

Chapter 7

Identification of New Public Park, Open Space, Trail, and Outdoor Recreation Sites and Facilities: The Outdoor Recreation Plan

INTRODUCTION

This chapter of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) update presents both the site-related and the facilities-related park, open space, and outdoor recreation recommendations for the City of Franklin to the year 2025. This CORP update specifically addresses both existing and proposed Regional/Multi-Community, Community, Neighborhood, Mini, and Special Parks, open space sites, trails, and outdoor recreation facilities. It serves as the mechanism which links and integrates the preceding six chapters of the CORP update with the actual park and recreation development of the City.

This chapter, along with Chapter 10 titled "Plan Implementation," presents the *action program* for both park development and improvement for the short-term (about five years) and long-term (about 15 years -- to the year 2025). The development and improvement plans specified in this chapter are a direct response to the projected population growth anticipated for the City of Franklin to the year 2025 (see Chapter 2); the City's public outdoor recreation definitions, principles, goals, objectives, and standards (see Chapter 3); an inventory and examination of existing park and recreation facilities, service area delineations, and natural areas (see Chapter 4); the forecast outdoor recreation facility needs (see Chapter 5); and the identification of existing deficiencies in the quantity or quality of existing City-owned outdoor recreation facilities to serve new development (see Chapter 6). Chapter 8 presents a detailed needs analysis for the development of a community recreation center building. Chapter 9 presents capital cost estimates for the construction of various potential elements of the new outdoor recreation facilities as well as impact fees. Chapter 10 identifies the various plan implementation tools available to the City of Franklin to effectively implement the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update.

Map 7.1 graphically presents the recommendations of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update for public parks, open space sites, and outdoor recreation facilities in the City of Franklin. Parks, open space sites, and outdoor recreation facilities under the jurisdiction, or potential jurisdiction, of the City of Franklin are indicated on Map 7.1 as well as those parks, open space sites, and outdoor recreation facilities under the jurisdiction of Milwaukee County and the Franklin Public School District. The plan for parks and open space under the jurisdiction of Milwaukee County is set forth in SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space*

Plan for Milwaukee County (Waukesha, WI: SEWRPC, November 1991). Map 7.1 also indicates the existing and proposed trails and recreation corridors presented in that Plan.

IDENTIFIED AND POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING PARK, OPEN SPACE, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION SITES AND FACILITIES

The following is a description of the identified and potential improvements to the existing park, open space, and outdoor recreation sites and facilities in the City over the next five-year and 15-year periods. The list is broken down by park type: regional and multi-community level public outdoor recreation land (Regional/Multi-Community Parks); community level public outdoor recreation land (Community Parks); community level public outdoor recreation land (Community Playfields); neighborhood level public outdoor recreation land (Neighborhood Parks); neighborhood level public outdoor recreation land (Neighborhood Playgrounds), mini park level public outdoor recreation land (Mini Parks), and Special Parks.

Park Improvement Priority Levels

Each park is assigned a "priority level" from 1 to 3 based upon park use and the need to accomplish any desired planned improvements within the short-term (about five years) and long-term (about 15 years -- to the year 2025). Priority level 1 indicates a high priority park--that is, a need to investigate/accomplish any desired improvements within 1 to 2 years. Priority level 2 indicates a moderate priority park--that is, a need to investigate/accomplish any desired improvements within 2 to 5 years. Priority level 3 indicates a low priority park--that is, a need to accomplish desired improvements after the next 5 years. The City should also consider use of the 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. Each of the park improvement priority levels also has corresponding operations and maintenance implications. These operations and maintenance implications need to be considered by both the City of Franklin Parks Commission and Common Council, both in their entirety as well as on an individual basis throughout the Comprehensive Outdoor Park Plan update's implementation.

Existing Regional and Multi-Community Parks

Root River Parkway: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Root River Parkway is an approximately 2,110-acre park (that portion located in the City of Franklin) owned by Milwaukee County. The Root River parkway generally extends in a north to south direction through the central portion of the City of Franklin along both sides of the Root River (see Map 7.1). The Root River Parkway also includes the Anderson Lake area (located north of W. Rawson Avenue and east of S. 68th Street). See Chapter 4 for a description of existing facilities and amenities in the Root River Parkway.

SEWRPC's Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* indicates continued provision of a variety of resource-oriented outdoor recreation facilities including trail facilities for bicycling, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, and ski touring within the Root River recreation corridor. In addition, SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 also indicates the planned expansion of the Root River Parkway in the City of Franklin (see Map 7.1).

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update.

However, the City of Franklin does continue to support Milwaukee County's continued maintenance of the Root River Parkway as a regional park, and expansion of the Root River Parkway and extension of the Oak Leaf Trail southward and eastward to the Town of Raymond and the City of Oak Creek, as generally set forth in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan. As such, these recommendations are reflected in this CORP update.

It is important to note that Elm Road Woods is located west of S. 27th Street, south of W. Elm Road, and east of the Root River Parkway, in U.S. Public Land Survey Section 36. This tract of woodlands is a Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) designated Isolated Natural Resource Area. See Table 4.3 for more details. The SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* recommends Milwaukee County acquire this property as part of the Root River Parkway. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update. However, this property is also located within the City of Franklin 27th Street Corridor Plan and is therein recommended for mixed-use office development.

Therefore, it is recommended Milwaukee County purchase only the portion of Elm Road Woods encompassing the SEWRPC Isolated Natural Resource Feature, leaving the remainder of the property for development consistent with the City of Franklin 27th Street Corridor Plan.

Since these sites are not under the control of the City of Franklin and serve a regional population, they have not been assigned a priority level.

Whitnall Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Whitnall Park is a 640.1-acre major park site owned by Milwaukee County and located partially in the City of Franklin (388 acres), and partially in the Village of Hales Corners. Whitnall Park is located south of W. Grange Avenue, north of W. Rawson

Avenue, east of STH 100 and west of S. 76th Street. Whitnall Park is located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Whitnall North Planning Area. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities at Whitnall Park.

SEWRPC's Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* indicates continued maintenance and improvement of the park as necessary. In addition, *SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132* indicates an expansion of Whitnall Park to include Monastery Lake located south of W. Rawson Avenue and other lands southwest of S. Lovers Lane Road (US 45/STH 100) in the City of Franklin (also see Map 7.1).

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding improvements to this park are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin does generally support Milwaukee County's continued maintenance of Whitnall Park as a regional park, and expansion of the park to the south and southwest, as generally set forth in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 and the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, these recommendations are reflected in this CORP Update.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin and serves a regional population, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Oakwood Park and Golf Course: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Oakwood Park and Golf Course is a 278.3-acre regional park owned by Milwaukee County and located adjacent to the Root River Parkway in the southern, more rural area of the City (see Map 7.1). Oakwood Park is located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Oakwood Park Planning District. The natural area at Oakwood Park and Golf Course consists of a small dry-mesic oak woods of moderate quality, with a large population of black haw, a State-designated special concern species. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities at Oakwood Park and Golf Course.

SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* recommends this park be expanded to encompass approximately 1,710 acres of additional lands located within the Root River Parkway, including about 1,400 acres owned by the County and about 310 acres proposed for County acquisition and located south of the existing Oakwood Park area. Under the adopted Root River Watershed and Area-wide Water Quality Management Plans, it is recommended that a 660-acre lake, known as Oakwood Lake, be constructed on these parkway lands near the confluence of the north branch of the Root River and the Root River Canal. Oakwood Lake would be used for recreation and stormwater drainage low-flow augmentation purposes.

SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 also recommends, after construction of the multi-purpose reservoir, that swimming, camping, picnicking facilities, and the necessary support facilities be provided by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The County Board has requested that the DNR operate the proposed Oakwood regional park site as a State facility. The SEWRPC plan for the County suggests that Milwaukee County be responsible for the completion of the acquisition of additional lands necessary for the park site, and the DNR be responsible for the construction of Oakwood Lake and the provision of related recreational facilities.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this park are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin does generally support Milwaukee County's development of Oakwood Park as a regional park, and the expansion of the park and associated Root River Parkway, as generally set forth in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan. As such, these recommendations are reflected in this CORP update.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin and serves a regional population, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Milwaukee County Sports Complex: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Milwaukee County Sports Complex is an approximate 132+/-acre regional public park owned by Milwaukee County. The Milwaukee County Sports Complex is located at the intersection of S. 60th Street and W. Ryan Road (STH 100) (6000 W. Ryan Road) in the southeast quadrant of the City of Franklin (see Map 7.1). The Milwaukee County Sports Complex is located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Froemming Park Planning District. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities at this site.

Plans prepared for the Milwaukee County Sports Complex include the addition of 17 more outdoor soccer fields and additional off-street parking.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin does generally support Milwaukee County's continued maintenance of the Milwaukee County Sport Complex as a regional park as set forth in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update. In addition, it can be noted that in 2010, City of Franklin and Milwaukee County representatives were meeting to discuss the possibility of updating, clarifying, and expanding the acceptable uses of this site. It is envisioned that any such changes, when approved by all affected parties, would be incorporated by reference into this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin and serves a regional population, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Grobschmidt Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Grobschmidt Park is a 155-acre undeveloped multi-community public park site located partially in the City of Franklin (143 acres), owned by Milwaukee County, and located south of W. College Avenue, north of W. Tumblecreek Drive, east of S. 51st Street, and west of, and contiguous to, S. 35th Street (see Map 7.1). The northwest corner of the park is partially in the Village of Greendale. Grobschmidt Park is located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Xaverian Neighborhood. Grobschmidt Park contains 80 acres of land consisting of a combination of moderate quality deep and shallow marsh, sedge meadow, shrub-carr, and disturbed dry-mesic woods as well as a restored prairie (also see Table 4.3 for further information on its "Natural Area" classification). See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

The SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* recommends facility development including provision of picnic areas; playfields; hiking and nature trails; community park facilities, such as ball diamonds and tennis courts; and necessary support facilities.

The Xaverian Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan also indicates Grobschmidt Park as a community park.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this park are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin does generally support Milwaukee County's development of Grobschmidt Park as a multi-community park as generally recommended in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, and the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin and serves a regional population, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Franklin Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Franklin Park is a 164.6-acre undeveloped multi-community public park owned by Milwaukee County located north of, and contiguous to, W. Oakwood Road, approximately one mile east of S. 112th Street and one mile west of S. 92nd Street (see Map 7.1). Franklin Park is located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Willow Edge Planning District. No facilities existed at Franklin Park in the year 2010. The wooded portion of Franklin Park is a former oak savanna, but only the north portion of the

wooded area retains this character. In the north portion of the wooded area there are large, scattered, open-grown bur oaks, but the understory consists mainly of weeds, with a few prairie species persisting. The south portion of the wooded area has degraded further into a dense shrub land. According to the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC), the wooded portion of Franklin Park, especially the north portion, would be a prime candidate for oak savanna restoration. In addition, this site has also been identified as the Franklin Savanna State Natural Area (see Table 4.3 for more information).

According to the 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan, the woodlands in Franklin Park consist of large, scattered bur oaks, and several oak savanna/prairie species still remain in the understory. An intense restoration of this site is being conducted by the Friends of Milwaukee County Parks in conjunction with the Natural Resources Foundation. Assistance has also been provided by the Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy and the Friends of Franklin Parks.

The SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* recommends facility development including the provision of picnic areas; playfields; hiking and nature trails; community park facilities, such as ball diamonds and tennis courts; necessary support facilities; and special day camp facilities designed to promote participation in musical and other cultural activities, including such facilities as an amphitheater. It should be noted that while this plan has been adopted by Milwaukee County, it is nearly 20 years old. An update of this plan is currently under preparation by Milwaukee County and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin, detailed City recommendations regarding improvements to this park are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin does support development of Franklin Park as a multi-community public park as generally recommended in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan.

As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update. In addition, Chapter 3 and Appendix I of the Comprehensive Master Plan recommend the acquisition and development of additional park lands within the southwestern portion of the City adjacent to Franklin Park. More information on this proposal is set forth in the Recommended and Planned New Public Parks section of this chapter.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin and serves a regional population, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Crystal Ridge: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Crystal Ridge is a 92+/- acre regional private park located on land owned by Milwaukee County and leased to a private entity. Crystal Ridge is located along Crystal Ridge Drive near the intersection of W. Loomis Road (STH 36) and W. Rawson Avenue in the northern area of the City (see Map 7.1). Crystal Ridge is located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Crystal Ridge Planning District. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities at this site.

The City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan recommends that Crystal Ridge Park be retained as a park.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin does generally support Milwaukee County's continued development of Crystal Ridge as a regional park as generally recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update. In addition, it can be noted that in 2009 - 2010, City of Franklin and Milwaukee County representatives were meeting to discuss the possibility of the joint preparation of an End Use Plan for the Crystal Ridge site. Milwaukee County provided the City of Franklin with a conceptual End Use Plan to begin this joint effort. The conceptual End Use Plan provided a potential layout for all anticipated future recreational uses which could occur on the subject property. Additional recreational opportunities such as athletic fields, a boat launch for non-motorized watercraft, an extension of the Oak Leaf Trail, a playground, and a pavilion were shown on the Conceptual End Use Plan. It is envisioned that any such changes, when approved by all affected parties, would be incorporated by reference into this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin and serves a regional population, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Existing Community Level Public Outdoor Recreation Land (Community Parks at Park Sites)

Lion's Legend Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Lion's Legend Park is a 38+/- acre community level park owned by the City of Franklin and located on the east side of W. Loomis Road (STH 36) east of the intersection of W. Loomis Road (STH 36) and W. Drexel Avenue (see Map 7.1). Lion's Legend Park is located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Civic Center Planning District and has been developed in two phases. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities at this park.

In accord with the recommendations of 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential

improvements for Lion's Legend Park Phases 1 and 2 (these recommendations reflect those improvements proposed in the 2002 CORP which have not yet been implemented):

- Two (2) bicycle racks located on east side of park (for pavilion and bandstand areas).
- Ice-skating area (about 0.35-acre needed).
- Continued maintenance of this facility and wetlands over the planning period.
- Development of a pre-school play area on the northeast side of the park in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, Barrier Free Design Standards, and Consumer Product Safety Commission requirements.
- Continued maintenance, and possible expansion, of the Historic Village area. This may include additional historical exhibits, structures, and/or programs.

Park development has a priority level of 1.



Lions Legend Park

Froemming Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Froemming Park is a 16.25-acre park site owned by Milwaukee County and located on the west side of S. 51st Street south of W. Puetz Road, and one-half mile north of W. Ryan Road (STH 100) (see Map 7.1). Froemming Park is located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Froemming Park Planning District. See Chapter 4 for a description of existing facilities and amenities at this park.

The SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* does not recommend any additional facility development or expansion of this park.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this park are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin does generally support Milwaukee County's continued

maintenance of Froemming Park as a community park as generally set forth in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 and the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update. Furthermore, during 2010, interest has been expressed by various Franklin citizens about the possibility of additional outdoor recreation related development within or immediately adjacent to Froemming Park for a variety of ballfields, playfields, and associated uses. In addition, a petition was submitted by the Citizens for Community Development for inclusion into the public record of the public hearing held on this CORP update. The petition, which was signed by over 400 individuals, was to indicate support of the sports complex proposal referenced above.

It is envisioned that any such changes, when approved by all affected parties, would be incorporated by reference into this CORP update.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Existing Community Level Public Outdoor Recreation Land (Playfields at Middle School or High School Sites)

Franklin High School: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Franklin High School occupies a 76.92-acre site near the southeast corner of the intersection of S. 51st Street and W. Drexel Avenue (8222 S. 51st Street) (see Map 7.1). Franklin High School is owned by the Franklin Public School District. Franklin High School is located within the northwest corner of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Hunting Park Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of existing facilities and amenities at this site.

Current and previous plans have not identified any additional development at this site.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin generally supports the Franklin Public School District's continued maintenance of the Franklin High School as a community level playfield as generally set forth in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update. Furthermore, interest has long been expressed by various Franklin citizens about the possibility of additional outdoor recreation related development at this school site. It can also be noted that the Franklin Public School District has for a number of years been investigating the possibility of building a new high school, with potentially significant ramifications to the existing high school. It is envisioned that any such changes, when approved by all affected parties, would be incorporated by reference into this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Forest Park Middle School and Franklin Public Schools District Office: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Forest Park Middle School and the Franklin Public Schools District Office occupy a 40-acre site south of the W. Forest Hill Avenue and west of S. 76th Street (8225 W. Forest Hill Avenue) (see Map 7.1). Forest Park Middle School and the Franklin Public Schools District Office are owned by the Franklin Public School District. These facilities are located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Forest Hills Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this site.

The Forest Hills Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for the development of a neighborhood park site located west of and contiguous to the Forest Park Middle School. The 1991 adopted A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County also recommends a neighborhood park in the Forest Hills Neighborhood. However, significant urban development has already take place in the Forest Hills Neighborhood resulting in a lack of suitable vacant land to accommodate a new neighborhood park.

Therefore, Staff recommends the City of Franklin work closely with the Franklin School District to jointly provide neighborhood park facilities at the approximately eleven (11) acre community playfield at Forest Park Middle School. Furthermore, staff recommends the development of a cooperative sharing agreement between the City of Franklin and the Franklin School District to pay for future improvements to the Forest Hills Neighborhood Park/ Forest Park Middle School.

In general, the planned development of the Forest Hills Neighborhood Park includes facilities similar to those typically provided by a neighborhood park as defined in Chapter 3, Table 3.5. It is also important for the Forest Hills Neighborhood Park not to duplicate recreational facilities already offered at Forest Park Middle School. See the Forest Hills Neighborhood Park section of Chapter 7 for details regarding potential improvements for the Forest Hills Neighborhood Park.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Existing Neighborhood Level Public Outdoor Recreation Land (Neighborhood Parks at Park Sites)

St. Martins (Robinwood) Neighborhood Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the St. Martins (Robinwood) Neighborhood Park occupies a 19.2-acre site owned by Milwaukee County (currently leased to Franklin Public School District) and is located between W. Robinwood Lane and W. Allwood Drive south of W. Church Street. (see Map 7.1) St. Martins (Robinwood) Neighborhood Park is within the central portion of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Mission Hills Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this site.

The Mission Hills Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for the continued development and completion of this existing neighborhood park site located contiguous to Robinwood Elementary School. For instance, the park pavilion building is not open to the public and, therefore, is of little use. SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 also recommends that this neighborhood park continue as a park during the planning period.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding other improvements to this park are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports development of the St. Martins Neighborhood Park as a neighborhood park as generally recommended in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, and the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Pleasant View Neighborhood Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Pleasant View Neighborhood Park occupies an undeveloped 24-acre site owned by the City of Franklin and is located on the south side of and abutting Pleasant View Elementary School between W. Marquette Avenue and W. Drexel Avenue (see Map 7.1). Pleasant View Neighborhood Park is in the southwestern portion of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Pleasant View Neighborhood.

The Pleasant View Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for the development of a neighborhood park site at the Pleasant View Neighborhood Park site. SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 also recommends a neighborhood park in this neighborhood. A trail system is planned for this neighborhood which would extend along the existing waterway linking various portions of the neighborhood to the park and open space areas. Other active recreational facilities are provided by Pleasant View Elementary School (see discussion regarding the recreational facilities located at the adjoining Pleasant View Elementary School).



Pleasant View School/Pleasant View Park/Victory Creek Park

In accord with the recommendations of the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements for the Pleasant View Neighborhood Park (these recommendations were first detailed in the 2002 CORP):

- Obtain an agreement between Franklin Public School District and the City of Franklin regarding how and where the Pleasant View Elementary School and the Pleasant View Neighborhood Park are to be linked with pedestrian trails and/or vehicular access.
- Preparation of a detailed landscape plan for the entire park site.
- Grading of the park for level playing fields.
- Four (4) basketball goals (about 0.28-acre needed).
- One (1) baseball diamond (about 4.5 acres needed) with backstop and bleachers.
- Playfield (about 1.65-acres needed).
- Playground (about 0.62-acre needed). The playground is to include the development of a pre-school and school age play area in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, Barrier Free Design Standards, and Consumer Product Safety Commission requirements.
- Three (3) tennis courts (unlighted, about 0.96-acre needed).
- One (1) sand volleyball court.
- Ice-skating area (about 0.35-acre needed).
- Provision of an enclosed park pavilion with indoor restroom facilities which meet all applicable Americans with Disabilities Act and Barrier Free Design Standards requirements (located outside any 100-year recurrence interval floodplain area).
- Passive (picnicking, etc.) and other recreation area (1.32 acres needed).
- Installation of landscape plant materials in areas located outside of the playfield areas.
- Provision of park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. as demand increases over the planning period. Some of these park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. may be permanently anchored.
- Provision of hard-surfaced, paved off-street parking which is clearly marked and lighted.
- Installation of all park signage.
- Provision of a walking/education trail.
- Provision of outdoor fitness stations along the walking/education trail.
- Linkage of the park to the abutting elementary school.
- Installation of an 80-foot wide collector street with paving and improvements to service Pleasant View Park.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.
- Continued maintenance of any 100-year recurrence interval floodplain over the planning period.

Please reference Figure 7.1 from the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan which graphically illustrates a "Site Concept Plan" for Pleasant View Neighborhood Park.

Park development has a priority level of 1.

Jack E. Workman Neighborhood Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Jack E. Workman Neighborhood Park occupies a developed 12.5+/- acre site owned by the City of Franklin on the north side of W. Forest Hill Drive between S. Lakeview Drive on the west and S. 36th Street on the east (see Map 7.1). The Jack E. Workman Neighborhood Park is in the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Hunting Park Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

The Hunting Park Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for the development of a neighborhood park site somewhat centrally located within the neighborhood in conjunction with a planned elementary school site. SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 also recommends a neighborhood park in this neighborhood.

In accord with the recommendations set forth in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, and the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements for the Jack E. Workman Neighborhood Park (these recommendations reflect those improvements proposed in the 2002 CORP which have not yet been implemented):

- One (1) tennis courts (unlighted, about 0.32-acre needed).
- Ice-skating area (about 0.35-acre needed).
- Provision of additional park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. as demand increases over the planning period. Some of these park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. may be permanently anchored.
- Provision of outdoor fitness stations along the walking/education trail.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Park development has a priority level of 1.

Southwood Glen Neighborhood Park (County Park Site #59): As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Southwood Glen Neighborhood Park (County Park Site #59) occupies a 8.9-acre site owned by Milwaukee County (currently leased to Franklin Public School District) and located between S. 35th Street and S. 33rd Street north of W. Southwood Drive (see Map 7.1). Southwood Glen Neighborhood Park abuts and is north of the Southwood Glen Elementary School. Southwood Glen Neighborhood Park is in the eastern portion of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master

Plan-delineated Southwood Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

The Southwood Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for the development of a neighborhood park site at this location in conjunction with the Southwood Glen Elementary School site. SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 also recommends a neighborhood park in this general location.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports development of the Southwood Glen Neighborhood Park as a neighborhood park as generally recommended in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, and in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Christine Rathke Memorial Park (formerly Quarry View Park): As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Christine Rathke Memorial Park is a 6.5-acre neighborhood public/private park site located on the east side of S. 68th Street north of Robinwood Lane and about 800 feet north of W. Drexel Avenue (see Map 7.1). Christine Rathke Memorial Park is owned by Payne & Dolan and leased to the City of Franklin for 40 years beginning in 1991. Christine Rathke Memorial Park is located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Orchard View Planning Area. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

Under the Orchard View Planning Area plan of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan, the existing small 6.5--acre Quarry View Park was intended to be only a temporary mini park. The Orchard View Planning Area plan of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan indicates the development of a full neighborhood-sized park site developed with, and contiguous to, a planned elementary school site located in the eastern portion of the planning area. This will fulfill neighborhood park needs, in part, for the abutting Quarry View Planning District to the east and the northerly abutting Koepmier Lake Planning District, St. Peter's View Planning District, and St. Paul Planning Area of the 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan.

Current and previous plans have not identified any additional development at this site.

Since this park is located on privately-owned land only leased to the City of Franklin and not under the permanent control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding improvements to this facility are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports continued maintenance of the Christine Rathke Memorial Park as a

neighborhood park as generally recommended in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, and the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. In addition, as generally consistent with the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan and the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, it is recommended that the City seek permanent and exclusive ownership of this park as well as such adjoining lands in order to accommodate a full-sized neighborhood park meeting the minimum land area requirements set forth in Chapter 3. As such, these recommendations are reflected in this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Existing Neighborhood Level Public Outdoor Recreation Land (Playgrounds at Elementary School Sites)

Pleasant View Elementary School: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Pleasant View Elementary School occupies a 15-acre site and is owned by Franklin Public School District. Pleasant View Elementary School is located on the north side of Pleasant View Park between W. Marquette Avenue and W. Drexel Avenue (4601 W. Marquette Avenue) (see Map 7.1). Pleasant View Elementary School is in the southwestern portion of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Pleasant View Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this site.

Current and previous plans have not identified any additional development at this site.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports maintenance of Pleasant View Elementary School as a neighborhood playground as recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Ben Franklin Elementary School: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Ben Franklin Elementary School occupies a 7.94-acre site located on the southeast corner of S. 83rd Street south of W. Southview Drive (7620 S. 83rd Street) (see Map 4.1). Ben Franklin Elementary School is owned by Franklin Public School District. Ben Franklin School abuts an undeveloped 4.52-acre parcel of land that was formerly known as County Park Site #64 (or Tuckaway Green Valley Park). This property is also owned by the Franklin School District. Ben Franklin Elementary School is located in the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Green Valley Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this site.

Current and previous plans have not identified any additional development at this site.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports maintenance of Ben Franklin Elementary School as a neighborhood playground as recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Country Dale Elementary School: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Country Dale Elementary School occupies a 9.26-acre site north of St. Martins Road between W. Forest Home Avenue and North Cape Road (7380 S. North Cape Road) (see Map 7.1). Country Dale Elementary School is owned by Franklin Public School District. Country Dale Elementary School is located in the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Hales Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this site.

Current and previous plans have not identified any additional development at this site.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports maintenance of Country Dale Elementary School as a neighborhood playground as recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Southwood Glen Elementary School: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Southwood Glen Elementary School occupies an 8.89-acre site and is owned by Franklin Public School District. Southwood Glen Elementary School is located between S. 35th Street and S. 33rd Street north of W. Southwood Drive (9090 S. 35th Street) (see Map 7.1). The Southwood Glen Elementary School abuts the Southwood Glen Neighborhood Park (County Park Site #59). The Southwood Glen Elementary School is in the eastern portion of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Southwood Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this site.

Current and previous plans have not identified any additional development at this site.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports maintenance of Southwood Glen Elementary School as a neighborhood playground as recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Robinwood Elementary School: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Robinwood Elementary School occupies a 8.64-acre site and is owned by Franklin Public School District. Robinwood Elementary School is located between W. Robinwood Lane and W. Allwood Drive south of Church Street and west of S. Chapel Hill Drive (10705 W. Robinwood Lane) (see Map 7.1). Robinwood Elementary School is in the central portion of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Mission Hills Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this site.

Current and previous plans have not identified any additional development at this site.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, City recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports maintenance of Robinwood Elementary School as a neighborhood playground as recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Existing Mini Park Level Outdoor Recreation Land (Mini Parks)

Lions Baseball Field (formerly Ollie Pederson Field): As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Lions Baseball Field is a 9.4+/- acre park owned by the City of Franklin located at the south terminus of and east of S. 80th Street south of the intersection of S. 80th Street and W. Ryan Road (STH 100) (see Map 7.1).

Lions Baseball Field is located in the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Willow Edge Rural Planning District. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update does not propose any additional improvements for Lions Baseball Field.

However, the City of Franklin recommends continued maintenance of the Lions Baseball Field as a mini park as generally recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

In addition, it can be noted that during 2010, the City began discussion of the possibility of redevelopment of this site as a staging area for the removal and destruction of Ash trees within public right-of-ways as part of its plan to combat the Emerald Ash Borer infestation. It is envisioned that any such changes, when approved by all affected parties, would be incorporated by reference into this CORP update.

Cascade Creek Park (City Park #4): As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Cascade Creek Park (City Park #4) is a 9+/- acre undeveloped park owned by the City of Franklin which occupies a 9+/- acre site about 150 feet south of the intersection of S. 60th Street and W. Cascade Drive (see Map 7.1). Cascade Creek Park (City Park #4) is in the southwest corner of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Root River Planning Area. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

Due to the fact that almost the entire park is located within the 100-year recurrence interval floodplain of a tributary of the Root River (and is zoned in the FW Floodway District), the development potential of the park is significantly limited to open space uses which do not include any structures. Consistent with the 2002 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, this CORP update identifies the following potential additional improvements for Cascade Creek Park (City Park #4):

- Ice-skating area *without* fencing or any other structures (about 0.35-acre needed).
- Provision of adequate, paved, clearly marked 8-space off-street parking.
- Installation of walking/education trail park signage (outside of all 100-year recurrence interval floodplain areas).
- Provision of a walking/education trail.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.
- Continued maintenance of the 100-year recurrence interval floodplain over the planning period.

Park development has a priority level of 2.

Friendship Park (formerly City Park #1--Sharon and Anita Park): As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Friendship Park (formerly City Park #1--Sharon and Anita Park) is a 1.58-acre park owned by the City of Franklin located between W. Sharon Lane and W. Anita Lane east of S. 39th Street and west of S. 34th Street (see Map 7.1). Friendship Park is located in the City of Franklin's 1992

Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Hunting Park Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update does not propose any additional improvements for Friendship Park. However, the City of Franklin recommends continued maintenance of Friendship Park as a mini park as generally recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Glenn Meadows Park (formerly City Park #2--35th Street Park): As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Glenn Meadows Park (formerly City Park #2--35th Street Park) occupies a 1-acre site owned by the City of Franklin on the north side of W. Madison Boulevard between S. 36th Street and S. 37th Street (see Map 7.1). Power lines traverse the site in a north-south direction. Glenn Meadows Park is in the eastern portion of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Pleasant View Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update does not propose any additional improvements for Glenn Meadows Park. However, the City of Franklin recommends continued maintenance of Glenn Meadows Park as a mini park as generally recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Dr. Lynette Fox Memorial Park: Dr. Lynette Fox Memorial Park, which was acquired and developed by the City of Franklin in 2007, occupies a 0.42-acre site located at 6860 South Harvard Drive (see Map 4.1). See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update does not propose any additional improvements for Dr. Lynette Fox Memorial Park. However, the City of Franklin recommends continued maintenance of Dr. Lynette Fox Memorial Park as a mini park.

Ken Windl Park: Ken Windl Park is a redevelopment of the former City of Franklin Fire Station No. 2. The City of Franklin owned park occupies a 2.54 acre site located at 11654 West Rawson Avenue (see Map 4.1). Park development at Ken Windl Park began in 2004. In 2005, the City increased the size of the park by one acre by leasing property adjacent to the park owned by WE Energies. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential additional improvements for Ken Windl Park:

- One (1) tennis court or volleyball court.

Park development has a priority level of 2.

Existing Special Parks

Rainbow Airport Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Rainbow Airport Park is a 56+/- acre undeveloped site owned by Milwaukee County located on the east side of S. 76th Street about 2,000 feet south of STH 100 (Ryan Road) (see Map 7.1). Rainbow Airport Park is located in the east central portion of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Willow Edge Planning District.

It can be noted that Milwaukee County continues to manage Rainbow Airport Park as a natural area. According to the *Milwaukee County Parks & UW Extension Trails and Natural Areas 2009 Annual Report*, activities at Rainbow Airport included, "Invasive species control, continued work on Youth Campground installation, natural resource inventories, seed collection day with volunteers, and a prescribed burn at the Rainbow Airport Prairie."

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding improvements to this park are typically not included in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports continued use of this site for natural resource restoration and mitigation activities. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this park is not under the control of the City of Franklin and serves a regional population, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Franklin Woods Nature Center (formerly Camp Arthur Davidson): As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Franklin Woods Nature Center is a 40-acre park site owned by the City of Franklin located immediately southwest of the intersection W. Puetz Road and S. 35th Street (see Map 7.1). Franklin Woods Nature Center is situated along the headwaters of Oak Creek, and contains a natural area that consists of mature dry-mesic hardwoods, lowland hardwoods, and stands of younger growth. The rich and diverse flora includes black haw, a State-designated special concern species.

Although the Franklin Woods Nature Center is classified as a Special Park, it also contains active recreational facilities -- such as play structures, a playfield, a picnic area, etc. -- which are amenities that would typically be found within a community, neighborhood, and/or mini park. Franklin Woods Nature Center is located in the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Southwood Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

Due to its rich abundance of natural resource features, this park is planned under the City of Franklin's Comprehensive Master Plan to remain a natural area and a Special Park. No additional active recreational facilities, other than those noted below, are planned to be accommodated at the Franklin Woods Nature Center due to their potential adverse effects on the natural area.

Consistent with the 2002 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, this CORP update identifies the following potential additional improvements for the Franklin Woods Nature Center:

- Provision of an enclosed park pavilion with indoor restroom facilities which meet all applicable Americans with Disabilities Act and Barrier Free Design Standards requirements.
- Provision of lighting for the paved off-street parking lot.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility and wooded areas of the park over the planning period.

Park development has a priority level of 3.

Franklin Little League Complex: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Franklin Little League Complex is 25.71-acre park owned by Milwaukee County and leased to a private entity located on the east side of S. 76th Street south of the intersection with W. Puetz Road (see Map 7.1). The Franklin Little League Complex is located in the southwest portion of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Willow Edge Planning District. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this site.

Current and previous plans have not identified any additional development at this site.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding improvements to this site are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update.

However, the City of Franklin supports maintenance of the Franklin Little League Complex as a special park as recommended in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and that at least limited field access be made available to the general public. As such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Meadowlands Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Meadowlands Park is a 15+/- acre special park owned by the City of Franklin located near the intersection of S. 84th Street and W. Elm Court between W. Elm Court and W. Redwing Drive and also west of W. Redwing Drive south of W. Elm Court (see Map 7.1). Meadowlands Park is in the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Woodview Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

Consistent with the 2002 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, this CORP update identifies the following potential additional improvements for the Meadowlands Park:

- Provision of additional permanently anchored park benches as demand increases over the planning period.
- Installation of all park signage, including signage relating to plant material and species identification, throughout the park.
- Expansion and widening of the internal walkway/education trail to also serve the western portion of the park.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility and wooded and wetland areas of the park over the planning period.

Park development has a priority level of 2.

Ernie Lake Park (unofficial name): As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Ernie Lake Park (unofficial name) is a 14+/- acre undeveloped special park owned by the City of Franklin located between S. Scepter Drive on the east and S. Chapel Hill Drive on the west and north of W. Beacon Hill Drive and south of W. Church Street (see Map 7.1). Ernie Lake Park is located in the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Mission Hills Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities provided at this park.

The Mission Hills Neighborhood plan of the adopted City of Franklin 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for this park to be designated as a Special Park.

Consistent with the 2002 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, this CORP update identifies the following potential additional improvements for the Ernie Lake Park:

- Installation of all park signage, including signage relating to plant material and species identification, throughout the park.
- Provision of outdoor fitness stations along the walking/education trail.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility and wooded and wetland areas of the park over the planning period.

Park development has a priority level of 1.

Mission Hills Neighborhood Wetlands: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the Mission Hills Neighborhood Wetlands is a 14+/- acre undeveloped special park owned by the City of Franklin located on the north side of W. Church Street at its intersection with S. Chapel Hill Drive (see Map 7.1). The Mission Hills Neighborhood Wetlands is located in the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Mission Hills Neighborhood. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities within this park.

The Mission Hills Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for this park to be designated as a "Special Park."

Consistent with the 2002 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, this CORP update identifies the following potential additional improvements for the Mission Hills Neighborhood Wetlands:

- Provision of additional permanently anchored park benches along the perimeter of the site.
- Installation of all park signage, including signage relating to plant material and species identification, throughout the park.
- Potential provision of a walkway/education trail.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility and wooded and wetland areas of the park over the planning period.

Park development has a priority level of 2.

Market Square (formerly City Park #3 in St. Martins): As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Market Square (formerly City Park #3 in St. Martins) is a 0.5-acre special park owned by the City of Franklin located in the "Village" of St. Martins at the north corner of the intersection of Church Street and Franklin Street about one block north of St. Martins Road (CTH MM) (see Map 7.1). Market Square is located in the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Mission Hills Neighborhood and St. Martins Planning District. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities and amenities at this park.

The Village of St. Martins Planning District plan of the City of Franklin 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for this park to be designated as a "village green."

Consistent with the 2002 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, this CORP update identifies the following potential additional improvements for the Market Square:

- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Park development has a priority level of 2.

Victory Creek Park: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, Victory Creek Park is a 84.6 acre undeveloped special park owned by the City of Franklin located east of Pleasant View Neighborhood Park and west of South 38th Street in U.S. Public Land Survey Sections 11 and 12. (In this CORP update, a 5.7-acre park, known as Pleasant View Special Park in the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, has been merged with Victory Creek Special Park).

The land for Victory Creek Park was acquired by the Conservation Fund as part of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District's Greenseams Program. Ownership of the land was transferred to the City of Franklin in 2002. See the section entitled "Planned Trails, Bicycle Routes, and Linkages" later in this chapter for details about a proposed trail in Victory Creek Park.

Other Private Outdoor Recreation Facilities

As stated earlier in Chapter 4, although the focus of the City of Franklin's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update is the provision of *public* park facilities accessible to *all* of the residents of the City, it is recognized that some recreational needs of the community and surrounding areas are being met by various private outdoor recreation facilities. When considering such facilities for serving the long-term needs of all persons of the community, however, it is important to recognize that such private facilities:

- Are not being provided within a comprehensive area-wide outdoor recreation planning framework;
- Cannot be depended upon for the provision of *long-term* community outdoor recreation need fulfillment; and
- May only be available to certain segments of the community population based upon membership, economic means, and/or religious affiliation.

Therefore, recommendations regarding these types of facilities (see Table 4.2 of Chapter 4) are *not* set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update.

RECOMMENDED AND PLANNED NEW PUBLIC PARKS

While the previous section of this chapter described the additional acquisition or development proposed at existing public park, open space, and outdoor recreation sites and facilities, this section identifies those new public park, open space, and outdoor recreation sites and facilities which have not yet been acquired -- or in some instances developed. While most of these recommendations were first proposed in earlier plans such as the 2002 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan or the 2009 Comprehensive Master Plan, some recommendations are proposed for the first time in this CORP update.

Recommended and Planned New Regional/Multi-Community Parks

Southwest Park: The 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 1992 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan, and the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan all similarly recommend development of the existing Milwaukee County-owned Franklin Park in the southwestern portion of the City as a Regional Park. However, as of 2010, development of this park has not yet occurred.

In 2009, the *City of Franklin 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan* recommended additional public park acquisition and development adjacent to Franklin Park, based in large part upon the assumption that public sanitary sewer and water service, and associated development, would occur within the southwestern portion of the City within the next 15 years.¹

This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update incorporates and expands upon those recommendations. Specifically, it is herein recommended that Milwaukee County's existing Franklin Park -- and its associated development as proposed in SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 -- in conjunction with the additional acquisition and development adjacent to Franklin Park originally set forth in the 2009 Comprehensive Master Plan -- as further described in this CORP update -- would together serve the City of Franklin as a "Southwest Park". This "Southwest Park" if acquired and developed, would not only serve the regional/multi-community needs of the City of Franklin for the foreseeable future, but would also serve the community, neighborhood, mini, and special park needs of the southwestern portion of the City for at least the next 15 years (the planning horizon of this CORP update). It is also envisioned that this Special Park would serve as the location for city-wide events such as the Fourth of July Civic Celebration. Although the exact timing of the acquisition and development of this "Southwest Park" is unknown, it would most likely be based upon the following

¹ It can be noted that as of December 2010, the City of Franklin has entered into agreements with the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, and the City of Muskego, for the eventual construction and disposition of the Ryan Creek Interceptor Sewer, which sewer is envisioned to bring public sanitary sewer service to the southwestern portion of the City of Franklin and the southeastern portion of the City of Muskego within the next few years.

factors:

- the actual timing of the provision of public sanitary sewer and water service to this portion of the City;
- the timing, type, and density of development subsequent to the extension of public sewer and water services;
- the financial capabilities of the City of Franklin;
- the amount and timing of Milwaukee County development of Franklin Park; and
- the amount and timing of financial and other assistance from other parties.

Based upon a preliminary analysis of the park, open space, and outdoor recreation needs of the City of Franklin in general, and of the southwestern portion of the City in particular, undertaken during the preparation of the Comprehensive Master Plan and updated during this CORP update, the “Southwest Park” is herein proposed to be an approximately 350 acre Regional Park comprised of the existing 165 acre Milwaukee County-owned Franklin Park, and an additional 175 to 200 acres to be acquired by the City of Franklin.

Several considerations have been incorporated into this proposal regarding the size of the proposed Southwest Park.

First, to accommodate future city-wide events, the useable portions of the proposed Southwest Park would need to be larger than those found within Lions Legend Park (approximately 40 acres), particularly given the growing population of the City of Franklin and the current concerns about the amount of space available for the Civic Celebration.

Second, the southwestern portion of Franklin is being planned for suburban growth characterized by as much open space as possible. This is intended to be accomplished in part by the amount, size, and location of parks and open space sites.

Third, the natural resources within Franklin Park, particularly the Franklin Savanna State Natural Area, must be protected from the adverse impacts often associated with active recreational development (such as over-use, runoff from parking lots, etc.). The presence of this Natural Area makes it undesirable to develop most of the current park for active recreational uses.

Fourth, as stated above, SEWRPC Community Assistance Report No. 132 titled *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* does recommend active recreational facility development including the provision of picnic areas; playfields, hiking and nature trails, community park facilities, such as ball diamonds, and tennis courts, and necessary support facilities at Franklin Park.

It can be noted that at its January 25, 2008 meeting, the Parks Commission supported looking at parcels to the west and south of the existing Franklin Park for the Southwest Park. The 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan also envisioned that the majority of the future acquisition for the City Park would occur to the west and south of Franklin Park. In general, any acquisition of land for the proposed Southwest Park should target the following:

- 1) Parcels that are contiguous to Franklin Park.
- 2) Parcels that do not contain significant amounts of natural resources (if natural resource features are present, they should be utilized for passive recreational activities).
- 3) Parcels from willing sellers that do not contain any significant constraints for development of recreational facilities.

SEWRPC standards for regional parks cite a mix of active and passive facilities. According to SEWRPC, standard facilities in regional parks include campsites, swimming beach, picnic areas, golf course, ski hill, boat launch, nature study area, playfield, softball diamond, and passive-activity areas. According to the SEWRPC standards, these facilities should have a maximum service radius of 10 miles.

The following table lists the proposed active recreation facilities for the Southwest Park, and the acreage required for each according to SEWRPC standards and staff research. Total land requirements include support facilities for each, where applicable and provided by SEWRPC.

Proposed Facilities	Total Land Requirement
2 - 4 Softball Diamonds (lighted)	5.36 ac – 10.72 ac
2 Baseball Diamonds	9 ac
Soccer Complex (4 lighted fields)	1.65 ac per field
4 Basketball Courts	.28 ac
4 Tennis Courts	1.28 ac
Skateboard Park (or other similar non-traditional facility)	.22 - .57 ac ²
BMX / Snowmobile Trails (with obstacles)	.8 mi ³
Pavilion (with concessions and restrooms)	.06 ac ⁴
Pedestrian Trail System	2 mi
Play Field	1.65 ac
Picnic Area (8 tables)	.88 ac

² City of Costa Mesa, CA City Council Study Session Report. 2003. Review of Potential Permanent and Pocket-Park Skate Park Locations and the Mobile Skate Park Program. *Includes in-depth review of skate park types and sizes in Southern California.*

³ University of Minnesota Extension. 2008. Recreational Trail Design and Construction. *Recommends a minimum of .25 mi for BMX trails with obstacles and challenges, and one mile or BMX trails without obstacles. Also states that snowmobiling is a compatible use for BMX trails in the winter.*

⁴ Estimated via aerial photos of City of Franklin existing pavilions.

Passive recreation would be provided by a loop trail around the State Natural Area, as well as potentially by other trails located throughout both the Southwest Park. Further, the State Natural Area has potential as a nature study area. The wooded portion of Franklin Park, particularly the north portion, is a prime candidate for oak savanna restoration. According to the 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan, the woodlands consist of large, scattered bur oaks, and several oak savanna/prairie species still remain in the understory. An intense restoration of this site is being conducted by the Friends of Milwaukee County Parks in conjunction with the Natural Resources Foundation.

The picnic area, pavilion, permanent parking, playfield, and recreational field / temporary parking should all be accessible from Oakwood Road or an access road to Oakwood Road. The picnic area and pavilion should be located near a wooded area with surface water. The playfield should be located near the picnic area and pavilion for easy access by families with children. The baseball / softball diamonds should be accessible from the access road off of Oakwood Road. The skate park is proposed for proximity to Oakwood to facilitate adequate lighting and supervision.

Fireworks for the annual Fourth of July celebration would ideally be launched off a high point at some distance from the State Natural Area preferably close to Oakwood or the proposed access road.

The proposed trail around the Franklin Savanna State Natural Area would connect to the proposed Ryan Creek Trail, to the north.

On-street parking in the vicinity of Franklin Park is currently very limited, due to the small gravel shoulders on Oakwood and 112th in the vicinity of the park, and is not envisioned to change in the foreseeable future. While two courses of action were originally considered equally viable to accommodate parking for city-wide events (either all parking to be provided off-street, or some parking off-street and some on-street), consideration of this matter by the City Engineer and the Plan Commission during review of the CORP update indicated concerns with the provision of any offsite parking. Therefore, widening Oakwood in the vicinity of the park to provide wider shoulders to allow for on-street parking during city-wide events is no longer part of this proposal. In addition, it becomes even more important to ensure that adequate land is acquired for the Southwest Park for the proposed recreational facilities at this site, as well as for the associated parking. In that regard, a general-use recreational area in the park expansion near Oakwood should be established, to be used as temporary parking during city-wide events, and for recreational activities the rest of the year.

Staff based estimates for parking needs on UDO requirements for playfields and passive recreation, as well as on the current provisions of Lions Legend Park, where the Civic Celebration is currently held. Widening Oakwood in the vicinity of the park would allow for an estimated 262 on-street spaces within ¼ mile of the park in either direction. A permanent lot off Oakwood would provide an estimated 63 spaces, which would provide for the playfield requirements of the UDO. Required parking for baseball diamonds, softball diamonds, and tennis courts are included in the areas provided in the above table. A small amount of permanent parking could also be provided to provide access to the BMX / snowmobile trail. .

The UDO also requires one off-street parking space per each acre of passive recreational space. However, this would result in 165 off-street parking spaces for the existing Franklin Park alone, with additional spaces required for each acre of passive recreational space identified in the expansion. Staff believes this would result in an overabundance of parking at the site, and instead recommends

basing additional parking on estimates of the number of households expected to attend a city-wide event. Staff suggests building a recreational field for temporary parking during city-wide events, which could be used for active recreation during the remainder of the year. A three-acre recreational field would provide an estimated 300 additional spaces. This number would be revised based on reliable estimates of the number of households expected to attend city-wide events.

Although Franklin Park is not owned by the City of Franklin, and the Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update typically does not include recommendations for non-City sites, due to joint city-county effort proposed for the Southwest Park, and the need to protect the valuable natural resources within Franklin Park, it is proposed that Milwaukee County provide the majority of the active recreational facilities – currently proposed for Franklin Park -- at the city acquired lands proposed for the Southwest Park.

Site acquisition by the City has a priority level of 1 and park development has a priority level of 2.

Recommended and Planned New Community Parks

Community Recreation Center Building Park: As discussed in Chapter 8, the preparation of a City of Franklin Community Recreation Center building needs analysis was originally accomplished in conjunction with the preparation of the City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan in 2002. As also discussed in Chapter 8, in deference to the work of the Community Center Ad Hoc Committee, and based upon the Minimum Public Community Recreation Center Standard set forth in Chapter 3, this CORP update has not revised the Community Recreation Center proposal as originally set forth in the 2002 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

It is recommended that either the Community Center Ad Hoc Committee, or the Common Council itself, provide additional direction and guidance on this matter, for inclusion into this Plan at that time.

The planned Community Recreation Center Building Park is an approximately 6-acre community-level public park facility proposed to be owned by the City of Franklin. The planned Community Recreation Center Building Park is proposed to be located in the east one-half of the City of Franklin at the southwest corner of the intersection of W. Puetz Road and S. 51st Street. (see Map 7.1). The planned Community Recreation Center Building Park is planned to be located within the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Froemming Park Planning District.

As also described in Chapter 1, Franklin Public School District is also considering this area for the location a new middle school site in the southwest quadrant of the intersection of S. 51st Street and W. Puetz Road north of the Milwaukee County Sports Complex and Froemming Park (located on the east side of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan-delineated Froemming Park Planning District). In 2001, there appeared to be adequate vacant land in the southwest quadrant of the intersection of S. 51st Street and W. Puetz Road to accommodate both facilities as well as the

outdoor recreation facilities associated with a middle school.

The planned Community Recreation Center Building Park is intended to accommodate indoor recreational facilities as described in Chapter 8 "Community Recreation Center Building Needs Analysis." The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements for the planned Community Recreation Center Building Park:

- Preparation of a boundary survey of the portion of the property to be used for the community park. A detailed topographic map may also have to be prepared with a contour interval of one foot.
- Preparation of a detailed site development plan and accompanying landscape plan for the entire park site. Such a plan should be done so as to assure the maximum and efficient use of the property.
- Acquisition of the site by the City of Franklin for public community park purposes.
- Grading of the park.
- Construction of a Community Recreation Center Building with the various recreational-related functional spaces described in Chapter 8 in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, Barrier Free Design Standards, and Consumer Product Safety Commission requirements.
- Construction of a 120-space, paved off-street parking lot which is clearly marked and lighted.
- Passive open space area (about 2.8 acres).
- Installation of landscape plant materials.
- Provision of park benches permanently anchored.
- Installation of all park signage.
- Provision of an internal walkway system.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Park development has a priority level of 3.

Recommended and Planned New Neighborhood Parks

As stated earlier, Map 7.1 presents the map of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update for public outdoor recreation sites in the City of Franklin--including the location of potential neighborhood parks. Based upon both per capita standards and accessibility standards for neighborhood parks, Chapter 5 identified that by the year 2025 there will be a need for the following relative to neighborhood park development:

- No additional acres of neighborhood level public outdoor recreation land in park sites.

- A minimum of 11.60 additional acres of neighborhood level public outdoor recreation land at elementary school sites. It should be borne in mind, however, that if a new additional elementary school(s) is/are not constructed by the year 2025, this need for additional land would have to be filled at neighborhood park sites used exclusively for recreational purposes and not necessarily associated with an elementary school. Based upon the standards set forth in Table 3.5 of Chapter 3, the minimum area for a full-function neighborhood park (without elementary school facilities) should be 19.84 acres.
- Since development over the last several decades in the City of Franklin has taken place at a relatively strong pace, and because a steady population increase is expected over the next fifteen years (as indicated by the year 2025 population projection of 40,564 persons in the City presented in Chapter 2), the acquisition of sufficient additional lands of about 11.60 acres in area to accommodate new *neighborhood parks* is important to be achieved at an early date, prior to rezoning for residential uses, and prior to the submission of a preliminary plat for development.

It is recognized; however, that the total minimum 11.6 additional acres of neighborhood park land (both in park sites and at elementary school sites) needed to serve the total forecast population of the City of Franklin cannot be reasonably acquired. This is the case since much of the need for neighborhood parks is in areas of the City where significant urban development has already taken place and there is a lack of suitable vacant land to accommodate new neighborhood parks. Partly for this reason, this CORP update has revised some existing park's classifications to more closely match the facilities it provides, particularly when those facilities serve multiple needs and a larger service radius. This revision has also allowed fewer new neighborhood parks to be proposed.

Map 7.1 indicates the planned locations of three potential new neighborhood parks for the City of Franklin. The specific plan for each of the proposed neighborhood park sites is described below.

Forest Hills Neighborhood Park: The Forest Hills Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for the development of a neighborhood park site located west of and contiguous to the Forest Park Middle School. The 1991 adopted *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* also recommends a neighborhood park in the Forest Hills Neighborhood. However, significant urban development has already take place in the Forest Hills Neighborhood resulting in a lack of suitable vacant land to accommodate a new neighborhood park.

Therefore, Staff recommends the City of Franklin work closely with the Franklin School District to jointly provide neighborhood park facilities at the approximately eleven (11) acre community playfield at Forest Park Middle School. Furthermore, staff recommends the development of a cooperative sharing agreement between the

City of Franklin and the Franklin School District to pay for future improvements to the Forest Hills Neighborhood Park/ Forest Park Middle School.

In general, the planned development of the Forest Hills Neighborhood Park includes facilities similar to those typically provided by a neighborhood park as defined in Chapter 3, Table 3.5. It is also important for the Forest Hills Neighborhood Park not to duplicate recreational facilities already offered at Forest Park Middle School. The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements for the Forest Hills Neighborhood Park:

- Preparation of a boundary survey of the portion of the property to be used for the neighborhood park. A detailed topographic map may also have to be prepared with a contour interval of one foot.
- Detailed site development plan and accompanying landscape plan for the entire neighborhood park site. Such a plan should be done so as to assure the maximum and efficient use of the property.
- Grading of the park for level playing fields.
- Softball diamond (about 2.68 acres needed, if adequate site area and configuration permits).
- Playground (about 0.62-acre needed). The playground is to include the development of a pre-school and school age play area in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, Barrier Free Design Standards, and Consumer Product Safety Commission requirements.
- Three (3) tennis courts (unlighted, about 0.96-acre needed).
- Ice-skating area (about 0.35-acre needed).
- Provision of an enclosed park pavilion with indoor restroom facilities which meet all applicable Americans with Disabilities Act and Barrier Free Design Standards requirements.
- Passive (picnicking, etc.) and other recreation area (1.32 acres needed).
- Installation of landscape plant materials in areas located outside of the playfield areas.
- Provision of park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. as demand increases over the planning period. Some of these park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. may be permanently anchored.
- Provision of adequate, paved, clearly marked and lighted, off-street parking.
- Installation of all park signage.
- Provision of an internal walkway system.
- Linkage of the park to the abutting middle school.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Hillcrest Neighborhood: The Hillcrest Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for the development of a neighborhood park site somewhat centrally located within the neighborhood in conjunction with a planned elementary school site planned to be located generally south of W. Elm Court between W. Loomis Road (STH 36/45) and St. Martins Road (STH 100) The 1991 adopted A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County also recommends a neighborhood park in the Hillcrest Neighborhood.

In general, the planned development of the Hillcrest Neighborhood Park includes facilities similar to those typically provided by a neighborhood park as defined in Chapter 3, Table 3.5. The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements for the Hillcrest Neighborhood Park:

- Acquisition of the site by the City of Franklin for public neighborhood park purposes.
- Preparation of a boundary survey of the portion of the property to be used for the neighborhood park. A detailed topographic map may also have to be prepared with a contour interval of one foot.
- Preparation of a detailed site development plan and accompanying landscape plan should be prepared for the entire neighborhood park site. Such a plan should be done so as to assure the maximum and efficient use of the property.
- Grading of the park for level playing fields.
- Six (6) basketball goals (about 0.42-acre needed).
- One (1) baseball diamond (about 4.5 acres needed) with backstop and bleachers.
- Two (2) softball diamonds (about 2.68 acres each for a total of 5.36 acres) with backstop and bleachers.
- Playfield (about 1.65-acres needed).
- Playground (about 0.62-acre needed). The playground is to include the development of a pre-school and school age play area in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, Barrier Free Design Standards, and Consumer Product Safety Commission requirements.
- Three (3) tennis courts (unlighted, about 0.96-acre needed).
- Ice-skating area (about 0.35-acre needed).
- Provision of an enclosed park pavilion with indoor restroom facilities which meet all applicable Americans with Disabilities Act and Barrier Free Design Standards requirements (located outside any 100-year recurrence interval floodplain area).
- Passive (picnicking, etc.) and other recreation area (1.32 acres needed).
- Installation of landscape plant materials in areas located outside of the playfield areas.
- Provision of park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. as demand increases over the planning period. Some of these park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. may be

- permanently anchored.
- Provision of hard-surfaced, paved off-street parking which is clearly marked and lighted.
- Installation of all park signage.
- Provision of a walking/education trail.
- Provision of outdoor fitness stations along the walking/education trail.
- Linkage of the park to the abutting elementary school.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.
- Continued maintenance of any 100-year recurrence interval floodplain over the planning period.

Site acquisition by the City has a priority level of 1 and park development has a priority level of 3.

Woodview Neighborhood: The Woodview Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan calls for the development of a combined neighborhood and special park site located within the northern one-half of the neighborhood. However, since the preparation of the City of Franklin's 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan, a significant portion of the planned neighborhood park site was developed as a single-family residential subdivision. Therefore, an alternative site will need to be specifically located to accommodate the needed neighborhood park site. The 1991 adopted *A Park and Open Space Plan for Milwaukee County* also recommends a neighborhood park in this neighborhood.

In general, the planned development of the Woodview Neighborhood Park includes facilities similar to those typically provided by a neighborhood park as defined in Chapter 3, Table 3.5. The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements for the Woodview Neighborhood Park:

- Acquisition of the site by the City of Franklin for public neighborhood park purposes.
- Preparation of a boundary survey of the portion of the property to be used for the neighborhood park. A detailed topographic map may also have to be prepared with a contour interval of one foot.
- Preparation of a detailed site development plan and accompanying landscape plan for the entire neighborhood park site. Such a plan should be done so as to assure the maximum and efficient use of the property.
- Grading of the park for level playing fields.
- Six (6) basketball goals (about 0.42-acre needed).
- One (1) baseball diamond (about 4.5 acres needed) with backstop and bleachers.
- Two (2) softball diamonds (about 2.68 acres each for a total of 5.36 acres) with

- backstop and bleachers.
- Playfield (about 1.65-acres needed).
- Playground (about 0.62-acre needed). The playground is to include the development of a pre-school and school age play area in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, Barrier Free Design Standards, and Consumer Product Safety Commission requirements.
- Three (3) tennis courts (unlighted, about 0.96-acre needed).
- Ice-skating area (about 0.35-acre needed).
- Provision of an enclosed park pavilion with indoor restroom facilities which meet all applicable Americans with Disabilities Act and Barrier Free Design Standards requirements (located outside any 100-year recurrence interval floodplain area).
- Passive (picnicking, etc.) and other recreation area (1.32 acres needed).
- Installation of landscape plant materials in areas located outside of the playfield areas.
- Provision of park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. as demand increases over the planning period. Some of these park benches, picnic tables, grills, etc. may be permanently anchored.
- Provision of hard-surfaced, paved off-street parking which is clearly marked and lighted.
- Installation of all park signage.
- Provision of a walking/education trail.
- Provision of outdoor fitness stations along the walking/education trail.
- Linkage of the park to the future abutting elementary, and/or middle and/or high schools.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.
- Continued maintenance of any 100-year recurrence interval floodplain over the planning period.

Site acquisition by the City has a priority level of 1 and park development has a priority level of 2.

Recommended and Planned New Mini Parks

Based upon both per capita standards and accessibility standards for mini parks, Chapter 5 identified that by the year 2025 there will be a need for the following relative to mini park development:

- A minimum of 12.42 additional acres of mini park sites.
- Development of several mini parks of 1 to 5 acres in size in those areas of the City which cannot effectively be served by a neighborhood park facility due to inadequate and/or insufficient vacant land being available. The acquisition of sufficient additional park lands of less than 5 acres to accommodate new mini parks

will be difficult to achieve in certain developed areas of the City--particularly in those areas located west of W. Forest Home Avenue and north of W. Rawson Avenue.

A total of five (5) new mini parks are planned (see Map 7.1) which would be no less than 1-acre each. In general, the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements for each of the seven proposed mini parks:

- Acquisition of the site by the City of Franklin for public mini park purposes.
- Preparation of a boundary survey of the portion of the property to be used for the mini park. A detailed topographic map may also have to be prepared with a contour interval of one foot.
- Preparation of a detailed site development plan and accompanying landscape plan for each mini park site. Such a plan should be done so as to assure the maximum and efficient use of the property.
- Grading of the park for level playing fields.
- Playfield and ice-skating area (about 1.65-acres needed).
- Playground (about 0.62-acre needed). The playground is to include the development of a pre-school and school age play area in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, Barrier Free Design Standards, and Consumer Product Safety Commission requirements.
- Provision of an open-air pavilion/gazebo which meets all applicable Americans with Disabilities Act and Barrier Free Design Standards requirements (located outside the 100-year recurrence interval floodplain area).
- Installation of landscape plant materials in areas located outside of the playfield areas.
- Provision of park benches and/or picnic tables. Some of these park benches and/or picnic tables may be permanently anchored.
- Provision of hard-surfaced, paved off-street parking which is clearly marked and lighted.
- Installation of all park signage.
- Provision of a walking/education trail.
- Provision of outdoor fitness stations along the walking/education trail.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.
- Continued maintenance of any wetlands (if any) or 100-year recurrence interval floodplain areas (if any) over the planning period.

Site acquisition by the City has a priority level of 1 and park development has a priority level of 3.

Planned Special Parks

The Southeastern Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) Planning Report No. 42 titled *A Regional Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin* dated September 1997 calls for the protection, wise use, and proper management of those areas identified as high-quality natural areas and critical species habitat. Furthermore, the Open Space Preservation and Protection Principal from Chapter 3 of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) Update advocates, “Ecological balance and natural beauty are important determinants of the City of Franklin's ability to provide a pleasant and habitable environment for all forms of life and to maintain the City's social and economic well-being. Preservation of the most significant aspects of the natural resource base, that is, environmental corridors, isolated natural areas, and the various resource components which comprise those features contributes to the maintenance of ecological balance, natural beauty, and the economic well-being of the City.”

For City of Franklin outdoor recreation planning purposes, Special Parks are areas which contain high quality natural resource features, are limited in active recreational value, are limited as to who desires to use them, or are undeveloped for recreation. Special Parks vary in size and service area. Examples of these specialized recreational areas include conservancy areas, floodplains, woodland areas, historic sites, cultural sites, archeological sites, etc. Two new Special Parks are identified by the City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update; these include the Mahr Woods Special Park, and the Metro Conservancy.

Mahr Woods: The Mahr Woods Special Park is located west of S. 27th Street, south of W. Oakwood Road and east of the Root River Parkway in U.S. Public Land Survey Section 36. This tract of woodlands is a Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) designated Isolated Natural Resource Area.

Therefore, a “Special Park” designation is appropriate and it is recommended this site be acquired and developed for passive recreational facilities.

While the Mahr Woods Special Park does not lend itself to active recreation pursuits, it does function as open space. There are no plans for any active recreation facility improvements at this proposed Special Park site due to the need to protect the existing natural resource features and vistas. However, the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements to the proposed Special Park:

- Preparation of a boundary survey of the property.
- Development of a detailed site development plan and landscape plan for the park.
- Installation of all park signage (including interpretive plant signage).

- Use of the park for passive recreation pursuits.
- Provision of an adequate paved, clearly marked 8-space off-street parking area with curb and gutter (lighted and no storm sewer)
- Provision of a walking/education trail.
- Addition of park benches and picnic tables if demand increases over the planning period. Some of these park benches and picnic tables may be permanently anchored.
- Provision of outdoor fitness stations along the walking/education trail.
- Linkage of the park to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.
- Continued maintenance of any wetlands (if any), woodlands (if any), and/or 100-year recurrence interval floodplain areas (if any) over the planning period.

Site acquisition by the City has a priority level of 1 and park development has a priority level of 3.

Metro Conservancy: The Metro Conservancy Special Park is located east of S. 112th Street, south of W. Oakwood Road, and north of W. South County Line Road, in U.S. Public Land Survey Section 31. Although located immediately south of, and connected to Franklin Park, the Metro Conservancy Special Park is intended to be a site for passive recreational activities, natural resource enhancement and mitigation, and also serve as a greenway connection between the existing Franklin Park, the proposed Southwest Park, and conservancy lands in the Town of Raymond in Racine County, south of W. South County Line Road. The majority of these lands have been acquired by Waste Management of Wisconsin, Inc.

In 2010, a Conservation Easement was approved between the City of Franklin and Waste Management, Inc. for the subject lands owned by Waste Management. This easement is intended to assist in the creation of a continuous, integrated environmental greenbelt that will provide flood protection and preserve wildlife and native habitat through the Ryan Creek and Root River watersheds. The easement also states that trails may be established within the subject property by the City.

Consistent with the subject Conservation Easement, this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements for the Metro Conservancy:

- Development of a recreational trail system, and associated amenities, so as to connect the existing and planned natural resource areas within this site to one another and to the proposed Southwest Trail.
- Natural resource restoration projects as may be determined by further study.

Since this site is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

However, it is recommended that the City enter into an agreement with the subject property owners to determine the appropriate passive recreational uses for this site.

EXISTING AND PLANNED TRAILS, BICYCLE ROUTES, AND LINKAGES

As set forth in Chapter 3, trails are defined as multi-purpose paths typically serving non-motorized transportation uses such as; walking, running, hiking, biking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. In this CORP update, all trails within easements, all paths within public park and school sites, many sidewalks within public street right-of-ways, and many wide paved shoulders within public street right-of-ways are included within the City’s trails network plan (see Map 7.1). Although a trail is most often thought of as being physically separated (sometimes on a separate right-of-way) from motor vehicle traffic by open space or a barrier, this CORP update recognizes that some sidewalks and paved road shoulders can provide connectivity and are important for both transportation and recreational purposes. Furthermore, trails can be used to promote recreational activities (e.g., hiking, jogging, and running) and to promote an alternative means of transportation (e.g. connection of schools, retail areas, employment centers, etc. to one another). According to the 2007 Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan (which was adopted by the City of Franklin as a guide for the City’s Comprehensive Master Plan), trails provide environmental, aesthetic, economic, social, health, transportation, and other valuable benefits.

Existing Trails, Bicycle Routes, and Linkages

Milwaukee County Oak Leaf Recreational Trail (formerly the 76 Trail): According to the *Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan*, the Oak Leaf Trail System consists of about 108 miles of multiple loops through all of the major parkways and parks in the Milwaukee County Park System. The Oak Leaf Trail is composed of about 52 miles of off-road paths, 31 miles of parkway drives, and 25 miles of municipal streets. The Oak Leaf Trail is the gem of the Milwaukee County Park System, and is recognized as one of the premier bicycling facilities in the country. The off-road path portions of the system are designed to support multiple uses, and on any given weekend day during the warm months one can find large numbers of people participating in a wide variety of trail related recreational activities including in-line skating, walking, jogging, and bicycling. During the winter months, the trails are used by heartier commuters and by cross-country skiers.

In the City of Franklin, the Oak Leaf Trail extends in a north/south direction from W. Loomis Road and S. 68th Street to the Milwaukee County Sports Complex at S. 60th Street and W. Ryan Road. In addition, the Drexel Avenue Bike Route -- a signed bike route along the two and one-half miles of paved shoulder of W. Drexel Avenue from approximately S. 60th Street on the west to the eastern City limits – has been identified by Milwaukee County as part of the Oak Leaf Trail.

The Oak Leaf Trail currently connects to the Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail and the St. Martin's Trail, both of which can be used to access recreational trails in Muskego (see Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail and St. Martin's Trail descriptions below for further information). The trail is ultimately envisioned to connect to the Franklin to Illinois and Oak Creek to Delavan state trail network segments, as identified by the 2001 Wisconsin State Trails Network Plan.

While the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132 only addresses the Oak Leaf Trail in a general fashion (from the standpoint of expansion of the Root River Parkway and associated trails to Oakwood Park and to the south), the Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, however, specifically identifies future extensions of, and connectors to, the Oak Leaf Trail. Further information about these connectors is provided in the next section of this chapter.

Since the Oak Leaf Trail is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding improvements to this facility are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports continued maintenance of, and the extension of, the Oak Leaf Trail to the south and east as set forth in the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the 2007 Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan. As such, these recommendations are reflected in this CORP update.

Since the Oak Leaf Trail is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

City of Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail: As stated earlier in Chapter 4, the City of Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail consists of two segments of crushed limestone trail located along the Wisconsin Electric Power Company right-of-way in the northwest quadrant of the City: an approximately 1.02 mile long north/south oriented segment extending from about W. Swiss Street on the south to Ken Windl Park, located on W. Rawson Avenue (CTH BB) on the north; and an approximately 0.72 mile long east/west oriented segment extending from W. Spring Street on the east to the Milwaukee/Waukesha County line on the west (see Map 4.1). The Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail is located within the St. Martins Neighborhood. While located within a Wisconsin Electric Power Company utility owned right-of-way, the trail is maintained by the City of Franklin. The Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail is intended to serve as a catalyst to further the development of a larger City-wide trail system in the City of Franklin. See Chapter 4 for a description of the existing facilities associated with this trail.

The Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail connects to a recreational trail in Muskego that is located in the American Transmission Company right-of-way. The trail extends through Muskego into Big Bend and is part of the proposed Oak Creek to Delevan (Segment 37) portion of the 2001 Wisconsin State Trails Network Plan.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements to the City of Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail:

- Installation of all necessary trail signage.
- Linkage of the trail to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Trail development/maintenance has a priority level of 3.

St. Martins Trail: The St. Martins Trail consists of an approximately 2.1 mile long north/south oriented trail (originally constructed with crushed limestone) extending from about W. Mayer Drive on the north to the Milwaukee/Waukesha County line at W. Loomis Road (USH 45/STH 36) on the south. The St. Martins Trail was developed in cooperation with the Wisconsin Electric Power Company. While located within a Wisconsin Electric Power Company utility owned right-of-way, the trail is maintained by the City of Franklin.

As noted above, the St. Martin's Trail connects to the Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail and continues southwest within the Wisconsin Electric right-of-way to the western City limits. The recreational trail starts again in Muskego at the intersection of North Cape Road and Loomis Road, and runs parallel to Loomis Road within Wisconsin Electric right-of-way southwest to Muskego Dam Road. According to the Muskego 2007-2011 Parks and Conservation Plan, plans are underway to extend this trail from Muskego Dam Road to the southern City limits where it will link to the existing Wind Lake trail. These trail segments are part of the Franklin to Illinois (Segment 37) portion of the 2001 Wisconsin State Trails Network Plan.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update identifies the following potential improvements to the St. Martins Trail:

- Installation of all necessary trail signage.
- Linkage of the trail to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Trail development/maintenance has a priority level of 3.

Crooked Creek Walking Trail: The Crooked Creek Walking Trail is located southeast of the intersection of W. Forest Hill Avenue and S. 44th Street within the existing Crooked Creek subdivision. The Crooked Creek Walking Trail is located within a pedestrian access easement, and is surrounded by private property (Outlot 9 of the Crooked Creek Subdivision). See Chapter 4 for a

description of the existing facilities associated with this trail.

The Hunting Park Neighborhood plan of the City of Franklin 1992 Comprehensive Master Plan called for the development of a "Special Park" site for passive recreational activities to be located west of S. 42nd Street. However, the area shown as the Hunting Park Special Park in the previous Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan has been privately developed into the Crooked Creek Subdivision, specifically, Outlot 9 of the Crooked Creek Subdivision. The goal of resource protection has been met at this particular location through the execution of a conservation easement.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding improvements to this facility are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports continued maintenance of this trail, and as such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Milwaukee County Alpha Mountain-Bike Trail – Whitnall Park/Crystal Ridge: According to the 2007 Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, the Alpha Mountain-Bike Trail is Milwaukee County's first mountain bike trail. The Alpha Trail is an approximately 3.0 mile trail connecting the Winter Sports Area of Whitnall Park in the Village of Greendale to the Crystal Ridge area of the Root River Parkway in the City of Franklin. The trailhead, located at 6740 South 92nd Street in the Village of Greendale, is near the toboggan hill in Whitnall Park's Winter Sports Area (northeast of the golf course). The trail is operated in cooperation with the Metro Mountain Bikers (MMB) and was designed with the help of the International Mountain Bike Association and the Trail Care Specialist Service. Volunteers of the MMB constructed the trail. In order to accommodate beginner mountain bikers, the trail only has a few steep or rocky segments. Additional bike trails may be developed in the future.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding improvements to this facility are not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports continued maintenance of this trail, and as such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Sidewalks: As discussed in Chapter 4 and as shown on Map 7.1, 15.54 miles of sidewalks have been included as part of the City of Franklin’s trail system. These sidewalks are scattered throughout the City, but typically located within newer subdivisions adjacent to public parks and schools. In addition, there are also sidewalks along some State- and County-owned roads (Hwy 100/Ryan Road and Rawson Avenue for example).

These sidewalks have been included as part of the City’s trail system in order to promote connectivity and to provide such connectivity in an efficient and cost-effective manner. In particular, they connect destinations such as parks, schools, shopping centers, employment centers, and other trails to one another.

Paved Shoulders: As also discussed in Chapter 4 and as shown on Map 7.1, 6.92 miles of paved shoulders on public owned streets have been included as part of the City of Franklin’s trail system. Map These shoulders have been deemed safe enough for use by bicyclists and pedestrians and connect destinations such as parks, schools, shopping centers, employment centers, and other trails to one another (portions of Drexel Avenue, Puetz Road, and S. 51st Street).

Snowmobile Trails: The Milwaukee County 2007 Trails Network Plan states that there are 12.6 miles of snowmobile trails in the City of Franklin with segments of the trails located within Milwaukee County Parkland. These trails, which are located primarily in the southwest area of Franklin, are designed, built, and maintained by the Rolling Dice Snowmobile Club. Map 7.1 identifies the location of these trails based upon information provided by the Club. Additional trails may be developed in the future.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding improvements are not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports continued maintenance of this trail, and as such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Planned Trails, Bicycle Routes, and Linkages

In this CORP update, certain existing and proposed sidewalks, certain existing and proposed paved shoulders on public streets, and all existing and proposed off-road trails and paths, are included as part of the City’s trail system and are identified on Map 7.1. Use of all of these facilities in conjunction with one another allows the City of Franklin to fully meet the Trail Standards set forth in

Chapter 3 of this Plan (which standards the City currently does not meet and is significantly deficient in), and promotes connectivity for both recreational and transportation purposes.

In some instances, for proposed trails, the specific type of trail (i.e., off-road path, sidewalk, or paved shoulder) was not known at the time of this report, so the trail type is identified on the map as “Unknown”. In addition, due to the scale of Map 7.1, it is not possible to show the existing and proposed paths within the public parks, however, this information is available from the City of Franklin Planning and Engineering Departments.

Although off-road paths are generally preferred by recreational users, and off-road trails are generally preferred by transportation users, over sidewalks and paved shoulders, this CORP update recognizes that alternative connection methods (i.e. sidewalks and paved shoulders) can be used in conjunction with off-road paths and trails to improve connectivity in the City. However, it is understood and encouraged that future CORP updates may propose off-road trails in lieu of roadway shoulders and sidewalks. For example, sidewalks are planned on Rawson Avenue between the Oak Leaf Trail and the Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail, but a future CORP update may propose an east-west off-road trail segment that would connect the Oak Leaf Trail with the Franklin Bike and Hiking trail in the manner as currently proposed within the Milwaukee County Trail Plan. An example of a proposed trail based on a combination of trail types is the Oak Leaf Trail to Franklin High School connection. This trail connection is proposed to consist of an off-road path between the Oak Leaf Trail and Cascade Creek Park, and a combination of on-road and off-road paths between Cascade Creek Park and the Franklin High School.

Map 7.1 identifies all existing and proposed off-road paths, trails, sidewalks, and paved shoulders in the City that provide connections to existing and planned park sites, major places of employment, commercial centers, or residences. An analysis of these facilities on Map 7.1 indicates that the City has approximately 50,504 lineal feet of off-road trails (not including trails located within parks), 96,417 lineal feet of sidewalks, and 38,400 lineal feet of wide shoulders.

In this update to the CORP, a total of 85,675 lineal feet of new off-road trails are proposed. Of this number, the City is responsible for constructing 32,727 lineal feet of off-road trails, and Milwaukee County is responsible for constructing 52,948 lineal feet of off-road trails (as part of the Oak Leaf Trail system).

Even though Map 7.1 only shows those trails within the Franklin city limits, it is important to note that:

- The St. Martin’s Trail provides access to a proposed recreational trail in Muskego, both of which are part of the proposed Franklin to Illinois (Segment 37) portion of the 2001 Wisconsin State Trails Network Plan. It can be noted that those portions of the proposed Franklin to Illinois trail located within the Waterford-Wind Lake area, and within the Burlington area, have already been constructed.

- The Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail connects to an existing recreational trail in Muskego that would eventually extend to Big Bend and beyond. This trail is part of the proposed Oak Creek to Delavan (Segment 40) portion of the 2001 Wisconsin State Trails Network Plan, which would also eventually connect to the existing Ice Age Trail between Delavan and Whitewater.
- The Milwaukee County Oak Leaf Trail in Franklin continues northward into Greendale and beyond through most of the County. This trail connects to the New Berlin Trail in the vicinity of Greenfield Park, which in turn connects to the State Glacial Drumlin Trail in the City of Waukesha. The Oak Leaf Trail is also planned to continue southward and westward along the Root River to connect to the existing Oak Leaf Trail in the City of Oak Creek.

Since all new off-road paths are intended to provide bicycle access, this Plan recommends that they be designed to meet standards found in the following publications: The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, as amended; the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Facilities Development Manual criteria for the design of bicycle facilities, as amended; and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Bicycle Facilities Design Handbook, as amended.

The land acquisition (where needed) and development of off-road trails which form park linkages have a priority level of 2.

Franklin Connector: This trail, as proposed by Milwaukee County in the *2007 Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan*, would connect the Oak Leaf Trail (which extends through the Root River Parkway and connects to Whitnall Park and Crystal Ridge), to the existing City of Franklin Bike and Hiking Trail at S. North Cape Road. The proposed trail (possibly comprised of both on-road and off-road portions) would extend southward along Old Loomis Road from Crystal Ridge to a point somewhere between Rawson Avenue and Drexel Avenue, where it would continue westward to North Cape Road.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding its development are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update.

However, although the City of Franklin does generally support such a trail, this CORP update recommends such a trail along Rawson Avenue instead, until such time as public and landowner support could be obtained for the trail location as proposed in the Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Root River Rainbow Airport: This trail, as proposed by Milwaukee County in the 2007 Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, would extend the Oak Leaf Trail from the Milwaukee County Sports Complex southwestward within the Root River Parkway to the former Rainbow Airport site. As set forth in the Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, this trail would in turn connect to the proposed Ryan Creek Corridor and the Root River County Line Trails (discussed later in this section).

While the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan only address the Oak Leaf Trail in a general fashion (from the standpoint of expansion of the Root River Parkway and associated trails to Oakwood Park and to the south), the Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, however, specifically identifies this future extension of the Oak Leaf Trail.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding its development are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports this trail, and as such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Root River County Line: This trail, as proposed by Milwaukee County in the 2007 Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, would be an extension of the Oak Leaf Trail from the Rainbow Airport Park south and westward within the Root River Parkway, to the existing Oak Leaf Trail in the City of Oak Creek.

While the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan only address the Oak Leaf Trail in a general fashion (from the standpoint of expansion of the Root River Parkway and associated trails to Oakwood Park and to the south), the Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, however, specifically identifies this future extension of the Oak Leaf Trail.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding its development are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports this trail, and as such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Ryan Creek Corridor: This trail, as proposed by Milwaukee County in the 2007 Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, would extend from the Rainbow Airport Park westward along the Ryan Creek corridor to the existing St. Martins Trail. It would also extend through and connect to Franklin Park.

While the 1991 SEWRPC Planning Report No. 132, the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan only address the Oak Leaf Trail in a general fashion (from the standpoint of expansion of the Root River Parkway and associated trails to Oakwood Park and to the south), the Milwaukee County Trails Network Plan, however, specifically identifies this future extension of the Oak Leaf Trail.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding its development are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, although the City of Franklin does generally support such a trail, this CORP update recommends that the Ryan Creek Corridor trail continue along Root River Parkway into Racine County instead or along County Line Road, unless/until the Racine County portion is constructed.

Since this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Cascade Creek Trail: The Cascade Creek Trail, as herein proposed, would connect the Oak Leaf Trail to Cascade Creek Park, and Cascade Creek Park to the Franklin High School. The trail is envisioned to consist of off-road paths within the Root River Parkway, on-street segments between Cascade Creek park and the high school, and a bridge across the North Branch of the Root River to get from the River Park Addition 1 subdivision to the River Park Addition 2 subdivision.

While the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan only identify portions of this trail in a general fashion, this CORP update identifies the proposed location of the Cascade Creek Trail in more detail, based upon more accurate information collected prior to and during this planning effort. However, the exact route may be modified in the future based upon more up-to-date information and/or input from the surrounding neighborhoods. For instance, it should be noted that at such time as the City of Milwaukee Nursery property would ever develop, the relocation of the Cascade Creek Trail to this property should be considered.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update recommends City ownership and construction of those portions of the trail outside the Root River Parkway, including:

- Installation of all necessary trail signage.
- Linkage of the trail to the Oak Leaf Trail (see Map 7.1).

- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Trail development/maintenance has a priority level of 3.

As the Root River Parkway portion of this facility would not be under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding its development are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports this trail, and as such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since the Root River Parkway portion of this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Quarry View Trail: The Quarry View Trail, as herein proposed, would connect Christine Rathke Memorial Park to the Oak Leaf Trail. It is envisioned this trail would consist of an off-road trail extending eastward from Christine Rathke Memorial Park.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update recommends City ownership and construction of this trail, including:

- Installation of all necessary trail signage.
- Linkage of the trail to the Oak Leaf Trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Trail development/maintenance has a priority level of 3.

Victory Creek Trail: The Victory Creek Trail, as herein proposed, would connect the Franklin High School to Pleasant View Elementary School, Pleasant View Neighborhood Park, and Victory Creek Special Park, and in turn would connect to the retail and business centers near 31st and Rawson. It is envisioned this trail would consist of sidewalks on 51st Street, and Evergreen Street, and off-road paths with a new bridge through Pleasant View Elementary School, Pleasant View Park, Victory Creek Park, and the lands to the east of Victory Creek Park. A portion of the trail would follow a SEWRPC identified Secondary Environmental Corridor. This trail would also eventually connect to Glenn Meadows Park, Grobschmidt Park, and the retail and business centers located at 51st and Drexel and 27th and Drexel.

While the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan only identify portions of this trail in a general fashion, this CORP update identifies the proposed location of the Victory Creek Trail in more detail, based upon more accurate information collected prior to and during this planning effort. However, the exact

route may be modified in the future based upon more up-to-date information and/or input from the surrounding neighborhoods. For instance, should Marquette Avenue ever be extended to the east and/or west of Pleasant View Elementary School, the relocation of the Victory Creek Trail to this area should be considered.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update recommends City ownership and construction of this trail, including:

- Installation of all necessary trail signage.
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Trail development/maintenance has a priority level of 3.

Woodview Trail: The Woodview Trail, as herein proposed, would connect Meadowlands Special Park to the St. Martins Trail, as well as connect to two proposed new neighborhood parks (PN2 and PN3). It is envisioned this trail would consist of both on-street (sidewalks on Elm Court and Prairie Grass Way) and off-road segments. This trail would also eventually connect to the planned sidewalks on 76th Street and Hwy 100.

While the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan only identify portions of this trail in a general fashion, this CORP update identifies the proposed location of the Woodview Trail in more detail, based upon more accurate information collected prior to and during this planning effort. However, the exact route may be modified in the future based upon more up-to-date information and/or input from the surrounding neighborhoods. For instance, should additional off-road portions become feasible as this area develops, the relocation of the Victory Creek Trail in this area should be considered.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update recommends City ownership and construction of the Woodview Trail, including:

- Installation of all necessary trail signage.
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Trail development/maintenance has a priority level of 3.

Hunting Park Trail: The Hunting Park Trail, as herein proposed, would connect the existing Crooked Creek Walking Trail to the existing trail in Franklin Woods. It is envisioned this trail would consist of an off-street path.

While the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan only identifies this trail in a general fashion, this CORP update identifies the proposed location of the Hunting Park Trail in more detail, based upon more accurate information collected prior to and during this planning effort. However, the exact route may be modified in the future based upon more up-to-date information and/or input from the surrounding neighborhoods. For instance, should additional connections to adjacent neighborhoods become available, expansion of the Hunting Park Trail should be considered.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update recommends City ownership and construction of the Hunting Park Trail, including:

- Installation of all necessary trail signage.
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Trail development/maintenance has a priority level of 3.

Oakwood Hills Trail: The Oakwood Hills Trail, as proposed herein, would connect Fitzsimmons Woods to Oakwood Park. It is envisioned this trail would consist of an on-street route or sidewalk. This trail would connect in turn to the existing sidewalk along 35th Street to the north (with connection to Southwood Glen Elementary School and Southwood Glen Neighborhood Park to the north) and to the proposed Oakwood Park/Oak Leaf Trail connection to the south.

While the 2002 City of Franklin Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the 2009 City of Franklin Comprehensive Master Plan only identify this trail in a general fashion, this CORP update identifies the proposed location of the Oakwood Hills Trail in more detail, based upon more accurate information collected prior to and during this planning effort. However, the exact route may be modified in the future based upon more up-to-date information and/or input from the surrounding neighborhoods. For instance, should an opportunity become available to extend the trail along an off-road path through Oakwood Park become available, relocation of the Oakwood Hills Trail should be considered.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update recommends City ownership and construction of the portion of the trail located outside of Oakwood Park, including:

- Installation of all necessary trail signage.
- Linkage of the trail to the Milwaukee County recreation corridor/trail (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Trail development/maintenance has a priority level of 3.

As the Oakwood Park portion of this facility would not be under the control of the City of Franklin, recommendations regarding its development are typically not set forth in the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update. However, the City of Franklin supports this trail, and as such, this recommendation is reflected in this CORP update.

Since the Oakwood Park portion of this facility is not under the control of the City of Franklin, it has not been assigned a priority level.

Southwest Trail: The Southwest Trail, as proposed herein, would connect the Metro Conservancy to Franklin Park to the north and to the conservancy lands located in the Town of Raymond to the south. It is envisioned that this trail would consist of an off-road path.

The Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update recommends City construction of this trail, including:

- Installation of all necessary trail signage.
- Linkage of the trail to the proposed Oakwood Road and Ryan Creek Trails to the north (see Map 7.1).
- Continued maintenance of this facility over the planning period.

Sidewalks, Paved Shoulders, and Other Trail Types: Along with the 18.26 miles of existing sidewalks already included within the City of Franklin trail system, an additional 18.69 miles are to be added (see Map 7.1). This includes sidewalks along Hwy 100/Lovers Land Road/St. Martins Road and S. 27th Street proposed by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, along College Avenue and 76th Street proposed by Milwaukee County, and along 51st Street and the proposed Marquette Avenue extension (from Pleasant View Elementary School to 51st Street) proposed by the City of Franklin.

An additional 10.86 miles are to be added to the City trail system (see Map 7.1) for which the trail type is unknown at this time. This includes portions of Forest Home Avenue, Rawson Avenue, Oakwood Road and 35th Street, etc. It is anticipated that the type of trail will be determined when opportunities for development or redevelopment of adjacent lands occur, or when the subject street undergoes major repairs.

Furthermore, additional trails not yet identified on Map 7.1 are proposed within the southwestern portion of the City. The specific location of these additional trails (primarily snowmobile and

equestrian trails) are envisioned to be determined as part of a detailed study to be undertaken at a later date and/or at the time of development (with input from the subject developer and adjacent landowners). However, it is envisioned that these trails will be developed in such a manner as to build upon and be compatible with such trails already present or proposed within this area of the City (such as the Rolling Dice Snowmobile Club trails).

Safe Routes to School Grant: The City of Franklin was recently awarded a \$20,000 Safe Routes to School Grant that could help fund the planning and design of off-road trails and/or sidewalks within the vicinity of Pleasant View Elementary School. The City of Franklin Common Council will ultimately decide how the funds are spent, and any related plans and recommendations will be incorporated by reference into this CORP update.

OTHER PROPOSALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

As noted throughout this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update, a number of recommendations from the *City of Franklin 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan* are incorporated into this CORP update, and furthermore, this CORP update is envisioned to be adopted by the City of Franklin as part of the City's comprehensive master plan. This close relationship between the City's comprehensive master plan and comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is purposefully encouraged.

At this point within the CORP update, only the Southwest Park proposal has been addressed so far. A number of recommendations from the City's comprehensive master plan are identified in Chapter 10, including recommendations regarding impact fees, a capital improvement program, and joint partnerships with other units of government.

As set forth in Chapters 3 and 5 of the *City of Franklin 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan*, the following recommendations are also incorporated into this CORP update. Specifically, it is envisioned that these recommendations be implemented as part of a subsequent CORP update in the near future:

- *The City of Franklin should prepare a Cultural Resource Preservation Plan in cooperation with the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Franklin Historical Society that would include an evaluation of applicable tax and funding incentives, and an evaluation of the means of preservation of specific sites and properties in close cooperation with the neighborhoods such sites and properties are located in. This plan should also consider the preparation of more detailed inventories of agricultural landscapes and farm complexes, buildings, and districts.*

- *The City of Franklin should work closely with the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Franklin Historical Society to prepare an update to the Architecture and History Inventory that was conducted by the Wisconsin Historical Society in 1980.*
- *The City of Franklin should work closely with the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Franklin Historical Society to prepare an update to the Archeological Site Inventory that was conducted by the Wisconsin Historical Society.*
- *The City of Franklin should pursue creation of a mixed use zoning district that encourages park and open space uses in close proximity to other compatible uses.*

It is also recommended that the City of Franklin continue to support the efforts of the Root-Pike WIN to protect, restore, and sustain the Root River watershed. This particularly includes efforts to increase public awareness of, and appreciation for, the environmental and recreational amenities provided by this resource, and efforts to improve access to and use of the Root River for canoeing.

It is recognized that further study and/or more detailed information may oftentimes be needed – up to and including neighborhood input – prior to the construction of any trail proposed in this CORP Update. It is understood that such information could adjust not only the location but the type of trail to be constructed. It is therefore recommended that such study, information, and input always be encouraged and solicited. It is further envisioned that opportunities for such studies will typically arise when public infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, are built or repaired.

It is recommended that a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan be prepared which would expand upon and provide further details about the trails -- and trail related policies such as connectivity -- proposed within this CORP Update. It is envisioned that this Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan would also consider the feasibility of additional trails (particularly within the southwest and Civic Center areas of the City), and the possibility of ranking and/or prioritizing these trails in light of need, neighborhood support, and available resources (both financial and non-financial).

It is recommended that the Planning Department prepare additional maps to help portray the information contained within this CORP Update in a more user friendly and informative way. In particular, it is recommended that maps be prepared which:

- *Identify those park, open space, and outdoor recreation sites and facilities which are linked with and located adjacent to the City of Franklin (such as trails and parkways);*
- *Identify those natural resource lands within the City that are already under some form of protection and preservation;*
- *Clearly identify the ownership of the park, open space, and outdoor recreation sites within the City.*

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