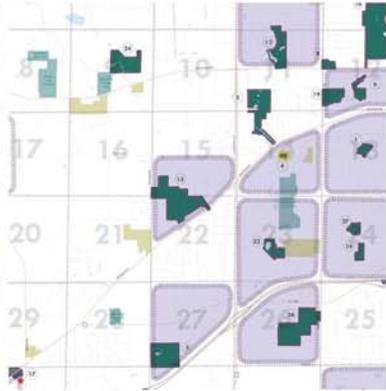
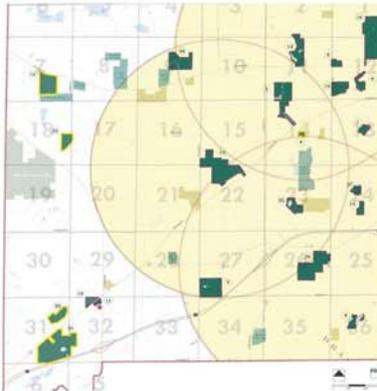




# NEW BERLIN Park & Open Space Plan 2010



# NEW BERLIN PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

City of New Berlin

## **Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission**

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Rick Kocchi, Vice Chairman  
William Moore, Council Representative  
Charles Bedwell  
Vernon Radtke  
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Alderman Joe Poshepny  
Alderman Ronald Seidl  
Alderman Telesfore Wysocki

### ***City Plan Commission***

Dave Ament  
Marta Broge  
Jack Chiovaturo  
William Christel  
Brian Felda  
Jenalyn Groeschel  
Lee Sisson



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## **SECTION 1:**

### **BACKGROUND & PLANNING PROCESS**

This planning effort represents a commitment on the part of the City of New Berlin Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission and department staff to continue assessing the municipality's role as a provider of parks and recreation services. This *Park and Open Space Plan Update* sets forth a comprehensive strategy for establishing an effective park and recreation services delivery system. It recommends parameters, goals, and actions to accomplish a level of service capable of meeting the community's short- and long-term needs. Although the recommendations are advisory, they provide a framework for City officials, administrators, and management to formulate policies. Aside from being used as an internal planning tool by the City, the *Park and Open Space Plan Update* serves as a tool for external stakeholders (developers, businesses, recreation-based organizations, neighborhood groups, federal, state and county agencies and the general citizenry) to develop an understanding of their role as partners in the implementation of the Plan.

The *Park and Open Space Plan Update* examines the current status of outdoor recreation and open space in New Berlin, identifies anticipated future open space and outdoor recreation needs and prioritizes the actions for plan implementation. Adoption of this plan by the City Council of New Berlin and endorsement by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will maintain the City's eligibility to apply for and receive state and federal funds for parkland, open space and outdoor recreation purposes.

#### **Purpose for the Plan**

The purpose of this Park Plan is to:

- Delineate short term plans and Identify long term visions and commitments.
- Identify and accommodate changes in the parks, open space and outdoor recreation needs of the residents of New Berlin.
- Continue to guide the preservation, acquisition, and development of land for park, outdoor recreation, and open space purposes.
- Protect and enhance the natural resource features of the City.
- Maintain the eligibility to apply for and receive federal and state aids for the acquisition and development of needed outdoor recreation and open space sites and facilities.

### Achievements of the 2003 Plan

The majority of short-term (5-year) recommendations outlined in the *2003 Park and Open Space Plan* have been implemented under the guidance of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry (table 1). Additionally, several long-term (20-year) objectives identified in the previous edition of this plan have been realized (table 2).

**TABLE 1: PLANNED & COMPLETED PROJECTS (2003-2008), DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY**

Park Name	Project Accomplishments, 2003-2008
Calhoun Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Upgraded restrooms &amp; park shelter</li> <li>▪ Installed fishing pier</li> <li>▪ Streambank improvements</li> </ul>
Historical Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constructed gazebo/shelter</li> <li>▪ Constructed stone pathways</li> </ul>
Gatewood Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Installed new playground equipment</li> </ul>
Lions Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constructed new restroom building</li> </ul>
ProHealth Care Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constructed two soccer fields</li> <li>▪ Constructed ball diamond</li> <li>▪ Constructed basketball court</li> <li>▪ Installed new play equipment</li> <li>▪ Constructed trail and boardwalk</li> <li>▪ Constructed restroom/shelter</li> <li>▪ Constructed gazebo/shelter</li> </ul>
Quarry Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implemented earthwork grading, seeding and construction of spillway/outlet structure, stone parking areas and drives.</li> </ul>
Valley View Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Upgraded restroom (east side)</li> </ul>

**TABLE 2: ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS (2003-2008)**

<b>Park Name</b>	<b>Project Accomplishments, 2003-2008</b>
Milham Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Acquired 39 acre parcel in the NW sector of the City</li> <li>▪ Facilitated park planning</li> </ul>
Historic "Orchard" & Freewill Baptist Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Acquired 11 additional acres to the New Berlin Historic Park including orchard, barn, house, buildings and church</li> <li>▪ Replaced roof on orchard barn</li> </ul>
Stormy Acres Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Facilitated neighborhood meetings to determine long-term vision (June 2006)</li> </ul>
Karrington/Woodfield Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constructed east-west wood chip connector trail south of High Grove Park</li> <li>▪ Constructed boardwalk on north- south trail segment</li> </ul>
Various Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continued ADA maintenance and improvements</li> </ul>
Buena Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Installed new playground system</li> <li>▪ Reconstructed tennis &amp; basketball courts</li> <li>▪ Paved park pathways</li> <li>▪ Upgraded restrooms</li> </ul>
Calhoun Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Installed new playground system (south side)</li> <li>▪ Constructed storage shed &amp; batting cage</li> </ul>
Hickory Grove Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Replaced building roof</li> <li>▪ Installed new windows &amp; doors</li> <li>▪ Approved construction of cell tower facility (revenue source for parks system improvements)</li> </ul>
Lions Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reconstructed four court tennis facility</li> <li>▪ Installed park pathways (paved)</li> <li>▪ Renovation of former library into Community Center</li> </ul>
Malone Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Resurfaced tennis courts</li> <li>▪ Paved &amp; lighted park pathways</li> <li>▪ Constructed soccer storage/concession shed</li> <li>▪ Constructed three youth baseball diamonds</li> <li>▪ Constructed batting cage</li> </ul>
New Berlin Hills Golf Course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Completed Streambank Stabilization Project</li> <li>▪ Installation of Irrigation Control System</li> <li>▪ Replaced well pump</li> <li>▪ Installed monument sign &amp; hole sponsor signage</li> </ul>
Valley View Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Installed new playground system</li> <li>▪ Constructed new restroom building</li> <li>▪ Resurfaced tennis courts</li> <li>▪ Reconstructed Soap Box Derby Track</li> </ul>

Source: New Berlin Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department

## **Planning Process**

### ***Public Participation***

The planning process for this *Update* incorporated broad and meaningful public participation to determine park and recreation support, needs, and priorities.

**Parks, Recreation and Forestry Opinion Survey 2008.** In April 2008, the City of New Berlin Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission distributed a mail survey (“Park Survey”) to 3,000 randomly selected City residents to solicit perceptions and opinions about existing and future parks, including enhancements, developments, and recreation programs. The survey was designed in collaboration between the Commission and Center for Urban Initiatives and Research (CUIR) at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

A total of 1,020 completed surveys were returned by the closing date, for a response rate of 34%. Due to the strong response, the final sample provides for a sampling error of plus or minus 2.94%. Information gathered through the survey has provided guidance for this, as well as future planning. Quantitative survey results are included in the Appendix of this *Plan*.

In general, survey participants responded favorably to enhancing and expanding acreage and outdoor facilities. More specifically, an overwhelming and consistent positive response for augmenting “nature-based” recreational uses was observed in the survey findings. Responses indicated a high level of interest in recreational pathway development, linear park configuration (which could potential support pathway facilities), preservation and enhancement of natural resource features. In addition to pathway development within municipal park units, ‘external’ pathway linkages that provide safe and efficient pedestrian and bicycle travel *between* parks, regional trails, and public facilities (library, schools, municipal offices) received widespread support.

The following text describes survey results in greater detail:

### ***Preservation of Various Features in New Berlin***

Of cultural and natural features occurring within the regional landscape that are valued for preservation purposes, survey respondents placed a rating of “somewhat to extremely important” on the following: wetlands, ponds, and streams (94% important); high-quality woodlands (94% important); natural habitats for native plant and animal species (88% important)

### ***Enhancements or Developments to Existing Parks***

Survey participants assessed a range of potential enhancements (methods) to existing parks that would respond to perceived needs or level of importance. The four most important types (somewhat to extremely important) of enhancements or developments revealed by survey results were park facilities (87%

important); removing invasive species (82% important); expanding and improving forested areas (78% important); and natural areas with woodchip exploration paths (76% important).

#### ***Acquisition of Land for Future Park Development***

Of those reporting a clear opinion, more than two out of three respondents (72%) reported that they agree or strongly agree that New Berlin should acquire land as it becomes available for future park development.

#### ***Future Park Areas in the City of New Berlin***

Survey participants assigned a level of importance to the types (areas) of municipal parks that could potentially be planned in the future. The three most important future park types (areas) that received a “somewhat to extremely important” ranking were linear parks (80% important); natural areas (73% important); and neighborhood parks (69% important).

#### ***Expanding or Adding Recreational Facilities in New Berlin***

The concept of expanding or adding facilities to the existing park system was investigated through survey questions. The three recreational facilities with the highest percentages of favorable responses (“somewhat to extremely important”) were pathways for hiking, walking, and biking (82%); picnic areas with shelters (73%); and playgrounds areas with equipment (71%). The three with the lowest percentages of favorable responses were skateboard / rollerblade park (29%); community gymnasium (33%); and cultural/performing arts center (39%).

#### ***A Multi-Purpose Pathway System***

Respondents were asked to identify their support or opposition given the following background information, “*In an effort to provide safe and accessible pathways, the city envisions a system connecting neighborhoods, schools, parks, work areas, trails, shopping areas, and public facilities.*” Nearly three out of four respondents (74%) with an opinion reported that they favor or strongly favor that New Berlin continues development on a multi-purpose pathway system.

#### ***Pathways Linking Various Destinations in New Berlin***

Various destinations (trip generators) that could potentially be accessed via a pathway system were ranked according to their importance. The four destinations with the highest percentages of “somewhat to extremely important” responses were parks (76%); public facilities (73%); area/regional trails (70%); and schools (65%).

## **Public Meetings**

The general public and other stakeholders were provided with opportunities to become informed about the *Park and Open Space Plan update* and to understand the potential impacts and benefits of its findings and recommendations.

A Public Meeting was held on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 to gather input from residents and Park Commission members about the existing parks in the City and future needs. The following is a summary of the feedback received.

### **Existing Parks**

#### **General**

Parks could be better marketed via the City website; including a map and location map within the city.

#### **Northeast**

Hickory Grove Center: facilities are satisfactory, but access (primarily pedestrian) is not possible; consider developing pedestrian trail linkages to adjoining neighborhoods.

Fountain Square Conservancy: no public access, ok for preservation purposes only.

Pro Health Care Park: variety within the park is liked.

Deer Creek Sanctuary: consider the depth of wood chips so that they are not too deep (spongy).

Lions Park: heavily used park that has been augmented by recent investment (restrooms); baseball use has benefited from well-maintained fields that are well drained.

#### **Southeast**

Weatherstone Park: appropriate balance of preservation and recreation; wood chip trail is well-maintained; play area is well utilized; good that the park can be accessed by foot.

Valley View Park: largest park in area; there is, however, a continued need for more facilities to serve private recreation club sports, as well as to serve regional needs for tournaments.

*Sports Complex:* discussion about the need for a local sports complex included Valley View as a potential site; economic opportunity to develop a private sports complex here (central City location) or proximate to West high that affords year-round facilities (swimming pool, softball/baseball/soccer fields, etc); schools can also utilize the complex; requirements include good drainage, large acreage for the “campus”, and support facilities such as parking, lighting, seating, restrooms.

Malone Park: accommodates active recreation, but not enough fields (baseball/softball) to provide for increased demand; could be used for tournaments if facilities were expanded; more attention given to baseball than softball, although softball participation has grown substantially; skinned infields will allow for dual use between baseball and softball.

## **Future Parks**

### **General**

Preferences for park facilities are commonly correlated with the age of a constituent (ballfields for younger populations); need to ensure a variety of facilities and park-types to accommodate diversity of ages and age groups.

Natural Areas / Environmental Corridors: Efforts to preserve high-value natural areas should be a priority of the City; examine various land use controls, as well as fee-simple purchases to ensure preservation in perpetuity; short-term actions from the current plan (2003) relevant to land acquisition for preservation purposes have not been implemented.

Natural Area Parks: Minooka County Park provides natural-area experiences for New Berlin residents to enjoy.

Active sports: What are the enrollment numbers and trends that support the perceived or real need for additional facilities? Soccer, baseball, softball, swimming, tennis (both city recreational and private club use these fields).

Soccer: This use has more flexibility in locating facilities, due to the simplicity of the playing field (essentially, high quality turf, good drainage, and ability to rotate fields).

### **Undeveloped Parklands**

Stormy Acres Park: residents desire to keep it natural, including wetland areas and trails; the 5-acre parcels that abut the park provide sufficient "maintained outdoor space" for residents. The park is not served by a major thoroughfare, and is therefore not easily accessed by the general public.

Quarry Park: efforts to enhance the special qualities should receive a priority for development, restoration and enhancement; swimming, fishing and canoeing are unique offerings.

Passive vs. Active Uses : What is the "cost to do business" of each type of park? Construction and long-term maintenance? Are natural areas significantly less costly to manage and maintain, even if there is an aggressive restoration and habitat management component?

### **Trails**

Linkages: The large geographic scale of the City (36 sq. miles) creates an obstacle to pedestrian connectivity of parks and public destinations. Trail linkages should occur only between high-use areas.

Standards: there are conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles at some parks (e.g., Malone).

### **Priorities**

Short-term: preservation of high-value natural areas.

Undeveloped Parklands: develop definitive plans, and focus on implementation of the plans; ensure local resident input regarding desires of future parkland development.

Malone Park: pursue 'future proposal' to acquire additional 73+ acres north of Malone for active recreation.

Sports Complex: work with private recreation clubs and leagues to identify how this opportunity could be realized, including roles and responsibilities affiliated with this project.

School ground Use: work with the school district to develop a strong relationship for shared use / costs related to school grounds and school recreation facility use.

Baseball and softball facilities: needs cannot be met for club sports, since they are a "second priority" in scheduling of City facilities; schools afford overflow space/facilities for club sports, but coordination presents a number of obstacles.

Costs: examine cost-per-capita that the City earmarks to construct, acquire and maintain parkland.

### **Park Planning Committee**

This Park and Open Space Plan Update was guided by a study committee comprised of residents who share a mutual interest in enhancing the quality of life in the City through public recreation and preservation of parkland and open space. The Committee served in an advisory role in drafting recommendations, reviewing documents and developing the public opinion survey.

14 Park Planning Committee meetings were held and open to the public.

### **Parks, Recreation, & Forestry Commission**

On July 20, 2009 the Park and Open Space Plan Update was presented to the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission. Questions and feedback were provided to direct the final revisions to the Plan. On December 14, 2009 the Final Draft of the Plan was presented and approved to forward to the Plan Commission and Common Council for adoption.

**Public Hearing**

The Park and Open Space Plan Update was presented at a public hearing before the Plan Commission meeting on March 1, 2010.

**Approvals**

The Park and Open Space Plan Update was approved by the Plan Commission on March 29, 2010 and approved by the Common Council on April 13, 2010.

## RESOLUTION NUMBER 10-01

**A Resolution adopting the amendment to the City's Comprehensive plan to incorporate addendum #1 to the City's Storm Water Management Master Plan and a new Park and Open Space Plan for 2010.**

**WHEREAS**, Section 66.1001(4) of the Wisconsin Statutes, establish the required procedure for a local government to adopt a comprehensive plan and Section 66.1001(2) identifies the required elements of a comprehensive plan; and

**WHEREAS**, The planning process was open to the public and numerous efforts were made to assure the broadest participation to establish the goals and elements considered for and contained within the comprehensive plan in compliance with Section 66.1001 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, and

**WHEREAS**, The City of New Berlin prepared and followed a Public Participation Plan that was adopted by the Plan Commission on September 10, 2007 and the Common Council on September 25, 2007 a copy of which is on file in the Department of Community Development.

**WHEREAS**, the City of New Berlin Plan Commission has the authority to adopt the Comprehensive Plan and associated amendments as necessary by resolution and also to recommend that the Common Council adopt the comprehensive plan and associated amendments as necessary via Ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of New Berlin prepared the "City of New Berlin 2020 Comprehensive Plan", which is on file with the Department of Community Development and available on the City's website [www.newberlin.org](http://www.newberlin.org), containing all maps and other descriptive materials, to be the comprehensive plan for the City; and

**WHEREAS**, that the Plan Commission of the City of New Berlin adopted the City of New Berlin 2020 Comprehensive Plan as the City's comprehensive plan via Resolution No. 09-02 on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009, and the Common Council adopted the Comprehensive Plan via Ordinance No. 2422 on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, GRAEF working at the request of the City of New Berlin, has assisted the City in preparing Addendum # 1 to the City's Storm Water Management Master Plan and a new Park and Open Space Plan: 2010 have been completed and need to be incorporated into the City's adopted Comprehensive Plan.

**WHEREAS**, the Plan findings and recommendations are set forth in Addendum # 1 to the City's Storm Water Management Master Plan and a new Park and Open Space Plan: 2010, a copy of both plans are attached as Exhibit A. Amendments to an adopted comprehensive plan pursuant to WI State Statute 66.1001 require a Class I notification along with a public hearing.

**WHEREAS**, the Park and Open Space Plan: 2010 provides for an integrated system of parks and open space sites within the City of new Berlin, a system that will preserve natural resources and enhance recreational activities for present and future residents of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, adoption of the Park and Open Space Plan: 2010 by the Common Council and approval by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will make the City eligible for assistance in the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation and open space sites and related facilities under the State of Wisconsin Stewardship Program and other grant programs administered by the Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission unanimously approved the Park and Open Space Plan: 2010 on December 14, 2009, following public Open House sessions held on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plan Commission reviewed the addendum #1 to the City's Storm Water Management Master Plan and Park and Open Space Plan: 2010 on February 1, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the Water Resources Management Utility unanimously approved the addendum #1 to the City's Storm Water Management Master Plan on March 9, 2010, following public Open House sessions held on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

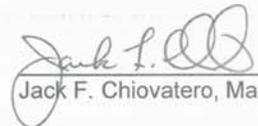
**WHEREAS**, the City has duly noticed a public hearing on the aforementioned comprehensive plan amendments and the Plan Commission held the public hearing on March 1, 2010.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Plan Commission of the City of New Berlin hereby accepts and adopts the attached City of New Berlin 2020 Comprehensive Plan amendments including the Park and Open Space Plan: 2010 and addendum #1 to the City's Storm Water Management Master Plan, recognizing that the Common Council must also adopt the Comprehensive Plan via Ordinance for it to become effective; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Plan Commission does hereby recommend that the Common Council adopt Ordinance No. 2427, which will constitute its adoption of the Comprehensive Plan amendments.

Passed and adopted by the Plan Commission on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of March 2010.

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack F. Chiovatero, Mayor

Certified/Countersigned:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory Kessler, AICP  
Plan Commission Secretary

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**ORDINANCE NO. 2427**

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO INCORPORATE ADDENDUM #1 TO THE CITY'S STORM WATER MANAGEMENT MASTER PLAN AND THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN UPDATE.

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The Common Council of the City of New Berlin do ordain as follows:

**SECTION I**

Pursuant to section 62.23(2) and (3) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the City of New Berlin, is authorized to prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan as defined in section 66.1001(1)(a) and 66.1001(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

**SECTION II**

The Common Council of the City of New Berlin, Wisconsin, has adopted written procedures designed to foster public participation in every stage of the preparation of a comprehensive plan as required by section 66.1001(4)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

**SECTION III**

The Plan Commission of the City of New Berlin by a majority vote of the Commission present recorded in its official minutes, adopted Resolution 10-01 recommending to the Common Council the adoption of the documents entitled "Addendum #1 to the City's Storm Water Management Master Plan" and "The Park and Open Space Plan Update", a copy of both plans are attached as Exhibit A, containing amendments to the elements specified in section 66.1001(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

**SECTION IV**

The City held a public hearing on March 1, 2010 on these Comprehensive Plan amendments, in compliance with the requirements of section 66.1001(4)(d) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

**SECTION V**

The Common Council of the City of New Berlin, Wisconsin, does, by enactment of this ordinance, formally adopt the documents entitled, " Addendum #1 to the City's Storm Water Management Master Plan" and "The Park and Open Space Plan Update," pursuant to section 66.1001(4)(c) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

**SECTION VI**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances contravening the terms and conditions of this

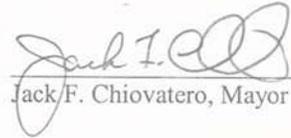
ordinance are hereby to that extent repealed.

**SECTION VI**

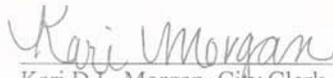
This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as approved by law.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Common Council this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010.

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack F. Chiovatero, Mayor

Countersigned:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kari D.L. Morgan, City Clerk



## SECTION 2: INVENTORY

### Planning Area

The planning area includes all of the City of New Berlin, which encompasses 23,594 acres, or about 37 square miles. The City is located in the southeastern portion of Waukesha County and is bounded on the north by the City and Town of Brookfield, on the west by the City of Waukesha and the Towns of Vernon and Waukesha, on the south by the City of Muskego, all in Waukesha County; and on the east by the Cities of Greenfield and West Allis and the Village of Hales Corners in Milwaukee County.

### Relevant Planning Studies

#### **A Park and Open Space Plan for the City of New Berlin** (SEWRPC Planning Report No. 66, 3rd Edition, 2003)

The New Berlin Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry has supported park planning efforts for approximately 30 years. In 2003, the City of New Berlin Common Council adopted the third edition of a *Park and Open Space Plan Update* to guide park development and enhancement, and employed a design year of 2010 to 2020. Prior park planning studies were also prepared in 1983 and 1995 by the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) under the guidance of the City Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission.

The 2003 report outlines a series of short- and long-term recommendations for park development, enhancement and land acquisition. Additionally, the plan advocates for acquisition of ecologically-significant landscapes and environmental corridors for perpetual protection and nature-based recreation.

The majority of short-term, as well as several long-term recommendations from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (2003) of the *Park and Open Space Plan*, have been achieved (see “Achievements of the 2003 Plan” in Tables 1 and 2).

#### **Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Plan** (1999; updated 2002)

The City Common Council adopted The Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Plan to encourage and accommodate safe bicyclist and pedestrian transit throughout New Berlin. The plan promotes development of sidepaths, recreational trails, bicycle lanes and routes that provide physical connections between public destinations and trip generators. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Plan was adopted by the City Council, as part of the overall City Master Plan in 2002.

Recommendations within the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Plan* recognize the City's range of rural and urban areas. On-street bike lanes or bike paths along arterial, collector, and local streets are suggested for the eastern, developed portion of the City. In the rural, western portion of the City, a combination of on-street bikeways (widened road shoulders) and off-street trails (environmental corridors) are advocated.

### **Land Use**

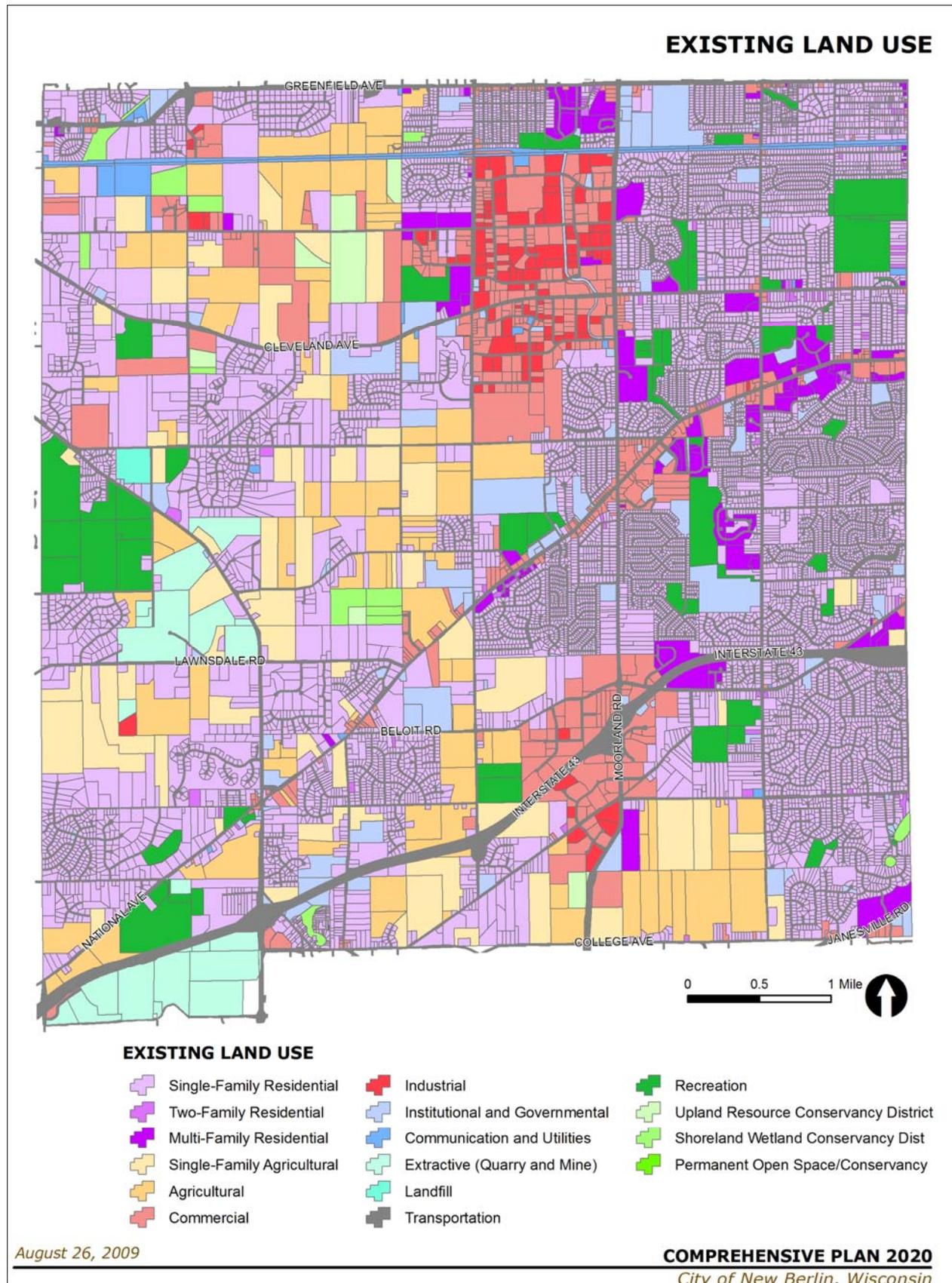
The City of New Berlin is characterized by a distinct land use pattern, whereby urban uses are concentrated in the eastern sector and rural uses are located in the western sector. In general, Calhoun Road, a major north-south arterial that bisects the City represents an informal division within the City of New Berlin. The distinction between rural and urban character reflects historic patterns of development that date to the late 1800s. See Figure 1.

Prior to 1959, urban land uses were largely concentrated in the northeast area of the township (Village of New Berlin), and the remainder of the township supported agricultural uses (Town of New Berlin). In 1960, the Village and Town governments incorporated to establish the City of New Berlin, after which urbanization expanded to the west and south from the original Village boundaries. Although the City's population has increased 300 percent since 1960, the majority of urbanization remains in the eastern portion of the City.

As previously described, the concentration of urban development and growth in the City of New Berlin has historically occurred within the eastern and northern tiers of the City where concentrations of residential, commercial, industrial, governmental, institutional, and other urban land uses are located. Acreage in the western half of the City is characterized by agricultural lands and modest rural residential development. Although the City anticipates future population growth, local land use controls and zoning encourage the majority of new development in the eastern sector, and limit the intensity of urban development in the western sector of the City.

The distribution of public and private parkland, recreational facilities and natural areas within the City correspond with urban land uses and density of residential land uses. In general, the majority of established and developed municipal park units are located with the City's eastern sector.

FIGURE 1: EXISTING LAND USE



**TABLE 3: PRIMARY LAND USES, CITY OF NEW BERLIN (2009)**

<b>Land Use Category</b>	<b>Percent of City Acreage</b>
Residential	62.6
Commercial	9.7
Industrial and Extractive	5.3
Government and Institutional	4.6
Recreational	6.2
Communication and Utilities	1.2
Agricultural and Single Family Farm	8.6
Upland Resource Conservancy	.9
Shoreland Wetland Conservancy	.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: City of New Berlin

### **Natural Resource Features**

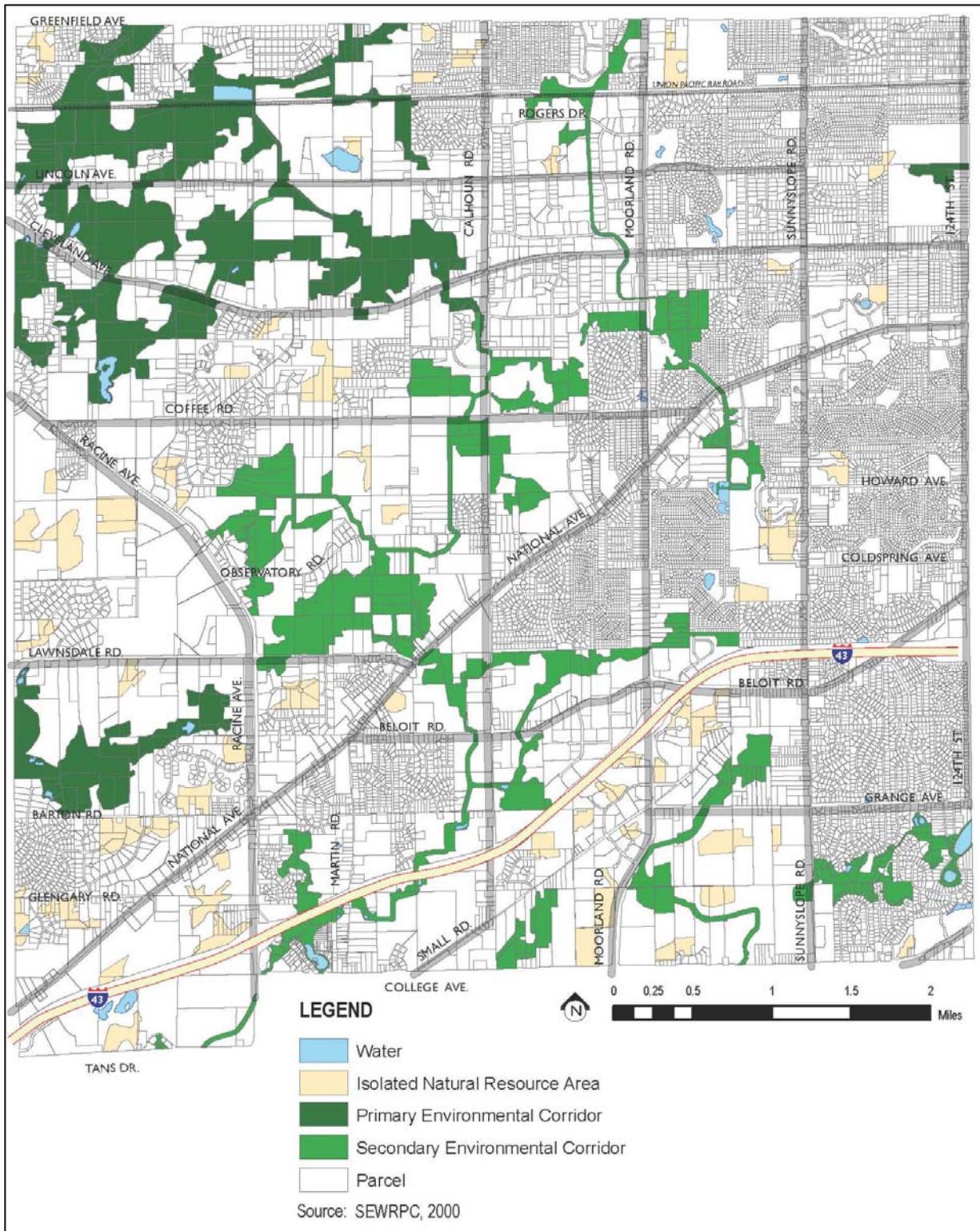
#### ***Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Areas***

Ecologically-significant acreage (public and private) that represents a candidate for protection and preservation occurs throughout New Berlin, although the greatest concentration of the natural resource base is located in the rural western sector of the City. Delineated by Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC), these “environmental corridors” are characterized by their linear configuration and natural attributes, such as:

- *Lakes, rivers, and streams and their associated shorelands and floodplains*
- *Wetlands*
- *Woodlands*
- *Prairies*
- *Areas of wet, poorly drained, and organic soils*
- *Areas of rugged terrain and high-relief topography*

Furthermore, environmental corridors are classified by size and degree of interconnectedness.

**FIGURE 2: ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS**



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

Primary environmental corridors within the City of New Berlin are located generally along perennial and intermittent streams and large wetland areas associated with Poplar and Mill Creeks in the western portion of the City.

The primary environmental corridors include the highest value remaining woodlands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat areas and are, in effect, composites of the best remaining residual elements of the natural resource base of the City of New Berlin. These corridors have immeasurable ecological value and recreational potential. Their preservation in an essentially open, natural state, will serve to maintain a high level of environmental quality, protect natural beauty, and provide valuable recreational opportunities within the City of New Berlin. See Figure 2.

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

Secondary environmental corridors in the City of New Berlin are generally located along Deer Creek and intermittent streams tributary to Poplar Creek, primarily in the central portion of the City.

Secondary environmental corridors facilitate surface water drainage and provide corridors for the movement of wildlife and for the movement and dispersal of seeds for a variety of plant species. Such corridors should also be preserved in essentially open, natural uses as development proceeds within the City, particularly when the opportunity is presented to incorporate the corridors into drainageways, neighborhood parks, or trail corridors. See Figure 2.

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

In addition to the environmental corridors, other smaller concentrations of natural resource base elements exist within the City. These pockets are generally isolated from the environmental corridors by urban development. Although separated from the environmental corridor network, these isolated natural resource areas have important natural values. Isolated natural resource areas may provide the only available wildlife habitat in an area, provide good locations for local parks and open space areas, and lend aesthetic character and natural diversity to an area. See Figure 2.

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

Natural areas in Southeastern Wisconsin were identified in 1994 as part of the regional natural areas study. Natural areas are defined as tracts of land or water so little modified by human activity, or sufficiently recovered from the effects of such activity, that they contain intact native plant and animal communities believed to be representative of the landscape before European settlement. Classification of an area is based on consideration of the diversity of plant and animal species and community types present; the structure and integrity of the native plant or animal community; the extent of disturbance by

human activity, such as logging, grazing, water level changes, and pollution; the commonness of the plant and animal communities present; any unique natural features within the area; the size of the area; and the educational value. See Figure 2A.

Figure 2A: Natural Features

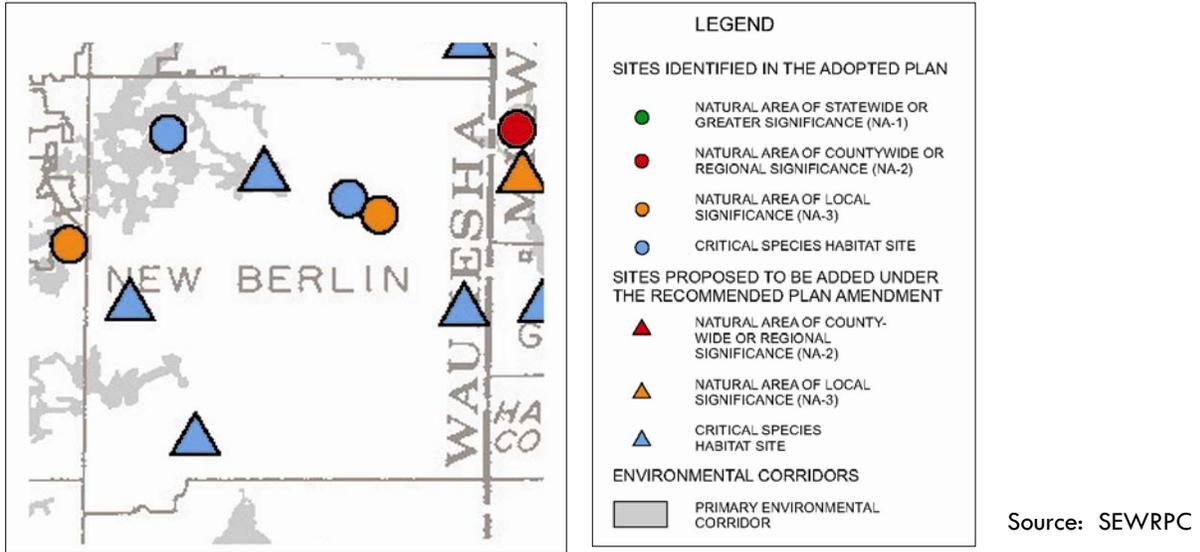


TABLE 4 : NATURAL AREAS AND CRITICAL SPECIES HABITAT SITES, CITY OF NEW BERLIN

Site	Classification Code	Location	Size	Ownership	Envir. Corr Status	Description
<b>New Berlin Woods</b> (Deer Creek Sanctuary)	NA-3 (RSH)	NE sector	35 acres	Public (Municipal Park)	Secondary EC	Small dry-mesic hardwoods with shallow depressions that retain water in spring Dominant trees include white and red oaks and sugar maple. Flora species of concern (WI) American gromwell ( <i>Lithospermum latifolium</i> )
<b>Delopst Meadow</b>	CSH	NE sector	24 acres	Private	Secondary EC	Flora species of concern (WI) Ohio Goldenrod ( <i>Solidago ohioensis</i> )
<b>Kostello Property</b>	CSH	NW Sector	12 acres	Private	Primary EC	Endangered flora species (WI) False Hop Sedge ( <i>Carex lupuliformis</i> )
<b>Poplar Creek</b>	AQ-3 (RSH)	NW sector	2.4 miles	Private	Primary EC	Critical herptile species habitat

NA-3 identifies Natural Area sites of local significance

CSH identifies Critical Species Habitat sites

AQ-3 identifies Aquatic Areas of local significance

RSH ( Rare Species Habitat) identifies those sites which support rare, threatened, or endangered animal or plant species officially designated by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Sources: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and SEWRPC Planning Report No. 42, A Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin

**Open Space**

The City of New Berlin parks system is notable for natural areas and ecological characteristics that occur as independent sites and/or features within maintained areas of parks. However, the City does not formally manage an interconnected system of open space for the purposes of scenic or environmental protection, agricultural uses or recreation. While open space preservation is a planning objective of the City, the acquisition, management and maintenance of acreage for conservation purposes requires short- and long-term planning.

Legal regulatory measures and development review undertaken by the City ensure varied levels of protection for high-value natural features that currently remain in open, natural and undeveloped condition on privately owned land. Table 5 describes the level of protection for natural resources based on current land use regulations.

**TABLE 5: NATURAL FEATURE AND LEVEL OF PROTECTION**

<b>LANSCAPE FEATURES AND LAND CONTROLS</b>	<b>NOTES</b>	<b>LEVEL OF PROTECTION</b>	<b>Controlling Unit of Gov't</b>
<b>Natural Resources</b>			
Wetlands		No development, buffer requirements	City, WDNR, Army Corps
Floodfringe	Zoning Overlay	Limited development according to specific requirements in Flood Ordinance.	City, WDNR, FEMA, Army Corps
Floodway	Zoning Overlay	No development or limited development based on Flood Ordinance	City, WDNR, FEMA, Army Corps
Woodlands	Size of the woodland impacts the regulations	Limited development if in C-1 District	City, SEWRPC
Critical species habitat (SEWRPC)		Limited development	City, SEWRPC
Primary environmental corridors (SEWRPC)		Limited development or no development (conservation easement)	City, SEWRPC
Secondary environmental corridors (SEWRPC)		Limited development or no development (conservation easement)	City, SEWRPC
Isolated natural resource areas (SEWRPC)		Limited development or no development (conservation easement)	City, SEWRPC
Shorelands	Setback is required	No development (shoreland wetland district)	City, WDNR, FEMA (if floodplain)
Moderate slope 12-20%		Limited development (conservation subdivisions)	City
Steep Slope >20%		Limited development (conservation subdivisions)	City
Water bodies		No development (shoreland wetland district or floodplain)	City, WDNR, FEMA, Army Corps
Wildlife Habitat – Species of Concern		Limited development (conservation subdivisions) based on WDNR requirements.	City, WDNR
Prime Agricultural Lands		Development allowed	City
<b>City Zoning and Overlays</b>			
P-1 Park		Limited development	City of NB
C-1 Conservancy		Limited development, Conditional use required and disturbance up to 25,000sq. ft.	City of NB
C-2 Conservancy		No development	City of NB
Conservation Easements		No development or limited development depending on easement documents.	City, WDNR (in some cases)
Transferred or Purchased Development Rights		N/A	N/A

**Land Use Categories and Referenced land Use Elements**

Park		Limited development	City of NB
Environmental Corridor		Limited development	City of NB, SEWRPC
Shoreland-Wetland Conservancy		No development	City of NB, WDNR
Upland-Woodland Conservancy		Limited development	City of NB

Source: City of New Berlin, 2008

A majority of participants that responded to the 2008 Park Survey indicated strong support for preservation of natural and cultural resources within the City. These resource features included natural wetlands, ponds, streams, high-quality woodlands, restored prairie areas, habitat for native flora and fauna and historic areas and structures. Likewise, the expansion and improvement of forested areas, native wildflower restoration and removal of invasive flora species within existing parklands received “high importance” rankings.

The findings from the 2008 Park Survey also endorsed the incorporation of nature-based parks that represent a more significant component of the park system.

## Recreational Resources

### Parkland and Open Space Acreage

Public and private recreation facilities and protected natural areas in New Berlin encompass approximately 1,761 acres, or about 7.5 percent of the total area of the City. While the focus of this *Plan Update* primarily concerns municipal-owned park and recreation facilities, other public, private and not-for-profit recreation providers contribute to the spectrum of outdoor leisure pursuits (Table 6).

**TABLE 6: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RECREATION, CITY OF NEW BERLIN**

Managing Organization	No. of Sites	Total Acreage	Description
<b>PUBLIC</b>			
City Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry	26	895	Developed and undeveloped parkland, natural areas (conservancies), and special use parks; recreational trails
School District of New Berlin	7	123*	Range of facilities that include playfields and sports fields for football, soccer, baseball, and softball
West Allis- West Milwaukee School District	1	6 *	Baseball sandlot, playfields and play equipment
Waukesha County	2	380	Nature-based parkland; regional recreational trail
<i>Subtotal</i>		1,404	
<b>PRIVATE</b>			
Private Cemeteries	6	136	Developed and undeveloped memorial parks
Private Open Space	1	7	Conservation easement
Private Recreation Sites/Facilities	8	203	Venues for specific recreational pursuits, such as archery, trap shooting, hunting, golf, baseball and softball
Private Schools	2	11 *	
<i>Subtotal</i>		357	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,761</b>	

\* School acreage includes total area of parcel; recreational school grounds would be a portion of this acreage

Sources : SEWRPC; City of New Berlin

Approximately 900 acres comprise the municipal park and open space system, encompassing 26 individual sites. In addition to the City, Waukesha County government represents an important provider of recreation through Minooka Park and the New Berlin Recreational Trail. Furthermore, public school grounds managed by the School District of New Berlin (7) and West Allis-West Milwaukee School District (1) afford facilities that accommodate public recreational uses during non-school hours. Private recreation, open space and cemetery acreage that incorporates an additional 357 acres also contributes to the aggregate of parks and open lands.

### Recreation Facilities

Publicly-owned recreational facilities in the City range from regulation sports fields to informal picnic areas.

**TABLE 7: PUBLIC RECREATION FACILITIES**

Facility Type	No. of Municipal Facilities	No. of School Facilities	No. of County Facilities	TOTAL
Baseball Diamond	10	3	--	<b>13</b>
Softball-League Diamond	8	2	--	<b>10</b>
Softball-Sandlot Field	7	9	--	<b>16</b>
Playfield	14	8	--	<b>22</b>
Playground	13	6	--	<b>19</b>
Tennis Courts	14	10	--	<b>24</b>
Basketball Goals	32	25	--	<b>57</b>
Soccer Fields	35	9	--	<b>44</b>
Ice Skating Rink (outdoor)	1	--	1	<b>2</b>
Pool or Beach (outdoor)	--	--	1	<b>1</b>
Disc Golf Course	1	--	--	<b>1</b>
Archery Range	1	--	1	<b>2</b>
Sand Volleyball (park units)	6	--	1	<b>7</b>
Picnic Areas (park units)	12	--	1	<b>13</b>
18-hole Golf Course	1	--	--	<b>1</b>
Recreational Trails (miles)	9.39 miles		12 miles	<b>21.39 miles</b>

Sources : SEWRPC; City of New Berlin

In addition to facilities listed in table 7, other outdoor recreation amenities available at public park and open space sites in the City include a soap box derby track, horseshoe pits, football/track fields, natural areas, sledding hills, and fishing or swimming ponds.

### **Sports Fields and Courts**

Sports fields, which include baseball and softball diamonds and sandlots, play fields, and soccer fields, represent the largest area of land dedicated to recreation facilities. City-owned parks accommodate approximately 70 percent of sports and play fields, and 60 percent of basketball and tennis courts. The remainder is located on public school properties. *(It should be noted that school events, operational hours, and policies greatly limit the availability and use of facilities located on public school grounds to the general public).*

### **City-owned Recreation Sites and Facilities**

Municipal park units are classified by size (acres), degree of facility development, and use levels. Park units in New Berlin are characterized by diverse features associated with maintained (developed) facilities and natural (non-developed) components. The variance in these landscape qualities and management policies provides for a balance of active, passive and scenic recreational pursuits.

The majority of park units may be classified as “neighborhood parks” which represent approximately one-third of total municipal-owned sites, and one-eighth of total acreage. Community parks represent

approximately one-half of total acreage, while 14 percent of total municipal parkland acreage comprise conservancies. Of total parkland owned by the City, approximately one-fifth (20 percent) is represented by the New Berlin Golf Hills Golf Course (public).

The City manages four park types listed in the following table:

**TABLE 8: MUNICIPAL PARK TYPE**

Classification	Percent of Total Parks	Percent of Total Park Acreage	Average Size	No. of Sites	Developed Acreage	Natural Acreage	Total Acreage
Neighborhood Park	35%	13%	12.6 acres	9	59.5	54.5	114
Community Park	27%	50%	63.7 acres	7	162.5	283.5	446
Conservancy Area	27%	14%	na	7	0	128	128
Special Use Park	11%	23%	na	3	151	56	207
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>26</b>	<b>373</b> <i>(41.6%)</i>	<b>522</b> <i>(58.4%)</i>	<b>895</b>

Park and open space sites owned by the City are listed in the following table. A brief description of each of the 26 City-owned sites is presented below. More detailed information can be found in the Appendix.

**TABLE 9: MUNICIPAL PARK SITES AND ACREAGE CHARACTERISTICS**

Site Name	Type	Developed Acreage	Natural Acreage	Total Acreage
Biwer Park	Neighborhood Park	3.7	5.3	9
Buena Park	Neighborhood Park	12.4	12.6	25
Calhoun Park	Community Park	14	42	56
Deer Creek Park (undeveloped) *	Neighborhood Park/Trail Access Site	0.7	2.3	3
Deer Creek Sanctuary	Conservancy Area	0	47	47
Fountain Square Conservancy Area	Conservancy Area	0	10	10
Gateway Park	Neighborhood Park	6.3	2.7	9
Hickory Grove Center	Special Use Park	4.3	0.7	5
High Grove Park	Neighborhood Park	4	11	15
Kelly Lake Park	Conservancy Area	0	1	1
Lagoon Parkway	Conservancy Area	0	1	1
Lions Park	Community Park	26.1	13.9	40
Malone Park	Community Park	29	61	90
Milham Park (undeveloped) *	Community Park	18	21	39
Maple Ridge Park	Neighborhood Park	3.2	4.8	8
New Berlin Hills Golf Course	Special Use Park (Golf Course)	145.5	41.5	187
New Berlin Historical Park	Special Use Park (Cultural)	0.8	14.2	15
Pro Health Care Park	Community Park	8.2	14.8	23
Prospect Parkway	Conservancy Area	0	7	7
Quarry Park (undeveloped) *	Community Park	29	94	123
Regal Park	Neighborhood Park	12.4	5.6	18
Rustic Ridge Park (undeveloped) *	Neighborhood Park	14.3	4.7	19
Stigler Nature Preserve	Conservancy Area	0	41	41
Stormy Acres Park	Conservancy Area	0	21	21
Valley View Park	Community Park	38.2	36.8	75
Weatherstone Park	Neighborhood Park	2.5	5.5	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>372.6*</b> <b>41.6%</b>	<b>522.4</b> <b>58.4%</b>	<b>895</b>

Source: New Berlin Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department; New Berlin Department of Community Development; SEWRPC.

\* For undeveloped park sites, acreage noted as developed means this open space has the potential for development. A park Master Plan needs to be developed to guide future use of these park sites.

### **Neighborhood Parks**

Neighborhood-level parks remain the basic unit of the City's park system and serve as the recreational and social focus to adjoining neighborhoods. Approximately 35% of total park units are classified within this category, and are characterized by a fairly equitable distribution of natural features and developed areas. Neighborhood parks typically serve a 1-square-mile area.

Typical facilities include softball sandlot fields, playfields, playgrounds, basketball goals, sand volleyball courts, picnic areas and nature trails. Unlike community-level parks, neighborhood parks do not usually provide off-street parking or restrooms.

Neighborhood parks within New Berlin are typically larger than standards outlined by the National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA). On average, neighborhood parks in the City are 12.6 acres in size, compared with national criteria of 5-10 acres.

### **Community Parks**

Community-level parks serve a more widespread population than neighborhood parks, and are considered "drive to" facilities due to the greater service area to which they extend (2-mile radius). In addition to facilities that are common to neighborhood parks, community parks provide for a greater quantity and higher quality of athletic fields (practice and game play). Support facilities, which include restrooms, shelters and parking are found in community parks, in addition to similar facilities and features shared with neighborhood parks.

Of total municipal park units, 27% (representing 50% of total parkland acreage) are classified as community-level parks. As with the scale of neighborhood parks, the size of community parks within the City is greater than outlined by national standards. On average, community parks in New Berlin are 63.7 acres in size, compared with national criteria of 30-50 acres.

### **Conservancy (Natural) Areas**

Natural areas are park units that have been set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics. Public access is generally permitted through pathways that traverse natural areas. The location often depends upon resource availability and quality.

Of total municipal park units, 27% (representing 14% of total acreage) are classified as conservancies.

As described prior, neighborhood, community and special use parks also include undeveloped acreage and preserved natural features. Of total parkland under municipal ownership, approximately 60% is retained in a largely undeveloped, natural state.

**Special Use Parks**

Special use parks cover a broad range recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use. Within New Berlin, special use parks include the New Berlin Hills Golf Course, the Historical Park, and Hickory Grove Center. Facilities vary due to individual park focus and intensity of use.

**Recreational Pathways**

The majority of recreational pathways managed by the City of New Berlin Park, Recreation and Forestry Department are located within municipal park units, and represent “internal” systems or circuits. Peripheral pathways facilitate pedestrian and bicycle travel between residential areas and neighboring recreational spaces. There are two types of paths: **Type A:** Multipurpose hard-surfaced pathways for pedestrians and bicyclists. **Type B:** Nature trails developed for pedestrian use, and are typically soft-surfaced.

**TABLE 10: RECREATIONAL TRAILS, CITY OF NEW BERLIN (2009)**

Municipal Park	No. of Miles	Trail	Trail Surfacing
Biwer Park	.3	Hiking Trail	Woodchip
Buena Park	0.12	Connector to New Berlin Trail	Asphalt
Calhoun Park	0.73	Calhoun Park Trail	Woodchip
Deer Creek Sanctuary	1.06	Paul Gihring Trail	Stone & woodchip
Gatewood Park	.09	Connector to New Berlin Trail	Stone
High Grove Park	.65	Hiking Trail	Stone
Historical Park	.46	Multi-Use Trail	Stone
Karrington/Woodfield Trail	.16	North-south & east-west connectors south of High Grove Park trail	Woodchip & boardwalk
Lions Park	0.77	Lions Park Trail	Asphalt & woodchip
Malone Park	1.3	Multi use and Hiking Trails	Asphalt & woodchip
Maple Ridge Park	.08	Hiking Trail	woodchip
Pro Health Care Park	.94	Multi-Use Trail	Asphalt & boardwalk
Prospect Parkway	.04	Multi-Use Trail	Asphalt
Regal Park	0.17	Regal Park Trail	Stone & woodchip
Stigler Nature Preserve	0.95	Poplar Creek Trail	Woodchip
Valley View Park	1.36	Valley View Trail	Woodchip
Weatherstone Park	.19	Hiking Trail	Woodchip
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9.39</b>		

Waukesha County	No. of Miles	Trail Type	Trail Surfacing
New Berlin Recreational Trail	6	Bicycle Trail	Asphalt 10'-wide
Minooka Park	6	Nature Trails	Mowed Grass Wood Chip
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>		

As previously stated, the 2008 *Park Survey* indicated strong interest and support for trail facilities that accommodate and encourage walking, running and bicycling. Approximately three-quarters (74 percent) of survey respondents reported that they favor or strongly favor continued development of a multi-purpose pathway system. Other survey findings supported this sentiment: (1) pathways for hiking, walking, and biking and (2) the acquisition of linear parkland each received the highest rating relative to importance of expanding or adding public recreational facilities. Additionally, the addition or improvement of nature paths (woodchip surface) within existing parks was viewed as an important park enhancement (see *Appendix for a summary of Survey findings*). Although there is continued support for trails and paths, both in the park survey and comprehensive plan neighborhood meetings, the majority of property owners do not support the trails near or adjacent to their property.

### **Other Public Recreation Facilities**

#### ***Public Schools***

The school districts of New Berlin and West Allis-West Milwaukee manage 8 school facilities distributed throughout the 36-square-mile city service area, and accommodate some 5,000 students (September 2008). In addition to serving physical education curriculum, recreational grounds and facilities affiliated with public school campuses accommodate recreation programs managed by private sports leagues and the City of New Berlin Parks, Recreation and Forestry. Tables 11 includes a current inventory of public school facilities.

**TABLE 11: PUBLIC SCHOOL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, CITY OF NEW BERLIN (2009)**

Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball-Sandlot Fields *	Play Field	Play-Ground	Tennis Courts	Basketball Goals	Soccer	Other
Eisenhower Middle-High School	2	2	X	--	--	--	2	Football Track Field
Elmwood Elementary	--	1	X	X	--	6	1	--
Glen Park Elementary	--	3	X	X	--	5	--	--
Herbert Hoover Elementary		1	X	X	--	5	1	
New Berlin West Middle- High School	1	1	X	--	10	--	2	Football Track Field
Orchard Lane Elementary	--	3	X	X	--	3	1	--
Poplar Creek Elementary	--	1	X	X	--	2	1	--
Ronald Reagan Elementary	--	--	X	X	--	4	--	--
<b>TOTAL FACILITIES</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>--</b>

There is increasing extracurricular use of public school baseball diamonds, softball-diamonds, sandlots, tennis and basketball courts, and swimming pools by private sports organizations and recreation programs offered by the City.

**County Recreation Facilities**

Waukesha County owns and manages the 580-acre Minooka Park, of which 380 acres are located along the western city boundary. Existing facilities include playfields, soccer fields, an archery range, group camping facilities, picnic areas, a sledding hill, and dog-exercise area, and trails for hiking, cross-country skiing, and mountain biking. The park encompasses a pond that provides opportunities for fishing and swimming in the summer and serves as an ice-skating rink in the winter.

In addition to Minooka Park, the County manages and maintains the 6-mile long New Berlin Recreational Trail (multiple use) that traverses an overhead power utility easement owned by WE Energies. The 10'wide trail was fully paved in 2006 and provides a direct linkage between the Cities of Waukesha and West Allis.

**Private Recreation Facilities**

Private recreation facilities in the City are primarily limited to golfing activities. In addition to the 18-hole public golf course (New Berlin Hills), there are two additional courses (9- and 18-holes) and three driving ranges. Private acreage is also used for organizations that promote bow hunting and casting (angling). A 3-field league complex maintained by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (Ralph Sharping Memorial Field) affords baseball and softball uses, but is not available for City sponsored recreation use.

## SECTION 3: COMMUNITY PROFILE

### Population and Forecasts

Like much of Waukesha County, The City of New Berlin and neighboring municipalities experienced significant increases in population during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Table 12). Population projections for the Region, Waukesha County and City of New Berlin anticipate modest gains through the duration of this plan (year 2030). Forecast population gains by the City will, however, be outpaced by several comparable municipalities such as Franklin, Muskego and Waukesha.

**TABLE 12 : HISTORIC POPULATION GROWTH : CITY OF NEW BERLIN AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES**

Year	Population	Change from Preceding Census	
		Number	Percent
1900	1,579	--	--
1910	1,584	5	0.3
1920	1,642	58	3.7
1930	2,197	555	33.8
1940	3,034	837	38.1
1950	5,334	2,300	75.8
1960	15,788	10,454	196.0
1970	26,937	11,122	70.4
1980	30,529	3,619	13.4
1990	33,592	3,063	10.0
2000	38,220	4,628	13.8

The current population estimate (2009) for the City of New Berlin is 39,300 residents, and represents a an increase of approximately 1,380 persons from the year 2000. Projections through the year 2030 indicate population growth of an additional 4,009 persons. This estimate represents an average increase of 160 persons every year, or 65 additional households per year.

Forecasts relevant to population growth are illustrated in the following tables:

**TABLE 13: POPULATION PROJECTIONS, 2000-2030 : CITY OF NEW BERLIN AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES**

Municipality	* 2000	Estimate 2005	Projected 2010	Projected 2020	Projected 2030	Number Change 25 years	Percent Change 25 years
City of Brookfield	38649	39782	40441	41900	42942	3160	7.9%
City of Franklin	29494	32661	34530	38802	41894	9233	28.3%
City of Muskego	21397	22478	23589	25835	27749	5271	23.4%
<b>City of New Berlin</b>	<b>38220</b>	<b>39041</b>	<b>39882</b>	<b>41682</b>	<b>43050</b>	<b>4009</b>	<b>10.3%</b>
City of Waukesha	64825	67624	69709	74365	78172	10548	15.6%

Source : Wisconsin DOA, 2008

## Population by Age

Growth in the regional and City population and over the past decade was accompanied by a change in the age composition. Among population age groups, growth between 1990 and 2000 was most evident in the 40- to 54-year age group, largely reflecting the baby-boomers generation (those born from 1946-1964). Conversely, the largest decrease in population occurred in the 25- to 34-year age group -- an indication of baby-boomers “graduating” from this age group.

As of 2000, the baby boomer cohort (persons aged 36 to 54) comprised approximately 29.5 percent of the U.S. population (U.S. Census, 2000). Within the City of New Berlin, this age-group comprised a higher percentage of the total population at 34.9 percent. Because this cohort represents a substantial proportion of the U.S. population, it will become necessary to address the manner in which this changing demographic may influence outdoor recreation facilities and services in the future.

As the baby boomer population continues to age, it is anticipated that a greater percentage of total population will be represented by persons 65-years and older (Table 14). This trend will be accompanied by an increase in median age of the population, and will likely impact current sentiment related to recreation access, facilities, needs and interests.

**TABLE 14: PROJECTED POPULATION IN THE REGION BY GENERAL AGE GROUP : 2000-2035**

Age Group	City, 2000	Southeastern WI Region, 2000	Southeastern WI Region, 2030	Region Percent Change, 2000 to 2030
<20	26.9%	29.5%	26.9%	-5.3%
20 to 44	33.3%	36.4%	31.6%	0.0%
45 to 64	27.1%	21.7%	22.2%	+17.9%
65+	12.7%	12.4%	19.3%	+79.2%

## **SECTION 4: ISSUES CONFRONTING PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

### **Distribution of Neighborhood Parks**

Of total municipal park units, 76% (representing nearly 70% of parkland acreage) are located in the urbanized eastern half of the City (east of Calhoun Road). The remaining park units are found in the western half of the City, and are largely undeveloped.

Although the majority of the City's population resides near existing developed parkland (eastern sector), future residential development (conservation subdivisions) may transpire in the rural western sector where significant areas are not currently served by parkland or recreational facilities.

### **Quality and Quantity of Sports Fields for Baseball, Softball and Soccer Use**

In 2009 there were 108 teams for baseball and softball, including 1,416 players. 25 baseball and softball diamonds are available within public parks, with an additional 14 diamonds on school properties. The diamonds at the schools are not always available and are only practice condition. The majority of the public facility diamonds are appropriate for games.

In 2009 there were 140 soccer teams, including 1,521 players. 20 practice fields were available in Fall 2008 and 17 in Spring 2009. There were fewer game fields available, 8 in Fall 2008 and 5 in Spring 2009. Participation in both baseball/softball and soccer continues to grow in New Berlin, while the number of practice and game fields has decreased.

Baseball, softball and soccer participation remains a growing trend in the City of New Berlin. As with many municipalities, a deficit in field supply and field sizes translates into greater use of -- and competition for -- public, private and school fields. This level of demand leads to overuse, poor field quality and unsafe conditions for program users. The level of fields compared to participation needs to be further analyzed to determine the need for additional fields.

In order to meet soccer field demand, many municipalities convert ball diamond outfields to soccer fields during the fall and spring seasons. However, this scenario can complicate scheduling and maintenance of field resources for shared soccer and baseball/softball uses.

### **City-wide Youth Sports Complex**

At present, the City of New Berlin lacks a youth sports complex which typically incorporates high quality outdoor athletic fields. A sports complex has the potential to enhance quality of life and community image, and promote the City's role as a regional center for sports tourism and recreation. Sports complexes are commonly funded through public-private partnerships.

### **Recreational Trails and Linear Parks**

In general, existing recreational trails are characterized as “internal linkages” that are confined to public park properties. Due to the limits of park acreage, the trail distances vary. A few parks are linked to neighboring residential sidepaths, thereby extending safe routes for pedestrians and bicyclists into non-park areas.

Walking and bicycling facilities were amongst the most favored and desired characteristics of public parklands as reported by the 2008 Park Survey.

Linear parks, which may also be described as “trail corridors,” represent a current national trend in urban park planning due to the demand for pedestrian connectivity to public destinations, interest in bicycle commuting, and desire to preserve natural drainage features that traverse urban and rural landscapes. Establishing linear parks in the future were highly favored by participants of the 2008 Park Survey. At present, there are no formal linear parks in the City that accommodate walking and bicycling uses through pathway facilities.

### **Open Space for Conservation Purposes**

Traditionally, the mission of the City Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry has focused on providing facilities and public parkland to serve active and passive recreational uses for community residents. The existing park system includes several natural area and conservancy park units that limit pedestrian access, and emphasize nature-based activities. Additionally, the majority of park units within the City are characterized by natural features that are managed for long term preservation and ecological merits. Nearly 60% of total parkland currently owned by the City has been purposely preserved in a natural state.

Acquisition and management of open lands and open space to meet goals of perpetual preservation of viewsheds and visual quality, natural resources, agricultural productivity and the rural setting continues to be a broad goal of the City. However, the cost to purchase and manage extensive acreage that functions in an “open land capacity” extends beyond the current capabilities of the City Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry as a recreation facility provider.

To some extent, a significant quantity of acreage – particularly in the western sector of the community – is protected through land use regulations and controls that limit development intensity, or excludes development. However, public access to these landscapes is mostly prohibited due to private ownership.

### **The Aging Population: The “New Senior”**

The term “senior citizen” is quickly becoming outdated as the baby boom generation enters the 55 and over age category, resulting in the emergence of the “new senior.” Demographic data (US Census, 2000)

indicates that the City of New Berlin is characterized by a higher percentage of “boomers” than the national average. As this population cohort ages, a population increase in “senior-aged” residents will occur.

The new senior is typically more active and healthier than previous generations and will pursue many of the same activities at an earlier age but at a gentler pace. Facility demands among the senior population include trails and linkages and a multi-purpose community center space. Interest in the outdoors represents a growing trend, and greater demand for passive park spaces to suit an aging population is anticipated on both a national and local level. The natural areas in the City of New Berlin present tremendous opportunities for future parks and trail development.



## **SECTION 5: ANALYSIS OF PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES & STANDARDS**

There are several nationally and regionally accepted planning models that outline benchmarks and targets for meeting recreation needs of a community. The needs analysis undertaken in previous editions of the *Park & Open Space Plan* relied, in large part, upon criteria set forth by Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) relating to jurisdictional, per capita, and accessibility standards.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), as well as park and planning departments across the nation, are now placing more emphasis upon locally preferred standards and levels of service. This change has occurred in recognition of the variability in the social, economic and physical aspects of our communities as such standards that work well for one community are often not appropriate for another. This view promotes a systems-based planning approach that translates local information into a framework for meeting the physical, spatial and facility requirements that enable a community to develop local level of service (LOS) guidelines.

In recognition of this information, the following recommendations and standards were utilized in determining a baseline for parkland and recreation facility needs:

- The recommendations of the City's previous Park & Open Space Plan (2003)
- Per capita, jurisdictional, and accessibility standards outlined by the NRPA
- The recommendations of the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission and City staff.
- Public and stakeholder input, survey results comments, and suggestions

To compare and evaluate various recommendations and standards in a meaningful manner, a park classification system is essential. Such a system is also useful in the comparison of different types of recreation and open space sites and facilities to one another during capital improvements programming efforts.

### **Service Area and Park Distribution**

The distance that a park is located from the population determines, to a large extent, its ability to satisfy public needs. In order to maximize public benefits and to provide safe access, parks should be located within a reasonable distance from the population they are intended to serve. Moreover, it is recommended that parks be distributed in a somewhat equitable fashion within a community to ensure that all residential areas are served.

“Service area guidelines” prescribe the maximum distance that park users may reside, yet be considered “served” by a park. These guidelines are expressed in terms of straight-line distances (radii) from the park to be used and do not take into consideration physical barriers such as traffic arterials. Standard service areas recommended by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) include the following table. These recommended service area guidelines serve as general yardsticks against which to measure the ability of a park to service the people, but should be adjusted as necessary to suit unique local conditions, such as physical barriers that impact walking or biking to neighborhood parks.

**TABLE 15: SERVICE AREA STANDARDS**

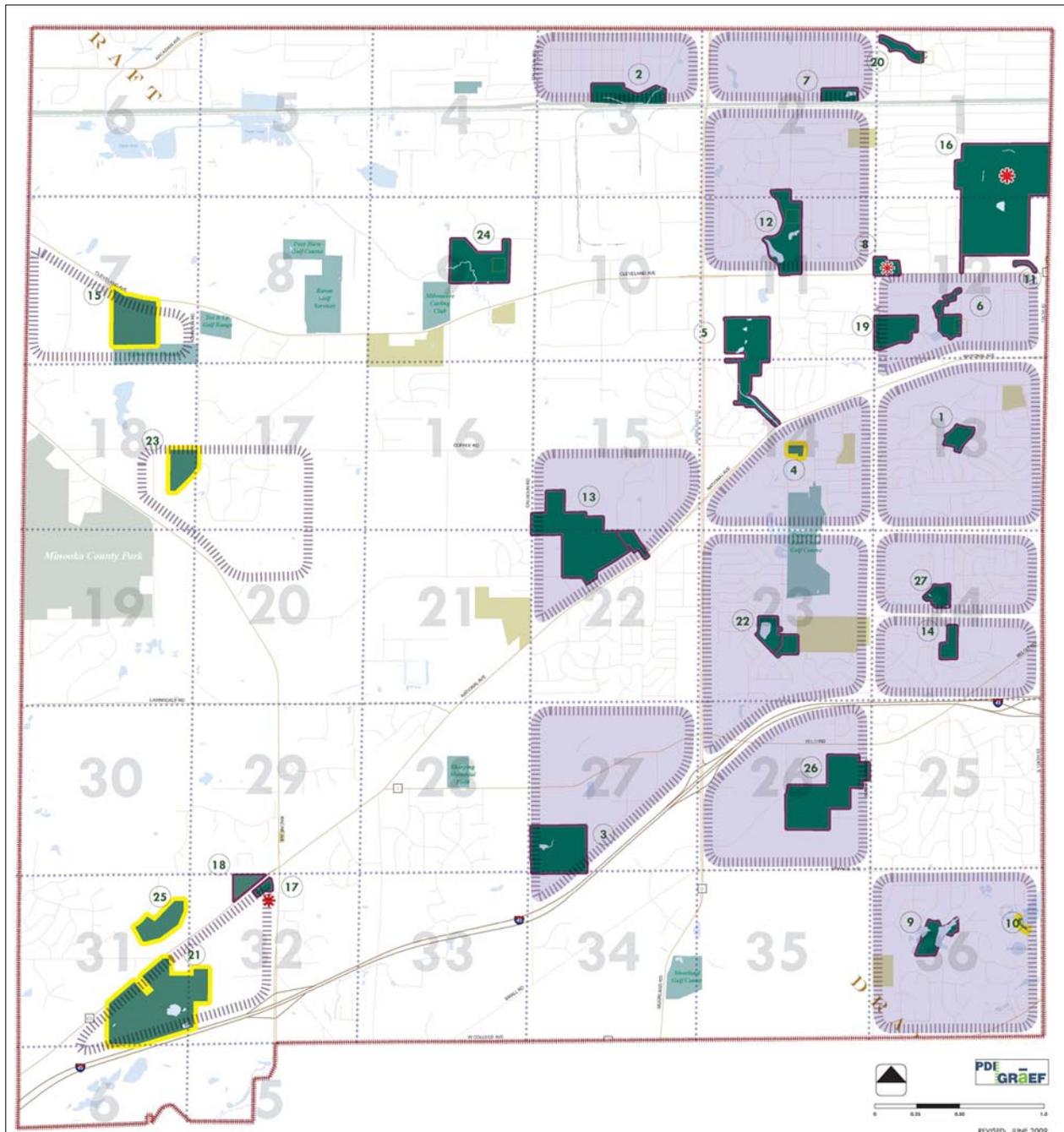
Park or Facility Type	Neighborhood Area Served by Distance	Approximate Service Area	Other Conditions
<b>Neighborhood Park</b>	½ mile radius extending beyond a park site	0.8 square miles (500 acres)	Service area is truncated by physical barriers such as an arterial roadway, active rail line or natural drainage
<b>Community Park</b>	2 mile radius extending beyond a park site	12.5 square miles (8050 acres)	Service area relies on automobile transport for access
<b>Natural Areas (Open Space) Special Use Park Sites Trails</b>	No applicable standard	No applicable standard	

Source: National Recreation & Park Association.

Figures 3 - 5 illustrate the extent of park sites distribution and areas that each park serves. In general, the greatest concentration of developed parks occurs east of Calhoun Road in the eastern sector of the City where moderate-density residential uses are located, while the rural western sector of the City is characterized by fewer park sites that remain in a largely undeveloped state. Figure 3 demonstrates that several moderate-density residential districts in the eastern portion of the City are currently underserved by Neighborhood Parks. Conversely, Community-scale parks, Figure 4, serve the majority of residential areas in the City. Map references are noted below.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Developed Parkland, City Ownership</b></li> <li> <b>Undeveloped Parkland, City Ownership</b></li> <li> <b>Recreation Facilities, Private Ownership</b></li> <li> <b>Parkland, County Ownership or Management</b></li> <li> <b>Public School Properties (Information Purposes Only)</b></li> <li> <b>Special Use Public Parks</b></li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>NO</th> <th>SITE NAME</th> <th>NO</th> <th>SITE NAME</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>Biwier Park</td><td>15</td><td>Milham Park</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>Buena Park</td><td>16</td><td>New Berlin Hills Golf Course</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>Calhoun Park</td><td>17</td><td>New Berlin Historical Park</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>Deer Creek Park</td><td>18</td><td>New Berlin Historic Orchard</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>Deer Creek Sanctuary</td><td>19</td><td>Pro Health Care Park</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>Fountain Square Conservancy Area</td><td>20</td><td>Prospect Parkway</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>Gatewood Park</td><td>21</td><td>Quarry Park</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>Hickory Grove Center</td><td>22</td><td>Regal Park</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>High Grove Park</td><td>23</td><td>Rustic Ridge Park</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>Kelly Lake Park</td><td>24</td><td>Stigler Nature Preserve</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>Lagoon Parkway</td><td>25</td><td>Stormy Acres Park</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>Lions Park</td><td>26</td><td>Valley View Park</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>Malone Park</td><td>27</td><td>Weatherstone Park</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>Maple Ridge Park</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	NO	SITE NAME	NO	SITE NAME	1	Biwier Park	15	Milham Park	2	Buena Park	16	New Berlin Hills Golf Course	3	Calhoun Park	17	New Berlin Historical Park	4	Deer Creek Park	18	New Berlin Historic Orchard	5	Deer Creek Sanctuary	19	Pro Health Care Park	6	Fountain Square Conservancy Area	20	Prospect Parkway	7	Gatewood Park	21	Quarry Park	8	Hickory Grove Center	22	Regal Park	9	High Grove Park	23	Rustic Ridge Park	10	Kelly Lake Park	24	Stigler Nature Preserve	11	Lagoon Parkway	25	Stormy Acres Park	12	Lions Park	26	Valley View Park	13	Malone Park	27	Weatherstone Park	14	Maple Ridge Park		
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**FIGURE 3: CURRENT SERVICE AREA OF FACILITIES THAT FUNCTION AS NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS**

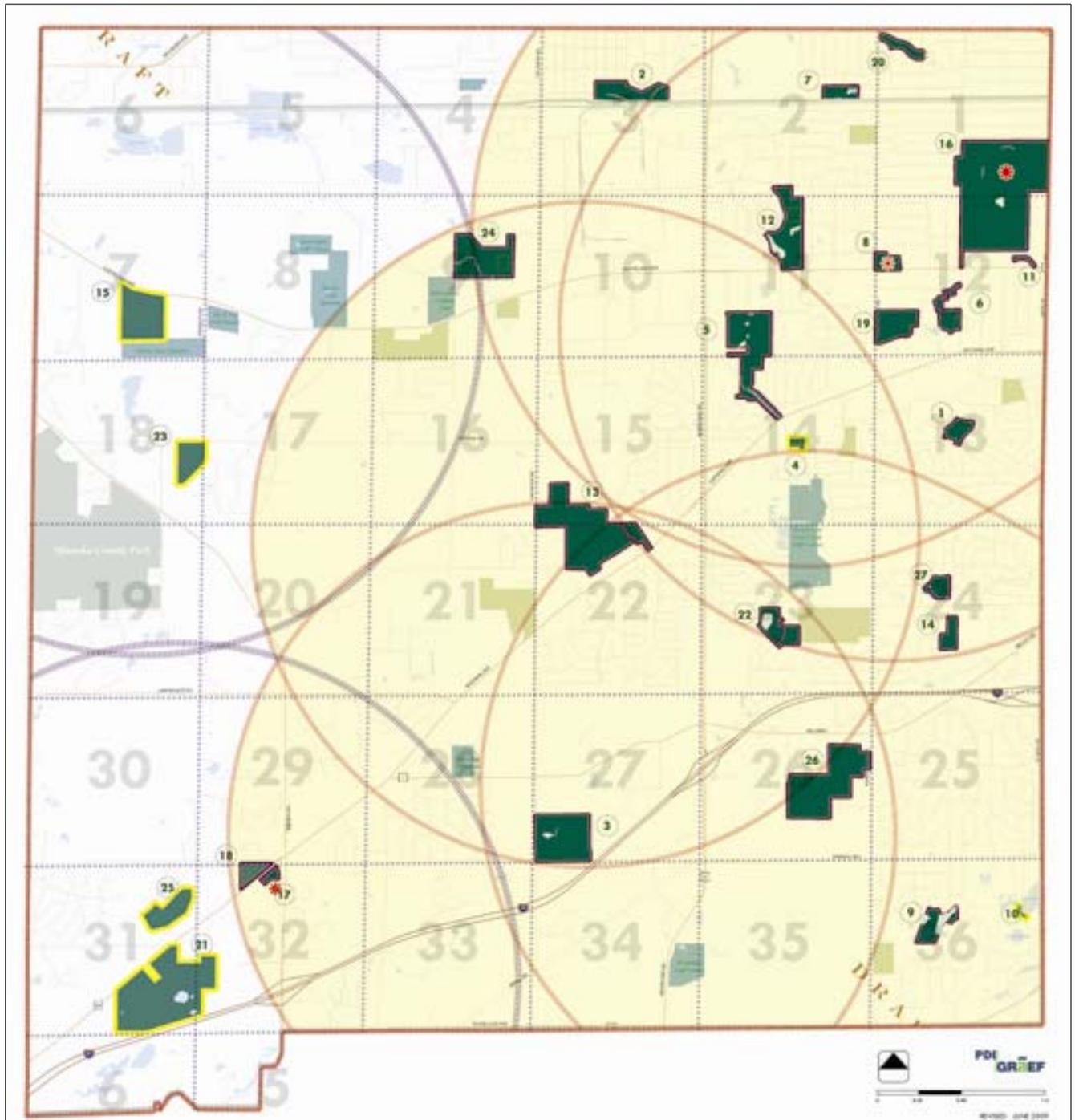


**Service Area for Facilities that Function as Neighborhood Parks  
[ DEVELOPED PARKS ]**



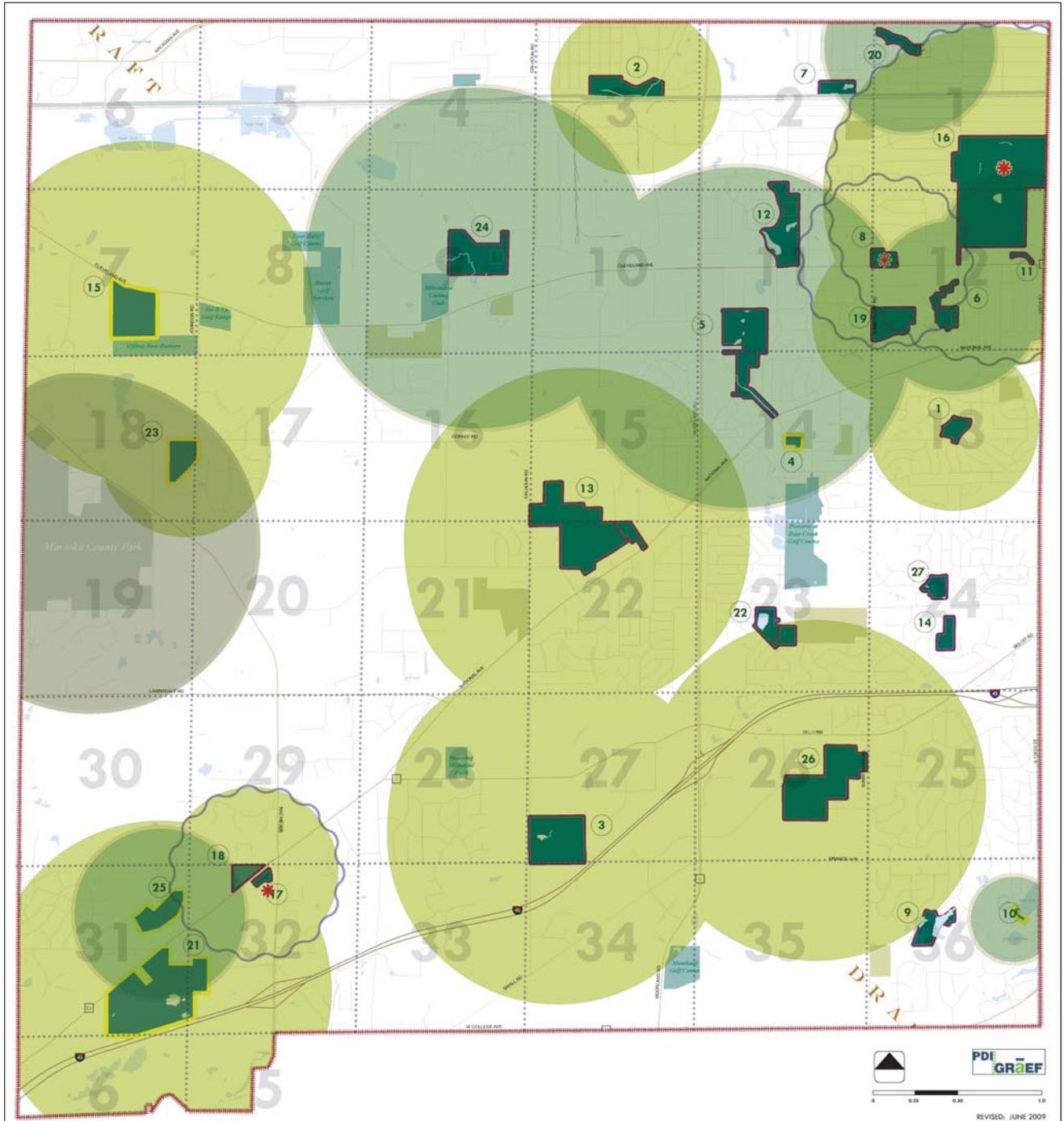
**Service Area for Facilities that Function as Neighborhood Parks  
[ PLANNED OR UNDEVELOPED PARKS ]**

**FIGURE 4: CURRENT SERVICE AREA OF FACILITIES THAT FUNCTION AS COMMUNITY PARKS**



- 
**Service Area for Community Parks  
(DEVELOPED PARKS)**
- 
**Service Area for Community Parks  
(PLANNED OR UNDEVELOPED PARKS)**

**FIGURE 5: SERVICE AREA OF NATURAL AREA AND SPECIAL PARKS**



**SERVICE AREAS**

-  *Natural Area Park (varies)*
-  *Natural Area within Neighborhood or Community Parks (varies)*
-  *Natural Area Park (County Facility)*
-  *Special Use Park (varies)*

**TABLE 16: PARK STANDARDS, NRPA**

Park Type	Acreage
Mini Park (not applicable to New Berlin)	2500 sq. ft. to one acre
Neighborhood Park	Minimum of 5 acres; 5 to 10 acres is optimal
School grounds (school park)	Variable; depends on function
Community Park	Minimum of 20 acres; 30 to 50 acres is optimal
Large Urban Park	Minimum of 50 acres, 75 acres or more is optimal
Natural Resource Area	Variable
Greenway	Variable
Sports Complex	Minimum 25 acres, 40 to 80 acres is optimal
Special Use Park or Site	Variable

Source: National Recreation & Park Association, 1996 Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines

**Planning Per Capita Standards**

The following standards are based upon information prepared by the National Recreation and Park Association. These standards are intended to be used as a guide and should in no way be applied to all locations in the same manner. Differing social, economic, geographic, and cultural factors of communities cause it to be undesirable to apply all of the standards to every community. Furthermore, these standards address minimum rather than maximum goals.

**TABLE 17: LOCAL COMMUNITY PER CAPITA STANDARDS, NRPA**

Developed Open Space (Parkland)	6.25 to 10.5 acres per 1,000 persons
Passive Recreation	7 acres per 1,000 persons
Active Recreation	3 acres per 1,000 persons
<b>Or</b>	
Community Parks	5 to 8 acres/1,000 persons
Neighborhood Parks	1 to 2 acres/1,000 persons

Source: National Recreation & Park Association.

**Parkland Acreage Surplus and Deficit**

In general, NRPA standards recommend a minimum of approximately 10 acres of parkland per 1000 residents. The City’s existing park system of neighborhood and community parks (560 acres) provides for approximately 14.4 acres of parkland per 1,000 population (Table 18). Based on NRPA metrics, the City is served by a surplus of parkland applied to both the existing (2009) and forecast (2030) population levels. However, the standard does not consider a range of special conditions or variables, such as the percentage of parkland that remains in an undeveloped or natural condition

**TABLE 18: TOTAL PARKLAND ACREAGE (2009)**

Park Type	NRPA Standard Acres per 1,000 persons	Recommended Acreage for the City of New Berlin (based on existing population )	Existing City Park Acreage
Neighborhood Park	2 acres	78	114
Community Park	8 acres	312	446
<b>TOTAL</b>	10 acres	390	<b>560</b>

Source : Wisconsin Department of Administration, 2005 population estimate of 39,041 residents, DOA

Municipal parks in the City of New Berlin are unique since they typically incorporate acreage that is managed for natural and ecological values. Approximately 60% (338 acres) of land that comprises neighborhood and community parks is retained in a natural state to provide for both passive and nature-based recreational uses. Therefore, the “developed” or “developable” area suitable for active recreation or team-based sports is significantly less than the total park acreage represented in the table (Table 19). Additionally, the median size of neighborhood and community parks is significantly greater than recommended national standards, due to the inclusion of natural areas within parks (Table 20).

**TABLE 19: DEVELOPED PARKLAND ACREAGE QUANTITY (2009)**

Park Type	Total City Developed and Natural Parkland		Existing City Developed and Developable Parkland	
	Total Acres	Acres per 1,000 persons	Total Acres	Acres per 1,000 persons
Neighborhood Park	114	3.0	59.5	1.52
Community Park	446	11.4	162.5	4.16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>5.68</b>

Source : Wisconsin Department of Administration, 2005 population estimate of 39,041 residents, DOA

**TABLE 20 : COMPARISON OF PARK ACREAGE AVERAGES**

Park Type	NRPA Standards Size in Acres	City Average Size in Acres (median)
Neighborhood Park	5-10 acres	<b>12.6 acres</b>
Community Park	30-50 acres	<b>63.7 acres</b>

Source : NRPA and City of New Berlin

### Future Park Needs

The local standards adopted in this *Plan* vary somewhat from national standards. Parkland qualities and presence of natural areas within most parks, along with the local requirements described below, are more realistic in terms of the types of parks and recreational facilities the City should pursue in the future.

Tables 21 and 22 illustrate the minimum additional developable park acreage that should be provided to accommodate the City’s projected population through 2015 and 2030. Data used include the following:

- 2005 population (39,041)
- 2015 population (40,782)
- 2030 population (43,050).

**TABLE 21: PARK ACREAGE REQUIREMENTS: 2015**

Park Type	City Standard DEVELOPED ACRES Acres per 1,000 persons	Recommended Developed Acreage based on Acres per 1,000 persons, 2015	2009 Existing City Developed Park Acreage	Minimum Additional DEVELOPABLE Acreage (2015)
Neighborhood Park	3 acres	122	59.5	<b>62.5</b>
Community Park	6 acres	244	162.5	<b>81.5</b>

**TABLE 22: PARK ACREAGE REQUIREMENTS: 2030**

Park Type	City Standard DEVELOPED ACRES Acres per 1,000 persons	Recommend Developed Acreage based on Acres per 1,000 persons, 2030	2009 Existing City Developed Park Acreage	2030 Minimum Additional DEVELOPABLE Acreage
Neighborhood Park	3 acres	129	59.5	<b>69.5</b>
Community Park	6 acres	258	162.5	<b>95.5</b>

Source : Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA); population estimate (existing) 2015 – 40,782 persons; population forecast (future) 2030 – 43,050 persons

Based on NRPA (National Recreation & Park Association) standards, the City should acquire additional developable acreage for active recreation or team-based sports by 2015. This would include a minimum of 62.5 acres for neighborhood parks and 81.5 acres for community parks.

The City should plan to acquire a minimum of 69.5 acres of developable land for neighborhood parks, and 95.5 acres for community parks by 2030.

## SECTION 6: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### Goals and Objectives

An essential element of the New Berlin *Park & Open Space Plan* is a series of goals and objectives that provide a specific direction for plan implementation. Goals identify desired future conditions and broad public purposes. Objectives provide more immediate guidance, and are intended to aid the decision-making process with regard to projects being planned for near-term implementation through incorporation into budget planning processes. They are based on the existing conditions, park services, and input from the community and staff.

### A. OVERALL SYSTEM

**Provide a City-wide system of parks, recreation facilities, trails, parkways, natural areas, and open space that provides for a diversity of publicly accessible recreational opportunities.**

1. Recognize and respond to passive, as well as active recreational needs in the design of the park and recreation system.
2. Annually assess existing levels of programming and recreation participation to ensure informed guidance in designing new facilities
3. Distribute park, recreation and open space resources, to the extent possible, on an equitable basis for use by all age groups of the city population.
4. Maintain a service standard of approximately 7-8 acres of improved, developed parkland per 1,000 residents.
5. Where appropriate, the park and open space system should be integrated with other public destinations such as schools, business districts, retail areas, the library and community center.
6. Focus on neighborhood and community parks and importance of each to overall system.
7. Ensure that all residential neighborhoods are within a one-half mile walking distance of either a neighborhood or community park, and accessible by foot or bike without having to cross major barriers.
8. Require all parks to have multiple access points from surrounding neighborhoods.

## **B. EXISTING PARKS (ENHANCEMENTS)**

**Provide a diverse range of recreational opportunities that serve the passive and active needs of citizens and visitors in City, and are supported through facility design and recreational programming.**

1. Ensure that a variety of recreational elements and spaces accommodate the needs and desires of different age groups and skill levels that ensure equal opportunities for all citizens.
2. Construct and maintain athletic facilities within existing park sites to meet local demands for active sport uses and to provide high quality facilities.
3. Encourage and coordinate year-round recreational programs and facilities.
4. To the greatest extent possible, ensure that all parks are accessible from multiple points from surrounding neighborhoods and are served by a trail or path system.
5. Where feasible and viable, expand park acreage to neighboring areas to accommodate additional active or passive recreation facilities for clustering of recreation fields and facilities, and for expanding and protecting the natural areas within the City boundaries.

## **C. NEW PARKS**

**Develop diverse active and passive recreation opportunities for City residents that are provided at the scale of neighborhood and community park environments.**

1. Continue to provide ample, diverse, and accessible parks and facilities to meet the current and future recreational needs and desires of City residents.
2. To the greatest extent possible, provide for parks that are within a reasonable walking distance from residential neighborhoods in the eastern, urbanized sector of the City.
3. Where possible, incorporate sensitive natural resource areas within park properties and integrate these with developed recreational amenities to provide for nature-based, passive use outdoor activities.
4. Ensure that parks are safely designed with full street frontage along at least one side of the park to provide adequate visual access.
5. Include action plan related to acquisition and development of community youth sports complex. i.e. Pursue the planning, acquisition, and development of a community park with athletic fields to meet

the needs of the youth sports organizations.

6. Place emphasis upon identification and implementation of public park facilities for the western portion of the City.

#### **D. PARKLAND AND OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION or DEDICATION**

**Ensure that Parkland and open space acreage is acquired or preserved using creative and collaborative methods and available mechanisms.**

1. Consider diverse methods to acquire land for future public uses, including but not limited to, donation, dedication, gift, bequest, trust, intergovernmental agreement, purchase, deed reservation or restriction, development condition or restriction, easement, lease, exchange, and Transferable Development Rights (TDR).
2. Promote land dedication and construction of neighborhood-scale parks (5-20 acres) in tandem with private subdivision development. As development occurs within areas underserved by neighborhood and community parks, negotiate land requirements and park development standards to ensure that suitable and adequate acreage is identified.
3. Prioritize parkland and open space acquisition that contributes to the establishment of a linked system of public land that facilitates opportunities for additional trail development and environmental corridor preservation.
4. Where possible, public storm water management facilities should be considered for passive recreational access and uses, as well as conservation.
5. Review and update the city parkland dedication and park impact fee ordinances to ensure adequate funding levels to meet future parks and open space needs of the community.

#### **E. TRAILS AND PATHWAYS**

**Develop a multi-purpose trail system that provides for physical linkages and recreation uses between parks, recreation facilities, open space, schools, and other public destinations within the City and to neighboring communities.**

1. Prioritize the development of a multi-purpose pathway/trail system that provides for diverse forms of non-motorized recreational opportunities such as biking, jogging, walking, rollerblading, and horseback riding.

2. Establish linear parks and preserved natural areas (open space) within existing environmental corridors that primarily accommodate trail facilities and affiliated passive uses. Appropriate natural vegetation and species signage should be incorporated into these trail systems wherever possible.
3. Construct a variety of trail types (surfacing, dimensions) that provide for a variety of trail experiences. Consider the use of soft surface trails for equestrian, mountain biking, hiking and cross country skiing, and hard surface trails for running, biking and rollerblading.
4. To the greatest extent possible, ensure that trail locations and alignments take advantage of interesting views and natural features such as streams, wetlands, ridgelines and woodlands.
5. To the greatest extent possible, ensure that trails accommodate the needs of citizens of various physical abilities.
6. Consider external linkages to trail systems that conjoin the City's boundaries in the planning and design of the trail system.
7. Where feasible, incorporate trails within easements and rights-of-way reserved for utilities and transportation facilities.
8. Develop a unified trail signage system for the City that serves to 'brand' the trail systems and orient users.
9. Coordinate with the City Department of Community Development, Plan Commission, and City Council to maximize non-motorized transit by linking the recreational trail system with sidepaths, bicycle lanes or other non-motorized transportation facilities.
10. Work with the Department of Community Development (DCD) to update the trail impact fee ordinance to ensure adequate funding levels to meet the future needs of the community.
11. Work with the DCD to incorporate the planning, design, and construction of trail/pathway segments as part of the development review process. Require developers to dedicate easements and construct recreational trails with residential subdivisions as development occurs.
12. Promote the construction of on-road shoulder bicycle lanes and separated paved pathways as a component of roadway and bridge improvement projects to make implementation more cost effective.

## **F. OPEN SPACE**

**Provide a system of open space and natural areas that protect unique environmental and visual resources in a natural condition that provides a passive recreation venue for residents.**

1. Promote the concept of “urban greenways”, or contiguous or linear open space that remains largely uninterrupted. Encourage private development to dedicate open space and parkland that is located adjacent to existing public acreage or lands that are dedicated for public use.
2. Prioritize the preservation of high quality landscapes woodlands or wetlands, and unique landscape features such as drainages and steep slopes.
3. Ensure that open space and natural areas are generally accessible for passive public use and enjoyment. Where compatible with wildlife habitat, trails should be developed in a sensitive manner to provide access to public natural areas and open space parcels. Again, appropriate educational signage should be utilized.
4. Restore ecological health in natural areas through planting of native species that contribute to aesthetic qualities and benefit wildlife. Actively promote and fund removal of non-native and invasive flora in open space areas and corridors that are candidates for ecological restoration.
5. Where appropriate within dedicated open space acreage (per subdivision regulations), require developers to enhance ecological values for wildlife.
6. Use regulatory means, such as subdivision ordinances, to the extent feasible to preserve targeted open space areas within the City. New developments should be planned to preserve and protect open space identified in this Plan.
7. Pursue open space acquisitions only where willing sellers are available. Encourage dedication of high value acreage acquired in the platting of new developments that are characterized by indigenous wildlife habitats and native plant species, areas of visual significance, and large expanses of prairie grasses.

## **G. INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS**

**Ensure that the City's parks, recreation and open space system is coordinated with adjacent municipalities, local school districts, and other government agencies to ensure that the recreation opportunities are maximized.**

1. Collaborate with surrounding jurisdictions so that parks, trails and open space contribute to a regional system of environmental protection and public recreation.
2. Work with coalitions of sports and special interest recreation organizations to define mutually compatible facility needs and mechanisms for the development, construction, operation and maintenance of these facilities.
3. Continue to partner with the New Berlin School District and the Waukesha County Parks and Land Use Department in the provision of existing and new recreation uses, and to maximize the value of capital and operational expenses.
4. Continue partnerships with local park and recreation agencies in the provision of cost effective recreation programming for all ages.

## **H. PLANNING AND FUNDING**

**Promote economic sustainability and stability of parks through efficient use of financial resources and evaluation of Plan goals.**

1. Update the Park and Open Space Plan every five years to ensure that goals and objectives remain relevant, implementation strategies are realized, and that the Plan is compliant with extramural funding organizations. The Plan must strive to achieve a balance between neighborhood parks, larger community parks, athletic fields, and natural areas.
2. Evaluate the actions and implementation strategies on an annual basis to ensure that opportunities for cost-sharing, partnerships, facility enhancements and land acquisitions are examined.
3. Utilize a variety of funding sources to enhance and maintain public recreational resources.
4. Pursuit of financial support should consider available funding resources, such as:
  - a. The State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) [ various funding programs]
  - b. The New Berlin Capital Improvement Budget.

- c. Grants awarded by public and private foundations.
- d. Park Impact Fees collected from private developers.
- e. Cash-in-lieu of land dedication collected from private developers.
- f. Donations and gifts.
- g. City Operational Budget including participation fees.

## **I. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE**

**Ensure that operations and maintenance of the park, open space and trail system is supported through appropriate levels of staffing and funding.**

1. Ensure that the park and open space system is realistic and affordable, and that the costs required for long term, quality management and maintenance are recognized.
2. Where feasible, the City should make use of management practices that minimize maintenance labor and operating costs, while providing for high-quality facilities.
3. Assure that parks, open space, and trails are managed and maintained in an environmentally responsible and cost-effective manner that preserves the underlying resources while being attentive to public enjoyment and safety concerns.
4. Utilize volunteers in managing and maintaining the open space and natural area system to supplement City resources.
5. Evaluate maintenance staffing levels and increase as required to ensure that proper care of park facilities is implemented. Development of new parks and recreation facilities should be implemented at a pace commensurate with the City's ability to provide proper maintenance and staffing.
6. Make use of water wise landscape principles, such as using low water demand plants, installing efficient irrigation systems, utilizing alternative / eco-friendly parking lot surfaces, and improving soil with adequate organic material.
7. Develop and implement the vehicle and equipment replacement schedule to provide for needed maintenance of parks facilities and grounds.

## **J. SUSTAINABLE DESIGN STANDARDS**

**Ensure that park sites are designed and managed as sustainable public venues.**

1. Reduce the quantity of stormwater runoff through use of pervious surfacing materials, such as porous asphalt and concrete, permeable pavers and other treatments that incorporate vegetation.
2. Reduce adverse impacts associated with site pollutants by treating storm water through the use of bioswales, rain gardens, infiltration strips, and retention and detention basins, where feasible.
3. Utilize recycled and salvage materials where feasible and cost effective in the construction of landscape features.
4. Make use of water-wise landscape maintenance principles, such as using low water-demand vegetation, installing efficient irrigation systems and improving soil with adequate organic material.
5. Limit the use of park features that require standard electric power to operate. As an alternative, consider installing renewable energy devices (wind turbines, solar panels) that generate on-site power for select park facilities.
6. Minimize night light pollution related to park lighting by selecting appropriate fixtures and timing systems.
7. Site new building facilities to take advantage of the natural day light, ventilation and solar gain.

## **SECTION 7: PROPOSED PARK AND RECREATION STANDARDS**

To guide the park planning process, a set of minimum standards for park and recreational facilities that serve as a benchmark for evaluating the quantitative and qualitative measures of the park system were examined. These standards allow for a quantitative examination of how well its existing facilities are meeting the needs of residents as compared with other communities, and to plan for future facilities based on projected population growth.

Table 23, on the following page, recommends criteria and benchmarks for neighborhood and community parks, and recreational trails within the City:

**TABLE 23: RECOMMENDED NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY PARK CRITERIA**

	<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>	<b>Community Parks</b>
<b>Description</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ These parks are designed specifically to accommodate residents living within the immediately surrounding area. They are often characterized by active recreational facilities such as baseball and soccer fields, but should also incorporate some passive recreational areas for picnicking and nature-study.</li> <li>▪ These parks offer specialized facilities that serve a centralized or limited population or specific group such as young children or senior citizens.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community parks are intermediate in size and are able to accommodate visitors from the surrounding community and multiple neighborhoods. These sites focus on both the developed aspects of the park, such as playfields and tennis courts, as well as the natural-resource amenities.</li> </ul>
<b>Service Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ½-mile radius uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 miles radius</li> </ul>
<b>Scale</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 acres minimum</li> <li>▪ 5-20 acres, optimal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 20 acres minimum</li> <li>▪ 30-70 acres, optimal</li> </ul>
<b>Developable and Maintained Acres per 1,000 Population:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 3 acres</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 6 acres</li> </ul>
<b>Basic Facilities &amp; Activities:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Active recreational facilities such as playfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, and ices skating rinks</li> <li>▪ Passive recreational facilities such as picnic/sitting areas and nature study areas</li> <li>▪ Lighting for security at night</li> <li>▪ Adequate on-street parking</li> <li>▪ Not intended to be used for activities that result in overuse, noise, and increased traffic with the exception of limited use by youth teams</li> <li>▪ Playground equipment and structures for pre-school and elementary school age children</li> <li>▪ Conversation and sitting areas arranged to permit easy surveillance by parents</li> <li>▪ Landscaped areas that provide buffering and shade</li> <li>▪ Parking typically not required</li> <li>▪ Easily accessible to the neighborhood population, particularly by walking or biking</li> <li>▪ Located in close proximity to residential development</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Active recreational facilities such as baseball diamonds, softball fields, soccer fields, playfields, basketball courts, tennis courts, playgrounds, and athletic field lighting.</li> <li>▪ Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and nature study areas</li> <li>▪ Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms</li> <li>▪ Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays, concerts in the park, and community events.</li> <li>▪ Lighting for security at night</li> <li>▪ Adequate off-street parking spaces, where the size of the park and the neighborhood context allow</li> <li>▪ Accessible by walking or biking to the greatest extent possible</li> <li>▪ Often relies on automobile transport to access park site</li> </ul>

**TABLE 24 : STANDARDS FOR OPEN SPACE AND RECREATIONAL TRAILS**

<p><b>Design Criteria for Nature Paths</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Nature paths provide connections between urbanized areas, and access to parks and open space areas.</li> <li>▪ Walkways may be restricted to pedestrian use because of environmental conditions. In certain locations, they may also be suitable for equestrian and/or bicycle use. Rural walkways are often sited along creeks, streams, rivers, field boundaries, and other natural linear systems</li> <li>▪ Wood chips</li> <li>▪ Crushed limestone</li> <li>▪ Mowed Grass</li> </ul>
<p><b>Design Criteria for Multi-Use Paths</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Multi-use paths are designed to accommodate bicyclists, walkers, runners, and in-line skaters. Such facilities are often located along railroad and street rights-of-way, rivers and lakeshores, and through parks and environmental corridors.</li> <li>▪ Minimum of 8 foot width to accommodate two-way bicycle traffic</li> <li>▪ Paved surfacing to facilitate bike, walking, running, and skating.</li> <li>▪ Avoid placement alongside roadways where multiple cross-streets and driveways are or will be present</li> <li>▪ Minimum 20 mph design speed</li> </ul>

*Service area, desirable distance and acres per 1,000 population is not applicable*



# SECTION 8: ACTIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION

The following pages outline the short-term, 1 to 5 years, and long-term, 6 to 20 years, actions necessary to implement the Park and Open Space Plan.





# PARK ACTION PLAN: 2010 - 2014

## SHORT TERM ACTIONS: 1 TO 5 YEARS

### ENHANCEMENTS TO EXISTING PARKS

<b>Malone Park</b>	Reconstruct tennis and basketball courts Replace (upgrade) playground equipment Construct youth baseball/softball complex Construct youth soccer fields
<b>Calhoun Park</b>	Replace (upgrade) playground equipment (north side) Reconstruct parking lot Construct Bridge and Recreational Trail Revisit current lease agreement with Waukesha County
<b>Valley View Park</b>	Replace playground equipment (near shelter no. 1) Reconstruct tennis courts
<b>High Grove Park</b>	Construct Kelly Lakes trail segment
<b>Hickory Grove Center</b>	Install security system
<b>Lion's Park</b>	Reconstruct parking lot

### DEVELOPMENT OF VACANT PARKLAND

<b>Quarry Park</b>	Construct trails, shelters, fishing piers and parking/staging area
<b>Stormy Acres Park</b>	Develop a passive use trail circuit
<b>Deer Creek Park</b>	Develop passive use trails and amenities such as benches, a gazebo and (potentially) a bridge linkage to City Center and future City Center Trail
<b>New Special Use Facilities</b>	Research, plan, and explore public/private partnerships for the following special use facilities: <i>Youth Sports Complex (outdoor)</i> <i>Splashpad / Water Playground</i> <i>Aquatic Center</i>

### PARK EXPANSION (NEIGHBORING ACREAGE)

<b>Malone Park</b>	Expand park acreage by acquiring land to the north
<b>Historic Park</b>	Expand park acreage by acquiring undeveloped land to west (land transfer of the fire station site to the City and Historical Society)

## PARKLAND & OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION OR DEDICATION

### Section 35

Plan for a Neighborhood Park within the central portion of this section to best serve adjacent residential areas. This multi-use neighborhood park should include a minimum of 15 acres of developable land for active uses such as soccer, baseball/softball, basketball, playground, and picnic area with shelter.

Efforts to preserve, protect, and promote passive use (trails) of the C-1 and C-2 Conservancy Areas is desired, as well as a pathway system to provide the neighborhood and community with safe access to school, park, and residential development, and enjoyment of the natural environment.

Linear parkways which preserve open space, and provide connectivity within this area should be developed. The linear parkways and neighborhood park should be integrated with the Tess Corners Water Resource Storage Basin to take advantage of this water resource.

## TRAILS

### High Grove Park

Develop recreational trail circuits affiliated with this park site (developed and vacant)

### Quarry Park

Develop recreational trail circuits affiliated with this park site (developed and vacant)

### Stormy Acres Park

Develop recreational trail circuits affiliated with this park site (developed and vacant)

## FIVE YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

CITY OF NEW BERLIN PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY

PARK UNIT	ACTION	ESTIMATED COST	SUB TOTAL
<b>ENHANCEMENTS TO EXISTING PARKS</b>			
1a	<b>Malone Park</b>	Reconstruct tennis courts (4)	\$ 225,000.00
1b		Reconstruct basketball courts (2)	\$ 25,000.00
1c		Renovate playground and replace equipment	\$ 75,000.00
1d		Construct youth baseball/softball complex	See items 10c & 10 d
1e		Construct youth soccer fields	See item.10b
			\$ 325,000.00
2a	<b>Calhoun Park</b>	Upgrade playground	\$ 60,000.00
2b		Reconstruct parking lots (upper and lower)	\$ 75,000.00
2c		Construct Bridge and Recreational Trail	\$ 75,000.00
			\$ 210,000.00
3a	<b>Valley View Park</b>	Replace playground equipment (near shelter no. 1)	\$ 40,000.00
3b		Reconstruct tennis courts (4)	\$ 225,000.00
			\$ 265,000.00
4	<b>High Grove Park</b>	Construct 8'-wide paved surface trail (3000 l.f.) with boardwalk feature segment	\$ 140,000.00
			\$ 140,000.00
5	<b>Hickory Grove Center</b>	Install security system (access control)	\$ 40,000.00
			\$ 40,000.00
6	<b>Lion's Park</b>	Reconstruct parking lot	\$ 50,000.00
			\$ 50,000.00
<b>DEVELOPMENT OF VACANT PARKLAND</b>			
7a	<b>Quarry Park</b>	Construct trails - (3) miles including (3) boardwalks	\$ 150,000.00
7b		Construct shelters (3)	\$ 105,000.00
7c		Construct fishing piers (3)	\$ 45,000.00
7d		Construct pads, ramps and screening for portable (rental) toilet locations (3)	\$ 15,000.00
7e		Reconstruct/regrade vehicular parking (crushed stone) (3 small lots)	\$ 50,000.00
7f		Signage - trail system & entrance	\$ 35,000.00
			\$ 400,000.00
8	<b>Stormy Acres Park</b>	Develop 6'-wide passive use trail circuit (0.5 mile)	\$ 10,000.00
			\$ 10,000.00
9a	<b>Deer Creek Park</b>	Construct paved surface path, 8'-wide, (0.25 mile)	\$ 40,000.00
9b		Construct gazebo/shelter	\$ 30,000.00
9c		Install bridge feature	\$ 30,000.00
			\$ 100,000.00
10a	<b>Youth Sports Complex</b>	Acquire 50 acres of land north of Malone Park *	\$465,000-\$1,850,000
10b		Construct 9 outdoor game quality soccer fields (natural turfgrass on 4" sand cap)	\$ 1,900,000.00
		▪ 3 U9/10	
		▪ 3 U11/12	
		▪ 3 U 13+	
10c		Construct 3 lighted youth ball diamonds	\$ 150,000.00
10d		Construct 3 lighted league ball diamonds	\$ 600,000.00
10e		Construct Concession Stand	\$ 100,000.00
10f		Construct Restrooms	\$ 100,000.00
10g		Construct Parking (250 stalls)	\$ 400,000.00
10h		Construct 8'-wide paved path circuit (.75 mile)	\$ 120,000.00
			\$3,835,000 - \$5,220,000
11	<b>Splash Pad</b>	Construct moderate-sized splash pad with water-recycling feature	\$ 400,000.00
			\$ 400,000.00

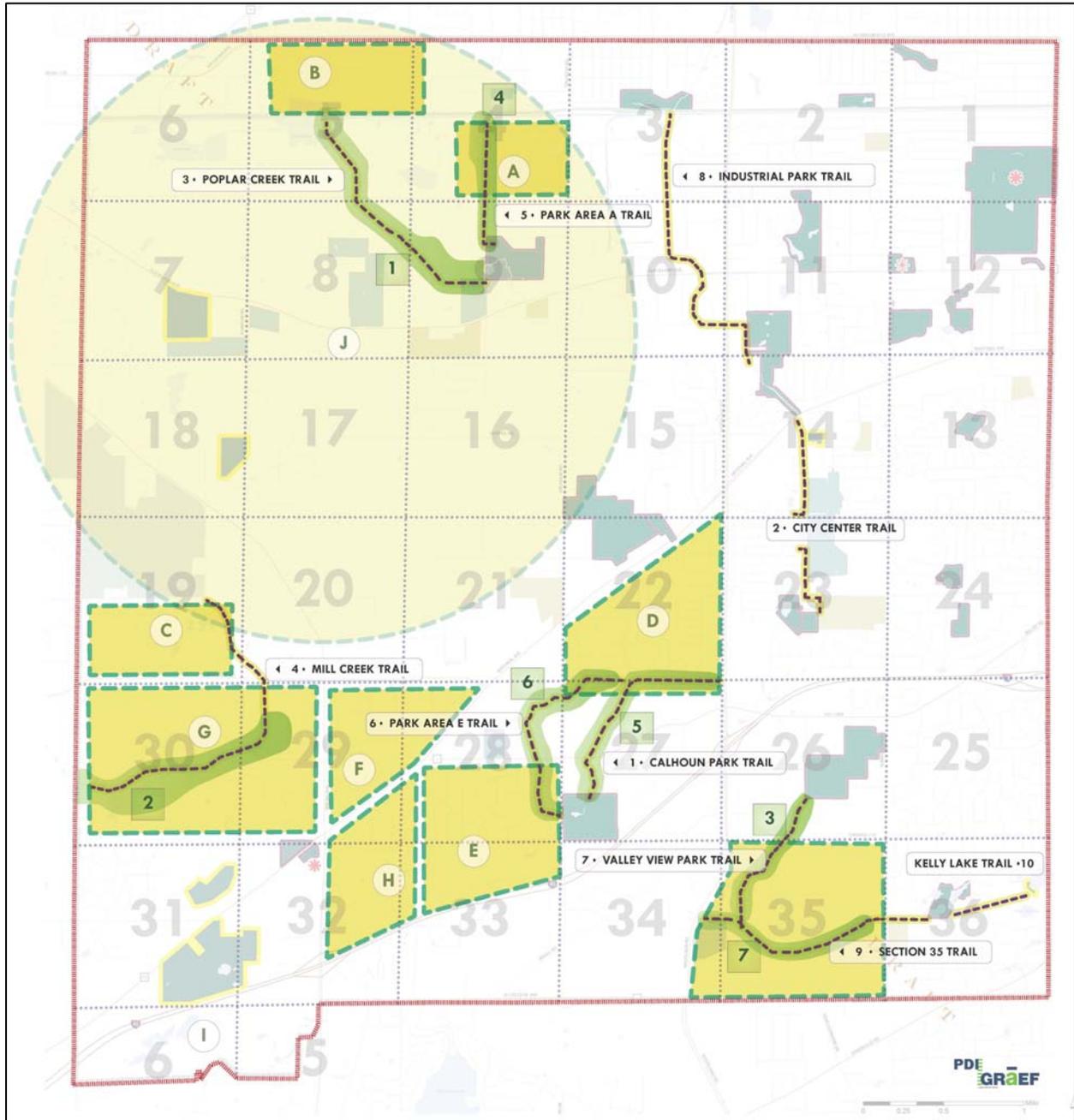
## FIVE YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

*CITY OF NEW BERLIN PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY*

	PARK UNIT	ACTION	ESTIMATED COST	SUB TOTAL
<b>PARK EXPANSION (NEIGHBORING ACREAGE)</b>				
12	<b>Malone Park</b>	Expand park acreage by acquiring land to the north	(see above)	\$ -
13	<b>Historic Park</b>	Expand park acreage by acquiring undeveloped land to west (land transfer of the fire station site to the City and Historical Society)	Acreage to be transferred at no cost --	\$ -
<b>PARKLAND &amp; OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION OR DEDICATION</b>				
14a	<b>Section 35</b>	Acquire 15 acres of developable land *	\$139,500-\$550,000	
14b		Grading, Earthwork, and Utilities	\$ 200,000.00	
14c		Construct 3 soccer practice fields (natural turfgrass with native soils):	\$ 125,000.00	
		▪ 1 U6		
		▪ 1 U7/8		
14d		Construct 1 youth baseball/softball practice diamond	\$ 30,000.00	
14e		Construct 2 basketball courts	\$ 30,000.00	
14f		Construct playground	\$ 75,000.00	
14g		Construct park shelter	\$ 50,000.00	
14h		Construct 8'-wide paved path (0.33 mile)	\$ 53,000.00	
14i		Efforts to preserve, protect, and promote passive use (trails) of the C-1 and C-2 Conservancy Areas is desired, as well as a pathway system to provide the neighborhood and community with safe access to school, park, and residential development, and enjoyment of the natural environment.	<i>Via land use controls or land dedication</i>	
14j		Linear parkways which preserve open space, and provide connectivity within this area should be developed. The linear parkways and neighborhood park should be integrated with the Tess Corners Water Resource Storage Basin to take advantage of this water resource.	<i>Via land use controls or land dedication</i>	
				<b>\$700,000-\$1,110,000</b>
<b>TRAIL DEVELOPMENT</b>				
15	<b>High Grove Park</b>	Develop recreational trail circuits affiliated with this park site (developed and vacant)	See item 4	\$ -
16	<b>Quarry Park</b>	Develop recreational trail circuits affiliated with this park site (developed and vacant)	See item 7a	\$ -
17	<b>Stormy Acres Park</b>	Develop recreational trail circuits affiliated with this park site (developed and vacant)	See item 8	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$6,475,000 - \$8,270,000</b>

\* Land values are based on large tract land sale prices in New Berlin, 1998-2008. The values illustrated by a range of potential cost that consider current and future land use classification, and possible availability of municipal water and sanitary sewer. The low number assumes no sewer or water, the high number assumes sewer and water.

**FIGURE 7: PROPOSED LONG-TERM ACTIONS (6 – 20 YEARS)**



# PARK ACTION PLAN: 2015 - 2030

## LONG-TERM ACTIONS: 6 TO 20 YEARS

### ENHANCEMENTS TO EXISTING PARKS

<b>Deer Creek Sanctuary</b>	Install interpretive trail signage
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<b>Gatewood Park</b>	Resurface basketball court
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<b>Buena Park</b>	Reconstruct parking lot
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<b>Regal Park</b>	Upgrade playground equipment Resurface basketball court
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<b>Maple Ridge Park</b>	Upgrade playground equipment Resurface basketball court
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<b>Weatherstone Park</b>	Upgrade playground equipment Resurface basketball court
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<b>Biwer Park</b>	Upgrade playground equipment Resurface basketball court
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<b>Historical Park</b>	Pave parking lot & recreational trail
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### DEVELOPMENT OF VACANT PARKLAND

<b>Kelly Lake Park</b>	Consider disposal of land to Kelly Lakes Association for resource protection purposes
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<b>Rustic Ridge Park</b>	Review potential facilities needed for local residents
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<b>Milham Park</b>	Continue planning efforts for a multi-use community park
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<b>New Special Use Facilities</b>	Research, plan, and explore public/private partnerships for the following special use facilities, as well as other park and recreational facilities as needs and opportunities arise: <i>Aquatic Center</i> <i>Splashpad</i>
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### PARK EXPANSION (NEIGHBORING ACREAGE)

<b>Quarry Park</b>	Expand park acreage by acquiring undeveloped area to the north if land becomes available in the future
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<b>Calhoun Park</b>	Expand park acreage by acquiring undeveloped land to the north and south if land becomes available in the future
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<b>Milham Park</b>	Expand park acreage by acquiring undeveloped land to the east if land becomes available in the future
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<b>Gatewood Park</b>	Expand park acreage by acquiring land to the east if land becomes available
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**PARKLAND & OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION OR DEDICATION**

<b>City-Wide</b>	Evaluate the acquisition and/or development of pocket parks (one acre or less) based on a case by case analysis of each specific site.
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<b>Section 10</b>	(Industrial Park) : Encourage developers to preserve private green space and develop walking trails for employees
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**Neighborhood Parks**

<b>"A" in Section 4</b>	Plan for a Neighborhood Park to serve residential areas in the area west of Calhoun Road and north of Lincoln Avenue.
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<b>"B" in Sections 5 &amp; 6</b>	Plan for a Neighborhood Park to serve residential areas within this area of the City
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<b>"C" in Section 19</b>	Plan for a Neighborhood Park to serve residential areas west of Racine Avenue, north of Lawnsdale Road and south and east of Minooka County Park
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<b>"D" in Section 22</b>	Plan for a Neighborhood Park in the northern part of this section to serve residential areas that extend from Section 22 northward to National Avenue
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<b>"E" in Sections 28 &amp; 33</b>	Plan for a Neighborhood Park within these sections to serve residential area north of I-43 and east of Martin Road, south of Beloit Road, and west of Calhoun Road
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<b>"F" in Section 29</b>	Plan for a Neighborhood Park in this section to serve the residential area that extends from Racine Avenue on the west, to Lawnsdale Road on the north, to National Avenue on the south (the loss of recreational facilities at Prospect Hill School assists to validate this recommendation)
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<b>"G" in Section 30</b>	Plan for a Neighborhood Park in this section to serve the residential area south of Lawnsdale Road
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<b>"H" in Section 32</b>	Plan for a Neighborhood Park in this section to serve residential areas that extend from Racine Avenue on the west, to National Avenue on the north, to I-43 on the south
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<b>"I" Mill Valley</b>	Plan for a Neighborhood Park to provide open space & trails to serve future business/office park
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**Community Parkland**

<b>"J" Northwest Quad.</b>	Plan for a Community Park that potentially incorporates environmental corridors and natural areas for passive and active use activities.
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**TRAILS (dashed lines on the map)**

<b>Calhoun Park</b>	Install interpretive trail signage
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<b>Milham Park</b>	Develop recreation trail circuits affiliated with this site per approved Park Master Plan
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<b>Deer Creek Sanctuary</b>	Install interpretive signage for Paul Gihring Trail
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<b>Safe Road Crossings</b>	<p>Improve safety and facility design of road crossings for park sites, specifically:</p> <p><i>Valley View Park Crossing of Sunny Slope Road and Beloit Road and linkage to residential areas in Section 25</i></p> <p><i>Malone Park Crossing of National Avenue and linkage to residential areas in Section 22</i></p> <p><i>Calhoun Park Crossing of Calhoun Road and linkage to residential areas in Section 28</i></p>
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<b>1 - Calhoun Park Trail</b>	Construct off road recreational trail to link proposed future neighborhood park (Area E) to Calhoun Park
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<b>2 - City Center Trail</b>	Construct off road recreational trail to link Deer Creek Park to the City Center (westward), to Regal Park (southward), and to Deer Creek Sanctuary (northward)
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<b>3 - Poplar Creek Trail</b>	Construct off road recreational trail to link the Stigler Nature Preserve to the New Berlin Recreational Trail
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<b>4 - Mill Creek Trail</b>	Construct off road recreational trail to link Minooka Park and future neighborhood park (Area G) to the Mill Creek Environmental Corridor
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<b>5 - Park Area A Trail</b>	Construct off road recreation trail to link proposed future neighborhood park (Area A) and the Stigler Nature Preserve to the New Berlin Recreational Trail
<b>6 - Park Area E Trail</b>	Construct off road recreational trail to link proposed future neighborhood park (Area D) to proposed future neighborhood park (Area E) and to Calhoun Park
<b>7 - Valley View Park Trail</b>	Construct off road recreational trail to link Valley View Park with a proposed future neighborhood park (Area I)
<b>8 - Industrial Park Trail</b>	Work with business owners in the New Berlin Industrial Park to construct a trail that provides a linkage between the New Berlin Recreational Trail and Deer Creek Sanctuary
<b>9 - Section 35 Trail</b>	Construct an off-road recreational trail to link the future neighborhood park (Area I) with adjoining residential areas
<b>10 - Kelly Lake Trail</b>	Construct an off road recreational trail to link a proposed future park (Area I) and High Grove Park

## OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION

### *Natural Areas*

<b>City-Wide</b>	Acquire new parkland (through various means) that includes high quality natural resource features for purposes of long term preservation and limited recreational uses. Consider acreage characterized by wetlands, ponds and streams, high quality woodlands and diverse features that attract and support wildlife.
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### *Linear Parks (numbers in the squares on the map)*

<b>City-Wide</b>	Investigate potential of acquiring and preserving the following environmental corridors for limited access for recreational trail development
<b>1 - Poplar Creek in Section 8 Environmental Corridor</b>	Acquire a portion of the environmental corridor that extends from the New Berlin Recreational Trail southward to Stigler Nature Preserve
<b>2 - Mill Creek in Section 30 Environmental Corridor</b>	Acquire a portion of the environmental corridor that extends between the west City boundary and Minooka Park, and includes environmental corridors within Sections 30, 29, 20 and 21 ( <i>asked Waukesha County about recommendations, no response</i> )
<b>3 - Valley View Park in Section 26 Environmental Corridor</b>	Acquire a portion of the environmental corridor that extends southward from Valley View Park to proposed future Neighborhood Park in Section 35

<b>4 - Section 4 Corridor</b>	<b>Environmental</b>	Acquire a portion of the environmental corridor that would potentially provide a physical linkage between proposed future neighborhood park (Area A) to the New Berlin Recreational Trail
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<b>5 - Section 27 Corridor</b>	<b>Environmental</b>	Acquire a portion of the environmental corridor that would link a proposed future neighborhood park (Area D) southward to Calhoun Park
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<b>6 - Sections 28/33 Corridor</b>	<b>Environmental</b>	Acquire a portion of the environmental corridor that would link a proposed future park (Area E) with Calhoun Park
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<b>7 - Section 35 Environmental Corridor</b>		Acquire a portion of the environmental corridor that would link a proposed future park (Area I) with future adjoining residential areas, and the Valley View and Kelly Lakes Trails
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## SECTION 9: FUNDING SOURCES

There are a number of potential funding sources available to help finance implementation of recreation facilities for the park properties. Grant programs managed by the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) represent a viable means due to the focus on funding of nature-based recreation facilities proposed by this Plan. The WDNR defines “nature-based” outdoor recreation as activities where the primary focus or purpose is the appreciation or enjoyment of nature. Such activities include hiking, bicycling, wildlife or nature observation, camping, nature study, fishing, hunting, picnicking, cross-country skiing, canoeing, and multi-use trail activities. Support facilities such as access roads, parking, signs, utility and restroom buildings, and habitat restoration are also eligible for funding under the same programs.

Additionally, transportation-enhancement monies, such as those administered by the Wisconsin State Department of Transportation (WISDOT), may assist with financial support of alternative transportation facilities, such as bicycle and pedestrian pathways proposed in this plan. Finally, grant funding to sponsor environmental cleanup and remediation of sites may facilitate cost-sharing for preliminary site work and field investigations.

In addition to extramural funding, costs associated with recreation facility improvements and maintenance should be incorporated in City Capital Improvement plans and programs.

Additional funding sources may include:

- Land Conservancy organizations
- Land Trusts
- Community groups and organizations

### **Nature-based Recreation Facilities and Restoration Grants**

The **Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program** was established by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1989 for a ten-year period. The program was renewed for an additional ten years as part of the 1999-2001 Wisconsin State Budget. The goals of the Stewardship Program are to ***protect and restore nature-based outdoor recreation areas and areas having scenic or ecological value***. Nature-based can best be described as activities where the primary focus or purpose is the appreciation or enjoyment of nature. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers the Stewardship Program. The Stewardship Program is an umbrella for a number of subprograms, each with its own goals, priorities, and criteria, which are summarized below. Projects submitted for grants under the Stewardship Program must be included in a locally-adopted Park and Open Space Plan.

**Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)** is a regional allocation program which provides up to 50 percent matching grants to local and county units of government and nonprofit conservation organizations (NCOs) to provide assistance for the acquisition and development of local and county parks. **NCOs can use these funds for the acquisition of land or easements only.** County and local governments may use ADLP funds for the purchase of land and easements and the development of outdoor recreation areas for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes. [Application deadline - May 1 of each year]

**Urban Green Space (UGS)** is a Statewide program which provides up to 50 percent matching grants to local and county units of government and NCOs **to acquire or protect scenic, ecological, or other natural features within or near urban areas and provide land for nature-based outdoor recreation,** including noncommercial gardening. These funds can be used for the acquisition of land only. [Application deadline - May 1 of each year]

**Urban Rivers (URGP)** is a Statewide program which provides up to 50 percent matching grants to local and county units of government and NCOs to purchase land or easements, or **to develop shoreline enhancements on or adjacent to rivers that flow through urban or urbanizing areas.** This program is intended to preserve or restore urban rivers or riverfronts for the purpose of revitalization and nature-based outdoor recreation activities. NCOs can use these funds for the acquisition of land or easements only. [Application deadline - May 1 of each year]

**The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)** program was established by the U.S. Congress in 1964 to provide funding for the acquisition of land for park or open space preservation purposes and the development of outdoor recreation facilities. In Wisconsin, LAWCON funds are administered by the DNR. Up to 50 percent of project costs are eligible for funding under this program. The “nature-based” restriction in the Stewardship Program does not apply to LAWCON funds. [Application deadline - May 1 of each year]

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

**The Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program** provides grants of up to 50 percent to county and local units of government and nonprofit conservation organizations **for urban forestry activities.** Eligible activities include development of an urban forestry plan or urban open space program, development of a

tree ordinance, development of a public awareness program, conducting street tree inventories, and tree planting and maintenance. Reimbursement is limited to \$25,000 per project. [Application deadline - October 1 of each year]

### **Trail Development Grants**

**The Federal Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)**, (formerly ISTEA) continues the integration of bicycling and walking into the transportation mainstream. *It enhances the ability of communities to invest in projects that can improve the safety and practicality of bicycling and walking for everyday travel.* TEA-21 provides funding, planning, and policy tools to create more walkable and bicycle-friendly communities.

**TEA-21 provides funding for bicycle and pedestrian facilities under a variety of programs.** Bicycle projects must be principally for transportation, rather than recreational, purposes, and must be designed and located pursuant to the transportation plans required of the State and Metropolitan Planning Organizations. The following programs are administered by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Each program is summarized below:

**1. Transportation Enhancement Program.** (part of the Statewide Multi-modal Improvement Program (SMIP) Transportation Enhancements (TE) are transportation-related activities that are designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of transportation systems. The transportation enhancements program provides up to 80 percent matching grants for the implementation of a variety of non-traditional transportation projects, including the restoration of historic transportation facilities, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, landscaping and scenic beautification, and mitigation of water pollution from highway runoff. Most of the requests and projects awarded in Wisconsin have been for bicycle facilities. Examples of bicycle projects include multi-use trails (in greenways and former rail trails, for example), paved shoulders, bicycle lanes, bicycle route signage, bicycle parking, and overpasses or underpasses.

Transportation enhancement activities must relate to surface transportation. Federal regulations restrict the use of Federal funds on trails that allow motorized vehicles, except snowmobiles. TEA-21 expanded the definition of transportation enhancement eligibility to specifically include the provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists, which had not been clearly stated under ISTEA.

**2. Surface Discretionary Grant Program.** (part of the Statewide Multi-modal Improvement Program (SMIP). This program provides up to 80 percent matching grants to local governments and transit commissions in communities with a population of 5,000 or more residents. Priority is given to projects that promote alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips. Funding has gone

evenly to transit and bicycle/pedestrian projects in past years. Nearly every bicycle project eligible under the Transportation Enhancement program is also eligible for this program, unless the project will clearly not reduce single-occupant vehicle trips. Funding for bicycle and pedestrian planning is also eligible under this program.

**3. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program.** (CMAQ). The purpose of the CMAQ program is to provide up to 80 percent matching grants for projects and programs that reduce motor vehicle travel and/or emissions in areas that have failed to meet air quality standards for ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), or small particulate matter. Bicycle and pedestrian projects are eligible for CMAQ if they reduce the number of vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled. Almost all bicycle projects eligible for Transportation Enhancement and the Surface Discretionary grant programs are likely to be eligible, but a higher burden of proof that the project will reduce air pollution is required. Non-construction activities such as maps and brochures are also eligible for funding.

**4. Surface Transportation Funds.** (Urban) These funds provide up to 80 percent matching grants and can be used on a variety of improvement projects, including bicycle and pedestrian projects. *These funds have generally been used to provide bicycle and pedestrian improvements when streets or highways are constructed or reconstructed.* [funds available for urban areas with a population from 20,000-50,000 persons; allocated and distributed annually].

**5. Incidental Improvements.** Bicycle and pedestrian projects are broadly eligible for funding from most of the major Federal-aid programs. One of the most cost-effective ways of accommodating bicycle and pedestrian improvements is to incorporate them as part of larger reconstruction, new construction, and some repaving projects. Generally, the same source of funding can be used for the bicycle and pedestrian accommodation as is used for the street or highway improvement, if the bicycle and pedestrian accommodation is “incidental” in scope and cost to the overall project. Most bicycle and pedestrian accommodations within Wisconsin are made as incidental improvements.

### Potential Funding Summary

<b>Grant Program</b>	<b>Potential Project Element to be Funded</b>	<b>Admin.</b>
<b>Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program</b>	Multiple project elements that accommodate nature-based outdoor recreation facilities	WDNR
<b>Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)</b>	Acquisition of land or easement	WDNR
<b>Urban Green Space (UGS)</b>	Ecological restoration efforts	WDNR
<b>Urban Rivers (URGP)</b>	Shoreline enhancements	WDNR
<b>The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)</b>	All park facilities, including trails	WDNR
<b>The National Recreational Trails Act (RTA)</b>	Recreational trails; potentially boardwalks	WDNR
<b>The Urban &amp; Community Forestry Grant Program</b>	Tree planting	WDNR
<b>The Federal Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)</b>	Commuter trails and pathways	WISDOT
<b>Transportation Enhancement Program</b>	Recreational Trails	WISDOT
<b>Surface Discretionary Grant Program]</b>	Commuter trails and pathways	WISDOT
<b>Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program. (CMAQ).</b>	Commuter trails and pathways	WISDOT
<b>Surface Transportation Funds (Urban)</b>	Recreational and Commuter Trails (along reconstructed streets)	WISDOT
<b>Incidental Improvements</b>		



# APPENDIX

## PARK AND OPEN SPACE SITES IN THE CITY OF NEW BERLIN: 2009

	Site Name	Location	Ownership	Acreage
<b>Public</b>				
1	Biwer Park	T6N, R20E, Section 13	City of New Berlin	9
2	Buena Park	T6N, R20E, Section 3	City of New Berlin	25
3	Calhoun Park	T6N, R20E, Section 27	City of New Berlin	56
4	Poplar Creek School	T6N, R20E, Section 9	New Berlin School District	6
5	Deer Creek Park	T6N, R20E, Section 14	City of New Berlin	3
6	Deer Creek Sanctuary	T6N, R20E, Sections 11, 14	City of New Berlin	47
7	Eisenhower Middle-High School	T6N, R20E, Section 23	New Berlin School District	52
8	Elmwood School	T6N, R20E, Section 36	New Berlin School District	7
9	Fountain Square Conservancy Area	T6N, R20E, Section 12	City of New Berlin	10
10	Gatewood Park	T6N, R20E, Section 2	City of New Berlin	9
11	Glen Park School	T6N, R20E, Section 14	New Berlin School District	7
12	Herbert Hoover School	T6N, R20E, Section 13	New Berlin School District	6
13	Hickory Grove Center	T6N, R20E, Section 12	City of New Berlin	5
14	High Grove Park	T6N, R20E, Section 36	City of New Berlin	15
15	Kelly Lake Park	T6N, R20E, Section 36	City of New Berlin	1
16	Lagoon Parkway	T6N, R20E, Section 12	City of New Berlin	1
17	Lions Park	T6N, R20E, Section 11	City of New Berlin	40
18	Malone Park	T6N, R20E, Section 22	City of New Berlin	90
19	Maple Ridge Park	T6N, R20E, Section 24	City of New Berlin	8
20	Milham Park	T6N, R20E, Section 7	City of New Berlin	39
21	Minooka Park	T6N, R20E, Sections 18, 19	Waukesha County	380 <sup>a</sup>
22	Ronald Reagan School	T6N, R20E, Section 21	New Berlin School District	11
23	New Berlin Hills Golf Course	T6N, R20E, Sections 1, 12	City of New Berlin	187
24	New Berlin Historical Park Added 11 Acres for Weston Apple Orchard (10) and Freewill Baptist Church	T6N, R20E, Section 32	City of New Berlin	15
25	New Berlin Recreational Trail		Waukesha County	_ _b
26	New Berlin West Middle/High School	T6N, R20E, Section 9	New Berlin School District	34
27	Orchard Lane School	T6N, R20E, Section 2	New Berlin School District	6
28	Pro Health Care Park	T6N, R20E, Section 12	City of New Berlin	23
29	Prospect Parkway	T6N, R20E, Section 1	City of New Berlin	7
30	Quarry Park	T5N, R20E, Section 31	City of New Berlin	123
31	Regal Park	T6N, R20E, Section 23	City of New Berlin	18
32	Rustic Ridge Park	T6N, R20E, Section 18	City of New Berlin	19
33	Stigler Nature Preserve	T6N, R20E, Section 9	City of New Berlin	41
34	Stormy Acres Park	T6N, R20E, Section 31	City of New Berlin	21
35	Valley View Park	T6N, R20E, Section 26	City of New Berlin	75
36	Weatherstone Park	T6N, R20E, Section 24	City of New Berlin	8
	<b>Total -- 36 Sites</b>			<b>1,404</b>

	Site Name	Location	Ownership	Acreage
<b>Private</b>				
38	Calhoun Farms Open Space	T6N, R20E, Section 4	Organizational	7
39	Cemetery - Highland Memorial Park	T6N, R20E, Section 2	Organizational	124
40	Cemetery - Holy Apostle	T6N, R20E, Section 15	Organizational	7
41	Cemetery - German Evangelical & Protestant Church Cemetery	T6N, R20E, Section 18	Organizational	1
42	Cemetery – German Evangelical & Reformed (Sittel) Cemetery	T6N, R20E, Section 20	Organizational	1
43	Cemetery - New Berlin	T6N, R20E, Section 28	Organizational	2
44	Cemetery - Sunnyside	T6N, R20E, Section 32	Organizational	1
45	Deer Haven Golf Course	T6N, R20E, Section 8	Commercial	56
46	Holy Apostles' School	T6N, R20E, Section 15	Organizational	6
47	Milwaukee Casting Club	T6N, R20E, Section 9	Organizational	27
48	Ojibwa Bow Hunters	T6N, R20E, Section 7	Organizational	38
49	Ralph Sharping Memorial Field	T6N, R20E, Section 28	Organizational	16
50	Raven Golf Test Center	T6N, R20E, Section 8	Commercial	15
52	Star of Bethlehem School	T6N, R20E, Section 15	Organizational	5
53	Moorland Road Golf Center	T6N, R20E, Section 34	Commercial	35
54	Tee It Up Golf Range	T6N, R20E, Section 8	Commercial	16
55	Preserve at Deer Creek Golf Course	T6N, R20E, Section 23 <sup>a</sup>	Commercial	78
	<b>Total -- 17 sites</b>			<b>435</b>

<sup>a</sup>Extends into the City and Town of Waukesha; total of 580 acres.

<sup>b</sup>The New Berlin Recreational Trail was developed by Waukesha County on lands leased from the former Wisconsin Electric Power Company, now WE Energies. The six-mile right-of-way is about 100 feet in width, covers an area about 80 acres in size, and is located in the northern portion of the city.

Source: New Berlin Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department, New Berlin Department of Community Development, and SEWRPC.

**SELECTED OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES FOR GENERAL USE IN THE CITY OF NEW BERLIN: 2009**

	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball- League Diamonds	Softball- Sandlot Fields	Play- Field	Play- Ground	Tennis Courts	Basket Ball Goals	Soccer	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Other
	Public											
1	Biwer Park	--	--	1	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	Nature Trail, Picnic Areas, Sand Volleyball
2	Buena Park	2	--	1	X	X	2	4	1	--	--	Horseshoe Pits, Picnic Areas, Sand Volleyball
3	Calhoun Park	3	--	--	X	X	--	2	4	--	--	Fishing Pond, Sledding, Horseshoe Pits, Nature Trail, Picnic Areas, Sand Volleyball, Restrooms
4	Milham Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Undeveloped
5	Popular Creek School	--	--	1	X	X	--	2	1	--	--	--
6	Deer Creek Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Undeveloped
7	Deer Creek Sanctuary	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area, Nature Trail
8	Eisenhower Middle-High School	2	2	--	X	--	--	--	2	--	--	Football/Track Field
9	Elmwood School	--	--	1	X	X	--	6	1	--	--	--
10	Fountain Square Conservancy Area	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area
11	Gatewood Park	--	--	--	X	X	--	2	1	--	--	Picnic Areas, Sledding
12	Glen Park Elementary School	--	--	3	X	X	--	5	1	--	--	--
13	Herbert Hoover School	--	--	1	X	X	--	5	1	--	--	--
14	Hickory Grove Center	--	--	2	X	X	--	4	1	--	--	Gymnasium, Horseshoe Pits
15	High Grove Park	--	--	1	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	Hiking Trails, Picnic Areas
16	Kelly Lake Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area
17	Lagoon Parkway	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area
18	Lions Park	1	--	--	X	X	4	2	4	--	--	Horseshoe Pits, Picnic Areas, Sand Volleyball
19	Malone Park	1	7	--	X	X	4	4	10	X	--	Horseshoe Pits, Picnic Areas, Sand Volleyball, Restrooms
20	Maple Ridge Park	--	--	1	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	Picnic Areas
21	Minooka Park	--	--	--	X	--	--	--	2	X	X	Archery, Camping, Cross- Country Skiing, Fishing/ Swimming Pond, Picnic Areas, Sand Volleyball, Sledding, Trails, Dog Exercise Area
22	Ronald Reagan Elementary School	--	--	--	X	X	--	4	--	--	--	--
23	New Berlin Hills Golf Course	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	18 Hole Golf Course, Sledding, Cross-Country Skiing
24	New Berlin Historical Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Historic Sites
25	New Berlin Recreational Trail	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Biking, Hiking

	Site Name	Baseball Diamonds	Softball- League Diamonds	Softball- Sandlot Fields	Play- Field	Play- Ground	Tennis Courts	Basket Ball Goals	Soccer	Ice Skating Rink	Pool or Beach	Other
26	New Berlin West High School	1	--	--	X	--	10	--	2	--	--	Football/Track Field
27	Orchard Lane School	--	--	3	X	X	--	3	1	--	--	--
28	Pro Health Care Park	--	1	--	X	X	--	2	2	--	--	Picnic Shelter, Restrooms, Trail System, Parking
30	Prospect Parkway	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area
31	Quarry Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Undeveloped
32	Regal Park	1	--	--	X	X	--	2	1	--	--	Fishing Pond
33	Rustic Ridge Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Undeveloped
34	Stigler Nature Preserve	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Conservancy Area, Cross-Country Skiing, Nature Trail
35	Stormy Acres Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Undeveloped
36	Valley View Park	2	--	--	X	X	4	2	9	--	--	Archery Range, Cross-Country Skiing, Disc Golf, Horseshoe Pits, Nature Trails, Picnic Areas, Sand Volleyball, Sledding, Soap Box Derby Track
37	Weatherstone Park	--	--	1	X	X	--	2	--	--	--	Nature Trails, Picnic Areas
	Subtotal–36 Sites	13	10	16	22	19	24	57	44	2	1	--
	Private											
38	Calhoun Farms Open Space	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
39	Cemetery–Highland Memorial Park	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Cemetery
40	Cemetery–Holy Apostle	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Cemetery
41	Cemetery–German Evangelical & Protestant	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Cemetery
42	Cemetery– German Evangelical (Sittel)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Cemetery
43	Cemetery–New Berlin	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Cemetery
44	Cemetery–Sunnyside	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Cemetery
45	Deer Haven Golf Course	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9-Hole Golf Course
46	Holy Apostles' School	--	--	--	--	X	--	1	--	--	--	--
47	Milwaukee Casting Club	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Archery, Trap Shooting
49	Ojibwa Bow Hunters	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Hunting Club
50	Ralph Sharping Memorial Field	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
51	Raven Golf Test Center	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Driving Range
52	Star of Bethlehem	--	--	1	X	X	--	3	--	--	--	--
53	Moorland Road Golf Center	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Miniature Golf, Driving Range
54	Tee It Up Golf Range	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	Driving Range
55	Preserve at Deer Creek	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9-Hole Golf Course
	Total–53 Sites	13	13	17	23	21	24	61	44	2	1	

Source: New Berlin Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department and SEWRPC.

# SURVEY RESULTS

## CITY OF NEW BERLIN PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY OPINION SURVEY 2008

### INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

- This report presents the results of a mail survey of City of New Berlin households authorized by the City of New Berlin Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission.
- The purpose of this survey was to provide the City of New Berlin Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission with the perceptions and opinions of community residents about existing and future parks, including enhancements, developments, and recreation programs.
- The survey was similar to a 2000 survey related to Parks, Recreation, and Forestry.
- This information will provide resident input to the Commission in ongoing planning and operations related to the Park and Open Space Plan.
- The survey was designed in collaboration between the Commission and Center for Urban Initiatives and Research (CUIR) at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
- The survey was sent in mid-April 2008 to 3,000 randomly selected resident households in New Berlin using addresses provided from City of New Berlin Assessor's Office.
- Only those with addresses within the City of New Berlin were used for this survey.
- A total of 1,020 completed surveys were returned by the closing date, for a response rate of 34%.
- Due to the strong response, the final sample of 1,020 respondents provides for a sampling error of plus or minus 2.94%.
- A copy of the full survey report can be viewed on the City's website at [www.newberlin.org](http://www.newberlin.org).

### I. DEMOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS

TABLE 1: RESPONDENTS' AREAS OF RESIDENCE

Location	Percentage
1 West of Calhoun Rd & North of Lawnsdale Rd	10.6%
2 East of Calhoun Rd & North of Cleveland Ave	21.3%
3 East of Calhoun Rd between Cleveland & National	14.0%
4 Between National & Beloit	34.3%
5 East of Calhoun Rd & South of Beloit	11.9%
6 West of Calhoun Rd & South of Lawnsdale Rd.	7.8%
<i>Total (Does not equal 100% due to rounding)</i>	99.9%

#### ***Length of Residency and Household Membership***

The vast majority of respondents have been residents of New Berlin for one year or more (98%), with a range of from one year to 82 years. On average, respondents lived in the City of New Berlin for nearly 22 years.

Of respondent households –

- 30% have adult members between the ages of 25 and 44 years
- 54% from 45 to 64 years of age
- 30% over 65 years
- About a third of households (29%) have children.

## II. PARK USE AND PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Respondents were asked to report the number of times in the past year that they or members of their households have visited any of the parks in the City of New Berlin or participated in any of the recreational programs offered by the City of New Berlin.

As shown in Table 2, more than twice as many respondents visited a park within the City of New Berlin than participated in a recreational program in the past year (79% visited a park at least once compared to 36% of those who have participated in a recreational program).

**TABLE 2: FREQUENCY OF PARK VISITS AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION IN PAST YEAR**

	Not at all	1 to 5 times	6 to 10 times	More than 10 times
Park Visits	21.1%	36.3%	13.8%	28.8%
Recreational Programs	63.7%	27.3%	3.3%	5.7%

## III. OPINIONS

**TABLE 3: IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING VARIOUS FEATURES IN NEW BERLIN**

Feature	Extremely important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	No opinion
Natural wetlands, ponds, and streams	66.0%	28.4%	3.5%	0.9%	1.3%
High-quality woodlands	66.0%	28.1%	3.5%	1.2%	1.2%
Restored prairie areas	47.3%	34.4%	12.3%	3.3%	2.8%
Natural habitats for native plant & animal species	58.7%	28.7%	7.6%	3.6%	1.4%
Historical areas (including buildings)	39.2%	42.5%	13.1%	3.5%	1.7%

**TABLE 4: IMPORTANCE OF USING VARIOUS METHODS TO ENHANCE OR DEVELOP EXISTING PARKS IN NEW BERLIN**

Enhancement or Development	Extremely important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	No opinion
Expand and improve forested areas	36.0%	42.2%	14.9%	3.6%	3.3%
Large open areas planted with native wildflowers	27.1%	42.2%	20.7%	7.5%	2.5%
Lighting along park walkways	29.3%	33.9%	23.9%	11.3%	1.6%
Areas with decorative flower beds	15.4%	39.2%	31.6%	11.7%	2.0%
Park facilities (i.e., restrooms, drinking water)	45.5%	40.8%	9.8%	3.1%	0.8%
Natural areas with woodchip exploration paths	30.7%	44.7%	17.7%	4.9%	2.0%
Remove invasive species to preserve native plants	43.9%	38.7%	11.6%	3.9%	2.0%

**ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR FUTURE PARK DEVELOPMENT**

Respondents were asked to rate their level of agreement along a four-point scale from Strongly Disagree (1) to Strongly Agree (4), or No Opinion, with the following statement:

Considering land may increase in cost over time, New Berlin should begin to acquire land in the City as it becomes available in the next five years for future park development.

Of those reporting a clear opinion, more than two out of three respondents (72%) reported that they agree or strongly agree that New Berlin should acquire land as it becomes available for future park development.

**TABLE 5: IMPORTANCE OF VARIOUS FUTURE PARK AREAS IN NEW BERLIN**

Future Park Area	Extremely important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	No opinion
Neighborhood parks of 5-20 acres that include play equipment, basketball courts, small park shelters, open play area, wooded area with walking trails	26.4%	42.7%	18.6%	9.1%	3.2%
Community parks of 20-100 acres that include athletic fields, restrooms, shelters with kitchen facilities, parking, trail systems, winter recreation area	18.9%	43.7%	23.2%	11.2%	3.0%
Natural areas of 20 or more acres with wetlands, streams, woodlands, nature trails, ponds, wildlife observation areas	34.2%	39.2%	17.2%	6.9%	2.5%
Nature preserve with self-guided educational trails and descriptive signage	21.9%	38.7%	27.1%	10.0%	2.2%
A youth-sports complex with concession building for baseball, soccer, football games	17.0%	37.6%	24.2%	18.2%	3.0%
Linear parks along streams and environmental corridors with paths for walking, hiking, biking, and nature observation where appropriate	34.7%	45.0%	11.2%	7.0%	2.2%

**TABLE 6: IMPORTANCE OF EXPANDING OR ADDING VARIOUS RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN NEW BERLIN**

Recreational Facility	Extremely important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	No opinion
Aquatic Center (outdoor pool)	14.4%	31.0%	29.7%	22.3%	2.6%
Spray & Splash Water playground	8.2%	33.6%	29.7%	25.3%	3.2%
Skateboard / rollerblade park	4.5%	24.7%	35.4%	32.2%	3.1%
Baseball and softball diamonds	14.2%	48.1%	23.3%	11.8%	2.7%
Soccer fields	13.3%	43.9%	26.1%	13.5%	3.3%
Tennis and basketball courts	11.1%	47.5%	26.3%	12.1%	3.1%
Picnic areas with shelters	20.3%	52.5%	17.7%	7.9%	1.7%
Playground areas with play equipment	20.3%	50.9%	16.7%	9.6%	2.5%
Pathways for hiking, walking, and biking	37.4%	44.1%	9.4%	7.5%	1.6%
Teen Center	15.6%	40.4%	23.4%	16.5%	4.0%
Cultural / Performing arts center	9.0%	30.0%	33.6%	23.5%	3.9%
Nature Center	14.8%	37.7%	27.5%	15.9%	4.1%
Community gymnasium	8.9%	24.1%	34.5%	27.6%	4.9%

**TABLE 7: IMPORTANCE OF LINKING VARIOUS DESTINATIONS BY PATHWAYS IN NEW BERLIN**

Recreational Facility	Extremely important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	No opinion
Public facilities (i.e., libraries, community center)	36.2%	36.6%	14.9%	10.0%	2.3%
Schools	30.1%	34.9%	20.1%	11.8%	3.2%
Parks	34.4%	41.4%	11.9%	9.5%	2.8%
Shopping areas	18.3%	32.6%	27.8%	18.4%	2.9%
Other neighborhoods	13.1%	31.3%	33.4%	18.2%	4.0%
Office / industrial areas	7.4%	18.8%	38.9%	30.9%	4.1%
Area or Regional trails (New Berlin Trail, Oak Leaf Trail)	27.6%	42.4%	15.2%	10.8%	4.0%
No specific destination (recreation use only)	10.8%	33.8%	25.1%	18.5%	11.8%

**TABLE 8: SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE PATHWAYS**

Question 10: In an effort to provide safe and accessible pathways, the City of New Berlin envisions a system connecting neighborhoods, schools, parks, work areas, trails, shopping areas, and public facilities.

How much do you favor or oppose continued development of this multi-purpose pathway system?

Strongly Agree	Favor	Oppose	Strongly Oppose	No Opinion	Missing
28.4%	39.5%	13.8%	10.2%	6.7%	1.4%