

# Village of Cross Plains

## Parks and Open Space Master Plan



Adopted: December 17, 2018





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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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### Village Board

Pat Andreoni, President

Jeanne Statz

Bud Busch

Sarah Francois

Michael Pomykalski

Lee Sorensen

Kevin Thusius

### Parks and Recreation Committee Members

Sarah Francois

Melissa Hinz

Bill Brosius

Michael Cliff

Jim Billmeyer

### Village Staff

Caitlin Stene, Village Administrator

Michael Axon, Parks and Recreation Director

Bobbi Zauner, Finance Director and Village  
Treasurer

Jerry Gray, Public Works Director

### Planning Assistance

Jackie Mich, Project Manager

Meredith Perks, Assistant Planner

Mike Slavney, FAICP, Principal

Dan Eckberg, GIS Specialist

Samuel Wessel, Assistant Planner

Nicole Anderson, Project Assistant

Vandewalle & Associates

120 E. Lakeside Street

Madison, WI 53715

(608) 255-3988

[www.vandewalle.com](http://www.vandewalle.com)

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Acknowledgements.....	i
Chapter 1: Introduction .....	1
Chapter 2: Background Information.....	3
Table 1: Population Trends.....	5
Table 2: Village of Cross Plains Population Projections.....	5
Table 3: Race and Ethnicity, 2016 .....	6
Table 4: Village of Cross Plains Age and Gender Statistics, 2016 .....	6
Table 5: Occupation and Labor Force, 2016 .....	7
Table 6: Industry and Labor Force, 2016 .....	7
Table 7: Economic and Labor Force Characteristics .....	8
Chapter 3: Existing Park and Recreational Facilities .....	9
Table 8: Existing Park and Recreation Areas.....	9
<b>Map 1: Existing Parks and Recreational Facilities .....</b>	<b>17</b>
Chapter 4: Goals, Objectives, and Policies .....	19
Chapter 5: Park and Recreation Standards.....	23
Chapter 6: Public Participation .....	31
Chapter 7: Analysis of Existing Park and Recreational Facilities .....	35
Table 9: Park Acreage Analysis, 2018.....	36
Table 10: Park Acreage Needs: Mini Parks, Neighborhood, and Community Parks, 2023 and 2028.....	40
Table 11: Park Acreage Needs: Mini Parks, Neighborhood, and Community Parks, 2030-2040 .....	40
<b>Map 2: Park Service Areas .....</b>	<b>41</b>
Chapter 8: Recommended Park and Open Space Improvements.....	43
Table 12. Recommended Improvements to Existing Parks.....	48
<b>Map 3: Future Facilities .....</b>	<b>51</b>
Chapter 9: Cost Estimates for Future Facilities .....	53
Table 13: Projected Parkland Dedication and Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication .....	53
Table 14: Projected Playground Improvements by Park Type.....	54
Table 15: Projected Playground Improvement Fees .....	54
Table 16: Projected Conservation Land Dedication and Fee-In-Lieu Dedication .....	55
Chapter 10: Implementation .....	57

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Appendix A: Detailed Park Fee Calculations.....	A-1
Table A1. Current Dedication Standards.....	A-1
Table A2. Updated Dedication Standards.....	A-1
Table A3. Projected Parkland Dedication and Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication .....	A-1
Table A4. Projected Playground Improvements by Park Type.....	A-2
Table A5. Projected Playground Improvement Fees .....	A-2
Table A6. Projected Conservancy Dedication and Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication.....	A-3
Table A7. Total Impact Fee .....	A-3
Appendix B: Potential Funding Sources .....	B-1
Appendix C: Public Hearing Notice .....	C-1
Appendix D: Resolution .....	D-1

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## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

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Parks and open spaces provide several key functions such as meeting human needs for recreation and aesthetics, protecting and enhancing the natural environment, and shaping the extent and patterns of development in a community. The park and open space system of every community should be planned and designed to meet the diverse needs of its residents. Proper recreation-based planning requires a focus on both the types of facilities needed to meet the needs of the community as well as the geographic distribution of those facilities relative to those who will use them.

This Village of Cross Plains Parks and Open Space Master Plan reviews and updates information on the physical facilities and lands that make up the Village’s park and open space system, and it provides guidance for future improvement and expansion of the system. This Plan serves as an important component of Cross Plains’ overall community comprehensive planning program. This Plan addresses Cross Plains’ long-range park and open space needs over the next 75 years but focuses primarily on park and recreation needs over the next five-year period (2019-2024).



The Village will use this Parks and Open Space Master Plan to acquire and develop park and recreational land, as well as improve existing facilities. This Plan has been prepared in accordance with guidelines that will make it certifiable by the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR), and it will qualify the Village of Cross Plains for matching grant funds through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Federal Recreation Trails Act (RTA), and the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Grant Programs (State of Wisconsin). The Plan must be updated every five years to ensure that it reflects the current needs of the community and retains

its WisDNR certification. The Plan has been prepared in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes 61.35, 236.29, and 66.0617.

As Cross Plains grows, the Village should strive to provide diversity in function, location, size, development and service area of recreational facilities. This can best be accomplished by the Village taking the lead in assuring that these objectives are met through land acquisition, development and improvement. It is the responsibility of the Village to guide recreational planning for the future.

The interconnectedness of Cross Plains’ parks, trails, and sidewalks is increasingly important as public health officials now recognize neighborhood design as a determinant of overall health. The importance of walkability, although not directly addressed by this Plan, is recognized by other Plans adopted by the Village. Existing development requirements result in walkable neighborhoods with sidewalks and trails that improve access to the park and recreation facilities.

This Plan begins with a presentation of definitions and recreational planning methodology. This is followed by a discussion of existing recreational facilities and recreational needs in the Village. It concludes with the five-year park acquisition recommendations and discussion of long-range goals, objectives, and implementation procedures.

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## CHAPTER 2: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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### A. General Regional Context and Village History

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The Village of Cross Plains is located in the western half of Dane County in south-central Wisconsin, approximately 14 miles west of the City of Madison. The size of the incorporated area is 1,118 acres (approximately 1.75 square miles).

Cross Plains developed on a prairie at the intersection of the Chicago-Milwaukee-St. Paul Railway and two military roads. Initially, the village was three smaller villages, known as Cross Plains, Christina, and Foxville, that eventually grew together into one community by the 1920s. The early economy of these villages was driven by their proximity to the railroad, which brought mills, blacksmiths, stores, a creamery, a bank, and lumber operations. The development pattern of these three villages is evident today, as numerous commercial areas are found throughout Cross Plains along the U.S. Highway 14 corridor. The Ice Age National Trail also passes through Cross Plains, reflecting the scenic, geological, and ecological value found in the Village.



The general land use pattern in Cross Plains is typical of most villages with a comparable population and historical context. Commercial development originally occurred along main roads as a marketplace for surrounding farms. Additional commercial activities developed to support shoppers from surrounding areas, and schools, offices, and churches have also developed throughout the Village. New residential and commercial infill development has occurred along U.S. Highway 14 in recent years, along with new neighborhood growth to the north and south of the Highway.

Development is constrained by steep topography surrounding the Village, making it difficult to identify level ground that is suitable for active recreational use such as playfields and sports complexes. Development is expected to continue in the limited open space where floodplains and steep slopes are less of a challenge, which is partially driven by the Village's location within the growing Madison metropolitan area.

### B. Natural Resources

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#### Topography

Cross Plains' location at the edge of the Driftless Area is associated with characteristics and natural features that are atypical of the gently rolling farmland found throughout the Midwest. Since the eastern edge of the Village was once buried beneath a glacier, glacial moraine deposits, kettle lakes, and wetlands can be found in the area. But steep, river valley topography dominates the landscape like the rest of the unglaciated Driftless Area. Elevations in the Village range between 850 and 1,100 feet above sea level, with forested slopes separating the high and low areas in the Village. A main valley, which runs east-west along the route of Black Earth Creek, is fragmented by several small valleys that dissect the surrounding plateau.

### Water Resources

The entire Village is located within the Black Earth Creek watershed, which is a Class 1 trout stream. This Creek runs through the Village, providing a recreational asset that is vulnerable to groundwater contamination and thermal pollution. This is a result of its spring-fed, cool waters that trout need in order to thrive. Brewery Creek and Garfoot Creek are nearby tributaries of Black Earth Creek. Small perennial and intermittent streams in the Village follow various small valleys, eventually feeding the Black Earth Creek in the main east-west valley.

### Climate

South-central Wisconsin's climate is characterized by four distinct seasons. Warm summers generally span the months of June through August. The winter months of December, January, and February are cold, with average temperatures below freezing. The region is characterized by temperate conditions in spring and autumn. The first autumn freeze typically occurs around the second week of October, and the last spring freeze is usually during the first week of May.



### Soils

Soil suitability is a key factor in determining the best and most cost-effective locations for new development, including parks. Problems that limit development on certain soils include slumping, poor drainage, erosion, steep slopes and high water tables. Most of Cross Plains' soil is suited for development, with 19 percent of the Village having Type 1 soil coverage and two percent having Type 2 soil coverage. The soil erosion rate within Cross Plains is relatively low, with surrounding areas containing highly-erodible soils. Therefore, good soil conservation practices are essential in protecting the recreational value of Black Earth Creek. Within the Village, Developers must follow the Erosion, Sediment, and Water Runoff Control Ordinance. Nearby farmers should also practice soil conservation techniques.

More specific information about soils in the Village can be found in the Soil Survey of Dane County (1978), conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service. With proper construction practices, most of the soils found in the planning area are generally suitable for development. Exceptions include soils with steep slopes over 12 percent and areas where high ground water and wetlands exist.

### Flora and Fauna

Although originally covered with oak-savannah and prairie, almost no remnants are to be found since most lands were cleared and farmed or left to grow to dense oak woods. Species of wildlife that are common to the south-central Wisconsin region are rabbits, squirrels, woodchucks, raccoons, muskrats, and beavers. Larger mammals such as white-tailed deer, coyotes, and foxes also inhabit the region. Common bird species include pheasants, cardinals, robins, wood thrushes, great blue herons, and killdeer.

C. Population and Demographics

Population Trends and Projections

According to the United States Census Bureau, the 2016 population of Cross Plains is estimated to be 3,914. This represents an increase of 10.6 percent over the 2010 census population of 3,538. The increase in population is due primarily to the increased number of people who have moved to Cross Plains in search of small-town character while continuing to work in nearby Madison.

The Village of Cross Plains experienced steady population growth since the 1990s, with a population decrease of three percent between 1980 and 1990, followed by a 47 percent increase between 1990 and 2000, and a 15 percent increase between 2000 and 2010.

**Table 1: Population Trends**

	1980	1990	2000	2010	Estimate 2016	Percent Change 2010-2016
Village of Cross Plains	2,156	2,098	3,084	3,538	3,914	10.63%
Town of Cross Plains	1,003	1,206	1,419	1,507	1,670	10.82%
Town of Berry	1,116	1,098	1,084	1,127	1,201	6.57%
City of Middleton	11,851	13,289	15,770	17,442	18,707	7.25%
City of Madison	170,616	190,766	208,054	233,209	246,034	5.50%
Dane County	323,545	367,085	426,526	488,073	516,818	5.89%
Wisconsin	4,705,767	4,891,769	5,363,675	5,686,986	5,754,798	1.19%

Source: U.S. Census Estimates, 2012-2016

Three different sets of population projections are depicted in Table 2. Using the U.S. Census Bureau 2016 population estimate (3,855) as a baseline, the table depicts five-year intervals that state and federal projections are often updated for, as well as five-year intervals that reflect the five-year update deadlines for future park plans. For the purposes of this Plan, Linear Growth based on the number of new residents in Cross Plains from 2000-2016 will be used to calculate future park needs.

**Table 2: Village of Cross Plains Population Projections**

Source	2018	2020	2023	2025	2028	2030	2033	2035	2038	2040
Wisconsin Department of Administration Population Projections	3,855	3,795	3,897	3,965	4,061	4,125	4,188	4,230	4,284	4,320
Linear Growth (based on number of new residents per year from 1990-2016)	4,054	4,193	4,403	4,543	4,752	4,892	5,101	5,241	5,451	5,590
Linear Growth (based on number of new residents per year from 2000-2016)	4,018	4,122	4,277	4,381	4,537	4,640	4,796	4,900	5,055	5,159

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration 2016 estimates, U.S. Census 2016 Estimates, Vandewalle & Associates projections.

Race and Ethnicity

Table 3 compares the race and ethnicity of the Village of Cross Plains’ population to surrounding communities, the County, and the State. In general, the Village of Cross Plains and Towns of Berry and Cross Plains are less diverse in populations than neighboring cities, Dane County, and the state—though comparable to one another.

**Table 3: Race and Ethnicity, 2016**

	<b>% White</b>	<b>% Black</b>	<b>% Hispanic</b>	<b>% Asian</b>
Village of Cross Plains	96.3%	0.3%	1.7%	0.6%
Town of Berry	99.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
Town of Cross Plains	98.8%	0.2%	2.4%	0.5%
City of Middleton	86.3%	6.5%	5.5%	4.0%
City of Madison	78.7%	7.0%	7.0%	8.6%
Dane County	86.7%	6.6%	6.2%	6.4%
Wisconsin	88.2%	7.3%	6.5%	3.0%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates*

Age and Gender Distribution

Table 4 compares the age and gender distribution of the Village of Cross Plains’ population to surrounding communities, the County, and the State. General trends in age distribution are an important factor when considering the future demand for housing, schools, park and recreational facilities and the provision of social services.

As shown in Table 4, the Village’s median age was lower than that of the Town of Berry, Town of Cross Plains, City of Middleton, and the State, but also higher than the median age in Dane County and Madison. The percentage of the Village’s population under age 18 is the highest among comparison communities, the County, and the State. The percentage of the Village’s population age 65 and older was lower is also the lowest among comparison communities, the County, and the State. The relatively high percentage under 18 should be considered when comparing per capita recreational expenditures with other communities.

The average age of Cross Plains’ population has fluctuated over the years. In 2016, the median age was estimated to be 38.1, which is higher than the median age of 36.8 in 2010 and 34.3 in 2000.

**Table 4: Village of Cross Plains Age and Gender Statistics, 2016**

	<b>Village of Cross Plains</b>	<b>Town of Berry</b>	<b>Town of Cross Plains</b>	<b>City of Middleton</b>	<b>City of Madison</b>	<b>Dane County</b>	<b>State of Wisconsin</b>
Median age	38.1	50.4	48.1	38.8	30.8	34.7	39.1
% Under 18	26.4%	19.9%	20.7%	21.1%	23.6%	21.1%	22.6%
% Over 65	10.6%	19.6%	16.2%	14.4%	10.8%	11.9%	15.2%
% Female	51.4%	50.4%	49.3%	52.8%	50.7%	50.4%	50.3%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates*

Employment Characteristics

A community’s labor force is the portion of the population that is employed or available for work. The labor force includes people who are in the armed forces, employed, unemployed, or actively seeking employment. According to 2016 American Community Survey data, 2,406 Village residents aged 16 and older were included in the labor force. The highest percentages of workers in the Village are employed in management, business, science, and arts occupations, followed by sales and office occupations.

**Table 5: Occupation and Labor Force, 2016**

<b>Occupational Group</b>	<b>Percent of Labor Force</b>
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	44.8%
Sales and office occupations	26.0%
Service occupations	12.9%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	9.7%
Natural Resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	6.5%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates*

Table 6 shows the percentage of the Village’s labor force employed by industry. Over 26 percent of the labor force is employed in education, health, and social services industrial group. This is undoubtedly a result of Cross Plains’ proximity to Madison, and as a result, employment at the University of Wisconsin and the State of Wisconsin.

**Table 6: Industry and Labor Force, 2016**

<b>Industrial Group</b>	<b>% of Labor Force</b>
Educational, healthcare, and social assistance	26.7%
Manufacturing	8.1%
Retail trade	10.1%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	9.4%
Construction	5.9%
Finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing	14.1%
Other services , except public administration	4.7%
Public administration	4.3%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services	4.5%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	2.2%
Information	3.4%
Wholesale Trade	4.2%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	2.2%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates*

Table 7 presents income, labor, and education characteristics for the Village of Cross Plains and surrounding communities. According to 2016 American Community Survey, the Village’s median household income was \$79,643, higher than all the communities listed except the Town of Berry and Town of Cross Plains. The per capita income is defined as the total personal income divided by the total population and is used as a measure of wealth of the community. The Village’s per capita income is \$33,946, which is lower than most of the communities listed except the City of Madison and State of Wisconsin. The percentage of unemployed persons is just above two percent, lower than all comparison communities except the Town of Berry, and equal to that of the Town of Cross Plains.

Educational attainment is another characteristic of a community’s labor force. The Village of Cross Plains’ population is generally well-educated, with 95 percent of the population having received a high school diploma and over 38 percent have obtained a Bachelor’s degree or higher.

**Table 7: Economic and Labor Force Characteristics**

	<b>Village of Cross Plains</b>	<b>Town of Berry</b>	<b>Town of Cross Plains</b>	<b>City of Middleton</b>	<b>City of Madison</b>	<b>Dane County</b>	<b>State of Wisconsin</b>
Median Household Income	\$79,643	\$84,479	\$100,469	\$67,729	\$56,464	\$64,773	\$54,610
Per Capita Income	\$33,946	\$43,098	\$53,307	\$43,047	\$32,061	\$35,687	\$29,253
% High School Graduate or Higher	95.0%	97.8%	96.6%	97.3%	95.2%	95.3%	91.4%
% Bachelor’s Degree or Higher	38.2%	36.4%	41.3%	58.9%	56.3%	49.0%	28.4%
% in Labor Force	81.4%	72.7%	69.9%	73.2%	72.4%	72.9%	66.9%
% Persons Unemployed	2.3%	1.7%	2.3%	3.6%	3.5%	4.4%	5.5%

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year estimates*

## CHAPTER 3: EXISTING PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

A comprehensive land use survey was conducted to inventory existing recreation areas and facilities and their relationship to residential and potential residential developments. Included in the inventory were municipal and educational recreational areas which contribute to the recreational supply and opportunities in the Village.

### A. Park System Overview

The following is a description of each recreational area and its facilities. A summary of the existing parks is presented in Table 8. This table includes total acreage for each park, along with total unconstrained acreage. Unconstrained acreage represents the acreage of each park that does not lie within 100-year floodplains, drainageways, stormwater basins, slopes greater than 12 percent, or hydric soils. This calculation is an important consideration in park system planning, since Cross Plains is located in an area where these features are common. Excluding these features from developable park space provides a more accurate representation of how much park space is usable for active recreation, and it also identifies parkland that is useful for developing athletic fields. Existing park and recreation areas are located on Map 1.

**Table 8: Existing Park and Recreation Areas**

Park Name	Total Acreage	Unconstrained Acreage	ADA Accessible	Bathrooms	Benches	Shelter/Indoor Space	Picnic Tables	Water Fountain	Scenic Overlook	Trails	Mountain Biking	Play Equipment	Ball Fields	Basketball Courts	Open Play/Play Fields	Swimming Pool	Tennis Courts	Volleyball Courts	Sledding Hill
<b>Mini Parks</b>																			
Cedar Glen Park	0.57	0.44	x		x	x	x	x				x							
Glacier's Edge Park	0.38	0.38	x																
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>																			
Brewery Creekside Park	4.49	0.00					x			x		x			x				
Gausewitz Park	0.48	0.48			x	x	x					x							
Glacial Valley Park	3.42	0.00	x		x		x					x		x	x			x	
Holfelder Park	1.00	0.00			x		x	x				x		x	x				
Melody Acres Park	0.83	0.83	x		x							x			x				
Westview Park	1.07	0.00	x		x		x					x			x				
<b>Community Parks</b>																			
Baer Park	28.83	13.45	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Municipal Park	1.06	1.06	x	x	x	x	x					x			x	x	x		
Raspberry Park	9.60	0.01	x		x					x		x	x	x	x				
H.M. Zander Park	9.43	0.01	x		x					x					x				
<b>Special Facilities</b>																			
DNR Conservation Area	17.40	17.40																	

Park Name	Total Acreage	Unconstrained Acreage	ADA Accessible	Bathrooms	Benches	Shelter/Indoor Space	Picnic Tables	Water Fountain	Scenic Overlook	Trails	Mountain Biking	Play Equipment	Ball Fields	Basketball Courts	Open Play/Play Fields	Swimming Pool	Tennis Courts	Volleyball Courts	Sledding Hill
<b>Cross Plains School District Properties</b>																			
Glacier Creek Middle School	13.98	6.46	x		x	x						x		x	x				
Park School	15.41	0.43	x		x	x						x	x	x	x				
<b>Nature Areas</b>																			
Cedar Glen Conservancy	32.94	0.00							x	x	x								
Cedar Hill Park Conservancy	25.14	2.29							x	x	x								
Dorothy Statz Park	2.75	0.00			x				x	x									
John I. Hillenbrand Glacial Valley Conservancy	37.58	0.00							x	x									
Hickory Hill Conservancy	52.06	35.45							x	x									
Swanson Conservancy	4.00	1.92							x										
Westview Scenic Overlook	4.35	0.00			x				x	x									
<b>Private Recreation Facilities</b>																			
American Legion Park	2.25	2.25				x	x	x				x	x						
St. Francis Church & School	13.84	13.84										x	x	x	x				

**B. Mini Parks**

Cedar Glen Park

This is a well-landscaped, 0.57-acre neighborhood park and mini park that includes sheltered picnic tables and a water fountain. It extends, in part, from the west bluff to Ludden Drive, buffering the developing residential area from the industrial area. The rear portion is an open play area. The eastern border of the park is adjacent to the Cedar Glen Conservancy Area.

Glacier’s Edge Park

This is a community business park centrally located in Glacier’s Edge Commercial Area. The 0.39-acre area serves as an infiltration area and park use must not interfere with this function. Above ground maintenance is handled by the Village Parks Department.



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C. Neighborhood Parks

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Brewery Creekside Park

This park combines two previously existing parklands: Hillside Trail and Woodside Hills Conservancy. It encompasses 5.2 acres and is primarily a steeply sloping open space area with a small neighborhood playground situated at the northern end of the park that includes tables and minimal playground equipment. There is a pedestrian trail that connects Elmwood Circle with Hillside Trail. The park's two access points provide the only access to the adjacent hilltop Dorothy Statz Conservancy Area.



Gausewitz Park

This 0.48-acre neighborhood park includes playground equipment and a gazebo with both picnic facilities and a sitting area.

Glacial Valley Park

Landscaped with mature trees for shade, Glacial Valley Park is a 2-acre neighborhood park with playground equipment, picnic table area, open space for sports including soccer, and a sand volleyball court. The park's play equipment includes a climbing unit, slide, seesaw, and swings. Dogs are

permitted on leash, except in the playground area. The park is handicapped accessible and includes an open space drainage way.

Melody Acres Park

Melody Acres is a 0.8-acre neighborhood park on the Village's northeast side that features playground equipment, including swings, a play structure, bike parking, and convenient benches for relaxing. The park is handicapped accessible, though areas of the park have significant slope, limiting its uses.

Westview Park

Serving a multi-family residential development and condominiums, Westview Park is 1.3 acres and includes picnic tables and playground equipment. The park is conveniently located for the surrounding residents and is handicapped accessible. The park has access to the Westview Scenic Overlook at its north end.

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## D. Community Parks

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### Baer Park

Baer Park functions as a neighborhood playground and a community park due to its proximity to both residential and civic land uses. At 14.92-acres, it is the largest park in the Village. Baer Park's amenities include two lighted ball fields with bleachers, a batting cage, volleyball court, youth play equipment, a tennis court, basketball court, skate park, and a shelter/concession with kitchenette and picnic area that is handicapped accessible. The site is well-landscaped with many young shade trees and bushes. There are four parking areas totaling 155 on-site spaces. The park has water and restrooms.



The lighted fields provide recreational facilities for athletic and community activities. Glacier Creek Middle School uses the park for its physical education course. The Village has the opportunity to expand Baer Park and its facilities to the east of Military Road in order to provide residents with additional recreational amenities.

### Municipal Park

Municipal Park is centrally located in the Village. It functions as a neighborhood playground and community park. Its 1.7 acres include a lighted swimming pool, picnic tables, a roofed outdoor shelter and children's play park. The swimming pool is home to the Cross Plains Stingrays Swim Team. The Stingrays are a recreational summer program for youth 18 and under through high school. The team has practices and meets at the Cross Plains pool from Memorial Day through the end of July. The Rosemary Garfoot Public Library is located adjacent to the park, with rooms and a kitchen for community programs and events. The pool's aging structure, increased maintenance costs, and land locked location make it difficult for the facility to meet the demand of current Village residents let alone future population increases. This *Plan* recommends that the Village consider upgrading the pool facility, including relocation to a more flexible site.

### Raspberry Park

Serving the St. Francis neighborhood, Raspberry Park is 9.7 acres and features a playground, basketball court, soccer field, and baseball field.

### H.M. Zander Park

H.M. Zander Park is a 9.4-acre linear parkway, conservancy area, community park, and village destination that stretches along Black Earth Creek. A pedestrian trail with benches winds through the park, with signs highlighting the unique historical and natural assets of the Village. The parkway stretches along both sides of Black Earth Creek in varying widths between County P on the east extending ten blocks west to East Street. A railroad track, having light use, borders the southern length of the park. Several residential and commercial properties adjoin on the north. The park is served by two parking areas, providing access to different sections of the park. All of the parkland is in the flood plain and subject to regular intermittent flooding. Three footbridges provide opportunities for visitors to cross the Creek and access all areas of the park.

Black Earth Creek has historically been noted as one of the most productive trout streams in the State of Wisconsin. Trout spawning areas run through the park and the southern stream bank has been left natural to allow wildflower growth and provide habitat for a variety of migratory birds in the spring and early summer.

H.M. Zander Park has the potential to be a prime Village gathering space and signature destination for residents and visitors. Through the addition of a community pavilion or plaza, and parking to accommodate visitors, the park could be host to numerous community programs and signature events.



#### E. Special Facilities

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##### DNR Conservation Area

This area is owned by the Department of Natural Resources and is primarily an open space area along the Black Earth Creek which includes several springs, one of which is a main source of fresh water to Black Earth Creek.

#### F. Cross Plains School District Properties

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##### Glacier Creek Middle School

This site contains Glacier Creek Middle School, operated by the Middleton-Cross Plains School District. There are two soccer fields, basketball courts, and an open ball field. The 13.98-acre site also includes an indoor gymnasium and meeting rooms for community activities.

##### Park School

This site is 15.41 acres and contains Park Elementary School, operated by Middleton-Cross Plains School District, and features a playground area with play equipment, two ball fields, basketball courts, an indoor gymnasium, and meeting rooms. The Outdoor Education Center site includes a restored prairie and trail to the hilltop. There is off-street parking at the park for the convenience of visitors.

#### G. Nature Areas

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##### Cedar Glen Conservancy

This community conservancy area adjoins the Glacial Valley Conservancy Area and contains many features unique to the Driftless Area of the last North American Glacial Period. It is 32.94 acres and serves as an additional conservancy/open space area for the Village. Pedestrian hiking trails through the conservancy area have many scenic overlooks and are accessible from Village streets at several locations. There are marked signs to indicate trail locations, with four public access ways from Village streets. Cedar Glen Conservancy also offers mountain biking facilities.

### Cedar Hill Park Conservancy

This area consists of two areas: one is a steeply wooded hillside conservancy area (17.5 acres) on the east side of the Cedar Hill subdivision, which includes a hilltop hiking trail connection to the Cedar Glen Hiking Trail and is accessible from Pat's Place. The Cedar Hills Neighborhood Park (2.5 acres) is located on Gil's Way, and also has an access-way to the Conservancy Hiking Trail. Mountain biking facilities are also available at Cedar Hill Park Conservancy.

### Dorothy Statz Park

This is primarily a passive 2.75-acre recreational area of mature deciduous trees. Its location and elevation provide an excellent overlook point to the Village to the south and east. The park has two public access ways for pedestrians only, which connect to Brewery Creekside Park and Elmwood Circle.

### John I. Hillenbrand Glacial Valley Conservancy

This 9.5-acre conservancy area extends up and across steep slopes that overlook the Village. The Ice Age Trail added a segment in the Conservancy in 2018. Pedestrian hiking trails through the area have many scenic overlooks and are accessible from Village streets at several locations.



### Hickory Hill Conservancy

Hickory Hill conservancy area is 53 acres and features woodlands, two dry prairie remnants, and a scenic overlook area. The park provides additional conservancy area for hikers, bird watchers, and cross-country skiers to enjoy. The area's scenic overlook provides superlative views of the Village and Black Earth Creek valley. A trail corridor for the Ice Age National Scenic Trail connects with existing trails on adjacent lands. A conservation easement is held by the National Heritage Land Trust.

### Swanson Conservancy

This steeply wooded hillside lying east and north of residential property on Center and East Streets serves as 3.3-acre public open space and conservancy area for the whole Village. Sole access to the area is a steeply inclined slope off East Street.

### Westview Scenic Overlook

This 4.5-acre conservancy area features a natural prairie hillside and hilltop overlooking the Village. A gently sloping pedestrian trail leads to the scenic overlook and sitting area.

## H. Private Recreation Facilities

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### American Legion Park

This park is owned by the American Legion and is well landscaped with mature shade trees. It is 2.25 acres and serves as a neighborhood playground for the surrounding residential area and features a ball field, play equipment, water fountain, a large roofed picnic shelter with tables, and a building for meetings with onsite parking.

### St. Francis Church & School Playground

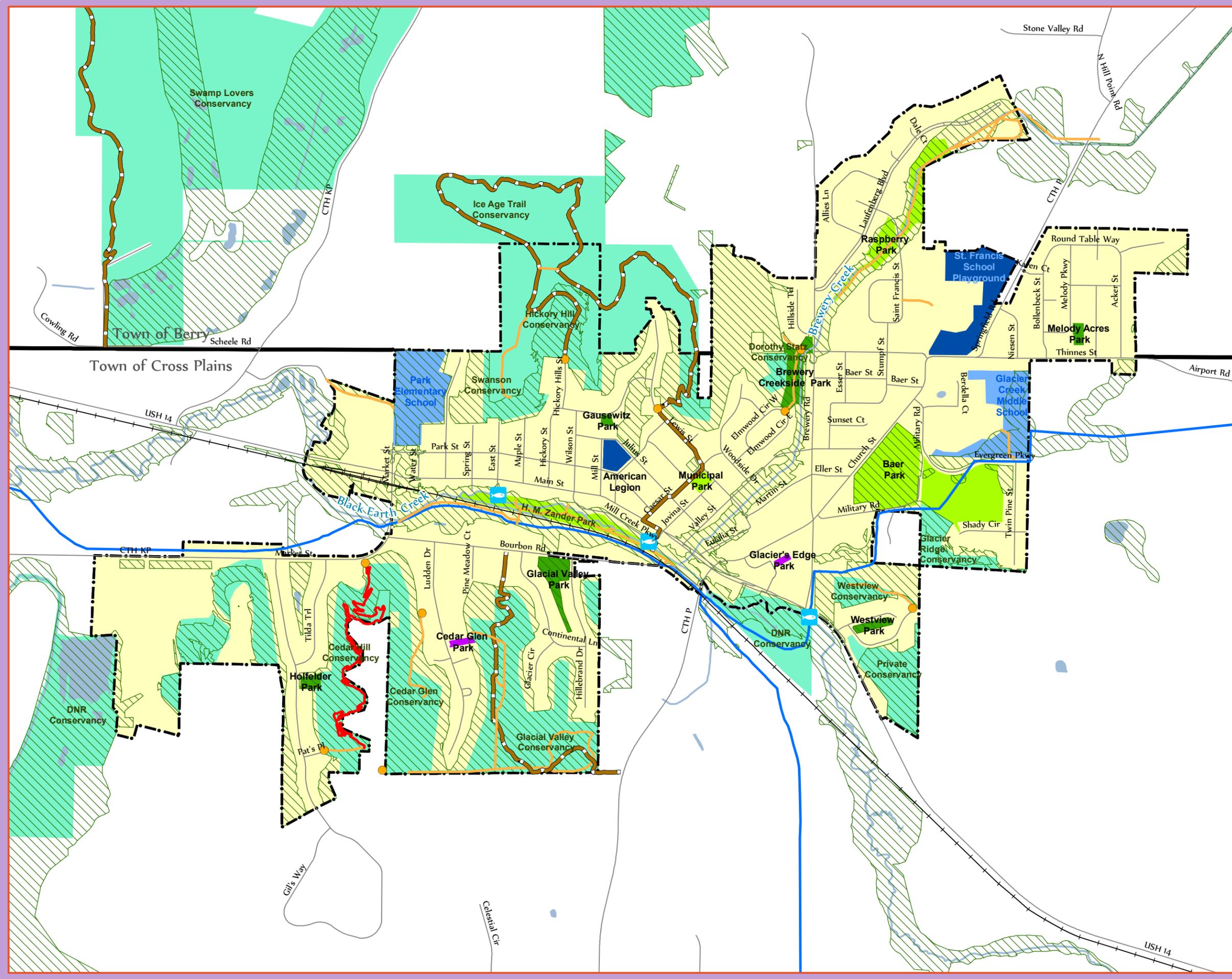
Privately owned by the Diocese of Madison and St. Francis Catholic Church, this 4.5-acre park serves as a neighborhood park with playground equipment, a ball field, basketball courts, and open play area, doubling as a football field.



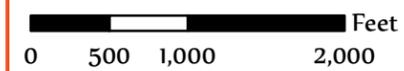
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# Village of Cross Plains Park and Open Space Plan

## Map 1: Existing Park & Recreational Facilities



- Park Type**
- Community Park
  - Neighborhood Park
  - Mini Park
  - Nature Area
  - Public School Facility
  - Private Recreation Facility
- 
- Environmental Corridor
  - Ice Age Trail
  - Other Hiking Trail
  - Snowmobile Trail
  - Mountain Bike Trail
  - Fishing Access Point
  - Trail Access Point
- 
- Rail
  - Surface Water
  - Village of Cross Plains
  - Town Boundaries



Date: 12-17-18  
Sources: Dane Co. LIO, Village of Cross Plains, Town and Country Engineering



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## CHAPTER 4: GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

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In order to conduct a thorough and accurate planning process, it is important to establish a set of goals, objectives, and policies that will serve as the basis for the recommendations in this Plan.

**Goals** are broad statements that express general public priorities. Goals are formulated based on the identification of key issues, opportunities, and problems that affect the park system.

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

**Policies** are rules and courses of action used to ensure plan implementation. Policies often accomplish a number of objectives.



The Village of Cross Plains' long range recreational goals and objectives are based upon a continuing concern for quality recreational facilities and for the future growth and development of the community. Recreational goals beyond the current five-year planning period must be a result of a periodic re-examination of this plan, a review of the adequacy of facilities and area, as well as a review of recreational demand. The following list of goals, objectives, and policies is based on the information that has been presented in previous chapters of this Plan.

### A. Goals

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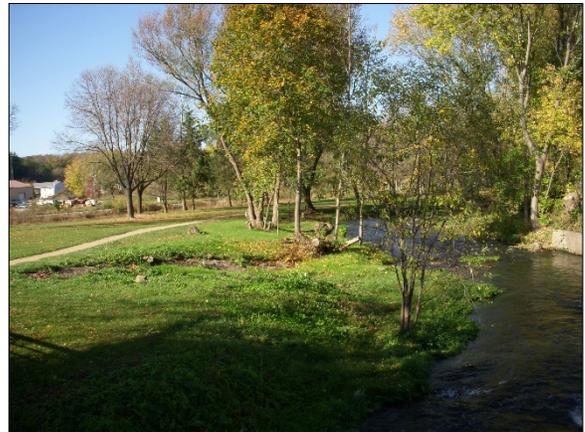
- 1) Ensure a sufficient number of parks, recreational facilities, and natural areas to enhance the health and welfare of Village residents and visitors while maintaining existing parks and equipment. Such facilities should accommodate all groups, including low-income residents, minorities, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and teenagers.
- 2) Preserve the Village's natural resources and amenities for the benefit of current and future residents and visitors.
- 3) Upgrade Baer Park, including the additional village-owned parkland to the east, to address the Village-wide shortage of athletic fields. Population growth and the diversification of outdoor recreation needs should be taken into consideration when overhauling this property.
- 4) Determine the best solution for the Cross Plains pool, currently located at Municipal Park, to increase its capacity and better serve its users.
- 5) Ensure all future development plans and constructs bicycle and pedestrian facilities into the Cross Plain network of trails.
- 6) Comply with parkland dedication standards, seeking land as much as possible.

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B. Objectives

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- 1) The Village should ensure that land dedication requirements from new developments are directed toward acquisition of areas to accommodate athletic fields and related uses.
- 2) The type of park facilities must be scaled to the needs of the area and population served both present and future. Fewer, larger facilities are preferred over small, scattered facilities. For larger facilities, some off-street parking should be provided.
- 3) The various types of park facilities must be available and reasonably accessible to all social and economic groups and geographic areas of the community.
- 4) Acquisition of parklands must occur in advance of development to provide for reasonable acquisition costs and facilitate site planning.
- 5) Preservation of the lowlands, wooded lots, natural waterways and marshes in their natural state must receive special attention to ensure their maintenance as wildlife and fish habitats, as natural drainage areas, and as reservoirs for sedimentation deposits. Particular attention should be given to linking the community's high and low areas so as to preserve and enhance the community's water resources.
- 6) This Plan must reflect the community's financial program but should be flexible enough to take advantage of any financial opportunities that may occur.
- 7) Park and recreational facilities may be combined with School District facilities where possible.
- 8) Planning must be coordinated among local agencies, (e.g. Village Board, Parks and Recreation Committee, Planning Commission, civic organizations, Village Administrator, Director of Public Works, Village Engineer, and adjacent town governments) to insure unity on the implementation of this Plan.
- 9) This Plan must be coordinated with the land acquisition, land use control and planning programs of all federal, state, county and local agencies concerned with parks and conservation.
- 10) Partnering arrangements with the School District, adjacent Towns, Dane County, and private athletic organizations are of particular importance.



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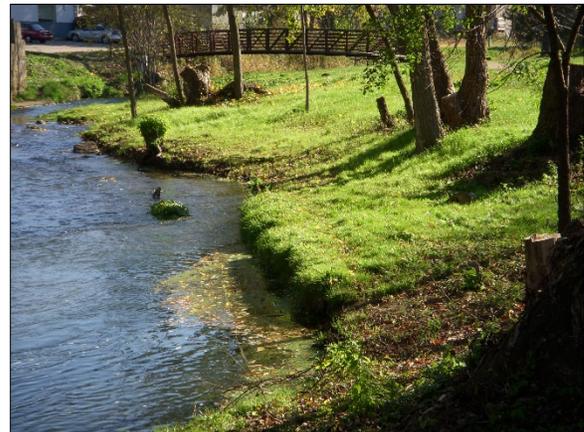
C. Policies

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- 1) The Village should be sensitive to potential acquisition of recreational land inside and outside its present boundaries. This is particularly important when and where a recreational resource can be preserved for future use, or development pressures indicate that a site will eventually serve a neighborhood.
- 2) The dedication of suitable parkland by developers will be strictly enforced. The Village will ensure all areas of the Village will be adequately served by parks. A combination of fee in-lieu-

of land and land dedication may be acceptable with the agreement of the Parks and Recreation Committee and Village Board.

- 3) The Parks and Recreation Committee will review all plans of possible residential development of any lands inside the boundaries of, or being considered for annexation to the Village of Cross Plains for the need of parkland dedications. This statement is intended to ensure that areas not designated in this plan as proposed or potential locations for future parks are not overlooked when a developer designs a plan for their properties.
- 4) For the purpose of contributing toward the requirements of its parkland dedication ordinance, the Village shall not accept any constrained land area, which is defined as having one or more of the following attributes:
  - Wetlands mapped by the WisDNR or Army Corp of Engineers;
  - Floodways mapped by FEMA on its FIRM Maps;
  - 100-year floodplains mapped by FEMA on its FIRM Maps;
  - Drainageways identified as perennial streams or intermittent streams on USGS maps or Dane County hydrography mapping – with a 25-foot wide buffer on each side of an intermittent stream and a 50-foot wide buffer on each side of a perennial stream;
  - Hydric soils as identified on Dane County soils, USDA, or WisDNR mapping as “Very Poorly Drained;”
  - Steep slopes equal to or greater than 12 percent identified on Dane County topographic mapping; and
  - Containing any stormwater management area or facility such as a stormwater basin, infiltration area, manmade or naturally-occurring channel.
- 5) The Village may require developers to grade areas less than 12 percent to a grade of three percent or less, depending on the proposed use. For example, an area for a future soccer field requires a grade of no more than three percent, but a disc golf course may wish to retain variability in topography.
- 6) The Village should not plan recreational facilities based on land dedications but shall aggressively meet demands and needs through acquisition and development. Acquisition and development should be guided to meet recreational demands, service area, and acreage requirements.
- 7) The Village shall incorporate the recommendations of this Plan into the five-year Capital Improvements Program. The annual cost of maintaining neighborhood parks and playgrounds, community facilities, and open spaces shall be included in the annual budget process with input from the Cross Plains Parks and Recreation Committee.
- 8) The Village shall consider recreation facilities for Cross Plains’ elderly residents, creating facilities that accommodate all users, are accessible by multiple modes of transportation, and are located near senior housing.



- 9) The Village shall make maximum use of all grants and assistance available to aid the acquisition and development of parks and recreational areas. Grants available include Land and Water Conservation Fund Act Program (LAWCON), Aids for Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP), Urban Green Space Program (UGS), Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP), Streambank Protection Program (SPP), Open Project Selection Process (OPSP), Stewardship Grants.
- 10) The Village should continue to ensure that existing park facilities are upgraded to comply with American with Disabilities Act design guidelines. Future parks should be designed to be barrier-free and accessible to persons with disabilities.
- 11) Improvements to existing parks or development of new parks must include features to help the handicapped, such as ramps, traction walkways, grab rails, special seating, and special playground equipment. Currently, many handicapped individuals are restricted from both passive and active recreation opportunities.
- 12) The Village shall concentrate on providing facilities for “lifetime” recreational activities. These are activities both young and old can enjoy such as horseshoes, volleyball, hiking, jogging, skating, pickle ball, and tennis.
- 13) Civic and service organizations, along with neighborhood associations, shall be actively engaged for assistance in defraying costs and assisting with maintenance of facilities.
- 14) The Village shall encourage the continued preservation of open spaces, greenways, wetlands, woodlands, and scenic areas.
- 15) Continue working with the Ice Age Trail Alliance to build new trails, grow community awareness, and collaborate to secure funding.

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## CHAPTER 5: PARK AND RECREATION STANDARDS

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This Chapter provides a set of minimum standards for park and open space facilities. These standards enable a community to determine how well its existing facilities are meeting the needs of residents and to plan for future facilities based on projected population growth. Typically, park and recreation standards are commonly expressed as a ratio of the number of minimum acres recommended per 1,000 residents. For example, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) recommends that for every 1,000 residents, a community should provide 1 to 2 acres of neighborhood parks.

The following list includes a blend of both national and local standards for park and recreational facilities. The national standards are based on National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) guidelines which can be used by local communities as a general guide in their park and open space planning efforts. Although national standards provide acceptable target guidelines for the types of basic facilities and site characteristics for each category of park, a more thorough and accurate analysis of Cross Plains' park system must emphasize the local demand for recreational resources. Therefore, a calculation of community-specific standards is more likely to identify those park system deficiencies that would not otherwise be captured by universal standards. Furthermore, a locally-derived standard will do a better job of taking into account the quality of the park system as well as the quantity of park lands provided. Each facility-type description includes the Village's service area and size standards, NRPA recommended size standards, and the local standard per 1,000 population. The NRPA guidelines suggest that at a minimum, a park system be composed of a "core" system of parkland, with a total of 6 to 10 acres of developed open space per 1,000 population. The following categories describing neighborhood and community parks comprise the "core" spaces to meet this standard.

### A. Mini Parks

**General Description:** These parks offer specialized facilities that serve a centralized or limited population or specific group such as young children or senior citizens.

**Local Service Area:** Less than ¼ mile in residential areas

**Local Size Standard:** 1 acre or less

**NRPA Recommended Size:** 2,500 square feet to 1 acre

**Local Standard Acres per 1,000 Population:** 0 acres (no new Mini Parks recommended)

**Basic Facilities and Activities:**

- Coordinated play equipment and structures for pre-school and elementary school age children
- Conversation and sitting areas arranged to permit easy surveillance by parents
- Landscaped areas that provide buffering and shade
- Lighting for security at night (full cut-off fixtures should be used)
- Parking is typically not required



**Desirable Site Characteristics:**

- Suited for intense development
- Well buffered by open space and/or landscape plantings and separated from roadways by physical barriers, such as fences
- Visual access is very important
- In tight areas that have close access to roadways, physical barriers, such as fences, may be needed to separate play areas from vehicular areas
- Mini parks should be located within neighborhoods and in close proximity to apartment complexes, townhouse development, or housing and activity centers for seniors
- Accessible by walking or biking

**B. Neighborhood Parks**

**General Description:** These parks are designed specifically to accommodate residents living within the immediate surrounding area. Neighborhood Parks almost always include at least one playground. They often include areas for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, skating, picnicking, wading pools, ball fields, adult areas with benches, shelter, and game tables. Trees, open fields, and undeveloped natural areas are also desirable components of neighborhood parks.

**Local Service Area:** 1/2-mile radius uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers

**Local Size Standard:** 1 to 10 acres

**NRPA Recommended Size:** 5 acres minimum; 5-10 acres is optimal

**Local Standard Acres per 1,000 Population:** 5 acres for active use

**Basic Facilities & Activities:**

- Active recreational facilities such as playground equipment, playfields (softball, soccer, football, etc.), tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, and ice-skating rinks, etc.
- Passive recreational facilities such as internal trails (with connections to the Village-wide trail network), picnic/sitting areas, open space, and nature study areas
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms
- Landscaped areas which provide buffering and shade
- Lighting for security at night. Lighting must be designed to be direct cut-off and not spill into adjacent properties
- Adequate on-street and off-street parking spaces
- Not intended to be used for activities that result in overuse, noise, and increased traffic with the exception of limited use by youth teams



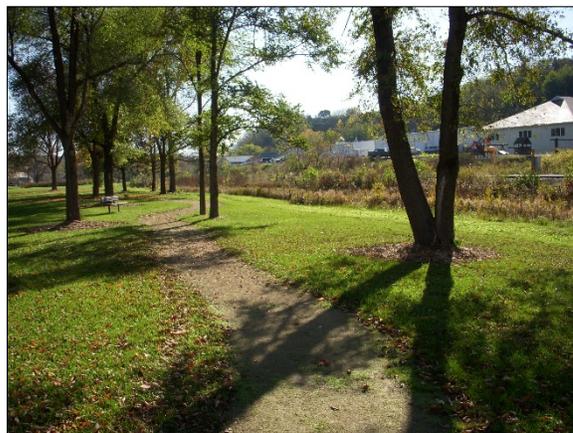
**Desirable Site Characteristics:**

- Suited for intense development
- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Accessible by walking or biking
- May be developed as a school-park facility
- Half of the site should be used for active recreation facilities with the remaining half used for passive activities, landscaping, and conservation as appropriate

### C. Community Parks

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**General Description:** Community parks are intermediate in size and are able to accommodate visitors from the surrounding community and multiple neighborhoods. These sites focus on both the developed aspects of the park, such as playfields and tennis courts, as well as the natural-resource amenities. They may include areas suited for intense recreational facilities such as athletic complexes and large swimming pools. Community parks may be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation, such as walking, viewing, sitting, and picnicking. They may be a combination of the above, depending on the site and community need. Desirable facilities in community parks include those listed above in neighborhood parks, along with swimming facilities, picnicking, lighted ball fields and tennis courts, a community center, and adequate off-street parking. It is important that community parks be located on or near major thoroughfares and also easily accessible by foot. Landscaping and natural areas are desirable in a community park.



**Local Service Area:** 1-mile radius

**Local Size Standard:** As needed to accommodate desired uses; 10 or more acres, 15-40 is optimal

**NRPA Recommended Size:** As needed to accommodate desired uses; 25 to 50 acres is optimal

**Local Standard Acres per 1,000 Population:** 8 acres for active use

#### **Basic Facilities & Activities:**

- Active recreational facilities such as playground equipment, playfields (softball, soccer, football, etc.), tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts, shuffleboard areas, horseshoe courts, ice skating areas, swimming pools, swimming beaches, archery ranges, disc golf areas, etc. Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and nature study areas, individual and group picnic/sitting areas, general open space and unique landscapes/features, natural study areas, and ornamental gardens
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms
- Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays and concerts in the park
- Community Center building with multi-use rooms for crafts, theater, restrooms, social activities, and senior adult use
- Lighting for security at night. Lighting must be designed to be direct cut-off and not spill into adjacent properties
- Adequate off-street parking spaces, where the size of the park and the neighborhood context allow

#### **Desirable Site Characteristics:**

- Suited for intense development
- May include natural areas, such water bodies or wooded areas
- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Easily accessible by walking or biking

## D. Special Facilities

**General Description:** Special Facilities enhance an overall park and open space system by maintaining and improving the community's natural resource base, accommodating special activities that aren't included in other parks, and providing interconnections between isolated parks and recreation areas. Special Facilities often cannot be measured by a quantifiable standard because of their unique and diverse contributions to the community.



Examples of Special Facilities are varied but can include those lands that accommodate passive or special recreational activities, such as golf courses, sledding/skiing hills, display gardens, arboreta, and outdoor amphitheaters, as well as lands that have been protected for their environmental significance or sensitivity and provide limited opportunity for recreational use. Examples of the latter may include water bodies, floodplains, wetlands, drainage ways, stormwater management basins, conveyance routes, environmental corridors, wildlife habitat, areas of rare or endangered plant or animal species, prairie remnants, and restoration areas.

**Local Service Area:** Variable—depends on function

**Local Size Standard:** Variable—depends on function

**NRPA Recommended Size:** Not applicable

**Local Acres Per 1,000 Population:** Variable—most Special Facilities are not included in the overall community calculation of park and recreation space per 1,000 persons. Their value extends beyond the Village's boundaries and contributes significantly to overall quality of life.

**Basic Facilities and Activities:** Variable, but some may include:

- Active recreational facilities such as areas for swimming and boating, skiing hills, biking/walking/skiing trails, skating rinks, sports stadiums, and golf courses
- Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and natural study areas
- Service buildings for shelter, equipment storage/rental, concessions, and restrooms
- Signage, trail markers, trash receptacles, information booths
- Lighting for security at night
- Adequate off-street parking spaces, where the size of the park and the neighborhood context allow
- Historic downtown areas, performing arts parks, arboretums, ornamental gardens, performing arts facilities, indoor theaters, public buildings, zoo, and amphitheaters

**Desirable Site Characteristics:** Variable, depending on use

E. Conservancy Areas

**General Description:** Permanently protected areas of environmental significance or sensitivity, generally with limited opportunities for recreational use. Acquisition of conservancy areas often has secondary benefits such as flood control or enhancement of adjacent private property values. May include water bodies, floodplains, wetlands, shorelines, and shoreland setback areas, drainageways, stormwater management basins, environmental corridors, wildlife habitat, areas of endangered plant or animal species, prairie remnants or restoration areas, scenic vistas, or environmentally constrained lands or open spaces as recommended in other adopted components of the Village's Comprehensive Plan. May also be appropriate for utilities and active recreational uses, such as trails and open playfields.



**Local Service Area:** N/A

**Local Size Standard:** Sufficient to protect the resource

**NRPA Recommended Size:** Sufficient to protect the resource

**Local Acres per 1,000 Population:** Variable. Conservancy areas are not included in the overall community calculation of park and recreation space per 1,000 persons.

**Basic Facilities & Activities:** Passive, nature-based, low impact recreational facilities

**Desirable Site Characteristics:** Variable, depending on resource being protected

F. School Parks

**General Description:** School parks have many of the same characteristics as neighborhood or community parks, depending on their size. As such, school parks primarily serve as locations for active recreational facilities associated with school functions; however, these sites can and do benefit the surrounding community during off-school hours. These parks may be owned and maintained by the municipality or the school district, but are open to all neighborhood residents.



**Local Service Area:** Variable – depends on function

**Local Size Standard:** Variable – depends on function

**NRPA Recommended Size:** Not applicable

**Local Standard Acres per 1,000 Population:** Variable – depends on function

**Basic Facilities & Activities:**

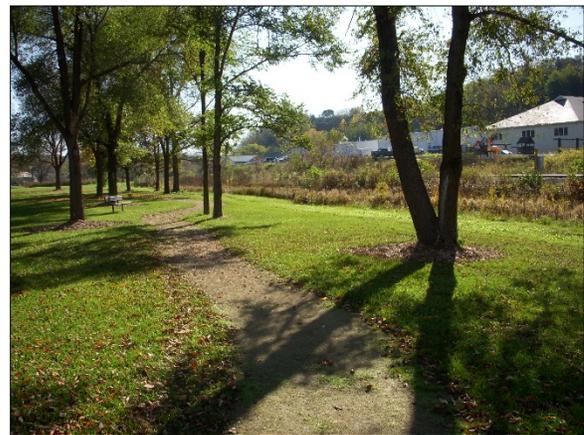
- Active recreational facilities such as playfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, and ice-skating rinks, including lighted fields
- Passive recreational facilities such as picnic/sitting areas and nature study areas
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms
- Lighting for security at night
- Adequate on-street and off-street parking spaces

**Desirable Site Characteristics:**

- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Accessible by walking or biking

**G. Trails and Bike Routes**

**General Description:** Recreation trails and bike routes accommodate various outdoor activities, such as biking, hiking, walking, jogging, horseback riding, nature study, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. A well-designed park system provides connections between parks and open space lands and effectively integrates urban and suburban areas with the surrounding natural environment by linking off-street trail segments with on-street bike routes. Recreation trails can be designed to serve different functions and to accommodate various, and sometimes conflicting, activities.



**Treatment in this Plan:** There are generally two types of trails and bike paths: on-street bike facilities and off-street recreation paths. Both are described below.

On-Street Bicycle Facilities

**General Description:** There are two primary types of on-street bicycle facilities: bicycle lanes and paved shoulders. Bicycle lanes are areas of the road striped off for exclusive use by bicyclists. They are the preferred bicycle facility for urban arterial and higher volume collector streets (generally more than 2,000 vehicles per day). Striping bicycle lanes establishes designated traffic channels that promote an orderly flow by both bicyclists and motorists. Typically, bicycle lanes are established on roadways that are 32 feet or wider with no on-street parking. Shared bicycle/parking lanes generally function well where sufficient space is provided, and the parking turnover rate is not too high.

Paved shoulders are not technically a bicycle facility, but rather a roadway condition that improves bicycle travel and bicyclist safety. They function much like a bicycle lane by separating the motor vehicle travel from bikes. Paved shoulders are ideal for higher volume streets or highways (more than 1,000 vehicles per day) with rural cross sections (i.e. no curb and gutter).

**Linear Miles per 1,000 Population:** N/A

### Off-Street Recreation Trails

**General Description:** there are two primary types of off-street recreation trails: multi-use paths and rural walking/hiking trails. Multi-use paths are designed to accommodate bicyclists, walkers, runners, and in-line skaters. Such facilities are often located along railroad rights-of-way, rivers and lakeshores, and through parks and environmental corridors. Rural trails provide connections between urbanized areas, and access to parks to open space areas. Walkways may be restricted to pedestrian use because of environmental conditions. In certain locations, they may also be suitable for equestrian and/or bicycle use. Rural walkways are often sited along creeks, streams, rivers, field boundaries, and other natural linear systems.



**Linear Miles per 1,000 Population:** The provision of trails is best related to an analysis of supply versus demand and the size of the community, rather than a single quantitative standard. Currently, there are no universally-accepted standards from the National Recreation and Park Association for linear miles per 1,000 people.

### Trailheads

**General Description:** Trailheads can provide visible access points to major off-street paths in the community's system. They generally provide a parking area, locational and directional maps or other information about the trail system. Some might contain restroom facilities, picnic tables, or benches for snacks or breaks. Such facilities should be sited with easy and direct access to the trail system.

**Treatment in this Plan:** This Plan will make general recommendations regarding the future location of trailheads. Suggestions will be based upon both existing and proposed park facilities and parking locations.

**Number of Facilities per 1,000 Population:** N/A

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## CHAPTER 6: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

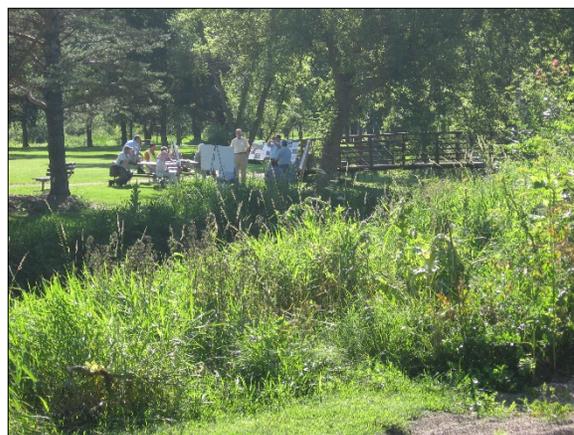
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### A. Visioning Workshop

The Village held a public Visioning Workshop on June 6, 2018. The purpose of the Workshop was to, identify opportunities and challenges for the growth of the system, and prioritize future park system improvements. Input from users of the park system is particularly valuable, as they can offer insights and identify needs that Village staff and officials may not be aware of. Participants were asked to suggest programs and activities that should be added to the Village’s recreational programming. They were also asked to map desired future park locations, suggest improvements to existing parks, and locate necessary future trail connections. Detailed results of the Workshop are located in Appendix A. An overall summary is provided below.

Workshop participants were asked to identify and vote on programming needs in the Village. Top results were:

1. Guided Hikes
2. Competitive Age-Group Soccer
3. Mountain Bike Lessons and Rides
4. Bike Maintenance Class
5. Cooking Class
6. Night Swimming for Adults
7. Walking Group



Participants worked in small groups to identify and draw their top recommendations for new parks, improvements to existing parks, natural areas to be preserved, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities on large maps. These recommendations are summarize below.

#### **New or Improved Facilities in Existing Village Parks**

- Pavilion with bathrooms at Zander Park
- Improve basketball and tennis facilities at existing parks
- Improve the shelters or add shelters to existing parks
- Community center
- New swimming pool
- Improve Glaciers Edge Square Park
- Splash Pad
- Disc Golf Course
- Dog Park



### New Parks

- New park and mountain bike trails north of Cedar Glen Conservancy
- New dog park north of the Village, east of Brewery Road
- New park south of the Village between CTH P and the railroad tracks
- New athletic fields west of the Village between CTH KP and the railroad tracks
- New park west of the Village and south of CTH KP

### Natural Areas

- Expand Glacial Valley Conservancy west to the area between Bourbon Road and CTH P
- Add the hilltop area above the quarry on the southwest side of the Village
- Expand Hickory Hill Conservancy to the west toward Center Street and Park Elementary School

### Bicycle/Pedestrian Trails

- Extend the Ice Age Trail to CTH KP connecting south to Scheele Road and continuing north
- Add and expand mountain bike trails along the hilltop in Cedar Glen Conservancy
- Create an east/west trail that follow the railroad tracks and extends west to Selmo Pond and east to Middleton
- Create an on-street network that connects park system facilities, including Zander Park, American Legion Park, Gausewitz Park, Baer Park, Dorothy Statz Park and Raspberry Park

## B. Communitywide Survey

The Village distributed a communitywide survey online and through the Cross Plains Public Library from June to July 2018. Questions pertained to current, short-term future, and long-term future needs for both parks programming and facilities. The Village received 236 responses, which indicated a high level of satisfaction with the Cross Plains Parks Department and its programming. Specific survey findings include:

- In light of the Village’s significant natural assets, including Black Earth Creek and numerous hillside conservation areas, residents find preservation and protection of Cross Plains’ natural resources important, and indicate that they are most concerned with the preservation of Village’s water quality, with 80 percent of respondents ranking it as very important, its scenic views (46 percent ranked it very important), and expansive woodlands (40 percent ranked it very important).
- Survey respondents were asked to identify community facility needs, indicating which facilities were limited in the Village. Fifty-seven percent of respondents stated that a dog park is needed in the Village, while 62 percent indicated there were not enough bike trails and paths in Cross Plains. More than 50 percent of residents indicated that there were currently not enough restrooms in parks, splash pads, or indoor recreational and fitness facilities in the Village. Residents also want to see more placemaking improvements in the community, like an outdoor performance venue, community gardens, and public art.



- The survey also asked respondents to rank the parks and recreation programs most important to them. The top result was youth sports programs, second was early childhood programs, third was youth learn-to-swim programs, and fourth was golf lessons. Other highly ranked programs included special events and festivals, adult fitness and wellness programs, and youth art, dance, and performing arts programs.
- Survey respondents were asked to rank their top uses for limited Village resources. The top ranked priority was developing new walking and biking facilities to create a more connected network; the second ranked priority was acquiring land for conservation; then the third ranked priority was developing a new outdoor pool facility to replace the existing, outdated pool at Municipal Park.
- Finally, survey respondents indicated goals they were willing to prioritize and allocate resources to, including tax dollars. The top ranked priority was improving bicycle and pedestrian facilities, with 52.45 percent of respondents supporting tax dollar allocation. Similarly, 52.20 percent of respondents said the Village should spend tax dollars enhancing economic development in Cross Plains. While 49 percent of residents said that Village resources should be spent enhancing educational opportunities for all ages in Cross Plains. Residents also expressed a willingness to allocate resources to increasing the Village's sustainability, with 43.84 percent of residents supporting Village spending on green initiatives.

#### C. Parks and Recreation Committee Meetings

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A series of Parks and Recreation Committee meetings were held throughout the planning process. The meetings included a kickoff meeting at the beginning of the project, followed by two meetings to discuss the draft Parks and Open Space Master Plan. At the kickoff meeting, Vandewalle & Associates consultants reviewed elements of the existing 2002 Park and Recreation Plan, followed by a timeline and draft participation materials to be used throughout the planning process.

Meetings two and three of the Parks and Recreation Committee occurred later in the planning process and included presentations by the Parks Director and Vandewalle & Associates. Information presented to the Committee included the results of the public participation process, including the workshop and public survey as well as highlights from the key recommendations. Committee members along with the Parks Director provided feedback on the draft and shared insight on some remaining policy decisions, including the relocation of the municipal pool, potential locations for future parks, and the expansion of sports field facilities within the Village.

#### D. Public Open House

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A public open house was held on November 8, 2018 to allow residents to comment on the Draft 2019 Park and Open Space Master Plan. Attendees were able to review key recommendations of the Plan as well as the Map 3. Planned Parks and Facilities. Village Staff and consultants were on hand for the duration of the 2-hour event to answer questions and discuss the planning process with residents.

### E. Public Hearing

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A public hearing was held on December 3, 2018 to allow residents to comment on the Draft 2019 Park and Open Space Master Plan. Village staff and planning consultants presented the Parks and Open Space Master Plan to the Plan Commission. Commission members provided input and comments on the plan's content and key recommendations. The meeting included a discussion on the updated parkland and conservation dedication and fee-in-lieu requirements. The Plan Commission's comments were recorded and incorporated into the final draft of the Park and Open Space Master Plan. The Plan Commission voted to recommend the Plan for approval by the Village Board. The Village Board voted to adopt the Parks and Open Space Master Plan on December 17, 2018.

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## CHAPTER 7: ANALYSIS OF EXISTING PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

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This report analyzes existing recreational facilities in the Village of Cross Plains to determine whether current recreational needs are being met. The adequacy of the Village's existing park and recreation system will be evaluated in the following ways:

- Development and application of local park acreage standards to reliable population projections for the Village (quantitative analysis).
- A qualitative analysis of the Village's park system based on both an understanding of the Village's goals and objectives and an evaluation of the local demand for parkland and recreational facilities.
- An analysis of the geographic distribution and accessibility of park and open space systems.
- A consideration of public input regarding the future of the Village's park and open space system.
- A review of Wisconsin's State Outdoor Recreation Plan and Dane County's Parks and Open Space Plan.

The results of this analysis will serve as the basis for recommendations presented in the next Chapter of this Plan.

### A. Quantitative Analysis

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The following table presents an analysis of the NRPA acreage guidelines for each park type and the Village's existing park acreage per park type. As indicated in Table 9, the Village currently has 4.1 acres of unconstrained mini, neighborhood, and community parks and developable open space areas per 1,000 residents. For the purposes of this analysis, Middleton-Cross Plains School District Properties, nature areas, and special facilities, including American Legion Park, and St. Francis Church and School were not included in acreage calculations. Additionally, constrained parkland, which is defined as having slopes greater than 12 percent, is protected land or is located in a wetland, 100-year floodplain, drainage way, stormwater basin, or on hydric soils, is not included. This is to ensure that acreage calculations accurately represent parkland that is usable and developable for active recreation purposes, such as athletic fields and playgrounds.

For this Plan, the NRPA standard of six to ten acres per 1,000 persons will be applied to determine future park acreage needs, but it will apply to unconstrained park acres only. This approach addresses the extensive wetlands, hydric soils, and slopes that provide a challenge for park planning in Cross Plains. Based upon these calculations, the Village currently is below the NRPA recommended standard of six to ten developable acres per 1,000 persons.

It should be noted that national standards do not factor in characteristics of individual communities, such as Cross Plains' rapid growth in recent years, or its abundance of constrained parkland, conservancies, and nature areas. Therefore, it is appropriate and necessary for each community to develop their own local park standard. Local size standards can be found in Chapter Five of this Plan and are used in the future park system needs assessment (Figures 10 and 11) later in this chapter.

**Table 9: Park Acreage Analysis, 2018**

Type of Park	NRPA Guideline Acres per 1,000 Persons	Cross Plains 2018 Unconstrained Acres per 1,000 persons*	NRPA Recommended Range of Unconstrained Park Acreage	Cross Plains 2018 Total Existing Unconstrained Park Acreage
Mini Parks	0	0.2	0.0	0.8
Neighborhood Parks	1 to 2 acres	0.3	4.0 - 8.0	1.3
Community Parks	5 to 8 acres	3.6	20.1 - 32.1	14.5
<b>Total Developed Parks</b>	<b>6 to 10 acres</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>24.1 - 40.2</b>	<b>16.7</b>
Nature Areas	N/A	10.7	N/A	42.8
School District Properties	N/A	1.7	N/A	6.9
Private Recreation Facilities	N/A	4.0	N/A	16.1
Special Facilities	N/A	5.0	N/A	20.0
<b>Total, All Facilities</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>102.5</b>

\* Based on a population estimate of 4,018 persons in 2018

**B. Qualitative Analysis**

Recreation demand was measured qualitatively by discussing demand with the Cross Plains Parks and Recreation Committee, conducting focus group interviews with different stakeholder groups, as well as a community survey (See Chapter 6 for survey findings). The survey asked what types of activities and areas are in demand and who will use them. This approach compares current and future needs with existing facilities, while taking into consideration emerging forms of recreation that are growing in popularity. While many residents indicated a high level of satisfaction with Cross Plains’ recreational programming, respondents did suggest, however, demand for more on- and off-street pedestrian and bicycling opportunities, an upgrade to the Cross Plains swimming pool, including the alternative of relocating the pool to another site, increased amenities and maintenance of existing parks, and a shortage of playfields and indoor recreation space.

During a Parks and Recreation Committee meeting on May 2, 2018, planning staff and Committee members discussed several ideas for the future of Cross Plains’ park system. Cross Plains location in the region and the high demand for limited playfield space in the county for team sports like soccer, lacrosse, and baseball mean that the addition of more field space could be impactful for the Village and the county. Additional field space will serve residents and provide the opportunity to expand recreational programming and will also attract area teams to use playfields and enable teams to host games and tournaments at Cross Plains facilities. Improving or relocating the swimming pool will also expand capacity for serving residents and create the opportunity for the Stingrays swim team to host regional swim meets.

Additional input from the Public Participation Process is described in Chapter 6 of the *Plan*.

### C. Geographic Analysis

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The location and distribution of parks and recreational facilities indicates how well the existing park system is meeting the needs of the Village's residents. Neighborhood parks have limited usefulness if access is blocked by a road, railroad, or highway. Map 2 depicts the service areas of the Village's parks, which are based on the NRPA standards identified in Chapter 5 of this Plan. USH 14 considered one of the greatest pedestrian barriers in Village, particularly for residents who live to the south of the highway.

An analysis of Map 2 suggests that existing parks are generally well distributed throughout the Village, although there are a few small areas with limited access to park facilities. Future residential development on the Village's southwest, northeast, and northwest will create new open space through the Village's parkland dedication requirements and increase access to park facilities for new and existing residents.

### D. Review of Existing Plans

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#### Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan (2012)

The purpose of the Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan is to set a standard for farmland preservation that meets the requirements under s.91.38, Wisconsin Statutes. The county's agricultural zoning has been adopted by 29 towns and resulted in approximately \$1.2 million in tax relief annually for participating farmers. This plan provides a vision and guidelines for growth, development, and land preservation in Dane County. The plan is intended to function as the primary policy document setting forth goals and objectives and a vision of how Dane County should grow. A fundamental goal of the Plan is to guide the Village of Cross Plains Park and Recreation and manage Dane County growth and development in a manner that will preserve the rural character, agricultural base, and natural resources of the countryside and contribute to the high quality of life and prosperity of the communities and local farmers.

#### Dane County Park and Open Space Plan

The Dane County Parks & Open Space Plan 2019-2023 identifies significant cultural, historical, and natural resources that should be considered for possible protection, preservation or restoration over the five-year planning period. The Plan identifies countywide recreation needs and Dane County's role in providing facilities to meet anticipated demands. In response to public input and forecasted land acquisition trends, the Dane County Park and Open Space Plan recommends development of an off-leash dog park in the Village of Cross Plains, further preservation of the Black Earth Creek Natural Resource Area, and expanding the shared-use trail connections to surrounding communities. Specifically, the Plan recommends building from the work of the Good Neighbor Committee to create the Black Earth Creek Trail connecting Middleton and Mazomanie through the Village of Cross Plains.

#### Village of Cross Plains Comprehensive Plan

Cross Plains' Comprehensive Plan, was updated over the course of 2018 and provides goals, objectives, and policies for each of the Village's components over the next 20-25 years. Specifically, the Plan recommends the following for its Park and Recreational Goals:

- Acknowledge the importance of parks, open spaces, and recreational areas to the community.

- Preserve and enhance park, open space, and recreational opportunities that are currently available within the village.
- Ensure that all areas of the Village are adequately served by parks.
- Provide recreational facilities for users of all ages, demographics, and abilities.
- Work with other plans for new park, open space, and recreational opportunities, and for expanded opportunities for participation in the development and care of parks.

Policies and Programs that the Plan recommends to achieve these Goals include the following:

- Remain sensitive to potential acquisition of recreational land inside and outside the present Village boundaries, especially in light of development pressures.
- Enforce the dedication of suitable parkland by developers, as chosen by the Village.
- Adopt new park improvement fees to maintain the recommended level of per-capita facilities in the park system.
- Base acquisition and development of parks and open space on recreational demands, service area, and acreage requirements, not on the basis of dedications.
- Expand the trail system serving the Village, and promote connections to other municipal, county, and state trails.
- Continue to partner with civic and service organizations, such as the Lions Club, along with neighborhood associations, to increase ownership, gain valuable input, and help defray the cost and maintenance of facilities.

#### Village of 2011 Cross Plains Park and Recreation Plan

Most of the Goals, Objectives, and Policies identified in the 2011 Cross Plains Park and Recreation Plan are carried over into this 2019 Plan, with the addition of a few specific recommendations regarding the redevelopment of a new community park, the addition of new parkland that is suitable for parkland development, and addressing capacity issues at the Cross Plains swimming pool.

#### Wisconsin Land Legacy Report (2006)

In the Wisconsin Land Legacy Report, WisDNR identified key places around the state that are critical to meeting Wisconsin's conservation and outdoor recreation needs over the next 50 years. The report identifies several sites in Dane County, including the Black Earth Creek, a prime natural feature in the Village of Cross Plains. Black Earth Creek is part of the Western Coulee and Ridges ecological landscape, which is characterized by the highly eroded, unglaciated landscape that provides Cross Plains with its dynamic, steep-sloped hillsides and scenic overlook views. Throughout this landscape spring fed, coldwater streams like Black Earth Creek support brown and brook trout fisheries, providing some of the best fishing in the region. This type of landscape is found in the western part of the state and encompasses 17 percent of the Wisconsin's land area.

#### Connections 2030 Statewide Long-Range Multimodal Transportation Plan (2009)

Connections 2030 links statewide transportation policy to implementation, planning, programming and other Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) activities. The plan calls for improved system integration for passengers and freight, as well as modernization to correct outdated infrastructure design and combine technological advancements with more traditional transportation infrastructure designs. The plan sets policy directions for the state trunk highway system, public transit, intercity travel, freight movement, bicycle and pedestrian travel, and funding, project

scheduling and prioritization decisions. As part of the Connections 2030 planning process, WisDOT identified 37 System-level Priority Corridors. Maps of the corridors can be viewed or downloaded online at [www.wiconnections2030.gov](http://www.wiconnections2030.gov). The information depicted on these maps provides visual representations of how the plan might be implemented. The corridor maps identify specific projects; however, the Plan does not guarantee that all potential projects will be implemented.

#### Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) examines and assesses current and future recreational needs within the state. The 2019-2023 SCORP identified types of recreation activities Dane County residents participate in, suggesting the recreation demand in the region.

These activities include:

- ATV/UTV Riding
- Fishing
- Bicycling – surfaced trails
- Hiking
- Bicycling – mountain biking, single track
- Trail Running
- Camp
- Swimming
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Snowmobiling
- Cross-Country Skiing/Snowshoeing

Recreation needs identified for the region include:

- Trails for motorized recreation
- Hiking, walking, and biking trails
- Bicycle trails, paved and natural surface
- Camping, rustic, quiet campgrounds

The Draft 2019-2023 SCORP was being drafted at the same time as the Cross Plains Parks and Open Space Master Plan and was released for public comment from December 4, 2018 to January 4, 2019.

#### E. Future Park System Needs

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Based upon the analyses provided in this Chapter, the Village’s local minimum standard for park acreage is **10 acres per 1,000 persons** for neighborhood and community parks. Broken down by park type, the minimum standards per 1,000 persons are 3 acres for neighborhood parks, and 7 acres for community parks. Tables 10 and 11 define the additional park and open space acreage needed to accommodate the Village’s projected population through the planning period (2023) and long-term (2040).

**Approximately 27 acres of additional parkland are recommended by 2023.** As growth occurs, the Village will need to create a projected 11.5 additional acres of neighborhood parks by 2023 to meet the needs of new and existing residents. The projections also call for an additional 15.3 acres of community parkland by 2023, suggesting that a new community park will be needed in the Village. New parks could be developed incrementally as land develops and population grows. However, it is recommended that the Village pursue opportunities for a larger park, rather than meeting its demand through small, sporadic parks that can increase costs and maintenance obligations.

**Table 10: Park Acreage Needs: Mini Parks, Neighborhood, and Community Parks, 2023 and 2028**

Park Type	2018 Total Village Unconstrained Acres	Village Existing Unconstrained Acres per 1,000 Residents	Village Standard for Unconstrained Acres Per 1,000 persons	Total Unconstrained Acreage Needed by 2023, based on Village Standard*	Total Unconstrained Acreage Needed by 2028, based on Village Standard*	Minimum Additional Unconstrained Acres Needed by 2023	Minimum Additional Unconstrained Acres Needed by 2028
Mini Parks	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neighborhood Parks	1.3	0.3	5.0	21.4	22.7	20.1	21.4
Community Parks	14.5	3.6	8.0	34.2	36.3	19.7	21.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>43.1</b>

\* Based on 2023 population estimate (4,277) and 2028 population estimate (4,537)

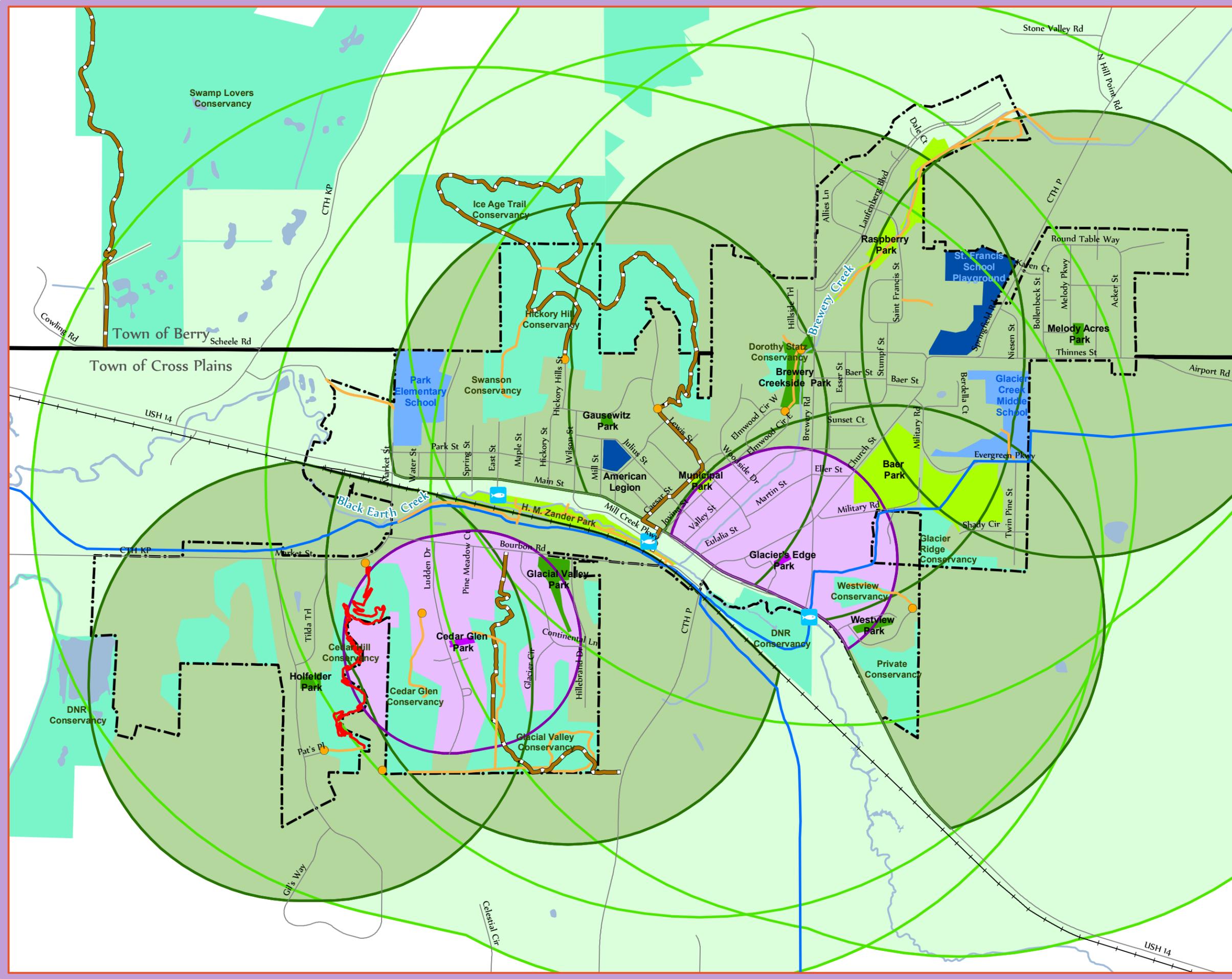
**Table 11: Park Acreage Needs: Mini Parks, Neighborhood, and Community Parks, 2030-2040**

Park Type	2018 Total Unconstrained Acres	Village Existing Unconstrained Acres Per 1,000 persons	Recommended Unconstrained Acreage based on Acres per 1,000 persons*	Total Unconstrained Acreage Needed based on Village Standard* in the future:			Minimum Additional Unconstrained Acres Needed in the Future		
				2030	2035	2040	2030	2035	2040
Mini Parks	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neighborhood Parks	1.3	0.3	5.0	23.2	24.5	25.8	21.9	23.2	24.5
Community Parks	14.5	3.6	8.0	37.1	39.2	41.3	22.6	24.7	26.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>60.3</b>	<b>63.7</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>51.2</b>

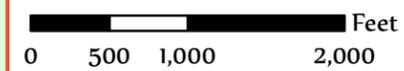
\* Based projected populations of: 2030 = 4,640, 2035 = 4,900, 2040 = 5,159

# Village of Cross Plains Park and Open Space Plan

## Map 2: Park Service Areas



- Park Type**
- Community Park
  - Neighborhood Park
  - Mini Park
  - Nature Area
  - Public School Facility
  - Private Recreation Facility
- 
- Service Area**
- Community Park Service Area (1 Mile)
  - Neighborhood Park Service Area (0.5 Miles)
  - Mini Park Service Area (0.25 Miles)
- 
- Trails**
- Ice Age Trail
  - Other Trail
  - Snowmobile Trail
  - Mountain Bike Trail
- 
- Access Points**
- Fishing Access Point
  - Trail Access Point
- 
- Other Features**
- Rail
  - Surface Water
  - Village of Cross Plains
  - Town Boundaries



Date: 12-17-18  
Sources: Dane Co. LIO, Village of Cross Plains, Town and Country Engineering



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## CHAPTER 8: RECOMMENDED PARK AND OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

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This chapter provides detailed recommendations to expand and improve Cross Plains' existing park and open space system based on deficiencies identified in the preceding chapters of this Plan, and new park and facilities needs as indicated by future population growth. These recommendations are also guided by the goals, objectives, and policies outlined earlier in this report.

Based on the Village's projected population in 2023 (4,277 residents) and 2040 (5,159 residents), and its Future Unconstrained Acreage Standard of 10 acres per 1,000 residents, Cross Plains will need to provide about 27 additional acres of unconstrained parkland by 2023 and 36 new acres of unconstrained parkland by 2040. This Plan recommends that additional acreage for passive, nature-oriented parks is acquired in along with the above recommended active park acreage. This recommendation assumes that Cross Plains will continue to grow at the current rate of two to three percent per year, and that park and open space planning will be oriented toward serving a steadily growing population. The timing of park acquisitions and development should coincide with the actual demand for recreational facilities in the Cross Plains' developed and newly developed areas.

### A. Recommended Additional Parklands

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Map 3 shows the approximate locations for future neighborhood parks in the Village. Precise park boundaries will be determined during the preparation of detailed neighborhood plans and when lands are acquired or platted. Following are general descriptions of the park recommendations:

#### Recommended Mini Parks

Mini parks tend to be maintenance intensive and receive minimal use. The acquisition of mini parks is not recommended, with the following exceptions:

- High need is defined within a neighborhood which is not served by a neighborhood park and open space is not sufficient for a neighborhood park.
- As development occurs, the Village should incorporate mini parks into the design of office, commercial, and mixed-use districts. Mini parks located in these areas should be oriented more towards adults than children, providing open areas to eat lunch, read the newspaper, and take a break from working or shopping. These parks may include paved areas, but should also accommodate some green space. Trees, landscaping, and water features should be incorporated into these park spaces wherever possible.

#### Recommended Neighborhood Parks

Additional acquisition of approximately 14.2 acres of neighborhood parkland is recommended by 2040 as the Village's population increases. Seven new neighborhood parks are recommended to meet this goal. Recommended general locations for short-term and long-term (beyond 10 years) future neighborhood parks are identified on Map 3; proposed short-term neighborhood parks are also described below. However, the precise boundaries of these sites may not be decided until development occurs and/or land is acquired or platted. The development of these lands will include, where appropriate, park shelters, restroom areas and playground equipment. Areas to play basketball, tennis, pickleball, and volleyball will be considered where space permits, as well as passive recreational activities.

Planned Neighborhood Park Locations (as shown on Map 3):

- Southeast of the Glacier Ridge Conservancy
- On the northeast side of the Village, north of Roundtable Way and east of CTH P
- On the northeast side of the Village, expanding Raspberry Park, west of CTH P
- Two parks north of the Ice Age Trail Conservancy area, on the bluff serving potential future neighborhoods, including the proposed Sundance development
- West of the Ice Age Trail Conservancy area, along the Village Loop Trail
- Along the western border of the Village, south of CTH KP

Recommended Community Parks

While the projections call for an additional 21.6 acres of community parkland by 2040, it is anticipated that two to three additional facilities will be needed to meet the needs of the additional future population. Two additional community parks are recommended in the Village, their potential locations are shown on Map 3 and described below:

- West of the Village boundary, south of the railroad tracks and north of Market Street/CTH KP.
- East of the Village, this new community park could serve as an expansion of the eastern area of Baer Park. This would be a long-term recommendation, following the planned expansion of Baer Park.



Dog Park

The Village should review and select a location for a Village dog park. Community residents have expressed a need for a dog park and the construction of a park in an undeveloped area reduces the complications of trying to place a dog park in an existing neighborhood. Additionally, opportunities to construct the dog park in tandem with another planned park facility will maximize its usefulness and accessibility to Village residents. Proposed dog park locations include:

- South of the railroad tracks and east of CTH P; this dog park location could be paired with the proposed sports complex.
- A hilltop location south of railroad tracks and west of CTH P.
- West of the Village boundary, south of the railroad tracks and north of Market Street/CTH KP; this dog park location could be paired with the proposed community park.
- North of the Village along the Village Loop Trail, close to the planned neighborhood parks north of the Ice Age Trail Conservancy area.

Recommended Sports Complex

In response to the growth of youth sports and the abundance of sports clubs, programs, and school teams in the Cross Plains region, the Village of Cross Plains should explore constructing a multi-field sports complex that can serve future residents. The Village should further study land suitability for athletic fields, number of fields

that can be accommodated, and desired mix of field sizes and types. This plan recommends multi-purpose fields that are sized to host multiple sports. Having dedicated sports facilities in Cross Plains could make it possible for the Village to host more games and tournaments, reducing the burden on Cross Plains residents to travel to other communities and attracting new visitors to Cross Plains. A potential location for a sports complex is proposed south of the railroad tracks and east of CTH P. The environmental sensitivity of the area makes other forms of development, including residential or commercial, challenging. The relatively low-impact development of the sports complex could create an active use on the kind of flat land that is in short supply in the Village, while protecting Cross Plains' natural resources.

## B. Recommended Trails

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Map 3 depicts recommended future on-road and off-road bike trails. These proposed trails would complement the existing bike route system and connect the recommended recreational facilities described above. The Village should focus on creating a bike and pedestrian network that connects park facilities throughout the Village with residential areas, schools, and other community destinations. Additionally, the proposed trails would connect regional recreational facilities to Cross Plains' existing trail network, including the Ice Age Trail (IAT) and any future segments added to the IAT. As an Ice Age Trail Community designated in 2017, Cross Plains is dedicated to the promotion, preservation, and expansion of the Village trail system and its outdoor recreation opportunities.

All parks and park system facilities should be connected via bike and pedestrian trails. These trails will increase access, particularly for some of the park system's most vulnerable users, including children, seniors, and residents without access to a vehicle. The layout of the connective trail network can be determined as part of the bike and pedestrian plan, recommended in Cross Plains' 2019 Comprehensive Plan.

### **Village Loop Trail**

Cross Plains Village staff and residents have both expressed interest in expanding Cross Plains' trail network to take advantage of its diverse landscape and vast conservancy resources. A robust and connected trail network would not only serve Village residents who value the physical activity and natural beauty the trails provide, but would distinguish Cross Plains as a regional destination for hiking, biking, including mountain bike trails, attracting visitors and tourists and providing new customers for local businesses.

A Village Loop Trail is recommended that provides a continuous trail connection around the entire Village of Cross Plains. Connecting to existing and planned trails and utilizing rights-of-way, public infrastructure, and natural features, a 9.4-mile loop is shown on Map 3.

### **On-Street Routes**

To meet the demand for expanded bicycle and pedestrian options within the Village, it is recommended that the Village construct a sidewalk, bicycle, and trail network that connects facilities in the Village park system with schools, residential areas and popular destinations. This network can include on-street facilities from neighborhood greenways to protected bike lanes, as well as off-street, multi-use paths. In accordance with the 2019 Comprehensive Plan Update, the Village should complete a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan that evaluates traffic patterns, road construction, and geographic feasibility within the Village and suggests the detailed form and design of a new network. Proposed on-street routes that could serve as a concept for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan are shown on Map 3.

### **Regional Trail**

The Village should support local efforts to construct a regional trail that connects Cross Plains to surrounding communities like Mazomanie and Middleton. Previous regional efforts included the Good Neighbor Trail Committee, which Cross Plains was a participating member. Cross Plains should continue to pursue regional trail connections and work with partners in other communities as well as the county to accomplish this goal.

### **Potential Trailheads**

Trailheads provide information for regional cyclists who may stop in Cross Plains for a break or to shop and eat downtown, and they feature small parking areas to accommodate cyclists beginning their bicycle ride in the Village. This *Plan* recommends new trailheads and parking facilities Bourbon Road and Market Street to provide convenient trail access to residents and visitors.

### Design Guidelines

Although this Plan presents general recommendations regarding locations for future trails and bike routes, more formal and detailed recommendations regarding type and location would require more in-depth analyses of the Village's road network, including traffic patterns and street widths.

The Village should adopt design standards for trails and bike routes that align with local, regional, and national standards, including the Good Neighbor Design Standards, Ice Age National Scenic Trail Design, Construction, and Maintenance Standards, Wisconsin Department of Transportation and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources bicycle facility and trail design standards, and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). Recommended trail design priorities for inclusion in the Village trail design standards are described below.

### **Desirable Design Criteria for Multi-Use Paths:**

- In urban areas, paths should be a minimum of ten feet to accommodate two-way bicycle traffic. Paved surfacing is recommended to facilitate bike, walking, running, and skating.
- In rural areas, the path should be a minimum of eight feet wide, surfaced with limestone screenings or similar material.
- Avoid placement alongside roadways where multiple cross-streets and driveways are or will be present.

### **Desirable Design Criteria for Bicycle Lanes:**

- Minimum width should be 4 feet, or 5 feet along an arterial street.
- When used along side a parking lane, should be at least 5 feet wide and located to the traffic side of the parking lane.
- Where bike lanes and on-street parking are provided, the minimum combined width should be 11 feet (13 feet where there is substantial parking or turnover of parked cars is high).
- Lanes should be painted with a bicycle pavement symbol or the words "bike lane" according to AASHTO standards.
- Street signs should be used to identify bicycle lanes.



**Desirable Design Criteria for Paved Shoulders:**

- Minimum width should be 4 feet, or 5 feet where traffic speeds exceed 50 miles per hour.
- A stripe separating shoulder from roadway is recommended.
- These are generally not marked as an exclusive bike facility.
- Shoulders should follow AASHTO standards.
- Street signs should be used to identify bicycle lanes.

**Desirable Design Criteria for Rural Walking/Hiking Trails:** Because these trail facilities often travel through sensitive environmental areas, they are generally not paved. Rather, they are surfaced with crushed limestone, soil, or mowed grass.

C. Recommended Improvements to Existing Parks

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In addition to the recommendations presented in the previous sections of this Chapter, which mainly focus on the acquisition and development of new parklands and facilities in the Village, recommendations for improvements to existing parks and open spaces are as follows:

1. The Village intends to continue to develop and maintain existing parks. All parks will be continually improved to include playground equipment, picnic tables, benches, trash containers, landscaping, and wood chip fall zones. Civic and service organizations, along with neighborhood associations, will be approached to assist in defraying costs for neighborhood park equipment.
2. The Village should develop master plans for each of its community parks. These master plans should indicate current use and conditions of the facilities, equipment, and park grounds. Once established, these master plans form the basis for developing a capital improvements program.
3. The Village should conduct a community needs assessment to determine the best alternative to upgrade the pool and other community facilities. The needs assessment should conclude with recommendations for potential site locations for the pool, including in the Baer Park expansion.
4. The Village should increase parking and street access to park system facilities to ensure that residents and visitors are able to travel to and enjoy the vast recreational opportunities Cross Plains can offer.
5. The Parks and Recreation Committee and Village staff should work closely with the Plan Commission to locate neighborhood parks when detailed neighborhood plans are prepared for undeveloped areas.
6. The Village will continue to participate in regional and county planning efforts, particularly through implementation of the Cross Plains portion of Dane County's park and open space plan and working with the County and regional organizations on bicycle and pedestrian trail links.
7. The Village will review the addition of a splash pad to the existing park facility deemed most suitable.
8. The Village will work with community partners to add mountain biking trails and facilities to existing conservancy areas.
9. The Village will replace or add new signage and wayfinding for all parks, open space, and trailheads to better connect residents and visitors to the whole Cross Plains park and trail system.

**Table 12. Recommended Improvements to Existing Parks**

Park Name	Improvement
Glacial Valley Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace the existing playground equipment</li> <li>• Add a shelter with restrooms and water fountain</li> <li>• Construct parking lot and add angled parking on Bourbon Road and Hillebrand Drive</li> </ul>
Holfelder Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add a full-sized basketball court</li> <li>• Add a small pavilion</li> <li>• Add a shed for archery storage</li> </ul>
Melody Acres Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace the existing playground equipment</li> <li>• Add pickleball courts</li> </ul>
Westview Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace the existing playground equipment</li> <li>• Add full-sized basketball court</li> <li>• Add tennis court</li> <li>• Add pickleball court</li> </ul>
Baer Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand the skate park east of the current facility</li> <li>• Resurface the basketball court and replace hoops</li> <li>• Add a pickleball court east of the basketball court</li> <li>• Replace the bleachers for all baseball diamonds</li> <li>• Add additional tennis courts</li> <li>• Construct disc golf course</li> <li>• Build asphalt trail around perimeter of the park and into the extension area, connecting with the Village Loop Trail</li> <li>• Review as potential location for new swimming pool and community center</li> </ul>
Municipal Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider relocation of pool facility and reuse for community gathering space and library expansion</li> </ul>
Raspberry Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add a water fountain and small pavilion</li> <li>• Resurface and expand the basketball court</li> <li>• Improve walkability to the park from Hwy P with sidewalk and trail expansions</li> </ul>
H.M. Zander Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add shelter, music pavilion or public gathering space for signature community events</li> </ul>

Baer Park

The Village will add recreational activities to the eastern side of Baer Park through an expansion across Military Road. Expanded facilities at Baer Park will include improvements to the skate park, basketball courts, tennis courts and baseball fields, as well as the construction of a pickleball court, disc golf course, and perimeter trail.

The Village completed Civic Campus Master Plan in 2016 which yielded conceptual designs of future Village facilities located on the east side of Baer Park (in the new expansion area). The concept plans include a new building housing Village administrative offices, the Police Department, and community center. In addition, the plans include recreational facilities including an expanded municipal pool, ball fields, community plaza with a pavilion and a playground, and sledding hill. This plan has not been formally adopted by the Village but could serve as a foundation for future plans for the Baer Park expansion. Additionally, if the Village chooses not to move forward with the community center and

administrative building, Baer Park could continue to serve as a new location for the municipal pool and could accommodate an additional baseball diamond on the east end of the site.

#### H.M. Zander Park

The Village should review opportunities for increased gathering space in the community, in particular a pavilion or plaza at H.M. Zander Park. The Village should collaborate with local non-profits in providing the shelter and gathering space and consider opportunities to program the park, activating its gathering spaces for signature community events.

#### Municipal Park

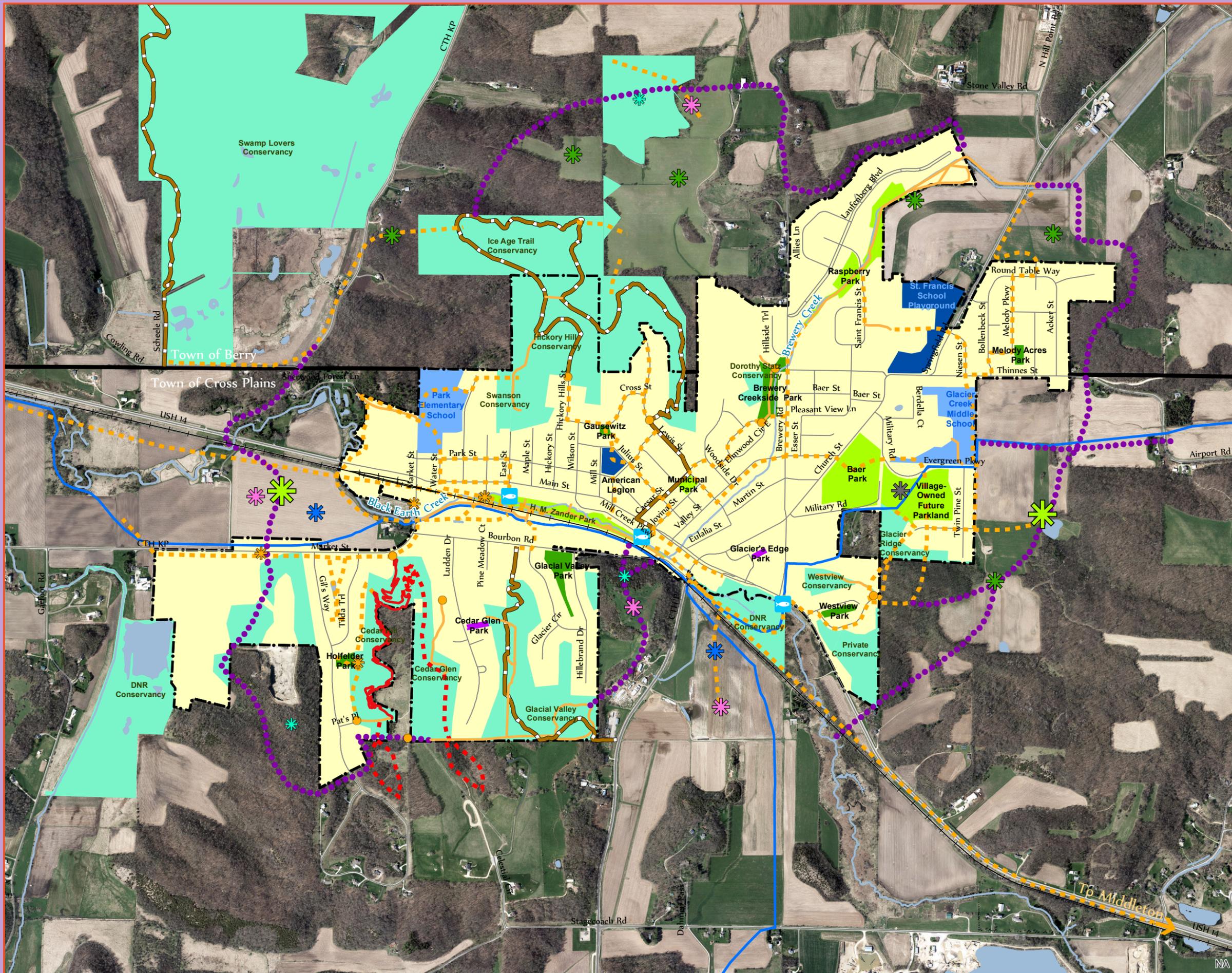
While the Cross Plains pool is a community asset beloved by residents and heavily utilized by both families and the Cross Plains swim team, it has reached capacity and has no place to expand at its current location at Municipal Park. It also has exceptionally high maintenance costs associated with an aging facility. The Village should consider relocating the municipal pool to Baer Park. This location would allow for a larger pool with additional amenities, including expanded parking and an improved shelter.

With the relocation of the pool, Municipal Park stands as a prime location for civic-oriented redevelopment. It is centrally located in the heart of the community and connects to multiple locations of civic importance, including the Rosemary Garfoot Public Library. Reuse of the site as a public plaza or gathering site that could host public events, concerts, possibly the farmers market or other festivities would keep this location in service to residents. Relocation of the pool from Municipal Park would also allow for the expansion of the public library building, which is rapidly nearing capacity and currently has no room to grow.

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# Village of Cross Plains Park and Open Space Plan

## Map 3: Planned Parks and Facilities



### Planned Facilities

- Planned Community Park
- Planned Neighborhood Park
- Planned Nature Area
- Potential Dog Park Site
- Planned Sports Complex
- Planned Pool
- Planned Trailhead
- Planned Mountain Bike Trail
- Planned Village Loop Trail
- Other Planned Trail

### Existing Park Types

- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Mini Park
- Nature Area
- Public School Facility
- Private Recreation Facility

### Existing Facilities

- Ice Age Trail
- Other Trail
- Snowmobile Trail
- Mountain Bike Trail
- Fishing Access Point
- Trail Access Point
- Rail
- Surface Water
- Village of Cross Plains
- Town Boundaries

0 625 1,250 2,500 Feet

Date: 12-17-18  
Sources: Dane Co. LIO, Village of Cross Plains  
Town and Country Engineering

**VANDEWALLE & ASSOCIATES INC.**  
Shaping places, shaping change



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## CHAPTER 9: COST ESTIMATES FOR FUTURE FACILITIES

This chapter contains detailed capital cost estimates for new park and recreational facilities recommended in this *Plan*. The information is intended to assist the Village with budgeting and planning for future parks and to satisfy 66.0617 and 236.29 of the Wisconsin Statutes regarding parkland dedication, fees-in-lieu of dedication, and playground improvement fee collection. However, the adoption of this *Plan* does not commit the Village of Cross Plains to collecting these fees through an ordinance.

### A. Cost Estimates for Future Park and Recreational Facilities

The following cost estimates for future park and recreational facilities are based on the following assumptions:

- According to State Statutes, park fees must be used within 10 years of collection; therefore, these calculations are based on the amount of parkland needed to serve new residents within that 10 year period (i.e., from 2019 to 2029).
- According to State Statutes, the Village cannot require land dedication for special use parks or facilities, including formal athletic fields. In addition, mini-parks were not included in these calculations as this park type is not recommended except under the circumstances outlined in the previous chapter. Therefore, calculations are based on the Village’s standard of 13 acres of parkland per 1,000 persons for neighborhood and community parks.

Based on these assumptions, the Village should plan to acquire 43 acres of unconstrained parkland over the next 10 years (see Table 10). The dedication of 1,416 square feet (0.033 acres) per dwelling unit would satisfy this requirement. Although land dedication is preferred, land dedication per this provision must be suitable for the development of a neighborhood or community park. As an alternative, the Village could spend an estimated \$556,628 (2018 dollars) for parkland acquisition. **Assuming the addition of 519 households, a fee-in-lieu of land dedication of \$2,681 per new dwelling unit would meet this demand.** The process for arriving at these calculations is described in Table 13 below.

**Table 13: Projected Parkland Dedication and Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication**

Calculation		Value
A.	Projected Population Increase from 2018 to 2028	519
B.	Projected Dwelling Units Increase from 2018 to 2028 (Based on Current Average Household Size of 2.5)	208
C.	Additional Acres Needed at Thirteen Acres per One Thousand Residents [(Row A / 1000)*13]	6.75
D.	Land Dedication Requirement: Acres per Household (Row C/Row B)	0.032
E.	Land Cost per Acre Estimate	\$75,000
F.	Projected Cost of Land Acquisition (Row C * Row E)	\$506,025
G.	Legal, Engineering, and Design Costs (Row F*10%)	\$50,603
H.	Total Land Acquisition Cost (Row F + Row G)	\$556,628
I.	<b>Calculated Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication per Household (Row H/Row B)</b>	<b>\$2,676.09</b>
J.	<b>Alternative Land Dedication per Household in Square Feet (Row D * 43,560)</b>	<b>1,416 sq. ft.</b>

**B. Cost Estimates for Future Playground Improvements**

Each park type should have a minimum amount of playground equipment/opportunities available. The cost of certain playground equipment varies by park type and age range of the intended users. Equipment in neighborhood parks is intended for younger children and the equipment available in larger parks should accommodate a wider age range of children. However, State law currently restricts the type of park improvements for which a community may collect fees. Table 14 outlines the collectable playground costs for neighborhood and community parks in Cross Plains. A cost of \$1,561.93 per dwelling unit would be required to cover playground improvement costs (Table 14).

**Table 14: Projected Playground Improvements by Park Type**

Calculation	Neighborhood	Community
A. Cost of Play Equipment	\$100,000	\$100,000
B. Cost of Benches	\$6,000	\$12,000
C. Total Estimated Cost (Row A + Row B)	\$106,000	\$112,000
D. Typical Park Size (based on NRPA guidelines)	5	25
E. Total Playground Costs per Acre	\$21,200	\$4,480
F. Landscaping Cost per Acre	\$1,500	\$1,500
G. Sidewalks Cost per Acre (within parkland)	\$9,000	\$9,000
H. Adjacent Road and Utility Improvements Cost per Acre*	\$37,360	\$16,704
I. Grading and Seeding Cost per Acre	\$2,000	\$2,000
J. Average Improvement Cost per Acre (Rows E +F+G+H+I)	\$71,060	\$33,684
K. Acres per 1,000 Residents (based on Village standard)	5.00	8.00
L. Percent of Total Acres per 1,000 residents in Row L	38%	62%
<b>M. Average Improvement Cost per Acre [weighted average of Row J based on Row L = (\$71,060*0.38)+(\$33,684*0.62)]</b>	<b>\$48,059.38</b>	

\* = See Appendix A for detailed calculations

**Table 15: Projected Playground Improvement Fees**

Calculation	Value
A. Projected Additional Population in 2028 (individuals)	519
B. Projected Additional Households in 2028 (based on average household size of 2.5)	208
C. Calculated Additional Acres Needed ((Row A/1000)*13)	6.75
D. Average Park Playground Improvement Cost per Acre Estimate (Row M of Figure 13)	\$48,059
E. Projected Cost of Playground Improvements (Row C*Row D)	\$324,257
<b>F. Calculated Playground Improvement Cost per Household (Row E/Row B)</b>	<b>\$1,561.93</b>

C. Cost Estimates for Future Conservation Land

To further the Village’s long held commitment to conservation land and passive recreational spaces, the conservation dedication requirements for new development has been updated to reflect State methodology and be consistent with the current provision of conservancy land per 1,000 residents. The Village of Cross Plains currently has 158.8 total acres of conservancy land or 39 acres per 1,000 residents. **This calculates to a conservation land dedication of 4,247 square feet (.098 acres) per dwelling unit. Assuming the addition of 519 households, a fee-in-lieu of land dedication of \$804 per new dwelling unit would meet this demand.** The process for arriving at these calculations is described in Table 16 below.

**Table 16: Projected Conservation Land Dedication and Fee-In-Lieu Dedication**

	<b>Calculation</b>	<b>Value</b>
A.	Projected Population Increase from 2018 to 2028	519
B.	Projected Dwelling Units Increase from 2018 to 2028 (Based on Current Average Household Size of 2.5)	208
C.	Additional Acres Needed at Thirteen Acres per One Thousand Residents [(Row A / 1000)*39]	20.24
D.	Land Dedication Requirement: Acres per Household (Row C/Row B)	0.098
E.	Land Cost per Acre Estimate	\$7,500
F.	Projected Cost of Land Acquisition (Row C * Row E)	\$153,850
G.	Legal, Engineering, and Design Costs (Row F*10%)	\$15,385
H.	Total Land Acquisition Cost (Row F + Row G)	\$169,235
I.	<b>Calculated Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication per Household (Row H/Row B)</b>	<b>\$804.38</b>
J.	<b>Alternative Land Dedication per Household in Square Feet (Row D * 43,560)</b>	<b>4,247.10 sq. ft.</b>

D. Total Fee

In Cross Plains, park fees should be imposed on each new dwelling unit. Park fees apply to any development or redevelopment that increases the number dwelling units on a site. For example, a redevelopment project that replaces four units with 16 is required to pay park fees for the 12 additional units. By using the fees outlined in Tables 13, 15, and 16 for parklands, playground improvements, and conservation land, **the total park fee per dwelling unit will be \$5,042 (= \$2,676+\$1,562+\$804).** In instances where development has dedicated both parkland and conservation lands, only the playground improvement fee (\$1,562 per dwelling unit) will be collected.

### E. Impact on Housing Affordability

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As part of the public facilities needs assessment process, Wisconsin Statutes 66.0617(4)(a)(3) requires estimating the effect of imposing fees on the availability of affordable housing within the community. For this type of analysis, it is first assumed that housing in Cross Plains is affordable if:

- A monthly mortgage payment consumes no more than 30 percent of a household's adjusted gross income;
- Homeowners borrow no more than 2½ times the Village of Cross Plains median household income for a home mortgage (which in 2016 was \$79,643 according to the U.S. Census American Community Survey); and
- Homeowners make a minimum down payment of 10 percent of the total home cost.

Based on these assumptions, if an individual spends 2½ times Cross Plains' median household income for a home mortgage (\$199,108), and makes a 10 percent down payment, an affordable house in the Village of Cross Plains costs approximately \$220,066. (According to U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data, the median value of an owner-occupied housing unit in the Village of Cross Plains is \$255,250). Assuming the price of an affordable single-family detached house is \$220,066, a 10 percent down payment, a 30-year mortgage at an interest rate of 5.0 percent, and a mortgage amount of \$199,108, the typical monthly mortgage payment is \$1,069.

The Village's imposed fees for parkland, playground improvements, and recreation trails would be an integral part of the housing unit mortgage amount. Based on the recommendations of this Plan, the park fee added to the home mortgage amount is \$5,042. After adding this fee, the mortgage amount for the typical single family detached home would increase to \$204,150; and assuming the same 30-year mortgage at an interest rate of 5.0 percent, the monthly mortgage payment would be \$1,096. This increases the monthly mortgage payment due to the imposition of the park fee by 2.6 percent or \$27 per month. Therefore, using the assumptions for a home in the Village of Cross Plains, this study finds that the park fee requirements will have a minimal effect housing affordability in the Village.

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## CHAPTER 10: IMPLEMENTATION

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The recommendations presented in this Plan will be implemented over time—some during the life of this plan, other with subsequent plans. This phasing will be dictated by several factors, including private landowner decisions to develop their property for and by the funding available to the Village to make necessary system acquisitions or improvements.

There are a number of potential funding sources available to help finance implementation. These funding sources include parkland acquisition impact fees and state and federal grant programs. It should be noted that funds from many of these programs are subject to change due to fluctuations with current federal, state, and local budgets.

### **Funding/Financing Needs Assessment and Capital Improvements Programming**

The park and open space improvements recommended in this Plan should continue to be incorporated into the Village's biennial capital improvement plan and programming. The Village has successfully maintained and improved its existing park and open space system and facilities by outlining the general schedule within which public improvements are proposed to be undertaken.

### **Community Coordination**

The Village should coordinate efforts with other units of government (ex. Dane County, adjacent Townships, City of Middleton, etc.), governmental departments and public agencies (ex. Cross Plains School District, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources), and private and non-profit agencies (ex. Ice Age Trail Alliance, local land trusts) to help fund and implement the recommendations presented in this *Plan*. The Village should also participate in and support Dane County regional trail initiatives such as those that would connect Cross Plains to Middleton, Dane County Parks, and other nearby communities.

Generally, the Village of Cross Plains should continue to utilize its existing planning framework and regulations to implement the recommendations in this Plan. The Village's Subdivision Ordinance and development review process provides opportunities secure parklands as development occurs. As property is annexed to the Village, a commitment to pay parkland dedication fees should be agreed to as part of Annexation Agreements and should be calculated and applied during the zoning or land division process. The Village should also consider adopting official map provisions that reflect the recommendations in this Plan.

### **Grant Funding**

As stated earlier, this system plan update was prepared in accordance with guidelines outlined by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR) to qualify the Village for grant funds through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON), the State Acquisition and Development of Local Parks Program (ADLP), and the State of Wisconsin the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. This plan must be updated every five years to ensure that it reflects the current needs of Delavan and retains its WisDNR certification.

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**APPENDIX A: DETAILED PARK FEE CALCULATIONS**

Summary of Updates:

**Table A1. Current Dedication Standards**

	<b>Land Dedication</b>	<b>Fee-in-Lieu</b>
Parkland	1,455 sq. ft.	\$665
Conservation Land	3,359 sq. ft.	\$155

**Table A2. Updated Dedication Standards**

	<b>Land Dedication</b>	<b>Fee-in-Lieu</b>
Parkland	1,416 sq. ft.	\$2,681
Conservation Land	4,427 sq. ft.	\$804

Calculations to Reach Updated Standards:

**Table 13. Projected Parkland Dedication and Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication**

	<b>Calculation</b>	<b>Value</b>
A.	Projected Population Increase from 2018 to 2028	519
B.	Projected Dwelling Units Increase from 2018 to 2028 (Based on Current Average Household Size of 2.5)	207.6
C.	Additional Acres Needed per One Thousand Residents [(Row A / 1000)*13]	6.75
D.	Land Dedication Requirement: Acres per Household (Row C/Row B)	0.033
E.	Land Cost per Acre Estimate	\$75,000
F.	Projected Cost of Land Acquisition (Row C * Row E)	\$506,025
G.	Legal, Engineering, and Design Costs (Row F*10%)	\$50,603
H.	Total Land Acquisition Cost (Row F + Row G)	\$556,828
I.	<b>Calculated Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication (Row H/Row B)</b>	<b>\$2,681.25</b>
J.	<b>Alternative Land Dedication per Household in Square Feet (Row D * 43,560)</b>	<b>1,416 sq. ft.</b>

**Table 14. Projected Playground Improvements by Park Type**

Calculation	Neighbor- hood	Community
A. Cost of Play Equipment	\$100,000	\$100,000
B. Cost of Benches	\$6,000	\$12,000
C. Total Estimated Cost (Row A + Row B)	\$106,000	\$112,000
D. Typical Park Size (based on NRPA guidelines)	5	25
E. Total Playground Costs per Acre	\$21,200	\$4,480
F. Landscaping Cost per Acre	\$1,500	\$1,500
G. Sidewalks Cost per Acre (within parkland)	\$9,000	\$9,000
H. Adjacent Road and Utility Improvements Cost per Acre*	\$37,360	\$16,704
I. Grading and Seeding Cost per Acre	\$2,000	\$2,000
J. Average Improvement Cost per Acre (Rows E +F+G+H+I)	\$71,060	\$33,684
K. Acres per 1,000 Residents (based on Village standard)	5.00	8.00
L. Percent of Total Acres per 1,000 residents in Row L	38%	62%
M. <b>Average Improvement Cost per Acre [weighted average of Row J based on Row L = (\$71,060*0.50)+(\$33,684*0.80)]</b>	<b>\$48,059.38</b>	

**Table 15. Projected Playground Improvement Fees**

Calculation	Value
A. Projected Additional Population in 2028 (individuals)	519
B. Projected Additional Households in 2028 (based on average household size of 2.5)	208
C. Calculated Additional Acres Needed ((Row A/1000)*13)	6.7
D. Average Park Playground Improvement Cost per Acre Estimate (Row M of Figure 13)	\$48,059
E. Projected Cost of Playground Improvements (Row C*Row D)	\$324,257
F. <b>Calculated Playground Improvement Cost per Household (Row E/Row B)</b>	<b>\$1,561.93</b>

**Table 16. Projected Conservancy Dedication and Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication**

<b>Calculation</b>		<b>Value</b>
A.	Projected Population Increase from 2018 to 2028	519
B.	Projected Dwelling Units Increase from 2018 to 2028 (Based on Current Average Household Size of 2.5)	207.6
C.	Additional Acres Needed per One Thousand Residents [(Row A / 1000)*39]	20.24
D.	Land Dedication Requirement: Acres per Household (Row C/Row B)	0.098
E.	Land Cost per Acre Estimate	\$7,500
F.	Projected Cost of Land Acquisition (Row C * Row E)	\$151,808
G.	Legal, Engineering, and Design Costs (Row F*10%)	\$15,181
H.	Total Land Acquisition Cost (Row F + Row G)	\$166,988
I.	<b>Calculated Fee-in-Lieu of Land Dedication (Row H/Row B)</b>	<b>\$804.38</b>
J.	<b>Alternative Land Dedication per Household in Square Feet (Row D * 43,560)</b>	<b>4,247.10 sq. ft.</b>

**Table 17. Total Impact Fee**

Parkland Dedication Fee-in-Lieu	\$2,681	<b>per household</b>
Playground Improvement Fee	\$1,562	<b>per household</b>
Conservation Land Fee-in-Lieu	\$804	<b>per household</b>
<b>Total Impact Fee</b>	<b>\$5,048</b>	<b>per household</b>

**Table A3: Road and Utilities Improvements Calculation**

<b>Calculation</b>		<b>Neighborhood</b>	<b>Community</b>
A.	Typical Park Size (based on NRPA standards) in Acres	5	25
B.	Typical Park Size in Square Feet (Row A * 43,560)	217,800	1,089,000
C.	Conceptual Road Frontage on Two Sides in Linear Feet ( $\sqrt{\text{Row B} \times 2}$ )	934	2,088
D.	Road and Utilities Improvement Cost per Linear Foot	\$400	\$400
E.	Parkland Portion (Half) of Road and Utilities Improvement Cost per Linear Foot	\$200	\$200
F.	Road and Utilities Improvement Cost for Typical Park (Row E*Row C)	\$186,800	\$417,600
G.	Road and Utilities Improvement Cost per Acre for Typical Park (Row F/Row A)	\$37,360	\$16,704

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**APPENDIX B: POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Funding Details</b>	<b>Deadline (Check Agency Guidelines)</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Admin. Agency</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>Wisconsin Stewardship Programs</b>						
Aids for the acquisition and development of local parks (ADLP)	To acquire or develop public nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 50% local match per project.</li> <li>▪ \$4M available each year.</li> </ul>	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required.</li> <li>▪ Priority for land acquisition.</li> <li>▪ Projects must comply with ADA.</li> </ul>	Wisconsin DNR	Cheryl Housley South Central Region (608) 275-3218
Urban Greenspace Program (UGS)	To acquire land to provide natural space within or near urban areas, or to protect scenic or ecological features.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 50% local match per project.</li> <li>▪ \$1.6M available each year.</li> </ul>	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required.</li> <li>▪ Projects must comply with ADA.</li> </ul>	Wisconsin DNR	Cheryl Housley South Central Region (608) 275-3218
Acquisition of Development Rights	To acquire development rights for nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 50% local match per project.</li> <li>▪ \$1.6M available each year.</li> </ul>	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Funds are available to acquire development rights (easements) in areas where restrictions on residential, industrial, or commercial development are in place.</li> <li>▪ May include enhancements of nature-based outdoor recreation.</li> </ul>	Wisconsin DNR	Cheryl Housley South Central Region (608) 275-3218
Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP)	To acquire lands, or rights in lands, adjacent to urban rivers for the purpose of preserving or restoring them for economic revitalization or nature-based outdoor recreation activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 50% local match per project.</li> <li>▪ \$800,000 available each year.</li> </ul>	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required to participate.</li> <li>▪ Projects must comply with ADA.</li> </ul>	Wisconsin DNR	Cheryl Housley South Central Region (608) 275-3218
<b>Federal Programs</b>						
Land and Water Conversation Fund (LAWCON)	To acquire or develop public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 50% local match per project.</li> <li>▪ Land acquisition.</li> <li>▪ Development of recreational facilities.</li> </ul>	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required to participate.</li> </ul>	Wisconsin DNR with TEA-21 funds.	Cheryl Housley South Central Region (608) 275-3218
Recreational Trails Act	To provide funds for maintenance, development, rehabilitation, and acquisition of land for motorized, non-motorized, and diversified trails.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 50% local match per project.</li> <li>▪ Maintenance and restoration of existing trails.</li> </ul>	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Funds may only be used on trails which have been identified in or which further a specific goal of a local, county or state trail plan</li> </ul>	Wisconsin DNR with TEA-21 funds.	Cheryl Housley South Central Region (608) 275-3218

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline (Check Agency Guidelines)	Notes	Admin. Agency	Contact
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages.</li> <li>▪ Construction of new trails (with certain restrictions on federal lands).</li> <li>▪ Acquisition of easement or property for trails purchase.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Funds may be used on trails which are referenced in a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan.</li> </ul>		
<b>Statewide Multi-Modal Improvement Program (SMIP)</b>						
Transportation Enhancements Program (TE)	Providing facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists. This program includes rehabilitating and operating historic transportation buildings and structures/restoring railway depots, as well as streetscaping “Main Streets” and landscaping near transportation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Funded through TEA-21.</li> <li>▪ 80%/20%.</li> <li>▪ 20% required match (funds are not awarded upfront, but are reimbursed).</li> </ul>	February 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Non-construction projects over \$25,000.</li> <li>▪ Construction projects over \$100,000.</li> </ul>	WisDOT	District 1 Office (608) 246-3800
Surface Discretionary Grant Program (STP-D)	Provides flexible funds, which can be spent on a wide variety of projects, including roadway projects through the Federal-aid highway system, bridges, transit facilities, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Funded through TEA-21.</li> <li>▪ 80%/20%.</li> <li>▪ 20% required match (funds are not awarded upfront, but are reimbursed).</li> </ul>	February 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Any project that fosters alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips.</li> <li>▪ Facilities for pedestrians and bicycles.</li> <li>▪ System-wide bicycle planning.</li> <li>▪ Non-construction projects over \$25,000</li> <li>▪ Construction projects over \$100,000</li> </ul>	WisDOT	District 1 Office (608) 246-3800
<b>Federal Transit Administration Grants</b>						
Section 5309 (old Section 3 discretionary funds)	Transit capital projects; includes intermodal facilities such as bicycle racks on buses and bicycle parking at transit stations; most funds are to be directed toward transit itself.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 20% local match per project.</li> </ul>	Early spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Funding for this program is allocated on a discretionary basis.</li> <li>▪ Congress /Administration can pick the projects although the authorization bill contains a list of specific earmarks.</li> </ul>	WisDOT Bureau of Transit.	John Duffe (608) 264-8723

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline (Check Agency Guidelines)	Notes	Admin. Agency	Contact
<b>Section 402-Highway Safety Funds</b>						
Community Programs Empowerment Program Enforcement Program	For bicycle and pedestrian safety education and training projects, including helmet promotion and purchases, sponsorship of rodeos, classes, and development of brochures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 20% local match per project.</li> <li>▪ Bicycle and pedestrian education and enforcement projects.</li> <li>▪ Non-construction projects (e.g.; helmet purchase, brochure development).</li> </ul>	October to December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communities with higher than average pedestrian and/or bicycle may be contact WisDOT regarding the use of funds</li> <li>▪ Engineering and maintenance work not eligible for funding.</li> </ul>	WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety	District 1 Office (608) 246-3800
Highway Safety Program (Section 403)	Available for bicycle /pedestrian education. May also be used to develop safety classes for bicycle/pedestrian offenders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 20%-50% local match per project.</li> </ul>	February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communities that can document bicycle crashes related to motor vehicle violations</li> <li>▪ Funds new enforcement programs up to \$1,000.</li> </ul>	WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety	District 1 Office (608) 246-3800
Research Projects	Funds the research needed to substantiate unique local needs for additional safety funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 20% local match per project.</li> </ul>	February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A study of transit needs on public lands to assess the feasibility of alternative transportation modes. (Section 3039).</li> </ul>	WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety	District 1 Office (608) 246-3800
<b>Other Sources</b>						
Wisconsin Main Street Community Program	Comprehensive downtown revitalization program, which includes streetscape improvements.		No specific date.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ General downtown program.</li> <li>▪ May benefit trail enhancements through streetscaping.</li> </ul>	National Main Street Center 202/673-4219	Wisconsin Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Downtown Dev. (608) 266-7531
Surface Transportation-Environment Cooperative Research Program	Federal program designed to evaluate transportation control measures, improve understanding of transportation demand factors, and develop performance indicators that will facilitate the analysis of transportation alternatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 20% local match per project.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ \$500,000 is made available for the development of a national bicycle safety education curriculum.</li> <li>▪ \$500,000 per year is made available for grants to a national not-for-profit organization engaged in promoting bicycle and pedestrian safety to operate a national clearinghouse, develop informational and education programs, and disseminates techniques and strategies for improving bicycle and pedestrian safety.</li> </ul>	FHWA	U.S. Department of Transportation 202-366-4000

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline (Check Agency Guidelines)	Notes	Admin. Agency	Contact
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ \$200,000 is made available for a study of the safety issues attendant to the transportation of school children to and from school and school-related activities by various transportation modes.</li> </ul>		
Urban Forestry Grants	Assistance for tree maintenance, planting, and public awareness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ \$450,000 to \$500,000 available annually.</li> <li>▪ \$1,000 to \$25,000 grants awarded with a 50% local match.</li> <li>▪ Match may include in-kind services and donations.</li> </ul>	November 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 50 to 60 grants made per year.</li> </ul>	Wisconsin DNR Urban Forestry	Dick Rideoyt (608) 267-0843
Hazard Elimination Program	Program designed to survey hazardous locations, or projects regarding any publicly owned bicycle or pedestrian pathway or trail and safety-related traffic calming measure, as well as improvements to railway-highway crossings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 10% local match per project.</li> </ul>	June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Communities are encouraged to start working with the District Office (District 2) in March, 2003.</li> <li>▪ The project must exemplify that the benefits will outweigh the costs of accidents.</li> </ul>	WisDOT- Bureau of State Highway Programs funded by TEA-21	District 1 Office (608) 246-3800
Private Donations	Local donations, fundraising and sponsorship opportunities by businesses and/or individuals					
<b>Aquatic Restoration Programs</b>						
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Control Grants	Share costs of aquatic invasive species education programs, such as education, prevention, planning, early detection and response, established population control, maintenance and containment, and research and demonstration projects.	Up to 75% state funding for projects; maximum amount varies by type of project	July 1 <sup>st</sup> of even-numbered years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Awarded on a competitive basis</li> </ul>	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Heidi Bunk 262-574-2130 Heidi.Bunk@wisconsin.gov
River Protection Grants	Includes both river management grants, as well as land/easement acquisition grants.	Up to 75% state funding for projects; maximum amount varies by type of project	July 1 <sup>st</sup> of even-numbered years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Awarded on a competitive basis</li> </ul>	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Heidi Bunk 262-574-2130 Heidi.Bunk@wisconsin.gov

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## APPENDIX C: PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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### **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

### **VILLAGE OF CROSS PLAINS PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Village of Cross Plains Plan Commission will conduct a public hearing on the draft *Village of Cross Plains Parks and Open Space Master Plan*. The meeting and public hearing will be held on Monday, December 3, 2018, at 7:00 pm, at Village Hall, 2417 Brewery Road. Following the public hearing, the Plan Commission will consider adopting a resolution recommending the Plan to the Village Board.

The public hearing will be held to gather public input on the draft *Village of Cross Plains Parks and Open Space Master Plan*. The Plan is intended to help guide the acquisition, preservation, and development of land for parks, recreation trails, and other open spaces to meet the needs of Cross Plains' changing population. This Plan is intended to update and replace the Village's previous park and open space plan completed in 2002. This *Parks and Open Space Master Plan* is designed to be used by Village officials as a policy guide for park development, open space preservation, and facility improvements over the next five years and beyond. It recommends types of park improvements for specific areas in the Village.

A draft of the *Village of Cross Plains Parks and Open Space Master Plan* is available for review at Village Hall and on the Village's website (<https://www.cross-plains.wi.us/>). Residents are encouraged to review the plan and submit written comments before the public hearing. All written comments will be forwarded to the Plan Commission members. Oral comments may be made at the public hearing. Please contact Caitlin Stene, Village Administrator, at (608)798-3241 for more information.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018

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**APPENDIX D: RESOLUTION**

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**VILLAGE OF CROSS PLAINS VILLAGE BOARD  
RESOLUTION # 13-2018  
ADOPTING THE VILLAGE OF CROSS PLAINS PARKS AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN**

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Village of Cross Plains to review and report on the need for parks and open space periodically; and

WHEREAS, such review and report provides a base for determining investment priorities and management practices; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Cross Plains desires to maintain its eligibility for grant funding for the acquisition and development of park and recreational facilities through the State and Federal programs; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources requires that the Village update its parks and open space plan every five years to maintain such eligibility and to assure that park planning goals, objectives, and policies are current; and

WHEREAS, the Village has contracted with Vandewalle & Associates to prepare an update to the Village's Parks and Open Space Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the consultants have been working with the Village staff and the Village of Cross Plains Park and Recreation Committee to prepare the attached *Parks and Open Space Master Plan*.

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2018 the Village Park and Recreation Committee approved the *Parks and Open Space Plan*; and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2018 the Village Plan Commission recommended the *Parks and Open Space Plan* to serve as the Village's updated parks and open space plan, with an effective date of January 1, 2019; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 66.23(3)(b) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Village Board of the Village of Cross Plains hereby adopts the attached *Parks and Open Space Master Plan*, to serve as the Village's updated parks and open space plan, with an effective date of January 1, 2019.

Resolution Adopted: December 17, 2018

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