

Chapter 10

Plan Implementation

INTRODUCTION

This document sets forth the City of Franklin's vision for its future park, open space, and outdoor recreation sites and facilities and is considered an integral element of the City's comprehensive master plan. It provides a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the attainment of the goals and objectives the City has set for itself as expressed in this document and is an update of the 2002 Plan. In a practical sense, however, the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update cannot be effectively implemented until the steps necessary to implement it have been specified and, ultimately, acted upon. After review of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update by both the City Parks Commission and City Plan Commission, and adoption by the Common Council, realization of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update will require faithful, long-term dedication by City officials to the Plan's underlying goals and objectives. Thus, the adoption of the Plan is only the beginning of a series of actions necessary to achieve its goals and objectives. The Plan should be used as a guide for making decisions concerning the acquisition and development of the City's parks, open space, and outdoor recreation sites and facilities.

One of the important tasks before the City's Parks Commission and Plan Commission is to reevaluate and reexamine the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update on an approximately five-year basis or as becomes necessary due to any changing conditions. Criteria and issues pertaining to the updating and/or amendment of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update have been described in detail in Chapter 1 of this Plan.

Various Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update implementation tools will be explored in greater detail in this chapter.

PARK PLANNING ENABLING LEGISLATION

As stated earlier in Chapter 1, Section 62.23(2) and Section 66.1001 of the Wisconsin Statutes set forth the legislation necessary for cities to prepare comprehensive master plans for their physical development. The comprehensive master plan contains the following nine elements: Issues and Opportunities; Housing; Transportation; Utility and Community Facilities; Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources; Economic Development; Intergovernmental Cooperation; Land Use; and Implementation. In particular, the Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources element shall

include a compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for the conservation, and promotion of the effective management, of natural resources, parks, open spaces, and recreational resources. This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update and its various chapters address these requirements so as to be considered an element of the City's Comprehensive Master Plan.

In addition to the City Plan Commission's duties regarding the preparation of a City comprehensive master plan and its various elements, the Common Council must refer to the City Plan Commission for its consideration and report, before consideration by the Council, matters concerning, among others: "*the location, acceptance, extension, alteration, vacation, abandonment, change of use, sale, acquisition of land or lease of land for any. . . park, playground . . . or other memorial or public grounds*"

PARKS COMMISSION AND PARK ACQUISITION

As indicated in Chapter 1, Section 27.08 of the Wisconsin Statutes provides that cities may create, by ordinance, a board of park commissioners. The City has such a Parks Commission. Under Section 27.08 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the duties of the Parks Commission include the acquisition of property for park purposes by gift, devise, bequest, or condemnation; either absolutely or in trust, money, real or personal property, or any incorporeal right or privilege after approval of the Common Council. Under Section 27.08 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Parks Commission has the duties to govern, manage, control, to cause improvements, and care for all public parks, parkways, boulevards, and pleasure drives located within the City and partly outside the City.

In addition, under Section 62.23(17)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes: "*Cities may acquire by gift, lease, purchase, or condemnation any lands (a) within its corporate limits for establishing, laying out, widening, enlarging, extending, and maintaining memorial grounds, streets, squares, parkways, boulevards, parks, playgrounds, sites for public buildings, and reservations in and about and along and leading to any or all of the same*"

FOREST ACQUISITION POWERS OF THE CITY

Section 28.20 of the Wisconsin Statutes provides that cities may acquire land and appropriate funds for the purpose of establishing a community forest. Such a forest may be located outside of the city limits. Authority also is given to properly manage such forests and sell any merchantable timber derived from these forests.

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS, HEARINGS, AND PLAN ADOPTION

While Chapter 62.23 of the Wisconsin Statutes does not require cities to hold public hearings on proposed plans prior to adoption, it is nevertheless, good planning practice to do so. The City of Franklin understands that active citizen participation in the planning process not only provides an opportunity for the public to view the recommendations of the plan, but also to participate in their formulation. With such public participation, it is much more likely that the plan's recommendations will be understood, supported, and eventually, implemented. Therefore, this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update provided the following public input opportunities:

- A short informal survey of Franklin residents and visitors to obtain public input about their experiences with, and thoughts on, the parks, open space sites, and outdoor recreation facilities within the City.
- A Public Workshop held on November 30, 2010, to allow Franklin residents and other interested individuals an opportunity to express what they feel the park, open space, and outdoor recreation priorities for the City should be for the next 5 to 15 years.
- An Open House held on January 24, 2011, in conjunction with a Parks Commission meeting, to obtain public comment on the draft CORP update.

Furthermore, if this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update is to be adopted as an amendment of the City's Comprehensive Master Plan (as recommended in the 2009 Comprehensive Master Plan), Section 66.1001(4)(d) of the Wisconsin State Statutes requires at least one public hearing on this matter.

It is recommended that a public hearing be held before the Common Council for consideration of the adoption of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update set forth in this document.

CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP REVIEW, SUBDIVISION PLAT REVIEW, CONDOMINIUM PLAT REVIEW, AND RELATED UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

As stated earlier, the City's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update is an element of the City's Comprehensive Master Plan.

As such, it is recommended that the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update, in conjunction with the City's detailed neighborhood development plans (set forth in the 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan) and the City's current 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan, should serve as the basis for the review of all proposed certified survey maps, subdivisions, and condominium plats in the City as they may relate to parks, open space, and outdoor recreation within the City of Franklin.

Any proposed departures from these plans should be carefully reviewed by the City Plan Commission. Such departures should be allowed by the City Plan Commission only when it finds that such departures are in the public interest and do not conflict with the Comprehensive Master Plan or the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update.

Reservation and/or Dedication of Sites for Future Parks and Playgrounds

In the design of a subdivision plat, certified survey map, condominium, or multiple-family dwelling development zoned for residential uses, due consideration should be given to the reservation and/or dedication of suitable sites of adequate area for future parks and playgrounds as set forth in this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. The provision of public park areas should be based upon the per capita standards set forth in Chapter 3, and the public demand methodology set forth in Chapter 5, of this Plan.

In order to properly use the per capita standards, the determination of the persons per household (or dwelling unit) should be based upon the average number of persons per household as reported in the most recent U.S. Census for the City of Franklin. Since 2010 Census data was not available at the time of this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update, year 2000 Census data was used. In the year 2000 there were 2.58 persons per household in the City of Franklin.

It is recommended that whenever a proposed playground, park, or other public open space land designated in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update is encompassed, all or in part, within a tract of land to be divided by either a certified survey map or subdivision plat or is a part of a condominium or multiple-family dwelling development, those lands designated as public should be dedicated to the public by the subdivider or condominium developer at the rates indicated in Table 10.1.

Table 10.1

**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION LAND DEDICATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE CITY OF FRANKLIN (ACRES PER DWELLING UNIT)**

Facility Category	Public Outdoor Recreation Land Dedication Requirements (Acre Per Dwelling Unit)
Public Outdoor Recreation	
Community (in park sites)	0.005676
Community Center Building Site	.0003208
Community (in middle or high school sites)	0.002322
Community Trail System	0.0009987
Neighborhood (in park sites)	0.004386
Neighborhood (in elementary school sites)	0.004128
Mini Parks (in park sites)	0.00258
<i>Total Public Outdoor Recreation Land Dedication Required</i>	<i>0.0198982 acre per dwelling unit</i>

NOTE: The numbers in Table 10.1 were calculated based upon the per capita acreage standards (see Table 3.1 of Chapter 3 of this Plan) and the persons per household. The proportionate share amount of land to be dedicated per dwelling unit in the City of Franklin was calculated for the provision of public outdoor recreation land. These rates are based on the following formula:

$$\text{(total acres required year 2025, per capita standard)} / \text{(year 2025 population} / 2.58 \text{ persons per household)} = \text{total acres required per dwelling unit}$$

The determination of the persons per household, or dwelling unit, is based upon the average number of persons per household as reported in the U.S. Census for the City of Franklin, Wisconsin. According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, in the year 2000 there were 2.58 persons per household in the City of Franklin. Table 10.1 represents the calculated determination of the amount of land which would be required for each of the various park types.

As noted in Chapter 5, the City of Franklin’s total public park, open space, and outdoor recreation land requirement for the year 2025 should not be based solely upon a quantitative analysis. Rather, consideration of the public demand methodology described in Chapter 5 should also be included. This will allow proper consideration of unique opportunities and constraints, whether they be physical in nature or based upon public or professional input, which in turn will allow this Plan to reflect those conditions which make the City of Franklin unique. Most commonly considered in this regard are Special Parks -- those public park, open space, or outdoor recreation sites which are

intended solely or primarily for the permanent public preservation of valuable natural resource features.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Southwest Park as proposed herein also be considered in this regard during the design of subdivision plats, certified survey maps, condominiums, or multiple-family dwelling developments zoned for residential uses.

Options for the Provision of Public Outdoor Recreation Land

It is recommended that the City Plan Commission should, at the time of reviewing the certified survey map, preliminary plat, condominium, or multiple-family dwelling development, decide on one of the below stated options available for the provision of outdoor recreation land and record such decision in the minutes of the meeting at which the land division is presented for City Plan Commission approval.

The City Plan Commission should solicit recommendations from the City Parks Commission on such matters. The options are as follows:

1. Dedicate public park, open space, or outdoor recreation lands designated on the City comprehensive master plan, detailed neighborhood plans, Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, or other comprehensive master plan component, or
2. Reserve such public park, open space, or outdoor recreation lands and require the payment of a public outdoor recreation land site fee in conformance with the City of Franklin “Park and Recreation Facility Impact Fee Ordinance”, or
3. Where no public outdoor recreation lands are directly involved, require the payment of a public outdoor recreation land site fee in conformance with the City of Franklin “Park and Recreation Facility Impact Fee Ordinance”.

It is recommended that the current Section 15-5.0110 titled "Parks, Playgrounds, and Other Recreational and Municipal Facilities" of the City of Franklin Unified Development Ordinance be amended as indicated in Appendix B to better assist in the implementation of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

NEED FOR UPDATE OF THE IMPACT FEE ORDINANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTING PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITY IMPACT FEES

Chapter 9 described and discussed the capital cost estimates for the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update and also discussed impact fees.

In order to properly implement this Plan in a fiscally responsible way, it is recommended that the City periodically review and update its "Impact Fee Ordinance" to specifically insure that it continues to meet all of the requirements of Section 66.0617 of the Wisconsin Statutes as it may be amended from time to time.

In this regard, it can be noted that it is envisioned that such a review and possible update of the City's Impact Fee Ordinance will be initiated immediately after completion of this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update.

ZONING

Detailed plans can be implemented not only by certified survey map, subdivision, condominium, and other residential development review but also through the use of special zoning districts under the City of Franklin Unified Development Ordinance. Zoning allows for the protection of lands proposed for parks and parkways from incompatible urban or suburban encroachment. For instance, existing and proposed park and open space lands may be placed within a park or open space zoning district such as the City's P-1 Park District which is intended to:

". . . provide for areas where the recreational needs, both public and private, of the populace can be met without undue disturbance of natural resources and adjacent uses.

Section 87.30 of the Wisconsin Statutes mandates that cities must enact a floodplain zoning ordinance ". . . where appreciable damage from floods is likely to occur." Typically, such floodplain districts result in the reservation of needed community open space, and may allow for other uses in addition to those of floodwater movement and storage. The City currently has three such floodplain zoning districts in place in Division 15-3.0300 of the City's Unified Development Ordinance and appropriately mapped--the FW Floodway, FC Floodplain Conservancy, and FFO Floodplain Fringe Overlay Districts, as well as certain additional floodplain zoning districts as specified by Wisconsin's model floodplain ordinance.

Finally, under Section 62.231 of the Wisconsin Statutes, a city must also "*zone by ordinance all unfilled wetlands 5 acres or more . . . which are located in any shorelands and which are within its*

incorporated area." Similar to floodplain zoning, the type of district required to protect such wetlands also results in the reservation of open space which may allow for other wetland associated land uses. The City currently has a SW Shoreland Wetland District in the City's Unified Development Ordinance which is intended to:

". . . preserve, protect, and enhance the ponds, streams, and wetland areas of the City of Franklin. The preservation, protection, and enhancement of these areas will serve to maintain safe and healthful conditions; maintain and improve water quality, both ground and surface; prevent flood damage; control storm water runoff; protect stream banks from erosion; protect groundwater recharge and discharge areas; protect wildlife habitat; protect native plant communities; avoid the location of structures on soils which are generally not suitable for use; and protect the water-based recreation resources of the City"

In addition, the City protects other natural areas of the City which have various natural resource features such as mature and young woodlands, lakes, and ponds through the use of the City's Unified Development Ordinance's natural resource protection standards (see Chapter 3 of this Plan and Table 3.6). In this regard, the City's Comprehensive Master Plan also currently recommends the protection of additional natural resource features within the southwestern portion of the City, and suggests consideration of such additional protection in the remainder of the City.

Therefore, it is recommended that the City of Franklin update the Unified Development Ordinance to protect SEWRPC's Primary and Secondary Environmental Corridors and Isolated Natural Resource Areas, and Cedarburg Science's Linkages, as set forth in the City of Franklin 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan.

Furthermore, the City's Comprehensive Master Plan also currently promotes and encourages additional mixed use zoning within the City.

Therefore, it is recommended that the City of Franklin update the Unified Development Ordinance to create a mixed use zoning district such that park, open space, and outdoor recreation sites and facilities would be a permitted use when included with other compatible uses as recommended in the City of Franklin 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan.

OFFICIAL MAPPING

Section 62.23(6) of the Wisconsin Statutes provides that the Common Council of any city may establish an official map for the precise identification of right-of-way lines and site boundaries of

streets, highways, historic districts, waterways and parkways, and the location and extent of railway rights-of-way, public transit facilities, parks, and playgrounds. Such a map has the force of law and is deemed to be final and conclusive with respect to the location and width of both existing and proposed streets, highways, waterways and parkways, the location and extent of railway rights-of-way, public transit facilities, parks, and playgrounds.

The official map is intended to be used as a precise planning tool to implement public plans for streets, highways, waterways and parkways, railways, public transit facilities, parks, and playgrounds. One of the basic purposes of the official map is to prohibit the construction of buildings or structures and their associated improvements on land that has been designated for future public use. The official map is a plan implementation device that operates on a community-wide basis in advance of land development and can, thereby, effectively assure the integrated development of the parkway, park, and playground system. Unlike subdivision control, which operates on a plat-by-plat basis, the official map operates over the entire City in advance of development proposals. The official map is a useful device to achieve public acceptance of long-range plans in that it serves as legal notice of the City's intention to all parties concerned well in advance of any actual improvements. It, thereby, avoids the situation of development being undertaken without knowledge or regard for the long-range plan and can help avoid public resistance when plan implementation becomes imminent.

While the City does have an official map, it only identifies existing rights-of-way.

It is recommended that the City consider the creation of a more detailed official map at such time as this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update, or the Comprehensive Master Plan, undergo a more comprehensive revision.

THE NEED FOR A FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

A capital improvements program is simply a list of fundable major public improvements needed in a community over the next five years, arranged in order of preference to assure that the improvements are carried out in priority of need and in accord with the community's ability to pay. Major public improvements include such items as streets, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, water mains, and public buildings and parks, which together form the "urban infra-structure" required to support urban land use development and redevelopment. A capital improvements program is intended to promote well-balanced community development without overemphasis on any particular phase of such development, and to promote coordinated development both in time and between functional areas. With such a program, required bond issues and tax revenues can be foreseen and provisions made. Needed land for the projects can be acquired in a timely fashion and staged construction facilitated. Each of the park improvement priority levels also has corresponding operations and maintenance implications which also need to be considered by both the City Parks Commission and Common

Council and on an individual basis through capital improvements programming.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update sets forth needed improvements to existing park facilities (see Chapters 6, 7, and 9); thus, the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update should be the primary source of park-related projects to be included in the capital improvements program list. However, this list may also include projects suggested by department heads, as well as by community and neighborhood groups.

It is recommended that the Five-Year Capital Improvements Program utilize this Plan, and review, refine, and update its park, open space, and outdoor recreation site and facility recommendations on an annual basis so as to maintain its usefulness to the City's overall capital improvements program and budgeting process.

The City is also to consider the use of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance transition plan to assist with the overall priority implementation of the ADA compliance components of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update and budgeting. This may also be addressed through Parks Commission and Common Council policy and budgeted through the capital improvements program.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture has the authority and responsibility for the acquisition, development, and maintenance of parks within Milwaukee County including the City of Franklin. SEWRPC's Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* (p. 70) recommended that the Milwaukee County Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources assume responsibility for the provision of natural resource-related sites and facilities which are logically a part of an area-wide system. This system should include major parks, recreation corridors, and surface water access facilities, as well as an area-wide parkway system along major rivers such as the Root River. This system should include the following:

- The development of the major parks in Milwaukee County as part of the system.
- The development of the recreation corridor within Milwaukee County as part of the system of recreation trails proposed to be located throughout the region within designated parkways and other environmental corridors, along railway, power company, and other rights-of-way, and on public roads.

- The development of water access facilities providing boat access to major inland rivers.

A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County (p. 70) further indicates that while specific implementation measures are identified in the *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County*, the provision of needed park and open space sites and facilities in the public interest is of primary importance and that all units of government in the County should cooperate to assure the timely reservation of lands for such sites and facilities.

As of 2010 in the City of Franklin, *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* (Map 20, p. 73) indicates that:

- Two areas are proposed to be acquired by Milwaukee County as parkland in the vicinity of Whitnall Park in the City of Franklin (see Map 7.1 of Chapter 7 of the *City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*).
- Various land areas are proposed to be acquired contiguous to the Root River Parkway in the City of Franklin (see Map 7.1 of Chapter 7 of the *City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*).

A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County (pp. 74-75) established a priority of the acquisition and development of the above listed sites as Priority Level II. A priority rating Level II indicates that a project is of secondary importance. Projects receiving a priority rating of II generally involve development of either non-resource-oriented facilities or development at sites not yet acquired by Milwaukee County.

It is recommended that the City of Franklin continue to work with Milwaukee County in regard to park, open space, and outdoor recreation issues of mutual interest. In particular, it is recommended that the County and City continue to work cooperatively on the following projects: a Final End Land Use Plan for Crystal Ridge Park; a memorandum of understanding and Special Use Amendment for the Milwaukee County Sports Complex; and joint development of the existing Franklin Park/proposed Southwest Park area.

PARK AND OPEN SPACE LAND PURCHASE AND ACQUISITION BY THE CITY

There are several methods of land purchase which are available to the City for the purchase acquisition of outdoor recreation land. The following paragraphs briefly describe some of the more popular methods used.

General Forms of Acquisition

Purchase of Fee Simple Interest: Purchase of fee simple interest is perhaps the surest way to preserve open space lands. It is what most people normally conceive of when the word "purchase" is used. It includes the acquisition of the complete private bundle of rights which is immune from the control of other persons and is unlimited in duration, disposition, and descendibility.

Purchase and Resale Upon Condition: In this situation, the land is purchased but then resold and returned to the tax rolls. However, in this resale, the City would impose conditions on the use of the property. For example, a reversion clause could be used to make sure that, if identified open space purposes are not met, ownership of the land would revert back to the City.

Purchase and Lease Back: Under this method, the City would purchase the fee simple interest in the parcel and then, on an interim basis, lease use of the parcel back to either the seller or some other party. The lease-back arrangements would provide income to the City, yet the City would maintain control of the land with respect to subsequent use. The lease could contain conditions for future recreation and/or open space uses which could be enforced.

Acquisition Subject to Life Estate: Under this method, the City would purchase or otherwise acquire the land but allow the present owner to remain on the land for the duration of the present owner's lifetime. Upon the present owner's death, the City would take possession of the land. This method has the advantage of acquiring the parcel for a reasonable purchase price, while at the same time ensuring future public use of the property.

Acquisition of Tax Delinquent Land: Land can, in some cases, be acquired by the City for nonpayment of taxes. If the land so acquired is not suitable for open space purposes, it is possible that it could be exchanged for other lands which the City may want to acquire for recreation and/or open space purposes.

Easement Acquisition

Conservancy Easements: Conservancy easements may be placed upon private lands and allow for public access to or through those lands. If recreation and/or open space lands are to be publicly accessible, under this method the City may buy the rights of public access to private land to provide for a public purpose, such as fishing, nature study, or open space preservation. Such easements may also prohibit the current landowner from removing vegetation or filling wetland areas.

If open space is to be preserved but is to be privately accessible, an option under this method is for the City to require that developers delineate conservancy easements on the face of the subdivision plat, certified survey map, condominium plat, or site plan (which would require later recordation of

such easements with the Milwaukee County Register of Deeds). Thus, although not publicly accessible, open space areas would still be preserved. In fact, such open space areas may even be an integral part of the individual building lot or site if the lot is oversized to accommodate both the easement and the development of the lot or site.

Scenic Easements: The City can either purchase or require scenic easement dedications to maintain control of scenic areas and vistas. The easement could include provisions which restrict the landowner's right to build structures, dump trash, cut timber or brush, or otherwise impair or modify the scenic areas.

Other Forms of Acquisition

Acquisition of Development Rights: Under this method, the City purchases only the right to develop the land. The original landowner retains ownership of the land, which remains on the tax roll. Stipulations can be made which assure that virtually no change in the existing use of the land could occur. Acquisition of such development rights may run for a given number of years or in perpetuity.

Gifts or Donations: The City may acquire interest in land through gifts or donations. In many instances, such gifts or donations are made because of tax advantages which accrue to the owner.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND GRANTS

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has authority and responsibility in the areas of park development, natural resource and water quality protection, and water use regulations. Because of this broad range of authority and responsibility, some of the functions of the Department have importance in the implementation of the City's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. For instance, a very important function is the Department's authority to administer the following grant programs:

- The Federal Land and Water Conservation (LAWCON) fund program (Public Law 88-578) within Wisconsin.
- The National Recreational Trails Act (RTA, Public Law 102-240) within Wisconsin.
- The State Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP, Section 7.23.09(20) of the Wisconsin Statutes) program.
- The Urban Green Space Program (UGS, Section 23.09(19) of the Wisconsin Statutes).

- The Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP) established by 1991 Wisconsin Act 269 (Section 30.277 of the Wisconsin Statutes).
- The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program established in 1990 by the State of Wisconsin and administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

It is important that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources approve and adopt the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the City of Franklin in order to maintain the eligibility of the City for available state and federal outdoor recreation grants in support of Plan implementation.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRAIL AND BICYCLE CORRIDOR PLAN COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN

In general, for those trail and bicycle corridor plan components recommended to be provided within the right-of-way of a public street or highway, the unit of government responsible for constructing and maintaining each street or highway in question should also have responsibility for constructing and maintaining the associated trail and/or bicycle facility, or for entering into operating or maintenance agreements with other units or agencies of government to perform maintenance activities.

Potential funding for the implementation of the trail and bicycle corridor plan components of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update could come from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) which was created through Federal transportation funding for transportation-related programs. These programs typically provide funding for projects aimed at improving air quality and reducing congestion in Wisconsin's air quality attainment areas such as in Milwaukee County. Other funds for the development of off-street bicycle and pedestrian ways are available from the Department of Natural Resources through the Stewardship Fund program mentioned earlier, or the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Transportation Enhancement Program, to name a few.

Another potential source of funding for the City's trail system is the Wisconsin Safe Routes to School program. It can be noted that the City of Franklin successfully applied for a Safe Routes to School Planning Grant in 2010 for a study of the Pleasant View Elementary School area.

As previously mentioned in this CORP update, it is recommended that the results of the Safe Routes to School Planning Grant, and any subsequent grants, be incorporated into this CORP update.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH MILWAUKEE COUNTY, LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, & OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Another effective way of implementing the City's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update can be through the formation of "partnerships" between the City and other units of government, school districts, and private entities and/or organizations. These types of partnerships have already had precedent in the other communities in Milwaukee County. For instance, the City of Greenfield and Milwaukee County created such a "partnership" for the development of Konkel Park. Such "partnerships" can also be established with various public service organizations and the private sector for the provision of needed recreation facilities.

In addition, a number of civic organizations are active in Franklin, and over time have assisted with a number of park, open space, and/or outdoor recreation related projects within the City. Examples of these organizations and their park related projects include but are not limited to:

- The Franklin Historical Society, and its efforts to establish, maintain, and improve the Historical Village at Lions Legend Park. The Franklin Historical Society was instrumental in the establishment of the Historical Village comprised of the Sheehan-Godsell Cabin, the Old Town Hall, the Whelan School, and the St. Peters Chapel. The Historical Society also assists with the maintenance of these buildings. Furthermore, during 2010 and 2011, the Historical Society in general, and some of its members in particular, initiated an effort to establish an agricultural history/exhibit building within the Historical Village.



- The Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy has been involved in many preservation, restoration, and public awareness efforts within the City of Franklin, not the least being its contributions towards the study and restoration of the Franklin Savanna, a State Natural Area located within Franklin Park.
- The recently established Friends of Franklin Parks have undertaken a number of park related projects including buckthorn removal at Lions Legend Park, tree planting at Tifton Woods, and public awareness efforts such as a Franklin Parks photo contest.

- The Boy Scouts of America Troop 539 has been involved in numerous Eagle Scout projects including construction of the band shell at Lions Legend Park and the flag memorial adjacent to the Franklin Public Library.

It is recommended that a partnership between the City Franklin and Milwaukee County be formed for the development of the Franklin Park/Southwest Park area, and for completion of segments of the trail system in the City in order to afford better access to off-street parking facilities as well as to existing and planned parks.

It is recommended that a partnership between the City of Franklin and the Franklin School District be formed to develop the proposed Forest Hills Neighborhood Park/existing Forest Park Middle School area.

It is recommended that a partnership between the City of Franklin and the Waste Management Metro Landfill be formed to develop the Metro Conservancy area.

It is recommended that the City of Franklin expand its efforts to encourage and facilitate park related projects with other public, private, and non-profit organizations.



Koepmier Lake