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Special acknowledgment is due Gerald H. Emmerich, Jr., SEWRPC Principal Planner, for his contribution to this report.

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#### COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PLANNING REPORT NUMBER 148

#### A PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Prepared by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission P. O. Box 1607 Old Courthouse 916 N. East Avenue Waukesha, Wisconsin 53187-1607

November 1986

Inside Region \$3.00 Outside Region \$6.00 (This page intentionally left blank)

## SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING

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COMMISSION

November 27, 1986

Ms. Dolores S. Pophal President of the Village of Walworth and Members of the Board of Trustees Village Hall 247 N. Main Street Walworth, Wisconsin 53184

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Village of Walworth Park Commission and Board of Trustees, on May 28, 1985, requested that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission assist the Village in the preparation of a park and open space plan--a plan that would provide recommendations concerning the preservation, acquisition, and development of needed park and open space lands in the Village. Acting in response to that request, and working under the direction of the Village Park Commission, the Regional Planning Commission staff has now completed the requested park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth.

This report describes that plan. It sets forth recommended park and open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives and supporting standards relevant to the needs and values of the citizens of the Village; presents pertinent information on the supply of, and the need for, park, recreation, and related open space lands; and identifies the roles which the Village and other units and agencies of government should play in meeting park and related open space needs in the Village.

Implementation of the plan presented in this report would, over time, provide for an integrated system of parks and open spaces within the Village--a system that would serve to preserve and enhance the natural resource base while providing adequate opportunities for a wide range of high-quality recreational experiences. The importance of the implementation of this plan to the overall quality of life within the Village cannot be overemphasized, and action taken now will facilitate the provision of a park and open space system that can provide the residents of the Village with the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of wholesome outdoor recreational activities close to home.

The Regional Planning Commission is pleased to have been able to be of assistance to the Village in planning this important program. The Commission stands ready, upon request, to assist the Village in presenting the information and recommendations contained in this report to the public and to elected officials for review and evaluation prior to implementing the recommended plan.

Sincerelv.

Kurt W. Bauer Executive Director (This page intentionally left blank)

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#### Chapter I

#### INTRODUCTION

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. It encompasses a wide variety of human activities ranging from rest and reflection to learning and teaching, from development of personal and social skills to meeting challenges and recovering from failures. Recreation is enjoyment and includes both mental and physical exercise, personal and interpersonal experience, and self-provided and socially observed entertainment. Although recreational preferences may vary from individual to individual, recreation occupies a necessary and significant place in every person's life. For purposes of this report, recreation will be viewed in a somewhat narrower framework as including only those recreational activities typically carried on outdoors.

A variety of parks and recreational facilities, including open space lands, should be provided to offer opportunities for participation in a wide range of active and passive recreational pursuits. The primary purpose of the park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth as herein presented, then, is to guide the preservation, acquisition, and development of land for park, outdoor recreation, and related open space purposes as needed to satisfy the recreational needs of the resident population of the Village, and to protect and enhance the underlying and sustaining natural resource base.

Because of the importance of both outdoor recreation sites and areas for natural resource protection, park and open space acquisition, development, and use have 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 sets forth park and open space objectives together with a plan intended to guide the preservation, acquisition, and development of lands needed for outdoor recreation and for the protection of the natural resource base of the seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region to the year 2000. The regional plan also recommended that each local unit of government refine and detail the regional plan as it relates to its area of jurisdiction. Accordingly, the Walworth Village Board, on May 28, 1985, requested that the Regional Planning Commission assist the Village in the preparation of a park and open space plan for the Village. It is envisioned that the adoption of this plan by the Village Board will make the Village eligible to apply for and receive federal and state aids in partial support of the acquisition and development of needed park and open space sites and facilities within the Village.

The findings and recommendations of the requested park and open space planning effort, an effort carried out under the direction of the Village Park Commission, are set forth in this report. Chapter II of this report presents information about the Village pertinent to park and open space planning, including information on the resident population, the land use pattern, and the natural resource base of the Village, together with information on the existing park sites and open space lands within the Village. Chapter III presents the park and open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives, principles, and supporting standards which served as the basis for the development of the park and open space plan for the Village. Chapter IV describes the park and open space needs of the Village, sets forth the recommended park and open space plan, and identifies the actions required to carry out the recommended plan.

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#### Chapter II

#### THE MAN-MADE AND NATURAL RESOURCE FEATURES OF THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH

#### INTRODUCTION

An understanding of the important man-made and natural resource features of the Village of Walworth is essential to the preparation of a sound park and open space plan. This chapter presents information on the existing population, land use pattern, park and open space sites, and natural resource base of the Village. The first section of this chapter describes certain pertinent characteristics of the Village, including the resident population size and distribution. The second section describes the existing residential and other urban land use development in the Village, and the third section presents pertinent data on the existing park and open space sites and facilities. The fourth and final section describes the environmental corridors and prime agricultural lands in the Village.

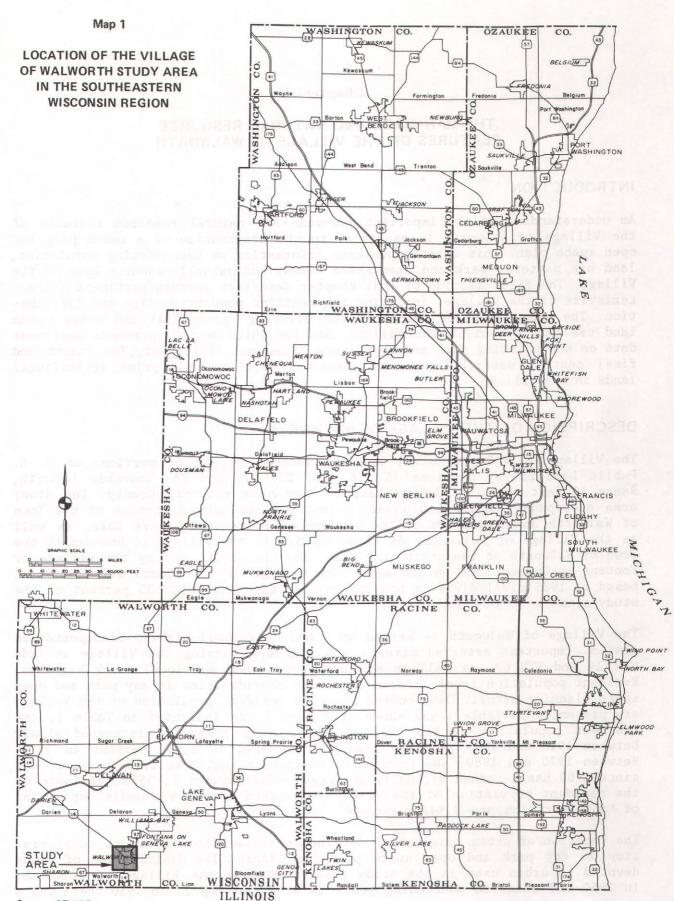
#### DESCRIPTION OF THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH

The Village of Walworth study area is located in all or portions of U. S. Public Land Survey Sections 15, 16, 21, 22, 27, and 28, Township 1 North, Range 16 East, west of Geneva Lake in southwest Walworth County. The study area encompasses about 4.0 square miles, and includes a portion of the Town of Walworth and a portion of the Village of Fontana-on-Geneva Lake, as well as the Village of Walworth. As shown on Map 1, the Village is bounded by the Town of Walworth on the north, the west, and the south, and by the Village of Fontana-on-Geneva Lake on the east. The Village is 1.4 square miles in area, based on 1985 civil division boundaries, constituting about 35 percent of the study area.

The Village of Walworth is served by a well-developed highway transportation system. Important arterial streets and highways serving the Village include USH 14 and STH 67, as well as a network of county and local trunk highways. Resident population levels are an important consideration in any park and open space planning effort. Data on the historic resident population of the Village are presented in Table 1 and shown in Figure 1. As indicated in Table 1, the resident population of the Village of Walworth generally increased slowly between 1910 and 1970 from 755 residents in 1910 to 1,637 persons in 1970. Between 1970 and 1980, the population declined slightly to 1,607 persons, and since 1980 has remained virtually unchanged. The January 1, 1985, estimate of the resident population of the Village, prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, was 1,614 persons.

The location of urban residential development is another important consideration in any park and open space planning effort. The distribution of lands devoted to urban uses in the study area, including the Village of Walworth, in 1950 and selected succeeding years is shown on Map 2. In 1950 there was a

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Source: SEWRPC.

single concentration of urban lands located in the central portion of the Village. In the years after 1950, additional urban development occurred periodically within and adjacent to the Village. As further shown on Map 2, by 1963 additional lands located east and south of the Village had been developed for urban uses; by 1970 additional small areas of land within the study area had been developed for urban uses; and by 1980 additional larger areas had been developed for urban uses.

The amount of land devoted to the various types of land uses in the study area in 1980 is presented in Table 2. As indicated in Table 2, agricultural uses accounted for about 1,487 acres, or 59 percent of the total study area. Other rural land uses combined, including woodlands, wetlands, and other open lands, encompassed 337 acres, or 13 percent of the study area. Thus in 1980, about 1,824 acres, or 72 percent of the study area, were still in rural uses. Residential lands accounted for 290 acres, or about 11 percent of the study area and 40 percent of the urban lands, while other urban uses combined covered about 422 acres, or 17 percent of the study area. Thus, about 712 acres, or 28 percent of the study area, were in urban uses in 1980.

As further indicated in Table 2, the Village of Walworth proper in 1985 encompassed about 875 acres, or about 35 percent of the study area. Of this total, about 469 acres, or about 54 percent, were in rural uses. The remaining 406 acres, or 46 percent, were in urban uses, including residential uses encompassing about 190 acres, or about 22 percent of the area of the Village, and commercial, industrial, transportation, and other urban uses combined encompassing about 216 acres, or about 24 percent of the area of the Village.

#### PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES

An inventory of the existing park and open space sites and outdoor recreation facilities in the study area indicates that in 1986 there were six such sites, which together encompassed about 213 acres, or about 8 percent of the study area. As shown on Map 3, and as indicated in Table 3, four sites and 32 acres, or 67 percent of the sites and 15 percent of the area, were publicly owned, while the remaining two sites and 181 acres were privately owned. The public and nonpublic outdoor recreation sites within the Walworth study area are described below.

#### Public Sites

<u>Devils Lane Park</u>: Devils Lane Park is a 4-acre village park located in the south-central portion of the Village adjacent to Big Foot High School on Devils Lane. The site provides a lighted baseball diamond, a soccer and football field, a picnic area, and restroom facilities.

<u>Heyer Park</u>: Heyer Park is a small--less than one acre--village-owned, open space site located in the center of the Village at the intersection of Beloit and Main Streets. The site serves as a community gathering place and provides picnic tables and landscaped areas.

Walworth Grade School: Walworth Grade School is a 6-acre site providing about 2 acres for outdoor recreational use. The site is located southwest of Heyer Park on Beloit Street in the southwestern portion of the Village. The

#### Table 1

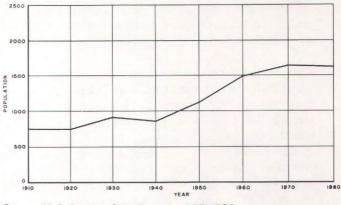
#### Figure 1

#### POPULATION WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH: SELECTED YEARS 1910-1980

	То	tal Populati	on
		Change Preceding	
Year	Number	Absolute	Percent
1910	755		
1920	757	2	0.3
1930	920	163	21.5
1940	875	-45	-4.9
1950	1,137	262	29.9
1960	1,494	357	31.4
1970	1,637	143	9.6
1980	1,607	-30	-1.8

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

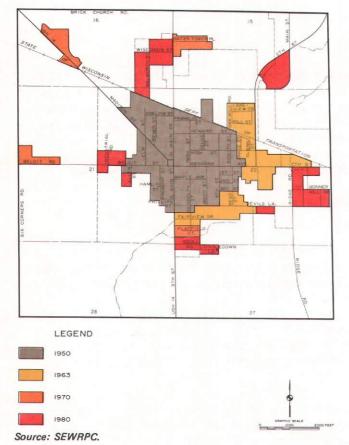
#### POPULATION WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH



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

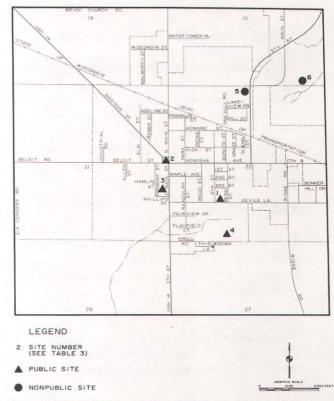
#### Map 2

#### HISTORIC URBAN GROWTH IN THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH STUDY AREA SELECTED YEARS 1950-1980



Map 3

#### PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH STUDY AREA: 1986



Source: Village of Walworth Park Commission and SEWRPC.

#### Table 2

#### EXISTING LAND USE IN THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH STUDY AREA: 1980

		Village	of Walworth		U U	Unincorporated Portion of Study Area				Total Study Area		
Land Use Category	Acres	Percent of Subtotal	Percent of Village	Percent of Study Area	Acres	Percent of Subtotal	Percent of Unincorporated Area	Percent of Study Area	Acres	Percent of Subtotal	Percent of Study Area	
Residential <sup>a</sup> Commercial Industrial <sup>b</sup> Transportation <sup>C</sup> Governmental and	190 21 28 115	46.8 5.2 6.9 28.3	21.7 2.4 3.2 13.1	7.5 0.8 1.1 4.5	100 8 84	32.7 2.6 27.5	6.0 0.5 5.0	4.0 0.3 3.3	290 29 28 199	40.7 4.1 3.9 28.0	11.4 1.1 1.1 7.8	
Institutional Recreationald Urban Subtotal	47 5 406	11.6 1.2 100.0	5.4 0.6 46.4	1.9 0.2 16.0	11 103 306	3.6 33.7 100.0	0.7 6.2 18.4	0.4 4.1	58 108	8.1 15.2	2.3 4.3	
Agricultural Woodlands Wetlands Other Open Lands <sup>e</sup>	361 16  92	77.0 3.4 19.6	41.2 1.8 10.5	14.3 0.6 3.6	1, 126 29 27 173	83.1 2.1 2.0 12.8	67.8 1.8 1.6 10.4	12.1 44.4 1.1 1.1 6.8	712 1,487 45 27 265	100.0 81.5 2.5 1.5 14.5	28.1 58.6 1.8 1.1 10.4	
Rural Subtotal	469	100.0	53.6	18.5	1,355	100.0	81.6	53.4	1,824	100.0	71.9	
Total	875		100.0	34.5	1.661		100.0	65.5	2,536		100.0	

<sup>a</sup>Includes residential areas under development.

<sup>b</sup>includes wholesaling and storage.

<sup>C</sup>Includes off-street parking, terminals, communication facilities, and utilities.

 $^{\rm d}{\rm Consists}$  of intensively used outdoor recreation lands.

<sup>e</sup>includes extractive uses, landfills, and unused rural lands.

Source: SEWRPC.

#### Table 3

#### PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH STUDY AREA: 1986

Map Reference Number <sup>a</sup>	Site Name	Acreage	Facilities
1	Devils Lane Park	4.	Lighted baseball diamond, playground, soccer-
2	Heyer Park	1	football picnic area (family), restroom facilities Open space, picnic tables, community gathering
3	Walworth Grade School	2 <sup>b</sup>	place, fountain and landscaped area Playground equipment and paved area, two softball
4	Big Foot High School	25 <sup>b</sup>	diamonds, two basketball goals Eight tennis courts, basketball goals, track,
5 6	Big Foot Golf Range Big Foot Country Club	28 153 <sup>C</sup>	one softball diamond, one baseball diamond Golf driving range Regulation 18-hole golf course including clubhouse
	6 sites	213	

<sup>a</sup>See Map 3 for site location.

<sup>b</sup>Area available for outdoor recreational use.

<sup>C</sup>Area located within the Village of Walworth study area.

Source: Village of Walworth Park Commission and SEWRPC.

site provides playground equipment and a paved area, two sandlot softball diamonds, and two basketball goals.

Big Foot High School: Big Foot High School is a 40-acre site providing about 25 acres for outdoor recreational use. The site is located in the southern portion of the Village immediately south of Devils Lane Park, and provides eight tennis courts, basketball goals, a track, one softball diamond, and one baseball diamond.

#### Nonpublic Sites

Big Foot Golf Range: Big Foot Golf Range is a 28-acre golf range located in the northeast corner of the Village. A large wooded area is located in the western portion of the site.

Big Foot Country Club: Big Foot Country Club is a 231-acre site located northeast of the Village. The site is located partially within and partially outside the study area. The site encompasses 153 acres within the study area and provides a regulation 18-hole golf course.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS AND PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND

Ecological balance and natural beauty within an area are important determinants of the ability of that area to provide a pleasant and habitable environment for all forms of life and to maintain its social and economic well-being. Preservation of the most significant aspects of the natural resource base, including environmental corridors and prime agricultural lands, is therefore essential to the well-being of an area. This section describes the environmental corridors and important agricultural lands in the Walworth study area.

#### **Environmental Corridors**

One of the most important tasks completed under the regional planning effort was the identification and delineation of those areas in southeastern Wisconsin in which concentrations of recreational, aesthetic, ecological, and cultural resources occur, and which, therefore, should be preserved and protected in essentially natural, open uses. Such areas normally include one or more of the following seven elements of the natural resource base which are essential to the maintenance of both the ecological balance and natural beauty of southeastern Wisconsin: 1) lakes, rivers, and streams and their associated shorelands and floodlands; 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.

While the foregoing elements make up integral parts of the natural resource base, there are five additional elements which, although not part of the natural resource base as such, are closely related to, or centered upon, that base and are a determining factor in identifying and delineating areas with recreational, aesthetic, ecological, and cultural value. These five additional elements are: 1) existing park and open space sites; 2) potential park and open space sites; 3) historic sites; 4) significant scenic areas and vistas; and 5) natural and scientific areas.

The delineation of these 12 natural resource and related elements on a map results in an essentially linear pattern of relatively narrow, elongated areas

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which have been termed "environmental corridors" by the Regional Planning Commission.<sup>1</sup> Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety of the important 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 generally connect with the primary environmental corridors and are at least 100 acres in size and one mile in length. It should be noted that there are no secondary environmental corridors in the study area.

In any discussion of environmental corridors and important natural features, it is important to point out that such features can assist in noise pollution abatement, water pollution abatement, and favorable climate modification. In addition, because of the many interacting relationships existing between living organisms and their environment, the destruction or deterioration of an important element of the total environment may lead to a chain reaction of deterioration and destruction. The drainage of wetlands, for example, may have far-reaching effects, since such drainage may destroy fish spawning grounds, wildlife habitat, groundwater recharge areas, and natural filtration and floodwater storage areas of interconnecting stream systems. The resulting deterioration of surface water quality may, in turn, lead to a deterioration of the quality of the groundwater which serves as a source of domestic, municipal, and industrial water supply, and upon which low flows of rivers and streams may depend. Similarly, the destruction of ground cover may result in soil erosion, stream siltation, more rapid runoff, and increased flooding, as well as the destruction of wildlife habitat. Although the effects of any one of the environmental changes may not in and of itself be overwhelming, the combined effects must eventually lead to a serious deterioration of the underlying and supporting natural resource base and of the overall quality of the environment for life. The need to maintain the integrity of the remaining environmental corridors and important natural resource features in the Walworth study area should, thus, be apparent.

<u>Primary Environmental Corridors</u>: Only a small portion of the study area is encompassed by primary environmental corridors, and there are no primary environmental corridors within the Village. As shown on Map 4, the primary environmental corridors within the study area are located northeast of the Village and encompass a total area of about 74 acres, or about 3 percent of the study area. Of these 74 acres, about 10 acres, or about 14 percent, are owned by the Geneva Lake Land Conservancy, a nonpublic conservation agency, and are preserved in natural, open use. About 24 acres, or about 32 percent of the primary environmental corridors, are located within Big Foot Country Club, and the remaining 40 acres are held in other nonpublic ownership.

The primary environmental corridors include the best remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat areas, and are, in effect, a composite of the best remaining residual elements of the natural resource base of the study 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 village park and open space

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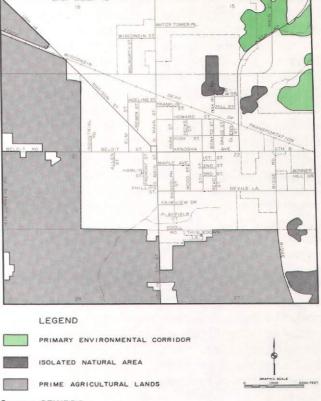
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>A detailed description of the process of refining the delineation of environmental corridors in southeastern Wisconsin is presented in SEWRPC <u>Technical</u> Record, Vol. 4, No. 2, pages 1 through 21.

plan. Their preservation in an essentially open, natural state--including park and open space uses, limited agricultural uses, and country estate-type residential uses-will serve to maintain a high level of environmental quality in the study area, protect its natural beauty, and provide valuable recreational opportunities.

Isolated Natural Areas: In addition to the primary environmental corridors, other, small concentrations of natural resource base elements exist within the study area. These concentrations are isolated from the environmental corridors by urban development or agricultural use and, although separated from the environmental corridor network, have important natural values. Isolated natural areas may provide the only available wildlife habitat in an area, provide good locations for local parks and natural areas, and lend unique and aesthetic character and natural diversity to an area. The four remaining isolated natural areas in the Walworth study area are shown on Map 4 and consist of isolated woodlands. One woodland is

#### Map 4

#### ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS, ISOLATED NATURAL AREAS, AND PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS IN THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH STUDY AREA: 1985



Source: SEWRPC.

located partially within the Big Foot Golf Range in the northeastern portion of the Village; the second woodland is located within Big Foot Country Club in the northeastern portion of the study area; and the third and fourth woodlands are located in the southeastern portion of the study area. Combined, these isolated natural areas encompass about 30 acres, or about 1 percent of the total study area. These areas should also be protected and preserved to the extent possible.

#### Prime Agricultural Land

For planning purposes, it is useful to distinguish between prime agricultural lands and other farming areas. Prime agricultural lands are those lands which, in terms of farm size and soil characteristics, are best suited for the production of food and fiber. The Regional Planning Commission has defined prime agricultural land as areas containing farm units that meet the following criteria: 1) the farm unit must be at least 35 acres in area; 2) at least 50 percent of the farm unit must be covered by soils which meet U. S. Soil Conservation Service standards for national prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance; and 3) the farm unit should be located in a block of farmland of at least 100 acres in size. As shown on Map 4, prime agricultural lands encompass about 921 acres in the study area, or about 36 percent of the study area. There are no prime agricultural lands within the Village.

#### Chapter III

## PARK AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION, ACQUISITION, AND DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES, PRINCIPLES, AND STANDARDS

#### INTRODUCTION

Planning is a rational process for formulating objectives and, through the preparation and implementation of plans, meeting those objectives. The formulation of objectives, therefore, is an essential task which must be undertaken before plans can be prepared. 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 open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives. Because the study viewed all park and open space facilities as an integral part of an areawide system, the objectives addressed community and neighborhood, as well as regional, park and open space facilities. This chapter sets forth the park and open space objectives that will guide the formulation of a park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth.

#### PARK AND OPEN SPACE OBJECTIVES

The following seven park and open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives were originally formulated under the regional park and open space planning program, and were adapted to and utilized in the development of the park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth.

- 1. The provision of an integrated system of public outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas which will afford the resident population of the Village adequate opportunities to participate in a wide range of outdoor recreational activities.
- 2. The provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to afford the resident population of the Village adequate opportunities to participate in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreational activities.
- 3. The provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to afford the resident population of the Village adequate opportunities to participate in intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreational activities.
- 4. The provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to afford the resident population of the Village adequate opportunities to participate in extensive land-based outdoor recreational activities.
- 5. The provision of sufficient access areas to afford the resident population of the Village adequate opportunities to participate in extensive water-based outdoor recreational activities consistent with safe and enjoyable inland lake and river use and the maintenance of adequate water quality.

- 6. The preservation of sufficient lands in essentially natural open uses to assure the protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and enhancement of the social and economic well being and environmental quality of the Village.
- 7. The efficient and economical satisfaction of outdoor recreational and related open space needs, meeting all other objectives at the lowest possible cost.

Complementing each of the foregoing park and open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives are a planning principle and a set of planning standards. These are set forth in Appendix A, which sets forth the regional park and open space objectives, principles, and standards, and serve to facilitate the quantitative application of the objectives in plan design, test, and evaluation. It should be noted that while the attainment of all objectives is considered desirable to provide the residents of the Village of Walworth with the fullest possible opportunity for high-quality recreational experiences, the responsibility for providing the necessary parks, open space land, and associated recreational facilities is shared by the private sector and the public sector, the latter composed of the various levels, units, and agencies of government operating in the Walworth area. In this regard, under the adopted regional park and open space plan, the responsibility for the provision of open space, large resource-oriented parks, recreation corridors, and resource-oriented recreational facilities is delegated to state and county units of government, while the responsibility for the provision of smaller community and neighborhood parks and intensive nonresource-oriented recreational facilities and for the protection of certain natural features is delegated to local units of government. Importantly, the responsibility for the provision of certain recreational facilities is left with the private sector, which, in the Southeastern Wisconsin Region, currently provides about onefourth of all the park and open space lands.

#### APPLICATION OF PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS

Since the application of park and open space standards is an important step in the design of a park and open space plan, a brief discussion of the considerations involved in that application is in order. First, it should be recognized that the standards are of two basic types, per capita standards and accessibility standards. The application of per capita standards--expressed as the number of acres of a given site type or the number of facilities of a given facility type per thousand resident population--is intended to help determine whether the overall recreational site acreage and the attendant facilities in a given area are sufficient to satisfy the recreation demands of the resident population. The application of accessibility standards--expressed as a maximum service radius or area around recreation sites and facilities--is intended to help determine whether the existing recreation sites and facilities are spatially distributed in a manner convenient to the resident population intended to be served. In some situations, per capita standards for recreation sites and facilities may be met, but a need may still exist for additional sites and facilities because of the relative inaccessibility of some of the existing recreation areas to some of the resident population of the study area.

Second, it should be recognized that the application of recreation site standards and recreation facility standards may result in several different "need situations." An area of analysis--such as a community or neighborhood within the community--may lack both the facilities and the site area necessary to satisfy the recreation demands of its residents; in this type of situation, both types of needs--site and facility--can be met in the same location. An area, however, may have sufficient recreation sites but lack the required facilities. In this situation, it may be necessary, if development of the needed facilities at the existing recreation sites is impractical, to add recreation site acreage and thereby exceed the recreation site acreage requirement in order to accommodate the needed facilities.

Third, as already noted, nonpublic recreation sites and facilities may satisfy a significant portion of the outdoor recreation demand of the resident population. In the development of the objectives and standards, it was assumed that nonpublic outdoor recreation sites and facilities would be provided in the future at about the same proportion as are existing nonpublic outdoor recreation sites and facilities. It is important to note, however, that nonpublicly owned sites and facilities may not be open to the general public, or may be unavailable to certain segments of the general public because of an inability to pay for their use. Because adequate opportunities to participate in outdoor recreational activities should be available to all residents, the park and open space standards are intended to be used to ensure an adequate quantity and proper geographic distribution of publicly owned recreation sites and facilities.

Fourth, it should be recognized that while forecasts of population levels and distribution must be prepared and utilized in the application of outdoor recreation site and facility standards, these forecasts involve uncertainty and must therefore be used with caution. Forecasts cannot take into account events which are not predictable but which may have major effects upon future conditions. The validity of need determined through the application of standards to forecast population levels must therefore be periodically reexamined.

Finally, it should be noted that while many of the objectives and standards relate to the resident population to be served, one of the most important of the objectives--that relating to the preservation and protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base--is, in effect, independent of any resident population level. Preservation of the environmental corridors in an essentially open, natural state and preservation of important agricultural lands in agricultural use is required in any case to largely achieve this important objective. (This page intentionally left blank)

#### Chapter IV

#### **RECOMMENDED PLAN**

#### INTRODUCTION

The primary purpose of the park and open space planning program for the Village of Walworth is the preparation of a sound and workable plan to guide the acquisition and development of lands and facilities needed to satisfy the outdoor recreation demands of the resident population of the Village, and to protect and enhance the underlying and sustaining natural resource base. Thus, important preliminary steps in the development of such a plan are a determination of the probable size and distribution of the population to be served with park and open space sites and facilities, a determination of the quantity and type of outdoor recreation sites and facilities needed to satisfy the future recreation demands of this population, and a determination of the quantity and type of open space sites needed to protect and enhance the underlying and sustaining natural resource base.

Chapter III of this report presented the park and open space preservation, acquisition, and development objectives, principles, and standards, and indicated that there are different types of park and open space objectives to be attained by different levels of government -- namely, resource-oriented outdoor recreation objectives requiring the provision of large parks, trail facilities, and water access facilities, and logically the responsibility of the state and county levels of government; nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation objectives requiring the provision of smaller parks for activities such as softball, tennis, soccer, and children's playground activities, and logically the responsibility of the local level of government; and natural resource base preservation objectives to protect important natural resource features, such as environmental corridors, isolated natural areas, and prime agricultural lands, logically the responsibility of all levels of government. The Regional Planning Commission's regional park and open space plan includes recommendations for the attainment of regional or areawide resource-oriented outdoor recreation objectives and of natural resource base preservation objectives. The first part of this chapter, therefore, summarizes the areawide plan recommendations for resource-oriented outdoor recreation sites and facilities, the protection of the environmental corridors and isolated natural areas, and the protection of prime agricultural lands. The second section of the chapter discusses the population levels and distribution expected in the Village of Walworth in the future, identifies the need for local park facilities, and sets forth the recommended park plan for the Village. The third section of the chapter outlines the steps required to implement the recommended plan.

#### AREAWIDE CONSIDERATIONS

The regional park and open space plan contains recommendations which, if implemented, would provide residents of Walworth County, including residents

of the Village of Walworth, with opportunities to participate in a wide range of resource-oriented outdoor recreational activities. The recommendations are concerned with the provision of major parks, which provide opportunities for intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreational activities such as camping, swimming, and picnicking; the provision of recreation corridors, which provide opportunities for various trail-oriented outdoor recreational activities, including hiking, biking, and ski touring; and the provision of water access facilities. In addition, the plan contains recommendations for the preservation of environmentally and economically important lands, including primary environmental corridors and prime agricultural lands. A summary of the recommendations contained in the regional plan as it relates to Walworth County is presented on Map 5.<sup>1</sup>

#### Major Parks and Trail Facilities

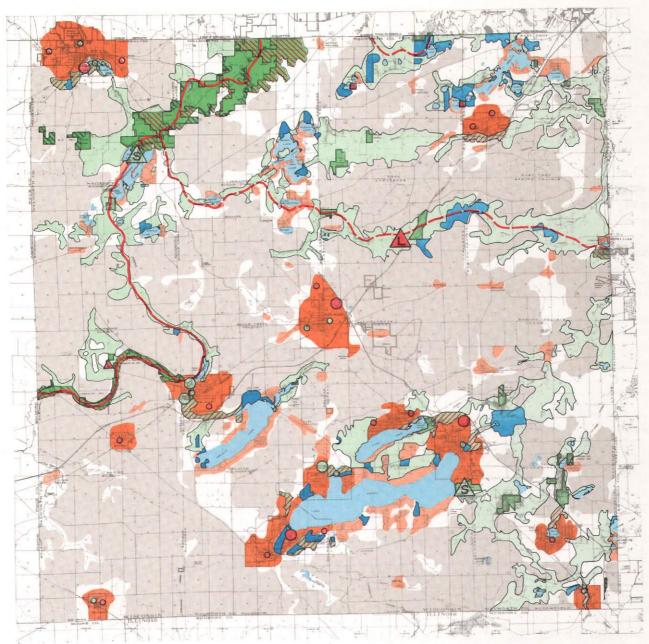
The regional plan recommends that the state and county levels of government assume responsibility for the provision of major parks.<sup>2</sup> The regional plan recommends that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources continue to maintain two major outdoor recreation sites in the County--Whitewater Lake Recreation Area in the Kettle Moraine State Forest--Southern Unit in the northwestern portion of the County and Bigfoot Beach Park on the east shore of Geneva Lake in the southeastern portion of the County. The plan also recommends that the County acquire and develop two major parks--one park proposed to be located along Sugar Creek in the center of the County and the other along Turtle Creek in the southwestern portion of the County. These stateowned and proposed county-owned parks should provide the residents of Walworth County and the Village of Walworth with adequate opportunities for intensive resource-oriented outdoor recreational activities.

The regional plan also recommends the provision of recreational trail facilities within a system of recreation corridors.<sup>3</sup> Under the plan, two recreation corridor segments are proposed to be located within Walworth County. The

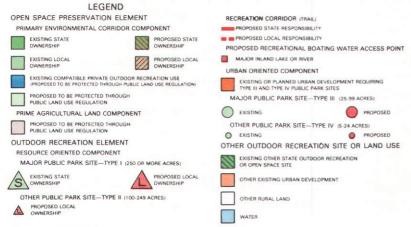
<sup>1</sup>The Regional Planning Commission staff, in cooperation with the staff of the Walworth County Park and Planning Commission, is in the process of updating the regional park and open space plan. Upon completion and adoption by the Regional Planning Commission, the Walworth County Park and Planning Commission, and the Walworth County Board of this plan update for Walworth County, the updated plan will serve as an amendment to the initial plan. This plan is anticipated to include the refined delineation of environmental corridors in Walworth County, as well as the refined delineation of prime agricultural lands presented in this report.

<sup>2</sup>Major parks (or Type I and Type II parks) are defined as large, public, general-use outdoor recreation sites which provide opportunities for such resource-oriented activities as camping, golfing, picnicking, and swimming, and have a large area containing significant natural resource amenities.

<sup>3</sup>A recreation corridor is defined as a publicly owned continuous linear tract of land, generally located in scenic areas or areas of natural, cultural, or historical interest, which provides opportunities for participation in trail-oriented outdoor recreational activities such as biking, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, and ski touring.



REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN AS IT RELATES TO WALWORTH COUNTY: 2000





Source: SEWRPC.

first segment would be located along the main stem of Sugar Creek, in the center of the County, while the second segment would be located in the Kettle Moraine area and along Turtle Creek in the western portion of the County. Combined, these recreation corridor segments would provide about 53 linear miles of recreation trails, and would provide the residents of Walworth County, including the residents of the Village of Walworth, adequate opportunities for participation in trail-oriented outdoor recreational activities.

#### **Open Space Preservation**

The location and extent of the important open space lands in the Walworth study area--including primary environmental corridors, isolated natural areas, and prime agricultural lands--are described in Chapter II of this report. The preservation of these open space lands would serve to maintain a high level of environmental quality in the area while protecting the natural beauty of the area, and would provide valuable recreational activities for residents. Such preservation would also help to avoid the creation of serious and costly environmental and developmental problems.

Environmental Corridors: As already noted, primary environmental corridors encompass about 74 acres in the study area, or about 3 percent of the study area. Under the recommended park and open space plan for the Village, all primary environmental corridors would be preserved in essentially natural, open uses.

It is recognized that certain private uses--including private recreational uses and low-density residential uses--as well as public outdoor recreation and related open space sites can serve to adequately protect such environmental corridors. Therefore, the plan recommends that, to the extent practicable, the corridors be maintained in private uses for resource preservation and limited recreational use purposes, and that such maintenance be promoted through proper zoning. To the extent that the primary environmental corridor lands within the study area are required for public recreational use or are threatened by urban development, the plan recommends that such corridors be publicly acquired through dedication or purchase.

Isolated Natural Areas: As already noted, isolated natural areas encompass about 30 acres, or about 1 percent of the study area. It is recommended that such areas be preserved in essentially natural, open uses and protected through appropriate land use regulation. In addition, it is recommended that one such isolated area be considered for inclusion in a proposed village park, and thus be acquired for public outdoor recreation and open space use as described in the following section of this chapter.

Prime Agricultural Lands: Prime agricultural lands in the study area encompass about 921 acres, or about 36 percent of the study area. Under the recommended park and open space plan, all prime agricultural lands would be maintained in agricultural use and protected through public land use regulation.

#### VILLAGE CONSIDERATIONS

As already noted, the regional park and open space plan recommends that the state and county levels of government assume responsibility for the provision

of major parks and recreation corridors, and, along with local units of government, protect important natural resource lands. Under the regional plan, local units of government, including the Village of Walworth, would be responsible for providing intensive nonresource-oriented sites and facilities, such as village parks providing ball diamonds, children's play areas, and tennis courts. The need to provide village parks and outdoor recreation facilities is dependent upon both the existing and probable future size and distribution of the resident population of the Village. This section, therefore, sets forth such population levels and distribution in the Village, identifies the need for local parks and outdoor recreation facilities, and sets forth the plan for the acquisition and development of village parks and facilities.

### Existing and Probable Future Population Levels and Distribution

The need for outdoor recreation sites and facilities is defined, for the purposes of this report, as the shortfall in the number and areas of such sites, and in the number and type of such facilities, as indicated by a comparison of the existing supply of such sites and facilities with the existing and probable future demands for such sites and facilities. The existing supply of recreation sites and facilities is identified in Chapter II of this report. The existing and anticipated future demand for recreation sites and facilities was determined by applying the adopted planning standards presented in Chapter III of this report to the existing and probable future resident population levels of the Walworth study area. The adopted park and open space planning standards specify requirements for the quantity and spatial distribution of outdoor recreation sites and facilities. The application of these standards to the existing and anticipated future population levels in the study area provides an estimate of the existing and probable future demand for specific types of outdoor recreation sites and facilities. This demand, when compared with the existing supply of such sites and facilities, yields an estimate of the existing and probable future need. Because the existing and probable future population level and distribution within the study area are important determinants of existing and probable future outdoor recreation needs, data on the existing and future size and distribution of the population are required.

As noted in Chapter II of this report, the resident population of the Village of Walworth was 1,607 persons in 1980. Current population estimates for the Village indicate that the population has remained essentially stable since 1970. The January 1, 1985, population estimate for the Village, as prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, was 1,614 persons, an increase of less than 1 percent over the 1980 population of 1,607 persons, and a decrease of 23 persons, or about 1 percent, from the 1970 population level of 1,637 persons.

The future population size and distribution presented in this section are based upon information presented in SEWRPC Technical Report No. 11 (2nd Edition), <u>The Population of Southeastern Wisconsin</u>. Forecast conditions presented in this report attempt to deal with the uncertainty which currently exists in the nation, State, and Region concerning probable future population conditions by evaluating birth, death, and migration rates, changing lifestyles, and the changing age distribution of the population. The planned future population of the Region, Walworth County, and the Village of Walworth urban service area is described below. Planned Future Population--the Region and Walworth County: Traditionally, long-range planning has involved the preparation of a single forecast of levels of population. This approach has worked well in periods of relative stability when historic trends and factors underlying population changes could be reasonably expected to extend over the plan design period. During periods of major changes in social and economic conditions, however, when there is great uncertainty concerning whether historic trends will continue, an alternative to this traditional approach is required. One such alternative approach proposed in recent years is termed "alternative futures." Under this approach, the development and evaluation of alternative plans is based not upon a single, most probable forecast of future conditions, but rather on a number of futures chosen to represent the range of conditions which may be expected to occur over the plan design period. The alternative futures used under this approach are selected to represent the reasonable extremes of a range of future conditions.

The Commission utilized the "alternative futures" approach to develop the series of projections presented herein. Using this approach, three alternative future scenarios are postulated, two intended to identify extremes and one intended to identify an intermediate future--that is, a future that lies between the extremes. Critical social and economic factors that could be expected to have an impact upon mortality, fertility, and migration rates over the next 25 years within the United States, the State, and the Region were examined, and a reasonably extreme range of values was established for each component of population change. The "most reasonably optimistic" scenario of population change was provided by combining all factors that were internally consistent to create favorable conditions for population growth in the Region, and the "most reasonably pessimistic" scenario was provided by similarly combining all factors that would create unfavorable conditions for population for population growth in the Region.<sup>4</sup>

The population projections for the seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region for the year 2010 range from a high of approximately 2,316,000 persons under the optimistic population scenario to about 1,517,100 persons under the pessimistic scenario, with the intermediate population level being 1,872,100 persons. These population levels represent an increase of about 31 percent and 6 percent under the optimistic and intermediate projections, respectively, and a decrease of about 14 percent under the pessimistic projection, when compared with the 1980 regional population of 1,764,900 persons.

In Walworth County, resident population levels in the year 2010 may be expected to be 129,700 persons under the optimistic scenario; 89,900 persons under the intermediate scenario; and 63,700 persons under the pessimistic scenario. These alternative futures indicate increases of about 58,200 persons, or about 81 percent, under the optimistic projection, and 18,400 persons, or about 26 percent, under the intermediate projection, and a decrease of about 7,800 persons, or about 11 percent, under the pessimistic projection when compared with the resident population level of 71,500 persons in Walworth County in 1980.

<sup>4</sup>A more detailed description of the forecast resident population of southeastern Wisconsin for the year 2010, including a description of the optimistic, pessimistic, and intermediate scenarios, is presented in SEWRPC Technical Report No. 11 (2nd Edition), <u>The Population of Southeastern Wisconsin</u>, June 1984.

Planned Future Population--Walworth Urban Service Area: For park planning purposes for the Village of Walworth, it is important to identify anticipated future resident population levels requiring neighborhood and community park sites and facilities. By applying the alternative futures approach described above to the Village of Walworth urban service area within the centralized population allocation framework<sup>5</sup> provided in the adopted regional land use plan, it was determined that the population of the Walworth urban service area requiring park and open space sites and facilities by the year 2010 would be about 3,500 persons under the optimistic scenario, 2,400 persons under the intermediate scenario, and 1,600 persons under the pessimistic scenario. These alternative futures indicate increases of about 1,800 persons, or 106 percent, under the optimistic scenario, and about 700 persons, or 41 percent, under the intermediate scenario, and a decrease of about 100 persons, or about 6 percent, under the pessimistic scenario, when compared with the 1980 Walworth urban service area population of about 1,700 persons. The intermediate scenario population allocation of 2,400 persons by the year 2010 represents a moderate population growth between the optimistic and pessimistic extremes, and was selected for use in the park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth.

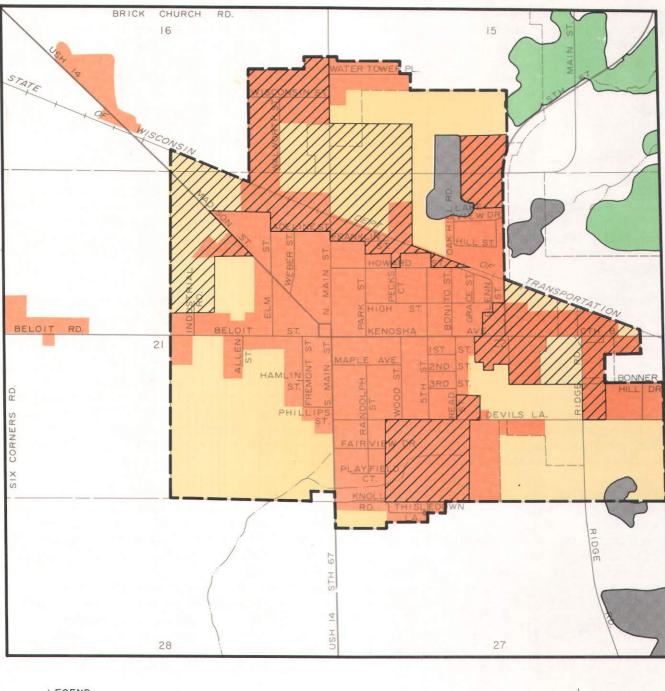
In addition to information on the overall size of the future population of the Walworth urban service area, information on population distribution--both existing and planned future--is important to a determination of existing and probable future outdoor recreation needs. As indicated in Chapter III of this report, certain outdoor recreation sites and facilities normally serve relatively small subareas of a Village such as neighborhoods. Accordingly, estimates of the existing and future distribution of population within the urban service area are necessary in order to determine the existing and probable future urban outdoor recreation site and facility needs, including the need for neighborhood and community parks and for outdoor recreational facilities such as ball diamonds, playgrounds, and tennis courts.

For park planning purposes, an urban service area is often defined as an area marked by a closely spaced network of land access streets, and consists of concentrations of the residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, and institutional uses having a minimum total area of about one-fourth of a square mile and a minimum total resident population of 500 persons. The 1980 land use inventory, as presented in Chapter II of this report, served as the basis for the identification of the location and extent of the existing urban service area of the Village of Walworth. This urban service area is shown on Map 6 and encompasses virtually all of the urban land located within the corporate limits of the Village in 1980, as well as small concentrations of residential uses north and east of the Village in the Town of Walworth. The population of this urban service area of the Village in 1980 was about 1,700 persons.

As already noted, it is anticipated that, under the intermediate scenario for a centralized distribution of population for the year 2010 in the Walworth urban service area, the population would be about 2,400 persons. The additional urban residential areas that would generally require urban recreation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>The centralized population allocation framework is discussed in SEWRPC Technical Report No. 25, <u>Alternative Futures for Southeastern Wisconsin</u>, December 1980.





EXISTING AND PLANNED DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH STUDY AREA

#### LEGEND



ISOLATED NATURAL AREA



OTHER LANDS OUTSIDE THE URBAN SERVICE AREA URBAN SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY

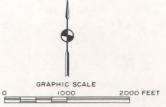
PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR



GENERALIZED NONRESIDENTIAL AREA

PLANNED URBAN DEVELOPMENT

GENERALIZED EXISTING



-Source: SEWRPC. sites and facilities by the year 2010 are also shown on Map 6. It is anticipated that urban parks and outdoor recreation facilities would be provided only in the existing and planned urban residential areas shown on Map 6.

#### Outdoor Recreation Site and Facility Needs

The park and open space acquisition and development objectives, as presented in Chapter III of this report, are concerned with the provision of adequate outdoor recreation sites and facilities for the resident population. The accompanying standards, as set forth in Appendix A of this report under Objective Nos. 1 and 2, specify per capita acreage and accessibility requirements for urban outdoor recreation sites and facilities.

Park and open space development Objective No. 1 calls for the provision of an integrated system of public parks and related open space areas that will offer the resident population adequate opportunities to participate in a wide variety of outdoor recreational activities. The system to be provided under this objective includes parks and other public outdoor recreation sites in urban areas. Urban parks and outdoor recreation sites that provide facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented recreational activities have been termed 'general-use" outdoor recreation sites. Type III general-use sites range in size from 25 to 99 acres and generally have a communitywide service radius, while Type IV general-use sites are less than 25 acres in size and have a neighborhoodwide service area. Such sites typically provide opportunities for nonresource-oriented activities, such as baseball, softball, and tennis. These sites generally attract users from a small service area and are provided primarily to meet the outdoor recreation demand of residents of urban areas. The per capita and accessibility standards for public community and neighborhood sites are appropriately applied only to the population of the Walworth urban service area.

Urban Site Per Capita and Accessibility Needs: There are two kinds of public general-use sites--parks and public school-owned playgrounds and playfields. Although not generally perceived as parks, school outdoor recreation sites provide areas for the pursuit of intensive nonresource-oriented recreational activities in urban areas. As indicated in Table 4, application of the standard acreage requirements to the 1980 urban service area population indicates a per capita acreage need of about 2 acres, while application to the design year 2010 urban service area population indicates a per capita acreage need of about 4 acres for parks. It is important to point out that these identified acreages should be devoted to the development of intensive nonresourceoriented outdoor recreation facilities normally provided in urban parks.

Urban areas may have a need for additional urban parks if the spatial distribution of existing parks does not provide sufficient access for residents of the urban service area. Accordingly, in order to determine which portions of the Walworth urban service area lack adequate access to urban parks, appropriate service areas were delineated around existing parks for both the existing urban service area and the plan design year 2010 urban service area. The existing and planned urban residential portions of the Walworth urban service area not adequately served are thus identified.

According to the standards prescribed under Objective No. 1, community parks (Type III parks)--those parks ranging in size from 25 to 99 acres and providing community-oriented facilities such as baseball diamonds, softball

#### Table 4

#### PER CAPITA ACREAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR URBAN OUTDOOR RECREATION SITES IN THE WALWORTH URBAN SERVICE AREA

			Per Capita Acreage Requirements						
Public General-Use Outdoor	General-Use Net Acreage		198 (Existin Populatio	g Urban	Plan Design Year 2010 (Planned Urban Population: 2,400)				
Recreation Sites	Recreation (acres per Ex		Net Acreage Requirement <sup>b</sup>	Net Acreage Need <sup>C</sup>	Net Acreage Requirement <sup>b</sup>	Net Acreage Need <sup>C</sup>			
Parks	3.9	5	7	2	9	4			
Schoo I s	2.5	27 <sup>d</sup>	4		6				

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

<sup>b</sup>The acreage requirement for public, general-use outdoor recreation sites was determined by multiplying the standard acreage requirement times the appropriate population in thousands of persons.

<sup>C</sup>Acreage need was determined by subtracting the existing acres from the acreage requirement. If the remainder was a negative number, the minimum acreage requirement was exceeded, and no per capita acreage need was identified.

<sup>d</sup>This total includes only the acreage of the school lands intensively used for outdoor recreation facilities.

Source: SEWRPC.

diamonds, and swimming pools--should be provided within two miles of each resident of an urban area having a population greater than 7,500 persons. Thus, it was not appropriate to apply the accessibility standards for community parks in the Walworth urban service area.

According to the standards prescribed under Objective No. 1, the service radius of Type IV neighborhood parks varies with population density. In this regard, the service radius of a neighborhood park is 0.5 mile in a highdensity urban area, 0.75 mile in a medium-density urban area, and 1.0 mile in a low-density urban area. The existing and planned future urban density within the Walworth urban service area has been classified as medium density; therefore, the 0.75-mile service radius for neighborhood parks was applied. Within the Walworth urban service area, there was one existing neighborhood park--Devils Lane Park. It is important to note that neighborhood parks generally provide facilities for children's outdoor recreational activities, such as playground and playfield activities, ice skating, and basketball and other court games. Such facilities within a neighborhood park should be accessible through a convenient and safe pedestrian circulation pattern. Therefore, in the accessibility analysis for such sites and facilities certain natural and man-made features--including major arterials, railroads, and other natural or man-made features which serve to clearly and physically separate urban residential areas from neighborhood parks and outdoor recreation facilities--were considered as barriers preventing pedestrian access. As shown on Map 7, the existing park generally serves the southeastern portions of the urban service area, while large areas in the northern and western portions of the existing urban service area are not served. As further shown on Map 7, additional areas in the northern and western portions of the plan design year 2010 urban service area would not be served by the existing park.

Urban Facility Per Capita and Accessibility Needs: Objective No. 2 calls for the provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to allow the resident population adequate opportunity to participate in intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreational activities, such as baseball, softball, and tennis. The standards under Objective No. 2 for selected facilities were applied to both the existing 1980 and the plan design year 2010 population of the Walworth urban service area. A summary of the application of these standards is presented in Table 5. As indicated in Table 5, the per capita standards for the selected facilities generally have been met for both the existing and the plan design year urban service area population.

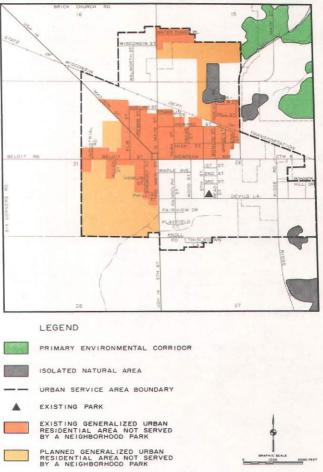
Urban areas may also have a need for additional outdoor recreation facilities if the spatial distribution of such facilities does not provide sufficient access for residents of the area. Accordingly, in order to determine which portions of the urban service area lack adequate access to certain intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation facilities, appropriate service areas--as prescribed in the standards under Objective No. 2--were delineated around these facilities on a base map. The existing and plan design year 2010 portions of the

# AREAS IN THE WALWORTH URBAN SERVICE AREA NOT SERVED BY A NEIGHBORHOOD PARK LEGEND

urban service area not adequately served by such facilities are discussed below:

- 1. Baseball diamond: Baseball diamonds were located at Devils Lane Park and Big Foot High School. Since the maximum service radius of a baseball diamond is two miles, application of the accessibility requirement for baseball diamonds to the existing and the plan design year 2010 Walworth urban service area indicates that the entire urban service area would be served by the existing distribution of baseball diamonds.
- Playfield: Playfields were located at Devils Lane Park, Big Foot High 2. School, and Walworth Grade School. Since the maximum service radius of a playfield is about 0.5 mile, application of the accessibility requirement for playfields indicates that portions of the existing urban service area are not served by the current (1985) distribution of playfields, including areas in the central and eastern portions of the service area

#### Map 7



Source: SEWRPC.

#### Table 5

#### PER CAPITA REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTED OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES IN THE EXISTING AND PLANNED VILLAGE OF WALWORTH URBAN SERVICE AREA

	Eviating	Minimum Standard Reguirement <sup>b</sup>	1980 Existi Population		Plan Design Year 2010 Urban Population: 2,400		
Facility	Existing Quantity of Facility <sup>a</sup>	(facility per 1,000 persons)	Facility Requirement <sup>C</sup>	Facility Need <sup>d</sup>	Facility Requirement <sup>C</sup>	Facility Needd	
Baseball Diamond	2 <sup>e</sup>	0.10	0.2	~~~	0.2		
Ice Skating Rink	0	0.15	0.2	1	0.4	1	
Playfield	3	0.50	0.8		1.2		
Playground Softball Diamond	2	0.42	0.7		1.0		
(league) <sup>f</sup> Softball Diamond	1	0.25	0.4		0.6		
(sandlot) <sup>f</sup>	3	0.35	0.6		0.8		
Tennis Courts	8	0.60	1.0		1.4		

<sup>a</sup>This total includes only facilities at sites within the plan design year urban area.

 $^{
m b}$ Standard per capita facility requirements are set forth under Objective No. 2 in Appendix A.

<sup>C</sup>The facility requirement was determined by multiplying the minimum standard requirement times the appropriate population in thousands of persons.

<sup>d</sup>Facility need was determined by subtracting the existing quantity of facilities from the facility requirement and rounding the remainder to the nearest integer. If the remainder was a negative number, the minimum facility requirement was exceeded, and no per capita facility need was identified.

<sup>e</sup>Includes the ball diamond at Devils Lane Park. This diamond is also listed as the league softball diamond in this table.

<sup>f</sup>The per capita requirements for league and sandlot softball diamonds have been analyzed separately. A minimum per capita standard requirement of 0.25 diamond per 1,000 persons was applied for league softball and a requirement of 0.35 diamond per 1,000 persons was applied for sandlot softball. Thus, the total minimum requirement for softball was 0.60 diamond per 1,000 persons.

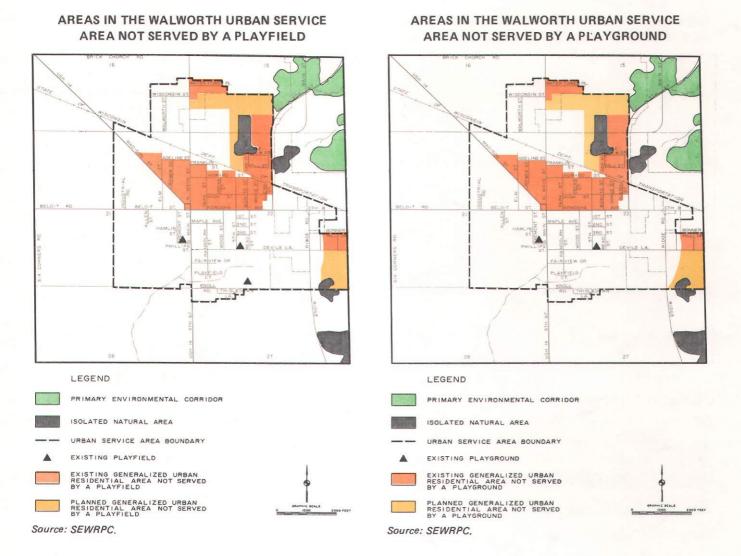
Source: SEWRPC.

(see Map 8). As shown on Map 8, additional areas in the northern and southeastern portions of the plan design year 2010 urban service areas would not be served by the existing distribution of playfields.

- 3. <u>Playground</u>: Playgrounds were located at Devils Lane Park and Walworth Grade School. Since the maximum service radius of a playground is also about 0.5 mile, application of the accessibility requirement for playgrounds indicates that large areas in the central portion of the existing Walworth urban service area are not served by the current (1985) distribution of playgrounds (see Map 9). As shown on Map 9, large areas in the northern and southeastern portions of the design year 2010 urban service area would not be served by the existing distribution of playgrounds.
- 4. <u>Softball diamond</u>: A league softball diamond was located at Devils Lane Park. Since the maximum service radius of a league softball diamond is about 1.0 mile, application of the accessibility requirement for league softball diamonds in the existing and planned urban service area indicates that virtually all of the urban service area would be served by the existing league softball diamond (see Map 10).



#### Map 9



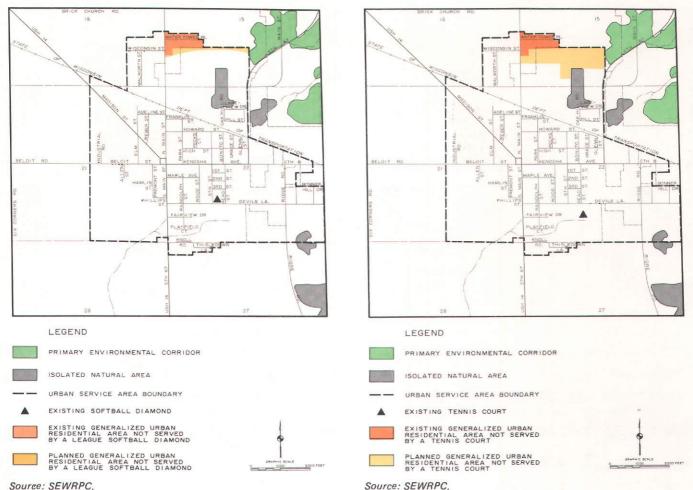
5. Tennis court: Tennis courts were located at Big Foot High School. Since the maximum service radius of a tennis court is about 1.0 mile, application of the accessibility requirement for tennis courts indicates that only a small area in the northern portion of the urban service area was not served in 1985 (see Map 11). As shown on Map 11, an additional larger area in the northeastern portion of the urban service area would not be served by the existing distribution of tennis courts in the plan design year 2010.

Other Urban Site and Facility Need Considerations: The preceding section described per capita and accessibility needs for urban parks and selected intensive nonresource-oriented outdoor recreation facilities. These needs were based on an application of the standards presented under Objective Nos. 1 and 2 presented in Appendix A of this report. In addition, other urban park facility needs have been identified by the Village of Walworth Park Commission. Such facility needs include a picnic shelter, restrooms, horseshoe pits, and additional landscaping at Devils Lane Park, and a park site suitable for the provision of hiking, nature study, and ski touring trails.

### Map 10

AREAS IN THE WALWORTH URBAN SERVICE

AREA NOT SERVED BY A TENNIS COURT



## AREAS IN THE WALWORTH URBAN SERVICE AREA NOT SERVED BY A LEAGUE SOFTBALL DIAMOND

Source: SEWARC.

## **Open Space Preservation Needs**

In the previous section of this chapter, an analysis of needs relating to Objective Nos. 1 and 2 was conducted by applying the recreation site and facility standards under those objectives to the existing and planned population of the Walworth urban service area. It is important to note that there are equally important needs relating to the considerations addressed by Objective No. 6--that is, the need to preserve and protect the underlying and sustaining natural resource base of the study area.

As already noted, the environmental corridors and isolated natural features in the Walworth study area encompass a wide variety of valuable natural resources. These resource features are described in Chapter II of this report and shown on Map 6 in this chapter. By protecting these resources, flood damage can be reduced, soil erosion abated, water supplies protected, air cleansed, and wildlife populations enhanced, and continued opportunities can be provided for scientific, educational, and recreational pursuits. Conversely, the intrusion of urban land uses into these corridors can, because of the soil limitations, high groundwater table, and flood hazards, result in the creation of serious and costly problems such as faulty foundations for pavement and structures, wet basements, excessive clearwater infiltration and inflow into sanitary sewerage systems, and poor drainage.

The preservation of high-quality open space lands to protect the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and to enhance the general social and economic well-being of the study area can be achieved through the maintenance of the existing primary and secondary environmental corridors and isolated natural features in essentially natural, open space uses and through the maintenance of important agricultural lands in agricultural use. The need to protect these features cannot be related to per capita or accessibility requirements, since the achievement of the open space preservation objective is essentially independent of any population level or distribution and relates rather to the location, character, and extent of the various elements of the natural resource base.

## Recommended Plan

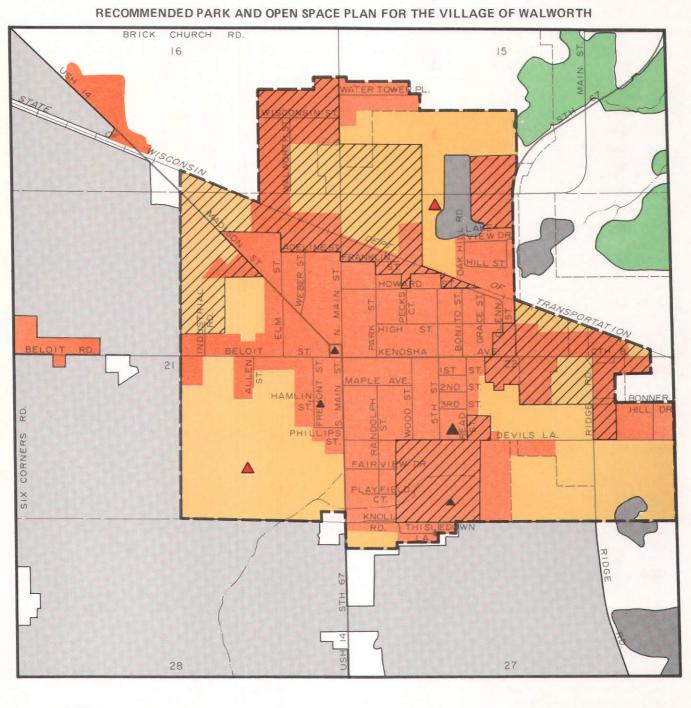
The analysis of the need for park and open space sites and facilities in the Village of Walworth, as presented in previous sections of this chapter, indicates that additional park and open space sites and facilities are required to meet the outdoor recreation needs of the residents of the existing and planned future Walworth urban service area. Under the park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth, then, it is recommended that the Village acquire and develop a new village park in the northern portion of the Walworth urban service area; acquire and develop a new village park in the southwestern portion of the urban service area; and develop additional facilities at Devils Lane Park. In addition, it is recommended that the Village maintain the existing facilities at Heyer Park and Devils Lane Park. The general locations of the two proposed new village parksites are shown on Map 12, and the site acquisition and development recommendations are presented in the following section.

## PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth includes recommendations directed at county and state agencies of government for the provision of resource-oriented outdoor recreation sites and facilities in Walworth County, including the provision of major parks and recreation corridors. The plan also includes recommendations for the protection of important natural resource features within the Walworth study area, including the protection of environmental corridors, isolated natural areas, and prime agricultural lands. Finally, the plan includes recommendations for the provision of outdoor recreation sites and facilities within the Walworth urban service area, including the provision of two new village parks and outdoor recreation facilities and the development of additional facilities at Devils Lane Park.

The recommended park and open space plan is not complete, however, until the steps required to implement the plan have been specified. This section of the chapter, accordingly, is intended to serve as a guide for use in carrying out the recommended park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth. It describes the specific actions required to implement the park and open space plan, including the actions required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Walworth County Park and Planning Commission, and the Village of Walworth.





LEGEND URBAN SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES EXISTING URBAN DEVELOPMENT: 1985 EXISTING PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION SITE PROPOSED TO BE MAINTAINED PLANNED URBAN DEVELOPMENT: 2010 DEVILS LANE PARK-- PROPOSED ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT A NEW VILLAGE PARK PROPOSED FOR ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL SITE LOCATION) GENERALIZED NONRESIDENTIAL URBAN DEVELOPMENT VIA OTHER LANDS OUTSIDE THE URBAN SERVICE AREA NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS PRIMARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR ISOLATED NATURAL AREA GRAPHIC SCALE 0 1000 PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS Source: SEWRPC.

2000 FEET

30

# Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has authority and responsibility in the areas of park development, natural resource protection, water quality maintenance, and water use regulation. Because of this broad range of authority and responsibility, certain Department functions have importance in the implementation of the park and open space plan. The Department has the obligation to prepare a comprehensive, statewide, outdoor recreation plan and to develop long-range statewide conservation and water resource 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 outdoor resources; and the authority to administer the federal grant program known as the Land and Water Conservation (LAWCON) fund program within the State. The Department also has the obligation to establish standards for floodplain and shoreland zoning and the authority to adopt, in the absence of satisfactory local action, shoreland and floodplain zoning ordinances.

It is important that the Department approve and adopt the park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth in order to facilitate the receipt by the Village of state and federal outdoor recreation grants in support of plan implementation. In addition, the Department of Natural Resources should use available regulatory authority to guide urban development in accordance with the location and extent of the urban service area proposed under this plan and to enhance the environmental quality of the Village.

# Walworth County Park and Planning Commission

Walworth County is responsible jointly with the Town of Walworth for the protection of important natural resources in the unincorporated portions of the study area. The plan recommends that the County and the Town cooperate in the placement of all environmental corridors and isolated natural areas in an appropriate conservancy zoning district and in the placement of all prime agricultural lands in an agricultural land preservation zoning district. The proper application of the conservancy district zoning would generally ensure the preservation of the natural resource features within the environmental corridors and isolated natural areas in the unincorporated portions of the study area. The placement of all identified prime agricultural lands in an agricultural land preservation zoning district would assure the protection and continued use of such lands for agricultural purposes. These measures generally result in the attainment of the open space preservation objectives presented in Chapter III of this report.

## Village of Walworth

Under the recommended plan, the Village of Walworth would be responsible for the acquisition and development of two new village parks and the development of additional outdoor recreation facilities at Devils Lane Park. In addition, the Village would be responsible for the protection of the important natural resource features within the Walworth urban service area--specifically, the woodlands within the isolated natural area in the northeastern portion of the Walworth urban service area. Implementation of these recommendations would result in the attainment of the park acquisition and development and open space preservation objectives presented in Chapter III of this report for the Walworth urban service area. Specific implementation activities for the Village in this respect are presented below.

- 1. Park Site A: Park Site A is proposed to be located west of Big Foot Golf Range in the northeastern portion of the Walworth urban service area (see Map 12). The site would encompass approximately 20 acres, including the only isolated natural area in the Walworth urban service area. The site would be developed primarily for passive recreational pursuits, including such activities as picnicking, hiking, and nature study. Proposed facilities at the site include a playfield area, picnic areas, hiking and cross-country ski trails, a playground area, and necessary support facilities, including a picnic shelter and restrooms.
- 2. Park Site B: Park Site B is proposed to be located in the southwestern portion of the Walworth urban service area (see Map 12), and would encompass approximately 5 acres. The site would provide neighborhood outdoor recreation facilities for the planned residential areas in the southwestern portion of the Village. Facilities proposed at this site include a playfield area, a playground area, and an area for picnicking and other passive recreational pursuits.
- 3. Devils Lane Park: It is recommended that additional outdoor recreation facilities be provided at Devils Lane Park, the existing village park in the southeastern portion of the Walworth urban service area. It is intended that this site continue to be developed to provide opportunities for a variety of intensive sports and athletic activities. Additional facilities proposed for development at this site include a court area for basketball, volleyball, and other court activities, an area for horseshoes, and additional play areas. An ice skating rink could also be provided at this site. In addition, it is recommended that necessary support facilities be provided, including a picnic shelter and landscaping improvements.

The acquisition and development costs for the three village sites are estimated to total \$308,000, of which \$100,000, or about 32 percent, would be expended for park site acquisition, while about \$208,000, or the remaining 68 percent, would be expended for park site development (see Table 6). In addition, under the plan it is recommended that the Village continue to maintain or improve, as necessary, existing facilities at Heyer Park. The park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth proposes that the Village acquire and develop two additional parks within the urban service area. The boundaries of these parks should be determined within the context of a detailed development plan for the Village. The preparation of such a plan would promote the efficient provision of community facilities and services of all kinds. Such a plan would show the proposed location of collector and local land access streets, drainageways, and sites for other public facilities, including parks. Future growth and development in the urban service area should be accommodated in an orderly fashion, thereby enabling the Village to economically and efficiently provide facilities and services of all kinds as urban development occurs. Once prepared, the detailed community development plan could be implemented by the Village through the adoption of an official map, as well as through enforcement of the Village's zoning and subdivision control ordinances. The adopted official map and zoning ordinance can serve to protect land proposed for parks from incompatible urban encroachment. In addition, the acquisition of outdoor recreation and open space preservation lands can be facilitated by use of a subdivision control ordinance which contains a parkland dedication provision.

### Table 6

## RECOMMENDED ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT OF VILLAGE PARKS UNDER THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF WALWORTH

Village	Acquisition		Development			
Park Site	Acres	Cost	Proposed Facilities	Cost	Total Cost	
Park Site A	20 \$ 80,000		Playfield area; playground; picnic area; hiking and cross country-ski trails; shelter and restrooms; landscaping and general development	\$115,000	\$195,000	
Park Site B 5 20,000		20,000	Playfield area; playground; picnic area; landscaping and general development	63,000	83,000	
Devils Lane Park	vils Lane Park Picnic shelter; landscaping and general development, including a court area for basketball and volleyball, a horseshoes area, and an ice skating area		30,000	30,000		
Total	25	\$100,000		\$208,000	\$308,000	

NOTES: 1. All costs are estimated in 1986 dollars.

2. The above-identified development proposals are specifically recommended under the park and open space plan for the Village of Walworth. In addition, under the plan it is recommended that the Village continue to maintain or improve, as necessary, all facilities at Heyer Park and Devils Lane Park and at the two proposed village sites. The maintenance or improvement of these sites and facilities will include such activities as the paving or resurfacing of parking lots, walkways, and service roads; the resurfacing of court areas, such as volleyball, basketball, and tennis courts; making facilities handicapped-accessible; and the provision, repair, or replacement of such support facilities as sports field lighting, park benches, picnic tables, drinking fountains, general park lighting, restroom facilities, water supply facilities, picnic shelters, and maintenance buildings. The Village will also continue to provide and maintain lawns, gardens, and landscape plantings.

Source: SEWRPC.

Acquisition and Development Priorities: Financial resources for the acquisition and development of village park and open space sites and facilities are limited. At the same time, it is important to recognize that the recommended acquisition and development within the Walworth urban service area is envisioned to occur over a 25-year plan implementation period. Recognizing the limited public financial resources and the length of the plan implementation period, higher priority should be given to the development of additional facilities at Devils Lane Park and to the acquisition of Park Site A and the development of facilities for picnicking and other passive recreational pursuits at that site. Lower priority should be given to the acquisition and development of Park Site B and to the development of neighborhood facilities at Park Site A.

With respect to Devils Lane Park, the provision of additional facilities would generally serve to meet the identified needs to improve existing facilities at the site and provide opportunities for village residents to participate in additional athletic and sports activities. Such development should be considered of primary importance in the expenditure of funds for park and open space purposes. Similarly, with respect to Park Site A, the acquisition and development of this site would provide opportunities for all village residents for picnicking, trail activities, and passive recreational pursuits, opportunities not presently provided at Devils Lane Park. Thus, the reservation of lands for Park Site A through the use of the village zoning and official mapping powers, and the acquisition of the lands for Park Site A and development for passive uses, are of primary importance. The acquisition and development of Park Site B would generally serve to meet the probable future need for a neighborhood park and facilities in the southwestern portion of the urban service area. Initially, lands for park and open space purposes should be reserved through the use of the village zoning and official mapping powers. Acquisition and development of Park Site B would occur as residential development actually occurs in this portion of the urban service area. Neighborhood park facilities at Park Site A would be developed as residential development actually occurs in the northern portion of the Walworth urban service area. Thus, since these sites and facilities are needed only if additional areas are developed for residential use, they are of secondary importance.

Plan Costs: Implementation of the recommended park and open space plan presented herein would require a total capital expenditure by the Village of about \$308,000. The estimated village park and open space acquisition and development costs of \$308,000 would be distributed over a 25-year plan implementation period. Under the assumption that the population of the Walworth urban service area would be about 2,400 persons by the year 2010, the average annual acquisition and development costs would be about \$12,320, or about \$6.01 per capita.<sup>6</sup> It should be noted that, to the extent that acquisition and development proposals become eligible for state or federal aid, these costs could be reduced. Thus, if 50 percent of the acquisition and development costs for village park and open space sites and outdoor recreation facilities is obtained through state and federal aid, full implementation of the park and open space acquisition and development recommendations could be reduced to about \$154,000, and over the 25-year plan implementation period would be about \$6,160 per year, or about \$3.00 per capita per year. This cost could be offset further through the collection and use of subdivision dedication fees for the acquisition of park sites and development facilities.

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

The primary purpose of the park and open space planning program for the Village of Walworth is the preparation of a sound and workable plan to guide the acquisition and development of land and facilities needed to satisfy the outdoor recreation and open space needs of the existing and probable future population of the Village, and to protect and enhance the underlying and sustaining natural resource base. Implementation of the recommended plan would assure the protection and preservation of environmental corridors and isolated natural areas in the study area, the maintenance of important agricultural land in agricultural uses, and the provision of an adequate number and variety of park and open space sites geographically well distributed throughout the Walworth urban service area, thereby meeting the existing and probable future recreational needs of the residents of the area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>The average annual per capita costs were derived by dividing the average annual costs by the average annual population over the 25-year plan implementation period. The average annual population--determined by calculating the average of the 1980 population of 1,700 persons and the plan design year 2010 population of 2,400 persons--is 2,050 persons.

APPENDICES

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## Appendix A

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

### **OBJECTIVE NO. 1**

The provision of an integrated system of public outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas which will afford the resident population of the Region, adequate opportunities to participate in a wide range of outdoor recreation 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 GENERAL USE OUTDOOR RECREATION SITES

### PRINCIPLE

Public general use outdoor recreation sites promote the maintenance of proper physical and mental health 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 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 below:

		Publicity Owned General Use Sites									
			Parks				Schools <sup>a</sup>				
		Minimum Per Capita	an a	Maximum Service Radius (miles) <sup>b</sup>		Minimum Per Capita Public: Requirements		Maximum Service Radius (miles) <sup>C</sup>			
Site Type	Size (gross acres)	Public Requirements (acres per 1,000 persons) <sup>d</sup>	Typical Facilities	Urban <sup>e</sup> Rural		(acres per 1,000 persons) <sup>f</sup>	Typical Facilities	Urban <sup>e</sup>	Rural		
19 Regionai	250 or more	5.3	Camp sites, swimming beach, picnic areas, golf course, ski hitl, ski touring trail, boat lauch, nature study area, playfield, softball diamond, passive activity area <sup>h</sup>	10.0	10.0						
jji Multicommunity	100-249	2.6	Camp sites, swimming pool or beach, picnic areas, golf course, ski hill, ski touring trail, bost leunch, neture study area, playfield, softball and/or baseball diamond, passive activity area <sup>1</sup>	4.0	10.0 <sup>j</sup>						
1   1 <sup>k</sup> Community	25-99	2.2	Swimming pool or beach,picnic areas, boat launch, nature study area, playfield, softball and/or baseball diamond, tennis court, passive activity area <sup>h</sup>	2.0'		0.9	Playfield, baseball diamond, softball diamond, tennis court	0.5-1.0 <sup>m</sup>			
iv <sup>n</sup> .	Less than 25	1.7	Wading pool, picnic areas, playfield, softball and/or baseball diamond, tennis court, playground, basetball goal, ice-skating rink, passive activity area <sup>b</sup>	0.5-1.0 <sup>0</sup>		1.6	Playfield, playground, baseball diamond, softball diamond, tennis court, basket- ball goal	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 also can 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 mile 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-oriented recreation corridors should maximize use of:

- a. Primary environmental corridors as locations for extensive trail-oriented recreation activities.
- b. Outdoor recreation facilities provided at existing public park sites.
- c. Existing recreation trail-type facilities within the Region.

#### **OBJECTIVE NO. 2**

The provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to afford 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, 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 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:

			1			Design Standards			
Minim Activity	um Per Capita Facility	Facility Requi	rements <sup>q</sup> Facility Per 1,000 Urban Residents	Typical Location of Facility	Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Additional Suggested Support Facilities	Support Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Total Land Requirement (acres per facility)	Service Radius of Facility (miles) <sup>r</sup>
Basebałi .	Diamond	Public Nonpublic Total	0.09 0.01 0.10 <sup>5</sup>	Types II, III, and IV general use site	2.8 acres per diamond	Parking (30 spaces per diamond) Night lighting <sup>t</sup> Concessions and bleachers <sup>t</sup> Buffer and landscape	0.28 acre per diamond 0.02 acre minimum 1.40 acres per diamond	4.5	2.0
Basketbail .	Goal	Public Nonpublic Total	0.91 0.22 1.13	Type IV general use site	0.07 acre per goal			0.07	0.5
Ice-Skating	Rink	Public Nonpublic Totai	0.15 <sup>u</sup> 0.15	Type IV general use site	0.30 acre per rink minimum	Warming house	0.05 acre	0.35 minimum	0.5
Playfield Activities .	Playfield	Public Nonpublic Total	0.39 0.11 0.50	Type IV general use site	1.0 acre per playfield minimum	Buffer area	0.65 acre minimum	1.65 minimum	0.5
Playground Activities	Playground	Public Nonpublic Total	0.35 0.07 0.42	Type IV general use site	0.25 acre per playground minimum	Buffer and landscape	0.37 acre	0.62 mìnimum	0.5
Softball	Diamond	Public Nonpublic Total	0.53 0.07 0.60	Types II, III, and IV general use site	1.70 acre per diamond	Parking (20 spaces per diamond) Night lighting <sup>1</sup> Buffer	0.18 acre per diamond  0.80 acre per diamond	2.68	1.0
Swimming	Pool	Public Nonpublic Total	0.015 <sup>V</sup> 0.015	Types II and III general use site	0.13 acre per pool minimum	Bathhouse and concessions Parking (400 square feet per space) Buffer and landscaping	0.13 acre minimum 0.26 acre minimum 0.70 acre minimum	1.22 minimum	3.0
Tennis	Court	Public Nonpublic Total	0.50 0.10 0.60	Types II, III, and IV general use site	0.15 acre per court	Parking (2.0 spaces per court) Night lighting <sup>1</sup> Buffer	0.02 acre per court  0.15 acre per court	0.32	1.0

#### **OBJECTIVE NO.3**

The provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to afford 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 Stendards						Service
Activity	Facility	Capits Facility Owner	Requirement** Per Capita Requirements {facility per 1,000 residents}	Typical Location of Facility	Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Additional Suggested Support Facilities	Support Facility Requirements (acres per facility)	Total Land Requirements (acres per facility)	Resource Requirements	Radius of Facility (miles)*
Camping	Camp site	Public Nonpublic Total	0.35 1.47 1.82	Types I and H general use sites	0.33 acre per camp site	Rest rooms - showers Utility hookups Natural area backup lands	 1.5 acres per camp site	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	Types I and II general use sites	135 acres per course	Clubhouse, parking, maintenance Practice area Woodland-water areas Buffer acres	8.0 acres per course 5.0 acres per course 35.0 acres per course 2.0 acres per course	185.0	Suitable topography and soils Presence of surface water Form-giving vegetation desirable	10 0
Picnicking	Tables	Public Nonpublic Totat	6.35 <sup>y</sup> 2.39 8.74	Types 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 spaces per table)  0.02 acre per table	0.11	Topography with scienic views Shade trees Presence of surface water desirable Suitable soils	10.0
Skiing	Daveloped Slope (acres)	Public Nonpublic Total	0.010 0.990 0.100	Types I, H and HI 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 stope 0.40 tow per acre of stope 0.40 acre per acre of stope 0.35 acre per acre of stope	2.1	Suitable topography and soils (20 percent slope minimum) North or northeast exposure	25.0
Swimming <sup>-</sup>	Beach (linear faut)	Public Nonpublic Total	Major Inland Lakas 6 12 18	Types I, II, and Higeneral use sites	40 square feet per linear foot (average)	Parking Bathhouse-concessions Buffer area	0.2 acre per acre of beach 0.10 acre minimum 10 square feet per linear foot	. 8	Natural beach Good water quality	10.0

#### **OBJECTIVE NO. 4**

The provision of sufficient outdoor recreation facilities to afford the resident population of the Region adequate opportunities to participate in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities.

#### PRINCIPLE

Participation in extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities including bicycling, 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-oriented 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 bicycling, 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 extensive land-based outdoor recreation activities should be provided throughout the Region. Public facilities provided for these activities should be located within the linear resource-oriented recreation corridors identified in Objective 1. To meet this standard, the following per capita requirements and design criteria for various facilities should be met as indicated below:

Minimum Per Capita Public		Design Standards						
	ium Per Capi lity Requiren Facility		Typical Location of Facility	Minimum Facility Requirements (acres per linear mile)	Suggested Support Facilities and Backup Lands	Minimum Support Facility Reguirements (acres per linear mile)	Resource Requirements	
Biking	Route	bb	Scenic roadways	••	Route markers			
	Trail	0.16	Recreation corridor	1.45	Backup lands with resource amonities	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	1 per county	Types 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 Types 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	cc	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**

The provision of sufficient access areas to afford the resident population of the Region adequate opportunities to participate in extensive water-based outdoor recreation activities consistent with safe and enjoyable inland lake and river use and the maintenance of adequate water quality.

#### PRINCIPLE

The major inland lakes and rivers of the study area accommodate participation in extensive water-based recreation activities, including canoeing, fishing, ice fishing, motor boating, 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 such access should be available to the general public.

#### STANDARDS

1. The maximum number of public access points consistent with safe and enjoyable participation in extensive water based recreation activities should be provided on the major inland lakes throughout the Region. To meet this standard, the following guidelines for access points available for use by the general public on various size major inland lakes should be met as indicated below:

Size of Major Lake (acres)	Minimum Number of Access Points—Public and Private	Optimum Number of Parking Spaces
50 - <b>199</b>	1	A D <sup>dd</sup> 16.6 10 Minimum: <sup>66</sup> 6
200 or more	Minimum of 1 or 1 per 1,000 acres of usuable surface <sup>ff</sup>	$\frac{A}{15.9} - \frac{D^{99}}{10}$
		Minimum. <sup>ee</sup> 12

2. The proper quantity of public access points consistent with safe and enjoyable participation in the various extensive water-based recreation activities should be provided on major rivers throughout the Region. To meet this standard, the maximum interval between access points on canoeable rivers<sup>hh</sup> should be 10 miles.

#### **OBJECTIVE NO. 6**

The preservation of sufficient lands in essentially natural open uses to assure the protection of the underlying and sustaining natural resource base and enhancement of the social and economic well being and environmental quality of the City.

#### 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 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, and 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, and continued opportunities provided for scientific, educational, and recreational pursuits.

#### STANDARD

All remaining nonurban lands within the designated primary environmental corridors in the study area should be preserved in their natural state.

## B. PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS

#### PRINCIPLE

Prime agricultural lands constitute the most productive farmlands in the Region and, in addition to providing food and fiber, contribute significantly to maintaining the ecological balance between plants and animals; provide 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 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. All prime agricultural lands should be preserved.

2. All agricultural lands should be preserved that surround adjacent high-value scientific, educational, or recreational sites and are covered by soils rated in the regional detailed operational soil survey as having very slight, slight, or moderate limitations for agricultural use.

#### **OBJECTIVE NO, 7**

The efficient and economical satisfaction of outdoor recreation and related open space needs, meeting all other objectives at the lowest possible cost.

#### 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.

<sup>a</sup> In urban areas facilities for intensive nonresource-oriented 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-oriented activities. It is important to note, however, that school outdoor recreation sites do not generally contain natural areas which provide space for passive recreation 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-oriented 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-oriented 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 having a multicounty service area. Such sites rely heavily for their recreational value and character on natural resource amenities 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 which provides an opportunity for such less athletic recreational pursuits as pleasure walking, rest and relaxation, and informal picnicking. Such areas generally are located in parks or in urban open space sites, and usually consist of a landscaped area with mowed lawn, shade trees, and benches.

<sup>1</sup> Type II sites are defined as intermediate size sites having a countywide or multicommunity service area. Like Type I sites, such sites rely for their recreational value and character on natural resource amenities. Type II parks, however, usually provide a smaller variety of recreation 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 multineighborhood service area. Such sites rely more on the development characteristics of the area to be served than on natural resource amenities for location.

<sup>1</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 No. 2). As another example, school outdoor recreation sites which provide tennis courts and softball diamonds typically have a service radius of 1.0 mile--which is the maximum service radius assigned to such facilities (see standards to bjective No. 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 which 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>0</sup> The maximum service radius of Type IV parks is governed primarily by the population densities 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 urban resident should reside within 0.75 mile of a Type IV park; and in low-density urban areas, each urban resident should reside within 0.75 mile of a Type IV park; and in low-density urban areas, each urban resident should reside within 0.5-1.0 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 radii 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 multiuse 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 recreation activities especially through the provision of trails designated for such activities as biking, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, and ski touring. In the Region in 1973 only Milwaukee County, with an extensive parkway system, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, with the Kettle Moraine State Forest-Southern Unit, possessed the continuous linear lands required to develop such a recreation corridor.
- <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 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.
- t 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 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-oriented 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 outdoor recreation activity 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 place of residence to participate in the corresponding activity.
- <sup>Y</sup> The allocation of the 6.35 picnic tables per thousand residents to publicly owned general use sites is as follows: 3.80 tables per thousand 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 thousand residents of urban areas in the Region to be located in Type III and Type III and Type IV parks to meet local picnicking needs in urban areas of the Region.
- <sup>2</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 provided.

<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> The survey of boat owners conducted under the regional park study indicated that for lakes of 50-199 acres, the typical mix of fast boating activities is as follows: water skiing-49 percent; motor boating-35 percent; and sailing-16 percent. The minimum area required per boat for safe participation in these activities is as follows: water skiing-20 acres; motor boating-15 acres; and sailing-10 acres. Assuming the current mix of boating activities in conjunction with the foregoing area requirements, it is found that 16.6 acres of "usable" surface water are required per boat on lakes of 50-199 acres. The number of fast boats which can be accommodated on a given lake of this size range is the usable surface area of that lake expressed in acres (A) divided by 16.6. The optimum number of parking spaces for a given lake is the number of fast boats which the lake can accommodate reduced by the number of fast boats in use at any one time by owners of property with lake frontage. The latter figure is estimated as 10 percent of the number of dwelling units (D) on the lake.

<sup>ee</sup> The minimum number of parking spaces relates only to parking to accommodate slow boating activities such as canoeing and fishing and is applicable only in the event that the application of the standard indicated a need for less than six parking spaces for fast boating activities. No launch ramp facilities would be provided for slow boating activities.

ff Usable surface water is defined as that area of a lake which can be safely utilized for motor boating, sailing, and water skiing. This area includes all surface water which is a minimum distance of 200 feet from all shorelines and which is free of submerged or surface obstacles and at least five feet in depth.

<sup>gg</sup> The survey of boat owners conducted under the regional park study indicated that, for lakes of 200 acres or more, the typical mix of fast boating activities is as follows: water skiing—43 percent; motor boating—33 percent; and sailing—24 percent. The minimum area required per boat for safe participation in these activities is as follows: water skiing—20 acres; motor boating—15 acres; and sailing—10 acres. Assuming the current mix of boating activities in conjunction with the foregoing area requirements, it is found that 15.9 acres of "usable" surface water are required per boat on lakes of 200 acres or more. The number of fast boats which can be accommodated on a given lake of this size range is the usable surface area of that lake expressed in acres (A) divided by 15.9. The optimum number of parking spaces for a given lake is the number of fast boats which the lake can accommodate reduced by the number of fast boats in use at any one time by owners of property with lake frontage. The latter figure is estimated as 10 percent of the number of dwelling units (D) on the lake.

<sup>hh</sup>Canoeable rivers are defined as those rivers which have a minimum width of 50 feet over a distance of at least 10 miles.

Source: SEWRPC.