

# **A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RACINE: 2035**

**PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT**  
**October 2011**

**RACINE COUNTY  
WISCONSIN**



SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 270 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)

**A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RACINE: 2035  
RACINE COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

**PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT**

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## Chapter I

# INTRODUCTION

## INTRODUCTION

The park and open space plan for the City of Racine is intended to assist in promoting environmental stewardship and to assess current and future park, recreation, and open space needs within the City. The plan is further intended to guide the preservation, acquisition, and development of land for park, outdoor recreation, and open space purposes through the implementation over time of the recommendations set forth in Chapter V. The plan seeks to provide a variety of recreational sites and facilities that will offer opportunities for City residents to participate in an appropriate range of active and passive recreational pursuits and to protect and enhance natural resources within the City.

Broadly defined, recreation is an activity or experience undertaken solely for the pleasure or satisfaction derived from it. Recreation can be experienced indoors or outdoors and encompasses a wide variety of human activities and permits the opportunity for participation in many resource and nonresource-oriented activities. It includes both mental and physical exercise, personal enjoyment, enhances the quality of life, and includes various social, environmental, and economical benefits. Such benefits can improve physical health, contribute to mental well-being, protect biological communities, enhance air quality, provide attraction for tourism, make communities more desirable for development, and increase property values.

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

## PLANNING FRAMEWORK

### Regional and County Park and Open Space Planning

Owing to the importance of outdoor recreation sites and areas for natural resource protection, park and open space development and use have long been issues of concern to public officials and citizen leaders. On December 1, 1977, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission adopted SEWRPC Planning Report No. 27, *A Regional Park and Open Space Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2000*, which identifies existing and probable future park and open space needs within the Region and recommends a system of large resource-oriented parks, recreational corridors, a regional trail system, smaller nonresource-oriented urban parks, and attendant recreational facilities. The regional park and open space plan was refined and detailed within Racine County through preparation of a park and open space

plan for the County in 1988. An updated Racine County Park and Open Space Plan<sup>1</sup> was adopted by the County Board in May 2001. That plan, with a design year of 2020, was adopted as an amendment to the regional plan by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in December 2001. The City of Racine Plan Commission endorsed the County plan in January 2002. An update to the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan is scheduled in 2011.

The County park and open space plan includes recommendations to provide a system of large, nature-based regional parks and natural resource-based recreational facilities such as swimming beaches, golf courses, and group picnicking facilities. The County plan also recommends smaller lake and river access sites for fishing and boating (both motor boats and carry-in canoes and kayaks) and a County trail system. Existing and planned County trails are located on or within street and highway rights-of-way, within utility and/or former railway corridors, and within recreation corridors (Fox River, Root River, and Lake Michigan shoreline). The County plan also recommended that the County undertake a separate study to determine the need for an indoor ice arena to be used for ice hockey, figure skating, and casual skating. An inventory of Racine County park and open space sites and facilities within the City's planning area is included in Chapter II.

### **City Plans**

The City of Racine has a long and rich history of land use planning. In addition to the previous edition of this park and open space plan, the City has prepared master plans, detailed neighborhood plans, and, most recently, a City Comprehensive Plan<sup>2</sup> to guide growth and development of the City, while protecting important natural resources. The City has also prepared a Bicycle Pathway System Plan/Map<sup>3</sup> that identifies the location of the Lake Michigan and Root River Pathways, future City pathways, and County trails in the City. Additional information regarding plans that provided a framework for the update of this park and open space plan is provided in Chapter IV.

### ***City Park and Open Space Planning***

The first edition of this park and open space plan for the City of Racine, which had a design year of 2020, was adopted in 2003. In 2008, the City of Racine requested that the Regional Planning Commission assist the City in updating the plan adopted in 2003. The Commission initiated the plan update in 2010, following adoption of the City comprehensive plan in November 2009. This updated plan reflects recent park and open space acquisition and development activities within the City and takes into account the recommendations of the City Comprehensive Plan and the City Pathway System Plan/Map. In addition to updating the recommended park and open space plan for the City, this plan is intended to maintain City eligibility to apply for and receive Federal and State aids in support of the acquisition and development of park and open space sites and facilities.

### ***Recommendations of the Year 2020 Park and Open Space Plan***

The City of Racine park and open space plan for the year 2020 made the following recommendations relating to parks and recreational facilities:

- The development of neighborhood park facilities at Carlson, Case-Harmon, Cheska (now Vidian-Cheska), Clayton, Greencrest, Hantschel, Reservoir, and Roosevelt parks;
- Additional improvements to recreational facilities at 22 existing parks and special use sites;
- Continued maintenance at all existing City-owned park and special use sites; and
- Continued development and maintenance of the Root River Pathway, the development of the Lake Michigan Pathway, and the development of on-street bike routes within the City.

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<sup>1</sup> Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 134, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, A Park and Open Space Plan for Racine County, Wisconsin, July 2001.

<sup>2</sup> Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 305, A Comprehensive Plan for the City of Racine: 2035, November 2009.

<sup>3</sup> Preparation of the plan/map was completed by the City of Racine Department of Public Works in 2006.

The 2020 plan also recommended that the City protect the natural resources associated with all primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas located within City parks, and that the City adopt and apply conservancy zoning regulations to protect primary and secondary environmental corridors within the City that are privately owned. The plan also recommended the preservation of critical species habitat sites and geological areas in the City.

Information regarding the implementation status of the recommendations of the year 2020 plan is provided in Chapter III. Updated park and open space plan recommendations for the year 2035 are provided in Chapter V.

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The planning process was conducted under the guidance of the City of Racine Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board. The Board consists of government officials and citizens. Staff support was provided by the City Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department. A complete membership list of the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board is provided on the inside front cover of this report.

## **PLANNING AREA**

The planning area, as shown on Map I-1, consists of the entire City of Racine, including Johnson Park and Golf Course and the Johnson Park Dog Run, which are within the City's corporate limits, but detached from the rest of the City; and Shoop Park Golf Course, which is owned by the City but located in the Village of Wind Point. The planning area is located in U. S. Public Land Survey Townships 2 and 3 North and Ranges 22 and 23 East in the eastern portion of Racine County along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The planning area encompasses 10,113 acres, or about 16 square miles, including 10,060 acres within the City of Racine corporate limits and 53 acres within Shoop Park Golf Course. The City is bounded on the north by the Village of Caledonia and the Village of Wind Point, on the east by Lake Michigan and the Village of North Bay, on the south by the Village of Elmwood Park, and on the south and west by the Village of Mount Pleasant.

The total acreage of the planning area (10,113 acres) used for the preparation of this updated plan is slightly more than the total acreage of the planning area (10,087 acres) used for the previous plan. The larger total acreage can be attributed to including lands associated with the Racine Harbor Park area and the availability of more accurate cadastral mapping, especially along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

## **REPORT FORMAT**

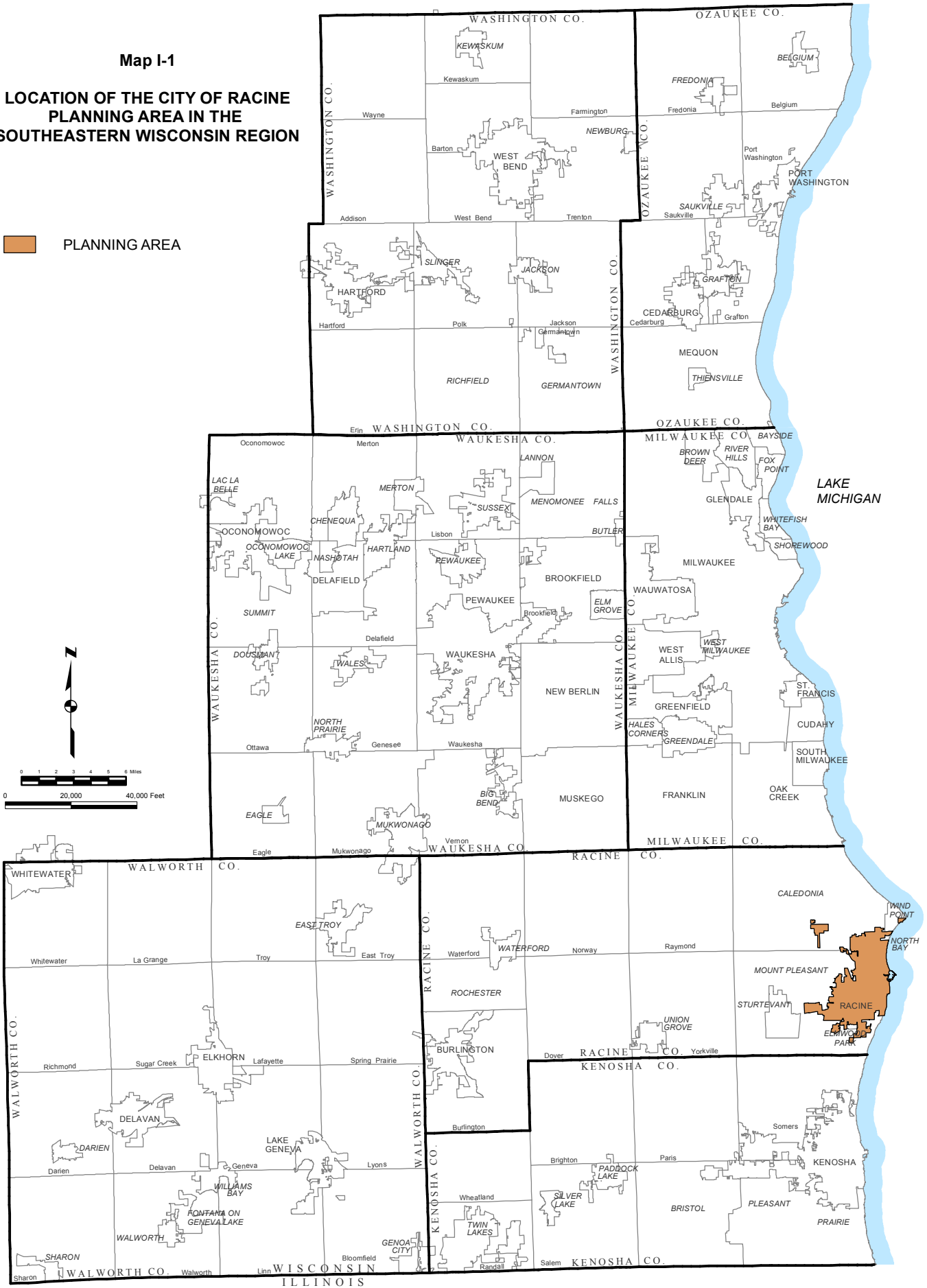
The findings and recommendations of the City park and open space plan update are set forth in this report. Following this introductory chapter, Chapter II presents information about the City pertinent to park and open space planning, including information on the resident population, the land use pattern, and existing park and open space sites and facilities within the planning area. The implementation status of plan recommendations from the 2020 park plan is presented in Chapter III. Chapter IV summarizes other planning programs affecting this park and open space plan, including the City's comprehensive and pathway system plans; describes the park and open space objectives, principles, and standards used to prepare this plan; and the results of applying those standards to the existing park system. Updated park and open recommendations are presented in Chapter V. Chapter VI presents a summary of the plan.

\* \* \* \* \*

Map I-1

**LOCATION OF THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA IN THE  
SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGION**

 **PLANNING AREA**



Source: SEWRPC.

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## Chapter II

# INVENTORY FINDINGS

### INTRODUCTION

An inventory of existing resources and other factors that affect development of a system of parks and open space areas within the City was conducted to assist in the development of plan recommendations. The results of the inventory are presented in this chapter. Information about population and population distribution, the pattern of land use development, existing park and open space sites and facilities, and natural resources within the City of Racine planning area was collected and is presented in this chapter. A comparison of similar data from the 2020 City park plan, which was adopted by the City in 2003 and included inventory information gathered in 2001, is also provided.

### RESIDENT POPULATION

Resident population levels are an important consideration in any park and open space planning effort. Data on the historical and existing resident population of the City are presented in Table II-1 and shown in Figure II-1. As indicated in Table II-1, the resident population of the City of Racine increased between 1900 and 1920 from 29,102 persons to 58,593 persons. From 1930 to 1940 the population decreased from 67,542 persons to 67,195 persons. From 1950 to 1960 the population increased rather dramatically from 71,193 persons to 89,144 persons. Between 1970 and 1980, the population decreased dramatically from 95,162 persons to 85,725 persons, and the population continued to decrease to 81,855 persons in 2000. The resident population level for 2010, based on U.S. Census data, is 78,860 persons, a decrease of 2,995 persons, or about 4 percent, from 2000.

### LAND USE BASE

Land use is an important determinant of both the supply of, and the demand for, outdoor recreation and related open space facilities. Accordingly, an understanding of the amount, type, and spatial distribution of urban and nonurban land uses within the planning area is an important consideration in this park and open space planning effort.

Information on the amount of land anticipated to be devoted to various types of land uses in 2035<sup>1</sup> is presented in Table II-2 and shown on Map II-1. The City is almost completely developed and the City is completely surrounded

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<sup>1</sup> Land uses in the City are derived from Map 5 (Land Use Plan for the City of Racine: 2035) from a report titled, A Comprehensive Plan for the City of Racine: 2035, November 2009, prepared by SEWRPC. Land uses in Shoop Park are derived from Map IX-1 (Recommended Land Use Plan for the Racine County Planning Area: 2035) from a report titled, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035, November 2009, prepared by SEWRPC.

**Table II-1**

**RESIDENT POPULATION OF THE CITY OF RACINE: 1900-2010**

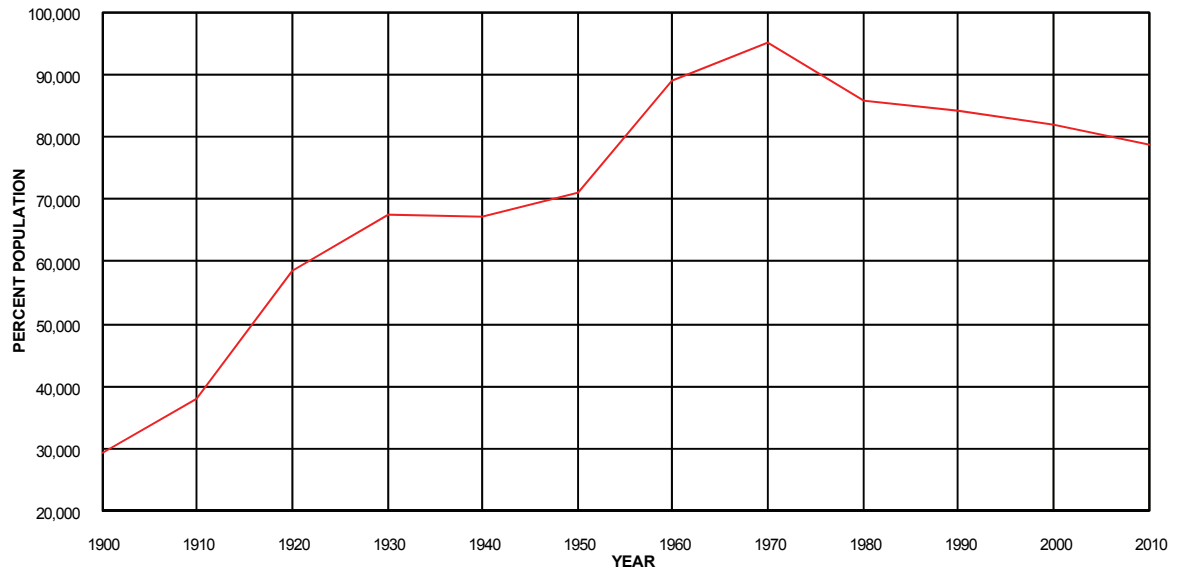
Year	Population	Change From Preceding Census	
		Number	Percent
1900	29,102	--	--
1910	38,002	8,900	30.6
1920	58,593	20,591	54.2
1930	67,542	8,949	15.3
1940	67,195	-347	-0.5
1950	71,193	3,998	5.9
1960	89,144	17,951	25.2
1970	95,162	6,018	6.3
1980	85,725	-9,437	-9.9
1990	84,298	-1,427	-1.7
2000	81,855	-2,443	-2.9
2010	78,860	-2,995	-3.7

*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.*

#153783 v1 - C/RACINE POSP FIG II-1  
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**Figure II-1**

**HISTORICAL POPULATION LEVELS IN THE CITY OF RACINE: 1900-2010**



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

**Table II-2**

**PLANNED LAND USES IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2035**

Land Use Category <sup>a</sup>	Acres	Percent of Subtotal	Percent of Planning Area
Urban			
Residential <sup>b</sup> .....	3,859	42.3	38.2
Commercial <sup>c</sup> .....	722	7.9	7.1
Industrial <sup>d</sup> .....	793	8.7	7.9
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities			
Streets and Highways.....	1,871	20.5	18.5
Airports and Railways.....	457	5.0	4.5
Communications, Utilities, and Other Transportation.....	92	1.0	0.9
Subtotal	2,420	26.5	23.9
Governmental and Institutional.....	646	7.1	6.4
Recreational.....	681	7.5	6.7
Urban Subtotal	9,121	100.0	90.2
Nonurban			
Primary Environmental Corridor.....	470	47.4	4.6
Secondary Environmental Corridor	18	1.8	0.2
Isolated Natural Resource Area.....	103	10.4	1.0
Extractive.....	89	9.0	0.9
Landfill.....	203	20.4	2.0
Surface Water.....	109	11.0	1.1
Nonurban Subtotal	992	100.0	9.8
Total	10,113	--	100.0

<sup>a</sup> Parking areas are included in the associated land use category.

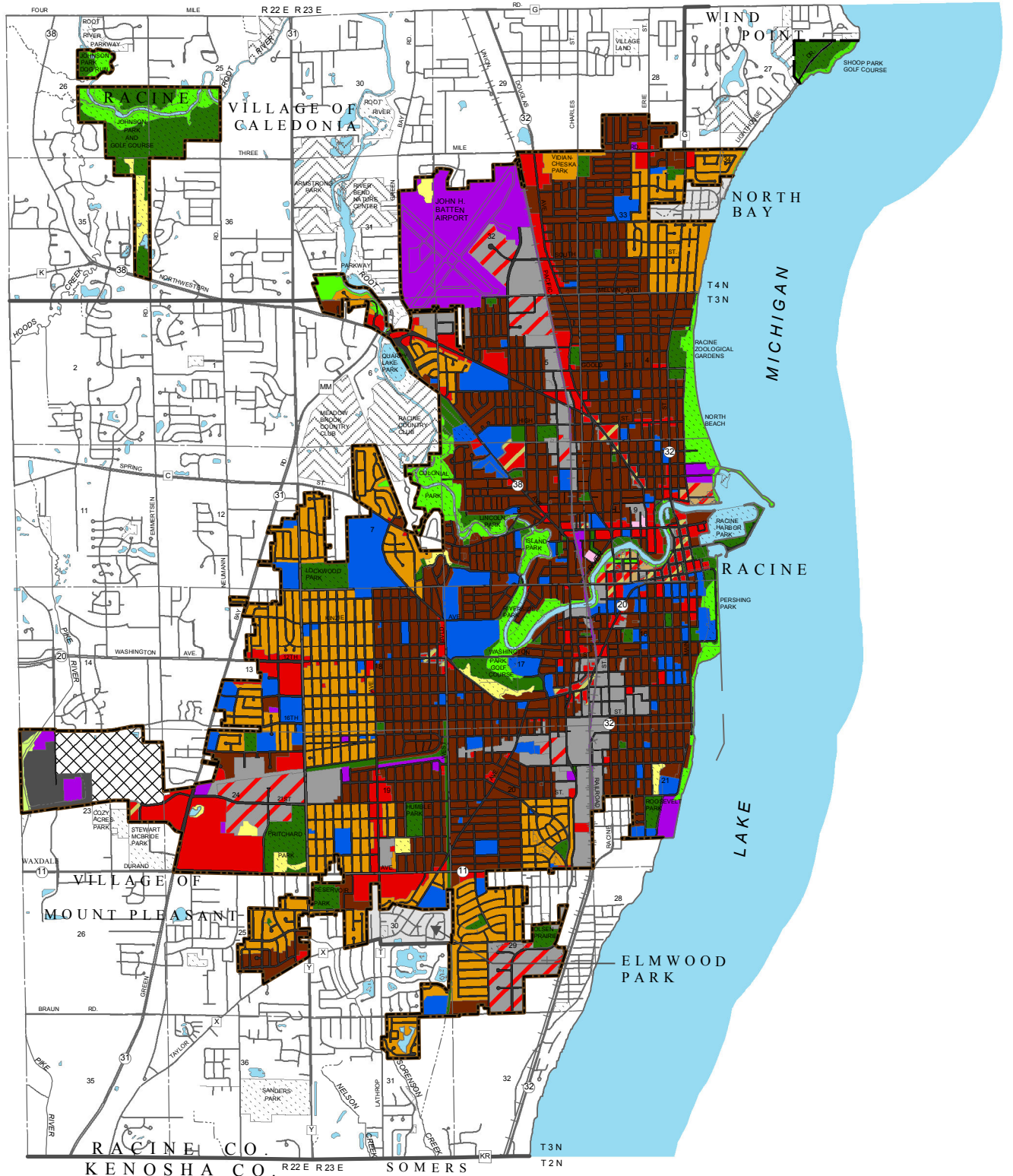
<sup>b</sup> Includes Medium Density Residential (6,200 or more square feet per dwelling unit), High Density Residential (less than 6,200 square feet per dwelling unit), and Mixed Use-Residential and Commercial (residential emphasis) land uses.

<sup>c</sup> Includes Commercial, Office Park, and Mixed Use-Commercial and Residential (commercial emphasis) land uses.

<sup>d</sup> Includes Industrial and Industrial/Business Park land uses.

Source: City of Racine and SEWRPC.

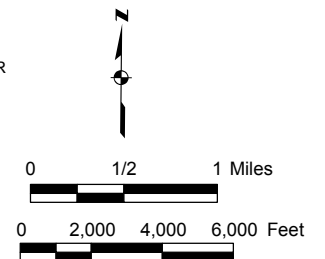
PLANNED LAND USES IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2035



LEGEND

- |                                  |  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| MEDIUM-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL       | INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK                     | PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR   |
| HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL         | TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, AND UTILITIES | SECONDARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR |
| MIXED USE - RESIDENTIAL EMPHASIS | STREETS AND HIGHWAYS                         | ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREA   |
| COMMERCIAL                       | GOVERNMENTAL AND INSTITUTIONAL               | SURFACE WATER                    |
| OFFICE PARK                      | RECREATIONAL                                 | CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS  |
| MIXED USE - COMMERCIAL EMPHASIS  | EXTRACTIVE                                   | SHOOP PARK                       |
| INDUSTRIAL                       | LANDFILL                                     |                                  |

Source: City of Racine, Racine County, and SEWRPC.



by other incorporated municipalities (villages), which will prevent annexations by the City. Development within the City between 2011 and the plan design year of 2035 will occur through infilling of vacant parcels surrounded by existing development, re-development of under-utilized sites identified in the City comprehensive plan, and small areas of new development on the outskirts of the City. Because the City is almost completely developed, planned uses envisioned by the comprehensive plan, rather than the existing land uses, were used to prepare this plan.

As previously noted, the City of Racine planning area encompasses 10,113 acres, or about 16 square miles. Existing and planned residential uses occupy 3,859 acres, or about 38 percent of the planning area; commercial uses occupy 722 acres, or about 7 percent of the planning area; and industrial uses occupy 793 acres, or about 8 percent of the planning area. Lands devoted to transportation, communication, and utilities occupy 2,420 acres, or about 24 percent of planning area, with the largest amount devoted to streets and highways, which occupied 1,871 acres, or about 19 percent of the planning area. Governmental and institutional uses accounted for 646 acres, or about 6 percent of the planning area. Recreational uses accounted for 681 acres, or about 7 percent of the planning area. In all, 9,121 acres, comprising about 90 percent of the planning area, are devoted to urban uses.

Nonurban uses included the Kestrel Hawk Park Landfill, which occupy 203 acres, or about 2 percent of the planning area, and extractive uses that occupy 89 acres, or about 1 percent of the planning area. Natural resource features including primary and secondary environmental corridors, isolated natural resource areas, and surface water occupy 700 acres, or about 7 percent of the planning area. Thus, 992 acres, comprising about 10 percent of the planning area, are devoted to nonurban uses.

The City of Racine is served by a well-developed highway transportation system. Important arterial streets and highways serving the City include STH 11 (Durand Avenue), STH 20 (Washington Avenue), STH 31 (Green Bay Road), STH 32, STH 38 (Northwestern Avenue), Douglas Avenue, Goold Street, Main Street, Ohio Street, Racine Street, Spring Street, State Street, Three Mile Road, and Yout Street.

In addition, about five miles of the Union Pacific Railway right-of-way traverses the City from north to south. John H. Batten Airport, located in the northwestern portion of the City, is a privately-owned, open for public use airport that provides two paved, lighted runways. The airport provides services to corporate, business, and private aircraft, and is the largest privately-owned, public-use, reliever airport in the United States.

## **PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES**

### **Existing Park and Open Space Sites**

An inventory of existing park and open space sites and outdoor recreation facilities in the City of Racine planning area was conducted in 2010. As indicated in Table II-3 and shown on Map II-2, there were 138 park and open space sites, which encompassed 1,457 acres, or about 14 percent of the planning area. There were 118 publicly-owned sites that encompassed 1,387 acres, or about 95 percent of the total park and open space site acreage. The remaining 20 sites, encompassing 70 acres, or about 5 percent of the total park and open space site acreage, were privately owned.

Table II-3 includes sites owned by Racine County, the City of Racine, and the Racine Unified School District as public sites. School events and school district policies may limit the availability and use of facilities located on public school grounds to the general public.

As indicated in Table II-4, in 2010 the following publicly-owned recreational facilities were located in the City of Racine planning area: five baseball diamonds, 11 league ball diamonds, 26 sandlot ball diamonds, 25 tennis courts, 56 playgrounds, 46 playfields, 88 basketball goals, 24 soccer fields, two ice skating rinks, and two swimming beaches. Other significant publicly-owned outdoor recreation facilities available within the planning area include an 18-hole regulation golf course, two nine-hole regulation golf courses, four football fields, three running tracks, 17 boat/canoe launches, two marinas, three sledding hills, volleyball courts, fishing areas, a skate park, hiking trails, multiple-use trails, a dog walk area, a zoo, a museum, a festival grounds, and five community centers.

Table II-3

PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2010

Number on Map II-2	Site Name	Location	Ownership	Size (acres) <sup>a</sup>
	<b>Public</b>			
1	6 <sup>th</sup> Street Park North.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
2	6 <sup>th</sup> Street Park South.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	City of Racine	2
3	Barbee Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	1
4	Belle Harbor Marina.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Racine County	1
5	Bi-Centennial Gardens.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
6	Brose Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	5
7	Builders Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	1
8	Carlson Park.....	T4N, R23E, Section 33	City of Racine	5
9	Carre-Hogle Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 21	City of Racine	2
10	Case Corporation Easement.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	3 <sup>b</sup>
11	Case-Harmon Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 20	City of Racine	5
12	Cedar Bend Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	2
13	City Hall.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
14	City Land (Lake Michigan Shoreline North)....	T3N, R23E, Section 4; T4N, R23E, Section 33	City of Racine	3
15	City Land (Lake Michigan Shoreline South)....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	City of Racine	1
16	City Land (Root River East).....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	1
17	City Land (Root River West).....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	1
18	City Land (South Side Triangle).....	T3N, R23E, Section 20	City of Racine	1
19	Clayton Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	6
20	Colbert Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
21	Colonial Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 7	City of Racine	73
22	Crosswalk Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
23	DeKoven Woods.....	T3N, R23E, Section 21	City of Racine	7
24	Dr. Hamilton Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 21	City of Racine	1
25	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	2
26	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
27	Dr. Pierce Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 18	City of Racine	1
28	Dodge Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 21	City of Racine	5
29	Douglas Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 5	City of Racine	5
30	Erskine Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	8
31	Festival Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	4
32	Franklin Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	City of Racine	4
33	Fuller Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 20	City of Racine	1
34	Gaslight Pointe.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
35	Graceland Cemetery.....	T3N, R23E, Section 7	City of Racine	50
36	Grand Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 21	City of Racine	1
37	Greencrest Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 29	City of Racine	5
38	Hagerer Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 4	City of Racine	1
39	Hantschel Park.....	T3N, R22E, Section 24	City of Racine	8
40	Harris Plaza.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
41	Harvey Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 7	City of Racine	2

Table II-3 (continued)

Number on Map II-2	Site Name	Location	Ownership	Size (acres) <sup>a</sup>
	<b>Public (continued)</b>			
42	Horlick Athletic Field.....	T3N, R23E, Section 5	City of Racine	9
43	Horlick Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 6	Racine County	1 <sup>c</sup>
44	Humble Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 19	City of Racine	17
45	Island Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	21
46	Jay-Eye-See Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 20	City of Racine	1
47	Johnson Park Dog Run.....	T4N, R22E, Section 26	City of Racine	28
48	Johnson Park and Golf Course.....	T4N, R22E, Sections 25, 26, and 35	City of Racine	335
49	John Thompson Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
50	Jonas Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 4	City of Racine	1
51	Jones Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	1
52	Lakeview Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 4	City of Racine	5
53	Lee Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	3
54	Lincoln Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	25
55	Lockwood Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 7	City of Racine	38
56	Maple Grove Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 7	City of Racine	5
57	Marino Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	3
58	Marquette Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
59	Mary Ellen Helgren Johnson Preserve.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	4
60	Mat Matson Park.....	T4N, R23E, Section 33	City of Racine	2
61	Memorial Drive West.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	1
62	Monument Square.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
63	Mound Cemetery.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	55
64	N. Owen Davies Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 19	City of Racine	5
65	North Beach.....	T3N, R23E, Section 4	City of Racine	49
66	Olsen Prairie.....	T3N, R23E, Section 29	City of Racine	23
67	Park Place.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
68	Parker Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	3
69	Pershing Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	City of Racine	28
70	Pierce Woods Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 19	City of Racine	7
71	Pritchard Park.....	T3N, R22E, Section 24	Racine County	73
72	Pugh Recreation Area.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
73	Quarry Lake Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 6	Racine County	4 <sup>d</sup>
74	Racine Harbor Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Racine County	18
75	Racine Zoological Gardens.....	T3N, R23E, Section 4	City of Racine	25
76	Randolph Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	1
77	Reef Point Marina.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Racine County	43
78	Reservoir Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 30	City of Racine	22
79	Riverside Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	1
80	Robert G. Heck Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 5	City of Racine	2
81	Rooney Recreation Area.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
82	Roosevelt Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 21	City of Racine	13
83	Sam Azarian Overlook.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	City of Racine	1
84	Samuel Myers Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	City of Racine	7
85	Shoop Park and Golf Course.....	T4N, R23E, Section 27	City of Racine	53
86	Simonson Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	City of Racine	4
87	Solbraa Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 18	City of Racine	3

Table II-3 (continued)

Number on Map II-2	Site Name	Location	Ownership	Size (acres) <sup>a</sup>
	<b>Public (continued)</b>			
88	Springvale East Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	1
89	Springvale West Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	3
90	State-Hamilton Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	City of Racine	1
91	Tyler-Domer Community Center.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	3
92	Vidian-Cheska Park.....	T4N, R23E, Section 33	City of Racine	8
93	Wallis Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 20	City of Racine	1
94	Washington Park Bowl.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	11
95	Washington Park Golf Course.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	City of Racine	92
96	Wellington Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 20	City of Racine	1
97	West Park.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	City of Racine	3
98	Wustum Museum.....	T3N, R23E, Section 5	City of Racine	10
99	Bull Fine Arts Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 21	Racine School District	1
100	Fratt Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 18	Racine School District	2
101	Giese Elementary School.....	T3N, R22E, Section 24	Racine School District	7
102	Gilmore Middle School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 5	Racine School District	8
103	Goodland Elementary School.....	T3N, R22E, Section 12	Racine School District	5
104	Horlick High School and Wadewitz Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 5	Racine School District	13
105	Janes Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Racine School District	1
106	Jefferson Lighthouse Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	Racine School District	1
107	Jerstad-Agerholm Elementary/Middle School.....	T4N, R23E, Section 33	Racine School District	6
108	Johnson Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 19	Racine School District	7
109	Jones Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 30	Racine School District	3
110	Julian Thomas Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Racine School District	1
111	Knapp Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 20	Racine School District	2
112	McKinley Middle School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	Racine School District	1
113	Mitchell Elementary/Middle School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 20	Racine School District	3
114	Red Apple Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 4	Racine School District	1
115	Starbuck Middle School.....	T3N, R22E, Section 13	Racine School District	10
116	Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 4	Racine School District	1
117	Washington Park High School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 17	Racine School District	7
118	Winslow High/Middle School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	Racine School District	1
--	Subtotal - 118 Sites	--	--	1,387
	<b>Private</b>			
119	Azarian Marina.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Private	15
120	Bray Center.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	Organizational	1
121	Fifth Street Yacht Club.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Private	4
122	Harbor Lite Yacht Club.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Private	1
123	Larsen Marine.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Private	2
124	Mauer's Marina.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Private	1
125	Pugh Marina.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Private	7
126	Racine Christian School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 18	Organizational	1
127	Racine Country Club.....	T3N, R23E, Sections 5 and 7	Private	22 <sup>e</sup>
128	Racine Lutheran High School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	Organizational	1
129	Racine Riverside Marina.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Private	2
130	Racine Yacht Club.....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Private	1
131	Sacred Heart.....	T3N, R23E, Section 8	Organizational	3

**Table II-3 (continued)**

Number on Map II-2	Site Name	Location	Ownership	Size (acres) <sup>a</sup>
<b>Private (continued)</b>				
132	St. Catherine's High School .....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	Organizational	3
133	St. Edward School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 18	Organizational	1
134	St. John Nepomuk School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 4	Organizational	1
135	St. John's Lutheran School .....	T3N, R23E, Section 9	Organizational	1
136	St. Lucy's School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 29	Organizational	1
137	St. Richard School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	Organizational	1
138	Wisconsin Lutheran School.....	T3N, R23E, Section 16	Organizational	1
--	Subtotal - 20 Sites	--	--	70
--	Total - 138 Sites	--	--	1,457

<sup>a</sup> Sites smaller than one acre were rounded up to one acre on this table. The narrative provides the exact size for City-owned sites less than one acre.

<sup>b</sup> The existing trail and passive use areas are located on Case Corporation property, but are maintained by the City.

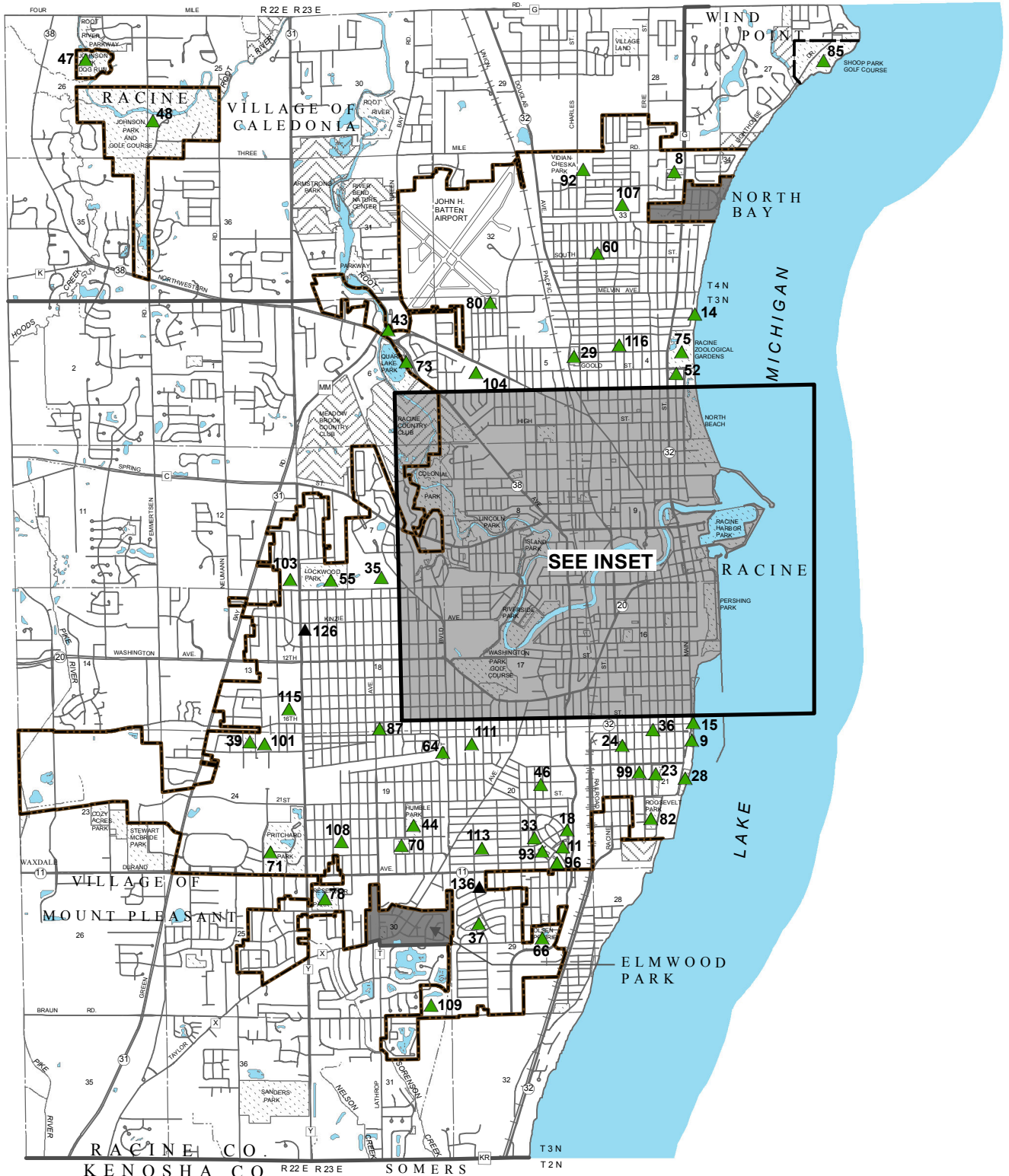
<sup>c</sup> Includes only the acreage located within the City. The remaining 14 acres of the park are located in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

<sup>d</sup> Includes only the acreage located within the City. The remaining 35 acres of the park are located in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

<sup>e</sup> Includes only the acreage located within the City. The remaining 161 acres of the site are located in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

Source: City of Racine Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department and SEWRPC.

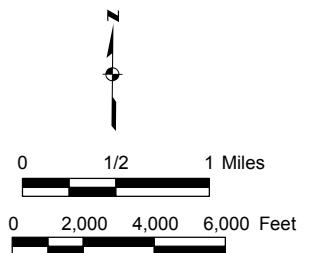
PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2010



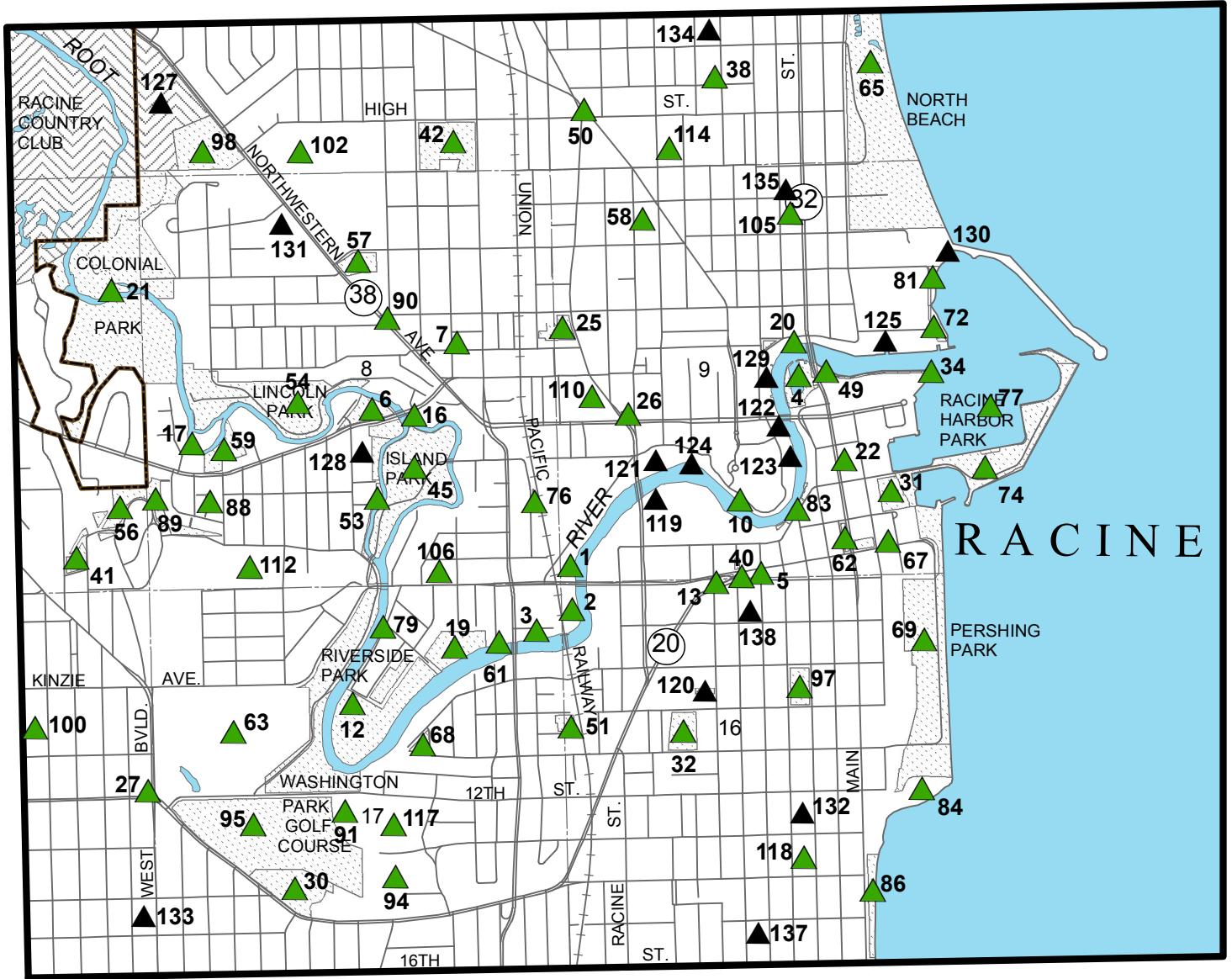
LEGEND

- ▲ PUBLICLY-OWNED SITE
- ▲ PRIVATELY-OWNED SITE
- 44** REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE II-3)
- SURFACE WATER
- CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
- SHOOP PARK

Source: City of Racine and SEWRPC.



PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2010



LEGEND

- ▲ PUBLICLY-OWNED SITE
- ▲ PRIVATELY-OWNED SITE
- 44** REFERENCE NUMBER (SEE TABLE II-3)
- SURFACE WATER
- CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS

Source: City of Racine and SEWRPC.

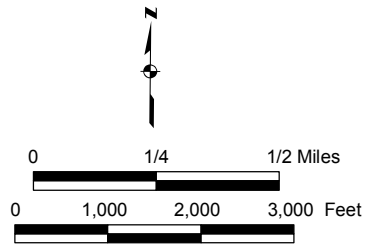


Table II-4

SELECTED OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES FOR GENERAL USE IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2010

Number on Map II-2	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball-League Diamonds	Softball-Sandlot Diamonds	Play-Field	Play-Ground	Tennis Courts	Basketball Goals	Soccer Field	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Other
1	<b>Public</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Street Park North .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail, Overlook, Fishing, Historical Exhibit
2	6 <sup>th</sup> Street Park South .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail, Fishing, Canoe Launch, Shelter, Restrooms
3	Barbee Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail, Fishing
4	Belle Harbor Marina.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Marina
5	BI-Centennial Gardens.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit, Passive Use
6	Brose Park .....	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	1	--	--	Trail, Fishing, Shelter, Picnic Area
7	Builder's Park.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
8	Carlson Park.....	--	--	1	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
9	Carre Hogle Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Picnic Area, Fishing
10	Case Corporation Easement.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail
11	Case-Harmon Park .....	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	2	--	--	--
12	Cedar Bend Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	Trail
13	City Hall.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Passive Use
14	City Land (Lake Michigan Shoreline North).....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Passive Use, Open Space
15	City Land (Lake Michigan Shoreline South) .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Passive Use, Open Space
16	City Land (Root River East) .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
17	City Land (Root River West) .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Open Space
18	City Land (South Side Triangle) .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Passive Use
19	Clayton Park.....	--	--	--	X	X	--	1	1	--	--	Fishing, Canoe Launch, Trail
20	Colbert Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Fishing, Trail, Pier, Boat Dock
21	Colonial Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Nature Area, Trail, Hiking
22	Crosswalk Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trails, Picnic Area, Fishing, Shelter, Restrooms
23	De Koven Woods.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Passive Use
24	Dr. Hamilton Park.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area
25	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	1	--	--	--	Picnic Area, Shelter, Restrooms, Historical Exhibit
26	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Community Center
27	Dr. Pierce Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit
28	Dodge Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit
29	Douglas Park.....	--	1	--	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	Passive Use
30	Erskine Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Community Center
31	Festival Park .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit, Picnic Area
32	Franklin Park.....	--	--	--	X	X	--	4	--	--	--	Festival Grounds, Trail, Fishing, Shelters, Restrooms, Historical Exhibit
33	Fuller Park.....	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Shelter, Rain Garden
34	Gaslight Pointe.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
35	Graceland Cemetery .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail, Historical Exhibit
36	Grand Park.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	Cemetery
37	Greencrest Park.....	--	--	--	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	--
38	Hagerer Park .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
39	Hantschel Park.....	--	--	1	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
40	Harris Plaza .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Restrooms, Shelter, Historical Exhibit
41	Harvey Park .....	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit
42	Horlick Athletic Field.....	1	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit
43	Horlick Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Football Field, Restrooms, Historical Exhibit
												Fishing, Boat/Canoe Launch, Restrooms, Shelter

Table II-4 (continued)

Number on Map II-2	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball-League Diamonds	Softball-Sandlot Diamonds	Play-Field	Play-Ground	Tennis Courts	Basketball Goals	Soccer Field	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Other
44	<b>Public (continued)</b> Humble Park .....	2	1	--	X	X	3	3	3	--	--	Restrooms, Volleyball, Football Field, Community Center, Sledding Hill, Historical Exhibit
45	Island Park.....	--	2	1	X	X	3	--	--	--	--	Fishing, Shelter, Restrooms, Trail, Picnic Area, Canoe Launch, Historical Exhibit
46	Jay-Eye-See Park.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
47	Johnson Park Dog Run.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Dog Walking Area, Nature Area
48	Johnson Park and Golf Course.....	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	18-Hole Golf Course, Picnic Areas, Fishing, Driving Range, Shelters, Restrooms, Historical Exhibit, Nature Area
49	John Thompson Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail, Historical Exhibit
50	Jonas Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit
51	Jones Park.....	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
52	Lakeview Park .....	--	--	1	X	X	3	2	--	--	--	--
53	Lee Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail, Nature Area
54	Lincoln Park.....	1 <sup>a</sup>	--	--	X	X	--	--	1	--	--	Wisconsin-DNR Steelhead Facility, Football Field, Fishing, Picnic Area, Boat/Canoe Launch, Shelter, Historical Exhibit, Restrooms, Trail
55	Lockwood Park.....	--	1 <sup>b</sup>	--	X	X	5	2	3	--	--	Fishing, Sledding Hill, Picnic Areas, Shelters, Historical Exhibit, Restrooms, Nature Area
56	Maple Grove Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
57	Marino Park.....	--	--	--	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	--
58	Marquette Park.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	4	--	--	--	--
59	Mary Ellen Helgren Johnson Preserve .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Nature Area, Historical Exhibit
60	Mat Matson Park .....	--	--	--	X	X	--	1	--	X	--	Shelter, Restrooms, Historical Exhibit
61	Memorial Drive West.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail, Fishing
62	Monument Square .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibits
63	Mound Cemetery.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Cemetery
64	N. Owen Davies Park.....	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Trail
65	North Beach.....	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	X	Sand Volleyball Courts, Picnic Area, Trail, Restrooms, Bath House, Shelter, Gazebo, Fishing, Boardwalk, Nature Area, Concession Stand, Historical Exhibit
66	Olsen Prairie.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Nature Area, Hiking Trails
67	Park Place .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Sprayground, Historical Exhibit
68	Parker Park.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
69	Pershing Park .....	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	2	--	--	Skate Park, 10 Drive-in Boat Launches, Fishing, Shelter, Picnic Area, Restrooms, Trail, Fish Cleaning Station, Historical Exhibit
70	Pierce Woods Park.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	Shelter, Picnic Area, Restrooms
71	Pritchard Park.....	--	2	--	X	X	--	--	1	--	--	Fishing Pond, Sand Volleyball, Picnic Areas, Trail, Restrooms, Shelters
72	Pugh Recreation Area .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Fishing, Pier, Dock, Trail

Table II-4 (continued)

Number on Map II-2	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball-League Diamonds	Softball-Sandlot Diamonds	Play-Field	Play-Ground	Tennis Courts	Basketball Goals	Soccer Field	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Other
73	<b>Public (continued)</b> Quarry Lake Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	X	Sand Volleyball, Bath House, Picnic Area, Pier, Trail, Fishing, Restrooms
74	Racine Harbor Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Fish Cleaning Station, Fishing, Restrooms, Dock, Picnic Area
75	Racine Zoological Gardens .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	Zoo, Restrooms, Shelter, Picnic Area, Historical Exhibit
76	Randolph Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Passive Use, Flower Garden
77	Reef Point Marina.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Marina
78	Reservoir Park.....	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	Sledding Hill, Fishing, Picnic Area, Nature Area
79	Riverside Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Fishing, Nature Area
80	Robert G. Heck Park .....	--	--	1	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Restrooms, Shelter
81	Rooney Recreation Area .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Fishing, Boat Launch, Pier, Dock, Trail
82	Roosevelt Park.....	--	2	--	X	X	--	2	1	--	--	Picnic Area, Shelter, Restrooms, Community Center, Historical Exhibit
83	Sam Azarian Overlook.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit, Scenic Overlook
84	Samuel Myers Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Fishing, Boat Launch, Trail, Historical Exhibit
85	Shoop Park Golf Course.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9-Hole Golf Course, Fishing, Restrooms, Piers, Shelter
86	Simonson Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Trail
87	Solbraa Park.....	--	1	--	X	X	--	2	--	X	--	Restrooms, Shelter
88	Springvale East Park .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
89	Springvale West Park .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Nature Area
90	State-Hamilton Park.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit
91	Tyler-Domer Community Center.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	Community Center, Restrooms, Historical Exhibit
92	Vidian-Cheska Park .....	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	Historical Exhibit
93	Wallis Park.....	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
94	Washington Park Bowl .....	1	1	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
95	Washington Park Golf Course .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9-Hole Golf Course, Trail, Shelter, Restrooms, Historical Exhibit
96	Wellington Park .....	--	--	--	X	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
97	West Park.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
98	Wustum Museum.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Museum, Historical Exhibit
99	Bull Fine Arts Elementary School .....	--	--	1	X	X	--	3	--	--	--	--
100	Fratt Elementary School .....	--	--	1	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	--
101	Giese Elementary School .....	--	--	2	X	X	--	4	--	--	--	--
102	Gilmore Middle School .....	--	--	3	X	--	--	--	1	--	--	--
103	Goodland Elementary School.....	--	--	1	X	X	--	8	--	--	--	--
104	Horlick High School and Wadewitz Elementary School.....	--	--	1	X	X	8	4	2	--	--	Running Track
105	Janes Elementary School.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	2	--	--	--	Tetherball
106	Jefferson Lighthouse Elementary School.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	5	--	--	--	--
107	Jerstad-Agerholm Elementary/Middle School .....	--	--	1	X	X	--	4	1	--	--	--
108	Johnson Elementary School.....	--	--	1	X	X	--	4	1	--	--	--
109	Jones Elementary School .....	--	--	3	X	X	--	4	1	--	--	--
110	Julian Thomas Elementary School .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
111	Knapp Elementary School .....	--	--	2	X	X	--	6	1	--	--	--
112	McKinley Middle School .....	--	--	--	X	--	--	2	--	--	--	Running Track
113	Mitchell Elementary/Middle School.....	--	--	2	X	X	--	4	--	--	--	--
114	Red Apple Elementary School.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
115	Starbuck Middle School.....	--	--	1	X	--	--	6	--	--	--	--
116	Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School.....	--	--	2	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	--
117	Washington Park High School .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	Running Track, Football Field
118	Winslow High/Middle School.....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Subtotal - 118 Sites	5	11	26	46	56	25	88	24	2	2	--

Table II-4 (continued)

Number on Map II-2	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball-League Diamonds	Softball-Sandlot Diamonds	Play-Field	Play-Ground	Tennis Courts	Basketball Goals	Soccer Field	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Other
	<b>Private</b>											
119	Azarian Marina .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Marina
120	Bray Center .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Community Center
121	Fifth Street Yacht Club .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Yacht Club, Drive-in Boat Launch
122	Harbor Lite Yacht Club .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Yacht Club, Drive-in Boat Launch
123	Larsen Marine .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Marina
124	Mauer's Marina .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Marina
125	Pugh Marina .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Marina
126	Racine Christian School .....	--	--	2	X	X	--	1	--	--	--	--
127	Racine Country Club .....	--	--	--	--	--	6	--	--	--	X	18-Hole Golf Course, Bath House, Platform Tennis Courts
128	Racine Lutheran High School .....	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
129	Racine Riverside Marina .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Marina, Drive-in Boat Launch
130	Racine Yacht Club .....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Yacht Club
131	Sacred Heart .....	--	--	1	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	--
132	St. Catherine's High School .....	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
133	St. Edward School .....	--	--	--	X	X	--	6	--	--	--	--
134	St. John Nepomuk School .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	3	--	--	--	--
135	St. John's Lutheran School .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	4	--	--	--	--
136	St. Lucy's School .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	2	--	--	--	--
137	St. Richard School .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	3	--	--	--	--
138	Wisconsin Lutheran School .....	--	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	--	--	--
	Subtotal - 20 Sites	--	--	3	5	8	6	21	--	--	1	--
--	Total - 138 Sites	5	11	29	51	64 <sup>c</sup>	31	109	46 <sup>d</sup>	2	3	--

<sup>a</sup>The baseball diamond also serves as a league softball diamond.

<sup>b</sup>The league softball diamond also serves as a baseball diamond.

<sup>c</sup>Two playgrounds associated with apartment complexes near Shelbourne Court and Crossridge Drive are also available to the general public.

<sup>d</sup>Includes six soccer fields located at Caledonia-Mount Pleasant Memorial Park, three soccer fields located at Village of Caledonia-owned land, and 13 soccer fields located at the Soccer Complex of Racine (SCORE). All sites are located in the Village of Caledonia.

Source: City of Racine Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department and SEWRPC.

Recreational facilities available at privately-owned sites included three sandlot ball diamonds, five playfields, eight playgrounds, 21 basketball goals, six tennis courts, a swimming pool, an 18-hole regulation golf course, five marinas, three yacht clubs, a community center, and platform tennis courts.

### **City of Racine Park System**

In 2010, the City of Racine owned 92 park and open space sites, encompassing a total of 1,167 acres, or about 12 percent of the planning area. This represents an increase of seven sites and 24 acres since 2001. The increase can be attributed to the acquisition of open space lands for the continued development of the City's pathway system and for resource protection purposes. The City of Racine park and open space sites ranged from 950 square feet (Jonas Park) to 335 acres (Johnson Park and Golf Course) in size. Park and open space sites owned by the City are listed in Table II-3. A brief description of each of the 92 City-owned park and open space sites is presented below.

#### ***6<sup>th</sup> Street Park North***

6<sup>th</sup> Street Park North is a one-acre passive use site centrally located within the City along the Root River. Existing facilities include an overlook area, fishing, and a historical exhibit. The site also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway and less than one acre of primary environmental corridor. The site is a new park since the adoption of the previous park plan.

#### ***6<sup>th</sup> Street Park South***

6<sup>th</sup> Street Park South is a two-acre passive use site centrally located within the City along the Root River. Existing facilities include a canoe launch, fishing, a shelter, and restrooms. The site also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway and about one acre of primary environmental corridor. The site is a new park since the adoption of the previous park plan.

#### ***Barbee Park***

Barbee Park is a one-acre passive use site centrally located within the City along the Root River. Fishing areas are located at the park. The site also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway. The site is a new park since the adoption of the previous park plan. The park was also previously known as Memorial Drive East.

#### ***BI-Centennial Gardens***

BI-Centennial Gardens is a 9,532 square-foot passive use site located in the eastern portion of the City. The site includes a flower garden and a historical museum.

#### ***Brose Park***

Brose Park is a five-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City along the Root River. Existing facilities include a playfield, a soccer field, a picnic area, a shelter, and fishing. The park also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway. The park includes about two acres of primary environmental corridor.

#### ***Builders Park***

Builders Park is a 7,187 square-foot playlot centrally located within the City. The park includes a playground.

#### ***Carlson Park***

Carlson Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located in the northeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, and a playground.

#### ***Carre Hogle Park***

Carre Hogle Park is a two-acre passive use park located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the southeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a picnic area and fishing. The park includes about two acres of primary environmental corridor.

### ***Case Corporation Easement***

The Case Corporation Easement is a special use site located in the eastern portion of the City on the Case Corporation property along the Root River. The easement includes a portion of the Root River Pathway and passive use areas. The trail and easement are maintained by the City. The site is new since the adoption of the previous park plan.

### ***Case-Harmon Park***

Case-Harmon Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located in the southeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield and a playground. Since 2001, the sandlot ball diamond was removed and replaced by two soccer fields, which are utilized for youth soccer and football programs.

### ***Cedar Bend Park***

Cedar Bend Park is a two-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City along the Root River. The park includes three tennis courts. The park also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor consisting of an area of wetlands.

### ***City Hall***

The Racine City Hall provides lawn and terrace areas for informal public use. The site is about one acre in size and is located in the eastern portion of the City.

### ***City Land (Lake Michigan Shoreline North)***

The City owns a three-acre passive use/open space site along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the northeastern portion of the City. A portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway abuts the land. The land is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor. The site is new since the adoption of the previous park plan.

### ***City Land (Lake Michigan Shoreline South)***

The City owns a 16,550 square-foot passive use/open space site along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the southeastern portion of the City. A portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway abuts the land. The land is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor.

### ***City Land (Root River East)***

The City owns a 17,420 square-foot open space site centrally located in the City along the Root River. A portion of the site includes primary environmental corridor. The site is new since the adoption of the previous park plan.

### ***City Land (Root River West)***

The City owns a one-acre open space site along the Root River in the western portion of the City. A portion of the site includes primary environmental corridor consisting of wetlands. The site is new since the adoption of the previous park plan.

### ***City Land (South Side Triangle)***

The City owns a 14,375 square-foot passive use site in the southern portion of the City. The site is new since the adoption of the previous park plan.

### ***Clayton Park***

Clayton Park is a six-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City along the Root River. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, a basketball goal, and fishing. The park also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor consisting of an area of wetlands. A canoe launch and a soccer field were developed at the park since 2001.

### ***Colbert Park***

Colbert Park is a one-acre passive use park located along the Root River in the eastern portion the City. Portions of the Lake Michigan Pathway and Root River Pathway abut the park. A portion of the park includes primary environmental corridor. Since adoption of the previous park plan, the park has been expanded to include an area along

the Root River, west of the Main Street Bridge. The expanded area of the park includes facilities such as a pier, a dock, and fishing.

***Colonial Park***

Colonial Park is a 73-acre nature area located along the Root River in the western portion of the City. Existing facilities include hiking trails, a picnic area, a shelter, restrooms, and fishing. The park also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway. The majority of the park is encompassed within primary environmental corridor consisting of wetlands and a small pocket of woodlands. The park also contains a large portion of the Colonial Park Woods natural area. Since 2001, the classroom building has been removed from the park.

***Crosswalk Park***

Crosswalk Park is a 6,534 square-foot passive use park located in the eastern portion of the City.

***De Koven Woods***

De Koven Woods is a seven-acre conservancy area located in the southeastern portion of the City. The park is encompassed within an isolated natural resource area consisting of woodlands. A portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway abuts the park.

***Dr. Hamilton Park***

Dr. Hamilton Park is a one-acre park located in the southeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playground, a shelter, a picnic area, restrooms, and a historical exhibit.

***Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park***

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park is a two-acre park centrally located within the City. Existing facilities include a playground, one basketball goal, and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center.

***Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza***

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza is a 10,890 square-foot historical exhibit centrally located within the City.

***Dr. Pierce Park***

Dr. Pierce Park is a 4,790 square-foot passive use park with a historical exhibit, and is centrally located within the City.

***Dodge Park***

Dodge Park is a five-acre passive use park located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the southeastern portion of the City. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor.

***Douglas Park***

Douglas Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located in the northern portion of the City. Existing facilities include one league ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball court, and the Cesar Chavez Community Center.

***Erskine Park***

Erskine Park is an eight-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City. The park includes a picnic area and a historical exhibit. The park is encompassed within an isolated natural resource area consisting of woodlands.

***Festival Park***

Festival Park is a four-acre special use park located in the eastern portion of the City. The park is a festival grounds consisting of concessions, shelters, restrooms, fishing, and a historical exhibit. The park also has a playground and abuts the Lake Michigan Pathway.

***Franklin Park***

Franklin Park is a four-acre neighborhood park located in the eastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playground, a playfield, two basketball courts, a shelter, and a rain garden.

***Fuller Park***

Fuller Park is a one-acre park located in the southeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield and a playground. A portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway abuts the park.

***Gaslight Pointe***

Gaslight Pointe is a one-acre passive use site located along the Root River and Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. The site includes a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway and a historical exhibit.

***Graceland Cemetery***

Graceland Cemetery is 50-acre cemetery located in the western portion of the City. Residents use the streets within the cemetery for walking or jogging.

***Grand Park***

Grand Park is a 6,100 square-foot playlot located in the southeastern portion of the City. The park includes a playground.

***Greencrest Park***

Greencrest Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located in the southern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playground, a playfield, and a basketball court. A portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway abuts the park. A woodland area is located within the park.

***Hagerer Park***

Hagerer Park is a 13,940 square-foot playlot located in the eastern portion of the City. The park includes a playground.

***Hantschel Park***

Hantschel Park is an eight-acre neighborhood park located in the western portion of the City. Existing facilities include a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a shelter, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. A wetland is located within the park.

***Harris Plaza***

Harris Plaza is a 3,050 square-foot passive use site and historical exhibit located in the eastern portion of the City.

***Harvey Park***

Harvey Park is a two-acre park located in the western portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, and a historical exhibit. Since 2001, the sandlot ball diamond has been removed from the park.

***Horlick Athletic Field***

Horlick Athletic Field is a nine-acre site located in the northern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a baseball diamond, a playfield, a football field, restrooms, and a historical exhibit.

***Humble Park***

Humble Park is a 17-acre neighborhood park located in the southern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a two baseball diamonds, one league ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, three tennis courts, a sledding hill, a volleyball court, restrooms, a historical exhibit, and the Humble Park Community Center. Since 2001, the City has developed two additional basketball goals (three basketball goals overall), three soccer fields, and a football field at the park.

***Island Park***

Island Park is a 21-acre community park centrally located within the City along the Root River. Existing facilities include two league ball diamonds, a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, three tennis courts, restrooms, a shelter, fishing, picnic areas, and a historical exhibit. The park also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor, which consists of a small pocket of wetlands. A canoe launch has been developed at the site since 2001.

***Jay-Eye-See Park***

Jay-Eye-See Park is a 13,070 square-foot playlot located in the southern portion of the City. The park includes a playground.

***Johnson Park Dog Run***

Johnson Park Dog Run is a 28-acre special use park located east of STH 38 and adjacent to the Root River, and is surrounded by the Village of Caledonia. The park is a nature area used for dog walking and includes about 17 acres of primary environmental corridor consisting of wetlands. The park also contains portions of the Root River Bluff critical species habitat site and the Root River Outcrops geological area. A gravel parking lot has been developed at the park since 2001.

***Johnson Park and Golf Course***

Johnson Park and Golf Course is a 335-acre major park located north of STH 38, and is surrounded by the Village of Caledonia. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, an 18-hole golf course, driving range, picnic areas, shelters, restrooms, a historical exhibit, and a nature area. The park also encompasses a pond and access to the Root River that provides for fishing. The park includes 99 acres of primary environmental corridor located along the Root River consisting of wetlands and woodlands, and 33 acres of isolated natural resource area consisting of wetlands and woodlands. Isolated pockets of wetlands and woodlands outside of environmental corridors are also located within the park. The park also contains portions of the Caledonia Sanitary Sewer Right-of-Way and Root River Bluff critical species habitat sites. Since 2001, the soccer field has been removed from the park.

***John Thompson Park***

John Thompson Park is a one-acre passive use site located along the Root River in the eastern portion the City. The park includes a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway and a historical exhibit.

***Jonas Park***

Jonas Park is a 950 square-foot historical exhibit located in the northern portion of the City.

***Jones Park***

Jones Park is a one-acre park centrally located within the City. Existing facilities include a playfield and a playground. Since adoption of the previous park plan, about a one-half acre portion of the park was donated to Habitat for Humanity.

***Lakeview Park***

Lakeview Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located in the northeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball court, and three tennis courts.

***Lee Park***

Lee Park is a three-acre nature area centrally located within the City along the Root River. A trail is located within the park. The park includes about two acres of primary environmental corridor.

***Lincoln Park***

Lincoln Park is a 25-acre community park located in the western portion of the City along the Root River. Existing facilities include a baseball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a soccer field, restrooms, a picnic area, a shelter, a canoe launch, fishing, and a historical exhibit. The park also contains a portion of the Root River Pathway and the

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Steelhead Facility. The park includes about 11 acres of primary environmental corridor. The park also includes woodlands not associated with the primary environmental corridor. A football field and a second canoe launch have been developed at the park since 2001. The baseball diamond at the park is also used for adult league softball programs.

***Lockwood Park***

Lockwood Park is a 38-acre community park located in the western portion of the City. Existing facilities include one league ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball court, five tennis courts, three soccer fields, a sledding hill, picnic areas, restrooms, a small pond for fishing, and a historical exhibit. Since 2001, the volleyball court and ice skating area have been removed from the park. The playground was replaced and two additional shelters were developed at the park since the previous plan was adopted. The league softball diamond at the park is also used as a baseball diamond.

***Maple Grove Park***

Maple Grove Park is a five-acre nature area located in the western portion of the City. The park includes about four acres of isolated natural resource area consisting of woodlands.

***Marino Park***

Marino Park is a three-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, and a basketball court. Since 2001, the sandlot ball diamond and restroom/shelter have been removed from the park.

***Marquette Park***

Marquette Park is a one-acre park located in the eastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include two basketball courts and a playground. Since 2001, the restroom/shelter has been removed from the park.

***Mary Ellen Helgren Johnson Preserve***

Mary Ellen Helgren Johnson Preserve is a four-acre nature area located along the Root River in the western portion of the City. The site includes a historical exhibit and about one acre of primary environmental corridor consisting of wetlands.

***Mat Matson Park***

Mat Matson Park is a two-acre neighborhood park located in the northern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, a basketball goal, a shelter, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. A portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway abuts the park. Since 2001, the sandlot ball diamond has been removed from the park. A volunteer-managed ice skating rink has been developed at the park since adoption of the previous park plan.

***Memorial Drive West***

Memorial Drive West is a one-acre site along the Root River centrally located within the City. The site includes fishing and a portion of the Root River Pathway. The site is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor, which includes a small pocket of wetlands. The site is new since adoption of the previous park plan.

***Monument Square***

Monument Square is a 19,600 square-foot passive use area located in the eastern portion of the City. Multiple historical exhibits are located at the site.

***Mound Cemetery***

Mound Cemetery is a 55-acre cemetery centrally located within the City. Residents use the streets within the cemetery for walking or jogging.

***N. Owen Davies Park***

N. Owen Davies Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located in the southern portion of the City. The park includes a playfield and a playground. The park also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway, which provides a connection to two County-owned trails, the North Shore Trail and the Racine Sturtevant Trail. In the previous edition of this report, the park was referred to as Oak Park.

***North Beach***

North Beach is a 49-acre community park located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a swimming beach, sand volleyball courts, a playfield, a playground, a picnic area, a bath house, restrooms, a shelter, a gazebo, fishing, a nature area, a concession stand, and a historical exhibit. The park also includes a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway. The City has also developed an ADA-accessible boardwalk to the waters of Lake Michigan. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor, which consists of small pockets of wetlands.

***Olsen Prairie***

Olsen Prairie is a 23-acre nature area located in the southeastern portion of the City. The site includes hiking trails. The site includes wetland areas and a woodland area.

***Park Place***

Park Place is a one-acre passive use site located in the eastern portion of the City. A sprayground and a historical exhibit are located at the site.

***Parker Park***

Parker Park is a three-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City. A playground is located at the park.

***Pershing Park***

Pershing Park is a 28-acre community park located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, two soccer fields, a skate park, a 10-lane boat launch, a picnic area, a shelter, restrooms, a historical exhibit, fishing and a fish cleaning station. The park also includes a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway. The park includes about 12 acres of primary environmental corridor. Since 2001, the sandlot ball diamond has been removed from the park and the football field was converted to strictly a soccer facility.

***Pierce Woods Park***

Pierce Woods Park is a seven-acre neighborhood park located in the southern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playground, a shelter, a picnic area, and restrooms. The park is encompassed within an isolated natural resource area consisting of woodlands.

***Pugh Recreation Area***

Pugh Recreation Area is a one-acre passive use site located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. The site provides a pier, a dock, and fishing. The pier also serves to accommodate ADA-accessibility to Lake Michigan. The site also includes a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway. The site is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor.

***Racine Zoological Gardens***

Racine Zoological Gardens is a 25-acre special use site located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the northeastern portion of the City. The site is developed with a zoo, a playground, picnic areas, a shelter, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. The park includes eight acres of primary environmental corridor. The zoo contains multiple animal exhibits with over 100 species of animals, and an admission fee is administered for anyone three years of age and older.

***Randolph Park***

Randolph Park is a 6,534 square-foot passive use site centrally located within the City.

***Reservoir Park***

Reservoir Park is a 22-acre undeveloped neighborhood park located in the southwestern portion of the City. The park is limited to recreational use, especially during periods of high precipitation, because the park is primarily a stormwater basin. The park is also prone to flooding during these periods. The park is used for an informal playfield, a picnic area, fishing, and a sledding hill.

***Riverside Park***

Riverside Park is a one-acre nature area centrally located within the City along the Root River. The park is suited for fishing. A portion of the Root River Pathway abuts the park. The park includes a wetland area.

***Robert G. Heck Park***

Robert G. Heck Park is a two-acre neighborhood park located in the northwestern portion of the City near Batten Airport. Existing facilities include a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a shelter, and restrooms.

***Rooney Recreation Area***

Rooney Recreation Area is a one-acre passive use site located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. The site provides a boat launch and fishing. The park also includes a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway. The site is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor. A boat dock and fishing pier have been developed at the site since 2001.

***Roosevelt Park***

Roosevelt Park is a 13-acre neighborhood park located in the southeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include two league ball diamonds, a playfield, a playground, a basketball court, a picnic area, a shelter, restrooms, a historical exhibit, and the Dr. John Bryant Community Center. A soccer field has been developed at the park since 2001.

***Sam Azarian Overlook***

Sam Azarian Overlook is a one-acre passive use site along the Root River located in the eastern portion of the City. This site is an overlook area that provides scenic views of the Root River. The site also contains a historical exhibit. The site is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor.

***Samuel Myers Park***

Samuel Myers Park is a seven-acre neighborhood park located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a boat launch, fishing, and a historical exhibit. The park also includes a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor, which consists of pockets of wetlands.

***Shoop Park Golf Course***

Shoop Park Golf Course is a 53-acre golf course located adjacent to Lighthouse Drive in the eastern portion of the Village of Wind Point along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Existing facilities include a nine-hole golf course, a shelter, piers, fishing, and restrooms. A portion of the Racine County bike route traverses the site. The park also contains the Wind Point critical species habitat site and geological area located within about 13 acres of primary environmental corridor. Wetlands are located within and outside of the primary environmental corridor in the park.

***Simonson Park***

Simonson Park is a four-acre passive use park located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. The park includes a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor.

***Solbraa Park***

Solbraa Park is a three-acre neighborhood park located in the southwestern portion of the City. Existing facilities include one league ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball court, a shelter, and restrooms. A volunteer-managed ice skating rink has been developed at the park since adoption of the previous park plan.

***Springvale East Park***

Springvale East Park is an 18,295 square-foot playlot located in the western portion of the City. The park includes a playground.

***Springvale West Park***

Springvale West Park is a three-acre nature area located in the western portion of the City. The park includes about two acres of isolated natural resource area consisting of wetlands and woodlands. A pocket of woodlands outside of the isolated natural resource area is also located at the park.

***State-Hamilton Park***

State-Hamilton Park is a 1,100 square-foot historical exhibit centrally located within the City.

***Tyler-Domer Community Center***

Tyler-Domer Community Center is a three-acre community center centrally located within the City. The site includes a playground, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. In the previous edition of this report, the site was referred to as the Washington Park Community Center.

***Vidian-Cheska Park***

Vidian-Cheska Park is an eight-acre neighborhood park located in the northern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, and a historical exhibit. In the previous edition of this report, the park was referred to as Cheska Park.

***Wallis Park***

Wallis Park is a one-acre park located in the southeastern portion of the City. A playfield is located at the park.

***Washington Park Bowl***

Washington Park Bowl is an 11-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City. Existing facilities include one baseball diamond, one league ball diamond, and a playfield. The park includes a small portion of primary environmental corridor consisting of woodlands and about one acre of an isolated natural resource area consisting of woodlands.

***Washington Park Golf Course***

Washington Park Golf Course is a 92-acre golf course centrally located within the City, and includes a portion of the Root River. Existing facilities include a nine-hole golf course, a shelter, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. The park also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway. The site includes about 54 acres of primary environmental corridor consisting of wetlands and woodlands located along the Root River, and about six acres of isolated natural resource area consisting of woodlands. The site also contains the Washington Park Woods critical species habitat site. The park also includes a pocket of woodlands located outside of primary environmental corridor or isolated natural resource area.

***Wellington Park***

Wellington Park is a one-acre park located in the southeastern portion of the City. The park includes a playground and a playfield.

***West Park***

West Park is a three-acre neighborhood park located in the eastern portion of the City. The park includes a playground and significant passive use areas.

### ***Wustum Museum***

Wustum Museum is a 10-acre special use site located in the western portion of the City. The site includes a historical exhibit, the Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts, and the Racine Guild Theatre.

Since the adoption of the previous park plan, Highland Park and Pedar Back Park have been removed from the City park system. Highland Park has been developed for residential use (Habitat for Humanity homes) and Pedar Back Park remains vacant and is proposed to be developed for commercial use.

### **Racine County Parks**

Racine County owns six park sites within the City of Racine: Belle Harbor Marina, Horlick Park, Pritchard Park, Quarry Lake Park, Racine Harbor Park, and Reef Point Marina. Pritchard Park is located north of STH 11 and west of Ohio Street in the southwestern portion of the City. The park encompasses 73 acres and includes two league ball diamonds, a soccer field, a playground, a playfield, picnic areas, shelters, sand volleyball court, a hiking trail, and restrooms. The park encompasses a pond that provides opportunities for fishing in the summer. The park also includes a 12-acre isolated natural resource area consisting of woodlands, which contains the Pritchard Park Woods critical species habitat site. Racine Harbor Park is located in the eastern portion of the City along the Lake Michigan shoreline and the Racine Harbor. The park encompasses 18 acres and includes a picnic area, a dock, areas for shoreline fishing, a fish cleaning station, and restrooms.

The County also owns two marinas, Belle Harbor Marina and Reef Point Marina. Belle Harbor Marina is a one-acre site located along the Root River, west of Main Street near Lake Michigan. Reef Point Marina is a 43-acre site located in the Racine Harbor.

The County also owns two parks that are partially located within the City of Racine, Horlick Park and Quarry Lake Park. Horlick Park is a 15-acre park located along the Root River north of Rapids Drive and southwest of the airport. A one-acre portion of the park is located in the northwestern portion of the City. The park includes a boat/canoe launch, a shelter, fishing, and restrooms. The park also contains a small portion of the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries, a geological area of statewide or greater significance identified in the regional natural areas plan.<sup>2</sup> Quarry Lake Park is a 39-acre park located along the Root River, south of Northwestern Avenue (STH 38). A four-acre portion of the park is located in the northwestern portion of the City. The park includes a swimming beach, a sand volleyball court, a bath house, a fishing pier, a picnic area, a trail, and restrooms. In 2011, the County developed a dog park (exercise area) at the park. The park also contains a 23-acre portion of the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries geological area.

### **Trail Facilities**

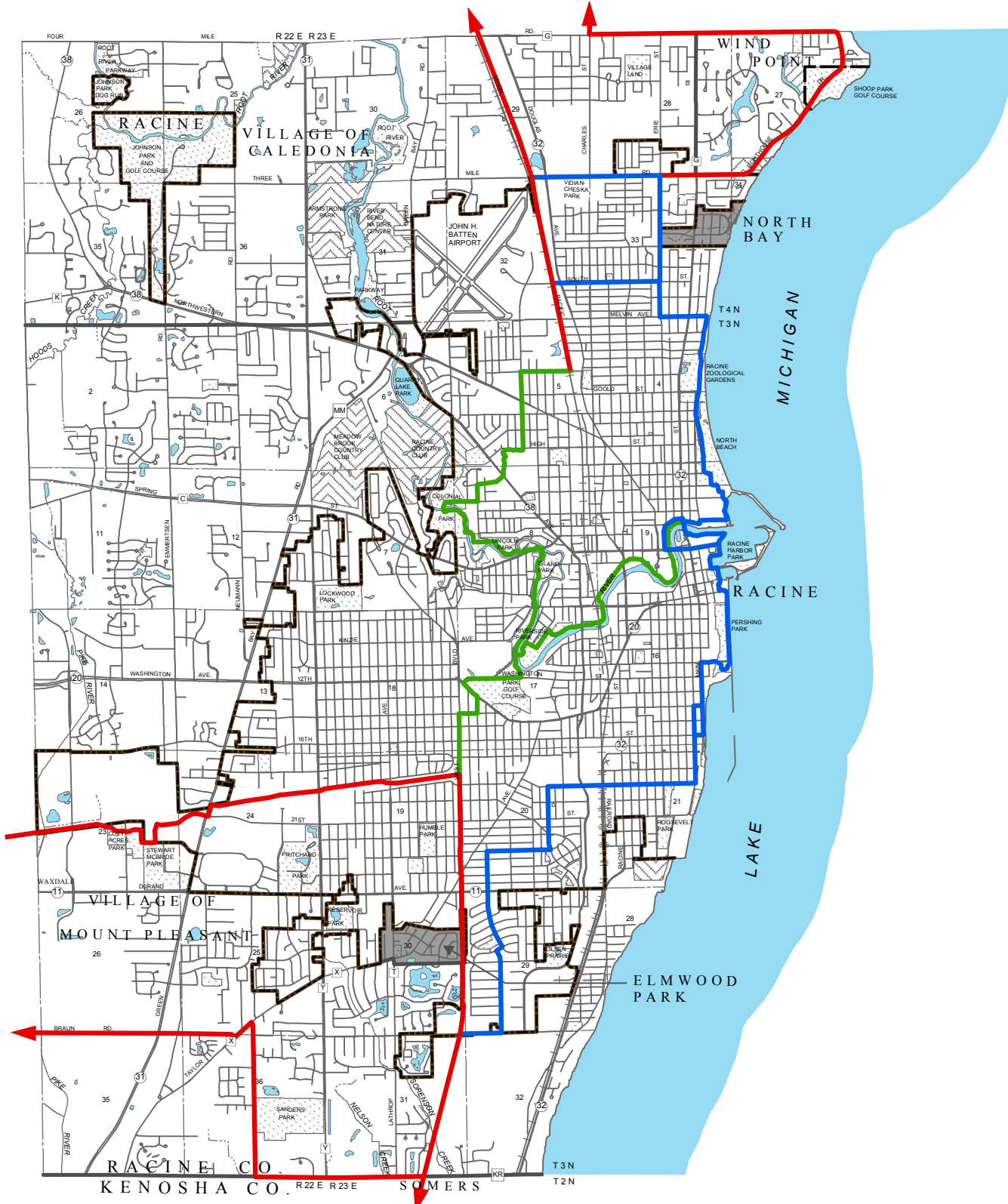
Opportunities for trail-related outdoor recreation activities, such as bicycling, hiking, nature study, and cross-country skiing, are provided at trail facilities within park and open space sites in the planning area, as noted on Table II-4. The City also provides the Lake Michigan Pathway and the Root River Pathway for biking and hiking. The Lake Michigan Pathway is about 10 miles in length and traverses north to south within the City near the Lake Michigan shoreline. The pathway provides a connection to the County-owned Milwaukee-Racine-Kenosha (MRK) Trail on the north side of the City and the County-owned North Shore Trail on the south side of the City. The Root River Pathway is about four miles in length and is primarily located on park lands along the Root River. The pathway extends from the Main Street Bridge, near downtown, to Colonial Park, with an extension along City streets that connects to the County-owned MRK Trail on the north side of the City and the County-owned North Shore and Racine-Sturtevant Trails on the south side of the City. Existing City-owned trails outside of parks are shown on Map II-3.

Racine County maintains the MRK Trail, the North Shore Trail, and the Racine-Sturtevant Trail, which accommodate opportunities for hiking and biking within the City. The MRK Trail extends from the northern portion of the City

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<sup>2</sup> *The results of the 1994 inventory are documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997. An update to the plan was adopted by the Regional Planning Commission in December 2010.*

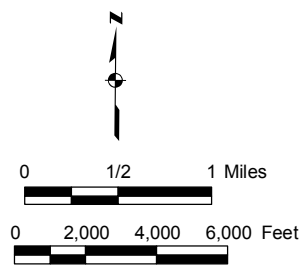
EXISTING TRAILS IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2010



**LEGEND**

- RACINE COUNTY TRAIL OR BIKE ROUTE
- CITY OF RACINE LAKE MICHIGAN PATHWAY
- CITY OF RACINE ROOT RIVER PATHWAY
- CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
- - -** SHOOP PARK

Source: City of Racine, Racine County, and SEWRPC.



northward to Milwaukee County. The North Shore Trail extends from the southern portion of the City southward to Kenosha County. The Racine-Sturtevant Trail extends westward from the North Shore Trail near West Boulevard in the City to Willow Road near the Village of Sturtevant, just west of the City of Racine. Portions of each trail are located within the City. Racine County has also developed a 100-mile, signed on-street bike route throughout the County. Portions of the on-street bike route within the planning area are located along Three Mile Road in the northern portion of the City and along Lighthouse Drive, which traverses the City-owned Shoop Park in the Village of Wind Point. Existing County trails are also shown on Map II-3.

## **NATURAL RESOURCE FEATURES**

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

### **Surface Water Resources**

Surface water resources and associated floodplains form an important element of the natural resource base of the City of Racine planning area. The planning area consists of the Root River watershed, the Pike River watershed, and two watersheds that drain directly to Lake Michigan. Ultimately, all watersheds within the planning area drain to Lake Michigan. The surface water drainage is shown on Map II-4.

Surface water resources, including lakes, streams, and associated floodplains, form a particularly important element of the natural resource base of the City of Racine planning area. Surface water resources provide recreational opportunities, influence the physical development, and enhance the aesthetic quality of the City. Lakes and streams constitute a focal point for water-related recreational activities and greatly enhance the aesthetic quality of the environment. Lake Michigan provides the City numerous opportunities for water-related recreational activities, such as swimming, fishing, canoe/kayaking, and other watercraft activities. Lake Michigan is also the major source of supply for domestic, municipal, and industrial water users in the City. Lake Michigan and other surface water resources are shown on Map II-4.

Approximately eight linear miles of streams have been identified in the planning area. Perennial streams<sup>3</sup> within the planning area include the Root River, Pike River, Hoods Creek, and Sorenson Creek. The Root River provides opportunities for fishing and canoe/kayaking within the City.

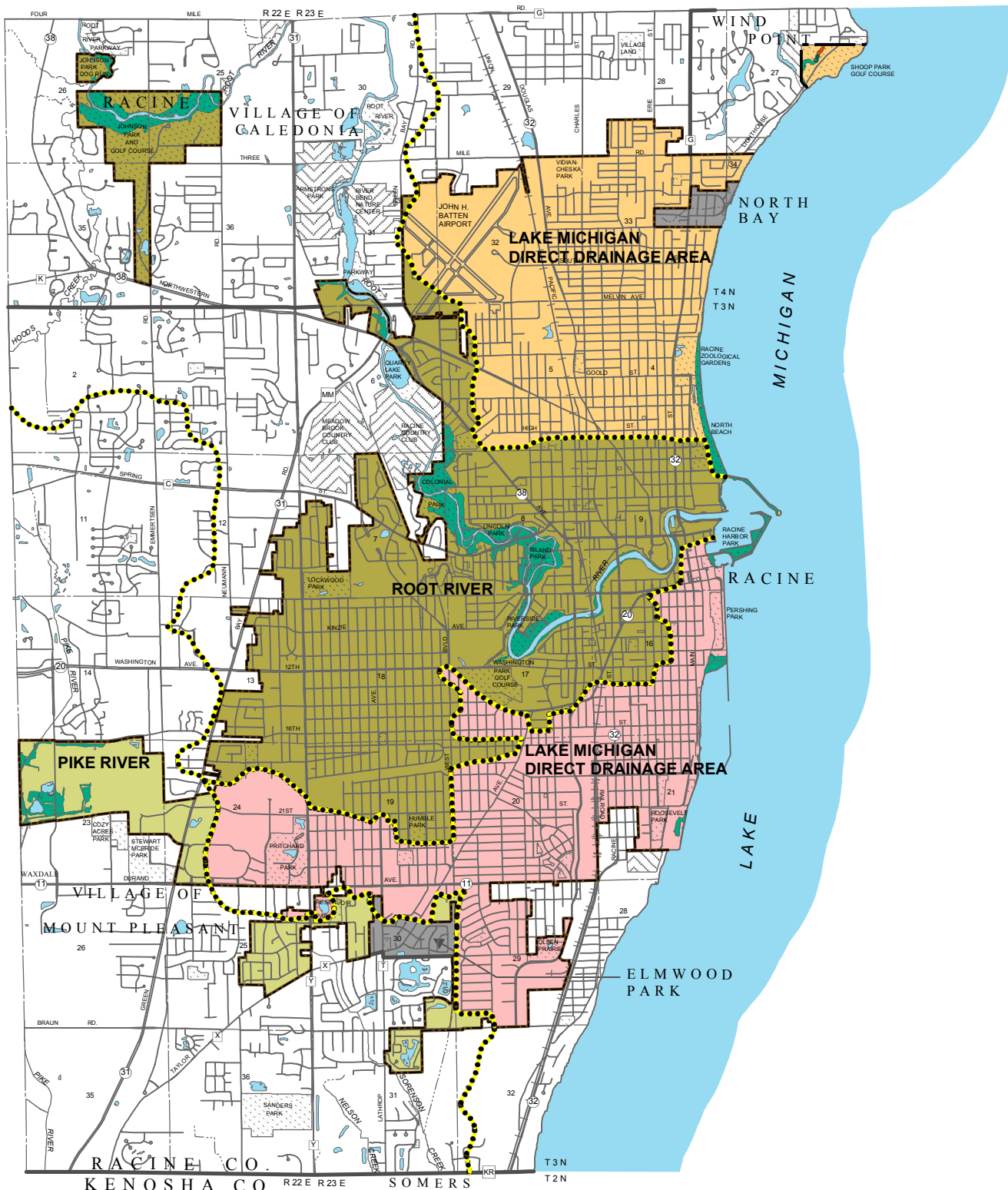
The floodplains of a river or stream are the wide, gently sloping areas contiguous to, and usually lying on both sides of, the river or stream channel. Rivers and streams occupy their channels most of the time. However, during even minor flood events, stream discharges increase markedly, and the channel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

For planning and regulatory purposes, floodplains are normally defined as the areas, excluding the channel, subject to inundation by the 100-year recurrence interval flood event. This event has a 1 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. Floodplain areas are generally not well suited to urban development, not only because of the flood hazard, but also because of the presence of high water tables and of soils poorly suited to urban use. The floodplain areas, however, generally contain such important elements of the natural resource base as woodlands,

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<sup>3</sup> *Perennial streams are defined as watercourses that maintain, at a minimum, a small continuous flow throughout the year except under unusual drought conditions. Intermittent streams are defined as watercourses that do not maintain a continuous flow throughout the year.*

**SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE AND FLOODPLAINS IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA**



**LEGEND**

- 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN (BASED ON KNOWN ELEVATION)
- 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN (APPROXIMATE)
- SURFACE WATER
- WATERSHED BOUNDARY
- CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
- SHOOP PARK

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Crispell-Snyder, Inc., and SEWRPC.



0 1/2 1 Miles



0 2,000 4,000 6,000 Feet



wetlands, and wildlife habitat and, therefore, constitute prime locations for needed open space areas. Every effort should be made to discourage indiscriminate and incompatible urban development on floodplains, while encouraging compatible park and open space use.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is conducting a Map Modernization Program for Racine County which will result in updated floodplain maps for both incorporated and unincorporated areas. Preliminary maps are currently available, and final maps are expected to be available in 2011. The preliminary floodplain delineations are shown on Map II-4, and include floodplains located along the Lake Michigan shoreline, the Root River, Hoods Creek, and Sorenson Creek. The Pike River is currently undergoing river and corridor restoration within the City of Racine and Village of Mount Pleasant. The restoration project began in 2002 and is expected to be completed by 2014. The restoration will provide enhanced storm water management and protect properties along the Pike River from flood damage. Floodplain storage areas are also recommended to create a new riparian corridor with improved biodiversity through the installation of ponds, shallow and deep marshes, and a new meandering base flow channel. That portion of the Pike River 100-year floodplain, located in the southwestern portion of the City, is based on Village of Mount Pleasant planned land uses and planned channel conditions within the Village. Once the Pike River Restoration Project has been completed, the Pike River floodplain will be incorporated into the FEMA Map Modernization Program.

The preliminary Map Modernization Program identifies the 100-year floodplain, including floodway and floodfringe areas and the 500-year floodplain. The 100-year floodplain information consists of floodplains delineated by known flood elevations and floodplains where flood elevations have not been precisely determined; these “approximate” floodplains were based on less precise floodplain maps and other factors, such as soil type and vegetative growth. Detailed floodplains have been identified along all major streams and tributaries and the Lake Michigan shoreline. Approximate floodplains have been identified around a drainage swale in Shoop Park and around a stream located west of Spruce Street in the southern portion of the City. The 100-year floodplain encompasses 526 acres, or about 5 percent of the planning area.

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

### **Wetlands**

For planning and regulatory purposes,<sup>4</sup> wetlands are commonly defined as areas in which the water table is at, near, or above the land surface and which are characterized by both hydric soils and the growth of sedges, cattails, and other wetland vegetation. Wetlands generally occur in depressions and near the bottom of slopes, particularly along lakeshores and stream banks, and on large land areas that are poorly drained.

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

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<sup>4</sup> *Wetlands are regulated under Chapters 103 and 117 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code and Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act.*

Wetlands within the City of Racine planning area are shown on Map II-5, and are based on the 2005 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wisconsin Wetland Inventory. In 2005, wetlands encompassed 205 acres, or about 2 percent of the planning area.

### **Woodlands**

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

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

Woodlands encompass 147 acres, or about 1 percent of the planning area. As shown on Map II-5, woodlands are scattered throughout the planning area, but a majority of the woodlands are located within City- or County-owned parks.

### **Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas**

One of the most important tasks completed under the regional planning program for southeastern Wisconsin has been the identification and delineation of those areas in the Region in which concentrations of remaining natural resources occur. The protection and preservation of such areas in essentially natural, open uses is crucial in maintaining both the ecological balance and natural beauty of the Region, the City, and the planning area.

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

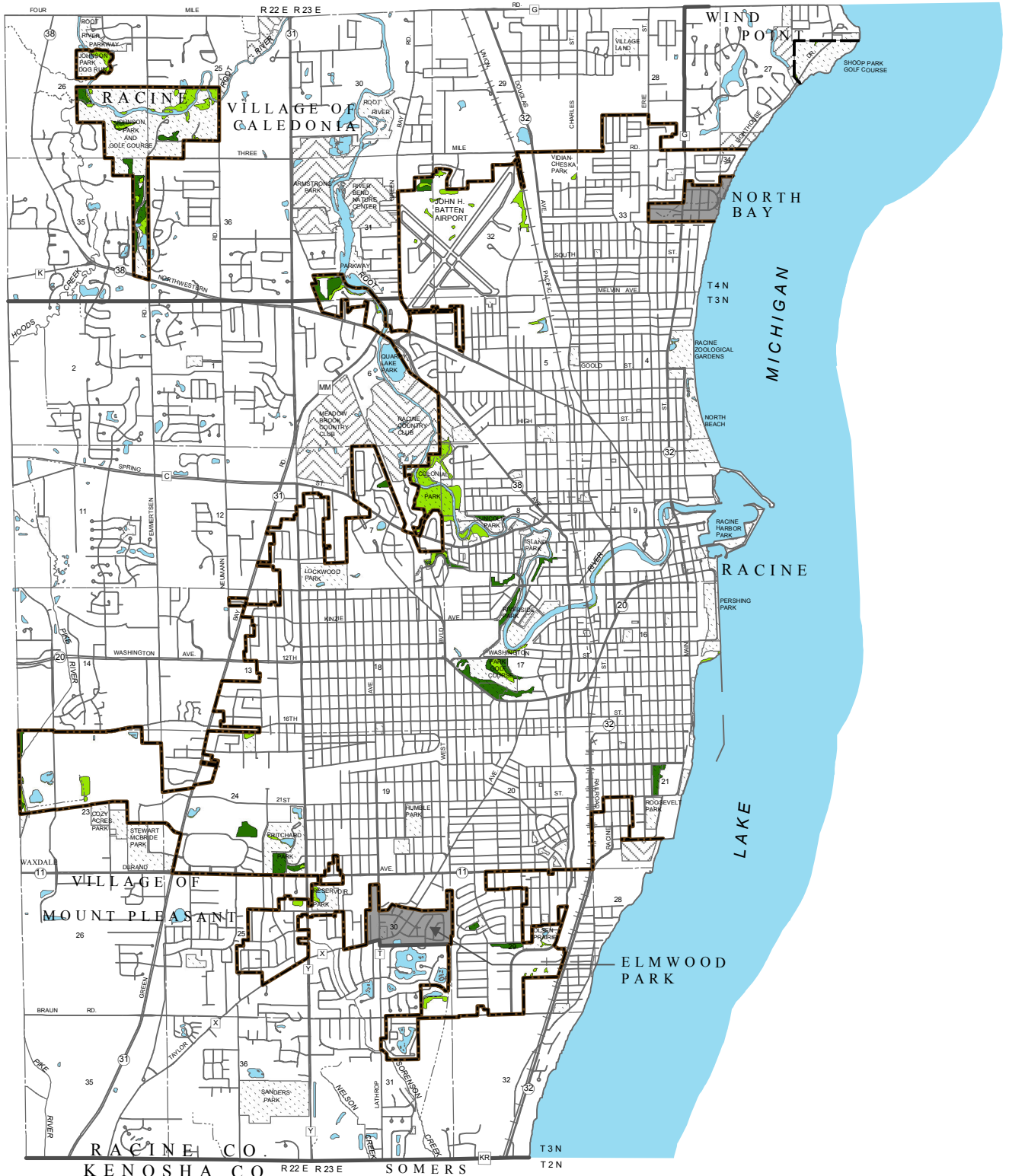
The delineation of these natural resource and resource-related elements on a map results in an essentially linear pattern of relatively narrow, elongated areas which have been termed "environmental corridors" by the Regional Planning Commission. Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety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

The preservation of environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas in essentially natural, open uses can help reduce flood flows, reduce noise pollution, and maintain air and water quality. Corridor preservation is important to the movement of wildlife and for the movement and dispersal of seeds for a variety of plant species. In addition,






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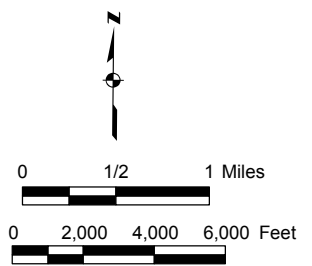
<sup>5</sup> A detailed description of the process of refining the delineation of environmental corridors in Southeastern Wisconsin is presented in SEWRPC Technical Record, Vol. 4, No. 2, Pages 1 through 21, Refining the Delineation of Environmental Corridors in Southeastern Wisconsin, March 1981 (available at [www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/LandUse/EnvironmentalCorridors.htm](http://www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/LandUse/EnvironmentalCorridors.htm)).

WETLANDS AND WOODLANDS IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA



LEGEND

-  WETLANDS
-  WOODLANDS
-  SURFACE WATER
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

because of the many interacting relationships between living organisms and their environment, the destruction and deterioration of any one element of the natural resource base may lead to a chain reaction of deterioration and destruction. The draining and filling of wetlands, for example, may destroy fish spawning grounds, wildlife habitat, and the natural filtration action and flood water storage functions of interconnecting stream systems. The resulting deterioration of surface water quality may, in turn, lead to deterioration of the quality of groundwater, which serves as a source of domestic, municipal, and industrial water supply in many areas and on which low flows in rivers and streams may depend. Similarly, the destruction of woodland cover may result in soil erosion and stream siltation, more rapid stormwater runoff and attendant increased flood flows and stages, and destruction of wildlife habitat.

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

### ***Primary Environmental Corridors***

As shown on Map II-6, primary environmental corridors are located along the Lake Michigan shoreline and the Root River. As indicated in Table II-5, these corridors encompassed a total area of 570 acres, or about 6 percent of the planning area, which is a decrease in the number of acres within primary environmental corridors in the planning area that existed in the previous edition of this report. The difference can be attributed to advanced mapping capabilities, such as orthophotography and cadastral mapping, which provide greater detail and accuracy when identifying natural resource areas. In addition, residential, commercial, and other urbanized land uses that were adjacent to Lake Michigan and the Root River shorelines were considered part of the primary environmental corridor in previous Commission inventories, but have been removed from the environmental corridor where no natural resources remain.

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

### ***Secondary Environmental Corridors***

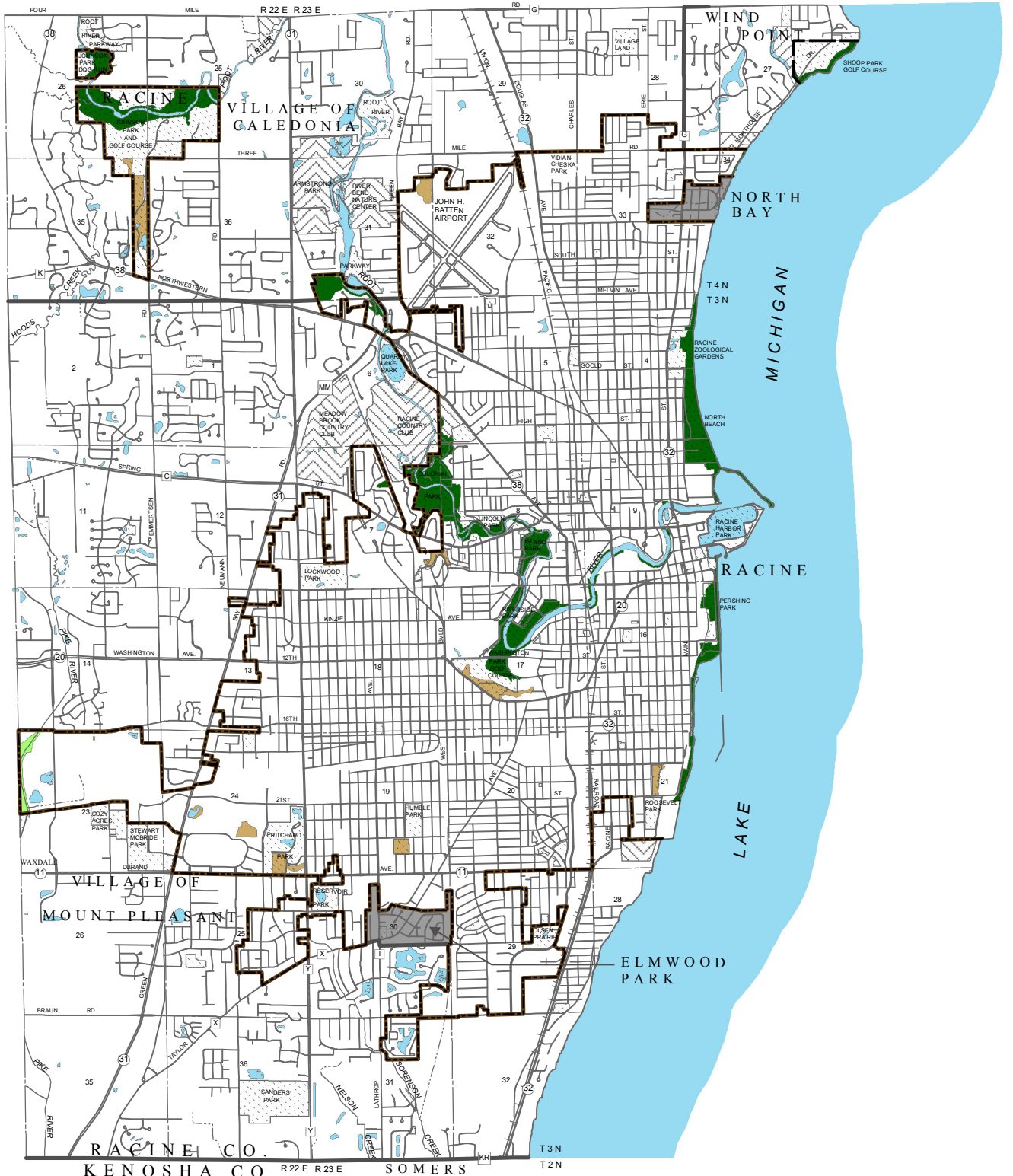
As shown on Map II-6, secondary environmental corridors in the City of Racine planning area are located along the Pike River in the western portion of the City. As shown by Table II-5, secondary environmental corridors encompass 18 acres, or less than 1 percent of the planning area.

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







### ***Isolated Natural Resource Areas***

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

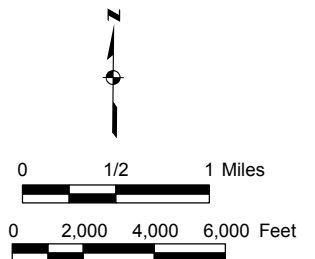
ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA



LEGEND

-  PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR
-  SECONDARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR
-  ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREA
-  SURFACE WATER
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK

Source: SEWRPC.



**Table II-5**

**ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS AND ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS  
IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA**

Corridor Type	Acres	Percent <sup>a</sup>
Primary Environmental Corridor.....	570	5.6
Secondary Environmental Corridor.....	18	0.2
Isolated Natural Resource Area.....	114	1.1
Total	702	6.9

<sup>a</sup> Percent of the planning area (10,113 acres) within corridor.

Source: SEWRPC.

As shown on Map II-6 and Table II-5, isolated natural resource areas are scattered throughout the planning area with a majority of the areas located within publicly-owned park sites. Isolated natural resource areas encompass 114 acres, or about 1 percent of the planning area.

### **Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and Geological Sites**

A comprehensive inventory of natural area sites and critical species habitat sites in Southeastern Wisconsin was completed in 1994 by DNR and SEWRPC. The natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological sites inventory was updated in 2009.<sup>6</sup> Natural areas are defined as tracts of land or water so little modified by human activity, or sufficiently recovered from the effects of such activity, that they contain intact native plants that are classified into one of the following three categories: natural areas of statewide or greater significance (NA-1), natural areas of countywide or regional significance (NA-2), or natural areas of local significance (NA-3). Classification of an area into one of these three categories is based on consideration of the diversity of plant and animal species and community types present; the structure and integrity of the native plant or animal community; the extent of disturbance by human activity, such as logging, grazing, water level changes, and pollution; the commonness of the plant and animal communities present; any unique natural features within the area; the size of the area; and the educational value and animal communities believed to be representative of the landscape before European settlement.

As indicated on Map II-7 and described in Table II-6, a 74-acre portion of the Colonial Park Woods Natural Area, a site of countywide or greater significance, was identified within the City of Racine planning area in the 2005 inventory. A 20-acre portion of the natural area is also located in the Village of Mount Pleasant. The natural area was not identified in the 1994 inventory.

Critical species habitat sites are defined by the Regional Planning Commission as areas outside natural areas that support rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species. Five critical species habitat sites have been identified within the planning area. The five sites are shown on Map II-7 and Table II-6 and encompass 59 acres, or about 1 percent of the planning area. Four critical species habitat sites are located wholly or partially in the City of Racine, and the remaining site is mostly located in the City-owned Shoop Park located in the Village of Wind Point.

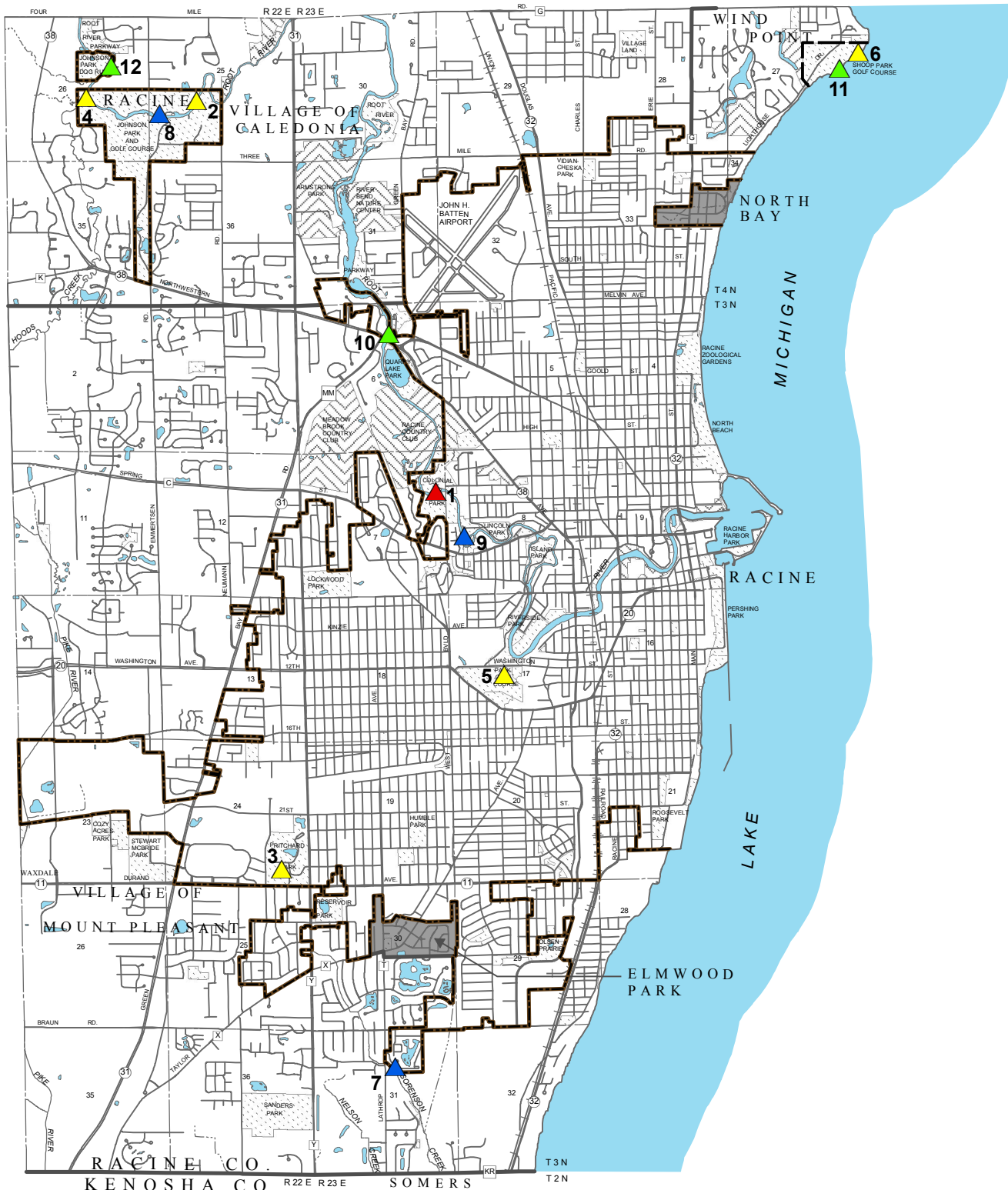
Aquatic habitat areas consist of rivers, streams, and lakes that support endangered, threatened, or rare fish, herptile, or mussel species; support extensive beds of mussel species; or are located within or adjacent to a natural area. Based on a ranking system developed as part of the regional natural areas plan, aquatic areas were designated as AQ-1, aquatic areas of statewide or greater significance; AQ-2, aquatic areas of countywide or regional significance; or AQ-3, aquatic areas of local significance. Three aquatic habitat areas were identified within the planning area. All three areas are considered to be of local significance. These aquatic habitat areas, inventoried in 1994, are also identified in Table II-6 and shown on Map II-7 and encompass nearly four linear miles within the planning area.

In addition, portions of three geological areas, encompassing approximately 15 acres, were identified within the planning area. The Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries site has been identified as a geological area of statewide or greater significance and the Wind Point site has been identified as a geological area of countywide or regional significance. The majority of the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries site is located in the Village of Mount Pleasant within the County-owned Quarry Lake Park and along the Root River. The majority of the Wind Point site is located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the City-owned Shoop Park located within the Village of Wind Point. A portion of the Root River Outcrops site, a geological area of local significance, is located along the Root River within the City-owned Johnson Park Dog Run. These sites are also identified in Table II-6 and shown on Map II-7.

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<sup>6</sup> *The results of the 1994 inventory are documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997. An update to the plan was adopted by the Regional Planning Commission in December 2010.*

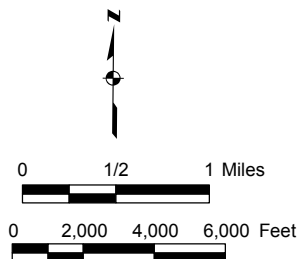
NATURAL AREAS, CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES, AND GEOLOGICAL SITES IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2009



LEGEND

- ▲ NATURAL AREA
- ▲ CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITE
- ▲ AQUATIC HABITAT AREA
- ▲ GEOLOGICAL SITE
- SURFACE WATER
- CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
- SHOOP PARK

**12** REFERENCE NUMBER  
(SEE TABLE II-6)



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

Table II-6

**NATURAL AREAS, CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES,  
 AND GEOLOGICAL SITES IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2005**

Number on Map II-7	Area Name	Classification Code <sup>a</sup>	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
1	Colonial Park Woods	NA-2	T3N, R23E Sections 5, 6, 7, 8	City of Racine and Private	74 <sup>b</sup>	Complex of lowland hardwoods, floodplain forest, and upland mesic to dry-mesic woods bordering the Root River. A number of uncommon species are present, including the State-designated endangered blue-stemmed goldenrod ( <i>Solidago caesia</i> ) and the State-designated threatened forked aster ( <i>Aster furcatus</i> )
2	Caledonia Sanitary Sewer Right-of-Way	CSH	T4N, R22E Section 25	Racine County, City of Racine, the Caledonia Conservancy, and other Private <sup>c</sup>	20 <sup>d</sup>	Site contains blue-stemmed goldenrod ( <i>Solidago caesia</i> ), a State-designated endangered species and hoptree ( <i>Ptelea trifoliata</i> ) and heart-leaved skullcap ( <i>Scutellaria ovata</i> ), State-designated special concern species
3	Pritchard Park Woods	CSH	T3N, R22E Section 24	Racine County	10	Site contains red trillium ( <i>Trillium recurvatum</i> ), a State-designated special concern species
4	Root River Bluff	CSH	T4N, R22E Section 26	Racine County, City of Racine, and Private <sup>c</sup>	11 <sup>e</sup>	Site contains hoptree ( <i>Ptelea trifoliata</i> ), a State-designated special concern species
5	Washington Park Woods	CSH	T3N, R23E Section 17	City of Racine	14	Site contains blue-stemmed goldenrod ( <i>Solidago caesia</i> ), a State-designated endangered species
6	Wind Point	CSH	T4N, R23E Section 27	City of Racine and Village of Wind Point	4 <sup>f</sup>	Site contains sea rocket ( <i>Cakile edentula</i> ), a State-designated special concern species
7	Pike River downstream from Pike Creek (includes Sorenson Creek)	AQ-3 (RSH)	T3N, R23E Section 31	--	-- <sup>g</sup>	Bisects identified Natural Area; critical fish species present
8	Root River downstream from Nicholson Road to STH 38	AQ-3 (RSH)	T4N, R22E Sections 25 and 26 T4N, R23E Section 31 T3N, R23E Section 6	--	2.2 <sup>h</sup> miles	Critical herptile species habitat
9	Root River downstream from STH 38 to Spring Street	AQ-3 (RSH)	T3N, R23E Sections 7 and 8	--	1.4 <sup>h</sup> miles	Critical herptile species habitat

**Table II-6  
(continued)**

Number on Map II-7	Area Name	Classification Code <sup>a</sup>	Location	Ownership	Size (acres)	Description and Comments
10	Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries	GA-1	T3N, R23E Section 6	Racine County and Private	1 <sup>i</sup>	Natural bluffs and old quarries along the Root River, with exposures of richly fossiliferous Racine Dolomite reef strata. Site has produced the largest known diversity of fossil marine organisms from any Silurian reef in the world. Considered for designation as a National Historic Landmark in the History of Science
11	Wind Point	GA-2	T4N, R23E Section 27	City of Racine, Village of Wind Point, and Private	9 <sup>j</sup>	Low natural outcrops, exposing highly fossiliferous Racine Dolomite reef rock, extending several hundred feet along the Lake Michigan shore
12	Root River Outcrops	GA-3	T4N, R22E Section 26	Racine County, City of Racine, and Private <sup>c</sup>	5 <sup>k</sup>	Low outcrops of Racine Dolomite along the Root River; one of few places in Racine County where rock is exposed

<sup>a</sup>NA-2 identifies Natural Areas of countywide or regional significance

CSH identifies Critical Species Habitat sites

AQ-3 identifies Aquatic Areas of local significance

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

GA-1 identifies Geological Areas of statewide or greater significance

GA-2 identifies Geological Areas of countywide or regional significance

GA-3 identifies Geological Areas of local significance.

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

<sup>c</sup> Areas within Johnson Park Golf Course and Johnson Park Dog Run are under City ownership and areas outside Johnson Park Golf Course and Johnson Park Dog Run are under private ownership.

<sup>d</sup> Includes only the acreage located in the City. Total acreage is 94 acres. Racine County owns a five-acre portion of the site and the Caledonia Conservancy owns an 18-acre portion of the site. All remaining acreages are under private ownership.

<sup>e</sup> Includes only the acreage located in the City. Total acreage is 50 acres. Racine County owns a two-acre portion of the site. All remaining acreages are under private ownership.

<sup>f</sup> A small portion of the site extends outside of Shoop Park and is owned by the Village of Wind Point.

<sup>g</sup> Approximately 261 linear feet of the site is located within the City.

<sup>h</sup> A portion of the site extends outside of the planning area and miles given are entirely within the planning area.

<sup>i</sup> Includes only the acreage located in the City. Total acreage is 32 acres. Racine County owns a 24 -acre portion of the site. All remaining acreages are under private ownership.

<sup>j</sup> Includes only the acreage located in Shoop Park. Total acreage is 11 acres. The Village of Wind Point owns a one-acre portion of the site, and the remaining one acre is under private ownership.

<sup>k</sup> Includes only the acreage located in the City. Total acreage is 25 acres. Racine County owns a seven-acre portion of the site, and the remaining acreage is under private ownership.

Source: Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

## SUMMARY

This chapter has presented a general description of the City of Racine planning area, including a description of population levels and land use, existing park and open space sites, and natural resource features such as environmental corridors, wetlands, woodlands, natural areas, and critical species habitat sites. The key components of this chapter are as follows:

- The City of Racine resident population level for 2010, based on U.S. Census data, is 78,860 persons. This represents a decrease of 2,995 persons, or 4 percent, from the 2000 population.
- In 2000, the City of Racine planning area encompassed about 10,113 acres. Of this total, 9,121 acres, or about 90 percent of the planning area, are currently developed or planned to be developed for urban uses. Residential development occupies 3,859 acres, or about 38 percent of the planning area, and lands devoted to transportation, communication, and utilities occupy 2,420 acres, or about 24 percent of planning area. The remaining 992 acres, or about 10 percent of the planning area, consist of natural resource areas or other nonurban uses, including the Kestrel Hawk Park Landfill.
- An inventory of the existing park and open space sites and outdoor recreation facilities in the planning area in 2010 found that there were 138 such sites, which together encompassed about 1,457 acres, or about 14 percent of the planning area. There were 92 City-owned sites, encompassing 1,167 acres, or 12 percent of the planning area, which represents an increase of seven sites and 24 acres since the park and open space inventory was last conducted for the City in 2001.
- The City-owned Lake Michigan Pathway and Root River Pathway provide opportunities for biking and hiking within the City. The 10-mile Lake Michigan Pathway traverses north to south within the City near the Lake Michigan shoreline. The four-mile Root River Pathway is located primarily on park lands along the Root River. Both trails provide a connection to County-owned trails located in the City.
- Primary environmental corridors encompassed 570 acres, or about 6 percent of the planning area. Secondary environmental corridors encompassed 18 acres, or less than 1 percent of the planning area. Isolated natural resource areas encompassed 114 acres, or about 1 percent of the planning area.
- The planning area includes a portion of one natural area, the Colonial Park Woods, which is of countywide or greater significance; five critical species habitat sites, including three sites that are partially located within the planning area; and three geological sites, including two sites that are partially located within the planning area. Together these sites encompass about 148 acres of the planning area. The planning area also includes three aquatic habitat areas encompassing about four linear miles.

\* \* \* \* \*

SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 270 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)  
A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RACINE: 2035

## Chapter III

# STATUS OF 2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

## INTRODUCTION

The City of Racine Park and Open Space Plan for the year 2020, adopted in 2003, contains a number of recommendations regarding the development and improvement of recreational facilities. While most of the recommendations are directed to the City of Racine, there are also recommendations to other units and agencies of government with jurisdiction within the planning area, including Racine County and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. This chapter summarizes the recommendations made in the previous City park and open space plan and indicates those recommendations that had been implemented by 2010 and those remaining to be implemented.

## STATUS OF PARK PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE CITY OF RACINE

The 2020 park and open space plan<sup>1</sup> recommendations and the implementation status of each recommendation are summarized on Table III-1. The table is organized into two sections; the outdoor recreation element and the open space preservation element. The two sections correspond to recommendations made in the body of the 2020 park and open space plan.

### Outdoor Recreation Element

#### *Recommendations Related to Parks*

Recommendations made in the 2020 plan under the outdoor recreation element related to the development and improvement of existing parks and trails include:

- The development of neighborhood park facilities at Carlson, Case-Harmon, Cheska, Clayton, Greencrest, Hantschel, Reservoir, and Roosevelt parks.
- Additional improvements to recreational facilities at 22 existing parks and special use sites, including Clayton Park, Colonial Park, Dr. Hamilton Park, Douglas Park, Greencrest Park, Highland Park, Horlick Athletic Field, Humble Park, Island Park, Lakeview Park, Lincoln Park, Lockwood Park, Marino Park, Marquette Park, North Beach, Pershing Park, Pierce Woods Park, Racine Zoological Gardens, Samuel Myers Park, Solbraa Park, Washington Park Bowl, and Wustum Museum.

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<sup>1</sup> Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 270, A Park and Open Space Plan for the City of Racine, Racine County, Wisconsin, July 2003.

Table III-1

**CITY OF RACINE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN STATUS OF 2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

City of Racine 2020 Park and Open Space Plan Recommendation	Recommendation Fully Implemented	Recommendation Partially Implemented	Recommendation Remaining to be Implemented
<b>I. <u>Outdoor Recreation Element</u></b>			
<b>A. <u>Parks</u></b>			
1. Carlson Park Facilities: Develop Two Tennis Courts			X
2. Case-Harmon Park Facilities: Develop Two Tennis Courts			X
3. Cheska Park (now Vidian-Cheska Park) Facilities: Develop League Softball Diamond Develop Sandlot Ball Diamond Develop Basketball Court Replace Playground	X		X X X
4. Clayton Park Facilities: Develop Sandlot Ball Diamond/ Playfield Develop Full Basketball Court to Replace Existing Half Court Replace Playground Develop Soccer Field Develop Canoe Launch	X X <sup>b</sup> X <sup>b</sup>		X <sup>a</sup> X
5. Colonial Park Facilities: Repair Shelter Roof Pave Parking Lot			X <sup>c</sup> X <sup>c</sup>
6. Dr. Hamilton Park Facilities: Renovate Shelter Roof	X		
7. Douglas Park Facilities: Update Electrical System			X
8. Greencrest Park Facilities: Develop Two Tennis Courts Renovate Shelter			X X
9. Hantschel Park Facilities: Develop Two Tennis Courts			X
10. Highland Park <sup>c</sup> Facilities: Resurface Playground			X
11. Horlick Athletic Field Facilities: Repair/Replace Bleachers	X		
12. Humble Park Facilities: Replace/Resurface Tennis Courts Update Electrical System Add Two Basketball Goals Develop Football Field	X <sup>b</sup> X <sup>b</sup>		X X
13. Island Park Facilities: Resurface Playground Area Develop Canoe Launch	X <sup>b</sup>		X
14. Lakeview Park Facilities: Replace/Resurface Tennis Courts	X		

Table III-1 (continued)

City of Racine 2020 Park and Open Space Plan Recommendation	Recommendation Fully Implemented	Recommendation Partially Implemented	Recommendation Remaining to be Implemented
15. Lincoln Park Facilities: Pave Parking Lot Develop Football Field	X <sup>b</sup>		X
16. Lockwood Park Facilities: Pave Parking Lot	X		
17. Marino Park Facilities: Renovate Shelter Resurface Playground			X <sup>e</sup> X
18. Marquette Park Facilities: Replace Shelter Roof Resurface Basketball Courts			X <sup>f</sup> X
19. North Beach Facilities: Pave Parking Lot Replace Playground Develop ADA-Accessible Boardwalk to Lake Michigan	X X X <sup>b</sup>		
20. Pershing Park Facilities: Replace Boat Ramp Piers Resurface Skate Park	X X		
21. Pierce Woods Park Facilities: Resurface Parking Lot	X		
22. Pugh Recreation Area Facilities: Develop ADA-Accessible Fishing Pier	X <sup>b</sup>		
23. Racine Zoological Gardens Facilities: Repair Cat House Roof and Chimney Replace Gift Shop Roof Replace Flamingo House Construct New Welcome Center Replace North Water Meter Pit Remodel Penguin/Otter Exhibit Engineer and Replace Pond Bridge Remodel Monkey Island Dredge Pond and Fountain Pave Walking Paths	X  X X X X X  X X		X <sup>g</sup>       X
24. Reservoir Park Facilities: Develop Playground Develop Playfield			X X
25. Rooney Recreation Area Facilities: Develop Boat Dock Develop Fishing Pier	X <sup>b</sup> X <sup>b</sup>		
26. Roosevelt Park Facilities: Develop Two Tennis Courts Develop Soccer Field	X <sup>b</sup>		X
27. Samuel Myers Park Facilities: Pave Parking Lot			X
28. Solbraa Park Facilities: Update Lighting and Electrical System Renovate Shelter Develop Ice Skating Rink	X  X <sup>b</sup>		X

**Table III-1 (continued)**

City of Racine 2020 Park and Open Space Plan Recommendation	Recommendation Fully Implemented	Recommendation Partially Implemented	Recommendation Remaining to be Implemented
29. Washington Park Bowl Facilities: Update Lighting System			X
30. Wustum Museum Facilities: Replace Classroom Windows	X		
Renovate First Floor Heating and Cooling System	X		
Renovate Barn	X		
Improve Accessibility for Persons With Disabilities			X
Update the Electrical System on First and Second Floors			X
Pave Rear Parking Lot			X
<b>B. Recreational Trails</b>			
1. Lake Michigan Pathway (Lake Michigan Trail) Trail Construction/Signage	X		
2. Root River Pathway (Root River Trail) Trail Construction/Signage	X		
3. On-Street Bike Route System Construction/Signage – 34 Miles		X	
4. Off-Street Trail Trail Construction/Signage – Four Miles		X	
<b>II. Open Space Preservation Element</b>			
A. Preserve Primary Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas Currently Within City Ownership in Natural, Open Space Uses	X (Approximately 557 Acres)		
B. Enact Conservancy Zoning Regulations and Apply the Regulations to Primary Environmental Corridors that are Privately Owned. The Regulations Should be Designed to Protect the Natural Resources Within Primary Environmental Corridors.			X (Approximately 56 acres)
C. Consider Enacting Conservancy Zoning Regulations for Secondary Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas that are Privately Owned. The Regulations Should be Designed to Protect the Natural Resources Within Secondary Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas.			X (Approximately 52 acres)

<sup>a</sup> Because of the soccer field developed at Clayton Park, there is not enough space to develop a ball diamond/playfield.

<sup>b</sup> Facility not specifically recommended in the 2020 plan.

<sup>c</sup> The City removed the entire shelter from the park, instead of renovating the roof. The City also decided not to pave the parking lot at the park. The parking lot currently consists of gravel.

<sup>d</sup> The park is no longer part of the City park system. Two Habitat for Humanity houses have been developed at the former park site.

<sup>e</sup> The City removed the shelter from the park, instead of renovating the entire building.

<sup>f</sup> The City removed the entire shelter from the park, instead of renovating the roof.

<sup>g</sup> The City removed the pond bridge from the site. The bridge will not be replaced.

Source: City of Racine Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services and SEWRPC.

- Continued maintenance at all existing City-owned park and special use sites.
- Continued development and maintenance of the Root River Trail, the development of the Lake Michigan Pathway, and the development of on-street bike routes within the City.

The following activities related to park and trail development and improvement had been completed by the City by 2010:

- Installation of new playground equipment at Vidian-Cheska Park (formerly known as Cheska Park), replacing the existing playground.
- Installation of new playground equipment at Clayton Park, replacing the existing playground.
- Renovation of the shelter roof at Dr. Hamilton Park.
- Replacing the football field and baseball diamond bleachers at Horlick Athletic Field.
- Resurfacing the tennis courts at Lakeview Park.
- Paving of the parking lot at Lockwood Park.
- Installation of new playground equipment, replacing the existing playground, and paving the parking lot at North Beach.
- Replacing the boat ramp piers and resurfacing the skate park at Pershing Park.
- Resurfacing the parking lot at Pierce Woods Park.
- Repairing the cat house roof and chimney, replacing the gift shop roof, replacing the flamingo house, constructing a new Welcome Center, replacing the north water meter pit, remodeling the penguin/otter exhibit, remodeling monkey island, and paving the walking paths at the Racine Zoological Gardens.
- Updating the electrical system at Solbraa Park.
- Replacing the classroom windows, renovating the first floor heating and cooling systems, and renovating the barn at the Wustum Museum.
- Development of the Root River Trail (Root River Pathway) and the Lake Michigan Pathway throughout the City.

Since 2003, the City has decided to pursue alternative improvements to various facilities at selected park sites, rather than the recommended improvements included in the 2020 park plan. The 2020 park plan recommended that the shelters be renovated at Colonial Park, Marino Park, and Marquette Park, but the shelters at all three of the parks have been removed due to the unstable condition of the buildings and/or lack of use; Highland Park no longer exists as part of the City park system, and has been developed with Habitat for Humanity houses; the pond bridge at the Racine Zoological Gardens has been permanently removed rather than replaced; and the parking lot at Colonial Park will remain gravel rather than paved.

A number of other facilities not specifically called for in the existing plan have been developed or renovated at certain sites and are noted on Table III-1.

The following recommendations of the 2020 plan remain to be implemented:

- Development of two tennis courts at Carlson Park.
- Development of two tennis courts at Case-Harmon Park.
- Development of a league softball diamond, a sandlot ball diamond, and a basketball court at Vidian-Cheska Park (formerly known as Cheska Park).
- Development of a sandlot ball diamond/playfield and a full basketball court, which would replace the existing one-half basketball court, at Clayton Park. Because of the development of a permanent soccer field at Clayton Park, there is not enough space to develop a ball diamond/playfield.
- Update the electrical system at Douglas Park.
- Development of two tennis courts and renovating the shelter at Greencrest Park.
- Development of two tennis courts at Hantschel Park.
- Replacing or resurfacing the tennis courts and updating the electrical system at Humble Park.
- Resurfacing the playground area at Island Park.

- Resurfacing the playground area at Marino Park.
- Resurfacing the basketball courts at Marquette Park.
- Dredging the pond at the Racine Zoological Gardens.
- Developing a playground at Reservoir Park.
- Development of two tennis courts at Roosevelt Park.
- Paving the parking lot at Samuel Myers Park.
- Renovating the shelter at Solbraa Park.
- Update the lighting system at Washington Park Bowl.
- Improving accessibility for persons with disabilities, updating the electrical system on the first and second floors, and paving the rear parking lot at the Wustum Museum.
- Developing a system of on-street bike routes.

***Recommendations Related to Trails***

The outdoor recreation element of the 2020 plan recommends the continued development of a trail along the Root River and the development of the Lake Michigan Pathway within the City. While a four-mile portion of the Root River Trail currently exists, the trail is proposed to be further developed along the Root River from Colonial Park to and within Johnson Park and Golf Course. The City has also developed the entire Lake Michigan Pathway recommended in the 2020 park plan.

The 2020 plan also recommended the development of 34 miles of on-street bikeways along State, County, and local streets within the City. The 2020 plan also recommended that the City develop an additional four miles of trails within environmental corridors or open space areas within the City. These recommendations have been partially implemented.

**Open Space Preservation Element**

The 2020 plan recommended that all primary and secondary environmental corridors currently in City ownership be preserved in essentially natural, open space uses. In addition to maintaining the 468 acres of environmental corridors owned by the City in 2003, the City acquired 29 acres of primary environmental corridor within the Root River corridor in 2010.

The 2020 park plan also recommended that the City enact conservancy zoning regulations and apply those regulations to primary and secondary environmental corridors that are privately owned, and consider protecting privately-owned isolated natural resource areas through conservancy zoning. To date, the City has not amended its zoning ordinance to include conservancy zoning regulations in its zoning code.

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

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers State and Federal grant programs for the acquisition and development of land for outdoor recreation and resource protection purposes. In order for the City to be eligible to apply for such funds, it must adopt a park plan that complies with DNR requirements. The 2020 park plan was approved by the DNR. It is anticipated that this plan will also be approved by the DNR so that the City will retain its eligibility to apply for and receive available State and Federal grant funds to help implement the plan.

**Racine County**

***Recommendations Related to County Parks***

The 2020 park plan recommended that Racine County continue to provide and maintain facilities at Pritchard Park, and develop additional picnic areas at the park. It also recommended that the County continue to maintain other County-owned park and open space sites within the City, including Belle Harbor Marina, Racine Harbor Park, Reef Point Marina, and Quarry Lake Park. Since 2001, the County has acquired and developed Horlick Park, which is part

of the Root River Parkway, in the northwestern portion of the City. The majority of the site is located in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

The 2020 park plan further recommended that Racine County continue to maintain and preserve the 12-acre isolated natural resource area consisting of the Pritchard Park Woods critical species habitat site within Pritchard Park. Racine County has also acquired a small portion of primary environmental corridor along the Root River as part of Horlick Park.

***Recommendations Related to County Trails***

The 2020 park plan calls for Racine County to continue to maintain the MRK Trail located in the northern and southern portions of the City and continue to develop and maintain the Racine-Burlington Trail. The 2020 plan also recommended that the County develop portions of the Root River Trail north of the City. Since 2002, the County-owned trail located in the southern portion of the City within the Wisconsin Electric utility corridor has been referred to as the “North Shore Trail.” The previous edition of this plan referred to that trail segment as the “MRK Trail.” In addition, that portion of the Racine-Burlington Trail located within the City has also been renamed as the “Racine-Sturtevant Trail.” In the previous park plan, the Racine-Burlington Trail was proposed to extend from the City of Racine to the City of Burlington within an abandoned railway right-of-way. Also in the previous park plan, an existing segment of this trail within the City extended from West Boulevard west to Green Bay Road (STH 31). The trail has since been expanded west from Green Bay Road to Willow Road in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

**SUMMARY**

The City of Racine has fulfilled a number of the recommendations made in the 2020 park plan related to the development and improvement of City parks and trails and the preservation of important natural resources within the City. The following chapter evaluates the need for additional park sites and recreational facilities in the City and the remainder of the planning area. Updated plan recommendations are presented in Chapter V.

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SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 270 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)  
A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RACINE: 2035

## Chapter IV

# FRAMEWORK FOR PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Previous chapters of this report have presented the results of inventories of existing population, land uses, natural resources, and park and open space sites in the City and planning area. This chapter describes additional important factors considered when preparing the new park and open space plan. Specifically, this chapter describes relevant City, County, and regional plan recommendations; goals and recommendations developed by the Park PRIDE committee; probable future population levels in the City in the year 2035; and a set of park and open space objectives, principles, and standards which were used as a guide to prepare the plan update. Goals and objectives developed by the Board of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services to help implement the 2020 park and open space plan are also included, since many of the recommendations from the 2020 plan have been carried forward into this plan update.

### CITY PLANS AFFECTING THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Sound planning practice requires that each community plan or plan element be properly related to adopted local, county, and regional plans. Plans that have been considered and appropriately incorporated into this updated park and open space plan include the recently-adopted City of Racine Comprehensive Plan; the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan; the City's Pathway System Plan/Map; the Root River Revitalization Plan; and the updated natural areas plan for Southeastern Wisconsin. Five neighborhood plans prepared by the City since 2003 are also incorporated into this park plan, and include the Douglas Avenue Revitalization Plan, the Downtown Plan, the Live Towerview Plan, the Neighborhood Strategic Plan for Southside Racine, and the Uptown Improvement Plan.

#### **Park and Open Space Plans and Related Plans**

This plan is the second park and open space plan prepared by SEWRPC for the City. Background information on the previous plan, which had a design year of 2020, is provided in the previous chapter. The previous chapter also includes information on the implementation status of recommendations from the previous park and open space plan.

Following adoption of the 2020 park and open space plan in 2003, the City of Racine developed and adopted a Comprehensive Plan for the City in 2009. The comprehensive plan includes generalized park, open space, and trail recommendations, as well as goals, objectives, policies, and programs for continuing development of the City park system.

#### **Pathway System Plan/Map**

A Pathway System Plan/Map was prepared by the City of Racine Department of Public Works in 2006. The City pathway system includes the Lake Michigan Pathway and the Root River Pathway. The Lake Michigan Pathway is about 10 miles in length and traverses north to south within the City near the Lake Michigan shoreline. The Lake Michigan Pathway identified in the Pathway System Plan/Map is a refinement of the pathway recommended in the

Lake Michigan Pathway Master Plan.<sup>1</sup> The Root River Pathway is about four miles in length and is located primarily in park lands along the Root River. With both pathways substantially completed, the plan/map precisely identifies the location of the pathways. Both pathways are signed, contain educational signposts, and include appropriate support facilities. The plan/map also identifies County-owned trails and identifies the location of where the County-owned trails and City pathways connect. Further recommendations and updates to the pathway plan/map are reflected in the plan recommendations in Chapter V.

### **City of Racine Comprehensive Plan**

The City of Racine Common Council adopted a comprehensive plan on November 17, 2009.<sup>2</sup> As required by the Wisconsin comprehensive planning law (Section 66.1001 of the *Wisconsin Statutes*), the City's comprehensive plan includes recommendations for future land uses, parks and open space, and natural resource preservation; and includes projections of future population and households in the City. The new plan contains park, open space, and trail recommendations and goals, objectives, policies, and programs relevant to this park and open space plan update. The plan has a design year of 2035.

The comprehensive plan anticipates that existing parks and open space sites owned by the City will continue to be maintained to provide a wide range of recreational opportunities to the existing and future population of the City. As recommended in this updated park and open space plan, some existing sites may be expanded and/or additional recreation facilities developed to serve City residents. The plan recommends that the City continue to maintain and provide, where necessary, additional on-street and off-street bicycle trails and routes and off-street pedestrian trails within the City. The plan recommends that the development of bicycle parking facilities and bicycle lanes, paths, or routes on arterial streets be considered when those streets are constructed, reconstructed, or resurfaced. The plan also recommends that the City, in cooperation with Racine County, develop a water trail with appropriate support facilities on the Root River and along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The water trails would be developed for use by non-motorized watercraft, such as canoes, kayaks, and pedal boats. The comprehensive plan further recommends the preservation of primary environmental corridors and other important natural resources within the City.

### **Goals, Objectives, Policies, and Programs**

The following goals, objectives, policies, and programs related to the development of the City park and open space system are taken from the City comprehensive plan. The goals, objectives, policies, and programs developed by the City complement the objectives included in the Regional Park and Open Space Objectives, Principles, and Standards, which are included in Appendix A and developed by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC).

#### *Goals*

- Encourage efficient and sustainable growth that provides for the protection of natural systems and preserves the stability and diversity of the City's neighborhoods.
- Maintain the environmental assets of the City through the protection and preservation of valuable natural features including rivers, Lake Michigan, open spaces, and floodplains.
- Preserve open space to enhance the total quality of the environment, maximize essential natural resource availability, give form and structure to urban development, and provide opportunities for a full range of outdoor recreational activities.

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<sup>1</sup> Documented in a report titled, *Lake Michigan Pathway Master Plan*, City of Racine, prepared by SmithGroup JJR, March 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Documented in *SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 305*, A Comprehensive Plan for the City of Racine: 2035, November 2009.

### *Objectives*

- Preserve the remaining primary environmental corridor lands in the City of Racine and, to the extent practicable, preserve the remaining secondary environmental corridor lands and isolated natural resource areas in the City in order to maintain the overall quality of the environment; to provide opportunities for recreational and educational activities; and to avoid serious environmental and developmental problems.
- Preserve habitat for native plants and wildlife thereby preserving the biodiversity of the City and Racine County overall.
- Preserve open spaces and natural resources as part of future development and redevelopment proposals in the City.
- Support carefully planned efforts to restore open space lands to more natural conditions that could result in the expansion of the environmental corridor network. This should include linkages between existing environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, especially those areas that are identified in neighborhood land use plans.
- Develop and maintain a balance between the built environment and the natural environment.
- Develop and maintain a balance between the built environment and the protection of, and public access to, Lake Michigan and rivers in the City.
- Provide a comprehensive system of parks and open spaces within the City to enhance the quality of the environment and life.
- Provide City residents adequate opportunities to participate in resource and nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities, including water-based outdoor recreation activities.
- Support recommendations in regional, county, and local plans related to land use, transportation, water quality management, water supply, and parks and open spaces.
- Foster social, educational, recreational, and leisure-time opportunities for residents.
- Implement of the recommendations of the regional transportation system plan that pertain to the City of Racine – including recommendations pertaining to arterial streets and highways, public transit service, accommodation of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transportation system management, and travel demand management.
- Provide opportunities for bicycling and walking, or other non-motorized forms of transportation, to promote a healthy lifestyle.

### *Policies and Programs*

- Expand community gardening opportunities on publicly-owned land or other vacant land in the City, where feasible.
- Encourage development to occur in areas outside of environmental corridors, isolated natural resource areas, natural areas, floodplains, wetlands, and critical species habitat sites in the City.
- Encourage the protection of environmental corridors and critical species habitat sites through public and non-profit conservation organization fee simple purchase and conservation easements.
- Implement the recommendations of the City of Racine park and open space plan and the Racine County park and open plan as they pertain to the City, and any subsequent plan updates.
- Continue to update the City park and open plan and cooperate with Racine County in updating the County park and open space plan, as necessary, to maintain eligibility for Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Stewardship funding.
- Where feasible, consider the accommodation for bicycle travel on the arterial street and highway system as that system is resurfaced and reconstructed on a segment-by-segment basis.
- Undertake planning to refine and detail the recommendations of the regional transportation system plan for local bicycle and pedestrian facilities, taking into account individual neighborhood needs and conditions.
- Continue to prepare Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) to help identify major projects, including land acquisition, equipment acquisition, transportation facility development and maintenance (including roadways and transit), building maintenance and development, and park projects; and associated funding.
- Provide a system of public community and neighborhood parks in the City that complement the City and County park and trail system.
- Identify and seek grant funds to study future needs and demands for recreational programs and facilities.

- Promote State, County, and local parks and trails to encourage economic development and tourism.
- Consider park and recreation standards developed by SEWRPC, the National Recreation and Park Association, and the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association when updating the City park and open space plan to ensure an appropriate number, size, and distribution of parks and recreational facilities.
- Coordinate the City's bicycle, pedestrian, equestrian, and waterway trail planning and development with related County-wide efforts.
- The City of Racine and Racine County should continue to work with the WDNR and non-government organizations to acquire and develop parks, trails, and other recreation facilities, and to acquire and protect valuable natural resource areas as called for in City and County park and open space plans.

### ***Population Projections***

The comprehensive plan projects a population of 80,510 residents and 32,370 households in the City in the year 2035.

The projections were based on population and household levels in 2000, which were 81,850 residents and 31,450 households. In 2010, the city's population was 78,860 residents and there were 30,530 households. Under the plan, the number of City residents would increase by 1,650 persons, or by 2 percent; and the number of households would increase by 1,840 households, or by 6 percent, between 2010 and 2035.

### **Root River Revitalization Plan**

In July 2008, the Root River Council and the River Alliance of Wisconsin, with assistance from City of Racine staff, completed a Root River Revitalization Plan.<sup>3</sup> The purpose of the plan is to guide and inform the redevelopment and revitalization of the Root River in the City, which includes encouraging innovative, mixed use development along the river, improving and protecting the natural habitat and water quality of the river, and promoting public awareness and use of the river and river corridor. The planning area includes the Root River corridor from the Horlick Dam, located just north of Northwestern Avenue (STH 38), to the mouth of the river at Lake Michigan. Two County parks, a County marina, and 19 City parks, open space sites, or conservancy sites are located within the river corridor, as well as a two-mile segment of the Root River Pathway.

In 2007, the Root River Council developed and distributed surveys to Racine area residents to obtain feedback regarding the Root River. The survey had 83 respondents. Over one-half of the survey respondents indicated that they experienced the Root River by walking. About 45 percent of survey respondents experienced the river by boating, 36 percent by biking, and about one-third by fishing. About 42 percent of survey respondents indicated they liked the nature/wildlife associated with the river, while about one-quarter liked the river as an urban asset, and about 20 percent liked the recreation opportunities the river provides. The top five responses from survey respondents that indicated changes they would like to see to the Root River, from highest to lowest, include improve the water quality, remove trash, more recreation opportunities and events, increase access (including access for persons with disabilities), and enhance the ecosystem and fishery.

The plan recommends creating continuous public access along the riverfront by combining a Riverwalk, the Root River Pathway, and various access points. The plan recommends that the Riverwalk be developed on the south side of the river from 6<sup>th</sup> Street to Main Street, and eventually connect to the existing Lakefront walkway at John Thompson Park and Gaslight Pointe. The plan also recommends that the Riverwalk be developed with at least one non-motorized, public boat launch. Developing continuous public access along the river and sustainably redeveloping the County-owned Belle Harbor Marina could potentially stimulate economic growth along the river. The plan also recommends re-routing a portion of the Root River Pathway on Mound Street from 6<sup>th</sup> Street to Marquette Street to an off-street location either along the river or on a City sidewalk because of safety concerns.

The Root River plan also provides recommendations for parks located along the river. The plan recommends the development of a boat launch at Quarry Lake Park; prohibiting boat and viewing access points at Colonial Park to avoid disturbing ecologically sensitive areas; modifying the boat launch upstream from the weir and steelhead facility;

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<sup>3</sup> Documented in a report titled, *Back to the Root: An Urban River Revitalization Plan, prepared by the Root River Council and River Alliance of Wisconsin, July 2008.*

developing a boat launch downstream of the weir and steelhead facility; increasing viewing areas of the river by providing benches at Clayton and Lincoln Parks; developing a boat launch at Island Park; and providing signage at parks and along pathways/trails to direct the public to recreational opportunities along the river. Since the completion of the plan in 2008, the City has developed boat launches at Island Park and Lincoln Park downstream from the weir and steelhead facility and has installed signs along the Pathway and streets.

### **Neighborhood Plans**

Since 2003, the City has adopted five neighborhood plans; the Douglas Avenue Revitalization Plan, the Downtown Plan, the Live Towerview Plan, the Neighborhood Strategic Plan for Southside Racine, and the Uptown Improvement Plan. The plans were prepared as a guide and achievable vision to recognize and establish needs and strengthen or maintain certain neighborhood districts within the City. The plans include parks-, open space-, and/or trail-related recommendations. Specific recommendations from each neighborhood plan are summarized on the next two pages.

#### *Douglas Avenue Revitalization Plan*

The Douglas Avenue Revitalization Plan was prepared by the City of Racine and Schreiber/Anderson Associates, Inc. in 2004-2005. The neighborhood plan includes areas along Douglas Avenue from State Street northward to the City's corporate limits at Three Mile Road. Recommended improvements to existing parks include additional landscaping at Jonas Park, a historical exhibit located at the intersection of Douglas Avenue and High Street, and at Douglas Park and the Cesar Chavez Community Center; thus creating a buffer between the neighborhood park and the street. Additional landscaping along the perimeter of the park should also be considered. Douglas Park and the Cesar Chavez Community Center are considered very important civic sites along the street corridor, and enhancing this area would improve the visual character of the street. Consideration should also be given to converting the "Island Area" between Yout Street, Charles Street, and Douglas Avenue to a landscaped plaza, which in turn would provide additional needed green space for the neighborhood.

#### *Racine Downtown Plan*

The Downtown Plan was prepared by the City of Racine in 2005, and includes an area of the City, primarily along the Root River, where the Root River flows into Lake Michigan from from approximately State Street south to 6<sup>th</sup> Street and from Lake Michigan west to Marquette Street, and also includes the Marina District and the Gaslight District. The plan recommends that publicly-owned park blocks, open space, or greenspace areas be developed in areas recommended for redevelopment that have a housing emphasis; the creation of new open space areas, such as greenways, parks, and waterway improvements and utilizing existing open space to initiate urban development; and constructing a new Festival Park on the parking lot located at Park Drive and 6<sup>th</sup> Street. The development of a new festival park would provide flexible open greenspace, a connection to other civic uses, and an area for public assembly and recreation. The plan also recommends the development of a new pedestrian bridge linking the Festival Park to the Racine Harbor Park and other marina facilities.

The plan also recommends the development of a bicycle trail system and a pedestrian trail system within the area. The development of the trails will provide connections to Downtown, transit areas, the existing Pathway System trails, and lakefront and riverside greenspaces.

#### *Live Towerview Plan*

The Live Towerview Plan was prepared by the City of Racine in 2008, and includes the southeastern portion of the City from 9<sup>th</sup> Street south to the City's corporate limits and from Lake Michigan west to Racine Street. The plan recommends that the City remain a key partner in the redevelopment of the neighborhood by implementing streetscape improvements and park improvements at Dr. Hamilton Park and West Park. Neighborhood residents involved in the planning process recognized both parks as significant assets; however, residents determined that both parks lacked visible signage and appeared under maintained.

#### *Southside Neighborhood Plan*

The Southside Neighborhood Plan was prepared by the City of Racine and Camiros, Ltd. in 2006. The neighborhood plan also includes the southeastern portion of the City and encompasses the planning area included in the Live Towerview Plan listed above, except this neighborhood plan extends westward to Memorial Drive and Taylor Avenue.

A “Quality of Life” initiative or strategy identified in the plan included providing amenities for residents and employees in the neighborhood. Recommended park-, open space-, and bike-related amenities within the neighborhood include installing parks signs and informational kiosks at existing neighborhood parks; installing bike paths and marked on-street bike routes along the lakefront from Downtown to Roosevelt Park and the S.C. Johnson campus area, and installing bike racks at all public parks; developing additional useable green space for active and passive use and youth-oriented recreation; improving public access to Lake Michigan through signs and marked walking paths; and developing a public swimming pool at Franklin Park or Roosevelt Park.

The neighborhood plan also recommends physical improvements to help beautify the neighborhood, which include landscaping intersections and parkways, creating pocket parks and/or community gardens on vacant lots, creating an Adopt-a-Park program, and encouraging the City to plant more street trees in the neighborhood.

#### *Uptown Improvement Plan*

The Uptown Improvement Plan was prepared by the City of Racine and Schreiber/Anderson Associates, Inc. in 2003-2004. The neighborhood plan includes areas along Washington Avenue from 16<sup>th</sup> Street northward to 13<sup>th</sup> Street and from Racine Street west to Memorial Drive. The plan recommends streetscape improvements near 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Washington Avenue and improved pedestrian and bike access along 14<sup>th</sup> Street. The plan also recommends that the City consider providing on-street bike connections to the existing Root River and Lake Michigan Pathways and other planned trails as part of the City’s bike system.

## **COUNTY AND REGIONAL PLANS AFFECTING THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN**

### **Regional and County Park and Open Space Plans**

The adopted regional park, outdoor recreation, and related open space plan, as described in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 27, *A Regional Park and Open Space Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2000*, November 1977, identifies existing and probable future park and open space needs within the Region and recommends a system of large regional resource-oriented parks, recreation corridors, and smaller urban parks, together with their attendant recreational facility requirements, to meet these needs. The portion of the regional park plan that applies to Racine County, including the City of Racine, was revised in 1988 through the preparation and adoption of a County park and open space plan. An updated County park and open space plan was adopted by the County Board in 2001.<sup>4</sup> That plan consists of both an open space preservation element and an areawide outdoor recreation element, intended to, respectively, protect areas containing important natural resources and to provide resource-oriented recreational sites and facilities, including trails. An update to the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan is scheduled to begin in mid-2011.

The outdoor recreation sites recommended within the City of Racine by the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan includes two existing major parks within the City, the 73-acre Pritchard Park and the 335-acre Johnson Park and Golf Course. The plan recommends that Pritchard Park continue to be maintained by Racine County and that picnic areas with appropriate support facilities be developed by the County. Since 2001, the County has developed a group picnic facility, the Wieczorek Pavilion, in the northern portion of the park with the appropriate support facilities, such as restrooms and parking. The plan also recommends that the County develop an ice arena to enable participation in such activities such as ice hockey, figure skating, or casual skating, but no specific location was identified. . The plan recommends that the County continue to maintain other County-owned sites within the City of Racine, including Horlick Park, Quarry Lake Park, Racine Harbor Park, Belle Harbor Marina, and Reef Point Marina. The plan also recommends that the City of Racine continue to maintain and provide additional resource-oriented recreational facilities, when necessary, at the City-owned Johnson Park and Golf Course.

The County park plan recommends the development of a trail along or within view of Lake Michigan, which would connect with existing recreational trails in Milwaukee County and Kenosha County to the north and south, respectively. Since 2001, the City of Racine has developed the Lake Michigan Pathway within the City. The Lake

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<sup>4</sup> Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 134, 2nd Edition, A Park and Open Space Plan for Racine County, Wisconsin, July 2001.

Michigan Pathway is about 10 miles in length and traverses north to south within the City, including portions of the trail near or within view of Lake Michigan. The pathway provides a connection to the existing Racine County Milwaukee-Racine-Kenosha (MRK) Trail on the north side of the City and the existing Racine County North Shore Trail on the south side of the City. The development of the City's Lake Michigan Pathway within the City, plus the existing MRK and North Shore Trails, fully implements the Lake Michigan Trail within Racine County.

The County plan also recommends that Racine County develop a trail along the Root River. Since 2001, the City of Racine has developed a four-mile portion of the Root River pathway within the City. The pathway extends from the Main Street Bridge, near downtown, to Colonial Park. The Root River Pathway currently provides a connection to the County MRK Trail on the north side of the City and the County North Shore Trail on the south side of the City. The pathway also provides a connection to the County-owned Racine-Sturtevant Trail. Ultimately, the development of the Root River Trail along the Root River within Racine County would connect with a similar trail along the Root River in Milwaukee County. The County plan therefore recommends that the City develop a portion of the Root River Trail within Johnson Park and Golf Course.

The County plan recommends the continued development and maintenance of the Racine-Burlington Trail. Since 2001, the County has extended an existing portion of the trail from Green Bay Avenue (STH 31) westward to Willow Road in the Village of Mount Pleasant. Currently, the trail encompasses about three miles and has been completed within the City of Racine from West Boulevard westward to the City's corporate limits. Within the City, the existing trail is primarily located within a WE Energies utility corridor, and that portion of trail is now referred to as the Racine-Sturtevant Trail. The remaining portion of the trail, west of Willow Road, is proposed to be developed within a railway right-of-way. Currently, a portion of the railway is abandoned from Kansasville west to the City of Burlington. Should the remainder of the railway right-of-way be abandoned, it is recommended that the County develop a trail in the abandoned right-of-way from Willow Road to the City of Burlington.

### **Regional Natural Areas Plan**

Natural areas and critical species habitat sites in Southeastern Wisconsin were identified in 1994 as part of the regional natural areas study. The inventory of natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological sites was updated in 2009.<sup>5</sup> One natural area, five critical species habitat sites, and three geological areas were identified in the City in 2009. The natural area, critical species habitat sites, and geological areas in the City planning area are shown on Map II-7 and described on Table II-6 in Chapter II.

The regional natural areas plan recommends the protection and preservation of such areas in the Region. The natural areas plan identifies potential sites to be placed in public or private protective ownership, and other sites to be protected, insofar as it is possible, through zoning and other regulatory means without protective ownership. It also recommends that a detailed management plan be prepared and implemented for each site placed under protective ownership.

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

- The Colonial Park Woods Natural Area encompasses 94 acres, including 74 acres within the City of Racine. Sixty-four acres are owned by the City within Colonial Park. A one-acre portion of the natural area is located within the privately-owned Racine Country Club, while the remaining nine acres are located in privately-owned residential areas. The updated regional natural areas plan recommends City acquisition of the entire natural area. The Colonial Park Woods Natural Area is a new site identified during the natural areas and critical species habitat sites update, and therefore was not listed in the previous park plan.

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<sup>5</sup> Documented in *SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, September 1997. An update to the plan was adopted by the Regional Planning Commission in December 2010.*

- The Caledonia Sanitary Sewer Right-of-Way critical species habitat site encompasses 94 acres. Twenty acres are owned by the City within Johnson Park and Golf Course. A five-acre portion of the site is located within the County-owned Root River Parkway and an 18-acre portion of the site is located within lands owned by the Caledonia Conservancy, a land trust organization. Both sites are located in the Village of Caledonia. The remaining 51 acres are located in privately-owned residential areas within the Village of Caledonia, and the updated regional natural areas plan recommends that a NCO, such as the Caledonia Conservancy, acquire the remaining 51 acres of the site for resource protection purposes. In the previous edition of the regional natural areas and critical species management plan, it was recommended that the entire site be acquired and protected by Racine County.
- The Pritchard Park Woods critical species habitat site encompasses 10 acres. The entire site is located within the County-owned Pritchard Park located in the southwestern portion of the City of Racine. The updated regional natural areas plan recommends that the County continue to own and maintain the site.
- The Root River Bluff critical species habitat site encompasses 50 acres. An 11-acre portion of the site is located within the City within City-owned parks, Johnson Park Dog Run and Johnson Park and Golf Course. A two-acre portion of the site is located within the adjacent County-owned Root River Parkway. The remaining 37 acres are located in privately-owned residential areas within the Village of Caledonia. The updated regional natural areas plan recommends that the remaining 37 areas of the site be acquired and protected by Racine County.
- The Washington Park Woods critical species habitat site encompasses 14 acres. The entire site is located within the City's Washington Park Golf Course, centrally located within the City of Racine. The updated regional natural areas plan recommends that the City continue to own and maintain the site.
- The Wind Point critical species habitat site encompasses four acres. The majority of the site is located along the Lake Michigan shoreline within the City-owned Shoop Park within the Village of Wind Point. The remainder of the site, less than one-half of an acre, is located on land owned by the Village of Wind Point. The updated regional natural areas plan recommends that the site continue to be owned and maintained by the City of Racine and Village of Wind Point.
- The Wind Point geological area encompasses 11 acres. The majority of the site is located along the Lake Michigan shoreline within the City-owned Shoop Park within the Village of Wind Point. A one-acre portion of the site is also located on land owned by the Village of Wind Point. The remaining one acre is located within privately-owned, single-family residential lots. The updated regional natural areas plan recommends that the City of Racine and Village of Wind Point continue to own and maintain those portions of the site already located within public ownership. The natural areas plan also recommends that the Village of Wind Point acquire the remaining one acre of the site that is not under public ownership. The geological site encompasses the four-acre Wind Point critical species habitat site.
- The Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries geological area encompasses 32 acres, including a one-acre portion located along the Root River in the northwestern portion of the City. The one-acre portion of the site within the City is located within the County-owned Horlick Park. An additional 23 acres are located within Quarry Lake Park in the Village of Mount Pleasant, and a three-acre portion of the site is located within the privately-owned Racine Country Club in the Village of Mount Pleasant. The remaining five acres are located within privately-owned, single-family residential lots. The updated regional natural areas plan recommends that the County acquire a conservation easement on these five acres.
- The Root River Outcrops geological area encompasses 25 acres, including a five-acre portion located along the Root River in the City. The five-acre portion of the site is located within the City-owned Johnson Park Dog Run. A seven-acre portion of the site is also located within the adjacent County-owned Root River

Parkway located in the Village of Caledonia. The remaining 13 acres are located within privately-owned, single-family residential lots. The updated regional natural areas plan recommends that the remaining 13 areas of the site be acquired and protected by Racine County. About one-half the geological area is encompassed within the Root River Bluff critical species habitat site located in the City's Johnson Park Dog Run and the Village of Caledonia.

## **REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AND STANDARDS**

The Regional Planning Commission, as part of the regional park and open space planning program completed in 1977, formulated a comprehensive set of park and related open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives. Because the study viewed all park and open space sites and facilities as an integral part of an areawide system, the objectives addressed neighborhood, community, and multi-community or regional park and open space sites and facilities.

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

The attainment of all objectives is considered desirable to provide residents of the City with opportunities for high-quality recreational experiences. Under the regional park and open space plan and the Racine County park and open space plan described earlier in this chapter, the responsibility for providing the necessary parks, open space lands, and associated recreational facilities is shared among various levels of government. The responsibility for acquisition and development of major resource-oriented parks and recreational facilities<sup>6</sup> is largely delegated to the state and county levels of government, although larger cities, such as the City of Racine, sometimes provide major parks. The need for major parks will be met within the City of Racine by the continued maintenance of Johnson Park and Golf Course by the City and the continued maintenance and development of Pritchard Park by Racine County.

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

## **PARK AND OPEN SPACE NEEDS**

### **Forecast Population**

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

As noted in Chapter II, the 2010 City population, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, was 78,860 persons. The anticipated resident population of the City of Racine under the adopted 2035 City of Racine comprehensive plan is about 80,510 persons, which is the population level upon which the needs analysis presented in this chapter is based.

### **Community and Neighborhood Parks**

The standards set forth under Objective No. 2 in Appendix A are concerned with the provision of adequate sites and facilities for nonresource-oriented recreation activities. Nonresource-oriented activities are those that do not depend

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<sup>6</sup> *Resource-oriented recreational facilities include camping, golfing, picnicking, skiing, and beach swimming. Such facilities are dependent on the natural resources, such as woodlands and rivers or lakes, of the site in which they are located. Facility requirements for these activities are set forth under Objective No. 3 in Appendix A.*

upon the presence of such natural resources as woodlands, slopes, lakes, rivers, or wide expanses of land. Nonresource-oriented facilities include ball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis courts, swimming pools, and basketball courts and goals, which are typically provided at community and neighborhood parks and public schools.

Community parks range in size from 25 to 99 acres, have a service radius of two miles, and generally provide community-oriented facilities such as baseball diamonds, softball diamonds, and swimming pools. Neighborhood parks range in size from five to 24 acres and have a service radius of 0.5 miles in high-density residential areas, such as the City of Racine. Neighborhood parks provide facilities for children's outdoor recreation activities, such as playground and playfield activities, basketball, and other court games.

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

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

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

#### **Site Needs Based on Per Capita Standards**

The result of applying the per capita standards for the amount of land needed for community and neighborhood parks to serve City residents in the year 2035 is presented in Table IV-1. The 2035 population forecast of 80,510 City residents is based on the City's 2035 comprehensive plan adopted by the Common Council in November 2009. Application of the per capita standards indicates a need for about 77 additional acres of public outdoor recreation lands at public school sites within the City. Because the amount of acreage in existing public park sites compensates for the relatively low amount of recreation land at public school sites, there is no need for additional park land to meet the per capita standard. Even when per capita acreage standards are met, however, additional parks may be needed if the distribution of existing parks does not provide convenient access for current and future residents. The accessibility, or service area, analysis is provided in the following section.

#### **Site Needs Based on Service Area Standards**

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

As shown on Map IV-1, application of the two-mile service area radius to existing parks providing community facilities indicates that the northern portion of the City, near Three Mile Road, is not adequately served by a community park. The existing parks providing community park facilities utilized in this analysis include Johnson Park and Golf Course, Island Park, Lincoln Park, Lockwood Park, North Beach, Pershing Park, and Pritchard Park in

**Table IV-1**

**PER CAPITA ACREAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMUNITY  
 AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA**

Park and School Sites	Minimum Standard Net Acreage Requirements (acres per 1,000 persons) <sup>b</sup>	Existing Net Acreage	Per Capita Acreage Requirements			
			Existing 2010 Population: 78,860 Residents		Planned 2035 Population: 80,510 Residents	
			Net Acreage Requirement <sup>c</sup>	Net Acreage Need <sup>d</sup>	Net Acreage Requirement <sup>c</sup>	Net Acreage Need <sup>d</sup>
Parks <sup>a</sup> .....	3.9	811 <sup>e</sup>	308	--	314	--
Schools.....	2.5	120 <sup>f</sup>	197	77	201	81
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>--</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes 31 City-owned major, community, and neighborhood park sites, including Brose Park, Carlson Park, Case-Harmon Park, Cedar Bend Park, Clayton Park, Douglas Park, Erskine Park, Franklin Park, Greencrest Park, Hantschel Park, Harvey Park, Humble Park, Island Park, Johnson Park and Golf Course, Lakeview Park, Lincoln Park, Lockwood Park, Marino Park, Mat Matson Park, N. Owen Davies Park, North Beach, Pershing Park, Pierce Woods Park, Reservoir Park, Robert G. Heck Park, Roosevelt Park, Samuel Myers Park, Solbraa Park, Vidian-Cheska Park, Washington Park Bowl, and West Park. Also included are three sites owned by Racine County (Pritchard Park, Quarry Lake Park, and Racine Harbor Park) and one site owned by the Village of Mount Pleasant (Stewart McBride Park), which provide community and neighborhood recreational facilities to City residents.

<sup>b</sup> Standard per capita acreage requirements are set forth under Objective No. 1 in Appendix A.

<sup>c</sup> The acreage requirement for park and school sites was determined by multiplying the standard acreage requirement times the appropriate population in thousands of persons.

<sup>d</sup> Acreage need was determined by subtracting the existing acres from the acreage requirement. Since the remainder was a negative number, the minimum acreage requirement was exceeded and no need for additional parks was identified based on per capita standards. See Maps IV-1 and IV-2 for areas located outside the recommended service area for community and neighborhood parks, respectively.

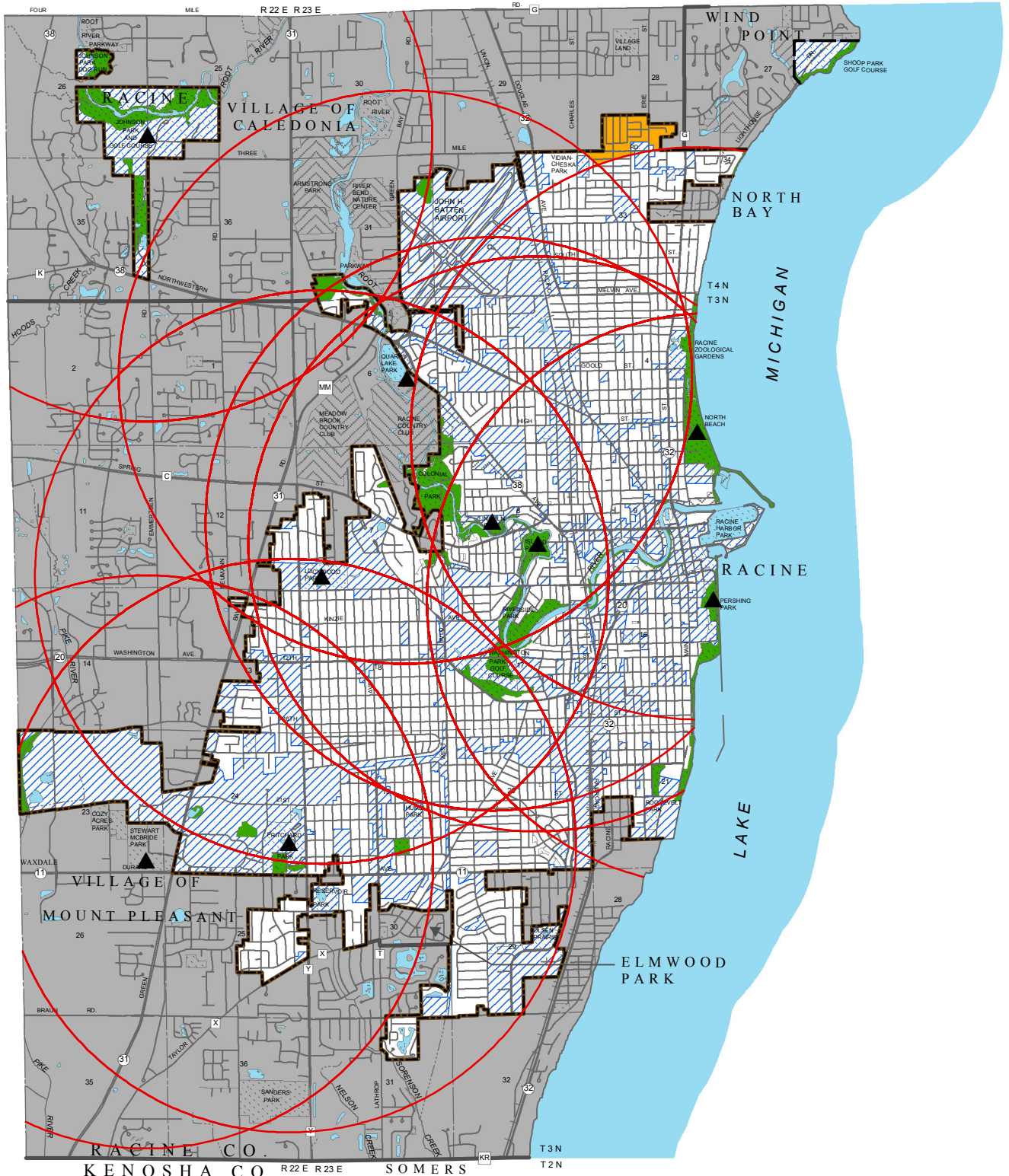
<sup>e</sup> Includes about 312 acres of existing developed (206 acres) and potential developable (106 acres) areas at 35 existing major, community, and neighborhood parks. Developable area excludes wetlands, lowland portions of primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, and floodplains within existing parks.

<sup>f</sup> This total includes acreage used for outdoor recreation purposes at 20 public school sites within the City of Racine and J.I. Case High School located in the Village of Mount Pleasant.




Source: City of Racine and SEWRPC.

Map IV-1

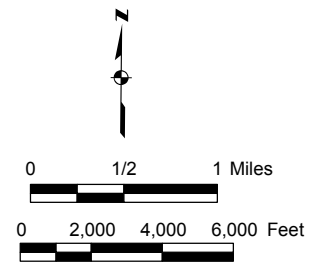
**PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A COMMUNITY PARK**



**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING COMMUNITY PARK
-  COMMUNITY PARK SERVICE RADIUS
-  PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A COMMUNITY PARK
-  PLANNED URBAN NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
-  ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS
-  LANDS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK

Source: SEWRPC.



the City of Racine; Quarry Lake Park in the City of Racine and the Village of Mount Pleasant; and Stewart McBride Park in the Village of Mount Pleasant.

As shown on Map IV-2, application of the 0.5-mile service area radius to existing parks providing neighborhood facilities indicates that limited portions of the City are not adequately served by a neighborhood park. In addition, there are limited areas within the City which, although within the 0.5-mile service area radius, are considered inadequately served due to accessibility barriers.

Existing neighborhood parks used in this analysis include Brose Park, Carlson Park, Case-Harmon Park, Cedar Bend Park, Clayton Park, Douglas Park, Erskine Park, Franklin Park, Greencrest Park, Hantschel Park, Harvey Park, Humble Park, Lakeview Park, Marino Park, Mat Matson Park, N. Owen Davies Park, Pierce Woods Park, Racine Harbor Park, Reservoir Park, Robert G. Heck Park, Roosevelt Park, Samuel Myers Park, Solbraa Park, Vidian-Cheska Park, Washington Park Bowl, and West Park, all in the City of Racine; and the community parks noted above.

### **Facility Needs Based on Per Capita Standards**

The facility standards set forth under Objective No. 2 in Appendix A are concerned with providing an adequate number and distribution of outdoor recreation facilities to afford City residents adequate opportunities to participate in intensive outdoor recreation activities such as baseball, softball, and tennis. The results of applying the adopted per capita facility standards to the projected 2035 population level for the City of Racine are presented in Table IV-2. The existing quantity of each facility includes those located in public and private sites within the planning area. Facilities at public sites include those at community parks, neighborhood parks, and public schools. Facilities at private sites include those at private schools and commercial and organizational recreation sites.

As shown in Table IV-2, a need was identified through the application of the standards for 24 additional public soccer fields, nine additional public tennis courts, and two additional public softball diamonds. In cases where the number of private facilities falls below the recommended standard, a need for additional public facilities to fulfill the need was identified, as the public sector has no control over the provision of additional privately-owned recreation facilities. As documented in Chapter V of this report, the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board refined the results of the needs analysis as they apply to the City park system.

### ***Facility Needs Based on Service Area Standards***

In addition to meeting the per capita acreage standards, the spatial distribution of outdoor recreation facilities should provide ready access by City residents. Application of the service radius standards set forth under Objective No. 2 in Appendix A determined which portions of the City may lack adequate access to selected nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation facilities. Portions of the City are not adequately served by such facilities, based on application of the standards, are identified below.

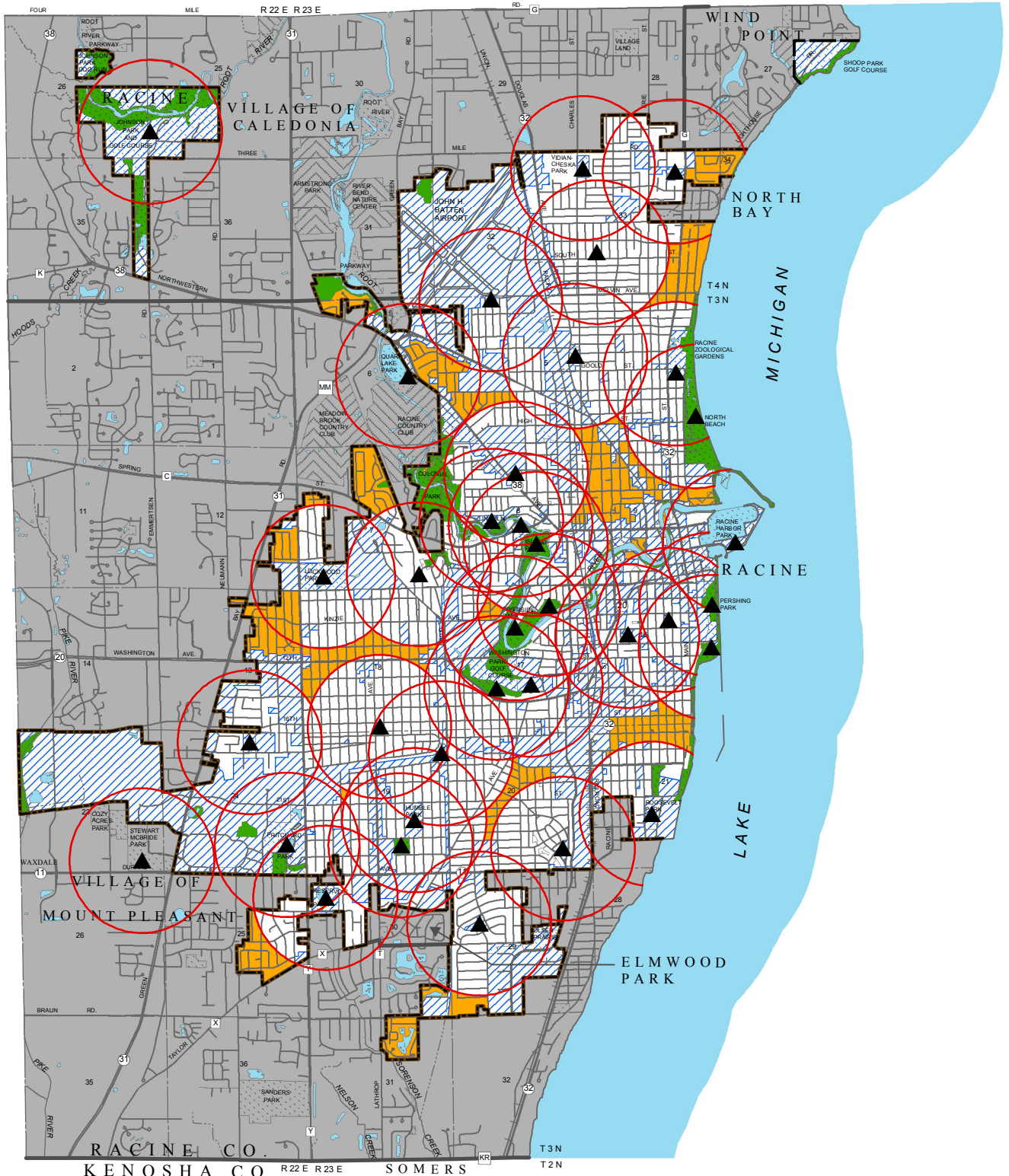
#### ***Baseball Diamonds***

As shown on Map IV-3, baseball diamonds were provided at four public outdoor recreation sites in the City of Racine planning area in 2009. The league softball diamond at Lockwood Park also serves as a baseball diamond. Baseball diamonds were also located at the County-owned Haban Park, which is located at the northwest intersection of Spring Street (CTH C) and Borgardt Road in the Village of Mount Pleasant. Since the maximum service radius of a baseball diamond is two miles, application of the accessibility requirement indicates that an area in the northern portion of the City, near Three Mile Road, is not served by the existing distribution of baseball diamonds.









#### ***Basketball Goals***

As shown on Map IV-4, basketball goals were provided at 28 public outdoor recreation sites in the City of Racine planning area in 2009. Since the maximum service radius of a basketball goal is 0.5 miles, application of the accessibility requirement indicates that limited portions of the City are not served by the existing distribution of basketball goals. In addition, there are limited areas within the City which, although within the 0.5-mile service area radius, are considered inadequately served due to accessibility barriers.

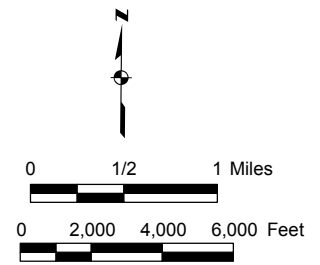
**PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A NEIGHBORHOOD PARK**



**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
-  NEIGHBORHOOD PARK SERVICE RADIUS
-  PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
-  PLANNED URBAN NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
-  ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS
-  LANDS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK

Source: SEWRPC.



**Table IV-2  
 PER CAPITA REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTED OUTDOOR  
 RECREATION FACILITIES IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA**

Minimum Per Capita Facility Requirements <sup>a</sup>				Facility Requirement <sup>b</sup>	Existing Number of Facilities	Facility Need <sup>c</sup>
Activity	Facility	Owner	Facility per 1,000 Residents			
Baseball	Diamond	Public	0.09	7	10 <sup>d</sup>	--
		Nonpublic	0.01	1	0	
		Total	0.10	8	10	
Basketball	Goal	Public	0.91	73	88	--
		Nonpublic	0.22	18	21	
		Total	1.13	91	109	
Playfield Activities	Playfield	Public	0.39	31	46	--
		Nonpublic	0.11	9	5	
		Total	0.50	40	51	
Playground Activities	Playground	Public	0.35	28	56	--
		Nonpublic	0.07	6	8	
		Total	0.42	34	64	
Soccer	Field	Public	0.69	56	24	24 Public
		Nonpublic	0.17	14	22 <sup>e</sup>	
		Total	0.86	70	46	
Softball	Diamond	Public	0.53	43	44 <sup>d</sup>	2 Public
		Nonpublic	0.07	6	3	
		Total	0.60	49	47	
Tennis	Court	Public	0.41	33	25	9 Public
		Nonpublic	0.09	7	6	
		Total	0.50	40	31	

<sup>a</sup> Per capita facility requirements are set forth under Objective No. 2 in Appendix A.

<sup>b</sup> The facility requirement was determined by multiplying the facility requirement per 1,000 residents anticipated under the adopted City of Racine 2035 comprehensive plan (80,510 residents).

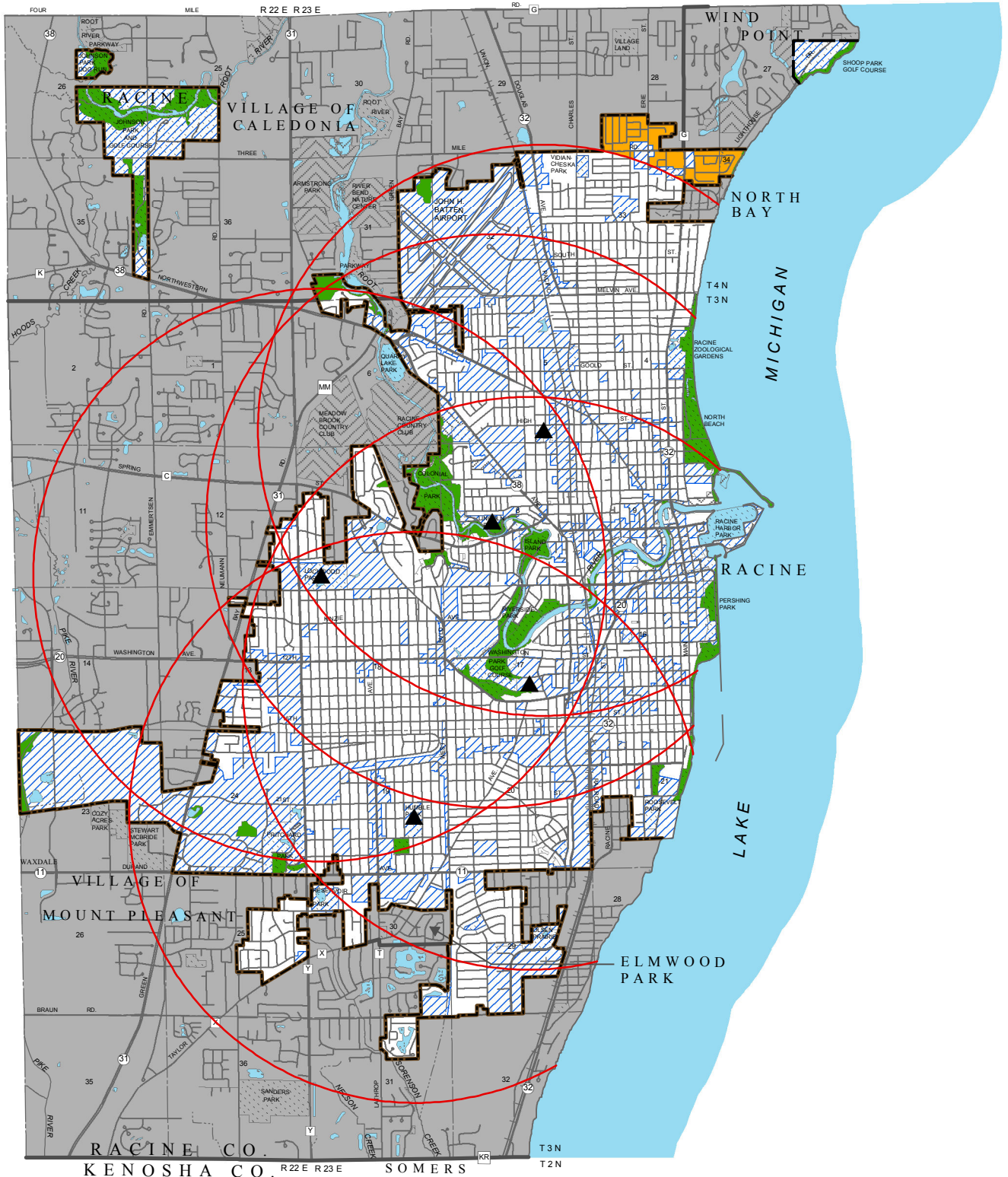
<sup>c</sup> The facility need was determined by subtracting the existing number of facilities from the facility requirement. In cases where the existing number of facilities exceeds the facility requirement, no facility need was identified. In cases where either the number of existing public facilities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

<sup>d</sup> Includes baseball and softball diamonds at the County-owned Haban Park located in the Village of Mount Pleasant.




<sup>e</sup> Includes soccer fields at the Soccer Complex of Racine (SCORE), the Caledonia-Mount Pleasant Memorial Park, and the Village of Caledonia-owned land, all located in the Village of Caledonia, in addition to soccer fields at City parks.

Source: SEWRPC.

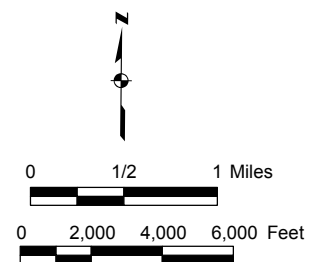
**PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A BASEBALL DIAMOND**



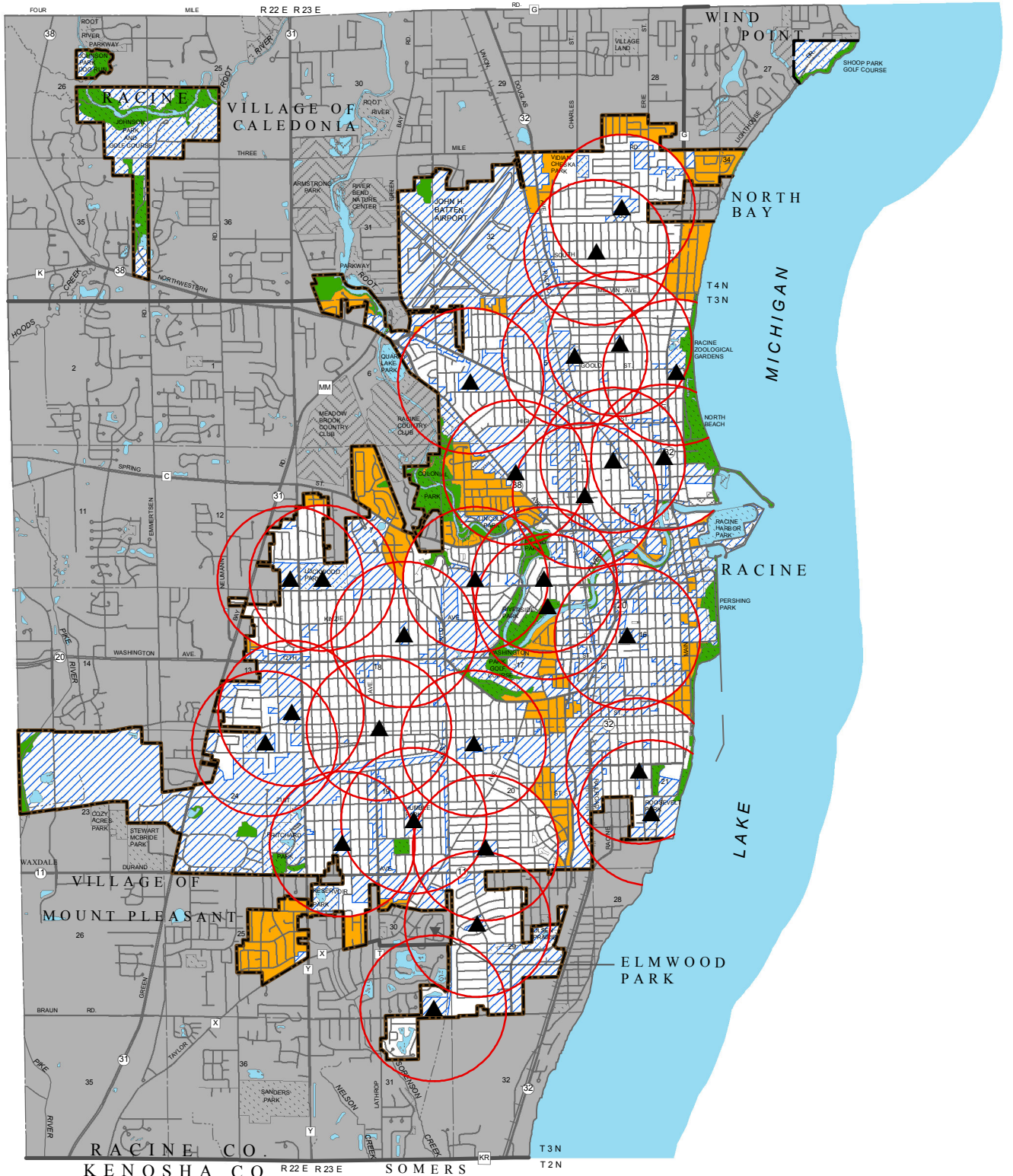
**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING BASEBALL DIAMOND
-  BASEBALL DIAMOND SERVICE RADIUS
-  PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A BASEBALL DIAMOND
-  PLANNED URBAN NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
-  ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS
-  LANDS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK









Source: SEWRPC.



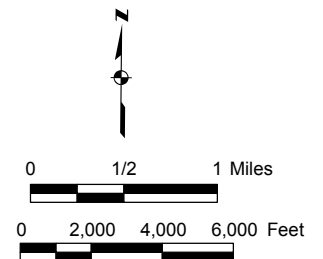
**PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A BASKETBALL GOAL**



**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING BASKETBALL GOAL
-  BASKETBALL GOAL SERVICE RADIUS
-  PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A BASKETBALL GOAL
-  PLANNED URBAN NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
-  ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS
-  LANDS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK

Source: SEWRPC.



### *Playfields*

As shown on Map IV-5, playfields were provided at 46 public outdoor recreation sites in the City of Racine planning area in 2009. Since the maximum service radius of a playfield is 0.5 miles, application of the accessibility requirements indicates that limited portions of the City are not served by the existing distribution of playfields. In addition, there are limited areas within the City which, although within the 0.5-mile service area radius, are considered inadequately served due to accessibility barriers.

### *Playgrounds*

As shown on Map IV-6, playgrounds were provided at 56 public outdoor recreation sites in the City of Racine planning area in 2009. Since the maximum service radius for a playground is 0.5 mile, application of the accessibility requirement indicates that limited portions of the City are not served by the existing distribution of playgrounds. In addition, there are limited areas within the City which, although within the 0.5-mile service area radius, are considered inadequately served due to accessibility barriers.

### *Soccer Fields*

As shown on Map IV-7, public soccer fields were provided at 16 public outdoor recreation sites in the City of Racine planning area in 2009. Public soccer fields were also provided at the Caledonia-Mount Pleasant Memorial Park and at Village of Caledonia-owned land. Private soccer fields were located nearby at the Soccer Complex of Racine (SCORE). All three sites are adjacent to each other and are located in the Village of Caledonia. Since the maximum service radius of a soccer field is one mile, application of the accessibility requirement indicates that areas in the northwestern and eastern portions of the City are not served by the existing distribution of soccer fields.

### *Softball Diamonds (League)*

As shown on Map IV-8, league softball diamonds were provided at eight public outdoor recreation sites in the City of Racine planning area in 2009. The baseball diamond at Lincoln Park also serves as a league softball diamond. League softball diamonds were also located at the County-owned Haban Park in the Village of Mount Pleasant. Since the maximum service radius for a softball diamond is one mile, application of the accessibility requirement indicates that areas in the northern, eastern, and southern portions of the City are not served by the existing distribution of league softball diamonds.

### *Tennis Courts*

As shown on Map IV-9, tennis courts were provided at six public outdoor recreation sites in the City of Racine planning area in 2009. Since the maximum service radius for a tennis court is one mile, application of the accessibility requirement indicates that areas in the northern, eastern, southern, and southwestern portions of the City are not served by the existing distribution of tennis courts.

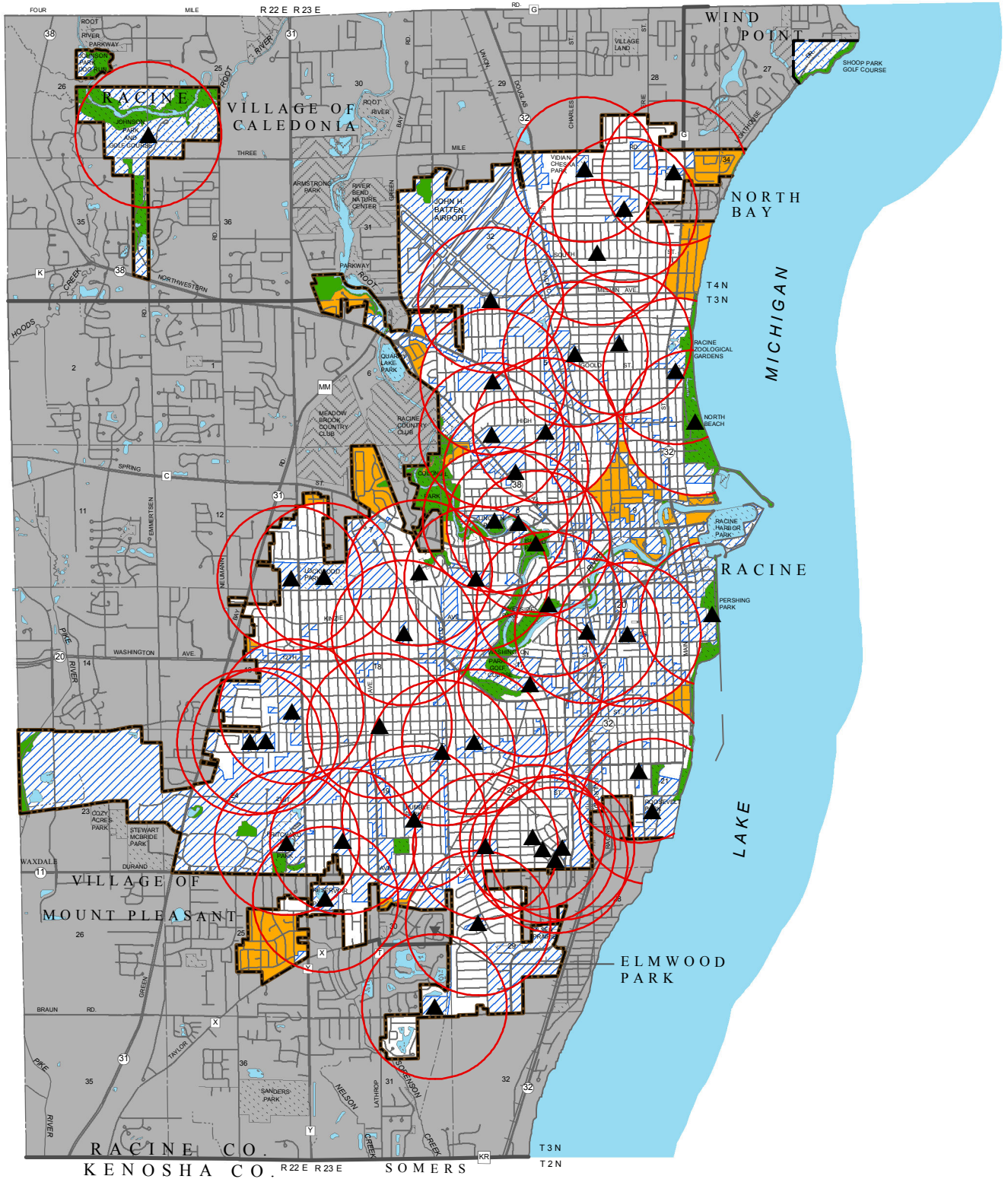
### *Swimming Pool or Beach*

Two public beaches were identified within the City of Racine planning area in 2009; North Beach and Quarry Lake Park. North Beach is located north of downtown on Lake Michigan. Beaches along Lake Michigan have a 10-mile service radius; hence, the entire planning area would be served by the existing distribution of public beaches in the City.









### ***Application of Standards to Recreational Facilities***

As shown by Table IV-2, application of the per capita standards identified a need for 24 additional public soccer fields, nine additional public tennis courts, and two additional public softball diamonds. The accessibility analysis for recreational facilities contained in the 2020 park plan called for the development of additional playfields, playgrounds, basketball goals, league softball diamonds, and tennis courts to assure that such facilities are conveniently located to serve neighborhood residents. Table III-1 in Chapter III indicates that a number of recreational facilities recommended in the 2020 plan have not yet been developed, including tennis courts at Carlson Park, Case-Harmon Park, Greencrest Park, Hantschel Park, and Roosevelt Park; a ball diamond and basketball court at Vidian-Cheska Park; a full basketball court to replace the existing one-half basketball court at Clayton Park; and playfields and a playground at Reservoir Park. Development of these facilities would help meet per capita and park distribution standards within the City.

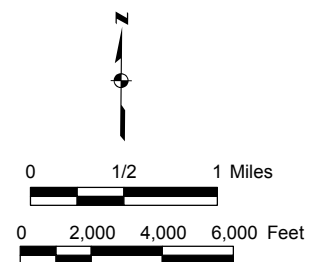
**PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A PLAYFIELD**



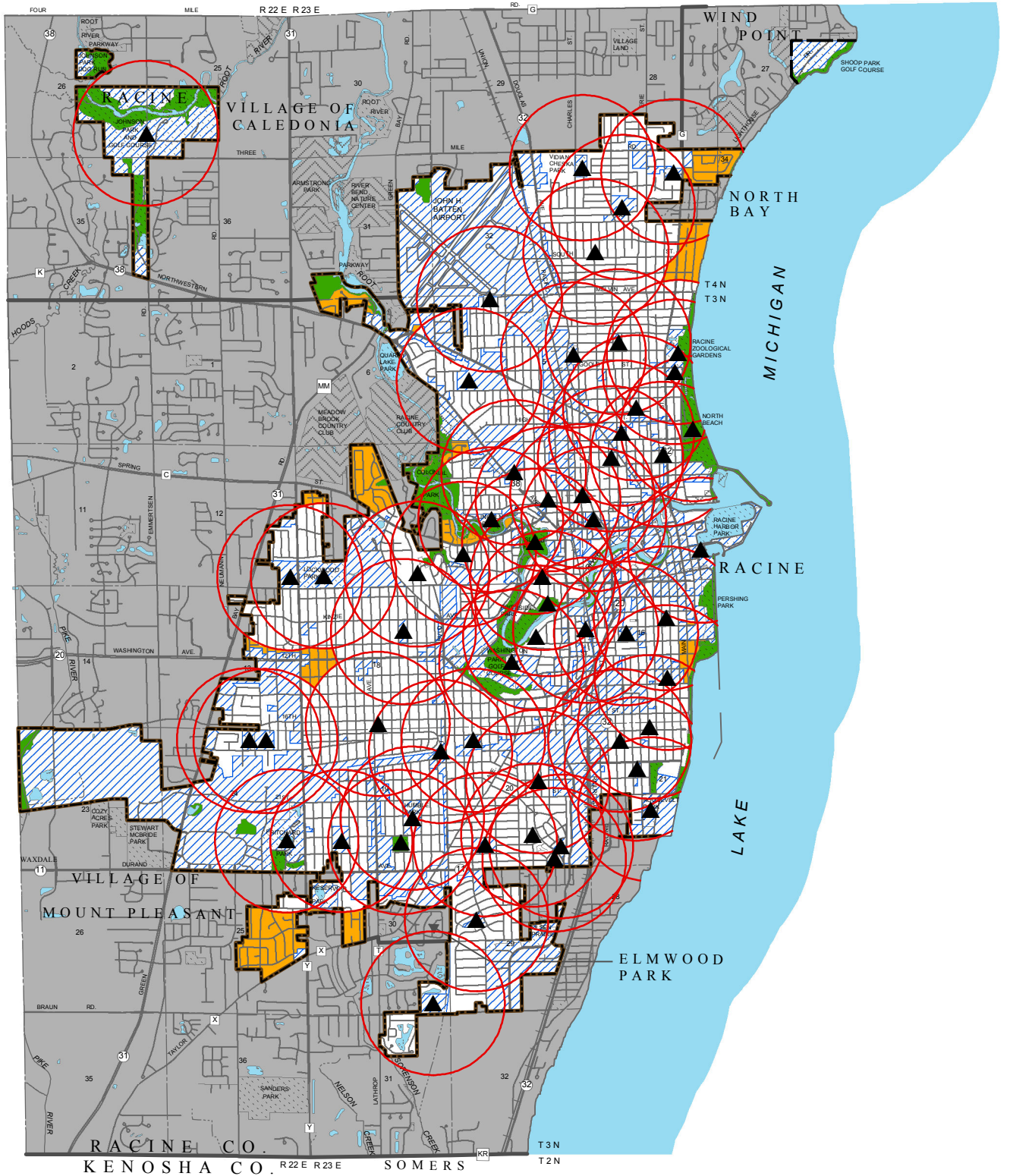
**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING PLAYFIELD
-  PLAYFIELD SERVICE RADIUS
-  PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A PLAYFIELD
-  PLANNED URBAN NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
-  ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS
-  LANDS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK









Source: SEWRPC.



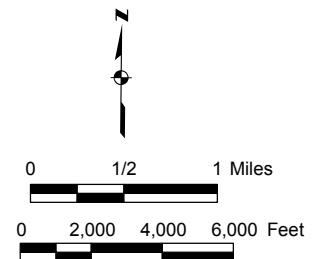
**PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A PLAYGROUND**



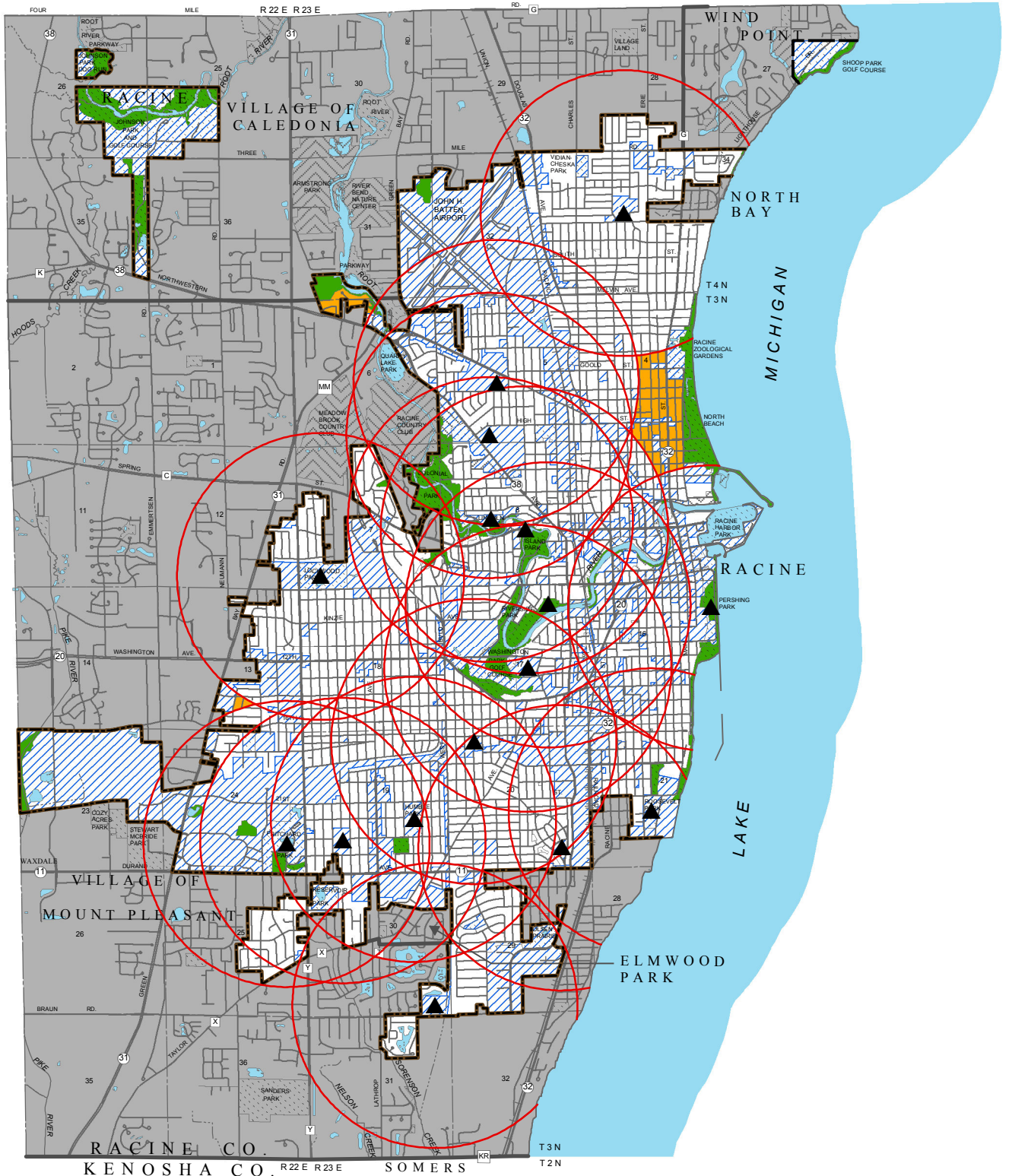
**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING PLAYGROUND
-  PLAYGROUND SERVICE RADIUS
-  PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A PLAYGROUND
-  PLANNED URBAN NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
-  ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS
-  LANDS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK









Source: SEWRPC.



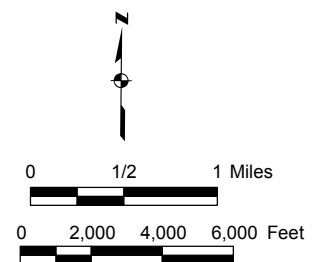
**PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A SOCCER FIELD**



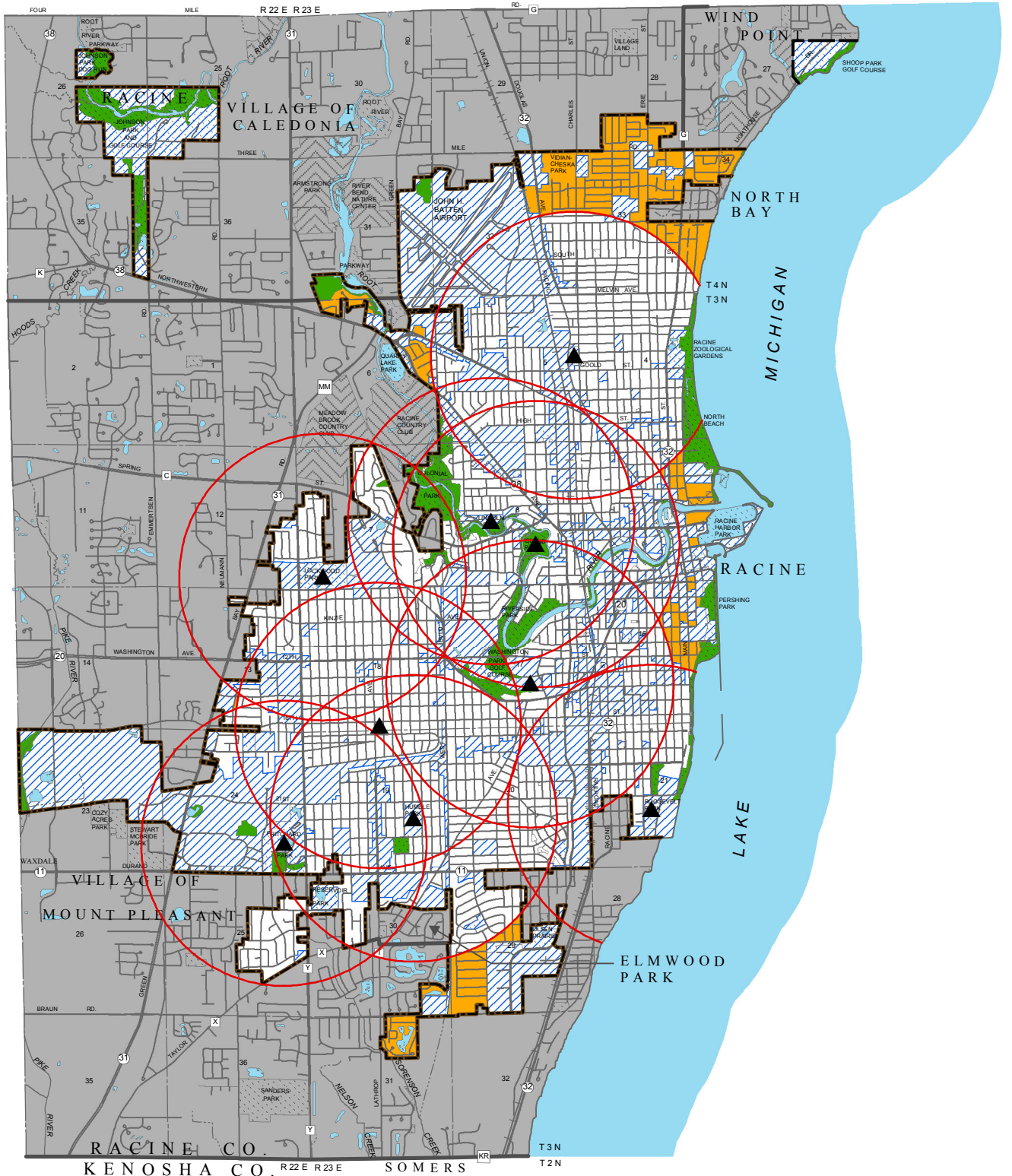
**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING SOCCER FIELD
-  SOCCER FIELD SERVICE RADIUS
-  PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A SOCCER FIELD
-  PLANNED URBAN NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
-  ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS
-  LANDS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK









Source: SEWRPC.



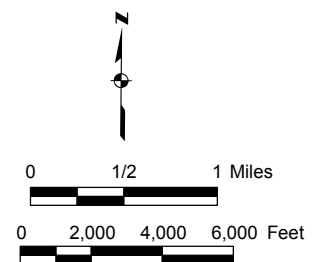
**PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A LEAGUE SOFTBALL DIAMOND**



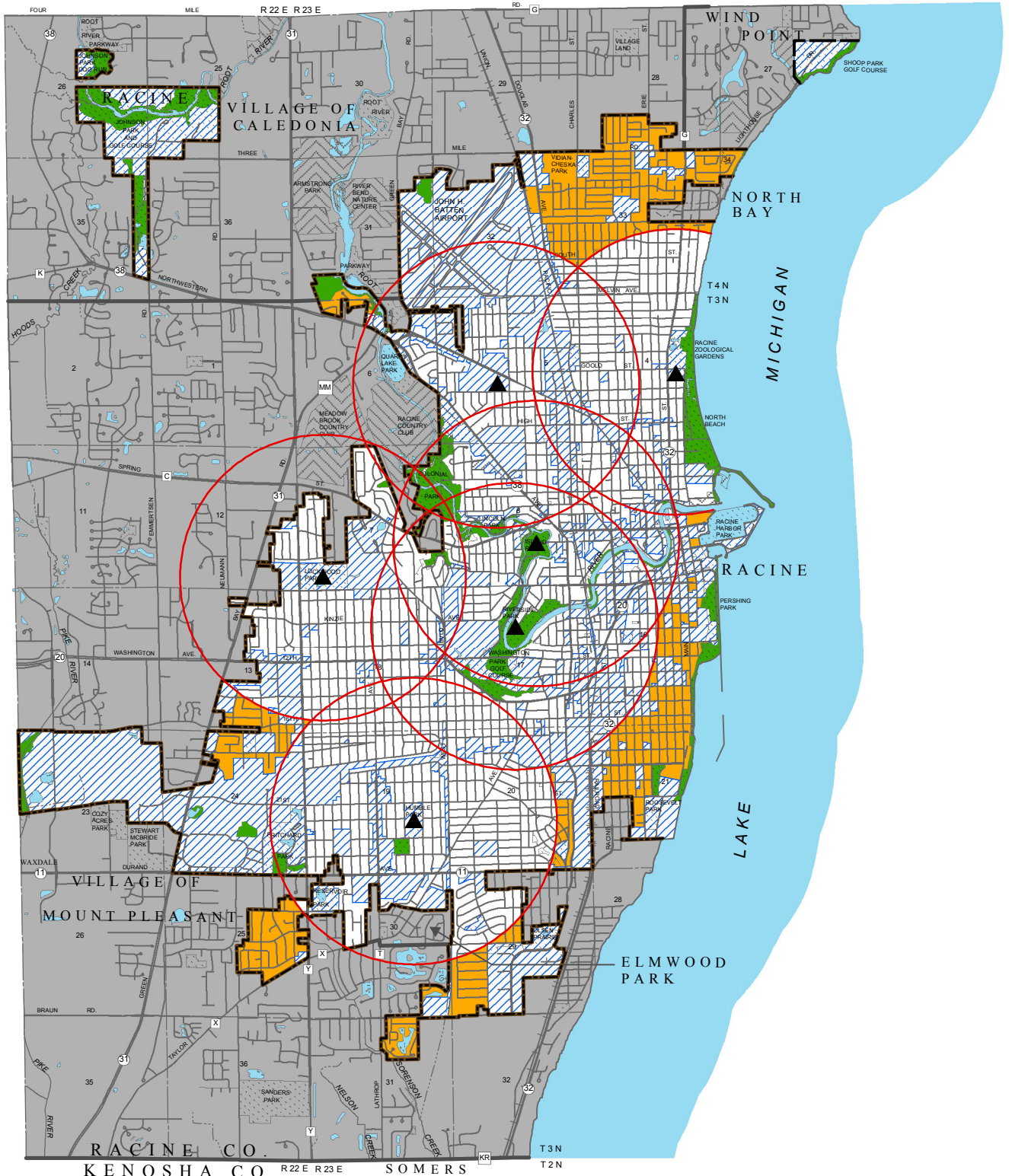
**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING LEAGUE SOFTBALL DIAMOND
-  LEAGUE SOFTBALL DIAMOND SERVICE RADIUS
-  PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A LEAGUE SOFTBALL DIAMOND
-  PLANNED URBAN NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
-  ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS
-  LANDS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA
-  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS
-  SHOOP PARK









Source: SEWRPC.



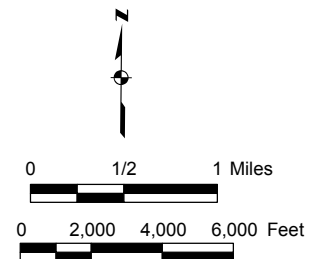
**PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN THE CITY OF RACINE  
PLANNING AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A TENNIS COURT**



**LEGEND**

-  EXISTING TENNIS COURT
-  TENNIS COURT SERVICE RADIUS
-  PLANNED RESIDENTIAL AREA NOT ADEQUATELY SERVED BY A TENNIS COURT
-  PLANNED URBAN NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
-  ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS
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Source: SEWRPC.



## **RACINE PARK PRIDE PROGRAM**

In 2010, a Racine Park PRIDE committee was appointed by the Mayor to develop recommendations to help improve the City's park system and increase use of the parks. The committee developed the following mission and vision statements:

### **Mission:**

*To preserve our parks and open spaces and provide essential recreational programs and cultural services in a safe, professional, and friendly manner.*

### **Vision:**

*To create and sustain the best park system in the State of Wisconsin.*

The Park PRIDE Committee developed a number of goals and implementing actions intended to improve parks, park facilities, and park programs within the City. The goals and recommendations developed by the committee were reviewed and accepted by the City's Park, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board in the summer of 2011 for inclusion into this park and open space plan update for future implementation, subject to available staffing and funding. Goals and recommendations from the Park PRIDE Committee are as follows:

### **Goal #1: Improve communication among Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department and its stakeholders.**

- Reposition Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services as essential assets.
  - Promote the use of Parks and Recreation's programs and facilities for physical and mental wellness.
  - Position Racine's parks as attractive, safe destinations.
- Conduct market research.
  - Survey stakeholders such as users, potential users, providers, and staff regarding the use of media and perceptions of Parks and Recreation.
  - Research community needs and desires for fitness, recreation, garden spaces, and cultural activities to identify priorities.
  - Research trends, funding models, and best practices for Parks and Recreation Departments in other cities.
- Identify technology vehicles through which Parks and its partners can highlight happenings and opportunities.
  - Use social media to connect people to the parks and programs.
  - Promote points of interest through use of locator technology.
  - Explore maintenance and expansion of website and linkage to partner websites.
  - Advertise opportunities to volunteer and contribute.

### **Goal #2: Sustain, initiate, and stimulate creative and innovative uses of natural resources, facilities, infrastructure, and programs.**

- Expand year-round programming.
  - Maintain adequate staffing to continue programming.
  - Reach out to partner and collaborate with other departments, such as the Health Department, and other private and non-profit organizations.
- Provide diverse physical and cultural opportunities.
  - Expand fitness opportunities for senior citizens, adults, and youth.
  - Explore the feasibility of creating or expanding opportunities such as:
    - a) zip lines
    - b) rock climbing
    - c) historical attractions
    - d) mountain biking
    - e) hands-on creative programs
    - f) an inner-city 'Kids Cove'
    - g) extended river and bike paths with habitat plantings
    - h) conservatory

- i) community gardens
- j) neighborhood sports teams based out of local community centers
- k) ice skating facilities
- Devise better uses of land, including existing parks, for the creation and expansion of urban and community gardens, designated and signed mountain bike and cross country ski trails, and expansion of the Root River Pathway.
  - Improve Myers Park beach for better water quality.
  - Identify areas for bird watching and habitat and specific flyway locations.
  - Identify sites and implement creation of additional community gardens, beginning with sites near Community Oriented Policing (COP) houses, community centers, and idle green spaces.
  - Create land trusts and lease agreements with the City to legally define and designate these sites.
  - Create "Theme" parks to attract support of interest groups, such as:
    - a) An "Energy Park" with features that demonstrate solar, wind, geothermal, and hydrothermal applications, such as a totally off-grid, completely "green" building for educational purposes. Such a park could be maintained by the Sierra Club, for example.
    - b) A "Wild Bird Park", which would feature a natural assortment of trees, shrubs, and wildflowers and could be supported and maintained by the Hoy Audubon Society of Racine and Kenosha and others who enjoy bird-watching.
    - c) Nature preserves and a "Prairie Park" where native prairie plants could replace mowed lawns, with paths and trails hiking.
    - d) Specialty flower gardens, which could be maintained by gardening groups, such as the Racine Master Gardeners and the Potpourri Garden Club.
    - e) A Native American theme in a riverside park with an authentic lodge and seasonal demonstrations, such as planting traditions and maple syrup harvesting.
    - f) A City greenhouse and tree farm.
    - g) Return some parks to woodlands for improvement of environment and reduced workload on Parks Department maintenance crews.

**Goal #3: Deepen and develop partnerships with public agencies, service clubs, businesses, non-profits, and educational institutions.**

- Build relationships with clubs and organizations to promote their use of parks.
  - Chess clubs, etc.
- Bring existing programs into the parks.
  - Movies.
  - Curling.
  - Concerts.
- Seek sponsorships from businesses and National Sports Organizations for special projects such as water parks, pools, and multi-sports complexes.
- Develop more cooperative programs with Racine Unified School District (RUSD) in community centers.
  - Provide recreation programs in outlying schools after school.
    - Possibly partner with Gateway Technical College or UW-Parkside.
- Explore partnerships with entities such as developers, Regency Mall, and Gateway Technical College.
- Mentoring through Kenosha-Racine mentoring program.

**Goal #4: Enhance financial strategies for sustainability.**

The City of Racine has experienced challenging times in the recent past, with limited funding and staffing levels; Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department should explore the best means to achieving funding goals. Alternative funding methods will be instrumental to the operations of the City's parks, recreation facilities, and services on an ongoing basis.

- Incorporate an overall funding review as part of the annual budgeting process and identify funding needs for high priority issues.
  - Review budget to ensure that there is appropriate allocation of funding to support core programs,

- facilities, equipment, and staffing.
- Go through Strategies for Sustainability exercise/tool to eliminate/modify underutilized programs.
- Operate programs and facilities based upon a self-sustainable revenue philosophy.
- Eliminate recreation services that don't meet cost recovery goals.
- Develop efficiencies to maximize currently available resources.
  - Install GPS in vehicles to monitor staff time.
  - Budget for planned maintenance and replacement of equipment.
  - Reduce Department fuel and utility costs.
- Identify opportunities to increase community support and revenue opportunities such as grants, partnerships, sponsorships, volunteers, and earned income.
  - Create a "Friends of" Foundation to generate new funding and support for programs from the community.
  - Expand and formalize a volunteer program to include standards, recruiting, training, retaining, and rewarding volunteers in all program areas.
  - Create a sponsorship plan and generate new funding and support for programs from the community.
  - Secure capital improvement funds through a naming rights program and grants.
- Strategically partner and leverage resources with others to enhance, secure, and further provide economic benefit to citizens.
  - Strengthen and expand partnerships with schools, non-profits, etc. for use of fields, gyms, and multi-purpose spaces.
  - Explore the possibility of promoting an adopt-a-park program to help with park maintenance, beautification, and civic pride.
  - Explore the possibility of promoting of a Neighborhood Work Day for each park to give a face-lift to the park one day.
  - Explore the possibility of collaborating with local artists and neighborhood groups to paint murals on neighborhood park facilities.

**Goal #5: Engage community members to take ownership in parks and programs.**

- Expand and advertise Park Watch Racine.
  - Possibly partner with neighborhood watch.
- Involve youth in more programming/planning, (e.g. Youth Council).
  - Review the possibility of forming a Youth Council to help review programs.
  - Invite Youth to Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board meetings for an information session on programs that are beneficial to them.
- Expand and advertise "Adopt a Median."
  - Advertise the program already in place.
  - Promote the program to corporations as a way to help their community.

**SUMMARY**

This chapter has presented a framework for updating the park and open space plan for the City of Racine, including a summary of City plans and other planning efforts affecting this plan, the presentation of regional and City park and open space objectives and accompanying standards, and application of those standards to the City of Racine. The key findings of this chapter are as follows:

- The Pathway System Plan/Map recommends the development of a Lake Michigan Pathway and a Root River Pathway within the City. The development of both pathways within the City has been substantially completed.
- The City of Racine 2035 Comprehensive Plan contains general recommendations relevant to this park and open space plan update, including providing additional recreational areas, facilities in portions of the City. The plan also recommends that the City continue to implement the bicycle and facility recommendations of the City comprehensive plan and the regional transportation plan. The plan further recommends that the City,

in cooperation with Racine County, develop a water trail on the Root River and along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

- The Root River Revitalization Plan, completed in July 2008, recommends the development of continuous public access along the Root River from 6<sup>th</sup> Street to Main Street, coinciding with the development of a Riverwalk, the existing Root River Pathway, and other existing and potential public access points. The plan also recommends re-routing a segment of the Root River Pathway on Mound Avenue to an off-street location and provides recommendations for developing recreational facilities or support facilities and protecting or enhancing environmentally, sensitive areas along the river at County- and City-owned parks.
- Since the adoption of the previous park and open space plan in 2003, the City has adopted five neighborhood plans. The plans provide park-, open space-, and/or trail-related needs and recommendations for each neighborhood.
- The Park PRIDE Committee developed a number of goals and implementing actions intended to improve parks, park facilities, and park programs in the City. The Park PRIDE goals and recommendations have been incorporated into this park and open space plan update for future implementation, subject to formation of partnerships and available staffing and funding.
- The need for major parks has been addressed by the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan. Under that plan, Pritchard Park and Johnson Park and Golf Course were identified as major parks. The County-owned Pritchard Park is 73 acres in size and the City-owned Johnson Park and Golf Course is 335 acres in size. Since 2001, the County has developed a group picnic facility, the Wieczorek Pavilion, in the northern portion of Pritchard Park with appropriate support facilities, including restrooms and parking. No additional need for major parks exists within the planning area.

The County park plan also recommends that the County continue to develop the Lake Michigan Trail, Root River Trail, and Racine-Burlington Trail. Since 2001, the City of Racine's development of the Lake Michigan Pathway has fully implemented the Lake Michigan Trail within Racine County, and those portions of the Root River Pathway and the Racine-Sturtevant Trail have largely been completed within the City.

- There were one natural area and five critical species habitat sites located in the City of Racine planning area in 2009. The updated regional natural areas plan recommends that the City acquire the Colonial Park Woods Natural Area and continue to maintain and protect the Washington Park Woods and Wind Point critical species habitat sites, which are located within parks owned by the City.
- Application of the per capita standards for neighborhood and community parks indicated no additional need for parkland to serve the anticipated 2035 City population (80,510 persons). There is a need to acquire a limited amount of additional parkland to provide space for the development of needed recreational facilities and to meet accessibility standards for a desirable distribution of parks.
- Application of the per capita standards for recreational facilities indicates a need for 24 additional public soccer fields, nine additional public tennis courts, and two additional public softball diamonds in the City. The accessibility analysis for recreational facilities identifies a need for additional baseball and softball diamonds, basketball goals, playfields, playgrounds, soccer fields, and tennis courts to meet accessibility standards for a desirable distribution of recreational facilities.

\* \* \* \* \*



SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 270 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)  
A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RACINE: 2035

## Chapter V

# PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

### INTRODUCTION

A high-quality parks system provides cultural, environmental, recreational, and aesthetic benefits that directly contribute to the City's quality of life. The primary purposes of this park and open space plan for the City of Racine are to provide a sound and workable plan to guide the acquisition of land and the development of recreational facilities to meet the recreation needs of City residents, to protect and enhance the underlying and sustaining natural resource base, and to contribute to the economic value and development of the community. The recommended park and open space plan is presented in this chapter. This plan updates the park and open space plan that was adopted by the City in 2003. This plan has a design year of 2035.

This plan is intended to provide a long-range vision and a guide to assist City officials and staff in making the day-to-day decisions needed for the continued development of the City's park and open space system. To assist in the implementation of the plan, both long-term recommendations, for the next 25 years, and an "action plan," for the next five years, are presented in this chapter. The plan includes recommendations to develop additional recreational facilities at existing parks; update, improve, or replace recreational facilities at existing parks; continue to develop a City-wide system of recreational trails and bikeways; and continue to protect areas having important natural resources.

Important preliminary steps in the development of this plan included a review of park acquisition and development activities conducted to date to implement the previous park plan, and the collection of updated information regarding land use, population, natural resources, and park and open space sites and recreational facilities within the City and planning area. New or changed conditions affecting park and open space sites and recreational facilities, including pertinent recommendations from the City of Racine 2035 Comprehensive Plan, the City of Racine Pathway System Plan/Map, the Root River Revitalization Plan, the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan, and the updated natural areas plan for Southeastern Wisconsin were also identified and incorporated, as appropriate, into this new plan.

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

The first part of this chapter summarizes the areawide park and open space plan recommendations for the City, which are presented in the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan.<sup>1</sup> Included in that plan are recommendations for the provision of resource-oriented outdoor recreation sites and facilities and the protection of the environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas in Racine County, including the City of Racine. The second section of this chapter sets forth recommendations for the provision of City park and open space sites and facilities. A third section describes actions needed to implement the plan. A summary of the chapter is included in the last section.

## **AREAWIDE PARK AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The park and open space plan for Racine County contains recommendations which, if implemented, would provide residents of the County with opportunities to participate in a wide range of resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities. Those recommendations, which have been incorporated into this City plan where they pertain to the planning area, are concerned with the provision of major parks, which provide opportunities for resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities, and recreation corridors, which provide opportunities for various trail-oriented activities.

In addition, the plan contains recommendations for the protection and preservation of open space lands, including natural resource features such as woodlands, wetlands, and floodplains, located within environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas.

### **Major Parks and Trail Facilities**

The outdoor recreation element of the Racine County park and open space plan is shown on Map V-1. The plan recommends that a total of 10 major public outdoor recreation sites be provided in the County. Two major parks, Johnson Park and Golf Course and Pritchard Park, currently exist within the City of Racine, and would continue to be provided and maintained by the City of Racine and Racine County, respectively. The County plan recommends the development of additional picnic areas with necessary support facilities at Pritchard Park. Since 2001, the County has developed a group picnic facility, the Wieczorek Pavilion, in the northern portion of the park with the appropriate support facilities, such as restrooms and parking. The plan also recommends that the County develop an ice arena to enable participation in such activities such as ice hockey, figure skating, or casual skating, but no specific location was identified. The plan recommends that the County continue to maintain other County-owned sites within the City of Racine, including Horlick Park, Quarry Lake Park, Racine Harbor Park, Belle Harbor Marina,<sup>2</sup> and Reef Point Marina.

The plan also recommends that the City of Racine continue to maintain and provide additional resource-oriented recreational facilities, when necessary, at the City-owned Johnson Park and Golf Course.

The County plan also recommends that about 70 miles of recreational trails be provided in the County as part of the 500-mile regionwide trail system. As shown on Map V-1, portions of the Lake Michigan Trail, north and south of the City, had been developed at the time the County park and open space plan was adopted in 2001. The trail segments are located near the Lake Michigan shoreline within a WE Energies right-of-way and are referred to as the MRK Trail on the north and the North Shore Trail on the south. Since 2001, the City of Racine has completed the development of the Lake Michigan Pathway, which provides a connection to the County's Lake Michigan Trail through the City. The development of the City's Lake Michigan Pathway within the City, plus the existing MRK and North Shore Trails, fully implements the Lake Michigan Trail within Racine County.

The County plan recommends that the County acquire primary environmental corridor lands along the Root River north of the City limits to protect environmentally sensitive areas and to serve as the basis for a Root River parkway and trail system. The trail is proposed to extend south from the Milwaukee-Racine County line along the Root River in the Village of Caledonia and extend through the City to Lake Michigan. Since 2001, the City of Racine has

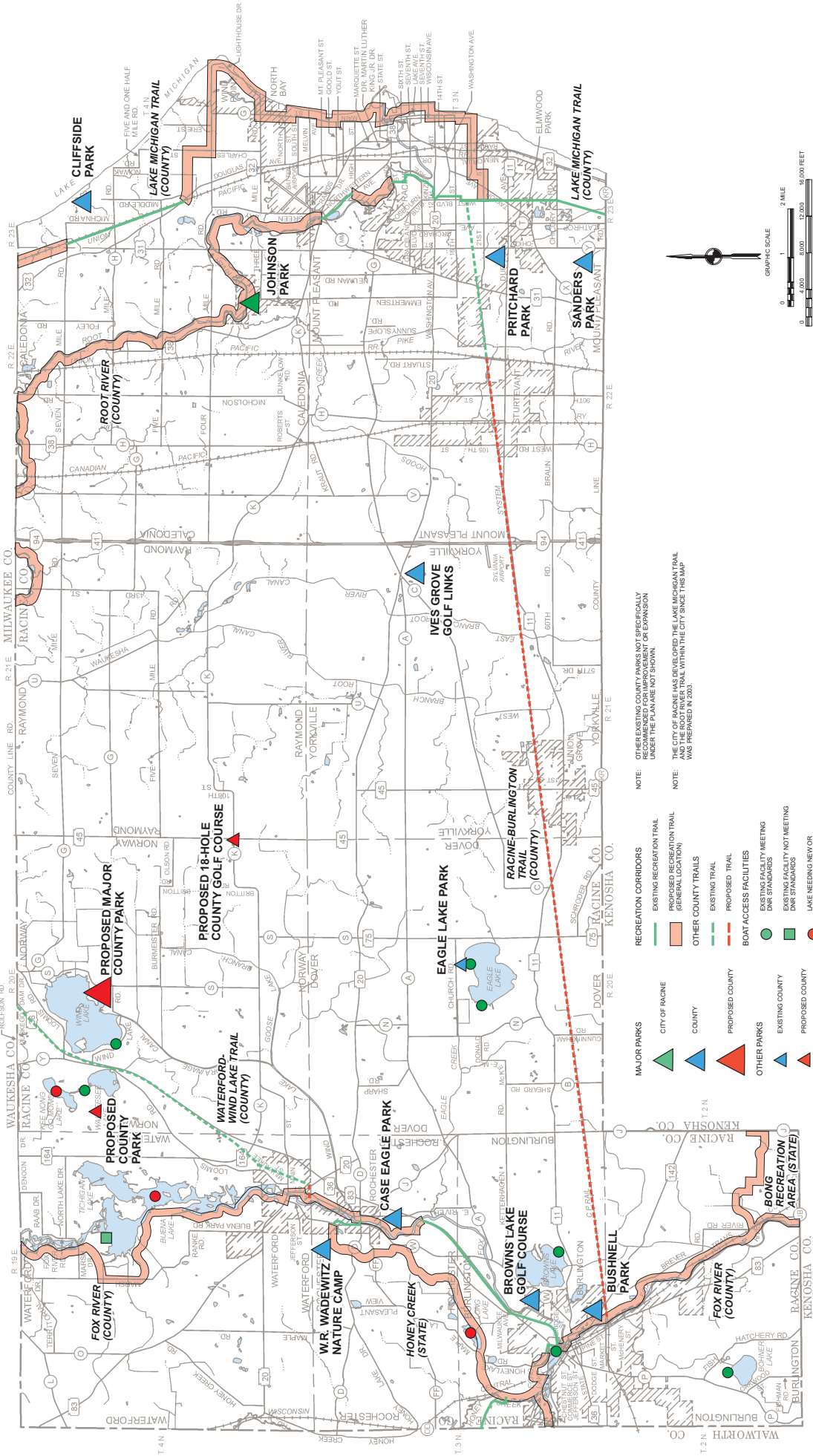
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<sup>1</sup> Documented in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 134, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, A Park and Open Space Plan for Racine County, Wisconsin, July 2001. An update to the County Park and Open Space Plan is scheduled to begin in 2011.

<sup>2</sup> The Downtown Racine Development Plan and the Root River Revitalization Plan have proposed the redevelopment of Belle Harbor Marina with mixed urban uses, should the County choose to abandon and/or relocate existing harbor facilities.

Map V-1

OUTDOOR RECREATION ELEMENT OF THE RACINE COUNTY PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN: 2020



- RECREATION CORRIDORS**
- EXISTING RECREATION TRAIL
  - PROPOSED RECREATION TRAIL (GENERAL LOCATION)
  - OTHER COUNTY TRAILS
  - EXISTING TRAIL
  - PROPOSED TRAIL
  - BOAT ACCESS FACILITIES
  - EXISTING FACILITY MEETING DNR STANDARDS
  - EXISTING FACILITY NOT MEETING DNR STANDARDS
  - LAKE NEEDING NEW OR EXPANDED FACILITY
- MAJOR PARKS**
- CITY OF RACINE
  - COUNTY
  - PROPOSED COUNTY
  - OTHER PARKS
  - EXISTING COUNTY
  - PROPOSED COUNTY
- NOTE:** OTHER RACINE COUNTY PARKS ARE SPECIFICALLY RECOMMENDED FOR IMPROVEMENT OR EXPANSION UNDER THE PLAN ARE NOT SHOWN.
- NOTE:** THE CITY OF RACINE HAS DEVELOPED THE LAKE MICHIGAN TRAIL FACILITY WITHIN THE CITY SINCE THIS MAP WAS PREPARED IN 2003.

Source: SEWRPC.

developed a four-mile portion of the Root River pathway within the City. The pathway extends from the Main Street Bridge, near downtown, to Colonial Park. The Root River Pathway currently provides a connection to the County MRK Trail on the north side of the City and the County North Shore Trail on the south side of the City. The pathway also provides a connection to the County Racine-Sturtevant Trail. Ultimately, the development of the Root River Trail along the Root River within Racine County would connect with a similar trail along the Root River in Milwaukee County. The County plan recommends that the City develop a portion of the Root River Trail within Johnson Park and Golf Course. The County would be responsible for developing those portions of the trail outside the City of Racine.

The County plan further recommends that the County develop and maintain a trail from the City of Racine to the City of Burlington. The Racine-Burlington Trail would be located within the right-of-way of the former Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, now the Canadian Pacific Railway, should the railway become abandoned. Recreational activities proposed for the trail include biking, hiking, dog walking, and cross-country skiing. The 22-mile trail would include approximately three miles within the City of Racine. Currently, the entire trail has been developed within the City of Racine, from West Boulevard westward to Willow Road in the Village of Mount Pleasant, and the trail segment located within the City is now referred to as the Racine-Sturtevant Trail. Within the City, the existing trail is primarily located within a WE Energies utility corridor. The remaining portion of the trail, west of Willow Road, is proposed to be developed within a railway right-of-way. Currently, 12 miles of the railway line from Willow Road to Kansasville are active, and eight miles from Kansasville westward to the City of Burlington are abandoned. Should the remainder of the railway right-of-way be abandoned, it is recommended that the County develop a trail in the abandoned right-of-way from Willow Road to the City of Burlington.

The regional transportation system plan<sup>3</sup> recommends a network of on- and off-street bicycle ways within the County. Bikeways recommended by the regional transportation plan have been refined through the Racine County multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan.<sup>4</sup> Existing and planned bikeways recommended by the multi-jurisdictional comprehensive plan were also incorporated into the City's 2035 comprehensive plan, and are shown on Map V-3. Map V-3 also includes additional trails recommended in City neighborhood plans and the Root River Revitalization Plan, which are described in a later section of this chapter.

## **OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION**

The location and extent of the important open space lands in the City of Racine planning area, including wetlands, floodplains, woodlands, surface water, natural and geologic areas, and critical species habitat sites are described in Chapter II. Many of these important natural resources are located within environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas, which are also described in Chapter II. The preservation of these open space lands in essentially natural, open uses would serve to maintain a high level of environmental quality in, and protect the natural beauty of, the City of Racine, as well as provide valuable recreational opportunities for residents of the City. Such preservation will also help to avoid the creation of serious and costly environmental and developmental problems within the City. The open space preservation plan for the City is shown on Map V-2.

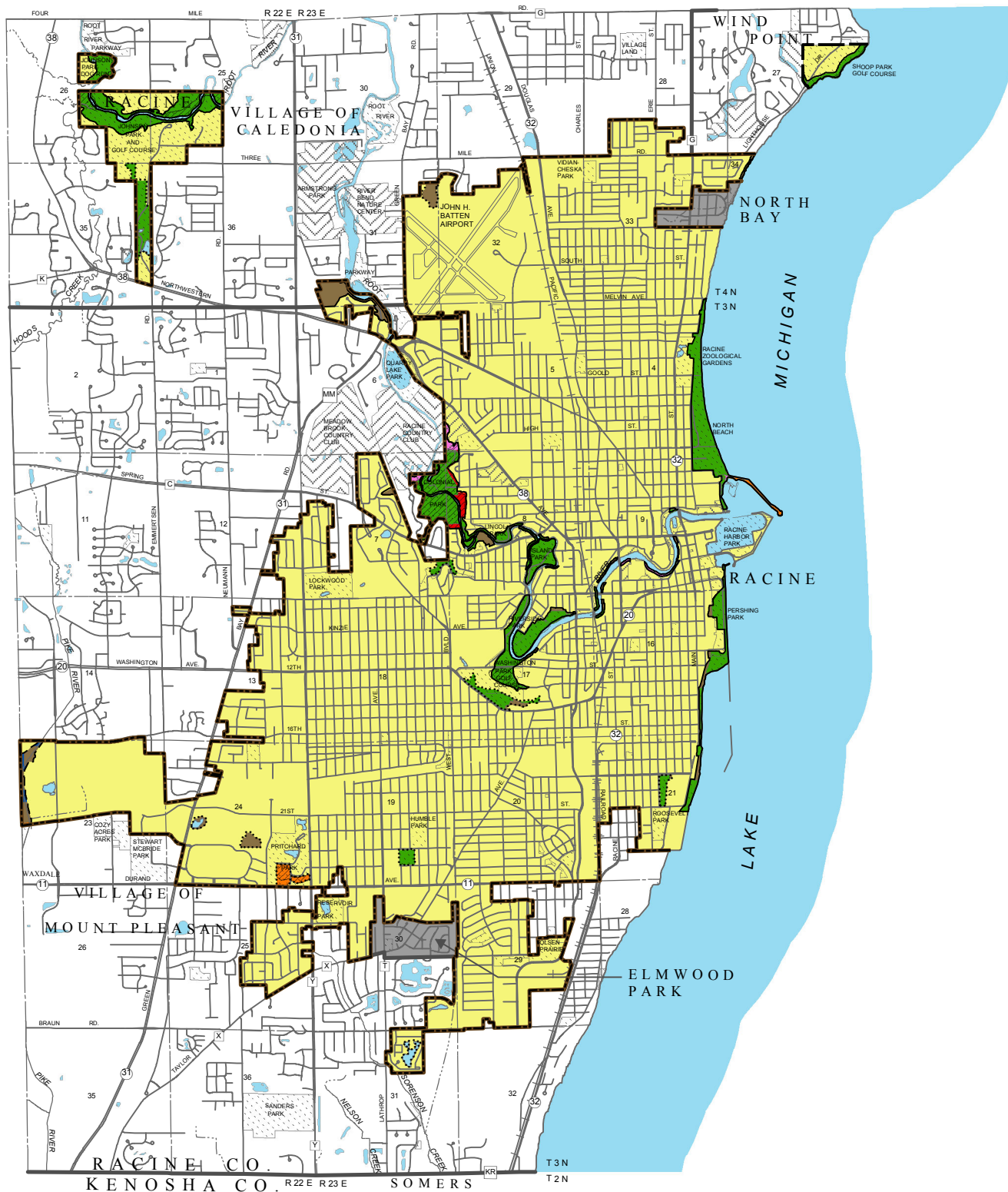
About 84 percent, or 592 acres of the 702 acres of environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas within the City, are publicly owned. As shown on Table V-1, about 568 acres of primary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas are owned by the City. Racine County owns 19 acres of environmental corridor and isolated natural resource areas and the Village of Mount Pleasant owns five acres of secondary environmental corridor along the Pike River, for a total of 24 acres. Publicly-owned environmental corridor lands and isolated natural resource areas should be maintained in public ownership and preserved in open space.

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











<sup>3</sup> Documented in *SEWPRC Planning Report No. 49, A Regional Transportation System Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin: 2035, June 2006.*

<sup>4</sup> Documented in *SEWPRC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 301, A Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Plan for Racine County: 2035, November 2009.*

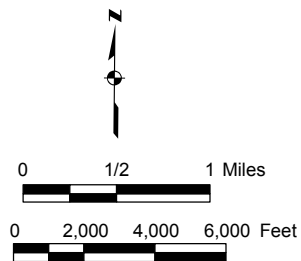
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA



LEGEND

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|  EXISTING OWNERSHIP: RACINE COUNTY                  |  OPEN SPACE LANDS RECOMMENDED TO BE PROTECTED THROUGH CONSERVANCY ZONING |  CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA    |
|  EXISTING OWNERSHIP: CITY OF RACINE                 |  NATURAL AREA OR CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITE                           |  CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS |
|  EXISTING OWNERSHIP: VILLAGE OF MOUNT PLEASANT      |  SURFACE WATER   |  SHOOP PARK                      |
|  PROPOSED OWNERSHIP: CITY OF RACINE                 |  PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR  |   |
|  EXISTING PRIVATE OWNERSHIP: OUTDOOR RECREATION USE |  SECONDARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR  |   |
|   |  ISOLATED NATURAL RESOURCE AREA  |   |

Source: SEWRPC.



**Table V-1**  
**EXISTING AND PROPOSED OWNERSHIP OF OPEN SPACE**  
**LAND<sup>a</sup> IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA**

<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Existing<sup>b</sup> (Acres)</b>	<b>Plan (Acres)</b>	<b>Planned Change (Acres)</b>
City of Racine .....	568 <sup>c</sup>	577	9
Other Public <sup>d</sup> .....	24	24	--
Private Recreation <sup>e</sup> .....	11	11	--
Private; Protect Through Zoning <sup>f</sup> .....	--	90	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>99</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes primary environmental corridors, secondary environmental corridors, and isolated natural resource areas.

<sup>b</sup> Includes existing ownership in 2010.

<sup>c</sup> Includes 99 acres of the Root River located within the City.

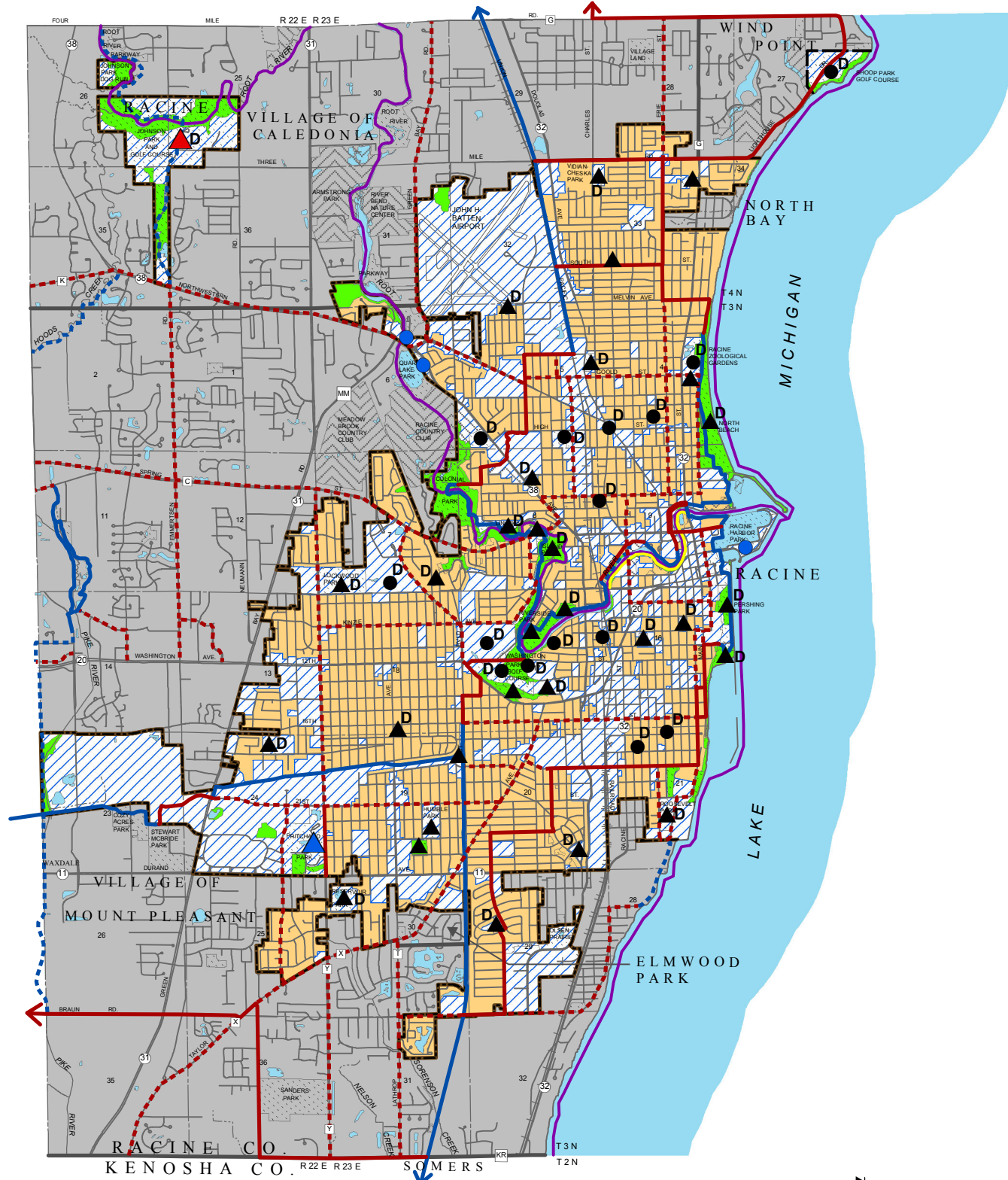
<sup>d</sup> Includes lands owned by Racine County and the Village of Mount Pleasant.

<sup>e</sup> Includes private open space lands held in private ownership for recreational use (for example; golf courses, driving ranges, and athletic fields owned by private schools and organizations).

<sup>f</sup> Includes private open space lands proposed to be protected through zoning.

Source: City of Racine and SEWRPC.

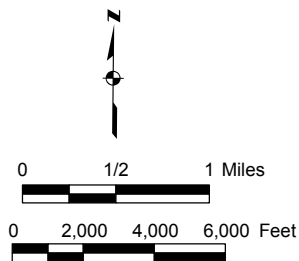
OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2035



LEGEND

- |  |   |  |  |  |                                    |
|--|---|--|--|--|------------------------------------|
|  | EXISTING MAJOR PARK: CITY OF RACINE                         |  | EXISTING ON-STREET TRAIL OR BICYCLE WAY    |  | ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT LANDS  |
|  | EXISTING MAJOR PARK: RACINE COUNTY                          |  | EXISTING OFF-STREET TRAIL                  |  | PLANNED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT    |
|  | EXISTING CITY OF RACINE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK OR COMMUNITY PARK |  | RECOMMENDED ON-STREET TRAIL OR BICYCLE WAY |  | PLANNED NONRESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT |
|  | EXISTING CITY OF RACINE SPECIAL USE PARK OR OTHER PARK      |  | RECOMMENDED OFF-STREET TRAIL               |  | SURFACE WATER                      |
|  | EXISTING RACINE COUNTY SPECIAL USE PARK OR OTHER PARK       |  | RECOMMENDED RIVERWALK                      |  | CITY OF RACINE CORPORATE LIMITS    |
|  | ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT OR IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDED           |  | POTENTIAL WATER TRAIL                      |  | SHOOP PARK                         |

Source: City of Racine and SEWRPC.



It is recommended that the City acquire about nine acres of primary environmental corridor associated with the Colonial Park Woods Natural Area for natural resource protection. As shown on Map V-2, the unprotected lands are located adjacent to and south and east of the City-owned Colonial Park. Acquisition of the natural area could be through fee-simple purchase or through conservation easements. Acquisition of the natural area by a nonprofit conservation organization would also serve to protect the area and its resources.

It is recommended that 47 acres of primary environmental corridors that are not publicly owned be protected through conservancy zoning. Consideration should also be given to applying conservancy zoning to 12 acres of secondary environmental corridors and 31 acres of isolated natural resource areas that are privately owned. Because the City zoning ordinance currently does not include conservancy zoning districts, other than floodplain and shoreland-wetland regulations, it is recommended that the City consider adopting and applying regulations to protect environmental corridor lands. Such regulations should limit development in wetland and floodplain areas to open space uses, and limit development in upland wooded areas to very low density residential use or compatible recreational uses.

The boundaries of environmental corridors change over time due to updated floodplain and wetland mapping, natural changes in wetland boundaries, and field surveys that precisely identify the boundaries of wetlands and environmental corridors. In addition, floodplain areas adjacent to environmental corridors that are not developed for urban or recreational uses may revert to natural vegetation. Changes to wetland and environmental corridor boundaries may be identified as additions or losses to the environmental corridor network in subsequent versions of regional or City plans. Public acquisition or conservancy zoning of wetlands or environmental corridors should therefore be based on a field delineation of such areas prior to acquisition.

### **Primary Environmental Corridors**

The primary environmental corridors, shown on Map V-2, encompass approximately 570 acres of land, and are located along the Lake Michigan shoreline and the Root River within the City and Shoop Park Golf Course. Under the park and open space plan, all remaining primary environmental corridors would be preserved in essentially natural, open uses. Of the approximately 570 acres of primary environmental corridor, 503 acres are currently in existing public ownership in City or County parks, including 99 acres associated with the Root River, and are proposed to be retained in such ownership for resource protection purposes. Approximately 11 acres are located within private recreational uses, such as golf courses and marinas.

The plan recommends that the City acquire about nine acres of primary environmental corridor associated with the Colonial Park Woods Natural Area for natural resource protection. The other 47 acres are privately owned, and are recommended to be protected through conservancy zoning or zoning for compatible recreational uses.

### **Secondary Environmental Corridors**

The secondary environmental corridors, shown on Map V-2, encompass approximately 18 acres of land. The secondary environmental corridor is located along the Pike River in the western portion of the City, and consists of floodplain associated with the Pike River. Racine County currently owns about one acre associated with the Racine-Sturtevant Trail and the Village of Mount Pleasant currently owns about five acres for resource protection purposes. It is recommended that the City consider protecting the remaining 12 acres through conservancy zoning or zoning for compatible recreational uses.

### **Isolated Natural Resource Areas**

The isolated natural resource areas, shown on Map V-2, encompass about 114 acres. Isolated natural resource areas in protective ownership are located within DeKoven Woods, Erskine Park, Pritchard Park, Maple Grove Park, Pierce Woods Park, Johnson Park and Golf Course, Springvale West Park, and Washington Park Golf Course. Isolated natural resource areas not currently in public ownership are located within the Batten Airport grounds, north of the Regency Mall, and a pond associated with the Mallard Lake homeowners association in the southern portion of the City.

Of the approximately 114 acres of isolated natural resource area, 83 acres are currently in existing public protective ownership, including 71 acres by the City and 12 acres by Racine County, and are proposed to be retained in such

ownership for resource protection purposes. The remaining 31 acres of isolated natural resource area are recommended to be maintained in essentially natural, open uses to the extent practicable. Consideration should be given to protecting privately-owned isolated natural resource areas through conservancy zoning.

### **Natural Areas, Critical Species Habitat Sites, and Geological Sites**

The regional natural areas and critical species habitat protection and management plan, as documented in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, *A Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin*,<sup>5</sup> sets forth a number of recommendations related to the preservation of identified natural areas and critical species habitat sites within the City of Racine planning area. The regional natural areas plan is summarized in Chapter IV.

As noted in Chapter II, there are one natural area, five critical species habitat sites, three aquatic areas, and three geological sites within the planning area. All of these sites are included in an environmental corridor or isolated natural resource area. Those portions of the critical species habitat sites and the geological sites located within the City of Racine planning area are currently under protective ownership.

The regional natural areas plan recommends that the City of Racine acquire and protect the Colonial Park Woods Natural Area. Through acquisition of woodlands located in a primary environmental corridor, the City should acquire the remaining nine acres of the natural area that are not currently in public ownership within the City by fee-simple purchase or through a conservation easement. It is also recommended that the City continue to retain and maintain other City parklands that contain critical species habitat sites or geological sites for resource protection purposes.

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

The regional natural areas plan update and this park and open space plan recommend that Racine County continue to retain and maintain the Pritchard Park Woods critical species habitat site and also acquire the remaining portions of the Root River Bluff critical species habitat site, located outside of the City of Racine in the Village of Caledonia, that are not currently under public protective ownership. The updated plan also recommends that Racine County acquire a conservation easement for the protection of the remaining portions of the Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries geological site not currently under protective ownership, located outside of the City in the Village of Mount Pleasant, and acquire the remaining portions of the Root River Outcrops geological site not currently under protective ownership, located outside of the City in the Village of Caledonia.

The above recommendations are reflected on Map V-2 and summarized in Table V-2. In all, the natural area, critical species habitat sites, and geological sites recommended for preservation encompass 148 acres within the planning area.

### **CITY PARK AND OPEN SPACE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The recommended park and open space plan for the City of Racine is shown on Map V-3 and described in the following sections. Upon full implementation of this plan, the City would provide a variety of parks and related outdoor recreation facilities; a system of recreation trails; and a system of on-street bikeways. More specifically, upon full implementation of the plan, the City of Racine would provide one major park (Johnson Park and Golf Course); five community parks (Island Park, Lincoln Park, Lockwood Park, North Beach, and Pershing Park); and 25 neighborhood parks (Brose Park, Carlson Park, Case-Harmon Park, Cedar Bend Park, Clayton Park, Douglas Park,

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<sup>5</sup> *An update to the regional natural areas and critical species habitat plan is documented in SEWRPC Amendment to Planning Report No. 42, Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin, December 2010.*

Table V-2

**RECOMMENDED PROTECTION OF NATURAL AREA, CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES,  
 AND GEOLOGICAL SITES IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA**

Site Identification			Site Area (acres)			Proposed Acquisition Agency
Number on Map II-7	Area Name	Classification Code <sup>a</sup>	Existing Protective Ownership	Proposed to Be Acquired	Total	
1	Colonial Park Woods	NA-2	65	9	74 <sup>b</sup>	City of Racine
2	Caledonia Sanitary Sewer Right-of-Way	CSH	20	--	20 <sup>c</sup>	Private Conservancy Organization
3	Pritchard Park Woods	CSH	10	--	10	Racine County
4	Root River Bluff	CSH	11	--	11 <sup>d</sup>	Racine County
5	Washington Park Woods	CSH	14	--	14	City of Racine
6	Wind Point	CSH	4	--	4 <sup>e</sup>	City of Racine and Village of Wind Point
7	Pike River downstream from Pike Creek (includes Sorenson Creek)	AQ-3 (RSH)	--	--	-- <sup>f</sup>	State of Wisconsin
8	Root River downstream from Nicholson Road to STH 38	AQ-3 (RSH)	--	--	2.2 miles <sup>g</sup>	State of Wisconsin
9	Root River downstream from STH 38 to Spring Street	AQ-3 (RSH)	--	--	1.4 miles <sup>g</sup>	State of Wisconsin
10	Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries	GA-1	1	--	1 <sup>h</sup>	Racine County
11	Wind Point	GA-2	9	--	9 <sup>i</sup>	City of Racine and Village of Wind Point
12	Root River Outcrops	GA-3	5	--	5 <sup>j</sup>	Racine County
--	Total – 12 Sites	--	139	9	148	--

<sup>a</sup>NA-2 identifies Natural Areas of countywide or regional significance

CSH identifies Critical Species Habitat sites

AQ-3 identifies Aquatic Areas of local significance

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

GA-1 identifies Geological Areas of statewide or greater significance

GA-2 identifies Geological Areas of countywide or regional significance

GA-3 identifies Geological Areas of local significance.

<sup>b</sup> Includes only the acreage located in the City. Total acreage is 94 acres. The City of Racine owns a 64-acre portion of the site and the privately-owned Racine Country Club owns a one-acre portion of the site. The remaining nine acres are under private ownership within single-family residential areas and are proposed to be acquired by the City. Of the 20 acres located outside the City, 19 acres are owned by the Racine Country Club. The remaining one acre, located on private single-family residential lots in the Village of Mount Pleasant, is not currently under protective ownership and is proposed to be protected through Village of Mount Pleasant zoning regulations.

<sup>c</sup> The Caledonia Sanitary Sewer Right-of-Way critical species habitat site occupies a total of 94 acres. Twenty acres are located within the City, and are owned by the City of Racine as part of Johnson Park and Golf Course. Of the 74 acres located outside the City, five acres are owned by Racine County and 18 acres are owned by the Caledonia Conservancy, a nonprofit conservation organization (NCO). The remaining 51 acres, located in the Village of Caledonia, are not currently under protective ownership and are proposed to be acquired by a NCO.

**Table V-2  
(continued)**

<sup>d</sup> The Root River Bluff critical species habitat site occupies a total of 50 acres. Eight acres are located in the Johnson Park and Golf Course and the Johnson Park Dog Run. Of the 42 acres located outside the City, two acres are owned by Racine County, as part of the Root River Parkway. The remaining 40 acres, which are not currently under protective ownership, are proposed to be acquired by Racine County as part of the proposed Root River Parkway.

<sup>e</sup> A small portion of the site extends outside of the City-owned Shoop Park and is owned by the Village of Wind Point.

<sup>f</sup> Approximately 261 linear feet of the site is located within the City.

<sup>g</sup> A portion of the site extends outside of the City and miles given are entirely within the City.

<sup>h</sup> The Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries geological site occupies a total of 32 acres. One acre is located within the City, and is owned Racine County as part of Horlick Park and the Root River Parkway. Of the 31 acres located outside the City, 23 acres are owned by Racine County as part of Quarry Lake Park and three acres are located within the privately-owned Racine Country Club, both located in the Village of Mount Pleasant. The remaining five acres, which are not currently under protective ownership, are proposed to be acquired through a conservation easement by Racine County.

<sup>i</sup> The Wind Point geological site occupies a total of 11 acres. Nine acres are located within the City-owned Shoop Park, located in the Village of Wind Point. Of the two acres located outside the planning area, one acre is owned by the Village of Wind Point on Village land. The remaining one acre, which is not currently under protective ownership, is proposed to be acquired by the Village of Wind Point.

<sup>j</sup> The Root River Outcrops geological site occupies a total of 25 acres. Five acres are located within the City, and are owned by the City of Racine as part of the Johnson Park Dog Run. Of the 20 acres located outside the City, seven acres are owned by Racine County, as part of the Root River Parkway, located in the Village of Caledonia. The remaining 13 acres, which are not currently under protective ownership, are proposed to be acquired by Racine County.

Source: Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC.

Erskine Park, Franklin Park, Greencrest Park, Hantschel Park, Harvey Park, Humble Park, Lakeview Park, Marino Park, Mat Matson Park, N. Owen Davies Park, Pierce Woods Park, Reservoir Park, Robert G. Heck Park, Roosevelt Park, Samuel Myers Park, Solbraa Park, Vidian-Cheska Park, Washington Park Bowl, and West Park). The City also has an easement within Case Corporation property along the Root River for the Root River Pathway. The pathway and passive use areas within the easement were developed by the City and are maintained by the City.

Other notable City park sites include the Racine Zoological Gardens; Washington Park Golf Course and Shoop Park Golf Course, both nine-hole golf courses; Johnson Park Dog Run, and the Wustum Museum. The remaining 56 parks associated with the City park system include City Hall, sub-neighborhood parks, special use parks, passive use sites, playlots, open space sites, conservancy/nature areas, historical exhibits, and cemeteries. Under the recommended plan, the City would further provide 16 miles of recreational trails associated with the Lake Michigan and Root River Pathways that can be utilized for jogging, walking, biking, rollerblading, and related activities, and about 23 miles of on-street bikeways that would consist of bike lanes, bike paths, and bike routes.

The City of Racine Comprehensive Plan for the year 2035 envisions the development of additional recreational facilities at existing parks, expansion of existing parks, and development of new parks within developing or redeveloping areas of the City. The comprehensive plan recommends that the City continue to develop on-street bikeways and off-street trails for bicycle and pedestrian use. The development of a system of bikeways and trails would provide residents a connection to City and County parks, regional trails, schools, and local destination points, such as employment nodes and commercial and retail businesses. The plan also recommends that the City, in cooperation with Racine County, develop a water trail with appropriate support facilities on the Root River and along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The following recommendations would help to implement those components of the comprehensive plan.

#### **Parks and Related Recreational Facilities**

This section presents recommendations related to existing City parks, including the development of new recreational facilities or improvements to existing recreational facilities. Table V-3 lists park-related development and improvement projects anticipated to be implemented between 2011 and 2015, and the estimated development costs for each park from the City's capital improvements program (CIP). Table V-4 lists park-related projects anticipated to be implemented between 2016 and 2035. Estimated costs for these projects will be developed as part of future capital improvements programming. The CIP is updated on an annual basis, and projects currently identified for implementation may be removed or reprioritized and new projects may be added during each annual update. The City's CIP for parks-related improvements is set forth in Appendix B.

The results of the analysis of outdoor recreation needs, presented in Chapter IV, indicates that there is a need in the City of Racine for additional neighborhood parks and additional recreational facilities, including softball diamonds, tennis courts, soccer fields, playfields, playgrounds, and basketball goals. Such recreational facilities are intended to meet the outdoor recreation needs of City residents and are recommended to be provided by the City. All proposed facility development must comply with the accessibility requirements set forth under Federal Law in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It should be noted that a need for 24 additional public soccer fields within the City was identified as part of the needs analysis presented in Chapter IV, and soccer fields were also identified as an overall need by the City Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board. The plan does not recommend the development of additional soccer fields, due in part to a lack of available land within the City, and because of the number of soccer fields associated with the Soccer Complex of Racine (SCORE), located within and adjacent to the Caledonia-Mount Pleasant Memorial Park in the Village of Caledonia. If land becomes available for additional soccer fields within the City, it is recommended that practice soccer fields/playfields be developed rather than formal, game-sized soccer fields. It is also recommended that the City work cooperatively with the Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant to develop additional formal soccer fields within those communities that could be used by City residents.

It should also be noted that a need for nine additional public tennis courts within the City was identified as part of the needs analysis presented in Chapter IV. The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board determined that the number of existing tennis courts currently satisfies the demand by City residents. It is recommended that the development of additional tennis courts occur only when demand increases and existing courts no longer satisfy

Table V-3

**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AT EXISTING PARKS  
 IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2011-2015**

Site Name	Proposed Improvement	Development Cost
Case-Harmon Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 18,000
Douglas Park	Replace Ball Diamond Lights	\$ 146,000
	Interior and Exterior Updates to the Cesar Chavez Community Center	256,400
	Subtotal	\$ 402,400
Dr. Hamilton Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 28,000
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park	Interior and Exterior Updates to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center	\$ 241,900
Franklin Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 27,000
Graceland Cemetery	Repair Roads and Walkways	\$ 100,000
Grand Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 17,000
Greencrest Park	Renovate Shelter	\$ 91,000
Hagerer Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 16,000
Hantschel Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 18,000
	Replace Shelter	325,000
	Subtotal	\$ 343,000
Harvey Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 18,000
Horlick Athletic Field	Develop Additional Restrooms	\$ 504,000
	Seal Coat Parking Lot	18,000
	Subtotal	\$ 522,000
Humble Park	Pave 21 <sup>st</sup> Street Sidewalk	\$ 27,000
	Replace Northwest Ball Diamond Lights	159,000
	Replace Tennis Courts	273,000
	Interior and Exterior Updates to the Humble Park Community Center	328,700
	Subtotal	\$ 787,700
Island Park	Repave Horlick Drive Within the Park	\$ 160,000
	Replace North Ball Diamond Lights	152,000
	Renovate Tennis Courts	80,000
	Replace Playground Equipment	30,000
	Resurface Playground Area	25,000
	Subtotal	\$ 447,000
Johnson Park and Golf Course	Repave Johnson Park Drive and Picnic Road	\$ 256,000
	Remove River Pumphouse	12,000
	Replace Lift Station	115,000
	Rebuild Fourth-Hole Putting Green and Third-Hole Tee Box	246,000
	Subtotal	\$ 629,000
Jones Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 17,000
Lincoln Park	Renovate Ball Diamond	\$ 26,000
	Replace Ball Diamond Fencing	15,000
	Pave Parking Lot	193,000
	Remove Pedestrian Bridge	40,000
	Subtotal	\$ 274,000
Lockwood Park	Renovate Ball Diamond	\$ 24,000
	Replace Ball Diamond Fencing	15,000
	Subtotal	\$ 39,000
Marino Park	Resurface Playground Area	\$ 24,000
Mound Cemetery	Repair Roads and Walkways	\$ 100,000
North Beach	Install Beach Matting	\$ 75,000

**Table V-3 (continued)**

Site Name	Proposed Improvement	Development Cost
Parker Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 16,000
Pershing Park	Pave Central Parking Lot	35,000
	Resurface Boat Ramp Parking Lot	297,000
	Renovate Boat Ramp Restrooms	100,000
	Renovate Soccer Bleachers	400,000
	Renovate Locker Rooms	620,000
	Subtotal	\$ 1,452,000
Racine Zoological Gardens	Install Beach Matting	25,000
	Develop Outdoor Orangutan Exhibit	710,000
	Pave Walking Paths	60,000
	Reseal Wisconsin Avenue Parking Lot	16,000
	Subtotal	\$ 811,000
Robert G. Heck Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 16,000
Roosevelt Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 27,000
	Renovate North Ball Diamond	28,000
	Replace Ball Diamond Fencing	17,000
	Interior and Exterior Updates to the Dr. John Bryant Community Center	108,400
	Subtotal	\$ 180,400
Samuel Myers Park	Pave Parking Lot	\$ 85,000
Shoop Park Golf Course	Renovate Clubhouse	\$ 295,000
	Upgrade West Fairway Drainage	130,000
	Subtotal	\$ 425,000
Solbraa Park	Renovate Shelter	\$ 180,000
	Renovate Ball Diamond	26,000
	Replace Ball Diamond Fencing	16,000
	Replace Ball Diamond Lights	165,000
	Subtotal	\$ 387,000
Tyler-Domer Community Center	Interior and Exterior Updates to the Community Center	\$ 109,400
Vidian-Cheska Park	Pave Bike Path from Charles Street to the Park	\$ 65,000
Washington Park Bowl	Replace Stairs	\$ 25,000
	Renovate East Ball Diamond	30,000
	Replace East Ball Diamond Fencing	18,000
	Replace East Ball Diamond Lights	170,000
	Subtotal	\$ 243,000
Washington Park Golf Course	Replace Walkways Along the Building	\$ 20,000
West Park	Replace Playground Equipment	\$ 18,000
Wustum Museum	Renovate for ADA Accessibility	\$ 250,000
	Update First and Second Floor Electrical Systems	95,000
	Pave the Rear Parking Lot	90,000
	Pave the Storage Building	80,000
	Subtotal	\$ 515,000
<b>Total – 35 Sites</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>\$ 8,559,800<sup>a</sup></b>

<sup>a</sup>The total development cost includes proposed improvements to specific City-owned parks and special use sites. Additional parks-related improvements and costs listed in the City's Capital Improvement Program for 2011 through 2015 include various unspecified park paving and facility projects (\$1,539,000) and specific Graceland and Mound Cemetery projects (\$665,000). The development costs associated with these improvements and the total development cost listed above equals the total cost for parks-related projects in the City's Capital Improvement Program (\$10,763,800).

Source: City of Racine Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department and SEWRPC.

**Table V-4**

**RECOMMENDED DEVELOPMENTS OR IMPROVEMENTS AT  
 EXISTING PARKS IN THE CITY OF RACINE PLANNING AREA: 2016-2035**

Site Name	Proposed Facility Development or Improvement
Case-Harmon Park	Develop a Basketball Court
Clayton Park	Develop a Full Basketball Court, Replacing the One-Half Basketball Court Provide Benches to View the Root River
Douglas Park	Additional Landscaping
Dr. Hamilton Park	Improve Streetscape and Park Facilities
Festival Park	Develop a New Festival Park <sup>a</sup> Develop a Pedestrian Bridge
Franklin Park	Develop a Sandlot Ball Diamond
Hantschel Park	Develop a League Softball Diamond, Replacing the Sandlot Ball Diamond
Jonas Park	Additional Landscaping
Lincoln Park	Develop a Basketball Court Modify the Existing Boat Launch Upstream from Steelhead Facility Provide Benches to View the Root River
Parker Park	Develop a Basketball Court
Pershing Park	Develop a Basketball Court
Reservoir Park	Develop a Playfield Develop a Playground Develop a Basketball Court
Vidian-Cheska Park	Develop a League Softball Diamond
West Park	Improve Streetscape and Park Facilities

NOTE: In addition to development at specific parks, as listed above, this plan recommends the development of an outdoor ice skating facility and a community swimming pool at centralized locations and additional practice soccer fields/playfields at existing City parks if space becomes available through park redevelopment.

<sup>a</sup>The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board recommends the integration or relocation of the existing boat launches and boat trailer parking area prior to development of a Festival Park.

Source: City of Racine Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department and SEWRPC.

demand. City staff and the City Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board should continue to evaluate the use of existing tennis courts and the potential need for additional tennis courts during subsequent park and open space plan updates. If the development of additional tennis courts is warranted, priority should be given to those areas that are not adequately served by a tennis court based on service area standards, as shown on Map IV-9.

***Development and Improvement at Existing City Parks: 2011-2015***

It is recommended that the City develop additional recreational facilities or make improvements to facilities at 35 existing recreational parks, special use parks, community centers, golf courses, or cemeteries during the five-year period from 2011 through 2015, as described below. The estimated development and improvement costs are included in Table V-3.

- *Case-Harmon Park:* Case-Harmon Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located in the southeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, and two soccer fields. It is recommended that the existing playground equipment be replaced.
- *Dr. Hamilton Park:* Dr. Hamilton Park is a one-acre park located in the southeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playground, a shelter, a picnic area, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. It is recommended that the existing playground equipment be replaced.
- *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park:* Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park is a two-acre park centrally located within the City. Existing facilities include a playground, one basketball goal, and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center. Interior and exterior improvements are recommended at the community center.
- *Douglas Park:* Douglas Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located in the northern portion of the City. Existing facilities include one league ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball court, and the Cesar Chavez Community Center. It is recommended that the ball diamond lights be replaced at the park. Interior and exterior improvements are also recommended at the Cesar Chavez Community Center.
- *Franklin Park:* Franklin Park is a four-acre neighborhood park located in the eastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playground, a playfield, two basketball courts, a shelter, and a rain garden. It is recommended that the existing playground equipment be replaced.
- *Graceland Cemetery:* Graceland Cemetery is 50-acre cemetery located in the western portion of the City. Residents use the streets within the cemetery for walking or jogging. It is recommended that the roads and walkways be repaired within the cemetery. Additional non-recreational improvements are also recommended.
- *Grand Park:* Grand Park is a 6,100 square-foot playlot located in the southeastern portion of the City. It is recommended that the existing playground equipment be replaced.
- *Greencrest Park:* Greencrest Park is a five-acre neighborhood park located in the southern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playground, a playfield, and a basketball court. A portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway abuts the park. A pocket of woodlands is located within the park. It is recommended that the park shelter be renovated.
- *Hagerer Park:* Hagerer Park is a 13,940 square-foot playlot located in the eastern portion of the City. It is recommended that the existing playground equipment be replaced.
- *Hantschel Park:* Hantschel Park is an eight-acre neighborhood park located in the western portion of the City. Existing facilities include a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a shelter, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. A wetland is located within the park. It is recommended that the playground equipment and the shelter be replaced.

- *Harvey Park:* Harvey Park is a two-acre park located in the western portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, and a historical exhibit. It is recommended that the existing playground equipment be replaced.
- *Horlick Athletic Field:* Horlick Athletic Field is a nine-acre site located in the northern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a baseball diamond, a playfield, a football field, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. It is recommended that additional restrooms be developed and the parking lot be sealed.
- *Humble Park:* Humble Park is a 17-acre neighborhood park located in the southern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a two baseball diamonds, one league ball diamond, three basketball goals, three soccer fields, a football field, a playfield, a playground, three tennis courts, a sledding hill, a volleyball court, restrooms, a historical exhibit, and the Humble Park Community Center. It is recommended that the sidewalk on 21<sup>st</sup> Street be paved within the park. Additional recommendations include replacing the lights on the northwest ball diamond and replacing the tennis courts. Interior and exterior improvements are also recommended at the Humble Park Community Center.
- *Island Park:* Island Park is a 21-acre community park centrally located within the City along the Root River. Existing facilities include two league ball diamonds, a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, three tennis courts, restrooms, a shelter, fishing, a canoe launch, a historical exhibit, and picnic areas. The park also includes a portion of the Root River Pathway. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor. It is recommended that Horlick Drive be repaved within the park. Additional recommendations include replacing the lights on the north ball diamond, renovating the tennis courts, replacing the playground equipment, and resurfacing the playground area.
- *Johnson Park and Golf Course:* Johnson Park and Golf Course is a 335-acre major park located north of STH 38, and is surrounded by the Village of Caledonia. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, an 18-hole golf course, driving range, picnic areas, shelters, restrooms, a historical exhibit, and a nature area. The park also encompasses a pond and access to the Root River that provides for fishing. The park includes primary environmental corridor along the Root River and an isolated natural resource area. Isolated pockets of wetlands and woodlands outside of environmental corridors are also located within the park. It is recommended that Johnson Park Drive and the picnic road be repaved within the park. Additional recommendations include removing the river pumphouse, replacing the lift station, and rebuilding the fourth-hole putting green and the third-hole tee box. Long-range recommendations include the development of a portion of the Root River Trail through the park or in an alternate location that provides trail continuity. Development of the trail should not occur in areas that would disturb the golfers or pose a hazard to trail users.
- *Jones Park:* Jones Park is a one-acre park centrally located within the City. Existing facilities include a playfield and a playground. It is recommended that the existing playground equipment be replaced.
- *Lincoln Park:* Lincoln Park is a 25-acre community park located in the western portion of the City along the Root River. Existing facilities include a baseball/league softball diamond, a football field, a playfield, a playground, a soccer field, restrooms, a picnic area, a shelter, boat/canoe launches, fishing, and a historical exhibit. The park also contains a portion of the Root River Pathway and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Steelhead Facility. The park includes primary environmental corridor and isolated woodlands not associated with a primary environmental corridor. It is recommended that the ball diamond be renovated, the ball diamond fencing be replaced, the parking lot be paved with asphalt, and the Spring Street pedestrian bridge on the south side of the park be removed.
- *Lockwood Park:* Lockwood Park is a 38-acre community park located in the western portion of the City. Existing facilities include one league softball/baseball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball court, five tennis courts, three soccer fields, a sledding hill, picnic areas, shelters, restrooms, a small pond for

fishing, and a historical exhibit. It is recommended that the ball diamond be renovated and the ball diamond fencing be replaced.

- *Marino Park*: Marino Park is a three-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, and a basketball court. It is recommended that the playground surface be replaced.
- *Mound Cemetery*: Mound Cemetery is a 55-acre cemetery centrally located within the City. Residents use the streets within the cemetery for walking or jogging. It is recommended that the roads and walkways be repaired within the cemetery. Additional non-recreational improvements are also recommended.
- *North Beach*: North Beach is a 49-acre community park located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a swimming beach, sand volleyball courts, a playfield, a playground, a picnic area, a bath house, restrooms, a shelter, a gazebo, fishing, a nature area, a concession stand, a historical exhibit, a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway, and an ADA-accessible boardwalk to the waters of Lake Michigan. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor. It is recommended that beach matting be installed on the beach where necessary.
- *Parker Park*: Parker Park is a three-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City. It is recommended that the existing playground equipment be replaced.
- *Pershing Park*: Pershing Park is a 28-acre community park located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, two soccer fields, a skate park, a 10-lane boat launch, a picnic area, a shelter, restrooms, a historical exhibit, fishing, a fish cleaning station, and a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway. The park includes primary environmental corridor. It is recommended that the parking lot centrally located within the park be paved with asphalt. Additional recommendations at the park include resurfacing the boat ramp parking lot, renovating the boat ramp restrooms, renovating the soccer bleachers, and renovating the locker rooms.
- *Racine Zoological Gardens*: The Racine Zoological Gardens is a 25-acre special use site located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the northeastern portion of the City. The site is developed with a zoo containing multiple animal exhibits, a playground, picnic areas, a shelter, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. The park includes primary environmental corridor. It is recommended that beach matting be installed on the zoo beach (North Beach) where necessary. Additional recommendations include developing an outdoor orangutan exhibit, paving the walking paths through the zoo, and resealing the Wisconsin Avenue parking lot.
- *Robert G. Heck Park*: Robert G. Heck Park is a two-acre neighborhood park located in the northwestern portion of the City near Batten Airport. Existing facilities include a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a shelter, and restrooms. It is recommended that the playground equipment be replaced at the park.
- *Roosevelt Park*: Roosevelt Park is a 13-acre neighborhood park located in the southeastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include two league ball diamonds, a soccer field, a playfield, a playground, a basketball court, a picnic area, a shelter, restrooms, a historical exhibit, and the Dr. John Bryant Community Center. It is recommended that the playground equipment be replaced, the north ball diamond be renovated, and the ball diamond fencing be replaced. Interior and exterior improvements are also recommended at the John Bryant Community Center.
- *Samuel Myers Park*: Samuel Myers Park is a seven-acre neighborhood park located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in the eastern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a boat launch, fishing, a historical exhibit, and a portion of the Lake Michigan Pathway. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor. It is recommended that the parking lot within the park be paved with asphalt.

- *Shoop Park Golf Course*: Shoop Park Golf Course is a 53-acre golf course located adjacent to Lighthouse Drive in the eastern portion of the Village of Wind Point along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Existing facilities include a nine-hole golf course, a shelter, piers, fishing, and restrooms. The park also contains primary environmental corridor and wetlands within and outside of the primary environmental corridor. It is recommended that the clubhouse be renovated and the west fairway drainage be upgraded.
- *Solbraa Park*: Solbraa Park is a three-acre neighborhood park located in the southwestern portion of the City. Existing facilities include one league ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a basketball court, a shelter, a volunteer-managed ice skating rink, and restrooms. It is recommended that the shelter and ball diamond be renovated and the ball diamond fencing and lights be replaced.
- *Tyler-Domer Community Center*: The Tyler-Domer Community Center is a three-acre community center centrally located within the City. The site includes a playground, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. Interior and exterior improvements are recommended at the community center.
- *Vidian-Cheska Park*: Vidian-Cheska Park is an eight-acre neighborhood park located in the northern portion of the City. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, and a historical exhibit. It is recommended that a bike path be paved from Charles Street to the park.
- *Washington Park Bowl*: Washington Park Bowl is an 11-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City. Existing facilities include one baseball diamond, one league ball diamond, and a playfield. The park includes a small portion of primary environmental corridor and an isolated natural resource area. It is recommended that the stairs be replaced, the east ball diamond be renovated, and the east ball diamond lights and fencing be replaced.
- *Washington Park Golf Course*: Washington Park Golf Course is a 92-acre golf course centrally located within the City, and includes a portion of the Root River. Existing facilities include a nine-hole golf course, a shelter, restrooms, a historical exhibit, and a portion of the Root River Pathway. The park also includes primary environmental corridor, an isolated natural resource area, and a pocket of woodlands. It is recommended that the walkways along the building be replaced.
- *West Park*: West Park is a three-acre neighborhood park located in the eastern portion of the City. The park includes a playground and passive use areas. It is recommended that the playground equipment be replaced.
- *Wustum Museum*: The Wustum Museum is a 10-acre special use site located in the western portion of the City. The site includes a historical exhibit, the Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts, and the Racine Guild Theatre. Interior and exterior improvements recommended at the museum include renovating for ADA accessibility, updating the electrical system on the first and second floors, and paving the rear parking lot and the storage building.

Other improvements recommended at unspecified City parks or City-maintained properties during the five-year period from 2011 through 2015 include replacing the sidewalks within parks; removing concrete/asphalt on City-owned lands; planting trees on City-owned lands; painting park facilities; making Root River improvements; replacing park benches and signs; replacing fencing; replacing playground equipment; removing abandoned water service pits; tuckpointing the Johnson Parkway wall; repairing the Rickman building roof; replacing park facility lights with LED lights; replacing ball diamond bleachers; removing abandoned area lights; and installing grass saver grids at various parks. Priority should be given to making ADA-related improvements to provide access to persons with disabilities.

***Additional Development at Existing City Parks: 2016-2035***

This section describes recommended facility development at existing City parks between 2016 and 2035. No additional acquisition at existing City parks is recommended during this time period, but as recommended in the City’s comprehensive plan, the City should continually consider expanding existing parks or developing new parks when

redevelopment occurs or other opportunities present themselves. Additional recreational facilities recommended at each park are listed in Table V-4. Implementation of recommended improvements is subject to the availability of funding for facility development, operation, and maintenance.

- *Case-Harmon Park*: It is recommended that a basketball court be provided at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2011-2015.
- *Clayton Park*: Clayton Park is a six-acre neighborhood park centrally located within the City along the Root River. Existing facilities include a playfield, a playground, a one-half basketball court, a soccer field, a canoe launch, fishing, and a portion of the Root River Pathway. The park is encompassed within a primary environmental corridor. It is recommended that the one-half basketball court be replaced by a full basketball court, and that benches be provided along the river.
- *Franklin Park*: It is recommended that a sandlot ball diamond be developed at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2011-2015.
- *Hantschel Park*: Hantschel Park is an eight-acre neighborhood park located in the western portion of the City. Existing facilities include a sandlot ball diamond, a playfield, a playground, a shelter, restrooms, and a historical exhibit. It is recommended that the sandlot ball diamond be replaced by a league softball diamond.
- *Lincoln Park*: It is recommended that a basketball court be provided at the park, and that the existing boat launch located upstream from the steelhead facility be modified, and benches be provided along the river at the park. Additional facility recommendations for 2011-2015 are described in the previous section.
- *Parker Park*: It is recommended that a basketball court be provided at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2011-2015.
- *Pershing Park*: It is recommended that a basketball court be provided at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2011-2015.
- *Reservoir Park*: Reservoir Park is a 22-acre undeveloped neighborhood park located in the southwestern portion of the City. The park is primarily a stormwater basin and is prone to flooding during periods of high precipitation. The park is used as an informal playfield and picnic area and for sledding and fishing. It is recommended that consideration be given to developing a formal playfield, a playground, and a basketball court at the park, if flooding issues can be resolved.
- *Vidian-Cheska Park*: It is recommended that a league softball diamond be provided at the park, in addition to the improvements recommended during 2011-2015.

The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board identified a need for a formal, outdoor ice skating rink within the City. The ice skating rink would be a community-wide facility and may be similar to the ice skating rink located at Red Arrow Park in the City of Milwaukee. Development of the facility would also include appropriate support facilities, such as a warming house with restrooms, storage, and lockers. The site may be developed as part of the City park system or possibly as a joint effort with the Village of Caledonia, Village of Mount Pleasant, and/or Racine County. The Racine County park and open space plan recommends that the County develop an ice arena; however, there are no immediate plans for development of an ice arena and no specific location identified. The City and County, and possibly nearby Villages, may wish to consider developing an ice arena or other formal skating facility through a cooperative effort, potentially at Pritchard Park where developable land is available and some support facilities already exist.

Development of a community swimming pool is also recommended. The Southside Neighborhood Plan recommends that a swimming pool be developed at Roosevelt Park or Franklin Park; however, the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural

Services Board prefers that the swimming pool be developed at a more centralized location within the City, to provide easy access for all City residents.

Other potential improvements recommended at City parks or City-maintained properties from 2016 through 2035 include additional landscaping at Jonas Park and Douglas Park; developing park blocks or greenspace within redevelopment areas for active and passive use and youth-oriented recreation; developing a new Festival Park<sup>6</sup> and constructing a pedestrian bridge that would connect Festival Park to Racine Harbor Park; improving streetscaping and park facilities at Dr. Hamilton Park and West Park; installing parks signs and informational kiosks at existing neighborhood parks; providing shelters or canopies for protection from the sun over or near playgrounds and playfields if shade from trees is not available; improving public access to Lake Michigan and the Root River through signs and marked walking paths; landscaping intersections and parkways; creating pocket parks and/or community gardens on vacant lots; creating an Adopt-a-Park program; establishing a tree maintenance program for trees located along City streets; streetscape improvements near 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Washington Avenue; improving pedestrian and bike access along 14<sup>th</sup> Street; prohibiting boat and viewing access along the river at Colonial Park to protect restoration areas; developing a non-motorized boat launch along the Root River at Lincoln Park; and continuing development of a bicycle trail system and a pedestrian trail system throughout the City.

### ***Maintenance of Other Existing City Parks***

This plan also recommends that the City continue to maintain all existing City-owned park and open space sites and outdoor recreation facilities. The maintenance activities at these sites may include, as necessary, the provision, paving, and resurfacing of parking lots and trails or walkways; resurfacing of volleyball, basketball, and tennis court areas; making existing facilities accessible to persons with disabilities; provision, repair, or replacement of such support facilities as sportsfield lighting, park benches, picnic tables, and drinking fountains; provision, repair, or replacement of foot bridges, restroom facilities, water supply facilities, maintenance buildings, and picnic shelters; and the maintenance of lawns, gardens, and other landscape plantings. Such maintenance activities may also include the provision of additional or replacement playground equipment, playfield areas, and areas for passive recreational use.

### **Open Space Preservation**

As shown on Map V-2, the City currently owns 497 acres of primary environmental corridor lands and 71 acres of isolated natural resource areas, for a total of 568 acres. It is recommended that these lands be maintained in City ownership and preserved in essentially natural, open space uses. It is also recommended that the City enact conservancy zoning regulations and apply those regulations to primary environmental corridor lands that are privately owned. Consideration should also be given to protecting privately-owned secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas through conservancy zoning.

### **Bicycle and Pedestrian Route and Trail System**

It is recommended that a citywide system of recreation trails and bicycle routes continue to be developed to connect existing parks to the regional, county, and adjacent community trail systems and other parks, facilities, and destination points within the planning area, in cooperation with Racine County, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and adjoining local governments.

The City has developed the Lake Michigan Pathway and the Root River Pathway within the City. The Lake Michigan Pathway is about 10 miles in length and traverses north to south within the City near the Lake Michigan shoreline. The pathway provides a connection to the County-owned Milwaukee-Racine-Kenosha (MRK) Trail on the north side of the City and the County-owned North Shore Trail on the south side of the City. The Root River Pathway is about four miles in length and is primarily located on park lands along the Root River. The pathway extends from the Main Street Bridge, near downtown, to Colonial Park, with an extension along City streets that connects to the County-owned MRK Trail on the north side of the City and the County-owned North Shore and Racine-Sturtevant Trails on the south side of the City. It is recommended that the City develop an additional mile within Johnson Park and Golf

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<sup>6</sup> *It is recommended that the City either integrate the existing boat launch facilities and the boat trailer parking area with any new development or relocate the boat launch and boat trailer area to an accessible and convenient area prior to development of a new Festival Park.*

Course to complete that portion of the Root River Trail within the City. The trail would eventually connect to the Root River Trail proposed to be developed by Racine County in the Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant.

In addition to the trails described above, the City's 2035 comprehensive plan recommends the development of on-street bikeways along 27 miles of streets within the City. About one mile of bikeway along streets under State jurisdiction (portions of Goold Street and Northwestern Avenue) is recommended to be developed by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, about three miles bikeways along streets under County jurisdiction (portions of Ohio Street and Spring Street) are recommended to be developed by Racine County, and about 23 miles of bikeways along streets under City jurisdiction are recommended to be developed by the City of Racine.

Additional pedestrian and bicycle and trail recommendations proposed in City neighborhood plans and the Root River Revitalization Plan include developing a Riverwalk along the south side of the river from 6<sup>th</sup> Street to Main Street, re-routing a portion of the Root River Pathway on Mound Avenue to an off-street location, installing bike paths and marked on-street bike routes along the lakefront from Downtown to Roosevelt Park and the S.C. Johnson campus area, improving public access to Lake Michigan and the Root River through signs and marked walking paths, and improving pedestrian and bike access along 14<sup>th</sup> Street.

### **Potential Water Trails**

The City's 2035 comprehensive plan recommends that the City of Racine and Racine County work together to develop a water trail<sup>7</sup> on the Root River and along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Water trails, sometimes referred to as a paddling trail or canoe/kayaking trail, would identify parts of the Root River as a waterway that could accommodate low-impact, non-motorized watercraft such as a canoes and kayaks. Important factors for establishing water trails include safe and convenient access to a waterway with unobstructed passageways, adequate support facilities, and safe portaging areas. Identifying and providing signs of scenic, historic, and natural view points along the waterway should also be considered. The establishment of a water trail would also promote the responsible use and enjoyment of the Root River and would further serve as a place for solitude and respite from the urban environment, while providing educational and recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts. Development of a water trail in Lake Michigan would provide opportunities for non-motorized boating along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

As shown on Map V-3, the proposed Root River Water Trail would consist of approximately 12 miles and the Lake Michigan Water Trail would consist of approximately nine miles within the planning area. It is recommended that canoe access and support facilities be maintained and/or developed at regular intervals along the Root River and the Lake Michigan shoreline within the planning area. Currently, put-in and take-out sites or boat/canoe launches along the Root River are located at the County-owned Horlick Park and the City-owned 6<sup>th</sup> Street Park South, Clayton Park, Island Park, and Lincoln Park. Existing public access sites along the Lake Michigan shoreline are located at the City-owned Pershing Park, Rooney Recreation Area, and Samuel Myers Park. The City and Racine County should consider preparing user-friendly maps for water trail users to identify support facilities and points of interest along the water trail. Nonprofit conservation organizations, such as the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network or the Lake Michigan Water Trail Association, may assist with these efforts.

### **Other Considerations**

#### ***Public Input [To be Completed After Public Review Process]***

In October 2011, the City held a public informational meeting to allow the public to review and comment on the City park plan update and the City park system. Residents that attended the public information meeting indicated .....

In addition to comments provided at the public informational meeting, the Parks PRIDE Committee identified a potential need for additional diverse physical and cultural opportunities, such as zip lines, rock climbing, mountain biking and cross-country skiing trails, ice skating facilities, habitat planting, community gardens, and a conservatory.

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<sup>7</sup> A "water trail" is a designated trail on a lake or stream that regularly contains sufficient water level to navigate small watercraft such as a canoe or kayak with unobstructed passageways while providing safe and convenient access points, and may contain support facilities such as parking areas, restrooms, and picnic areas.

The committee also recommended that water quality improvements be made at Myers Park to allow use of the park as a beach and to develop nature-based and sustainability “theme” parks that may attract local interest groups. These recommendations will be implemented if suitable areas for the facilities are identified, partnerships are formed to help carry out the recommendations, and funding is available for development and maintenance.

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

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

### **Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources**

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

More specifically, in relation to the implementation of the City park and open space plan, it is important that the Department of Natural Resources endorse the plan, thus qualifying the City for available State and Federal outdoor recreation grants in support of plan implementation.

### **Racine County**

The Racine County Park and Open Space Plan sets forth implementation responsibilities for Racine County. With respect to parks and facilities located wholly or partially within the City, it is recommended that the County continue to provide and maintain existing facilities at Pritchard Park. It is also recommended that Racine County continue to maintain other County-owned park and open space sites within the City, including Horlick Park, Racine Harbor Park, Quarry Lake Park, Belle Harbor Marina, and Reef Point Marina. This plan recognizes and supports the redevelopment of Belle Harbor Marina in accordance with the concepts proposed in the Downtown Racine Development Plan and the Root River Revitalization Plan, if such redevelopment is supported by Racine County.

It is recommended that the County continue to maintain those portions of the Lake Michigan Trail located in the Villages of Caledonia and Mount Pleasant. That portion of the Lake Michigan Trail within the City of Racine, known as the Lake Michigan Pathway, will be maintained by the City. The County plan also recommends that the County continue to maintain the Racine-Sturtevant Trail from the City of Racine to the Village of Sturtevant, and extend the trail from the Village of Sturtevant to the City of Burlington if the existing railway is abandoned. The County plan also recommends that Racine County develop those portions of the Root River Trail in the Village of Caledonia, which would ultimately connect to the City-owned Root River Pathway.

In addition, the Root River Revitalization Plan recommends that the County develop a boat launch along the Root River at Quarry Lake Park. This recommendation will be considered during the pending update of the County park and open space plan.

It is also recommended that the County, in cooperation with the City and possibly nearby villages, consider the development of an ice skating facility, potentially at the County-owned Pritchard Park.

## **City of Racine**

Under the park and open plan for the City, shown on Maps V-2 and V-3, the City of Racine would have responsibility for providing a variety of outdoor recreation sites and facilities, including the improvement and maintenance of all existing City parks and facilities, the development of trails and bikeways, and the development of additional recreational facilities identified on Tables V-3 and V-4. Implementation of these recommendations would meet the outdoor recreation needs of City residents, and protect areas having important natural resources.

Improvement and maintenance activities include, as necessary, repair and resurfacing of parking lots and walkways; the resurfacing of court areas, such as volleyball, basketball, and tennis courts; the provision, repair, or replacement of such support facilities as sport field lighting, park benches, picnic tables, and drinking fountains; the repair or replacement of restroom facilities, water supply facilities, maintenance buildings, and picnic shelters; and the maintenance of lawns and other landscape plantings. In addition, such maintenance activities would also include the provision of additional playground equipment, playfield areas, picnic tables, and areas for passive recreational use. It is also recommended that any existing outdoor recreation facility not meeting the accessibility requirements set forth in Federal law in the Americans with Disabilities Act be brought into compliance in a timely fashion.

It is recommended that the City work with Racine County and develop a one-mile portion of the Root River Trail within the City-owned Johnson Park and Golf Course or in an alternate location that would provide trail continuity. The City would also be responsible for the development of 23 miles of on-street bikeways within the City. It is recommended that the City also work with Racine County to develop the Root River and Lake Michigan Water Trails.

## **Plan Costs**

Implementation of the park and open space plan for the City of Racine, as presented herein and summarized in Table V-3, would entail a total cost to the City of \$8,560,000 over the five-year plan implementation period from 2011 through 2015. This includes all park-related improvements included in the City's five-year Capital Improvement Program. Costs associated with the general maintenance of existing park facilities are not included in that total. A summary of the yearly estimated costs related to development of the City's park system is presented on Table V-5. The information is taken from the City's Capital Improvement Program for the years 2011 through 2015, and is categorized by proposed spending for parks and recreation, community centers, the Racine Zoological Gardens, golf courses, cemeteries, and the Wustum Museum. The City's five-year Capital Improvement Program for 2011-2015 for park-related expenses is included in Appendix B.

## **SUMMARY**

The recommended park and open space plan consists of both areawide park and open space recommendations and City park and open space recommendations. The areawide park and open space recommendations are based on the Racine County park and open space plan.

The key components of the plan are as follows:

- The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources should endorse the plan, thereby making the City eligible to apply for and receive State and Federal grants for the acquisition of park and open space lands and the development of outdoor recreation facilities.
- Racine County should continue to provide and maintain one major park, Pritchard Park, within the City. The County should continue to maintain Horlick Park, Quarry Lake Park, Racine Harbor Park, Belle Harbor Marina, and Reef Point Marina, which are County-owned sites located wholly or partially within the City; however, this plan recognizes and supports the redevelopment of Belle Harbor Marina in accordance with the concepts proposed in the Downtown Racine Development Plan and the Root River Revitalization Plan, if such redevelopment is supported by Racine County.

**Table V-5**

**ESTIMATED YEARLY COSTS OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT  
 PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF RACINE: 2011-2015**

Capital Improvement Program	Year					Total Cost
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Parks and Recreation .....	\$ 1,134,000	\$ 1,304,000	\$ 971,000	\$ 1,220,000	\$ 2,106,000	\$ 6,735,000
Community Centers .....	126,300	231,500	232,000	243,000	212,000	1,044,800
Racine Zoological Gardens .....	20,000	20,000	20,000	726,000	--	786,000
Wustum Museum .....	--	90,000	20,000	230,000	175,000	515,000
Cemeteries.....	60,000	80,000	60,000	75,000	590,000	865,000
Golf Courses.....	136,000	--	130,000	45,000	507,000	818,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,476,300</b>	<b>\$ 1,725,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,433,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,539,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,590,000</b>	<b>\$10,763,800</b>

Source: City of Racine Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department and SEWRPC.

- The County should continue to maintain the Lake Michigan Trail and the Racine-Sturtevant Trail, and develop the Root River Trail north of the City to connect with the City’s existing Root River Pathway. The County should also acquire and protect critical species habitat sites and geological sites as called for in the updated regional natural areas plan. Consideration should also be given to extending the Racine-Sturtevant Trail to the City of Burlington if the existing railroad right-of-way is abandoned.
- The City should consider the adoption of conservancy zoning regulations and apply those regulations to those portions of primary environmental corridors that are not publicly owned. Consideration should also be given to protecting privately-owned secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas through conservancy zoning.
- The park and open space plan recommends improvements to 35 existing City-owned recreational parks, special use parks, community centers, golf courses, and cemeteries to upgrade and modernize facilities and equipment. Park-related improvements for the years 2011-2015 are included in the City’s Capital Improvement Program.
- The park and open space plan also recommends the development of recreational facilities at nine existing City-owned parks to help ensure that recreational facilities are well-distributed throughout the City and thereby convenient to all residents. The plan further recommends additional development and improvements at five other City parks, as proposed in City neighborhood plans, and the development of a non-motorized boat launch at Lincoln Park. These developments and improvements are likely to occur after 2015.
- The park and open space plan further recommends that the City of Racine maintain the Lake Michigan Pathway and the Root River Pathway within the City. The City should also develop an additional mile of the Root River Trail within or near Johnson Park and Golf Course that will eventually connect to a County-owned Trail and develop a Riverwalk on the south side of the Root River from 6<sup>th</sup> Street to Main Street. It is also recommended that the City cooperate with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and Racine County to develop on-street bikeways recommended by the City’s 2035 comprehensive plan and the regional transportation system plan. The City should also work with Racine County and, as appropriate, nonprofit conservation organizations to develop the Root River and Lake Michigan Water Trails.
- The cost to the City to implement the park and open space plan would be \$8,560,000 over the five-year period from 2011 through 2015. Costs for additional park facility development recommended by the plan beyond 2015 will be determined through the City’s Capital Improvement Program process.

\* \* \* \* \*

SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 270 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)  
A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RACINE: 2035

## Chapter VI

# SUMMARY

In May 2008, the City of Racine Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department requested that the Regional Planning Commission assist the City in updating its park and open space plan. The resulting plan is documented in this report, and is an update of the park and open space plan adopted by the City in 2003. This plan is intended to provide a long-range vision and a guide to assist City officials and staff in making the day-to-day decisions needed for the continued development of the City's park and open space system. To assist in the implementation of the plan, both long-term recommendations, for the next 25 years, and an "action plan" are presented. The action plan sets forth priorities for implementation of the park and open space plan over the five-year period from 2011 through 2015.

Important preliminary steps in the development of this plan included a review of development and improvement activities conducted to date to implement the previous park plan and the collection of updated inventory information regarding land use, population, natural resources, and park and open space sites and recreational facilities within the City and planning area. This plan also reflects recommendations from the City of Racine 2035 Comprehensive Plan, the City Bicycle Pathway System Plan/Map, the Root River Revitalization Plan, the Park PRIDE Program, the Racine County Park and Open Space Plan, and the updated natural areas plan for Southeastern Wisconsin. Pertinent recommendations from the five neighborhood plans prepared by the City since the previous plan was adopted are also incorporated into this park plan, and include the Douglas Avenue Revitalization Plan, the Downtown Plan, the Live Towerview Plan, the Neighborhood Strategic Plan for Southside Racine, and the Uptown Improvement Plan.

The planning process was conducted under the guidance of the City Board of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services and staff support provided by the City Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department. A public informational meeting to present preliminary plan recommendations and to provide additional opportunities for public comment was held on October 12, 2011. This plan was approved by the Board of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services on \_\_\_\_\_, 2011. The plan was approved by the City Plan Commission on \_\_\_\_\_, 2011 and adopted by the City of Racine Common Council on \_\_\_\_\_, 2011. A copy of the adopting Common Council resolution is included in Appendix C.

## INVENTORY FINDINGS

The planning area, as shown on Map I-1 in Chapter I, consists of the entire City of Racine, including Johnson Park and Golf Course and the Johnson Park Dog Run, which are within the City's corporate limits, but detached from the rest of the City; and Shoop Park Golf Course, which is owned by the City but located in the Village of Wind Point. The planning area is located in U. S. Public Land Survey Townships 2 and 3 North and Ranges 22 and 23 East in the eastern portion of Racine County along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The planning area encompasses 10,113 acres, or about 16 square miles, including 10,060 acres within the City of Racine corporate limits and 53 acres within Shoop Park Golf Course. The City had a 2010 population level of 78,860 persons.

The City is almost completely developed and the City is completely surrounded by other incorporated municipalities (villages), which will prevent annexations by the City. Development within the City between 2011 and the plan design year of 2035 will occur through infilling of vacant parcels surrounded by existing development, re-development of under-utilized sites identified in the City comprehensive plan, and small areas of new development on the outskirts of the City.

An inventory of outdoor recreation and open space sites and facilities was conducted in 2010. The inventory identified 138 such sites encompassing 1,457 acres, or about 14 percent of the planning area. Of the 138 outdoor recreation and open space sites, 118 sites encompassing 1,387 acres, or about 95 percent of the area devoted to outdoor recreation and open space uses, were publicly owned. The remaining 20 sites, encompassing 70 acres, or about 5 percent of the total park and open space site acreage, were privately owned. The City of Racine owned 92 park and open space sites, encompassing a total of 1,167 acres, or about 12 percent of the planning area. This represents an increase of seven sites and 24 acres since 2001. The City of Racine park and open space sites ranged from 950 square feet (Jonas Park) to 335 acres (Johnson Park and Golf Course) in size.

The Lake Michigan Pathway and Root River Pathway developed by the City provide opportunities for biking and hiking within the City. The 10-mile Lake Michigan Pathway traverses north to south within the City near the Lake Michigan shoreline. The four-mile Root River Pathway is located primarily on park lands along the Root River. Both trails provide connections to the County-owned MRK Trail, North Shore Trail, and Racine-Sturtevant Trail.

The most important features of the natural resource base in the City of Racine and the planning area, including the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat areas occur in linear areas termed environmental corridors. Primary environmental corridors encompass 570 acres, or about 6 percent of the planning area, secondary environmental corridors encompass 18 acres, and smaller pockets of natural resource base elements, termed isolated natural resource areas, encompass 114 acres within the planning area. There are 526 acres encompassed in the 100-year floodplain and 205 acres of wetlands within the planning area. Of this, 142 acres of floodplain and 61 acres of wetlands are located outside environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas.

One natural area encompassing 74 acres, five critical species habitat sites encompassing 59 acres, and three geological areas encompassing 15 acres were identified in the planning area in 2009. Three aquatic habitat sites were identified in the planning area in 1994. The inventory of natural areas, critical species habitat sites, and geological areas was initially conducted in 1994 and was updated in 2009. The Colonial Park Woods Natural Area is of countywide or greater significance, and is a new natural area identified in the planning area during the update. The Horlickville Bluffs and Quarries Geological Area has been identified as a geological area of statewide or greater significance and the Wind Point Geological Area has been identified as a geological area of countywide or regional significance. The natural area, critical species habitat sites, and geological areas are all located within primary environmental corridors or isolated natural resource areas. Much of the Colonial Park Woods Natural Area is located in the City-owned Colonial Park.

## **STATUS OF 2020 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

The adopted 2020 City of Racine Park and Open Space Plan contains a number of recommendations regarding the development and improvement of recreational facilities. Chapter III provides a summary of the recommendations made in the earlier plan and indicates those recommendations that had been implemented by 2010 and those remaining to be implemented.

Between 2003 and 2010, the City had accomplished the following activities related to park and trail development and improvement:

- Development of the Root River Trail (Root River Pathway) and the Lake Michigan Pathway throughout the City.

- Repairing the cat house roof and chimney, replacing the gift shop roof, replacing the flamingo house, constructing a new Welcome Center, replacing the north water meter pit, remodeling the penguin/otter exhibit, remodeling monkey island, and paving the walking paths at the Racine Zoological Gardens.
- Installation of new playground equipment at Vidian-Cheska Park (formerly known as Cheska Park) and Clayton Park, replacing the existing playgrounds.
- Renovation of the shelter roof at Dr. Hamilton Park.
- Replacing the football field and baseball diamond bleachers at Horlick Athletic Field.
- Resurfacing the tennis courts at Lakeview Park.
- Paving the parking lot at Lockwood Park.
- Installation of new playground equipment, replacing the existing playground, and paving the parking lot at North Beach.
- Replacing the boat ramp piers and resurfacing the skate park at Pershing Park.
- Resurfacing the parking lot at Pierce Woods Park.
- Updating the electrical system at Solbraa Park.
- Replacing the classroom windows, renovating the first floor heating and cooling systems, and renovating the barn at the Wustum Museum.

Since 2003, the City decided to pursue alternative improvements to various facilities at selected park sites, rather than the recommended improvements included in the 2020 park plan. The 2020 park plan recommended that the shelters be renovated at Colonial Park, Marino Park, and Marquette Park, but the shelters at all three of the parks have been removed due to the unstable condition of the buildings and/or lack of use; Highland Park no longer exists as part of the City park system, and has been developed with Habitat for Humanity houses; the pond bridge at the Racine Zoological Gardens has been permanently removed rather than replaced; and the parking lot at Colonial Park will remain gravel rather than paved to provide a less urbanized atmosphere at the park.

## **LOCAL PLANS**

Since 2003, the City has adopted five neighborhood plans; the Douglas Avenue Revitalization Plan, the Downtown Plan, the Live Towerview Plan, the Neighborhood Strategic Plan for Southside Racine, and the Uptown Improvement Plan. The plans were prepared as a guide to help strengthen or maintain certain neighborhood districts within the City. The plans include park-, open space-, and/or trail-related recommendations. The neighborhood plan recommendations are summarized in Chapter IV.

The City also provided assistance to the Root River Council and the River Alliance of Wisconsin in the preparation of a Root River Revitalization Plan, which was completed in 2008. The plan is a guide to inform City officials and residents of the redevelopment and revitalization opportunities along the Root River within the City, including encouraging innovative, mixed use development along the river, improving and protecting the natural habitat and water quality of the river, and promoting public awareness and use of the river and river corridor. Proposed recreational opportunities along the Root River include developing a Riverwalk and developing recreational and support facilities and protecting/enhancing natural resource areas at existing City parks along the river.

The Racine Park PRIDE committee, which was appointed by the Mayor to develop recommendations to help improve the City's park system and increase use of the parks, identified potential needs for additional physical and cultural activities, such as zip lines, rock climbing, mountain biking and cross-country skiing trails, ice skating facilities, habitat planting, community gardens, and a conservatory, as well as recommending water quality improvements at Myers Park for use as a beach and developing nature-based and sustainability "theme" parks.

## **PARK AND OPEN SPACE OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AND STANDARDS AND NEEDS ANALYSIS**

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

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

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

The attainment of all objectives is considered desirable to provide residents of the City with opportunities for high-quality recreational experiences. Under the regional park and open space plan and the Racine County park and open space plan, the responsibility for providing the necessary parks, open space lands, and associated recreational facilities is shared among various levels of government. The responsibility for acquisition and development of major resource-oriented parks and recreational facilities is largely delegated to the state and county levels of government, although larger cities, such as the City of Racine, sometimes provide major parks. The need for major parks will be met within the City of Racine by the continued maintenance of Johnson Park and Golf Course by the City and the continued maintenance and development of Pritchard Park by Racine County.

The responsibility for providing neighborhood and community parks and facilities for intensive outdoor recreational activities, as well as the acquisition of environmental corridors and the development of a local trail system, is delegated to the City of Racine under the regional park and open space plan. The need for community and neighborhood parks and associated recreational facilities in the City of Racine was determined by applying the park and open space standards to the adopted City of Racine 2035 comprehensive plan population forecast of 80,510 persons. Accessibility, or service radius, standards were also applied to ensure that community and neighborhood parks will be well-distributed throughout the City and convenient to City residents.

The results of applying the adopted SEWRPC per capita and accessibility standards for recreational facilities in the City identified a need for a variety of recreational facilities, including playfields, ball diamonds, and basketball courts. The Board of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services and the Park PRIDE Committee identified a need for additional facilities, including a swimming pool, an ice skating rink, and practice soccer fields.

## **PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN**

Upon full implementation of the park and open space plan for the City of Racine, the City would provide a variety of parks and related outdoor recreation facilities; a system of recreation trails; and a system of on-street bikeways to meet the outdoor recreation needs of City residents and protect important natural resource areas. Specific recommendations regarding the City park and open space system and the City bikeway and trail system include:

- Development of neighborhood park recreational facilities at nine existing City-owned parks, likely after 2015, to help ensure that recreational facilities are well-distributed throughout the City and convenient to all residents.
- Additional improvements to recreational facilities at 35 existing City-owned recreational parks, special use parks, community centers, golf courses, or cemeteries, including parks-related improvements identified in the City's Capital Improvement Program for 2011 through 2015, as presented in Appendix B.
- Additional development and improvements to five existing City parks, as proposed in City neighborhood plans, and the development of a formal, outdoor ice skating rink and a community swimming pool, which will likely occur after 2015.
- Development of a Riverwalk along the south side of the Root River from 6<sup>th</sup> Street to Main Street and the development of a non-motorized boat launch within the proposed Riverwalk, in accordance with the Root River Revitalization Plan.
- Development of Root River and Lake Michigan Water Trails, in cooperation with Racine County.
- Development of the Root River Pathway within Johnson Park and Golf Course or in an alternate location that would provide trail continuity.

- Continued maintenance of the City-owned Lake Michigan and Root River Pathways.
- Continued maintenance of the City parks system, including improvements to increase access for persons with disabilities.
- Continued development of a City-wide, on-street bike system in accordance with the City’s 2035 comprehensive plan and the regional transportation system plan.

The most important features of the natural resource base in the City of Racine, including the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, natural and geological areas, critical species habitat sites, undeveloped floodplains, and surface water are located within primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas. The plan proposes that the City protect the natural resources associated with the environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas located within existing City parks. It is further recommended that the City adopt and apply conservancy zoning regulations to protect primary environmental corridors that are privately owned. The City should also consider protecting privately-owned secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural resource areas through conservancy zoning. The plan also recommends that the City acquire about nine acres of primary environmental corridor associated with the Colonial Park Woods Natural Area for resource protection purposes, through acquisition of a conservation easement or fee-simple purchase.

In addition to City implementation of the recommendations listed above, the plan recommends that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) endorse the plan, thereby continuing to make the City eligible to apply for and receive Federal and State grants for land acquisition and the development of outdoor recreation facilities.

It is recommended that Racine County continue to provide and maintain one major park, Pritchard Park, within the City, and continue to maintain Horlick Park, Quarry Lake Park, Racine Harbor Park, Belle Harbor Marina, and Reef Point Marina, which are County parks located wholly or partially within the City. The County should continue to maintain the Lake Michigan Trail and the Racine-Sturtevant Trail and develop the Root River Trail north of the City to connect with the City’s existing Root River Pathway, and in cooperation with the City and possibly nearby villages, consider the development of an ice skating facility, potentially at Pritchard Park. The County should also acquire and protect critical species habitat sites and geological sites as called for in the updated regional natural areas plan and the County park and open space plan.

The plan documented in this report is intended to provide a long-range vision and a guide to assist City officials and staff in making the day-to-day decisions needed for continued development of the City’s park and open space system. To assist in implementation of the plan, both long-term recommendations, for the next 25 years, and an “action plan” are presented. The action plan sets forth priorities for implementation of the park and open space plan over the five-year period from 2011 through 2015, which would entail a cost of about \$8.5 million.

Implementation of the plan over time would help to ensure a pleasant, healthful environment with diverse recreational opportunities for City residents and visitors, and provide the foundation for a healthy, vibrant City.

\* \* \* \* \*



## APPENDICES



## **Appendix A**

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

#### **OBJECTIVE NO. 1**

To provide an integrated system of public general-use outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas which allow the resident population of the Region adequate opportunities to participate in a wide range of outdoor recreation and outdoor education activities.

#### **PRINCIPLE**

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

#### **A. PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION SITES**

#### **PRINCIPLE**

Public general use outdoor recreation sites promote the maintenance of proper physical and mental health both by providing opportunities to participate in such athletic recreational activities as baseball, swimming, tennis, and ice-skating—activities that facilitate the maintenance of proper physical health because of the exercise involved—as well as opportunities to participate in such less athletic activities such as pleasure walking, picnicking, or just rest and reflection. These activities tend to reduce everyday tensions and anxieties and thereby help maintain proper physical and mental well being. Well designed and properly located public general-use outdoor recreation sites also provide a sense of community, bringing people together for social and cultural as well as recreational activities, and thus contribute to the desirability and stability of residential neighborhoods and therefore the communities in which such facilities are provided.

#### **STANDARDS**

1. The public sector should provide general use outdoor recreation sites sufficient in size and number to meet the recreation demands of the resident population. Such sites should contain the natural resource or man-made amenities appropriate to the recreational activities to be accommodated therein and be spatially distributed in a manner which provides ready access by the resident population. To achieve this standard, the following public general use outdoor recreation site requirements should be met as indicated on the next page:

Site Type	Size (gross acres)	Publicly-Owned Park and School Sites							
		Minimum per Capita Public Requirements (acres per 1,000 persons) <sup>d</sup>	Parks Typical Facilities	Maximum Service Radius (miles) <sup>b</sup>		Minimum per Capita Public Requirements (acres per 1,000 persons) <sup>f</sup>	Schools <sup>a</sup> Typical Facilities	Maximum Service Radium (miles) <sup>c</sup>	
				Urban <sup>e</sup>	Rural			Urban <sup>e</sup>	Rural
I <sup>g</sup> Regional	250 or more	5.3	Campsites, swimming beach, picnic areas, golf course, ski hill, ski-touring trail, boat launch, nature study area, playfield, softball diamond, or passive-activity area <sup>h</sup>	10.0	10.0	--	--	--	--
II <sup>i</sup> Multi-Community	100-249	2.6	Campsites, swimming pool or beach, picnic areas, golf course, ski hill, ski-touring trail, boat launch, nature study area, playfield, softball and/or baseball diamond, or passive-activity area <sup>h</sup>	4.0 <sup>j</sup>	10.0 <sup>j</sup>	--	--	--	--
III <sup>k</sup> Community	25-99	2.2	Swimming pool or beach, picnic areas, boat launch, nature study area, softball and/or baseball diamonds, soccer fields and other playfields, tennis courts, or passive-activity area <sup>h</sup>	2.0 <sup>l</sup>	--	0.9	Playfield, baseball diamond, softball diamond, or tennis court	0.5-1.0 <sup>m</sup>	--
IV <sup>n</sup> Neighborhood	Less than 25	1.7	Wading pool, picnic areas, softball and/or baseball diamonds, soccer fields and other playfields, tennis court, play-ground, basketball goal, ice-skating rink, or passive-activity area <sup>h</sup>	0.5-1.0 <sup>o</sup>	--	1.6	Playfield, playground, baseball diamond, softball diamond, basketball goal, or tennis court	0.5-1.0 <sup>m</sup>	--

2. Public general use outdoor recreation sites should, as much as possible, be located within the designated primary environmental corridors of the Region.

**B. RECREATION RELATED OPEN SPACE**

**PRINCIPLE**

Effective satisfaction of recreation demands within the Region cannot be accomplished solely by providing public general use outdoor recreation sites. Certain recreational pursuits such as hiking, biking, pleasure driving, and ski touring are best provided for through a system of recreation corridors located on or adjacent to linear resource-oriented open space lands. A well-designed system of recreation corridors offered as an integral part of linear open space lands can also serve to physically connect existing and proposed public parks, thus forming a truly integrated park and recreation related open space system. Such open space lands, in addition, satisfy the human need for natural surroundings, serve to protect the natural resource base, and ensure that many scenic areas and areas of natural, cultural, or historic interest assume their proper place as form determinants for both existing and future land use patterns.

**STANDARDS**

The public sector should provide sufficient open space lands to accommodate a system of resource-oriented recreation corridors to meet the resident demand for extensive trail-oriented recreation activities. To fulfill these requirements the following recreation-related open space standards should be met:

1. A minimum of 0.16 linear miles of recreation related open space consisting of linear recreation corridors<sup>p</sup> should be provided for each 1,000 persons in the Region.
2. Recreation corridors should have a minimum length of 15 miles and a minimum width of 200 feet.
3. The maximum travel distance to recreation corridors should be five miles in urban areas and 10 miles in rural areas.
4. Resource-orientated recreation corridors should maximize the use of:
  - a. Primary environmental corridors as locations for trail-oriented recreation activities.
  - b. Outdoor recreation facilities provided at existing public park sites.
  - c. Existing trail-type facilities within the Region.

## OBJECTIVE NO. 2

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

### PRINCIPLE

Participation in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities including basketball, baseball, ice-skating, soccer, playfield and playground activities, softball, pool swimming, and tennis provides an individual with both the opportunity for physical exercise and an opportunity to test and expand his or her physical capability. Such activities also provide an outlet for mental tension and anxiety as well as a diversion from other human activities. Competition in the various intensive nonresource-related activities also provides an opportunity to share recreational experiences, participate in team play, and gain understanding of other human beings.

### STANDARD

A sufficient number of facilities for participation in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the Region. To achieve this standard, the following per capita requirements and design criteria for various facilities should be met as indicated below:

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

### OBJECTIVE NO. 3

To provide sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population of the Region adequate opportunities to participate in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities.

#### PRINCIPLE

Participation in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities including camping, golf, picnicking, downhill skiing, and stream and lake swimming provides an opportunity for individuals to experience the exhilaration of recreational activity in natural surroundings as well as an opportunity for physical exercise. In addition, the family can participate as a unit in certain intensive resource-oriented activities such as camping, picnicking, and beach swimming.

#### STANDARD

A sufficient number of facilities for participation in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the Region. To meet this standard, the following per capita requirements and design criteria for various facilities should be met as indicated below:

Minimum Per Capita Facility Requirement <sup>W</sup>				Design Standards						Service Radius of Facility (miles) <sup>X</sup>
Activity	Facility	Owner	Per Capita Requirements (facility per 1,000 residents)	Typical Location of Facility	Facility Requirements	Additional Suggested Support Facilities	Support Facility Requirements	Total Land Requirements (acres per facility)	Resource Requirements	
Camping	Campsite	Public Nonpublic Total	0.35 1.47 1.82	Type I and II general use sites	0.33 acre per campsite	Restrooms - showers Utility hookups Natural area backup lands	-- -- 1.5 acres per campsite	1.83	Ungrazed wooded area Presence of surface water Suitable topography and soils	25.0
Golf	Regulation 18-hole course	Public Nonpublic Total	0.013 0.027 0.040	Type I and II general use sites	135 acres per course	Clubhouse, parking, and maintenance Practice area  Woodland or water areas Buffer	8.0 acres per course 5.0 acres per course 35.0 acres per course 2.0 acres per course	185.00	Suitable topography and soils Presence of surface water  Form-giving vegetation desirable	10.0
Picnicking	Tables	Public Nonpublic Total	6.35 <sup>Y</sup> 2.39 8.74	Type I, II, III, and IV general use sites	0.07 acre per table minimum	Parking   Shelters and grills Buffer and parking overflow	0.02 acre per table (1.5 space per table) -- 0.02 acre per table	0.11	Topography with scenic views Shade trees Presence of surface water desirable Suitable soils	10.0
Skiing	Developed slope (acres)	Public Nonpublic Total	0.010 0.090 0.100	Type I, II, and III general use sites	1.0 acre per acre of developed slope	Chalet Parking  Ski tows (and lights) Buffer and maintenance Landscape	0.13 acre minimum 0.25 acre per acre of slope 0.40 acre per acre of slope 0.40 acre per acre of slope 0.35 acre per acre of slope	2.10	Suitable topography and soils  (20 percent slope minimum)  North or northeast exposure	25.0
Swimming	Beach (linear feet)	Public Nonpublic Total	Major Inland Lakes 6 12 18 Lake Michigan 16 -- 16	Type I, II, and III general use sites	40 square feet per linear foot (average)	Parking  Bathhouse-concessions Buffer areas	0.2 acre per acre of beach 0.10 acre minimum 10 square feet per linear foot	-- <sup>Z</sup>	Natural beach Good water quality	10.0

## OBJECTIVE NO. 4

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

### PRINCIPLE

Participation in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities including biking, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, pleasure driving, ski-touring, and snowmobiling provides opportunity for contact with natural, cultural, historic, and scenic features. In addition, such activities can increase an individual's perception and intensify awareness of the surroundings, contribute to a better understanding of the environment, and provide a wider range of vision and comprehension of all forms of life both as this life may have existed in the past and as it exists in the present. Similar to intensive resource-orientated activity, the family as a unit also can participate in extensive land based recreation activities; such participation also serves to strengthen social relationships within the family. For activities like biking, hiking, and nature study, participation provides an opportunity to educate younger members of the family in the importance of environmental issues which may become of greater concern as they approach adulthood.

### STANDARD

A sufficient number of facilities for participation in land-based outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the Region. Public facilities provided for these activities should be located within the linear resource-orientated recreation corridors identified in Objective No. 1. To meet this standard, the following per capita standards and design criteria should be met as indicated below:

Minimum Per Capita Public Facility Requirements <sup>aa</sup>			Design Standards				
Activity	Facility	Per Capita Requirements (linear mile per 1,000 residents)	Typical Location of Facility	Minimum Facility Requirements (acres per linear mile)	Suggested Support Facilities and Backup Lands	Minimum Support Facility Requirements (acres per linear mile)	Resource Requirements
Biking	Route Trail	-- <sup>bb</sup> 0.16	Scenic roadways Recreation corridor	-- 1.45	Route markers Backup lands with resource amenities	-- 24.2	-- Diversity of scenic, historic, natural, and cultural features Suitable topography (5 percent slope average maximum) and soils
Hiking	Trail	0.16	Recreation corridor	0.73	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Diversity of scenic, historic, natural, and cultural features Suitable topography and soils
Horseback Riding	Trail	0.05	Recreation corridor Type I general use site	1.21	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Diversity of scenic, historic, natural, and cultural features Suitable topography and soils
Nature Study	Center	One per Region	Type I, II, and III general use sites	--	Interpretive center building Parking	--	Diversity of natural features, including a variety of plant and animal species Suitable topography and soils
	Trail	0.02	Recreation corridor Type I, II, and III general use sites	0.73	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Diversity of natural features, including a variety of plant and animal species Suitable topography and soils
Pleasure Driving	Route	-- <sup>cc</sup>	Scenic roadways Recreation corridor	--	Route markers	--	--
Ski-touring	Trail	0.02	Recreation corridor Types I and II general use sites	0.97	Backup lands with resource amenities	24.2	Suitable natural and open areas Rolling topography
Snowmobiling	Trail	0.11	Private lands (leased for public use)	1.45	Backup lands, including resource amenities and open lands	24.2	Suitable natural and open areas Suitable topography (8 percent slope average maximum) and soils

## OBJECTIVE NO. 5

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

### PRINCIPLE

The major inland lakes and rivers of the Region and Lake Michigan accommodate participation in extensive water-based recreation activities, including canoeing, fishing, ice fishing, motorboating, sailing, and water-skiing, which may involve unique forms of physical exercise or simply provide opportunities for rest and relaxation within a particularly attractive natural setting. Participation in extensive water-based recreation activities requires access to the major inland lakes and rivers and Lake Michigan and such access should be available to the general public.

## STANDARDS

1. Access sites available for use by the general public on streams and major lakes, that is, lakes of 50 acres or larger, should be provided in accordance with the requirements established by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in Sections NR 1.90 and NR 1.91 of the *Wisconsin Administrative Code*.
2. Access sites providing parking should be provided on major streams throughout the Region. The maximum interval between access points on major canoeable streams<sup>dd</sup> should be 10 miles.

## OBJECTIVE NO. 6

To preserve sufficient high-quality open space lands for protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and enhancement of the social and economic well-being, environmental quality, and biodiversity<sup>ee</sup> of the Region.

### PRINCIPLE

Ecological balance and natural beauty within the Region are primary determinants of the ability to provide a pleasant and habitable environment for all forms of life and to maintain the social and economic well being of the Region. Preservation of the most significant aspects of the natural resource base, that is, primary environmental corridors, natural areas and critical species habitat sites, and prime agricultural lands, contributes to the maintenance of ecological balance, natural beauty, and economic well being of the Region.

### A. PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

#### PRINCIPLE

The primary environmental corridors are a composite of the best individual elements of the natural resource base including surface water, streams, and rivers and their associated floodlands and shorelands; woodlands, wetlands, wildlife habitat; areas of groundwater discharge and recharge; organic soils, rugged terrain, and high relief topography; and significant geological formations and physiographic features. By protecting these elements of the natural resource base, flood damage can be reduced, soil erosion abated, water supplies protected, air cleansed, wildlife population enhanced, biological diversity preserved, and continued opportunities provided for scientific, educational, and recreational pursuits.

#### STANDARD

All remaining nonurban lands within the designated primary environmental corridors in the Region should be preserved in essentially natural open uses.

### B. NATURAL AREAS AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITATS

#### PRINCIPLE

Natural areas and critical species habitats are important in a number of ways - including economically, insofar as they support advances in agriculture and medicine; functionally, insofar as they enhance surface water and groundwater quality, minimize erosion, and enhance air quality; educationally; recreationally; aesthetically; in basic scientific research; and in maintaining biological and genetic diversity. In a less tangible but equally important way, natural areas and critical species habitats contribute to mental well-being and to the overall quality of human life.

#### STANDARDS

The remaining natural areas and critical species habitat areas should be preserved.

### C. PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS

#### PRINCIPLE

Prime agricultural lands, in addition to providing food and fiber, can supply significant wildlife habitat; contribute to maintaining an ecological balance between plants and animals; offer locations close to urban centers for the production of certain food commodities which may require nearby population concentrations for an efficient production-distribution relationship; provide opportunities for agricultural and agriculture-related employment; provide open spaces which give form and structure to urban development; and serve to maintain the natural beauty and unique cultural heritage of the Region.

## STANDARDS

1. Prime agricultural lands should be preserved for agricultural use.
2. Agricultural lands surrounding adjacent high-value scientific, educational, or recreational resources should be considered for preservation to provide a buffer between such resources and urban development.

## OBJECTIVE NO. 7

To satisfy outdoor recreation and related open space needs in an efficient and economical way.

## PRINCIPLE

The total resources of the Region are limited and any undue investment in park and open space lands must occur at the expense of other public investment.

## STANDARD

The sum total of all expenditures required to meet park demands and open space needs should be minimized.

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## Footnotes

<sup>a</sup>*In urban areas facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented recreational activities are commonly located in Type III or Type IV school outdoor recreation sites. These facilities often provide a substitute for facilities usually located in parks by providing opportunities for participation in intensive nonresource-orientated activities. It is important to note, however, that school outdoor recreation sites do not generally contain natural areas, which provide space for passive recreational use.*

<sup>b</sup>*The identification of a maximum service radius for each park type is intended to provide another guideline to assist in the determination of park requirements and to assure that each resident of the Region has ready access to the variety of outdoor recreation facilities commonly located in parks, including space and facilities for both active and passive outdoor recreational use.*

<sup>c</sup>*The identification of a maximum service radius for each school site is intended to assist in the determination of active outdoor recreation facility requirements and to assure that each urban resident has ready access to the types of active intensive nonresource-oriented facilities commonly located in school recreation areas.*

<sup>d</sup>*For Type I and Type II parks, which generally provide facilities for resource-orientated outdoor recreation activities for the total population of the Region, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the total resident population of the Region. For Type III and Type IV sites, which generally provide facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities primarily in urban areas, the minimum per capita acreage requirements apply to the resident population of the Region residing in urban areas.*

<sup>e</sup>*Urban areas are defined as areas containing a closely spaced network of minor streets which include concentrations of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, or institutional land uses having a minimum total area of 160 acres and a minimum population of 500 persons. Such areas usually are incorporated and are served by sanitary sewerage systems. These areas have been further classified into the following densities: low-density urban areas or areas with 0.70 to 2.29 dwelling units per net residential acre, medium-density urban areas or areas with 2.30 to 6.99 dwelling units per net residential acre, and high-density urban areas or areas with 7.00 to 17.99 dwelling units per net residential acre.*

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

<sup>g</sup>*Type I sites are defined as large outdoor recreation sites with a multi-County service area. Such sites rely heavily on natural resources for their recreational value and character, and provide opportunities for participation in a wide variety of resource-oriented outdoor recreation pursuits.*

<sup>h</sup>*A passive activity area is defined as an area within an outdoor recreation site that provides an opportunity for such less athletic recreational pursuits as pleasure walking, rest and relaxation, and informal picnicking. Such areas are generally located in parks or in urban open space sites, and usually consist of a landscaped area with mowed lawn, shade trees, and benches.*

<sup>i</sup>Type II sites are defined as intermediate size sites having a Countywide or multi-community service area. Similar to Type I sites, such sites rely on natural resources for their recreational value and character. Type II parks, however, usually provide a smaller variety of recreational facilities and have smaller areas devoted to any given activity.

<sup>j</sup>In general, each resident of the Region should reside within 10 miles of a Type I or Type II park. It should be noted, however, that within urban areas, having a population of 40,000 or greater, each urban resident should reside within four miles of a Type I or Type II park.

<sup>k</sup>Type III sites are defined as intermediate size sites having a multi-neighborhood service area. Such sites rely more on the development characteristics of the area to be served than on natural resource amenities for location.

<sup>l</sup>In urban areas the need for a Type III park is met by the presence of a Type II or Type I park. Thus, within urban areas having a population of 7,500 or greater, each urban resident should be within two miles of a Type III, II, or I park.

<sup>m</sup>The service radius of school outdoor recreation sites, for park and open space planning purposes, is governed primarily by individual outdoor recreation facilities within the school site. For example, school outdoor recreation sites which provide such facilities as playfields, playgrounds, and basketball goals typically have a service radius of 0.5 mile, which is the maximum service radius assigned to such facilities (see standards presented under Objective 2). As another example school outdoor recreation sites which provide tennis courts and softball diamonds typically have a service radius of one mile, which is the maximum service radius assigned to such facilities (see standards presented under Objective 2). It is important to note that areas which offer space for passive recreational use are generally not provided at school outdoor recreation sites and therefore Type III and Type IV school sites generally do not meet Type III and Type IV park accessibility requirements.

<sup>n</sup>Type IV sites are defined as small sites that have a neighborhood as the service area. Such sites usually provide facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities and are generally provided in urban areas. Recreation lands at the neighborhood level should most desirably be provided through a joint community-school district venture, with the facilities and recreational land area required to be provided on one site available to serve the recreation demands of both the school student and resident neighborhood population. Using the Type IV park standard of 1.7 acres per thousand residents and the school standard of 1.6 acres per thousand residents, a total of 3.3 acres per thousand residents or approximately 21 acres of recreation lands in a typical medium-density neighborhood would be provided. These acreage standards relate to lands required to provide for recreation facilities typically located in a neighborhood and are exclusive of the school building site and associated parking area and any additional natural areas which may be incorporated into the design of the park site such as drainageways and associated storm water retention basins, areas of poor soils, and floodland areas.

<sup>o</sup>The maximum service radius of Type IV parks is governed primarily by the population density in the vicinity of the park. In high-density urban areas, each urban resident should reside within 0.5 mile of a Type IV park; in medium-density urban areas, each resident should reside within 0.75 mile of a Type IV park; and in low-density urban areas, each resident should reside within 1.0 mile of a Type IV park. It should be noted that the requirement for a Type IV park also is met by a Type I, II, or III park within 0.5-1.0 mile service radius in high-, medium-, and low-density urban areas, respectively. Further, it should be noted that in the application of the service radius criterion for Type IV sites, only multi-use parks five acres or greater in area should be considered as satisfying the maximum service radius requirement. Such park sites generally provide areas which offer space for passive recreational uses, as well as facilities which provide opportunities for active recreational uses.

<sup>p</sup>A recreation corridor is defined as a publicly owned continuous linear expanse of land which is generally located within scenic areas or areas of natural, cultural, or historical interest and which provides opportunities for participation in trail-oriented outdoor recreational activities especially through the provision of trails designated for such activities as biking, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, and ski-touring.

<sup>q</sup>Facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities generally serve urban areas. The minimum per capita requirements for facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation activities, therefore, apply to the total resident population in each urban area of the Region.

<sup>r</sup>For each facility for intensive nonresource-oriented activity, the service radius indicates the maximum distance a participant should have to travel from his or her place of residence to participate in the corresponding activity.

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

<sup>t</sup>Support facilities such as night lighting, concessions, and bleachers generally should not be provided in Type IV sites. These sites typically do not contain sufficient acreage to allow an adequate buffer between such support facilities and surrounding neighborhood residences.

<sup>u</sup>Each urban area should have at least one ice-skating rink.

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

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

<sup>x</sup>Participants in intensive resource-oriented recreational activities travel relatively long distances from their home. The approximate service radius indicates the normal maximum distance a participant in the respective resource-oriented activity should have to travel from his or her place of residence to participate in the corresponding activity.

<sup>y</sup>The allocation of the 6.35 picnic tables per 1,000 residents to publicly owned general-use sites is as follows: 3.80 tables per 1,000 residents of the Region to be located in Type I and Type II parks to meet the resource-oriented picnicking needs of the Region and 2.55 tables per 1,000 residents of urban areas in the Region to be located in Type III and Type IV parks to meet local picnicking needs in urban areas of the Region.

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

<sup>aa</sup>Both urban and rural residents of the Region participate in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities. Thus, minimum per capita requirements for trails for extensive land-based activities apply to the total resident population of the Region.

<sup>bb</sup>Bike routes are located on existing public roadways; therefore, no requirement is indicated.

<sup>cc</sup>Pleasure-driving routes are located on existing public roadways; therefore, no requirement is provided. However, a recreation corridor may provide a uniquely suitable area for the development of a system of scenic driving routes.

<sup>dd</sup>Major canoeable streams are defined as those streams which have a minimum width of 50 feet over a distance of at least 10 miles.

<sup>ee</sup>Biodiversity refers to the number and abundance of animal and plant species, their genetic composition and variability, and the ecological connection between and among species.

Source: SEWRPC.



## Appendix B

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF RACINE FOR PARKS-RELATED ITEMS: 2011-2015

#### Parks and Recreation

Project Description and Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total Cost	Funding Source
<b>Parks Pavement Projects</b>							
Parks 10-Year Paving Plan Projects	\$ 195,000	\$ 213,000	\$ 113,000	\$ 38,000	\$ 235,000	\$ 794,000	G.O. Debt
Parks 10-Year Paving Plan Projects CDBG	175,000	15,000	15,000	39,000	40,000	284,000	CDBG
Pershing Boat Ramp Lot Resurface	--	119,000	--	--	--	119,000	G.O. Debt
Pershing Boat Ramp Lot Resurface	--	178,000	--	--	--	178,000	Other
Subtotal	\$ 370,000	\$ 525,000	\$ 128,000	\$ 77,000	\$ 275,000	\$1,375,000	--
<b>Parks Facilities Projects</b>							
Parks 10-Year Facilities Plan Projects	\$ 575,000	\$ 668,000	\$ 774,000	\$1,042,000	\$ 758,000	\$3,817,000	G.O. Debt
Parks 10-Year Facilities Plan Projects CDBG	89,000	111,000	69,000	101,000	53,000	423,000	G.O. Debt
Pershing Boat Ramp Renovating Restrooms	100,000	--	--	--	--	100,000	G.O. Debt
Pershing Park Soccer Bleachers	--	--	--	--	400,000	400,000	Other
Pershing Park Locker Room Renovation	--	--	--	--	620,000	620,000	Other
Subtotal	\$ 764,000	\$ 779,000	\$ 843,000	\$1,143,000	\$1,831,000	\$5,360,000	--
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$1,134,000</b>	<b>\$1,304,000</b>	<b>\$ 971,000</b>	<b>\$1,220,000</b>	<b>\$2,106,000</b>	<b>\$6,735,000</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Method of Financing</b>							
G.O. Debt	\$1,000,000	\$1,101,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,281,000	\$5,582,000	--
CDBG	264,000	126,000	84,000	140,000	93,000	707,000	--
Tax Levy	206,500	343,200	439,000	458,000	465,000	1,911,700	--
Other Funding Sources	--	178,000	--	--	1,020,000	1,198,000	--
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$1,470,500</b>	<b>\$1,748,200</b>	<b>\$1,523,000</b>	<b>\$1,798,000</b>	<b>\$2,859,000</b>	<b>\$9,398,700<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>--</b>

#### Community Centers

Project Description and Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total Cost	Funding Source
<b>Community Center Building Improvements</b>							
Chavez C.C.- Replace Floor Tile	--	--	\$ 15,000	--	--	\$ 15,000	G.O. Debt
Chavez C.C.- Interior Painting	--	--	--	--	\$ 25,000	25,000	G.O. Debt
Chavez C.C.- Re-asphalt Parking Lot	--	--	102,000	--	--	102,000	G.O. Debt
Chavez C.C.- LED Light Replacement	--	--	--	\$101,000	--	101,000	G.O. Debt
Humble C.C.- Replace Boiler	\$111,300	--	--	--	--	111,300	G.O. Debt
Humble C.C.- Replace Roof Mansard and Soffit	--	--	--	44,000	20,000	64,000	G.O. Debt
Humble C.C.- Interior Painting	--	--	--	--	25,000	25,000	G.O. Debt
Humble C.C.- Re-asphalt Parking Lot	--	--	--	67,000	--	67,000	G.O. Debt
Humble C.C.- LED Light Replacement	--	\$ 48,000	--	--	--	48,000	G.O. Debt
King C.C.- Interior Painting	--	--	--	--	25,000	25,000	G.O. Debt
King C.C.- Replace Boiler	--	113,500	--	--	--	113,500	G.O. Debt
King C.C.- LED Light Replacement	--	--	59,000	31,000	--	90,000	G.O. Debt
Tyler/Domer C.C.- Floor Tile	15,000	--	--	--	--	15,000	G.O. Debt
Tyler/Domer C.C.- LED Light Replacement	--	--	56,000	--	--	56,000	G.O. Debt
Tyler/Domer C.C.- Interior Painting	--	--	--	--	25,000	25,000	G.O. Debt
Bryant C.C.- LED Light Replacement	--	70,000	--	--	--	70,000	G.O. Debt
Bryant C.C.- Interior Painting	--	--	--	--	25,000	25,000	G.O. Debt
Re-Landscape Centers	--	--	--	--	67,000	67,000	G.O. Debt
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$126,300</b>	<b>\$231,500</b>	<b>\$232,000</b>	<b>\$243,000</b>	<b>\$212,000</b>	<b>\$1,044,800</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Method of Financing</b>							
G.O. Debt	\$126,300	\$231,500	\$232,000	\$243,000	\$212,000	\$1,044,800	--
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$126,300</b>	<b>\$231,500</b>	<b>\$232,000</b>	<b>\$243,000</b>	<b>\$212,000</b>	<b>\$1,044,800</b>	<b>--</b>

#### Wustum Museum

Project Description and Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total Cost	Funding Source
<b>Wustum Museum Building Improvements</b>							
Renovate for ADA Access	--	--	\$20,000	\$230,000	--	\$250,000	Trust Funds
Update Electric on First and Second Floors	--	--	--	--	\$95,000	95,000	Trust Funds
Subtotal	--	--	\$20,000	\$230,000	\$95,000	\$345,000	--

**Appendix B  
(continued)  
Wustum Museum (continued)**

Project Description and Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total Cost	Funding Source
Wustum Museum Paving Projects							
Rear Parking Lot Pavement	--	\$90,000	--	--	--	\$ 90,000	Trust Funds
Storage Building Pavement	--	--	--	--	\$ 80,000	80,000	Trust Funds
Subtotal	--	\$90,000	--	--	\$ 80,000	\$170,000	--
Total Cost	--	\$90,000	\$20,000	\$230,000	\$175,000	\$515,000	--
Method of Financing							
Other Funding Sources	--	\$90,000	\$20,000	\$230,000	\$175,000	\$515,000	--
Total Cost	--	\$90,000	\$20,000	\$230,000	\$175,000	\$515,000	--

**Zoological Gardens**

Project Description and Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total Cost	Funding Source
Zoo Exhibits							
Outdoor Orangutan Exhibit	--	--	--	\$710,000	--	\$710,000	Other
Subtotal	--	--	--	\$710,000	--	\$710,000	--
Zoo Paving Projects							
Blacktop Paths Through Zoo	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	--	--	\$ 60,000	G.O. Debt
Reseal Wisconsin Avenue Parking Lot	--	--	--	\$ 16,000	--	16,000	G.O. Debt
Subtotal	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$ 16,000	--	\$ 76,000	--
Total Cost	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$726,000	--	\$786,000	--
Method of Financing							
Borrowed Funds	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$ 16,000	--	\$ 76,000	G.O. Debt
Other Funding Sources	--	--	--	710,000	--	--	Other
Total Cost	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$726,000	--	\$786,000	--

**Golf Courses**

Project Description and Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total Cost	Funding Source
Building Improvements							
Washington Park G.C.- Replace Building Walks	--	--	\$ 20,000	--	--	\$ 20,000	Golf Revenues
Shoop Park G.C.- Renovate Clubhouse	--	--	--	\$20,000	\$275,000	295,000	Golf Revenues
Johnson Park G.C.- Raze River Pumphouse	--	--	--	--	12,000	12,000	Golf Revenues
Subtotal	--	--	\$ 20,000	\$20,000	\$287,000	\$327,000	--
Land Improvements							
Johnson Park G.C.- Rebuild Fourth-Hole Green and Third-Hole Tee Box	\$ 68,000	--	\$ 55,000	--	--	\$123,000	Greens Surcharge
	68,000	--	55,000	--	--	123,000	Golf Revenues
Johnson Park G.C.- Replace Lift Station	--	--	--	\$25,000	\$ 90,000	115,000	Golf Revenues
Shoop Park G.C.- West Fairway Drainage	--	--	--	--	130,000	130,000	Golf Revenues
Subtotal	\$136,000	--	\$110,000	\$25,000	\$220,000	\$491,000	--
Total Cost	\$136,000	--	\$130,000	\$45,000	\$507,000	\$818,000	--
Method of Financing							
Other Funding Sources	\$136,000	--	\$130,000	\$45,000	\$507,000	\$818,000	Golf Revenues
Total Cost	\$136,000	--	\$130,000	\$45,000	\$507,000	\$818,000	--

**Cemeteries**

Project Description and Location	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total Cost	Funding Source
Building Improvements							
Graceland Crypt Repairs	--	\$ 20,000	--	--	--	\$ 20,000	Crypt Fund
Mound Chapel Power Wash and Seal	--	--	--	\$ 10,000	--	10,000	Cemetery Maintenance
Mound Chapel Niches	--	--	--	--	\$ 50,000	50,000	Crypt Fund
Subtotal	--	\$ 20,000	--	\$ 10,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 80,000	--
Land Improvements							
Graceland Replace Fence	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	--	--	\$ 60,000	Cemetery Maintenance
Graceland and Mound – Road and Walk Repairs	40,000	40,000	40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	200,000	Cemetery Maintenance
Graceland Cremation Area	--	--	--	25,000	500,000	525,000	Cemetery Maintenance
Subtotal	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 540,000	\$ 785,000	--
Total Cost	\$ 60,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 590,000	\$ 865,000	--
Method of Financing							
Other Funding Sources	\$ 60,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 590,000	\$ 865,000	--
Total Cost	\$ 60,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 590,000	\$ 865,000	--
Overall Total Cost	\$ 1,476,300	\$ 1,725,500	\$ 1,433,000	\$ 2,539,000	\$ 3,590,000	\$10,763,800	--

<sup>a</sup>Includes \$2,663,700 associated with the purchasing of parks vehicles and equipment.

Source: City of Racine Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department.