Park; three acres are located within the privately-owned Racine Country Club; and four acres are located on private single-family residential lots in the Village. The seven acres that are not currently under protective ownership are proposed to be protected through acquisition of a conservation easement by Racine County.

^e A portion of the site extends outside of the Village and miles given are entirely within the Village.

^f Navigable waterway owned by the State and managed by the Department of Natural Resources.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC

5.4 VILLAGE PARK AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of the analysis of outdoor recreation needs based on the regional park and open space standards, presented in Chapter 4, indicate that there is a need in the Village of Mount Pleasant for additional neighborhood parks and additional recreational facilities, including softball diamonds, soccer fields, playfields, playgrounds, and basketball goals. Such recreational facilities are intended to meet the outdoor recreation needs of Village residents and are recommended to be provided by the Village. All proposed facility development must comply with the accessibility requirements set forth under Federal Law in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The recommended park and open space plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant is shown on Map 5.3 and described in the following sections. Upon full implementation of this plan, the Village would provide a variety of parks and related outdoor recreation facilities; a system of recreation trails; and a system of on-street bikeways. More specifically, upon full implementation of the plan, the Village of Mount Pleasant would provide seven community parks (Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park (currently undeveloped), Caledonia-Mt. Pleasant Memorial Park; Smolenski Park, Stewart-McBride Park, Village Civic Campus Park, and two proposed new community parks, including Village-owned land in Section 9 (located north of the Village of Sturtevant and between Hoods Creek and the Canadian Pacific Railway); 15 neighborhood parks (Drozd Park, James Turek Park, Pheasant Creek Park, Sheridan Woods Park, and 11 proposed new neighborhood parks); three playlots (Dirkse Park, Lake Park, and Polzin Park); and the K-9 Commons Dog Park. The Village also owns land along stretches of the Pike River within the Village referred to as the Pike River Corridor. The entire stretch of the corridor includes the Pike River Pathway, a multi-use trail.

The Village would also continue to maintain other open space sites and conservancy areas that are owned by the Village and used for resource protection or stormwater management purposes. Under the recommended plan, the Village would further provide 27 miles of recreational trails associated with the Pike River Pathway and other off-street trails that can be used for jogging, walking, biking, rollerblading, and related activities. This plan also includes about 44 miles of on-street bikeways that would consist of bike lanes, bike paths, and bike routes identified in the Village of Mount Pleasant Master Bicycle Plan 2030 and VISION 2050, the regional land use and transportation plan.

Village staff considered the input from past online parks and recreation surveys as part of developing this plan. Biking, walking, and hiking paths were the most important recreational facility identified through public input, but other important recreational facilities and services that were identified included a nature preserve, an indoor recreational facility, playgrounds, gardens, and a swimming pool.

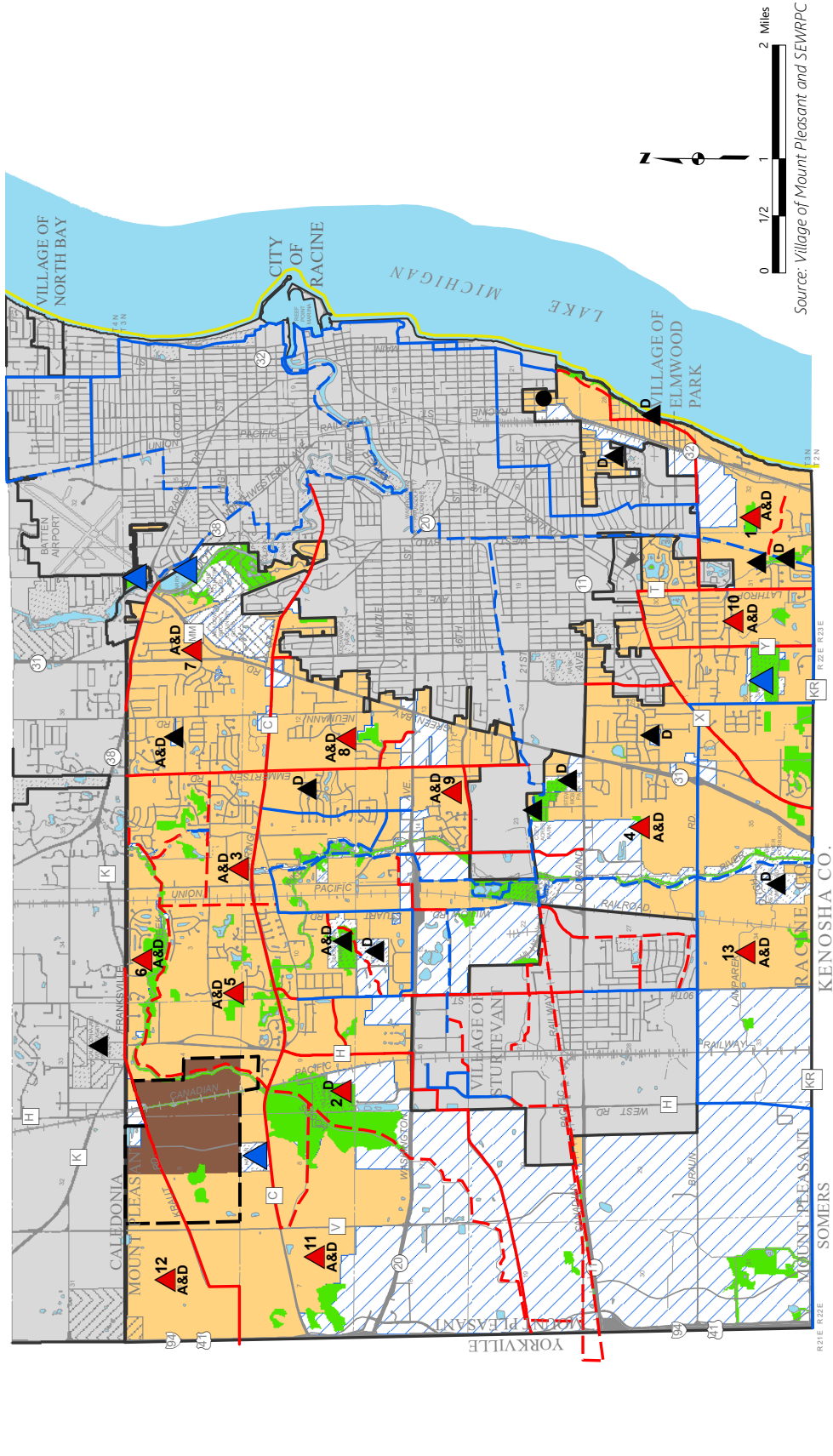
The Village also plans to continue to develop on-street bikeways and off-street trails for bicycle and pedestrian use to provide residents a connection to Village and County parks, City of Racine parks, regional trails, schools, and local destination points. In addition, the Racine County comprehensive plan recommends that the Village, in cooperation with Racine County, develop a water trail with appropriate support facilities on the Root River and along the Lake Michigan shoreline. These recommendations would help implement those components of the Village and County comprehensive plans.

Parks and Related Recreational Facilities

This section presents recommendations related to existing and proposed Village parks, including acquiring and developing new parks and developing recreational facilities at existing parks. Table 5.3 lists all proposed improvements at existing and proposed Village parks and all additional land acquisitions from 2021 to 2050. Table 5.4 lists all park- and trail-related development and improvement projects at existing parks anticipated to be implemented from 2021 through 2025. Most of the projects listed in Table 5.4 are derived from the Village's capital improvement plan (CIP), which also provides estimated development costs for each project. Estimated costs for projects proposed after 2025 will be provided as part of future capital improvements programming. The CIP is typically updated annually, and projects currently identified for implementation may be removed or reprioritized and new projects may be added during each annual update.

The Village plans to prepare a master park plan for each existing and new Village park that will show a conceptual layout of recreational facilities and landscaped areas.

**Map 5.3
Park and Open Space Plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2050**



LEGEND

	EXISTING COUNTY PARK		EXISTING ON-STREET TRAIL OR BICYCLE WAY		PLANNED AGRICULTURE
	EXISTING VILLAGE COMMUNITY OR NEIGHBORHOOD PARK		PROPOSED ON-STREET TRAIL OR BICYCLE WAY		OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
	EXISTING VILLAGE POCKET PARK		EXISTING OFF-STREET TRAIL		PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
	PROPOSED VILLAGE COMMUNITY OR NEIGHBORHOOD PARK		PROPOSED OFF-STREET TRAIL		PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
	PLANNED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT		EXISTING WATER TRAIL		OPEN SPACE LANDS TO BE PRESERVED
			SURFACE WATER		
					SEWER SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY
					PLANNED URBAN - NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
					ADDITIONAL ACQUISITION PROPOSED
					ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED
					PROPOSED PARK SITE NUMBER (SEE TABLE 5.3)

**Table 5.3
Recommended Acquisition and Development at Existing
and Proposed Park Sites in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2021-2050**

Site Name	Proposed Acquisition (acres)	Proposed Facility Development
Proposed Site 1 (Community Park)	35	Baseball Diamond Two League Softball Diamonds Two Soccer Fields Four Basketball Goals (Two Full Courts) Two Tennis Courts Playground Playfield Nature Trail Picnic Shelter/Restrooms General Development
Proposed Site 2 (Community Park)	-- ^a	Two League Softball Diamonds Four Basketball Goals (Two Full Courts) Two Soccer Fields Two Tennis Courts Playground Playfield General Development
Proposed Site 3 (Neighborhood Park)	20	Two League Softball Diamonds Four Basketball Goals (Two Full Courts) Two Tennis Courts Playground Playfield Picnic Shelter/Restrooms General Development
Proposed Site 4 (Neighborhood Park)	15	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sandlot Softball Diamond Playground Playfield General Development
Proposed Site 5 (Neighborhood Park)	10	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sandlot Softball Diamond Playground Playfield General Development
Proposed Site 6 (Neighborhood Park)	20	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sandlot Softball Diamond Playground Playfield Nature Trail Picnic Shelter Trail Access General Development
Proposed Site 7 (Neighborhood Park)	10	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sandlot Softball Diamond Playground Soccer Field/Playfield General Development
Proposed Site 8 (Neighborhood Park)	10	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sandlot Softball Diamond Playground Playfield General Development
Proposed Site 9 (Neighborhood Park)	10	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Playground Playfield General Development

Table continued on next page.

Table 5.3 (Continued)

Site Name	Proposed Acquisition (acres)	Proposed Facility Development
Proposed Site 10 (Neighborhood Park)	10	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sandlot Softball Diamond Playground Playfield General Development
Proposed Site 11 (Neighborhood Park)	10	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sandlot Softball Diamond Playground Playfield General Development
Proposed Site 12 (Neighborhood Park)	10	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sandlot Softball Diamond Playground Playfield General Development
Proposed Site 13 (Neighborhood Park)	10	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sandlot Softball Diamond Playground Playfield General Development
Biex-Ramcke (Homestead Park)	--	Prepare Detailed Master Park Plan Park Development (Alternative 2 Site Plan Features): Baseball Diamond Three League Softball Diamonds Two Soccer Fields/Playfield Playground Nature Trail Shelter Sledding Hill Trailhead Restrooms/Concessions General Development
Dirkse Park	--	Replace Sand Digger Add Gravel to Walking Path
Drozd Park	14	Pave Access Road, Parking Lot, Pathway One Basketball Goal (1/2 Court) Construct Restrooms (Extend Sewer & Water) Install Gaga Pit Renovate Ball Field for T-Ball and Replace Backstop Replace Playground Equipment and Add Swing Bay General Development
James Turek Park	--	Sandlot Softball Diamond Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Sand Volleyball Courts Improve Native Plantings General Development
Lake Park	--	Install Picnic Shelter
Pheasant Creek Park	--	Tennis Courts (2) Sand Volleyball Courts Youth/Adult Fitness Equipment Improve Native Plantings Trail Playground One Basketball Goal (1/2 Court) Install New Shelter – Gazebo General Development

Table continued on next page.

Table 5.3 (Continued)

Site Name	Proposed Acquisition (acres)	Proposed Facility Development
Pike River Pathway	--	Construct Restrooms (Phase 4) ^b Develop Driveway and Parking Lot Develop Fishing Piers Install Shelter on Phase 4 of Pathway
Sheridan Woods Park	--	Grade, Weed-Spray, and Replace Ball Diamond Infield Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Install Sand Diggers (2) Replace Swings and Slide Playground Equipment General Development
Smolenski Park	42	Two Basketball Goals (Full Court) Disk Golf Archery Range Community Gardens ^c Replace Ball Diamond Infield Improve Trails Repair Trail Bridge Install Gaga Pit Remove Horseshoe Pit and Replace with Cornhole General Development
Stewart-McBride Park	--	Install Ten Spin Develop One Basketball Goal (1/2 Court) Exercise/Fitness Equipment for Hill Add Gravel to Trail Around Retention Pond and Ball Field General Development
Village Civic Campus Park ^d	--	Develop Fully Engineered Plans for Construction Aquatic Facility/Swimming Pool/Splash Pad Ball Fields Construct Restrooms/Concession Area Community Gardens ^c Fishing Pond Ice Skating Area/Rink Outdoor Ping Pong Playfields (Soccer, Flag Football, and/or Lacrosse) Install Fishing Pier Install Six Pickle Ball Courts Develop Multi-Modal Trail General Development
Total	226	--

Note: "General Development" includes such activities and facilities as grading, landscaping, signs, lighting, picnic tables, benches, parking lots, access drives, and walkways. "General Development" items that are considered a capital expense are specifically listed on this table and in Table 5.4 and are included in the Village Capital Improvement Plan for 2021-2025.

Although not included on this table, this plan also recommends that the Village continue routine maintenance activities at all existing Village-owned park and open space sites and recreational facilities.

^a Proposed park site is owned by the Village.

^b Phase 4 of the Pike River project is located in the Northeast quarter and Southeast quarter of Section 22, Township 3 North, Range 22 East.

^c Community gardens may be established at either Smolenski Park or at the Village Civic Campus Park as an interim use until the park is fully developed.

^d It is anticipated that donations will be received to cover a portion of the cost of developing park facilities at the Village Civic Campus Park.

Source: Village of Mount Pleasant and SEWRPC

**Table 5.4
Proposed Development and Improvements at Existing Parks
in the Village of Mount Pleasant: 2021-2025**

Site Name	Proposed Improvement	Development Cost (\$)
Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park	Prepare Detailed Park Master Plan	20,000
	Subtotal	20,000
Dirkse Park	Replace Sand Digger	1,200
	Add Gravel to Walking Path	1,000
	Subtotal	2,200
Drozd Park	Pave Access Road, Parking Lot, and Pathway	155,000
	Develop One Basketball Goal (1/2 Court)	30,000
	Install Gaga Pit	5,000
	Renovate Ball Field for T-Ball and Replace Backstop	15,000
	Subtotal	205,000
James Turek Park	Improve Native Plantings	5,000
	Subtotal	5,000
Lake Park	Install Picnic Shelter	28,000
	Subtotal	28,000
Pheasant Creek Park	Improve Native Plantings	5,000
	General Development	10,000
	Subtotal	15,000
Pike River Pathway	Develop Driveway and Parking Lot	150,000
	Install Shelter on Phase 4 of Pathway	25,000
	Subtotal	175,000
Sheridan Woods Park	Grade, Weed Spray, and Replace Ball Diamond Infield	15,000
	Replace Swings and Slide Playground Equipment	40,000
	Subtotal	55,000
Smolenski Park	Repair Trail Bridge	10,000
	Replace Ball Diamond Infield	15,000
	Improve Trails	10,000
	Develop Two Basketball Goals (Full Court)	30,000
	Install Gaga Pit	5,000
	Remove Horseshoe Pit and Replace with Cornhole	8,000
	Subtotal	78,000
Stewart-McBride Park	Add Gravel to Trail Around Retention Pond and Ball Field	6,000
	Subtotal	6,000
Village Civic Campus Park	Install Six Pickleball Courts	125,000
	Develop Fully Engineered Plans for Construction	200,000
	Subtotal	325,000
Total: 11 Sites		914,200

Note: Although not included on this table, this plan also recommends that the Village continue routine maintenance activities at all existing Village-owned park and open space sites and recreational facilities included in the 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Other maintenance activities may be added as part of the annual CIP update.

Source: Village of Mount Pleasant and SEWRPC

Proposed New Parks

This plan recommends that the Village acquire land for a new community park and 11 new neighborhood parks and develop needed outdoor recreational facilities at these sites, as well as develop recreational facilities at an existing undeveloped site (Village-owned land in Section 9). Additional land is also proposed to be acquired to expand Drozd and Smolenski Parks. The location of the 13 proposed new parks is shown on Map 5.3. It is anticipated that acquiring and developing these proposed new park sites will likely occur after the year 2025. The recommendations regarding facility development at each proposed new park are listed on Table 5.3 and are also described below.

Recommendations for new parks include the Village acquiring lands for recreational and open space purposes. The red symbols on Map 5.3 indicate a need for additional parklands in the areas designated. The location of the symbol represents a generalized location and should not be construed as definitive. There may be other sites in the area that are also suitable for developing a park.

1. Park Site 1: Park Site 1 is a proposed community park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the southeastern portion of the Village. This site would encompass approximately 35 acres, including seven acres of isolated natural resource area currently owned by the Village. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a baseball diamond, two league softball diamonds, two soccer fields, two basketball courts (four goals), two tennis courts, a playfield, a playground, a nature trail, a picnic shelter with restrooms, an area for picnicking and other passive outdoor recreation use, and appropriate support facilities.
2. Park Site 2: Park Site 2 is a 70-acre site currently owned by the Village. The site is intended to be developed as a community park and would serve the existing and future residential areas in the northwestern portion of the Village. The site is located north of STH 20 (Washington Avenue) and west of and adjacent to the Canadian Pacific Railway. The site includes a portion of Hoods Creek. Currently, the Racine R/C Club, a private radio-controlled model aircraft organization, uses a portion of the site and another portion is used as the Village's compost site. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include two league softball diamonds, two basketball courts (four goals), two soccer fields, two tennis courts, a playground, a playfield, and appropriate support facilities.
3. Park Site 3: Park Site 3 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the north-central portion of the Village. This site would encompass approximately 20 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include two league softball diamonds, two basketball courts (four goals), two tennis courts, a playfield, a playground, a picnic shelter with restrooms, and appropriate support facilities.
4. Park Site 4: Park Site 4 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the south-central portion of the Village. This site would encompass approximately 15 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a basketball court (two goals), a sandlot softball diamond, a playground, a playfield, and appropriate support facilities.
5. Park Site 5: Park Site 5 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the north-central portion of the Village. This site would encompass approximately 10 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a basketball court (two goals), a playfield, a sandlot softball diamond, a playground, and appropriate support facilities.
6. Park Site 6: Park Site 6 is a proposed neighborhood park along Hoods Creek intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the north-central portion of the Village. This site would encompass approximately 20 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a basketball court (two goals), a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a nature trail, a picnic shelter, an area for picnicking and other passive outdoor recreation use, and appropriate support facilities. The potential exists for this park to serve as an access point to a proposed trail.
7. Park Site 7: Park Site 7 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the northeastern portion of the Village. This site would encompass approximately 10 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a sandlot softball diamond, a soccer field/playfield, a basketball court (two goals), a playground, and appropriate support facilities.
8. Park Site 8: Park Site 8 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the east-central portion of the Village. This site would encompass approximately 10 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a basketball court (two goals), a playfield, a playground, a sandlot softball diamond, and appropriate support facilities.

9. Park Site 9: Park Site 9 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the central portion of the Village. This site would encompass about five to 10 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a basketball court (two goals), a playfield, a playground, and appropriate support facilities.
10. Park Site 10: Park Site 10 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the southeastern portion of the Village. This site would encompass about five to 10 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a basketball court (two goals), a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, a playground, and appropriate support facilities.
11. Park Site 11: Park Site 11 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the northwestern portion of the Village. The site would encompass approximately 10 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a basketball court (two goals), a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, a playground, an area for picnicking and other outdoor recreation use, and appropriate support facilities.
12. Park Site 12: Park Site 12 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the northwestern portion of the Village. This is a new site that was not proposed in the 2015 Village park plan and the site will accommodate the new planned residential growth area in the northwestern portion of the Village, and encompass approximately five to 10 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a basketball court (two goals), a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, a playground, and appropriate support facilities.
13. Park Site 13: Park Site 13 is a proposed neighborhood park intended to serve the existing and future residential areas in the south-central portion of the Village. This is a new site that was not proposed in the 2015 Village park plan and the site will accommodate the new planned residential growth area in the south-central portion of the Village, and encompass approximately five to 10 acres. Recreational facilities proposed to be developed at this site include a basketball court (two goals), a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, a playground, and appropriate support facilities.

Developing and Improving Existing Village Parks: 2021-2025

It is recommended that the Village develop additional recreational facilities or improve facilities at 10 existing parks and the Pike River Pathway during the five-year period from 2021 through 2025, as described below (please note that Table 5.3 includes all proposed additional and improved facilities, both those envisioned by 2025, and those envisioned by 2050). The estimated development and improvement costs for only those facilities envisioned by 2025 are included in Table 5.4.

- *Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park*: Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park is an 87-acre undeveloped community park located along the Pike River and Lamparek Ditch in the south-central portion of the Village. The site includes one acre of primary environmental corridor, a pond, and wetlands. It is recommended that a park master plan be prepared prior to 2025 to detail the recreational facilities to be developed at the park. Developing the park will likely occur after 2025, however, some facilities may be developed between 2021 and 2025. Facilities tentatively proposed to be developed at the park include a baseball diamond, three league softball diamonds, two soccer fields/playfield, a playground, a nature trail, a shelter, a sledding hill, a trailhead, and restrooms/concessions.
- *Dirkse Park*: Dirkse Park is a one-acre playlot located in the southeastern portion of the Village. Existing facilities include a playfield and a playground. It is recommended that the sand digger be replaced and gravel be added to the walking path.
- *Drozd Park*: Drozd Park is a six-acre neighborhood park located in the northeastern portion of the Village. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, a sandlot softball diamond, and a picnic shelter. It is recommended that a basketball half-court (one goal) be developed; the park access road, parking lot, and pathway be paved; a gaga pit be installed; and the ball field be renovated for T-ball and the backstop be replaced.

- *James Turek Park:* James Turek Park is a six-acre neighborhood park located in the southeastern portion of the Village. The park includes a playfield. It is recommended that the landscaping's native plantings be improved.
- *Lake Park:* Lake Park is a two-acre playlot located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the southeastern portion of the Village. The park includes a playground. It is recommended that a picnic shelter be installed at the park.
- *Pheasant Creek Park:* Pheasant Creek Park is a four-acre neighborhood park located in the northeastern portion of the Village. A playfield is located at the park. It is recommended that the landscaping's native plantings be improved and general development of basic park amenities be provided at the park.
- *Pike River Pathway:* The Pike River Pathway is a multi-use, off-street trail that is primarily located along the Pike River. The trail extends from Old Spring Street south to CTH KR (Racine-Kenosha Countyline). The trail extends into Kenosha County to the County-owned Petrifying Springs Park. It is recommended that a driveway and parking lot be developed to provide additional access to the trail and a shelter be installed on Phase 4 of the pathway development.
- *Sheridan Woods Park:* Sheridan Woods Park is a two-acre neighborhood park located in the southeastern portion of the Village. Existing facilities include a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, and a playground. It is recommended that the infield of the ball diamond be graded, weed-sprayed, and replaced and the swings and the slide playground equipment be replaced.
- *Smolenski Park:* Smolenski Park is a 72-acre community park located in the north-central portion of the Village. Existing facilities include a sandlot softball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball half-court (one goal), a sand volleyball court, horseshoe pits, picnic areas, open-air shelters, hiking trails, and support facilities, including a parking area and restrooms. The park also includes woodlands, wetlands, and a pond within a 39-acre isolated natural resource area. It is recommended that the trail bridge be repaired; a basketball court (two goals) be developed; the infield of the ball diamond be replaced; a gaga pit be installed; the horseshoe pits be replaced with cornhole goals; and the walking trails be improved.
- *Stewart-McBride Park:* Stewart-McBride Park is a 16-acre community park centrally located in the Village adjacent to STH 11. Existing facilities include two league softball diamonds, a playfield, a playground, two sand volleyball courts, hiking trails, picnic areas, and support facilities, including a parking area, restrooms, and a shelter. It is recommended that gravel be added to the trail around the retention pond and ball field.
- *Village Civic Campus Park:* Village Civic Campus Park is a 38-acre undeveloped community park centrally located within the Village adjacent to the new Village Hall and Public Works facility. It is recommended that six pickleball courts be installed and detailed engineer plans be developed for park construction.

Development at Existing Village Parks: 2026-2050

This section describes recommended facility development at existing Village parks after 2025. Recommendations for developing recreational facilities at each park is listed in Table 5.3. Implementing the recommendations is subject to the availability of funding for acquiring land and developing, operating, and maintaining facilities.

- *Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park:* Those facilities that have not been developed prior to 2026 (as noted in the previous section) are recommended to be developed during this period. The recommended facilities may be adjusted based on the detailed master plan to be developed for the park between 2021 and 2025.
- *Drozd Park:* It is recommended that the Village acquire about 14 acres for park expansion, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2021-2025. Subsequent to 2025, it is

recommended that the playground equipment be replaced, a swing bay be added, and restrooms be constructed with sewer and water. Much of the area to be acquired is wetland, so no other facilities are envisioned to be developed at the park after 2050.

- *James Turek Park*: It is recommended that a sandlot ball diamond, a basketball full court, and sand volleyball courts be developed at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2021-2025.
- *Pheasant Creek Park*: It is recommended that a playground, a basketball half-court (one goal), two tennis courts, sand volleyball courts, fitness equipment, and a trail be developed, and a shelter/gazebo be installed at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2021-2025.
- *Pike River Pathway*: Development of the pathway within the Village has been completed. Constructing restrooms and installing fishing piers are envisioned in addition to the improvements recommended during 2021-2025.
- *Sheridan Woods Park*: It is recommended that a basketball full court (two goals) and two sand diggers be developed at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2021-2025.
- *Smolenski Park*: It is recommended that a disk golf course, an archery range, and community gardens be developed at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2021-2025. It is also recommended that the Village acquire about 42 acres for park expansion.
- *Stewart-McBride Park*: It is recommended that a basketball half-court (one goal) and exercise/fitness equipment be developed and ten spin be installed at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2021-2025.
- *Village Civic Campus Park*: It is recommended that an aquatic facility/swimming pool/splash pad, an ice skating area/rink, outdoor ping pong tables, ball fields, community gardens, a fishing pond, playfields (soccer, flag football, and/or outdoor lacrosse), and a multi-modal trail be developed; restrooms/concessions be constructed; and a fishing pier be installed at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2021-2025. The location and types of facilities to be developed at the park will be determined through detailed engineered plans recommended to be completed between 2021 and 2025.

Maintaining Other Existing Village Parks

This plan also recommends that the Village continue to maintain all existing Village-owned park and open space sites and outdoor recreation facilities. This may include, as necessary, providing, paving, and resurfacing parking lots and trails or walkways; resurfacing volleyball, basketball, and tennis court areas; making existing facilities accessible to people with disabilities; providing, repairing, or replacing support facilities such as sports field lighting, park benches, picnic tables, and drinking fountains; providing, repairing, or replacing foot bridges, restroom facilities, water supply facilities, maintenance buildings, and picnic shelters; and maintaining lawns, gardens, and other landscape plantings. Maintaining existing Village-owned park and open space sites and outdoor recreation facilities may also include providing additional or replacing playground equipment, playfield areas, and areas for passive recreational use.

Open Space Preservation

As shown on Map 5.2 and indicated in Table 5.1, it is recommended that the Village acquire 203 acres of open space preservation areas for developing parks or trails or for resource-protection purposes, especially along Hoods Creek. The Village currently owns 379 acres of open space preservation areas. It is recommended that these lands be maintained in Village ownership and preserved in essentially natural, open space uses. Preserving these lands will serve to maintain a high level of environmental quality and natural beauty in the Village, as well as helping avoid or reduce serious and costly environmental and developmental problems. It is also recommended that the Village enact conservancy zoning regulations and apply those regulations to open space preservation areas that are privately owned.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Routes and Recreation Trails

It is recommended that a Village-wide system of recreation trails and bicycle routes continue to be developed to connect existing parks to the regional, county, and adjacent local government trail systems and other parks and destination points, in cooperation with Racine County, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and adjoining local governments. The recommended bike and recreation trail system for the Village and environs is shown on Map 5.4.

The Village has completed developing the Pike River Pathway, and the entire pathway totals about seven miles and traverses north to south along the Pike River within the Village. The pathway is an off-street trail that extends from Old Spring Street south to CTH KR (Racine/Kenosha County line). The pathway extends into Kenosha County along CTH KR and STH 31 (Green Bay Road) to the County-owned Petrifying Springs Park. The pathway is also linked to an on-street bikeway segment at Old Spring Street, which in turn is linked to Stuart Road, the Frontage Road, and 90th Street. In addition, the pathway is linked to an on-street bikeway segment at Mariner Drive that extends east to Sunnyslope Drive that provides access to businesses along STH 20 (Washington Avenue).

In addition to the bikeways and trails described above, the Village's Master Bicycle Plan 2030 recommends developing additional on-street bikeways and off-street trails within the Village. The entire bike and recreation trail system within the Village is proposed to include 44 miles of bike routes associated with street rights-of-way and 29 miles of trails associated with environmentally significant areas, potential abandoned railway rights-of-way, or other open space lands. On-street bikeways within the Village are proposed to be undertaken by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (STH 38); Racine County (CTH C, CTH H, CTH K, CTH KR, CTH T, CTH Y, and Racine-Sturtevant Trail); and the Village of Mount Pleasant (streets under Village jurisdiction). Off-street trails within the Village are proposed to be provided by WDNR/Racine County (White River State Trail extension); Racine County (Root River Recreation Corridor); and the Village (Hoods Creek Trail and trails providing links to other Village or County trails or parks).

VISION 2050, the regional land use and transportation plan,³⁷ and the Racine County multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan³⁸ recommend a network of on- and off-street bicycle ways within the County. Bikeways recommended by the County multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan have been refined through VISION 2050. VISION 2050 also recommends developing enhanced bicycle facilities within the Village and environs. Enhanced bicycle facilities—such as protected, buffered, and raised bicycle lanes and separate paths within a road right-of-way—are bicycle facilities on or along an arterial street that go beyond the standard bicycle lane, paved shoulder, or widened outside travel lane. They are meant to improve safety, define bicycle space on roadways, and provide clear corridors for bicycle usage and would connect multiple communities, serve important regional destinations, and link segments of the off-street bicycle path system. These corridors would be about two blocks in either direction of an arterial street or highway and would either involve implementing an enhanced bicycle facility on or along the arterial street or implementing a neighborhood greenway (“bike boulevard”) on a parallel nonarterial, which is a low-speed street optimized for bicycle traffic. Existing and planned bikeways and enhanced bicycle facilities in the Village and environs are shown on Map 5.4.

Existing and Potential Water Trails

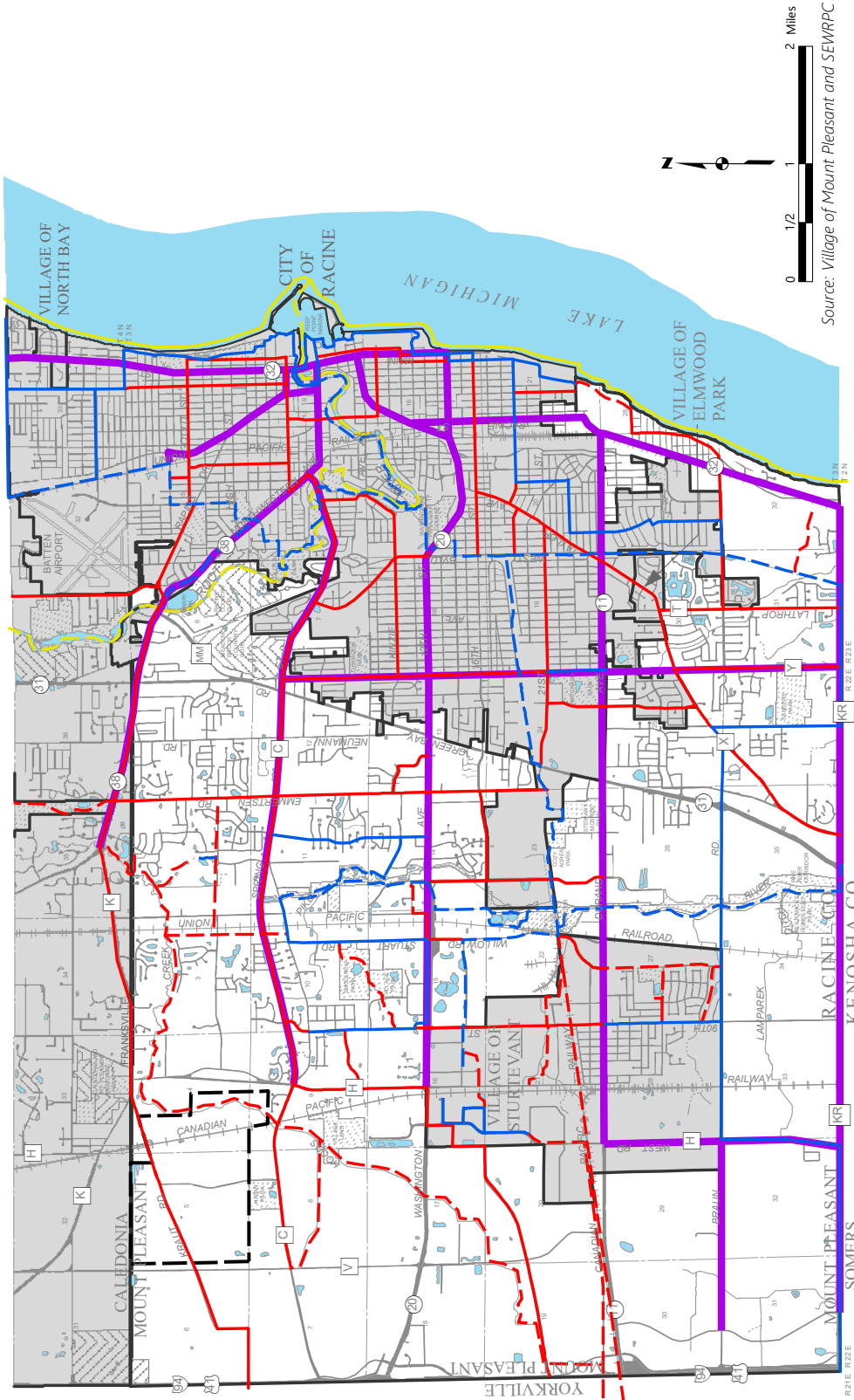
The Racine County multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan, the County park and open space plan, and the Root River watershed restoration plan each recommend that the Village of Mount Pleasant and Racine County work together to develop a water trail³⁹ on the Root River and continue to provide or maintain

³⁷ Documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 55, VISION 2050: A Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2050. The plan was adopted by the Regional Planning Commission on July 28, 2016.

³⁸ Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 301, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035, November 2009.

³⁹ A “water trail” is a designated trail on a lake or stream that regularly contains sufficient water level to navigate small watercraft such as a canoe or kayak with unobstructed passageways while providing safe and convenient access points, and may contain support facilities such as parking areas, restrooms, and picnic areas.

Map 5.4
Trail System Plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant and Environs: 2050



LEGEND

	EXISTING ON-STREET TRAIL OR BICYCLE WAY		RECOMMENDED CORRIDOR FOR ENHANCED BICYCLE FACILITY ^a		SURFACE WATER
	EXISTING OFF-STREET TRAIL		EXISTING WATER TRAIL		PUBLICLY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
	PROPOSED ON-STREET TRAIL OR BICYCLE WAY		PROPOSED WATER TRAIL		PRIVATELY-OWNED OUTDOOR RECREATION LANDS
	PROPOSED OFF-STREET TRAIL		OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS		

^aCorridor would include an enhanced bicycle facility—such as a protected bike lane, a separate path within the road right-of-way, or a buffered bike lane—located on or along an arterial street or, alternatively, a neighborhood greenway on a nearby parallel nonarterial street.

amenities along the Lake Michigan shoreline for the Lake Michigan State Water Trail,⁴⁰ as shown on Map 5.4. Water trails, sometimes referred to as a paddling trail or canoeing/kayaking trail, would identify parts of the Root River that could accommodate low-impact, non-motorized watercraft such as a canoes and kayaks. Important factors for establishing water trails include safe and convenient access to a waterway with unobstructed passageways, adequate support facilities, and safe portaging areas. Identifying and providing signs indicating scenic, historic, and natural viewpoints along the waterway should also be considered. Establishing water trails promotes the responsible use and enjoyment of the Root River and would further serve as a place for solitude and respite from the urban environment, while providing educational and recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts.

The proposed Root River Water Trail would be approximately eight miles within the Village and environs. It is recommended that canoe access and support facilities be maintained and/or developed at regular intervals along the Root River. Currently, put-in and take-out sites or boat/canoe launches along the Root River are located at the Racine County-owned Horlick Park and the City of Racine-owned 6th Street Park South, Clayton Park, Island Park, and Lincoln Park.

The existing Lake Michigan State Water Trail is approximately six miles within the Village and environs and provides Village residents opportunities for non-motorized boating along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The Lake Michigan Water Trail is the State of Wisconsin's first designated State Water Trail and navigates about 523 miles along the State of Wisconsin's shoreline. Canoeing/kayaking opportunities of varied lengths are possible by evenly spacing access sites, public camping sites, and restroom facilities. Access sites are located in 11 lakeside counties and are managed by an assortment of public agencies and private organizations.

Existing public access sites along the Lake Michigan shoreline near the Village of Mount Pleasant are located at the City of Racine-owned North Beach Park, Pershing Park, Rooney Recreation Area, and Samuel Myers Park and the City of Kenosha-owned Alford Park, Pennoyer Park, and Simmons Island Park.

Racine County and local governments in which the water features traverse or abut should consider preparing user-friendly maps for water trail users to identify support facilities and points of interest along the water trail. Nonprofit conservation organizations, such as the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network or the Lake Michigan Water Trail Association, may consider assisting with these efforts.

Other Considerations

Public Input

There was no public comment on the Village park and open space plan update during or submitted prior to the public hearing held on November 8, 2021.

5.5 PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The recommended park and open space plan is not complete until the steps required to implement the plan have been specified. This section includes a description of the actions required by the Wisconsin Departments of Natural Resources and Transportation, Racine County, and the Village of Mount Pleasant to implement the recommended park and open space plan for the Village.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has the authority and responsibility for developing parks, protecting natural resources, managing water quality, and regulating water use. Certain WDNR functions have particular importance in implementing county and local park and open space plans. The WDNR is obligated to prepare a comprehensive Statewide outdoor recreation plan and to develop long-range water resource management plans; has the authority to protect, develop, and regulate the use of State parks, forests, fish and game, lakes and streams, certain plant life, and other natural resources; and has the authority to administer, within the State, the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program and the Wisconsin Stewardship Program. The LWCF and Wisconsin Stewardship programs are intended to assist in acquiring and developing local parks and urban green spaces.

⁴⁰ In July 2017, the Department of Natural Resources designated the Lake Michigan Water Trail as a State trail. www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/lakemichigan

More specifically, relative to implementing the Village park and open space plan, it is important that the WDNR approves the Village of Mount Pleasant park and open space plan when the Village applies for available State and Federal outdoor recreation grants.

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

It is recommended that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) construct the bicycle ways recommended by this park and open space plan to be provided within the right-of-way of a State trunk highway or connecting highway at the time the street or highway is constructed or reconstructed. It is recognized that major bicycle-related improvements, such as the addition of bicycle lanes, may not be able to be accommodated at the time the street is resurfaced, however, consideration should be given to restriping the street or making other improvements to better accommodate bicycle travel. It is anticipated that paving highway shoulders to accommodate bicycle travel may be accomplished at the time a street or highway is resurfaced. The State should make proper arrangements to maintain bicycle facilities, including, if necessary, entering into operating or maintenance agreements with other units or agencies of government.

It is recommended that WisDOT continue to make transportation grants available to construct the recommended bikeways, including those recommended to be located off-street and on County and local streets.

It is further recommended that WisDOT promptly notify the WDNR, the County surveyor, the Village of Mount Pleasant, and the Regional Planning Commission of any railway abandonment proposed within the Village. The Department should work with the aforementioned agencies to evaluate the feasibility of acquiring the railway right-of-way proposed to be abandoned for trail development and/or other recreational purposes.

Racine County

The Racine County Park and Open Space Plan sets forth implementation responsibilities for Racine County. With respect to parks and facilities located wholly or partially within the Village, it is recommended that the County acquire an additional 30 acres to the south of Sanders Park for protecting resources, outdoor recreation purposes, and developing additional picnic facilities at the park. It is also recommended that Racine County continue to maintain other County-owned park and open space sites within the Village, including Haban Park, Horlick Park, and Quarry Lake Park.

It is recommended that the County develop a trail within the Root River Recreation Corridor in the northeastern portion of the Village, which would connect with the Root River Corridor in Milwaukee County to the north and the Lake Michigan Corridor in Racine and Kenosha Counties to the south. The County plan also recommends that Racine County continue to maintain and develop the Racine-Sturtevant Trail. It is also recommended that Racine County, in cooperation with the WDNR, develop the extension of the White River State Trail from Kansasville eastward to 105th Street in the Village of Sturtevant. The existing County park plan identifies this segment as the Racine-Kansasville Trail, as shown on Map 5.1.

It is also recommended that the County continue to maintain the North Shore Trail located in the southeastern portion of the Village and provide signage and other route amenities associated with the Racine County Bicycle Route. Racine County, in cooperation with local governments, should consider developing a water trail and appropriate support facilities on the Root River and continue to maintain and develop sites and amenities along the Lake Michigan shoreline for the Lake Michigan State Water Trail.

Village of Mount Pleasant

Under the park and open space plan for the Village, shown on Maps 5.2 and 5.3, the Village of Mount Pleasant would have responsibility for providing a variety of outdoor recreation sites and facilities, including acquiring and developing 12 new park sites and associated recreational facilities; developing recreational facilities at two existing undeveloped Village park sites (Biex-Ramcke Homestead Park and Village-owned land site); acquiring land for park expansion at Drozd and Smolenski Parks; developing or improving recreational facilities at 11 existing park sites, including the Pike River Pathway; acquiring land and developing off-street trails; developing on-street bikeways; and continuing to improve and maintain all existing Village parks, recreational facilities, and trails. Implementing these recommendations would meet the outdoor recreation needs of Village residents, and protect areas having important natural resources.

It is also recommended that the Village acquire 226 acres of land for new community and neighborhood parks and park expansion at Drozd and Smolenski Parks, including 31 acres within open space preservation areas, and acquire 172 acres of land for developing a trail system or for resource-protection purposes, particularly along the Pike River and Hoods Creek corridors. The Village of Mount Pleasant recreation trail system is proposed to provide about 73 miles of biking and hiking opportunities, including about 29 miles of off-street trails and about 44 miles of on-street bikeways. It is recommended that the Village also work with Racine County to develop the Root River Water Trail and continue to develop or maintain sites and amenities associated with the Lake Michigan Water Trail.

Plan Costs

Implementing the park and open space plan for the Village of Mount Pleasant, as presented herein and summarized in Table 5.4, would entail a total cost to the Village of about \$914,000 over the five-year plan implementation period from 2021 through 2025. This includes all park-related improvements in the Village's five-year Capital Improvement Plan from the period of 2021 through 2025. Costs associated with the general maintenance of existing park facilities are not included in that total. And as previously noted, it is anticipated that acquiring and developing the proposed new park sites, and acquiring additional lands at Drozd and Smolenski Parks, will likely occur after the year 2025.

The cost to the Village for acquiring any park or open space or developing recreational facilities could be reduced through the use of alternative methods of acquiring land, such as dedication and conservation easements. State, Federal, and private grants for acquiring parks or open spaces and developing facilities may also help reduce the cost to the Village of implementing this plan (grant programs for acquiring and developing parks are summarized in Appendix B). Donations from the public and/or private businesses or organizations may also be used to develop park facilities, and Village staff and Plan Commission anticipates donations to help continue to develop the Village Civic Campus Park in particular.

APPENDICES

**REGIONAL OUTDOOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE
PLANNING OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AND STANDARDS**

APPENDIX A

► **Objective 1: To provide an integrated system of public general-use outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas that provide residents of the Region with adequate opportunities to participate in a wide range of outdoor recreation and outdoor education activities.**

- **Principle 1.1:** Good physical and mental health is an inherent right of all residents of the Region. Providing public general use outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas contributes to physical and mental health by providing opportunities to participate in a wide range of outdoor recreation activities. Moreover, an integrated park and related open space system properly related to the natural resource base, such as the existing surface water network, can provide the dual benefits of satisfying recreational demands in an appropriate setting while protecting and preserving valuable natural resource amenities. Finally, an integrated system of public general use outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas can contribute to the orderly growth of the Region by lending form and structure to urban development patterns.

A. PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION SITES

- **Principle 1.2:** Public general use outdoor recreation sites promote good physical and mental health both by providing opportunities to participate in such athletic recreational activities as baseball, swimming, tennis, and ice-skating—activities that help maintain physical health because of the exercise involved—as well as opportunities to participate in more leisurely activities such as walking, picnicking, or just rest and relaxation. These activities tend to reduce stress and thereby help maintain physical and mental well-being. Well designed and properly located public general-use outdoor recreation sites also provide a sense of community, bringing people together for social and cultural as well as recreational activities. This contributes to desirable and stable residential neighborhoods and therefore benefits the communities in which such facilities are provided.
- **Standard 1.1:** The public sector should provide general use outdoor recreation sites sufficient in size and number to meet the recreation demands of the resident population. These sites should be spatially distributed in a manner that provides ready access by the resident population to natural resource or man-made amenities. To achieve this standard, the public general use outdoor recreation site requirements should be met as indicated in the following tables:

Publicly Owned Park Sites					
Site Type	Size (gross acres)	Minimum per Capita Public Requirements (acres per 1,000 persons) ^b	Typical Facilities	Maximum Service Radius (miles) ^a	
				Urban ^c	Rural
I ^d Regional	250 or more	5.3	Campsites, swimming beach, picnic areas, golf course, ski hill, ski-touring trail, boat launch, nature study area, playfield, softball diamond, or passive-activity area ^e	10.0	10.0
II ^f Multi-Community	100-249	2.6	Campsites, swimming pool or beach, picnic areas, golf course, ski hill, ski-touring trail, boat launch, nature study area, playfield, softball and/or baseball diamond, or passive-activity area ^e	4.0 ^g	10.0 ^g
III ^h Community	25-99	2.2	Swimming pool or beach, picnic areas, boat launch, nature study area, softball and/or baseball diamonds, soccer fields and other playfields, tennis courts, or passive- activity area ^e	2.0 ⁱ	--
IV ^j Neighborhood	Less than 25	1.7	Wading pool, picnic areas, softball and/or baseball diamonds, soccer fields and other playfields, tennis court, playground, basketball goal, ice-skating rink, or passive-activity area ^e	0.5-1.0 ^k	--

Publicly Owned School Sites ^l					
Site Type	Size (gross acres)	Minimum per Capita Public Requirements (acres per 1,000 persons) ⁿ	Typical Facilities	Maximum Service Radius (miles) ^m	
				Urban ^c	Rural
I ^d Regional	250 or more	--	--	--	--
II ^f Multi-Community	100-249	--	--	--	--
III ^h Community	25-99	0.9	Playfield, baseball diamond, softball diamond, or tennis court	0.5-1.0 ^o	--
IV ^j Neighborhood	Less than 25	1.6	Playfield, playground, baseball diamond, softball diamond, basketball goal, or tennis court	0.5-1.0 ^o	--

- **Standard 1.2:** Public general use outdoor recreation sites should, as much as possible, be located within the designated primary environmental corridors of the Region.

B. RECREATION RELATED OPEN SPACE

- **Principle 1.3:** Meeting the recreation demands of the Region’s residents cannot be accomplished solely by providing public general use outdoor recreation sites. Certain recreational activities such as hiking, biking, scenic driving, and cross country skiing are best provided through a system of trails and recreation corridors located on or adjacent to linear resource-oriented open space lands. A well-designed system of recreation following linear open space lands can also serve to physically connect existing and proposed public parks, thus forming a truly integrated park and recreation related open space system. Such open space lands also satisfy the need for natural surroundings, serve to protect the natural resource base, and ensure that many scenic areas and areas of natural, cultural, or historic interest are properly considered in determining existing and future land use patterns.
- **Standard 1.3:** The public sector should provide sufficient open space lands to accommodate a system of resource-oriented recreation corridors to meet the resident demand for trail-oriented recreation activities. To fulfill this recommendation, the following recreation-related open space standards should be met:
 1. A minimum of 0.16 linear miles of recreation related open space consisting of linear recreation corridors^p should be provided for each 1,000 people in the Region
 2. Recreation corridors should have a minimum length of 15 miles and a minimum width of 200 feet
 3. The maximum travel distance to recreation corridors should be five miles in urban areas and 10 miles in rural areas
 4. Resource-orientated recreation corridors should maximize the use of:
 - a. Primary environmental corridors as locations for trail-oriented recreation activities
 - b. Outdoor recreation facilities provided at existing public park sites
 - c. Existing trail-type facilities within the Region

► **Objective 2: To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the Region adequate opportunities to participate in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.**

- **Principle 2.1:** Participating in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities including basketball, baseball, ice-skating, soccer, playfield and playground activities, softball, swimming, and tennis provides an individual with both the opportunity for physical exercise and an opportunity to improve their physical fitness. These activities also provide an outlet for stress and an opportunity to share recreational experiences, participate in team play, and interact with other people in the community.
- **Standard 2.1:** A sufficient number of facilities for participating in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the Region. To achieve this standard, the per capita requirements and design criteria for various facilities should be met as indicated in the following table:

Minimum Per Capita Facility Requirements ^a				Design Standards					Service Radius of Facility (miles) ^f
Activity	Facility	Owner	Facility per 1,000 Urban Residents	Typical Location of Facility	Facility Requirements	Additional Suggested Support Facilities	Support Facility Requirements	Total Land Requirement (acres per facility)	
Baseball	Diamond	Public Nonpublic Total	0.09 0.01 0.10 ^s	Multi-community, community, and neighborhood parks	2.8 acres per diamond	Parking (30 spaces per diamond) Night lighting ^g Concessions and bleachers ^h Buffer and landscape	0.28 acre per diamond -- 0.02 acre minimum 1.40 acres per diamond	4.5	2.0
Basketball	Goal	Public Nonpublic Total	0.91 0.22 1.13	Neighborhood parks	0.07 acre per goal	--	--	0.07	0.5
Ice-Skating	Rink	Public Nonpublic Total	0.15 ^u -- 0.15	Neighborhood parks	0.30 acre per rink minimum	Warming house	0.05 acre	0.35 minimum	0.5
Playfield Activities	Playfield	Public Nonpublic Total	0.39 0.11 0.50	Neighborhood parks	1.0 acre per playfield minimum	Buffer area	0.65 acre minimum	1.65 minimum	0.5
Playground Activities	Playground	Public Nonpublic Total	0.35 0.07 0.42	Neighborhood parks	0.25 acre per playground minimum	Buffer and landscape	0.37 acre	0.62 minimum	0.5
Soccer	Field	Public Nonpublic Total	0.69 0.17 0.86	Multi-community, community, and neighborhood parks	1.0 acre per field minimum	Buffer	0.65 acre	1.65	1.0
Softball	Diamond	Public Nonpublic Total	0.53 0.07 0.60	Multi-community, community, and neighborhood parks	1.70 acre per diamond	Parking (20 spaces per diamond) Nighttime lighting ^g Buffer	0.18 acre per diamond -- 0.80 acre per diamond	2.68	1.0
Swimming	Pool	Public Nonpublic Total	0.015 ^v -- 0.015	Multi-community and community parks	0.13 acre per pool minimum	Bathhouse and concessions Parking (400 square feet per space) Buffer and landscaping	0.13 acre minimum 0.26 acre minimum 0.70 acre minimum	1.22 minimum	3.0 3.0
Tennis	Court	Public Nonpublic Total	0.50 0.10 0.60	Multi-community, community, and neighborhood parks	0.15 acre per court	Parking (2.0 spaces per court) Nighttime lighting ^g Buffer	0.02 acre per court -- 0.15 acre per court	0.32	1.0

► **Objective 3: To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the Region adequate opportunities to participate in resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.**

- **Principle 3.1:** Participating in resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities including camping, golf, picnicking, downhill skiing, and swimming provides an opportunity for recreational activity in natural surroundings as well as an opportunity for physical exercise. In addition, family members can participate together in activities such as camping, picnicking, and swimming.
 - **Standard 3.1:** A sufficient number of facilities for participating in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the Region. To meet this standard, the per capita requirements and design criteria for various facilities should be met as follows:

Minimum Per Capita Facility Requirement**				Design Standards						Service Radius of Facility (miles)*		
Activity	Facility	Owner	Per Capita Requirements (facility per 1,000 residents)	Typical Location of Facility	Facility Requirements	Additional Suggested Support Facilities	Support Facility Requirements	Total Land Requirements (acres per facility)	Resource Requirements			
Camping	Campsite	Public	0.35	Regional and multi-community parks	0.33 acre per campsite	Restrooms – showers Utility hookups Natural area backup lands	--	1.83	Ungrazed wooded area Presence of surface water Suitable topography and soils	25.0		
		Nonpublic	1.47				--					
		Total	1.82				1.5 acres per campsite					
Golf	Regulation 18-hole course	Public	0.013	Regional and multi-community parks	135 acres per course	Clubhouse, parking, and maintenance Practice area Woodland or water areas Buffer	8.0 acres per course	185.00	Suitable topography and soils Presence of surface water Form-giving vegetation desirable	10.0		
		Nonpublic	0.027				5.0 acres per course					
		Total	0.040				35.0 acres per course 2.0 acres per course					
Picnicking	Tables	Public	6.35 ^y	Regional, multi-community, community, and neighborhood parks	0.07 acre per table minimum	Parking Shelters and grills Buffer and parking overflow	0.02 acre per table (1.5 space per table)	0.11	Topography with scenic views Shade trees Presence of surface water desirable Suitable soils	10.0		
		Nonpublic	2.39				--					
		Total	8.74				0.02 acre per table					
Skiing	Developed slope (acres)	Public	0.01	Regional, multi-community, and community parks	1.0 acre per acre of developed slope	Chalet Parking Ski tows (and lights) Buffer and maintenance Landscape	0.13 acre minimum	2.10	Suitable topography and soils (20 percent slope minimum) North or northeast exposure	25.0		
		Nonpublic	0.09				0.25 acre per acre of slope					
		Total	0.10				0.40 acre per acre of slope 0.40 acre per acre of slope 0.35 acre per acre of slope					
Swimming	Beach (linear feet)	Public Nonpublic Total	Major Inland Lakes	Regional, multi-community, and community parks	40 square feet per linear foot (average)	Parking Bathhouse-concessions Buffer areas	0.2 acre per acre of beach 0.10 acre minimum 10 square feet per linear foot	-- ^z	Natural beach Good water quality	10.0		
			Lake Michigan								6	16
			12								--	16

► **Objective 4: To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the Region adequate opportunities to participate in trail-related and other extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities.**

- **Principle 4.1:** Participating in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities including biking, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, scenic driving, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling provides opportunities for contact with natural, cultural, historic, and scenic features. In addition, these activities can increase an individual's understanding of the environment and potential pressures on the environment. Similar to intensive resource-orientated activity, family members can participate together in extensive land-based recreation activities, which serves to strengthen relationships within the family. Participating in activities like biking, hiking, and nature study provides an opportunity to educate younger members of the family in the importance of environmental issues that may become of greater concern as they approach adulthood.
- **Standard 4.1:** A sufficient number of facilities for participating in land-based outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the Region. Public facilities provided for these activities should be located within the linear resource-orientated recreation corridors identified in Objective 1. The following per capita standards and design criteria should be met to achieve this standard:

Minimum Per Capita Public Facility Requirements ^a			Design Standards				
Activity	Facility	Per Capita Requirements (linear mile per 1,000 residents)	Typical Location of Facility	Minimum Facility Requirements (acres per linear mile)	Suggested Support Facilities and Backup Lands	Minimum Support Facility Requirements (acres per linear mile)	Resource Requirements
Biking	Route Trail	-- ^{bb} 0.16	Scenic roadways Recreation corridor	-- 1.45	Route markers Backup lands with resource amenities	-- 24.2	-- Diversity of scenic, historic, natural, and cultural features Suitable topography (5 percent slope average maximum) and soils
Hiking	Trail	0.16	Recreation corridor	0.73	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Diversity of scenic, historic, natural, and cultural features Suitable topography and soils
Horseback Riding	Trail	0.05	Recreation corridor Regional Park	1.21	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Diversity of scenic, historic, natural, and cultural features Suitable topography and soils
Nature Study	Center	One per county	Regional, multi-community, and community parks	--	Interpretive center building	--	Diversity of natural features, including a variety of plant and animal species Suitable topography and soils
	Trail	0.02	Recreation corridor Regional, multi-community, and community parks	0.73	Parking Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Diversity of natural features, including a variety of plant and animal species Suitable topography and soils
Scenic Driving	Route	-- ^{cc}	Scenic roadways Recreation corridor	--	Route markers	--	--
Cross Country Skiing	Trail	0.02	Recreation corridor Regional and multi-community parks	0.97	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Suitable natural and open areas Rolling topography
Snowmobiling	Trail	0.11	Private lands (leased for public use)	1.45	Backup lands, including resource amenities and open lands	24.2	Suitable natural and open areas Suitable topography (8 percent slope average maximum) and soils

► **Objective 5: To provide sufficient surface water access areas to allow the resident population of the Region adequate opportunities to participate in water-based outdoor recreation activities on major inland lakes and rivers and on Lake Michigan, consistent with safe and enjoyable surface water use and the maintenance of good water quality.**

- **Principle 5.1:** The major inland lakes and rivers of the Region and Lake Michigan provide opportunities for water-based recreation activities, including canoeing, fishing, ice fishing, motorboating, sailing, and water-skiing, which may involve unique forms of physical exercise or simply provide opportunities for rest and relaxation within an attractive natural setting. Participating in such activities requires the general public to have access to major inland lakes and rivers and Lake Michigan.

- **Standard 5.1:** Access sites available for use by the general public on streams and major lakes (50 acres or larger) should be provided in accordance with the requirements established by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in Sections NR 1.90 and NR 1.91 of the *Wisconsin Administrative Code*.
- **Standard 5.2:** Access sites with parking should be provided on major streams throughout the Region. The maximum interval between access points on major canoeable streams^{dd} should be 10 miles.

► **Objective 6: To preserve sufficient high-quality open space lands for protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and enhancement of the social and economic well-being, environmental quality, and biodiversity^{ee} of the Region.**

- **Principle 6.1:** Ecological balance and natural beauty are primary elements to sustaining a healthy environment and maintaining the social and economic well-being of the Region. Preserving the most significant aspects of the natural resource base, that is, primary environmental corridors, natural areas and critical species habitat sites, and prime agricultural lands, contributes to sustaining the ecological balance, natural beauty, and economic well-being of the Region.

A. PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

- **Principle 6.2:** The primary environmental corridors are a composite of the best individual elements of the natural resource base including lakes, streams, rivers, and their associated floodplains and riparian buffers; woodlands, wetlands, plant and wildlife habitat; areas of groundwater discharge and recharge; organic soils, rugged terrain, and high relief topography; and significant geological formations and physiographic features. Protecting these elements of the natural resource base reduces flood damage, abates soil erosion, protects water supplies, cleans the air, enhances wildlife population, preserves biological diversity, and provides continued opportunities for scientific, educational, and recreational activities.
 - **Standard 6.1:** All remaining nonurban lands within the designated primary environmental corridors in the Region should be preserved in essentially natural open uses.

B. NATURAL AREAS AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITATS

- **Principle 6.3:** Natural areas and critical species habitats are important in a number of ways - including economically, because they support advances in agriculture and medicine; functionally, because they enhance surface water and groundwater quality, minimize erosion, and enhance air quality; educationally; recreationally; aesthetically; in basic scientific research; and in maintaining biological and genetic diversity. In a less tangible but equally important way, natural areas and critical species habitats contribute to the overall quality of life for the Region's residents.
 - **Standard 6.2:** The remaining natural areas and critical species habitat areas should be preserved.

C. PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS

- **Principle 6.4:** Prime agricultural lands, in addition to providing food and fiber, can supply significant wildlife habitat; contribute to maintaining an ecological balance between plants and animals; offer locations close to urban centers for producing certain food commodities that may require nearby population concentrations for efficient distribution; provide opportunities for agricultural and agriculture-related employment; provide open spaces that give form and structure to urban development; and serve to maintain the natural beauty and unique cultural heritage of the Region.
 - **Standard 6.3:** Prime agricultural lands should be preserved for agricultural use.
 - **Standard 6.4:** Agricultural lands surrounding adjacent areas with high-value natural resource, educational, or recreational attributes should be considered for preservation to provide a buffer between such resources and urban development.

► **Objective 7: To satisfy outdoor recreation and related open space needs in an efficient and economical way.**

- **Principle 7.1:** The total resources of the Region are limited and any undue investment in park and open space lands must occur at the expense of other public investment.
- **Standard 7.1:** The sum total of all expenditures required to meet park demands and open space needs should be minimized.

Footnotes

^a Identifying a maximum service radius for each park type is intended to provide another guideline to assist in determining park needs and to assure that each resident of the Region has ready access to the variety of outdoor recreation facilities commonly located in parks, including space and facilities for both active and passive outdoor recreational use.

^b For regional and multi-community parks, which generally provide facilities for resource-orientated outdoor recreation activities for the total population of the Region, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the total resident population of the Region. For community and neighborhood parks, which generally provide facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities primarily in urban areas, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the resident population of the Region residing in urban areas.

^c Urban areas are defined as areas containing a closely spaced network of minor streets that include concentrations of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, or institutional land uses having a minimum total area of 160 acres and a minimum population of 500 people. These areas are usually incorporated and served by sanitary sewerage systems. These areas have been further classified into the following categories: Mixed-Use City Center (urban land with at least 18.0 dwelling units per net residential acre), Mixed-Use Traditional Neighborhood (urban land with at least 7.0 to 17.9 dwelling units per net residential acre), Small Lot Traditional Neighborhood (urban land with at least 4.4 to 6.9 dwelling units per net residential acre), Medium Lot Neighborhood (urban land with at least 2.3 to 4.3 dwelling units per net residential acre), and Large Lot Neighborhood (urban land with at least 0.7 to 2.2 dwelling units per net residential acre).

^d Regional parks are defined as large outdoor recreation sites with a multi-county service area. Such parks rely heavily on natural resources for their recreational value and character, and provide opportunities for participating in a wide variety of resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.

^e A passive activity area is defined as an area within an outdoor recreation site that provides an opportunity for such leisurely recreational activities as walking, rest and relaxation, and informal picnicking. These areas are generally located in parks or in urban open space sites, and usually consist of a landscaped area with mowed lawn, shade trees, and benches.

^f Multi-community parks are defined as intermediate size sites having a Countywide or multi-community service area. Similar to regional parks, these sites rely on natural resources for their recreational value and character. Multi-community parks, however, usually provide a smaller variety of recreational facilities and have smaller areas devoted to any given activity.

^g In general, each resident of the Region should reside within 10 miles of a regional or multi-community park. It should be noted, however, that within urban areas (population of 40,000 or greater) each urban resident should reside within four miles of a regional or multi-community park.

^h Community parks are defined as intermediate size parks having a multi-neighborhood service area. These parks rely more on the development characteristics of the service area than on natural resource amenities for location.

ⁱ The need for a community park in urban areas can be met by the presence of a regional or multi-community park. Each resident of an urban area with a population of 7,500 or greater should be within two miles of a community, multi-community, or regional park.

^j Neighborhood parks are defined as small sites that have a neighborhood as the service area. These sites usually provide facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities and are generally located in urban areas. Recreation lands at the neighborhood level should ideally be provided through a joint community-school district venture, with the facilities and recreational land area required to be provided on one site available to serve the recreation demands of both the school student and resident neighborhood populations. Using the neighborhood park standard of 1.7 acres per 1,000 residents and the school standard of 1.6 acres per 1,000 residents, a total of 3.3 acres per 1,000 residents or approximately 21 acres of recreation lands in a typical small lot traditional or medium lot (medium-density) neighborhood would be provided. These acreage standards relate to lands required to provide recreation facilities typically located in a neighborhood and are exclusive of the school building site and associated parking area and any additional natural resource areas that may be incorporated into the design of the park site such as drainageways and associated stormwater retention basins, areas of poor soils, and floodplains.

^k The maximum service radius of neighborhood parks is governed primarily by the population density in the vicinity of the park. In Mixed-use City Center and Mixed-Use Traditional Neighborhood (high-density) urban areas, each resident should reside

within 0.5 mile of a neighborhood park; in Small Lot Traditional Neighborhood and Medium Lot Neighborhood (medium density) urban areas, each resident should reside within 0.75 mile of a neighborhood park; and in Large Lot Neighborhood (low-density) urban areas, each resident should reside within 1.0 mile of a neighborhood park. It should be noted that the need for a neighborhood park can also be met by a regional, multi-community, or community park within the 0.5, 0.75, or 1.0 mile service radii in these areas. Further, it should be noted that in applying the service radius criterion for neighborhood parks, only multi-use parks five acres or greater in area should be considered as satisfying the maximum service radius standard. Such park sites generally provide areas that offer space for passive recreational uses, as well as facilities that provide opportunities for active recreational uses.

^l Facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented recreational activities in urban areas are commonly located in community or neighborhood school outdoor recreation sites. These facilities often provide a substitute for facilities usually located in parks by providing opportunities for participating in intensive nonresource-orientated activities. It is important to note, however, that school outdoor recreation sites do not generally contain natural resource areas, which provide space for passive recreational use.

^m Identifying a maximum service radius for each school site is intended to assist in determining active outdoor recreation facility requirements and to assure that each urban resident has ready access to the types of active intensive nonresource-oriented facilities commonly located in school recreation areas.

ⁿ For public school sites, which generally provide facilities for intensive nonresource-orientated outdoor recreation activities, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the resident population of the Region residing in urban areas.

^o The service radius of school outdoor recreation sites, for park and open space planning purposes, is governed primarily by individual outdoor recreation facilities within the school site. For example, school outdoor recreation sites that provide facilities such as playfields, playgrounds, and basketball goals typically have a service radius of 0.5 mile, which is the maximum service radius assigned to such facilities (see Standard 2 presented under Objective 2). As another example, school outdoor recreation sites that provide tennis courts and softball diamonds typically have a service radius of one mile, which is the maximum service radius assigned to such facilities (see Standard 2 presented under Objective 2). It is important to note that areas that offer space for passive recreational use are generally not provided at school outdoor recreation sites and therefore community and neighborhood school sites generally are not used when applying community and neighborhood park accessibility standards.

^p A recreation corridor is defined as a publicly owned continuous linear expanse of land that is generally located within scenic areas or areas of natural, cultural, or historical interest and provides opportunities for participation in trail-oriented outdoor recreational activities especially through trails designated for activities such as biking, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, and cross country skiing.

^q Facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities generally serve urban areas. The minimum per capita standards for facilities offering these activities, therefore, apply to the total resident population in each urban area of the Region.

^r For each facility offering an intensive nonresource-oriented activity, the service radius indicates the maximum distance a participant should have to travel from their home to participate in the corresponding activity.

^s Each urban area having a population of 2,500 or greater should have at least one baseball diamond.

^t Support facilities such as lighting, concessions, and bleachers generally should not be provided in neighborhood parks. These sites typically do not contain sufficient acreage to allow an adequate buffer between such support facilities and surrounding residences.

^u Each urban area should have at least one ice-skating rink.

^v Each urban area having a population of 7,500 or greater should have one public swimming pool or beach.

^w Facilities for intensive resource-orientated activities serve both rural and urban residents of the Region. The minimum per capita requirements for facilities for intensive resource-oriented activities, therefore, apply to the total resident population of the Region.

^x Participants in intensive resource-oriented recreational activities travel relatively long distances from their homes. The approximate service radius indicates the normal maximum distance a participant in the respective resource-oriented activity should have to travel from their home to participate in the corresponding activity.

^y The allocation of the 6.35 picnic tables per 1,000 residents to publicly owned parks is as follows: 3.80 tables per 1,000 residents of the Region to be located in regional and multi-community parks to meet the resource-oriented picnicking standard for the Region and 2.55 tables per 1,000 residents of urban areas in the Region to be located in community and neighborhood parks to meet local picnicking standard for urban areas of the Region.

^z A picnic area is commonly provided adjacent to a swimming beach as a support facility. Thus, the total amount of acreage required for support facilities must be determined on a site-by-site basis.

^{aa} Both urban and rural residents of the Region participate in trail-related activities. Thus, minimum per capita requirements for trails apply to the total resident population of the Region.

^{bb} Bike routes are located on existing public roadways; therefore, no requirement is indicated.

^{cc} *Scenic driving routes are located on existing public roadways; therefore, no requirement is provided. However, a recreation corridor may provide a uniquely suitable area for the development of a system of scenic driving routes.*

^{dd} *Major canoeable streams are defined as those streams that have a minimum width of 50 feet over a distance of at least 10 miles.*

^{ee} *Biodiversity refers to the number and abundance of animal and plant species, their genetic composition and variability, and the ecological connection between and among species.*

Source: SEWRPC

**GRANT PROGRAMS TO HELP IMPLEMENT
COUNTY AND LOCAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLANS**

APPENDIX B

Primary sources of grant funds for the acquisition and development of county and local (city, town, and village) park and open space sites and the development of trails and bikeways in Southeastern Wisconsin are described in the following sections. Additional grant programs, which are focused on open space preservation and water quality protection and improvement, are listed on Table B.1.

1. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program was established by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1989 for a ten-year period. The program has been renewed numerous times since 2000, most recently as part of the Wisconsin State Budget for the period 2021 to 2025. The goals of the Stewardship Program are to protect and restore nature-based⁴¹ outdoor recreation areas and areas having scenic or ecological value. The Stewardship Program is financed through the issuance of general obligation bonds and was authorized to distribute about \$86 million annually Statewide for the ten-year period of the program. This amount was reduced to \$60 million annually for fiscal years 2011-2012 through 2019-2020. Since 2015, the program received about \$33 million annually for land acquisition, property and local assistance, and recreational boating aids. It was last authorized in 2019 for an additional two years. The most recent amount includes \$32 million annually for fiscal years 2021-2022 through 2024-2025. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) administers the Stewardship Program. The Stewardship Program is an umbrella for a number of subprograms, each with its own goals, priorities, and criteria, which are summarized below. Projects submitted for grants under the Stewardship Program must be included in a locally adopted park plan. The following programs are available to counties, local governments, and nonprofit conservation organizations (NCOs) and require 50 percent matching funds.

a. Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)

The ADLP program is a regional allocation program which provides assistance for the acquisition and development of local and county parks and trails. NCOs can use these funds for the acquisition of land or easements only. County and local governments may use ADLP funds for the purchase of land and easements and the development of outdoor recreation areas for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes. The application deadline is May 1 of each year.

b. Urban Green Space (UGS)

The Urban Green Space program provides grants to acquire or protect scenic, ecological, or other natural features in urban or urbanizing areas and provide land for nature-based outdoor recreation, including noncommercial community gardening. These funds can be used for the acquisition of land only. The application deadline is May 1 of each year.

c. Urban Rivers (URGP)

The Urban Rivers grant program provides grants to purchase land or easements, or to develop shoreline enhancements on or adjacent to rivers that flow through urban or urbanizing areas. This program is intended to preserve or restore urban rivers or riverfronts for the purpose of revitalization and nature-based outdoor recreation activities. NCOs can use these funds for the acquisition of land or easements only. The application deadline is May 1 of each year.

d. Acquisition of Development Rights

The Acquisition of Development Rights program provides grants to acquire development rights (conservation easements) in areas where restrictions on residential, commercial, or industrial development would help protect natural, agricultural, or forestry values and enhance nature-based outdoor recreation. The application deadline is May 1 of each year.

⁴¹ The WDNR defines "nature-based" outdoor recreation as activities where the primary focus or purpose is the appreciation or enjoyment of nature. Such activities include hiking, bicycling, wildlife or nature observation, camping, nature study, fishing, hunting, picnicking, cross-country skiing, canoeing, and multi-use trail activities. Playgrounds are also considered "nature-based" facilities. Support facilities such as access roads, parking, signs, utility and restroom buildings, and habitat restoration are also eligible for funding under the Stewardship program.

**Table B.1
Potential Funding Programs to Implement Recommendations for Open Space Preservation and Water Quality Protection and Improvements^{a, b}**

Reference Number	Administrator of Grant Program	Name of Funding Program	Eligibility	Types of Projects and Funding Eligibility Criteria	Assistance Provided	Application Deadline
1	Captain Planet Foundation	Captain Planet Foundation Small Grant Program	U.S.-based schools and nonprofit organizations with an annual operating budget of less than \$3 million	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Projects that provide hands-on environmental opportunities for youth Projects that serve as a catalyst to getting environmental-based education in schools Projects that have real environmental outcomes Projects that inspire youth and communities to participate in environmental stewardship activities 	Grants ranging between \$500 and \$2,500 Priority given to requests that have secured at least 50 percent matching or in-kind funding for their projects	January 31 September 31
2	Charles Stewart Mott Foundation	Charles Stewart Mott Foundation	Nonprofit organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening the environmental community Public policies that advance conservation of freshwater ecosystems Site-based conservation of freshwater ecosystems 	Grants ranging between \$15,000 and \$250,000	Continuous
3	Corporation for National and Community Service	AmeriCorps	Nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, local units of government, labor organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements related to energy and water performance in economically disadvantaged communities Sustained recycling and waste treatment activities Improvement of at-risk public lands and waterways 	Funds and member slots	Varies
4	Freshwater Future	Healing Our Waters	Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Development and implementation of GLRI proposals Capacity building 	Up to \$15,000 to aid in development or implementation of GLRI proposals. Up to \$5,000 for capacity building	None
5	Fund for Lake Michigan	Fund for Lake Michigan	Local communities and nonprofit organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Projects in southeastern Wisconsin that enhance the ecological health of nearshore and coastal areas and improve the quality of water flowing into the Lake 	Grants, no maximum given	Quarterly each year (March, June, September, December)

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Table B.1 (Continued)

Reference Number	Administrator of Grant Program	Name of Funding Program	Eligibility	Types of Projects and Funding Eligibility Criteria	Assistance Provided	Application Deadline
6	Graham-Martin Foundation	Graham-Martin Foundation	Schools, homeowners, homeowner associations, nonprofit organizations, lake and watershed associations, neighborhood associations, faith centers, State and local governments	1. Small-scale restoration and rain gardens	Funding to provide rain garden plants at a discount	Apply through the Foundation's website
7	Great Lakes Fishery Trust	Great Lakes Fishery Trust	Nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and governmental agencies	1. Access to the Great Lakes Fishery fish populations 2. Ecosystem health and sustainable fish populations 3. Great Lakes stewardship	No cost or time limitations on grant requests	Announced by program on website
8	Great Lakes Protection Fund	Great Lakes Protection Fund	State and local units of government, nonprofit organizations, for-profit businesses, and individuals	1. Improve the health of the Great Lakes 2. Promote the interdependence of healthy ecological and economic systems 3. Support innovative, creative, and venturesome ideas	Finance the total cost of accepted projects	Continuous application process
9	James E. Dutton Foundation	James E. Dutton Foundation	Conservation organizations	1. Wetland restorations 2. Stream restorations 3. Educational programs	Project grants	Continuous
10	Joyce Foundation	Joyce Foundation Grant Program	Nonprofit organizations	1. Projects that address the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species in and around the Great Lakes Basin 2. Projects that address polluted, nonpoint source runoff from agricultural lands and cities 3. Use of green infrastructure to manage stormwater 4. Support of Great Lakes restoration and protection policies	Finance the total cost of accepted projects	Continuous acceptance of letters of inquiry Grant proposals are considered at meetings of the Foundation's Board of Directors in April, July, and December
11	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District	Green Infrastructure Partnership Program	Government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, private property owners	1. Installation of green infrastructure practices	Reimbursement for eligible costs to a maximum of 50 percent of project costs	March 31
12	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District	Green Streets Partnership Program	Owners of roadways	1. Addition of green infrastructure to roadway projects 2. Retrofitting streets with green infrastructure	Up to \$125,000 per award Requires a match of staff time. While a funding match is not required, it will increase project scoring	October 1
13	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District	MMSD Rain Gardens Project	Homeowners, nonprofit groups, business owners	1. Rain gardens	Provides rain garden plants at reduces prices	March 17

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Table B.1 (Continued)

Reference Number	Administrator of Grant Program	Name of Funding Program	Eligibility	Types of Projects and Funding Eligibility Criteria	Assistance Provided	Application Deadline
14	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Acres for America	State, local, and tribal governments, nonprofit organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Providing access to the outdoors Conserving critical habitat Connecting existed protected lands Ensuring the future of rural economies 	\$2.5 million available annually Requires at least one-to-one match	Pre-proposals June 3 Full proposals August 1
15	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Bring Back the Natives/More Fish	Federal, state, local, and tribal governments and agencies, nonprofit organizations, universities and schools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation projects that restore, protect, and enhance sensitive, endangered, or threatened populations of native fish 	Grants of \$25,000 to \$100,000 Requires 2 to 1 nonfederal match	Request for proposals typically released in the spring
16	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Environmental Solutions for Communities	State, local, and tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Stewardship on agricultural lands Community-based conservation projects Green infrastructure 	Grants of \$25,000 to \$100,000. Match of 100 percent or greater is more competitive	Mid-December
17	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program	Any entity eligible to receive grants. Requires at least five partnering organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible projects depend on funding source 	Grants of \$20,000 to \$50,000. Requires match of 100 percent or more	Early February
18	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Sustain Our Great Lakes	State, local, and tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the health of the Great Lakes Promote the interdependence of healthy ecological and economic systems 	Provides grants of \$25,000 to \$1,500,000. Match of 100 percent or greater is more competitive	Mid-February
19	PeopleForBikes	PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program	Local governments, State and Federal agencies, nonprofit organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Bike paths, lanes, and bridges, Bike parks Bike racks, parking, and storage 	Provides grants of up to \$10,000 for a project. Grant must represent less than 50 percent of project budget	January August
20	Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network	Root-Pike WIN Watershed-Based Grant Program	Nonprofit organizations, units of government and other government agencies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Projects to reduce and prevent water, air, and soil pollution Education about watershed issues Protection and restoration of natural areas Projects that improve public access to public waterways 	Provides grants of \$500-\$10,000. Root-Pike WIN prefers not to be sole funder of a project	October 1
21	Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Coalition	SEWISC Assistance Program	Eligible recipients depend upon funding source and may include individuals, nonprofit organizations, community and civic groups, private businesses, and units of government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Projects to lessen the impacts of invasive species in southeastern Wisconsin 	Provides up to \$2,000. Match of at least 25 percent is required	As announced on SEWISC website. Deadline for 2022 is March 4.
22	Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust	Sweet Water Mini-Grant Program	Nonprofit organizations, civic groups, community groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Projects that improve water quality, restore habitat, promote conservation and advance public education concerning water issues 	Provides grants of \$1,000-\$5,000	November 15

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Table B.1 (Continued)

Reference Number	Administrator of Grant Program	Name of Funding Program	Eligibility	Types of Projects and Funding Eligibility Criteria	Assistance Provided	Application Deadline
23	Surdna Foundation	Surdna Foundation	Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status	1. Innovative stormwater infrastructure	Recent grants have ranged between \$50,000 and \$1,000,000	Continuous
24	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Ecosystem Restoration Program	State and local units of government, nonprofit organizations	1. Projects to restore aquatic ecosystems for fish and wildlife	65 percent Federal cost-share of construction costs and cannot exceed \$5,000,000	None
25	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Emergency Streambank and Shore Protection Program	Local communities	1. Bank protection of highways, bridges, essential public works, churches, hospitals, schools, and other public services from flood-induced erosion	Federal share cannot exceed \$1,500,000 for a given project. Cost-share program with local match of 35 percent for design and construction required	None
26	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration Program	State and local units of government, public agencies, private interests, nonprofit organizations	1. Projects to restore degraded ecosystem structure, function, and process to a more natural condition	Federal cost-share of 65 percent of planning, design, and construction costs up to \$10,000,000	None
27	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Small Flood Damage Reduction Program	State and local units of government	1. Projects designed to reduce the impact of flood events 2. Projects must be designed and constructed by the Corps	50 to 65 percent Federal cost-share assistance above \$100,000 and cannot exceed \$7,000,000; 35 to 50 percent local match is required	None
28	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Snagging and Clearing for Flood Control Program	State and Local units of government	1. Removal of obstructions that restrict flood flows in navigable waters 2. Projects must be designed and constructed by the Corps	Project studies are in most cases at Federal expense. 65 percent Federal cost-share is provided for project implementation and cannot exceed \$500,000	None
29	U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Services Agency	Conservation Reserve Program	Individual landowners in a 10- or 15-year contract	1. Grass waterways 2. Riparian buffers 3. Shallow water areas for wildlife 4. Wetland restoration 5. Windbreaks	50 percent Federal cost-share assistance. 50 percent local match from individual; an annual rental payment for the length of the contract is also provided	Annually or ongoing
30	U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Services Agency	Emergency Conservation Program	Individual landowners	1. Repair damage to farmland caused by natural disasters	Up to 75 percent cost share to implement emergency conservation practices	Announced by FSA
31	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Services Agency	Emergency Forest Restoration Program	Private landowners with nonindustrial forests	1. Repair damage to forests caused by natural disasters	Up to 75 percent cost-share to implement emergency conservation practices	Announced by FSA
32	U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Services Agency	Grasslands Reserve Program	Private landowners and operators to protect grazing uses with permanent easements or rental contracts of 10-, 15-, or 20-year duration	1. Participants voluntarily limit future development and cropping of the land while retaining the right to conduct common grazing practices and production of forage and seed	For permanent easements, compensation up to the fair market value of the land minus grazing value For rental contracts, up to 75 percent of grazing value of land	Continuous
33	U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service	Conservation Stewardship Program	Individual landowners in a five-year contract	1. Filter strips 2. Riparian buffers 3. Wildlife corridors 4. Stream habitat improvement	Payments for maintaining and/or enhancing natural resources not to exceed \$40,000 per year or \$200,000 over a five year period	Annually

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Table B.1 (Continued)

Reference Number	Administrator of Grant Program	Name of Funding Program	Eligibility	Types of Projects and Funding Eligibility Criteria	Assistance Provided	Application Deadline
34	U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service	Emergency Watershed Protection Program	Individual landowners	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Debris removal 2. Streambank stabilization 3. Levee, dike, and dam repair 4. Erosion control 5. Floodplain easements 	Up to 75 percent Federal cost-share assistance. 25 percent local match is required	Continuous
35	U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	Individual landowners in a contract ranging from one to 10 years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Animal waste management practices 2. Soil erosion and sediment control practices 3. Nutrient management 4. Groundwater protections 5. Habitat improvement 	Up to 75 percent Federal cost-share assistance. 25 percent local match is required	Annually
36	U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service	Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program	Individual landowners in a contract ranging from one to 10 years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Instream fish habitat structures 2. Invasive species control 3. Prairie restoration 4. Habitat restoration 	Up to 75 percent Federal cost-share assistance. 25 percent local match is required	Continuous
37	U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service	Wetlands Reserve Program	Individual landowners in 10-year contracts or 30-year or permanent easements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Easements 2. Wetland restoration 	For permanent easements, 100 percent Federal cost share of restoration costs plus easement payment For 30-year easements 75 percent Federal cost share of restoration costs plus 75 percent of easement payment for permanent easement	Continuous
38	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Environmental Justice Small Grant Program	Incorporated nonprofit organizations and Federally recognized Indian tribes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase awareness of stormwater 2. Lessen impacts from stormwater 3. Watershed education 	Federal grants of \$20,000 to \$50,000	January
39	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Targeted Watershed Grant Program	Watershed organizations nominated by State Governors or Tribal leaders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watershed projects to protect water resources 2. Training and technical assistance to local partnerships 	Maximum 75 percent Federal cost-share assistance. Minimum 25 percent nonfederal match	November
40	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Urban Waters Small Grants	States, local governments, universities and colleges, nonprofit institutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research, investigations, training, studies and demonstrations that will advance the restoration of urban waters. 	Federal grant of \$40,000 to \$60,000. Minimum local match of \$2,500	January
41	U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency	Flood Mitigation Assistance Program	State agencies and participating National Flood Insurance Program communities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elevation, relocation, or demolition of insured structures 2. Acquisition 3. Dry floodproofing 4. Minor structural projects 5. Flood mitigation planning 	75 percent Federal cost-share assistance. 25 percent local match required	Announced on FEMA website
42	U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	State agencies and participating National Flood Insurance Program communities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Floodproofing 2. Relocation 3. Elevation of structures 4. Property acquisition 	75 percent Federal cost-share assistance. 12.5 percent State match and 12.5 percent local match required	Within 60 days of a Presidential disaster declaration

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Table B.1 (Continued)

Reference Number	Administrator of Grant Program	Name of Funding Program	Eligibility	Types of Projects and Funding Eligibility Criteria	Assistance Provided	Application Deadline
43	U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	State agencies and participating National Flood Insurance Program communities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition and relocation of structures in flood hazard areas Floodproofing Minor structural projects Flood control projects for critical facilities 	75 percent Federal cost-share assistance. 25 percent local match required	Announced on FEMA website Applicants must have a FEMA-approved Mitigation plan in order to qualify for project grants
44	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Program	Federal agencies, state agencies, local governments, other public institutions, and private nonprofit organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat restoration Monitoring and assessment Removal of passage barriers Aquatic plant establishment Programs to manage aquatic invasive species 	Federal grants of \$1,000 to \$750,000 with an average grant of \$75,000 No local match required, but matches of at least 50 percent encouraged	Contact FWS regional office for deadline
45	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Grant Program	States, Tribal Governments, Native American Treaty Organizations, Local governments, universities, nongovernmental organizations, and conservation organizations can receive funding if sponsored by an eligible entity.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration of fish and wildlife resources and their habitat in the Great Lakes basin 	Federal cost-share assistance for up to 75 percent of project costs. Nonfederal match of at least 25 percent required	December 16
46	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	Public and private organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Land acquisition Wetland restoration 	Standard grant program: \$75,000 to \$1,000,000 Federal cost-share assistance Small grant program: up to \$75,000 Federal cost-share assistance Both require at least 50 percent local match	February 25, July 8 November 7
47	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program	Private landowners for a contract of at least 10 years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration of degraded wetlands, native grasslands, stream and riparian corridors, and other habitat areas 	Full cost-share and technical assistance; individual projects cannot exceed \$25,000	Continuous
48	U.S. Forest Service	Community Forest and Open Space Preservation Program	Local units of government, tribes, qualified nonprofit agencies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition of land for community forests 	50 percent Federal cost-share assistance up to \$400,000. 50 percent local match required	January 15
49	Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands	State Trust Fund Loan Program	Counties, cities, villages, towns, metropolitan sewerage districts, sanitary districts, lake districts, drainage districts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Any public purpose 	Loans at competitive rates	Continuous
50	Wisconsin Citizen-Based Monitoring Network	Wisconsin Citizen-Based Monitoring Partnership Program	Local units of government, lake districts and associations, school districts, river management organizations, colleges, universities, tech schools, nonprofit conservation organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Citizen-based monitoring of natural populations and communities and environmental components such as soil, water, and air. 	\$75,000-100,000 available Statewide annually	Spring

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Table B.1 (Continued)

Reference Number	Administrator of Grant Program	Name of Funding Program	Eligibility	Types of Projects and Funding Eligibility Criteria	Assistance Provided	Application Deadline
51	Wisconsin Coastal Management Program	Wisconsin Coastal Management Grant Program	Local units of government, State agencies, colleges and universities, school districts, regional planning commission serving coastal areas, tribal governments, nonprofit organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal wetland protection and habitat protection Nonpoint source pollution control Coastal resource and community planning Great Lakes education Public access and historic preservation projects 	50 percent State match for projects with budgets of \$60,000 or less with 50 percent local match required 40 percent State match for projects with budgets greater than \$60,000 with 60 percent local match required	November
52	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Control Grant Program	Local units of government, lake districts and associations, school districts, river management organizations, colleges, universities, tech schools, nonprofit conservation organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Education, prevention, and planning Established population control Early detection and response Maintenance and containment Research and Demonstration 	Up to 75 percent State cost share Maximum award depends on type of project	February 1 August 1
53	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	County Conservation Aids	County and tribal governments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic habitat development Aquatic vegetation management Lake and stream rehabilitation and improvement 	50 percent State cost-share of eligible costs	Contact WDNR regional grant specialist
54	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Dam Removal Grant Program	Counties, cities, villages, towns, lake districts, and private dam owners	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dam removal planning Dam removal Restoration of impoundment 	100 percent of eligible project costs up to \$50,000	Continuous
55	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Environmental Improvement Fund Loan Program	Cities, villages, towns, counties, sanitary districts lake districts, metropolitan sewerage districts, Federally recognized Indian tribes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Construction and modification of WWTPs Nonpoint source pollution abatement projects 	Low interest loans	Notice of intent to apply due December 31
56	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program	Local units of government, qualified nonprofit conservation organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Land acquisition Streambank protection Fish and wildlife habitat 	50 percent State cost-share assistance. 50 percent local match is required	May 1
57	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Lake Management Planning Grants	Local units of government, lake districts and associations, school districts, river management organizations, colleges, universities, tech schools, nonprofit conservation organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring Education Organizational development Studies Plan development 	75 percent State cost-share assistance. 25 percent local match is required Small scale grant maximum of \$3,000. Large-scale grant maximum of \$25,000	February 1 August 1
58	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Lake Protection Grants	Local units of government, lake districts and associations, school districts, river management organizations, colleges, universities, tech schools, nonprofit conservation organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase of land or easements Restoration of wetlands or shorelands Development of local regulations or ordinances Lake management plan implementation 	75 percent State cost-share assistance. 25 percent local match is required. Maximum award of \$200,000	May 1

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Table B.1 (Continued)

Reference Number	Administrator of Grant Program	Name of Funding Program	Eligibility	Types of Projects and Funding Eligibility Criteria	Assistance Provided	Application Deadline
59	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Program	State agencies and local units of government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning for acquisition of parks 2. Land acquisition for parks and open space 3. Supporting facilities that enhance recreational opportunities 	50 percent cost-share assistance	May 1
60	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Landowner Incentive Program	Any land that is not publicly owned	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Projects to create and manage habitat for rare and declining species 	Technical assistance 75 percent State cost-share, when funds are available	Continuous
61	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Municipal Dam Grant Program	Counties, cities, villages, towns, lake districts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dam maintenance, repair, and modification 2. Dam abandonment and removal 	Repair, reconstruction, and modification awards cover 50 percent of the first \$400,000 and 25 percent of the next \$800,000 of eligible project costs Dam abandonment and removal awards cover 100 percent of first \$400,000 of eligible project costs	January 22
62	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Municipal Flood Control Grant Program	Cities, villages, towns, tribes, metropolitan sewerage districts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Structure and land acquisition 2. Structure floodproofing 3. Riparian restoration 4. Flood storage 5. Stormwater storage/detention 6. Flood mapping 	State grant covers up to 70 percent of eligible costs. Requires minimum 30 percent local cost share	March 17
63	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Recreational Trails Aid Program	Municipal governments and incorporated organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintenance and restoration of existing trails 2. Development or rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities 3. Construction of new trails 4. Land acquisition for trails 	State grant covers up to 50 percent of eligible project costs. Requires 50 percent match. Match may include other State funding	May 1
64	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	River Protection Grant Program	Counties, cities, villages, towns, lake districts and associations, river management organizations, and nonprofit organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Management plan development 2. Education projects 3. Land acquisition 4. Installation of nonpoint source pollution abatement projects 5. River restoration projects 	State provides 75 percent cost-share up to \$10,000 for planning projects or \$50,000 for management projects. 25 percent local match required	December 10 for planning projects February 1 for management projects
65	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Targeted Runoff Management Grant Program	Cities, villages, towns, counties, regional planning commissions, tribal governments, special purpose lake, sewerage, and sanitary districts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction of structural BMPs 2. Implementation of nonstructural cropping practices 3. Implementation of State agricultural performance standards 	State covers up to 70 percent of eligible costs. Grants of \$500,000 - \$1,000,000 for large-scale projects and up to \$150,000 for small-scale projects	April 15
66	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Urban Forestry Grant Program	Counties, cities, villages, towns, and nonprofit organizations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tree inventories 2. Urban forestry management plans 3. Tree ordinance development 4. Tree planting, pruning, maintenance, and removal 	State covers 50 percent of eligible costs. Regular grants of \$1,000 to \$25,000. Startup grants of \$1,000 to \$4,000	October 1

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Table B.1 (Continued)

Reference Number	Administrator of Grant Program	Name of Funding Program	Eligibility	Types of Projects and Funding Eligibility Criteria	Assistance Provided	Application Deadline
67	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management Grant Program	Local units of government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning 2. Education and Information Activities 3. Ordinance development and enforcement 4. Training 5. Structural stormwater BMPs 6. Streambank stabilization 	70 percent State cost-share assistance for projects not involving construction, requiring a 30 percent local match, 50 percent State cost-share assistance for projects not involving construction, requiring a 50 percent local match	April 15
68	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Weed Management Area Private Forest Grant Program	Eligible weed management groups	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information, education, and outreach 2. Inventories of invasive plant species 3. Control of invasive plant species 4. Invasive plant management planning 	State reimburses 75 percent of eligible costs to a maximum of \$15,000 to any weed management group. Requires a 25 percent match	April 1
69	Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services	Wisconsin Fund-Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Replacement or Rehabilitation Financial Assistance Program	Owners of principal residences and small businesses who meet income limits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replacement or rehabilitation of failing onsite wastewater treatment systems that were built before July 1, 1978 	Maximum grant award of \$7,000. Loans are also available	January 31
70	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program	Counties, local governments, transit operators, State agencies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities 	State reimburses up to 80 percent costs. Requires a minimum 20 percent match	January of odd-numbered years
71	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	Transportation Alternatives Program	State agencies, local governments with taxing authority, Indian tribes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles 2. Mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff 3. Conversion and use of abandoned railroad right of ways as trails 	Federal match reimbursing up to 80 percent of project costs. Sponsor must provide at least 20 percent of funding	October of odd-numbered years
72	Wisconsin Environmental Education Board	Wisconsin Environmental Education Board Grant Program	State agencies, local units of government, schools, colleges, universities, nonprofit corporations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development, dissemination, and implementation of environmental education programs 	Project grants of up to \$10,000. Requires minimum 25 percent match	February 15

^a The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs can be accessed at: www.cfla.gov/?s=main&mode=list&tab=list. Additional information on grants can be accessed through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at: www.water.epa.gov/grants_funding/ and through the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries Grants Information Collection at www.grants.library.wisc.edu.

^b Some of the programs described in this table may not be available under all envisioned conditions for a variety of reasons, including eligibility requirements or lack of funds in Federal and/or State budgets at a given time.

^c Two types of sign-up are available for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP): continuous CRP, which has no time line and is used for small sensitive tracts of land and regular CRP, which has an annual application period and is used for large tracts of land.

Source: SEWRPC

2. The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON) program was established by the U.S. Congress in 1964 to provide funding for the acquisition of land for park or open space preservation purposes and the development of outdoor recreation facilities. In Wisconsin, LAWCON funds are administered by the WDNR. Up to 50 percent of project costs are eligible for funding under this program. A portion of this amount is available to local and county units of government for the acquisition of land and the development of parks and trails. The “nature-based” restriction in the Stewardship Program does not apply to LAWCON funds. The application deadline is May 1 of each year.

3. The National Recreational Trails Act (RTA) grant program provides funds through the transfer of Federal gas taxes paid on fuel used by off-highway vehicles. These funds are used to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized trail uses. The WDNR administers the program in Wisconsin. Funds are available to county and local units of government, State and Federal agencies, school districts, and qualified trail organizations. Matching grants for up to 50 percent of project costs are available. The application deadline is May 1 of each year.

4. The Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program, administered by the WDNR, distributes \$0.6 million annually Statewide. The program provides grants of up to 50 percent to county and local units of government and NCOs for urban forestry activities. The Program includes three subprograms, each with its own criteria, which are summarized below.

a. Regular Grants

Regular urban forestry grants support projects that improve a community’s capacity to manage its trees. Current emphases are on projects that create emerald ash borer preparedness, projects that improve the entire urban forest canopy, and innovative projects that act as a model for other projects. Grants provide 50 percent of project costs on a reimbursable basis and range between \$1,000 and \$25,000 to county and local units of government and NCOs. Eligible projects include tree inventories, canopy assessments, urban forestry management plans, tree ordinance development, public outreach, staff or volunteer training, tree planting, tree maintenance, and tree removal. Applications for regular urban forestry grants are due October 1. Projects begin January 1 and must be completed within one calendar year.

b. Startup Grants

Urban forestry startup grants support small projects focused on initial steps in community tree care and management. A long-term goal for applicants should be the development of a sustained community tree management program. Grants provide 50 percent of project costs on a reimbursable basis and range between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to county and local units of government and NCOs. Two of the following criteria are needed to apply: starting, or recently started, a community-wide tree care program; resuming tree care and management activities; community tree care by staff or contractors is infrequently performed; involvement and support for community trees and their care is low to non-existent; or there are no trained personnel to oversee community tree care and management. Eligible activities must relate to community tree management, maintenance, or education within cities, villages or other areas of urbanized development. A maximum of three urban forestry startup grants may be awarded to an applicant within the lifetime of the grant program. Applications for regular urban forestry grants are due October 1. Projects begin January 1 and must be completed within one calendar year.

c. Catastrophic Storm Grants

This grant provides \$4,000 to \$50,000 to county and local units of government that have experienced damage to an urban forest as a direct result of a catastrophic storm event for which the Governor has declared a State of Emergency. Eligible activities include damages to urban forests caused by snow, ice, hail, wind, or tornado. The grant does not include damages due to a forest fire, drought, insect infestation or disease, or water saturation due to flooding. No local share, or match, is required and grant recipients may request a 50 percent advance payment of estimated project costs. Applications must be postmarked no later than 60 days from the date of emergency declaration.

5. The River Protection Grant Program, administered by the WDNR, is intended to protect or improve rivers and natural river ecosystems, including water quality, fisheries habitat, and natural beauty. The program includes the following two subprograms:

a. River Planning Grants

This program provides grants to county and local units of government, NCOs, and qualified river management organizations. Eligible activities include river organization development, educational efforts, assessments of water quality and aquatic life, and non-point source evaluations. Reimbursement is limited to \$10,000 per project, up to 75 percent of project costs. The application deadline is May 1 of each year.

b. River Management Grants

This program provides grants to county and local units of government, NCOs, and qualified river management organizations. Eligible activities include purchase of land or easements, development of local ordinances, and restoration of in-stream or shoreland habitat. Reimbursement is limited to \$50,000 per project, up to 75 percent of project costs. The application deadline is May 1 of each year.

6. Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) grants are federally funded through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), but administered through the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program. The WCMP is a voluntary State-Federal partnership that works through a council appointed by the Governor to provide policy coordination among State agencies and to award Federal funds to local governments and other entities for the implementation of initiatives related to the management of coastal zones in the State. Current funding priorities are wetlands protection, habitat restoration, public access, land acquisition, nonpoint source pollution control, land use and community planning, natural hazards, and Great Lakes education projects. The program also provides assistance to local governments in the management and protection of shorelands, wetlands, and floodplains through zoning and permitting. All counties and local governments within a county adjacent to Lake Michigan or Lake Superior are eligible.

Approximately \$1.0 to \$1.5 million is available annually. Projects with a cost of \$60,000 or less require a 50 percent match and those with a cost more than \$60,000 require a 60 percent match. Match may be in-kind, cash, or a combination of the two but cannot be Federal funds, except for tribal "self-sufficiency" grants. The grant deadline is November 1.

7. Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) is long-term funding for surface transportation infrastructure planning and investment. The FAST Act authorized \$305 billion over the fiscal years 2016 through 2020 for highway, highway and motor vehicle safety, public transportation, motor carrier safety, hazardous materials safety, rail, and research, technology, and statistics programs. The program was enacted in 2015 and focuses on improving safety, maintaining infrastructure condition, reducing traffic congestion, improving the efficiency of the transportation system (including freight movement), protecting the environment, and reducing delays in project delivery. FAST funds are administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

FAST is focused on working closely with stakeholders to ensure that county and local governments are able to build multimodal, sustainable projects ranging from passenger rail and transit to bicycle and pedestrian paths. Bicycle projects must be principally for transportation rather than recreational purposes, and must be designed and located pursuant to the transportation plans required of the State and Metropolitan Planning Organizations.⁴² The following programs are administered by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation with funding from FHWA. Each program is summarized below:

a. Surface Transportation Block Grant Program

Bicycle and pedestrian facilities are eligible for funding under this program. Local governments with taxing authority, State agencies, and Indian tribes are eligible for funding. Construction projects costing \$200,000 or more are eligible for funding, as are non-construction projects

⁴² SEWRPC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Southeastern Wisconsin Region

costing \$50,000 or more. This program will provide up to 80 percent of project costs on a reimbursement basis.

b. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program provides funding for transportation projects that improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion in counties classified as air quality nonattainment or maintenance areas for ozone or particulate matter. Funds are available to counties, local units of government, transit operators, and State agencies. Eligible projects include pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Construction projects costing \$200,000 or more are eligible for funding, as are non-construction projects costing \$50,000 or more. This program will provide up to 80 percent of project costs on a reimbursement basis. The funds are made available through a competitive application process that generally takes place in odd numbered calendar years. Applications are typically available in late January and due in April.

CMAQ funds are available for all county and local governments in the Southeastern Wisconsin Region as each county in the region either once was or currently is designated as a nonattainment or maintenance area. In January 2022, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) designated all of Racine County as a maintenance area.

8. Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network (WIN) Watershed Based Grant Program awards grants to fund a variety of community-based projects in the Root River, Pike River, and Oak Creek watersheds and in the associated Lake Michigan direct drainage area. The types of projects funded include environmental restoration efforts, planning studies and projects, research studies on topics related to restoration and management of the watersheds, construction and installation of recreational access facilities, workshops, and educational efforts. The focus areas for grants include projects to reduce and prevent water, soil, and air pollution from urban and rural sources; projects to establish or improve education and communication about watershed issues; projects that protect or restore natural areas; and projects that improve public access to rivers, streams, lakes, and other public waterways. Potential projects are evaluated based on the degree to which they meet Root-Pike WIN's mission and vision; follow the recommendations of or best management practices suggested by agencies such as SEWRPC and the WDNR; protect unique environmental, archaeological, or cultural areas; can be duplicated throughout the watershed; encourage partnerships and leverage resources; balance a long-term focus with short-term results; and promote excellence by fostering a sense of pride and identification in the watershed. Grants are awarded annually and awards generally range between \$500 and \$10,000, subject to the availability of funds. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, units of government, and other public agencies. Applications for grants are due October 1.

9. Great Lakes Fishery Trust provides funding to nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and governmental agencies to enhance, protect, and rehabilitate Great Lakes fishery resources. The Trust provides funding in three broad areas: access to the Great Lakes fishery, ecosystem health and sustainable fish populations, and Great Lakes stewardship. Funding priorities related to access to the Great Lakes fishery include construction of new access sites, upgrading and renovating existing access sites, engineering and feasibility studies for proposed access sites, land acquisition to support access site development, and communication and outreach efforts regarding existing shore-based angling opportunities. Funding priorities related to ecosystem health and sustainable fish populations include targeted acquisition of land or easements to protect essential habitat, restoration of Great Lakes wetlands, removal of dams or barriers to restore fish passage, and targeted evaluations of new or experimental approaches in habitat restoration and fish passage. Funding priorities related to Great Lakes stewardship include projects that build understanding at the ecosystem or watershed level and promote taking related action on Great Lakes issues including protecting biological diversity, sustaining commercial and recreational fisheries, controlling nonnative nuisance species, and reducing pollution.

There are no cost or time limitations on grant requests; however, potential projects are evaluated on the costs versus the expected benefits as well as upon the reasonableness of the time requested to complete the project. The fund accepts proposals for different funding categories at different times throughout the year.

10. PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program supports bicycle infrastructure projects and targeted advocacy initiatives that make it easier and safer for people of all ages and abilities to ride. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations with a focus on bicycling, active transportation, or community development; county and local governments; and State or Federal agencies. Grants are given to support a specific project or program. In most cases, the funds are provided for projects that focus on bicycle infrastructure projects such as:

- a. Bike paths, lanes, and bridges
- b. Bike parks and pump tracks
- c. End of trip facilities, such as bike racks, bike parking, and bike storage

Eligible costs include engineering and design work, construction costs including materials, labor, and equipment rental, and reasonable volunteer support costs. The maximum grant is \$10,000. While the program does not require a specific percentage match, leverage and funding partnerships are considered during application review. This program does not consider grant requests in which the grant would amount to 50 percent or more of the project budget.

Applications are made with a letter of interest submitted through the PeopleForBikes website. Based on the letter of interest, organizations will be invited to submit a full application. PeopleForBikes generally holds one to two open grant cycles every year, with letters of interest due in January and August.

**RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE ADOPTING
THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN
APPENDIX C**



Resolution 33-2021

A Park and Open Space Plan for The Village of Mount Pleasant: 2050

The Plan Commission for the Village of Mount Pleasant, Racine County, Wisconsin resolves that:

WHEREAS, Village staff worked with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) and the Plan Commission to update the Village’s Park and Open Space Plan (ATTACHED); and,

WHEREAS, the Village Board held a duly noticed public hearing on the proposed amendment on November 8, 2021, following the procedures outlined in WIS. STATS. SECTION 66.1001(4)(D).

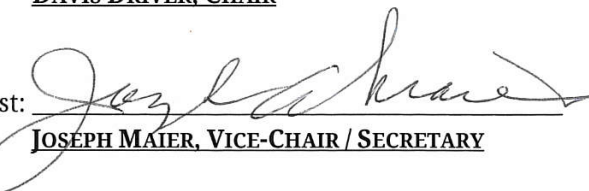
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to WIS. STATS. SECTION 66.1001(4)(B), the Village of Mount Pleasant Plan Commission hereby approves the proposed amendment and further recommends adoption of an ordinance by the Village Board amending the **2035 VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN** and the **MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR RACINE COUNTY: 2035** to incorporate the updated **PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT: 2050**.

The Plan Commission adopted this Resolution on November 17, 2021.

Ayes 6 Noes 0 Absent 1

The Village of Mount Pleasant Plan Commission

By: 
DAVIS DRIVER, CHAIR

Attest: 
JOSEPH MAIER, VICE-CHAIR / SECRETARY



Ordinance 27-2021

A Park and Open Space Plan for The Village of Mount Pleasant: 2050

The Village Board for the Village of Mount Pleasant, Racine County, Wisconsin ordains that:

WHEREAS, Village staff worked with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) and the Plan Commission to update the Village’s Park and Open Space Plan (ATTACHED); and,

WHEREAS, the Village Board held a duly noticed public hearing on the proposed amendment on November 8, 2021, following the procedures outlined in WIS. STATS. SECTION 66.1001(4)(D).

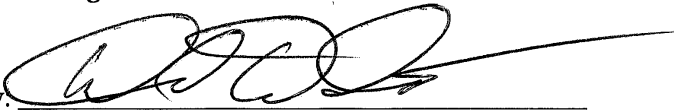
NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to WIS. STATS. SECTION 66.1001(4)(C), the Mount Pleasant Village Board hereby approves the proposed ordinance amending the **2035 VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN** and the **MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR RACINE COUNTY: 2035** to incorporate the updated **PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT: 2050**.

FURTHERMORE, the Village Board directs the Village Clerk to send a copy of this ordinance and the amendment to the parties listed in WIS. STATS. SECTION 66.1001(4)(B).

The Village Board adopted this Ordinance on December 13, 2021.

Ayes 7 Noes 0 Absent —

The Village of Mount Pleasant

By: 
DAVID DEGROOT, PRESIDENT

Attest: 
STEPHANIE KOHLHAGEN, CLERK / TREASURER