A photograph of a park scene. In the foreground, a paved path runs through a grassy area. Two people are standing with their bicycles on the path. One person is wearing a light-colored jacket and a white helmet, while the other is wearing a brown jacket. In the background, there are several trees with green and some autumn-colored leaves. To the left, a body of water is visible, and a building can be seen in the distance. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

pARK & RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN -  
Fall 2004

# City of Moline

## Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Fall 2004

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## **APPENDIX - A**

(Community Public Input Meetings) – A copy of the meeting announcements, agendas, and input received from attendees has been assembled and included in this appendix section for permanent record.

June 11, 2003 – Meeting I (Stephens Park District; McCandless, Karstens, Velie, Butterworth Playground)

June 12, 2003 – Meeting II (Greenvalley Park District; Millennium, Old Greenvalley, Kiwanis Trail, Covemakers, Veterans Memorial, Meersman)

June 18, 2003 – Meeting III (Prospect Park District; Wiman, [a.k.a. Miss Patti's], Browning, Harold's Landing)

June 19, 2003 – Meeting IV (Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway District; Sylvan Island, All Service Garage/Trail Head, Stephens Square)

June 25, 2003 – Meeting V (Riverside Park District; East End, Peterson, Jefferson, Optimist, Kiwanis)

## **APPENDIX - B**

Adopt-a-Park Groups – Letters submitted from the various parks groups identifying needs within their respective parks.

## **APPENDIX - C**

Mechanisms for Park and Recreation Funding – Potential Funding Methods

## **APPENDIX - D**

City of Moline Park Amenities Matrix

## **SECTION I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The City of Moline, Illinois is located on the southeastern bank of the Mississippi River within the Quad City Metropolitan Area. The Rock River bisects the City along the southern edge and continues to its confluence with the Mississippi River in the neighboring City of Rock Island. In recent years, the City of Moline has begun to recognize the significant value of the two major rivers and has invested time and financial resources into best management practices for development and improvements of both riverfront areas. This has and continues to include significant enhancements of once blighted and neglected areas into multi-use and recreational space. Both rivers possess uniquely differing environments and opportunities. The city has concentrated efforts on redeveloping the Mississippi shore into an attractive and aesthetically pleasing mix of uses; from entertainment venues to multi-family housing, recreation, education, business and tourism.

The Rock River flood plain provides numerous passive recreation areas from undeveloped natural areas to trails, and habitat restoration projects. The Rock River basin is also used for active recreation such as the Greenvalley Sports Complex, Harold's Landing Boat Access and Recreation Area and the Kiwanis Trail.

The nation has become increasingly more aware of the needs for recreation, outdoor leisure activities and exercise. The City of Moline, Illinois strives to follow this national trend to meet community park and recreation needs. The City has prepared this Comprehensive Park and Recreation Master Plan to ensure adequate land and recreational facilities are provided in the future. This Master Plan is the result of the study and analysis of community resources and recreation needs. Aside from the two major waterways flanking the city's north and south sides, Moline has existing neighborhood and community parks, which comprise the parks system. While some of the parks are currently undergoing much needed improvements the City recognizes the importance of creating a framework document to guide them as these changes manifest. This Master Plan incorporates significant citizen input in its development. Further, due diligence will be paid to existing individual park plans, Park Board goals/priorities and other regional and city planning documents. Consideration will also be given to trends in park and recreation activities and facility interest and demand.

Moline's population is 43,768 residents according to 2000 census data from the U.S. Census Bureau. This demonstrates a 1.2% increase in population over the ten-year period from 1990 through 2000. Rock Island County's population has increased by 0.4% over the same period. This is the first indication of population growth within the City of Moline and Rock Island County in three decades. The census trend line indicates the City of Moline is expected to experience continued steady growth. Due in part to this recent trend the City is also receiving increasing pressure from residents for enhanced community services; recreation is one of many necessary and valuable services the City can provide to its citizens.

The City of Moline is an "Adopt-A-Park" community. "Adopt-A-Park" was designed to improve and enhance parks through community involvement and citizen partnerships. By participating, neighborhood organizations, civic and church groups, scout troops, businesses, schools, families and individuals can play an active role in the beautification of the community while helping to support Moline's park system.

## **Introduction -**

*“Before 1900, Moline supported six large city green spaces that are now part of today’s park system. Stephens, Riverside, Prospect, Peterson, Velie and Browning parks all date back to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.*

*Since the establishment of the parks and recreation department in 1941, another 13 parks have been developed.*

*In its long history, Moline parks have moved through many stages. For example, Prospect used to be a zoo and once featured a roller coaster. The original bear shed still remains as a storage building. The park was a popular destination by streetcar, with a trolley line running right to its entrance.*

*Moline was the first Quad City to build a swimming pool. In 1935, Riverside Park Pool became a project of the Work Progress Administration, a government agency created to put unemployed people to work on public projects during the depression of the 1930’s.*

*Of today’s 19-parks, 835-acre properties (Current total is 22 parks totaling ~587.6 acres), Sylvan, an island located at Second Street and First Avenue, has probably experienced more evolutions than most. This 38-acre site was separated from Arsenal Island in 1871 to provide waterpower to industry. It once had a stone quarry and an ice cutting business, and was home to Republic Iron and Steel from 1894 to 1956.*

*Purchased by the city in 1966, this park remains natural and features walking and bike trails and overlooks.*

*In the 1950’s the city began acquiring the property that is now Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway and the Ralph B. Birks Bicycle Trail. Today, it is part of the 60-mile-long Great River Trail that meanders from Rock Island’s Sunset Park to Savanna, Illinois.*

*Greenvalley Sports Complex continues to expand its league capabilities. The former farmland in the Rock River valley is home to eight baseball and six soccer fields. It has grown into a popular destination for competitive tournaments.” Source: Jules Irish, Freelance Writer, Jules Irish Creative Communications.*

The recent development of Moline’s newest park, Harold’s Landing, which includes a public boat launch facility along with plans to develop future recreational amenities on the shore of the Rock River, illustrates the City’s commitment to provide high quality recreational opportunities to its citizens. The City and Park Board also have many other projects in the planning and or development stages with the end goal of establishing a high quality park and recreation system, offering a large assortment of opportunities accommodating a diversity of interests and needs among the City’s populous.

References to active recreation and passive recreation will be utilized throughout this plan. Following is a brief descriptive of those terms:

*“A menu of potential active recreation facilities includes large play structures and/or creative play attractions, game courts, informal ball fields for youth play, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe areas, ice skating areas, swimming pools, swimming beaches, archery ranges, and disc golf areas. Passive activity facilities include extensive internal trails (that connect to the community trail system), individual and group picnic/sitting areas, general open space, and unique landscapes/features, nature study areas, and ornamental gardens.”* Source: *Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines*; ©1996, National Recreation and Park Association

### **Plan Outline -**

Public participation was a major component of the planning process. A total of five public meetings were held specifically for the purpose of gathering citizen input for this master plan. Chapter 8, entitled Parks and Recreation System, from the *2001 City of Moline Comprehensive Plan*, along with the goals and priorities identified by the Moline Park Board, will be utilized in conjunction with other pertinent local and regional plans and the aforementioned public input to create the base of this master plan. (Public input received is included in Appendix A & B of this plan and was utilized to determine the short and long-term improvements outlined in Section V.)

City of Moline Park and Recreation staff and the Moline Park Board members provided additional input. Prior to a Park Board recommendation to City Council, the draft plan was made available to the public for their review and comments. Lastly, the City of Moline Comprehensive Park and Recreation Master Plan was approved by the Park Board and recommended to the City Council.

This Master Plan contains nine (9) sections. The following numbered list corresponds to the items to be addressed in each respective section.

1. Defines the background and purpose, outlines the area to be covered and its relationship with the surrounding areas;
2. Concentrates on the geographic and natural features of the City of Moline, including areas of topography and drainage, climate, geology, soils, vegetation, and wildlife;
3. Outlines the demographic characteristics and trends, utilizes projections and forecasts to determine the future demographic make-up of Moline and provides useful and informative comparison data. Includes data on education and income among residents in Moline and factors to be considered when determining the need(s) for recreation space;
4. Covers National Recreation and Park Association (NPRA) standards, which serve as a template for determining future park and recreation needs;
5. Inventories existing park facilities and their respective amenities;

6. Outlines general areas/locations in need of adequate and accessible park space. Diagrams various service areas where acquisition should be considered by the City and identifies potential recreational amenities to be developed in these areas;
7. Describes the basic goals and objectives of the plan;
8. Analyzes guidelines to be considered when planning future park development(s), recreational facilities and programs; and
9. Identifies policies to be considered in park development and addresses pertinent and contemporary issues for contemplation when implementing or up-dating park and recreation facilities; and stratifies goals and priorities for park amenities and recreation facilities/programs, which the City of Moline will use as a framework for project implementation over the next several years.

**Coverage Area** -

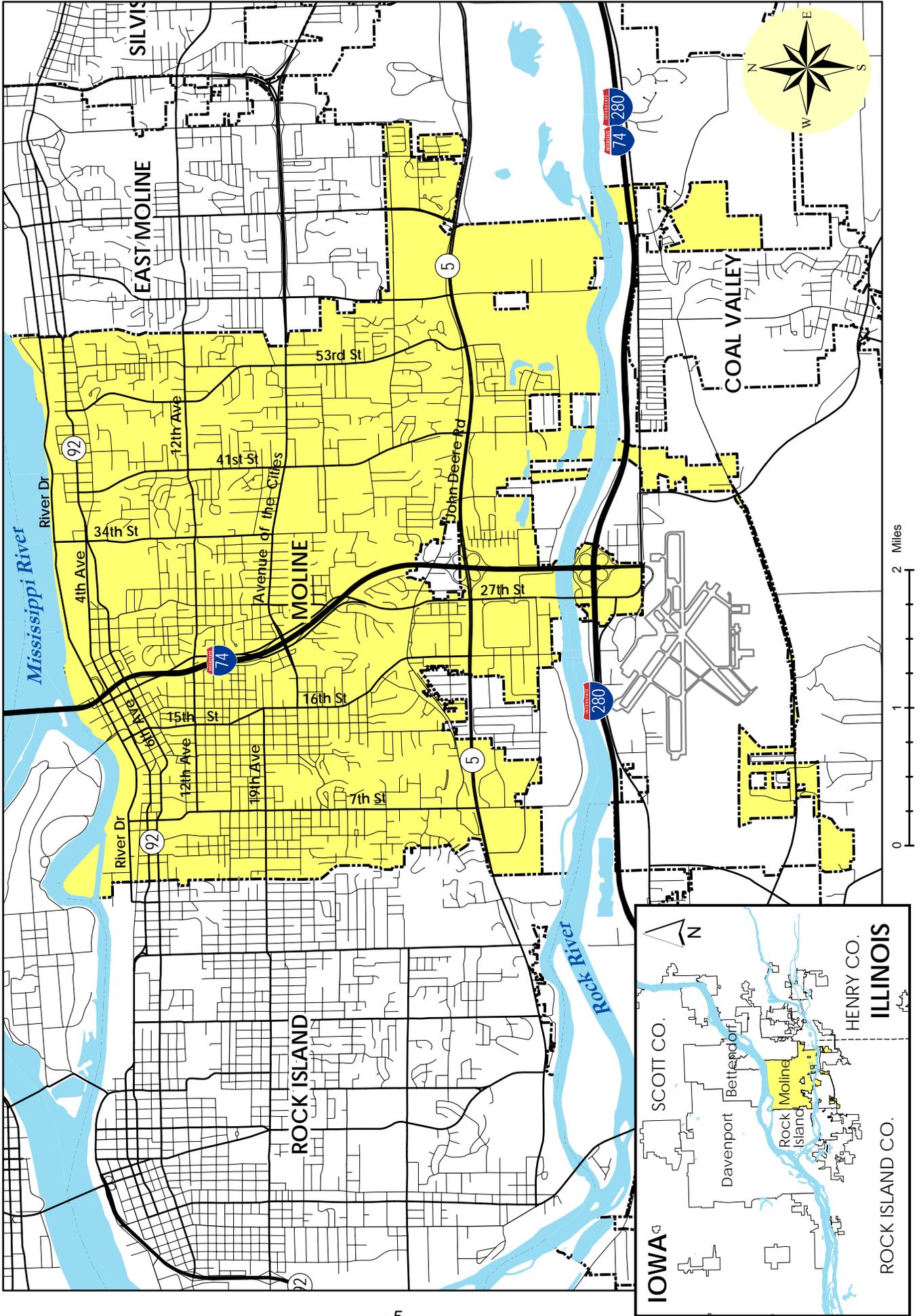
The area used in the formation of this plan consists of the land and facilities within the corporate limits of Moline, Illinois. There is an inventory of the existing park and recreation facilities of the City included in this plan.

# Moline Park & Recreation Plan - MAP M-1

## General Location

Map Prepared by:  
**Bi-State**  
 Regional Commission  
 December 2004

Disclaimer: This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. Bi-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.



## **SECTION II. NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS**

### **Topography and Drainage -**

Three major glacial advances and retreats created the topography of Rock Island County. The Kansas and the Illinoian glaciations covered the entire County, while the Iowan glaciation covered the northern townships. The oldest glaciations are collectively termed Pre-Illinoian. The Illinoian glacier in the eastern portion of Illinois followed the Pre-Illinoian, while the Iowan glacier covered the northern townships. The native rock material of the County is buried under glacial drift and varying depths of loess left by the retreating glaciers.

Major contributors to the topography in Rock Island County are the Mississippi River and the Rock River. In pre-glacial time, the Mississippi River followed its current course until reaching the present day northern tip of Rock Island County, Illinois, where the River turned to the east following the Meredosia channel and eventually entered the present Illinois River valley near Hennepin, Illinois. This course was altered to its existing passage through the Quad Cities in an east-west direction when a westward moving ice lobe blocked the eastern flow of the Mississippi River. (The Quad Cities is the only major metropolitan area, among the ten states through which the Mississippi courses, where the river flows in an east-west direction.) Over the past 10,000 to 15,000 years the present channel has deepened and narrowed forming the distinct bluffs and lowlands found in the areas bordering the Mississippi River.

The remainder of Rock Island County is level to gently rolling, with stream valleys becoming deeper and the slopes increasingly pronounced as the valleys approach the Mississippi and Rock Rivers. Another feature of Rock Island County topography is the drainage network. The vast majority of streams and creeks flow into the Rock and Mississippi Rivers.

The topography present in Moline affords a wide array of recreational opportunities for citizens and visitors to the community. The two major rivers offer many recreational options for water sports and passive recreation. The bluffs provide unparalleled vistas and a mix of both active and passive recreation opportunities. The many ravines and creeks traversing through the City provide drainage systems from the bluffs to the Mississippi and Rock Rivers. These same ravines create opportunities for active and/or passive greenways and storm water filtration projects. Establishing natural drainage systems for the filtration of contaminants from storm water would be a vital step towards restoring both Prospect Pond and Riverside Lagoon as viable, year round recreational facilities.

### **Climate -**

The climatic characteristics of the City of Moline can best be described as temperate continental with a wide temperature range throughout the year. Periods of hot, humid weather are not uncommon during the summer months, especially in July and August; the average July temperature is 75°F. Severely cold weather and storms can occur during the winter, while the median temperatures are around 25°F.

The regions central geographic location and proximity to major storm tracks make it vulnerable to rapid shifts in weather and severe weather patterns. Low-pressure areas associated with weather fronts cause frequent fluctuations in temperature, cloudiness, humidity, and wind direction throughout much of the year. Precipitation amounts average

33.8 inches per year, 65.0% of which usually falls the month of April through September. The growing season is 154 days between May 15th and October 15th.

The climate in Moline affords a wide range of multi-seasonal recreation opportunities. The design and development of parks needs to account for the changing weather patterns and year round facility use, where appropriate. The Midwest climate also provides challenges to the parks system. Demand for services and accommodations for multiple user interests can be a strain on operation and maintenance capabilities. Inconsistent fluctuations in river levels or unforeseen flooding could adversely impact access and use of riverfront park facilities. Conversely, winter storms with ample accumulation of snow put pressure on maintenance crews to clear accessways and parking at certain parks where sledding and other snow related activities are possible. Climate has also been a factor for ice-skating on both Prospect Pond and Riverside Lagoon.

### **Geology -**

Geology relates to outdoor recreation planning when discerning the potential of different areas for recreation or acquiring and preserving geologically interesting and important sites. Geology is important in making sound land use decisions to avoid potential geologic hazards. Hazards pertinent to outdoor recreation planning include flooding of alluvial plains, gulying and landslides, pollution of shallow well water supplies, and sinkhole occurrences. In addition the availability, quality, and quantity of ground water supplies, the potential for future recovery of mineral resources and existence of previous mining or indications of other man-made alterations should be known to determine the land most suitable for park and recreational development.

The sedimentary bedrock units present in Moline evolved from deposition of sediments in shallow seas, which covered Illinois and Iowa during several periods of geologic time covering hundreds of millions of years. The approximately 500-million-year-old bedrock, which underlies the entire region, is of the Cambrian and Ordovician periods. The bedrock closest to the surface in Moline can be classified into one general type - the Middle Devonian; which covers the area along Interstate 80 and to its south as it enters Illinois.

### **Soils -**

Three main forces reflecting the results of glacial and post-glacial activity formed soils in Moline. The three forces include: glacial drift, alluvial (water deposited) action, and windblown, silt-like (loess) soil movement. The loess soils regime is generally 25 feet or more in depth and covers a majority of the land on or above the river bluff in Moline. Alluvial deposits are found along the river lowlands, while glacial drift materials are located mainly in the further southern part of the community.

The type of soil present at a certain park site can weigh heavily on the types of development suitable for that site. Soil surveys should be conducted or obtained from the County to determine the most desirable use and placement of amenities within a park.

### **Vegetation -**

Natural vegetation of the City consists primarily of low deciduous trees, bushes, and grasses. The dominant species include oaks and maples. The remainder of the land in the area of interest contains mixed broadleaf weed species. Much of the area south of Moline has been,

and still is, being used for agricultural production with corn and soybeans being the dominant crops.

Existing vegetation and plant species may help to determine the best use for parklands. In instances where native old growth forests and endangered flora are present the site could be utilized as passive natural preserve serving a variety of recreational interests (i.e nature/interpretive paths, educational and environmental programs interpretive signage, orienteering, hiking, picnicking, etc.). Property utilized for row-crop, or other farming vocations, depending upon the topography may be suitable for conversion to an 18-hole golf course, soccer or other active recreation playfields and amenities.

### **Wildlife -**

There are a large variety of species, types, and numbers of wildlife found in the vicinity of Moline. The species types include: American toad, Fowler's toad, bullfrog, various turtle species, white-footed mouse, deer mouse, raccoon, beaver, fox, ground squirrel, red, black, and grey squirrels, cottontail rabbit, muskrat, skunk, opossum, coyote, groundhog, and white-tailed deer.

Birds in the area consist of common songbirds such as swallows, sparrows, robins, redwing blackbirds, cardinals, orioles, bluebirds, northern chickadees, finches, mourning doves, and wrens. Woodpeckers, owls, purple martins, blue jays, ring neck pheasants, quail, blackbirds, crows, pigeons, and hawks are also common in the area.

The Endangered Species Act, passed by the U.S. Congress in 1973, provides protection for plants or animals endangered or threatened with extinction. Endangered or threatened species located in Rock Island County Illinois, as reported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, include the Peregrine Falcon, the Bald Eagle (when wintering), and the Higgins Eye Pearly Mussel. The Bald Eagle has been elevated to Threatened at the Federal level, however it is still consider Endangered by the State of Illinois. The Illinois Department of Fish and Wildlife has extended the endangered list to include Lake Sturgeon, Red-shouldered Hawk, Pistolgrip, Western Sand Darter Butterfly, Grass Pickerel, Orangethroat Darter, River Otter, Squawfoot, and Ornate Box Turtle.

Similar to vegetation wildlife is an important criterion for determining park use. It may not be desirable to displace the existing fauna by developing certain areas for park use. Greenways utilized as wildlife corridors would be a prime example. Endangered/threatened wildlife needs to be considered when planning areas for human activity.

## **SECTION III. DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND TRENDS**

### **Introduction -**

In order to develop a viable master plan, it is necessary to evaluate not only the age composition and location of the present residents, but also information about the expected future population. Location and age composition are both important since small and medium sized parks must be located near people and designed with facilities compatible to the desires and capabilities of nearby residents. Large parks draw from all or most of the community thus citywide figures must be evaluated.

### **Population Characteristics -**

Moline's population increased 1.2% from 1990 to 2000. Comparatively, Rock Island County, as a whole, experienced minimal growth of 0.4% over the same analytical period. The majority of the County's population increase can be attributed to a growing percentage of people residing or moving to smaller communities within the county.

The City of Moline has a high concentration of residents 54 years of age or younger. 42.0% of the population is between 25 and 54 years of age. This is similar to the age distribution for all of Rock Island County and the State of Illinois. The next largest age cohort, also common to all three, is residents between 5 to 19 years of age, accounting for 20.0% of Moline's citizens.

The median age in the City has been on the rise over the last three decades. In 1980, the median age was 31.2 years. There was a modest increase in 1990 to a median age of 35.4 years. The 2000 Census indicated another increase in median age to 37.9 years. This corresponds to the national trend of an aging population. Moline's median age of 37.9 years is slightly higher than the median age of 34 years for residents of the County. The two smallest age cohorts are those residents within the 55-59 and the 60-64 distribution groups. 2000 Census figures, estimate only 9.0% of the City's population falls within these two age groups. Overall, 21.0% of the city's population or 9,185 residents of Moline are age 55 or greater. This is also indicative of Rock Island County. This attribute indicates both the City and County are retaining only about one-quarter of residents who have attained or are approaching retirement age. Increased attention needs to be placed on facilities and programs aimed at retaining residents of the "Traditionalist" and "Baby Boomers" generations.

Gender populations have remained fairly stable over the last ten years with little more than 0.5% increase in the male population from 1990 to 2000. Females remained the majority gender despite the slight increase in male population. In 2000, Moline's population was comprised of 52.2% females and 47.8% males. This is demonstrative of a 0.6% gender shift over the 10 year period from 1990 to 2000.

Moline's minority population (combines all racial classifications except white) accounted for 12.0% of the demographic profile in 2000. The largest increase was among those considered to be of Hispanic origin of any race. The 1990 census attributed 2,939 Moline residents to this classification. In 2000 that number had risen by 44.0% to 5,212 residents.

In 2000, there were 18,492 households in Moline, an increase of 1.0% over 1990. The number of persons per household remained the same at 2.35 over the ten-year period. The

number of families decreased by 2% from 11,894 in 1990 to 11,603 in 2000. Covering the same ten-year period, the number of persons per family remained relatively stagnant at 2.96 in 1990 to 2.97 in 2000.

**Table 1  
Comparison of Population Change**

<b>Population Changes</b>	<b>1950</b>	<b>1960</b>	<b>1970</b>	<b>1980</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>% Change '90-'00</b>
Rock Island County	133,558	150,991	166,734	165,968	148,723	149,374	0.4%
City of Moline	37,397	42,705	46,237	45,709	43,202	43,768	1.2%

Source: 2000 Census, U.S. Census Bureau

**Income and Educational Attainment -**

The City of Moline’s median family income (two or more related individuals) increased 27.7% since 1990. The median family income was \$34,847 in 1990 and rose to \$48,207 by 1999. (2000 Census attributes for income are figured on the previous calendar years income.) 19.2% of Moline’s families had incomes between \$35,000 and \$49,999, 25.0% had incomes in the range of \$50,000 to \$74,999, and 11.7% had a median family income of \$75,000 or greater.

In 2000, Moline’s labor force contained 22,851 persons or 66.1% of the City’s population. The majority, or 11,017 (60.2%) were female. There were 11,727 persons 16 years of age and older who were not in the labor force. Twenty and one-tenth percent of the labor force was employed in manufacturing in the year 2000, 14.6% were in wholesale or retail and the remaining 65.3% of the labor force were employed in professional fields, services, or other trades.

In 2000, there were 10,679 Moline residents, three years of age or older, enrolled in school. Twenty and four-tenths percent (20.4%) or 2,183 were enrolled in college or graduate school, 6.9% or 737 residents were enrolled in nursery school or pre-school and the remaining 77.7% were registered for kindergarten, elementary or high school grades. The 2000 Census indicates 5.0% of Moline’s residents 25 years or older have less than a 9th grade education 31.6% are high school graduates or equivalent, 25.2% had some college, but did not obtain a degree, 6.4% have an Associate’s Degree, 14.1% have a Bachelor’s Degree and 6.8% have a graduate or professional degree. On average, the levels of educational attainment in the City of Moline are fairly similar to those of Rock Island County.

**Table 2**  
**Income and Education Figures - City of Moline**

INCOME and EDUCATION			
	2000		
	Moline		Rock Island County
Income	Dollars		Dollars
Median Household Income	\$39,363		\$38,608
Median Family Income	\$48,207		\$47,956
Educational Attainment	Number of Residents (% of Population)		Number of Residents (% of Population)
Persons 25 Years of Age or Older	29,201	(66.7%)	98,865 (66.0%)
Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	1,446	( 5.0%)	5,159 ( 5.2%)
High School Graduate	9,231	(31.6%)	33,656 (34.0%)
Some College, No Degree	7,369	(25.2%)	24,486 (24.8%)
Associate Degree	1,874	( 6.4%)	6,596 ( 6.7%)
Bachelors Degree	4,110	(14.1%)	11,348 (11.5%)
Graduate or Professional Degree	1,973	( 6.8%)	5,541 ( 5.6%)

Source: 2000 Census

**Table 3**  
**City of Moline Demographic Statistics**

POPULATION TRENDS		
	1950 - 37,397 1960 - 42,705 1970 - 46,237	1980 - 45,709 1990 - 43,202 2000 - 43,768
Criteria	1990*	2000**
<b>Households/Families</b>		
Number of Households	18,265	18,492
Number of Families	11,894	11,603
Persons per Household	2.35	2.35
Person per Family	2.96	2.97
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	20,406 (47.2%)	20,909 (47.8%)
Female	22,796 (52.8%)	22,859 (52.2%)
<b>Age Group Distribution</b>		
Under 5 Years	3,022	2,827
5 to 19 Years	8,761	8,885
20 to 24 Years	2,710	2,823
25 to 44 Years	13,192	12,157
45 to 54 Years	4,495	6,219
55 to 59 Years	1,969	2,258
60 to 64 Years	2,148	1,857
65 to 74 Years	3,947	3,350
75 Years and Over	2,958	3,392
<b>Median Age</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>37.9</b>
<b>Racial Profile</b>		
White	40,658	38,682
African American	865	1,351
American Indian & Alaska Native	93	87
Asian	368	607
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	Not Available	11
Some Other Race	Not Available	2,222
Two or more Races	Not Available	808
<b>Hispanic Origin</b>		
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	2,939	5,212

\* Source: 1990 U.S. Census    \*\* Source: 2000 U.S. Census

## **Considerations -**

Studies on leisure time activities indicate there is a correlation between the amount of disposable income and level of educational attainment. This correlates with a demand for leisure type of activities. Considering median age, age distribution, income and educational attainment, it is expected high quality recreational opportunities will be needed to meet the demands of all age groups in the City of Moline. The population of Moline is expected to continue to grow at a steady rate. This will encourage the Park Board and City Council to maintain and provide a full range of recreational opportunities and facilities.

The Mississippi riverfront is experiencing an insurgence of residential, retail and mixed-use development. While urban renewal continues to proliferate in the City's downtown. As this continues to occur interested developers need to be aware of the growing demand for recreation amenities, including trails, greenways and open space areas. Bricks and mortar projects should be envisioned as being constructed within a park or park-like setting.

*“A strong parks and recreation system can provide value and benefits. Fortunately, the parks and recreation profession has documented, and begun to quantify, the benefits of a strong park system and recreation program. From recently completed research, it is known that a city can position itself to provide social benefits, economic benefits, environmental benefits and individual benefits by striving to implement a strong park and recreation system. Specifically, the benefits are described as follows:*

- *Provide social benefits by connecting people with neighbors of other ages, incomes, backgrounds and abilities. Parks and recreation can build community pride and spirit.*
- *Provide economic benefits by improving the quality of life in the community and helping to attract businesses and residents to the City. Top-rated parks, recreation programs and facilities can be a competitive advantage for the City of Moline in economic development. Research recently completed by Dr. John Crompton, Texas A&M University, shows that property values increase by 20%, on the low end, for homes within 500 to 2,000 feet of parks over 25 acres that are nicely maintained, visible from the street and designed for passive uses.*
- *Provide benefits to the environment by connecting people with, and educating them, about nature. In addition, greenways can provide alternative transportation opportunities. Parks and open space are essential components of city growth and environmental awareness.*
- *Provide benefits to individuals by promoting physical fitness and self-improvement. Opportunities for exercise and being outdoors result in greater physical fitness, emotional well-being and connectivity to nature.”*

Source: City of Moline, Illinois – Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 8: Parks and Recreation System, pg.8-1.

The Park Board, City Council, and other regulatory bodies should take proactive measures to ensure adequate lands are set aside for park/open space and greenway corridors. In order for the City to entice development and retain or attract residents its leaders must continue their efforts to create a livable community. Today there is a nationwide epidemic of physical inactivity. The City needs to recognize this as it updates existing parks and looks to expand park and recreation facilities and programming.

The public input process plays a vital role in directing the City and parks department in creating facilities, which the community needs and the residents will use. Green space and parks should be a high priority item within any development project. Studies have shown a well-established park system and contiguous greenway, trail and pedestrian sidewalk network are significant. In some cases, parks are determining factors as to where businesses will locate and residents will settle. Park and recreation should not be the final aspect of consideration when development occurs. In fact, it should be the first. It is much more difficult to retrofit park amenities into already developed areas than it is to plan developments around the concept of the park. Consideration of adequate and desirable park lands, as a high priority attribute for the City at the onset will provide lasting benefits for the community and its posterity. Furthermore, working cooperatively by establishing and maintaining a clear dialogue with developers of planned or proposed new projects will ensure viable park areas, greenway/trail connectivity and pedestrian accessibility are a primary element of any development plan. These considerations are meant to encourage the City and Park Board to maintain and provide a full range of recreational opportunities and park facilities. Intuitive land-use planning and mixed-use development encourage physical activity. Establishing a healthier environment in which to work and play will benefit the city in attracting prospective economic development and potentially encourage social interaction amongst residents and stimulate population growth. Refer to Tables 1 - 3 for a breakdown of demographic figures and statistics. Refer to Section V and Appendix A & B for public input and survey results used to determine short and long-term needs for the Moline Parks and Recreation systems.

## SECTION IV. STANDARDS AND INVENTORY OF PARK & RECREATION FACILITIES

National standards are one way in which a community may compare their current park and recreation facilities to those of other similar communities. The purpose of the National Park and Recreation Standards is to present guidelines or standards that are applicable nationwide for planning, acquisition, and development of park, recreation, and open space lands, primarily at the community level. While this plan will be developed primarily utilizing the standards of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) deviations may occur to the standards to reflect community desires. The NRPA encourages local modifications of their national guidelines. The organization recognizes its guidelines should not be applied rigidly across the board to all communities, regardless of size and other conditions. Local considerations, demands and interests should be taken into account.

The Bi-State Regional Commission completed an inventory of existing outdoor park and recreation facilities found within the corporate limits of Moline. The location of each area was identified and available facilities were noted for each location. When inventorying existing park and recreation facilities, the total land acreage was determined. This inventory will serve the community in planning and implementing future park and recreation development, and may be seen on Table 6.

### **National Recreation and Park Association Standards -**

There are essentially three approaches to space standards recognized by the National Recreation and Park Association. They include:

1. Total park and recreation space as expressed in a population ratio, such as acres per 1,000 people.
2. Percentage of area devoted to park and open space in a given community or jurisdiction.
3. Needs determined by user characteristics or demand projections.

The population ratio method is the best known and is applied most often for park and recreation space standards. This method is used with service radii, minimum size, and a description or classification of the parks for which it applies. Table 4 depicts the standards recommended by the NRPA (National Recreation and Park Association), according to park classification and the population ratio. Various types of recreation facilities are also compared to a national standard per size of population. This information for Moline is shown in Table 5. It should be noted that some recreation facilities may be provided by nearby communities or may not be appropriate or of interest to a given community.

### **Comparison to National Standards -**

National Standards are one way by which a community may equate their park and recreation facilities to those of similar communities. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA) set the national standards. They call for, among other guidelines, ten acres of open space per 1,000 population. This means the City of Moline, at a minimum, should have roughly 438 acres based on 2000 Census data and NRPA standards. However, the City of Moline established a higher standard of 15 to 18 total acres of land per 1,000 population when the City Council adopted the City Comprehensive Plan in 2001. *“Currently, 559.5 acres of parks are provided by the City (as of spring 2004, the City of Moline had ~587.6 acres of parks). Based on the*

standard of 15 to 18 total acres of land per 1,000 population, the City should provide 660 to 792 acres. Deficiencies of park land exist for mini parks by - 12 acres, neighborhood parks by - 40 acres (if the higher standard is selected) and community parks by - 121 to - 253 acres.” (City of Moline, Illinois – Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 8: Parks and Recreation System, pg.8-15)

**Table 4**

**Standards by Classification and Population Ratio  
Recommended by the National Recreation and Park Association**

Classification	Acres/ 1000 Pop.	Size Range	Population Served	Service Area	Moline Comparison
<b>Playlots / Mini-Parks</b>	< 1 Acre	2,500 Sq. Ft. to 1 Acre	500 to 2,500	Small Neighborhood	Moline is currently served by 5 parks
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>	2.5	Min. 2 Acres Max. 25 Acres	2,000 to 10,000	1/4 to 1/2 mile	Moline is currently served by 6 parks
<b>Community- Wide Parks</b>	2.5	20 to 50 Acres	10,000 to 50,000	1/3 to 3 Miles	Moline is currently served by 3 parks
<b>Large Urban Parks</b>	5	50 + Acres	50,000 +	Within 1/2 hr. Drive Time	Riverside Park
<b>Regional Parks</b>	20	250 + Acres	Serves entire population	Within 1 hr. Drive Time	Greenville Park
<b>Special Areas &amp; Facilities</b>	NA	Includes parkways, beaches, plazas, historical sites, flood plain, downtown malls, etc. No standard is applicable.			Ben Butterworth Parkway, Sylvan Island, Kiwanis Trail, Moline Activity Center (MAC), Harold's Landing

Source: National Recreation and Park Association - *Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines*, © 1996

**Playlots/Mini-Parks** - Playlots are small areas intended for children up to 6 or 7 years of age residing in close proximity. Playlots range in size from 2,500 square feet up to 1 acre. Mini-parks may serve targeted groups such as senior citizens only, children only, or all age groups, depending on the needs in the neighborhood. Features may include children’s play areas, quiet game areas, landscaping, and some sports activities such as multi-purpose courts, if space allows. Playlots are typically located within walking distance of the area to be served and usually no parking is required for these facilities.

**Neighborhood Parks** - A neighborhood is often defined as the one-half mile service area from an elementary school and should contain enough persons to support the school facility. A neighborhood park is between two and twenty-five acres in size and is used both as a passive and active recreation area serving the immediate neighborhood. A neighborhood park may contain a playground which is an active recreation area primarily serving the needs of the 5 to 13 year age group. A neighborhood play field provides space for active play such as baseball and football for children, teenagers, and young adults and is commonly included in the development of a neighborhood park. Ease of access and walking distance are critical factors in locating a neighborhood park. A person’s propensity to use a neighborhood park is greatly reduced if they perceive it to be difficult to access, not within a reasonable walking distance, or if there are boundary restriction such as main thoroughfares or difficult terrain to cross which may inhibit walkers from safely reaching the park. Ideally the site for a

neighborhood park should accommodate 7 to 10 parking spaces, for use by those who chose or need to drive to the park.

**Community-Wide Parks** - A community-wide park serves a broader purpose than a neighborhood park. Its focus is meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. A community-wide park is usually for both passive and active use with a recommended size of at least 20 to 50 acres. A community park should serve two or more neighborhoods and should be serviced by arterial and collector streets and be easily accessible from throughout its service area. Parking lots should be provided as necessary to accommodate user access. Community-wide parks typically cover a 1/3 to 3 mile service area and are accessible by car, bicycle, or on foot.

**Large Urban Parks** - Large urban parks serve a broader purpose than community parks and are used when community and neighborhood parks are not adequate to serve the needs of the community. The focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. The large urban park is usually a minimum of 50 acres, with 75 or more being optimal. They are typically within ½ hour drive time for users and usually serve the entire community. Adequate off-street parking should be available for users of these parks and their facilities.

**Regional Parks** - Regional Parks serve the largest population at the local level and are usually classified as forest preserves or state parks in the Midwest. Loud Thunder Forest Preserve would be an example of a regional park. They are usually a minimum of 250 acres and are within one-hour driving time from the population area served. Adequate parking should be provided to accommodate user's access.

**Special Use Areas Facilities** - Special use areas and facilities cover a broad range of parks and recreational facilities orientated toward single-purpose use.

National standards, established by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), are one method of determining if a given city or community is providing adequate park and recreational amenities to its residents. Table 5 illustrates how the City of Moline fairs in comparison to NRPA standards. NRPA comparison is one of many criteria, which need to be examined and evaluated for determining the needs and requirements for the City of Moline's park and recreation system. However, not all communities are the same; differences in demographic make-up, geography, climate, geology, user interests, trends, public input and many other factors have to be weighed to ensure the establishment of a comprehensive park and recreation system which meets the requirements of the City and the needs of all users.

Table 5 is a valid tool for comparing existing facilities to NRPA standards based on the population ratio method. However, NRPA standards are dated and not inclusive of all current recreational activities. These standards are merely guidelines and should not be considered a panacea for the City's park system. Further, Table 5 does not take into consideration other approaches for determining space standards or localized variables identified in this plan. These variables include, but are not limited to, public input and interests, community demand, capacity of existing park amenities/facilities and the projected use or need for items identified by the NRPA. Local factors and community interests must be assessed to help determine the comprehensive needs of the City.

**Table 5**  
**Comparison of Existing Recreational**  
**Facilities with National Park Standards**

<b>Facility</b>	<b>National Standard/Pop.</b>	<b># of Facilities in Moline</b>	<b>Need/Pop 43,768 (00)</b>	<b>Need vs. Standard for Moline</b>
<b>Baseball Diamonds/ Softball Diamonds</b>	1 per 2,500	21	18	Community Adequately Served
<b>Tennis Courts</b>	1 per 4,000	13	11	Community Adequately Served
<b>Swimming Pools</b>	1 per 20,000	1 (Aquatic Center)	2	Community NOT Adequately Served
<b>Community Center</b>	1 per 25,000	1	2	Community NOT Adequately served
<b>Indoor Recreation Center</b>	1 per 45,000	0	1	Community NOT Adequately Served
<b>Outdoor Theaters</b>	1 per 20,000	0	2	Community NOT Adequately Served
<b>Shooting Ranges</b>	1 per 50,000	0	1	Community NOT Adequately Served
<b>Golf Courses (18-holes) (Traditional)</b>	1 per 25,000	0	2	Community NOT Adequately Served.
<b>Outdoor Basketball Courts</b>	1 per 500	5	18	Community NOT Adequately Served
<b>Volleyball Courts (Outdoor)</b>	1 per 4000	3	11	Community NOT Adequately Served
<b>Playground Facilities</b>	1 per 1,000	30	31	Community is adequately served.
<b>Soccer Fields</b>	1 per 2,500	7	18	Community NOT Adequately Served
<b>Football Fields</b>	1 per 10,000	2	5	Community NOT Adequately Served
<b>Outdoor Ice Rink</b>	1 per 2,500	1	12	Community NOT Adequately Served.
<b>Total Park Acres</b>	<b>15-18 Acres/ 1,000</b>	<b>587.6 Acres</b>	<b>660-792 Acres</b>	Community NOT Adequately Served (Utilizing Higher Standard)

Sources: (1) *National Park and Recreation Association Guidelines* ©1996 (2) On-Site Inventory (3) *City of Moline Comprehensive Plan: adopted 2001*

## **SECTION V. EXISTING PARKS, RECREATION FACILITIES, RECREATION PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES and MULTIPURPOSE RECREATION TRAIL**

### **Introduction -**

In order to determine the adequacy of a recreational program or the number and size of existing parks and recreational facilities it is necessary to conduct an inventory. Table 6 represents a comprehensive profile of existing parks and facilities, their locations, existing amenities and their approximate size. The City of Moline has twenty-two existing parks or park-like facilities comprising approximately 587.6-acres. Map #2 provides an illustration of existing park facilities within Moline. Map #3 profiles the service or coverage area for each park facility. The service areas as noted previously in this plan are based on guidelines established by the NRPA and the AAPRA and depend on the acreage of the park. This Plan utilizes park facility location, amenities provided, condition of existing amenities, accessibility constraints and future trends as additional variables in determining service area for each existing park and recreation facility.

Following Table 6 of this Plan is information outlining improvements, which have been identified for each park. Individual park improvements and a prospective time frame have been established for guidance in implementing the proposed improvements. Maps #4 - #26 identify existing amenities at individual parks and accompany the respective outlined text portions of each park. The information collected has been identified as either a short-term (1-5 year) improvement or a long-term (5-15 year) improvement. These stratified improvements were identified through public input processes, site inventories, comparisons to recommended standards, consideration of new and emerging trends and community demand. Information was extrapolated from existing planning documents and other appropriate sources deemed reasonable, prudent, and beneficial to the usefulness of this Master Plan.

**Table 6  
Existing Park and Recreation Facilities**

<b>PARK/FACILITY NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMENITIES</b>	<b>ACREAGE</b>
<b>COMMUNITY-WIDE PARKS</b>			
<b>Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> – 55 <sup>th</sup> Streets & River Drive	Ralph B. Birks/Great River Trail, covered picnic tables, interpretive riverway signage, jungle gym, restrooms, riverfront and trail-head parking, benches, scenic vistas, river mile markers, informational kiosks, memorials, restaurant, marina, A.D.A. compliant fishing piers, covered pavilion, swing-sets, modular playground, boat launch, staging area and courtesy dock, waterfowl feeding, accessible shoreline, Channel Cat dock	16.0
<b>Greenvalley Park/Complex (Covemakers, Veterans/Old Greenvalley)</b>	48-70 <sup>th</sup> Streets & 52 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue	<b>Greenvalley Park Complex</b> – (ballfield complex, playground, concessions, restrooms, parking, service building) <b>Covemakers</b> – (soccer fields, parking) <b>Veterans Memorial</b> – (ballfields, covered shelter, picnic areas, Rock River vistas, shore fishing, passive areas, Kiwanis Bike/Jog Trail, parking) <b>Old Greenvalley</b> – (open field area, radio controlled flying field –Q.C. Raiders, passive bird sanctuary, Kiwanis Bike/Jog Trail, cricket field, Rock River Access, scenic vistas	350.0
<b>Prospect Park</b>	Park 16 <sup>th</sup> Street & 30 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Modular playground, swing-sets, basketball court, ballfield, covered picnic shelter w/restrooms, picnic tables, parking, sledding hill, Music Guild, fire ring, observation deck, historic two-story pavilion, fishing pond, pond pavilion/warming house, pond trail, hilly forested bluffs, nature trails	25.0
<b>Riverside Park</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> – 34 <sup>th</sup> Streets & 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Modular slide/play unit, volleyball, toddler sand play area, gazebo, outdoor gardens, garden center/conservatory/ arboretum, indoor rental facility, new family aquatic center (Summer 2004), tennis, open field areas, restrooms, Little League ballfields, concessions, playground, John Deere, Velie, Butterworth and other "City Fathers" memorials and burial sites, cemetery, Civil War memorial, mausoleum, horseshoe pits, fishing pond, ice rink (winter only), A.D.A. compliant fishing piers	55.0
<b>Stephens Park</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Street & 15 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Ballfields, modular playground (w/ age appropriate signage), sand volleyball/ice rink, restrooms, Rolle-Bolle, parking, basketball court, covered picnic area, fire-ring, natural/passive areas, nature/hiking trails, drinking fountain, open field, benches, park signs, parking	19.0
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>			
<b>Browning Playground</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> Street & 22 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue	Skate park (Browning Action Park), jungle gym, swing-sets, picnic benches, sand volleyball	2.8
<b>Butterworth Playground</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> Street & 7 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Swing-sets, modular play unit, monkey bars/jungle gym, wooden outlook/crows nest, tube/tunnel slide, picnic bench, bench	1.9

**TABLE 6 ( Continued)**

<b>PARK/FACILITY NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMENITIES</b>	<b>ACREAGE</b>
<b>Harold's Landing</b>	North Shore Drive & 52 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue	Boat ramp/launch, staging area, courtesy dock, restrooms, riverfront access, green space, covered gazebo, parking, Kiwanis trail, shore fishing	4.5
<b>Jefferson Park</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> Street & 26 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Modular play unit, swing-set, covered picnic shelter, ballfields	23.7
<b>Karstens Park</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Street & 23 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue	Modular play unit, modular triple slide, swing-set, toddler swings, ballfield, basketball court, open space area, benches, covered brick entrance w/ restrooms, sidewalk/fitness path around perimeter of park fence (approximately ¼ mile total distance)	1.7
<b>Kiwanis Park</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> Street & 13 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Modular play unit, swing-sets, slides, basketball court, covered picnic shelter, benches, drinking fountain, open playfield area	1.0
<b>McCandless Park</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Street & 7 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Modular play unit, basketball court, covered shelter/restrooms, forested bluff area with trail/stairs access, soccer field, ballfield	5.9
<b>Meersman Park</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> Street & 24 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Open space area at entrance transitions into a wooded ravine, no development in park	4.5
<b>Millennium Park</b>	79 <sup>th</sup> Street & 34 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Modular play unit, swings, picnic area, walking/hiking nature trail, restrooms, parking	9.5
<b>Optimist Park</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> Street & 18 <sup>th</sup> Avenue A.	Modular play unit, swings, covered picnic shelter, benches, open playfield area	1.0
<b>Peterson Park</b>	35 <sup>th</sup> Street & 7 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Large wooded passive area, pathways to overlooks, scenic bluff-top vistas, picnic benches, picnic pavilion, jungle gym, swing-set, slide, lights, sundial, parking	15.0
<b>Stephen's Square</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Street & 18 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Memorial to the soldiers from Moline, Intersecting walking paths, flower planters, benches, picnic tables, garden, patio area for small outdoor concerts, access to and from Moline Activity Center (MAC)	0.8
<b>Sylvan Island</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Street & 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Nature/hiking trails around perimeter and throughout island, mountain biking, fishing piers, vast natural area, benches, scenic river vistas, picnic tables, Informational center/kiosk, riverway art project, Look-out, access bridge	36.0
<b>Sylvan Island Trail-head Park</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Street & 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	Parking, Great River Trail access and trail-head (Currently under development)	2.8
<b>Velie Park</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> Street & 11 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Large passive area, Internal paved walking paths, Spanish-American War memorial, flanking limestone pillars at entrance, drinking fountain, scenic vistas, benches, passive park with lots of trees	3.5
<b>Wiman/Miss Pattie's Park</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> Street & 35 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Modular play unit, covered picnic tables, swing-set, picnic table, benches, restroom, parking, open space, scenic vistas	5.5

**TABLE 6 (Continued)**

<b>PARK/FACILITY NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMENITIES</b>	<b>ACREAGE</b>
<b>RECREATIONAL FACILITIES</b>			
<b>Moline Memorial Park &amp; Riverside Cemeteries**</b>	(5001 34 <sup>th</sup> Ave.) (31 <sup>st</sup> -34 <sup>th</sup> St. & 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave.	Cemetery Walk (Riverside Cemetery)	~78.3 (Includes both cemeteries)
<b>Moline Activity Center (MAC)</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Street & 18 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Administration, outdoor gardens, picnic area, restrooms	0.8 (Included w/Stephen's Square Park)
<b>Quad City Music Guild in Prospect Park</b>	1584 34 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Live summer theater, Children's musical theater	25.0 (Included w/Prospect Park)
<b>Riverside Park Garden Center, Conservatory/ Arboretum</b>	3400 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Gardens, greenhouse, meeting rooms, nature study, parking	55.0 (Included w/Riverside Park)

*\*Administered by the Parks Department (Not a facility for active recreational use.)*

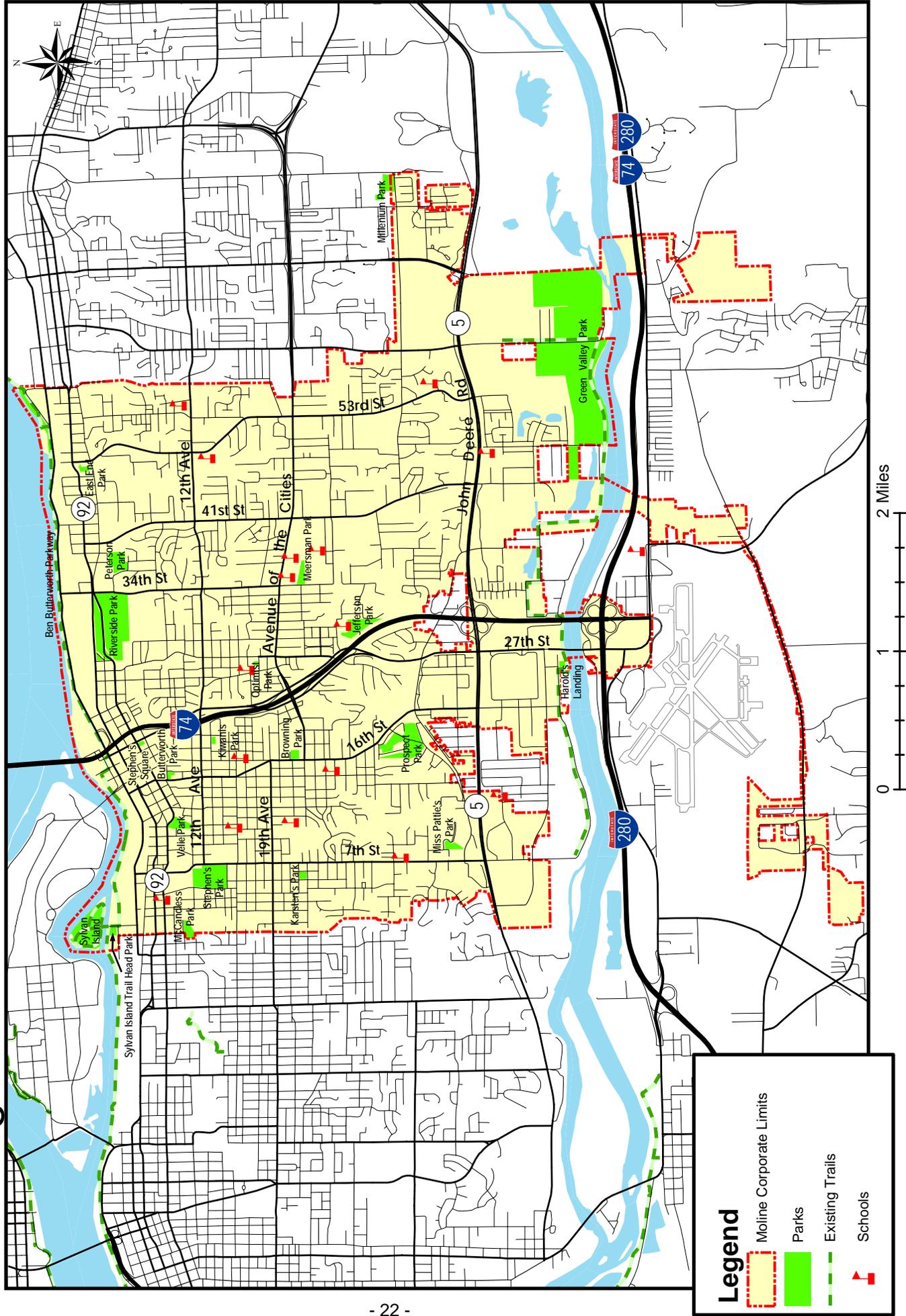
Source: Site Inventory 2003 - 2004

# Moline Park & Recreation Plan - MAP M-2

## Existing Parks

Map Prepared by:  
  
 December 2004

This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. Bi-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.



**Legend**

-  Moline Corporate Limits
-  Parks
-  Existing Trails
-  Schools

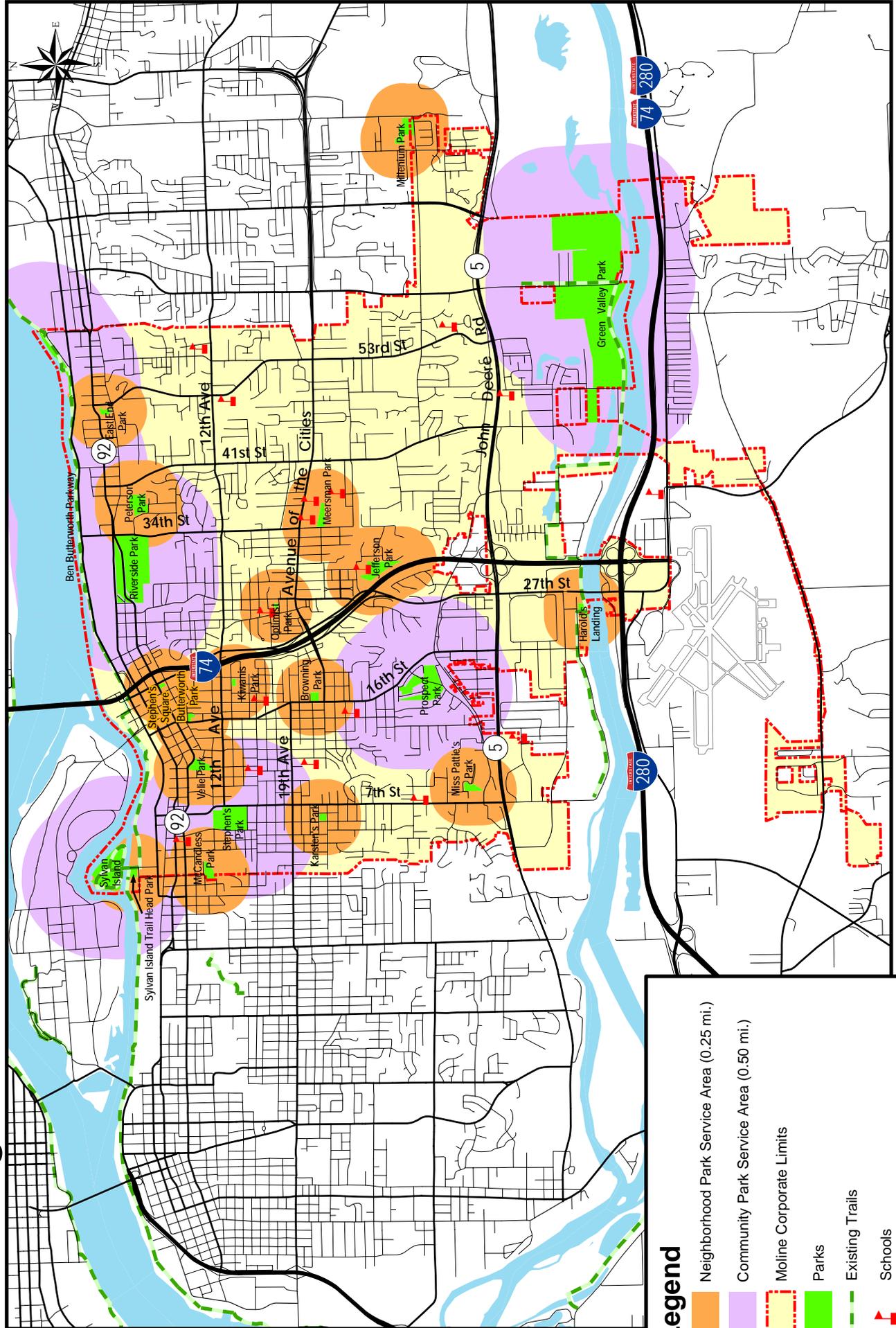
# Existing Park Service Areas

Map Prepared by:



This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. BI-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.

December 2004



**Legend**

- Neighborhood Park Service Area (0.25 mi.)
- Community Park Service Area (0.50 mi.)
- Moline Corporate Limits
- Parks
- Existing Trails
- Schools

## **Existing Parks Improvements -**

### **Community-Wide Parks -**

#### **Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway 22<sup>nd</sup> – 55<sup>th</sup> Street and River Drive**

**Park Size:** ~16.0 acres

#### **Existing Amenities:**

Multi-use parkway trail (1), Covered picnic tables (11), Covered picnic shelter/structure (9), Covered picnic pavilion (2), Jungle gym (1), Modular play unit (1), Swings (1), Restrooms (2), Riverfront and trail-head parking (lots available at various points along parkway >100 vehicle capacity), Park benches (~30), Boat Access Area (1), Scenic vistas, Accessible shoreline, Fishing, Informational kiosks and signage, Memorials, Waterfowl feeding

#### **Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

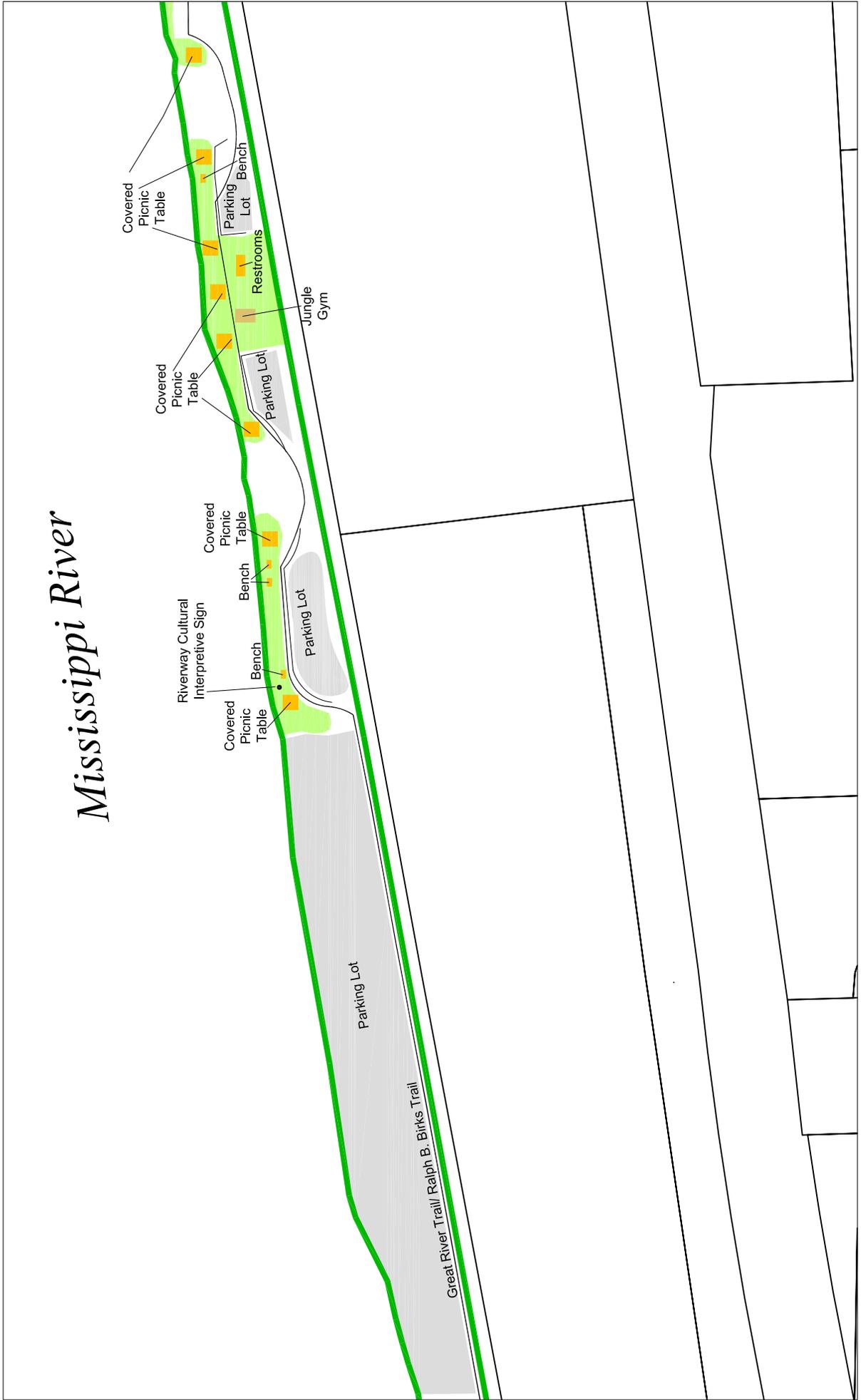
- Identify intermittent locations and incorporate pedestrian crossings of River Drive to the Parkway
- Widen Ralph B. Birks Trail to 12ft through the Parkway to accommodate increasing use of diversified activities
- Encourage distribution/marketing at parks and trails – brochures/info to hotels and motels
- Research partnership opportunities with hotel and parks – include park amenities in QCA brochure at airports and transportation hubs
- Address traffic issues – distracted drivers – truck traffic (major issue)\*
- Evaluate vehicular entrance points – maybe put turn lanes – traffic calming issues
- Add restroom facilities near QCCVB office/17<sup>th</sup> Street area
- Pick-up after dogs – enforcement signage/fines
- Install more swings/playground equipment on parkway, replace outdated or unsafe equipment – new equipment needed on west side
- Dredge Marquis marina

#### **Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Establish Marina on west end – Henri's property access
- Relocate trail closer to river between 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Street
- Provide facility for bike/inline skates rental – possibly Sylvan Island
- Paint brightly surplus police bikes for use along trail
- Allow portable concession carts – X # of permits/licenses – proposals/bids auction
- Divert unnecessary truck traffic off River Drive
- Provide trolley tours at and from the Parkway

# Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway

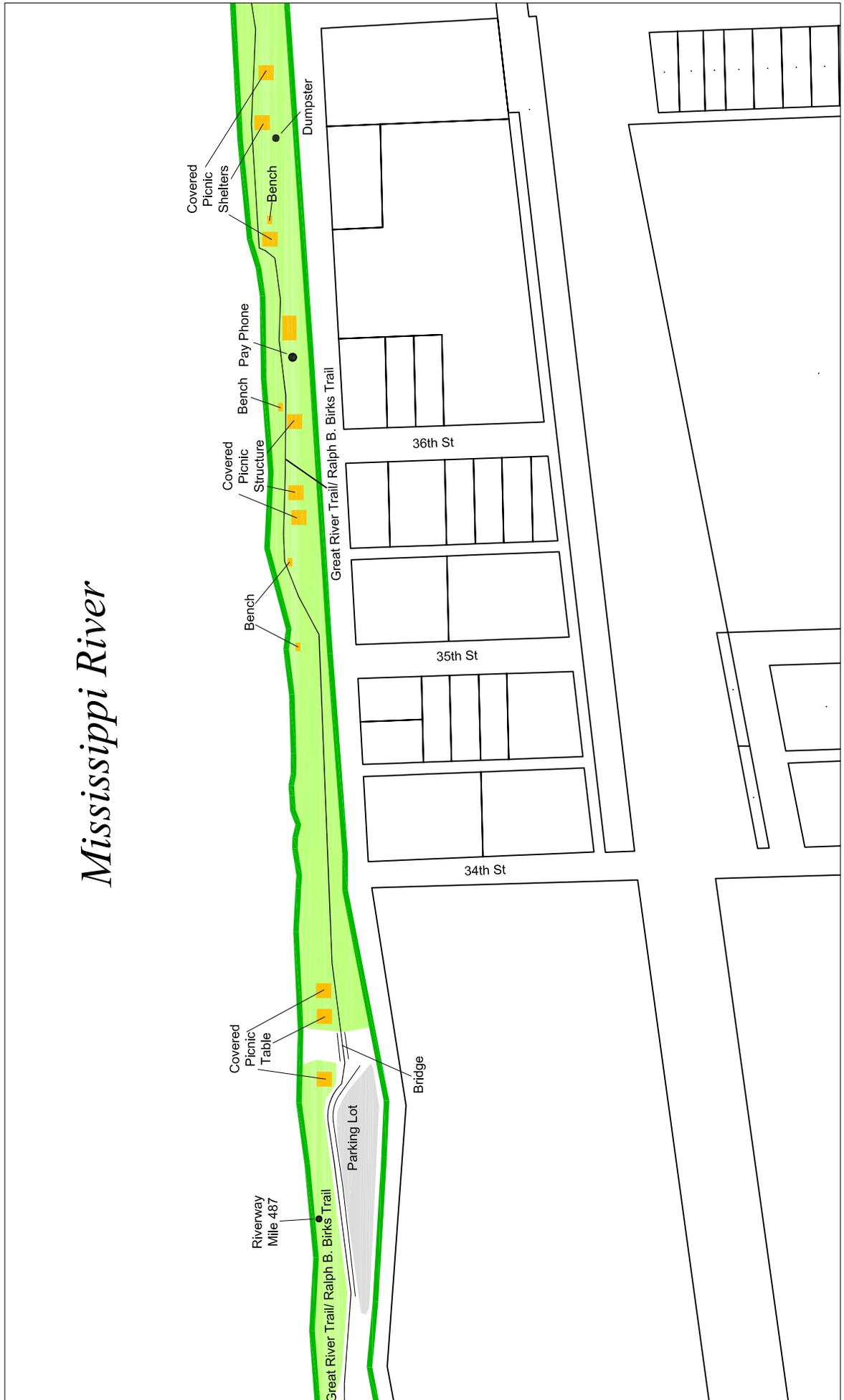
Community Park (Map 1 of 4)



# Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway

Community Park (Map 2 of 4)

Map M-4 (continued)



*Mississippi River*

# Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway

## Community Park (Map 3 of 4)

Map M-4 (continued)



*Mississippi River*



## **Greenvalley Park/Complex (Covemakers, Veterans/Old Greenvalley)**

48-70<sup>th</sup> Street & 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~350.0 acres

### **Existing Amenities:**

Ballfields (10) 8-lighted, Playground (1), Concessions (3), Restroom facilities (3), Parking (4-large lots and auxiliary locations), Service/maintenance building (1), Soccer fields (9), Covered picnic shelter (3), Picnic areas, Rock River access, Scenic vistas, Fishing, Passive areas, Kiwanis bike/jog trail (~6.5miles), *Sky Raiders*-Radio controlled flying field/Open field (1), Bird sanctuary (1), Cricket field (1)

### **Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

#### ***Greenvalley Park/Complex***

- Eliminate multiple park names; change to *Greenvalley Park East* and *Greenvalley Park West*
- Expand parking for soccer/ball tournaments
- Add restroom facilities east side of 60<sup>th</sup> Street (soccer field side)
- Running water, drinking fountains near soccer club fields
- Clearing area for mosquito abatement, trail to Rock River
- Develop additional soccer fields
- Designate an area for an enclosed dog park or dog run, include provision for water and waste, and mandate patron policing of pets

#### ***Covemakers***

- Add playground equipment at soccer fields
- Upgrade picnic tables at soccer fields
- Consider adding field lighting and security lighting for soccer fields
- Install new safety Pads/guards around posts on goals
- Provide additional, portable, goal posts for training and for new fields
- Thin/clear trees and add fencing at south end of Moline Soccer Club fields
- Upgrade access to new soccer fields needs gravel or blacktop
- Tap well by concession stand or connect into city water at soccer fields

#### ***Old Greenvalley***

- Establish plan to combat drainage issues – maintenance of drainage ditches, rip-rap
- Maintain and improve prairie area in Old Greenvalley
- Incorporate recreational vehicle (R.V.) park with camper pads and campground facilities
- Add roadway and park lighting to improve safety and discourage vandalism

#### ***Veteran's Memorial***

- Enhance Veteran's Memorial Park area
- Improve road through park
- Address mowing times near new wetland mitigation property
- Install street lighting to reduce vandalism and improve safety

## **Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

### ***Greenvalley Park/Complex***

- Address inadequate timing of light for west turn lane from 60<sup>th</sup> Street to John Deere Road (Coordinate through Public Works and Illinois Department of Transportation to consider double left turn lane from 60<sup>th</sup> Street on to John Deere Road)
- Determine an alternate access/exit (i.e. Kennel Road one-way access, 51<sup>st</sup> one-way in, 50<sup>th</sup> one-way out)
- Address drainage issues east of 60<sup>th</sup> Street
- Install an irrigation systems, re-grade and re-seed the older fields
- Identify location for and indoor soccer complex

### ***Covemakers***

- Annex area east and south of Covemaker addition into Moline
- Develop new soccer fields to north of existing fields
- Install kicking boards for practice/training
- Add more bleachers at new and existing fields
- Provide larger facility for equipment storage
- Incorporate landscaping suitable to location

### ***Old Greenvalley***

- Utilize for R.V. Park, campgrounds
- Incorporate landscaping suitable to location
- Remove old tree stumps and clear dead wood
- Implement a forestry program to monitor and control tree growth and manage incursion of invasive species

### ***Veteran's Memorial***

- Incorporate landscaping suitable to location
- Install restroom facilities



*Rock River*

**Prospect Park**  
Park 16<sup>th</sup> Street & 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~25 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Modular playground (1), Swing-sets (2), Basketball court (1), Ballfield (1), Covered picnic shelter w/restrooms (1), Picnic tables (throughout/sporadic), Parking (~50 – vehicles), Sledding hill, Music Guild, Fire ring (1), Observation deck (1), Historic two-story pavilion (1), fishing pond (1), Pond pavilion/warming house (1), Pond perimeter trail (1), Hilly forested bluffs, nature walks/trails, park benches, scenic vistas

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Complete recommendations from the Prospect Park Plan
- Develop disk golf course
- Improve maintenance near Park 16<sup>th</sup> Street entrance
- Update playgrounds and shelter on north
- Patrol park at night – utilize volunteer Neighborhood Partnership Groups and Neighborhood Watch Groups
- Place buffers under playground equipment on north side
- Add lighting on upper/north side
- Incorporate 1920's period lighting throughout park
- Put security lighting on Pavilion
- Dredge pond and reconstruct shoreline for erosion control and stabilization
- Implement best management practices for storm water run-off
- Refine program for mosquito abatement – aeration, chemicals, Bat or Martin houses
- Define parking near Music Guild
- Add wayfinding/park signage and distance markers on proposed fitness paths
- Consider an asphalt surface for proposed fitness paths – accessible for strollers

**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Consider paddleboat, canoe and rowboat use on pond
- Place security cameras near pavilion, web cams
- Install kitchen in lower level of pavilion for use when rented
- Consider permeable paving parking lot, bio-swales, landscaping by walkways along pond
- Re-establish ice-skating at north end of park
- Promote concerts in the park – using renovated pavilion or band shell
- Consider maintenance – edging/borders for tress and landscaping – group landscaping to concentrated areas to ease mowing
- Re-establish garden promenade down slope connecting the north and south sides of the park

# Prospect Park Community Park

Map M-6



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Map Prepared by:



December 2004

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**Riverside Park**  
31<sup>st</sup> – 34<sup>th</sup> Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~55.0 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Modular slide/play unit (2), Swing-sets (2), Volleyball court (1), Toddler play area (1), Covered picnic shelter (2), Gazebo (1), Garden Center/Conservatory/Arboretum (1), Greenhouse (1), Indoor rental facility (1), Aquatic Center (1), Tennis courts (6), Little League ballfields (5), Restrooms facilities (3), Playground (1), Concession stand (1), Horseshoe pits (10), Fishing pond (1), Fishing piers (2), Pond building/warming house (1), Ice rink (1), Civil War memorial (1), Historic cemetery (1), Mausoleum (1), Parking (various lots available throughout park >100 vehicle capacity)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

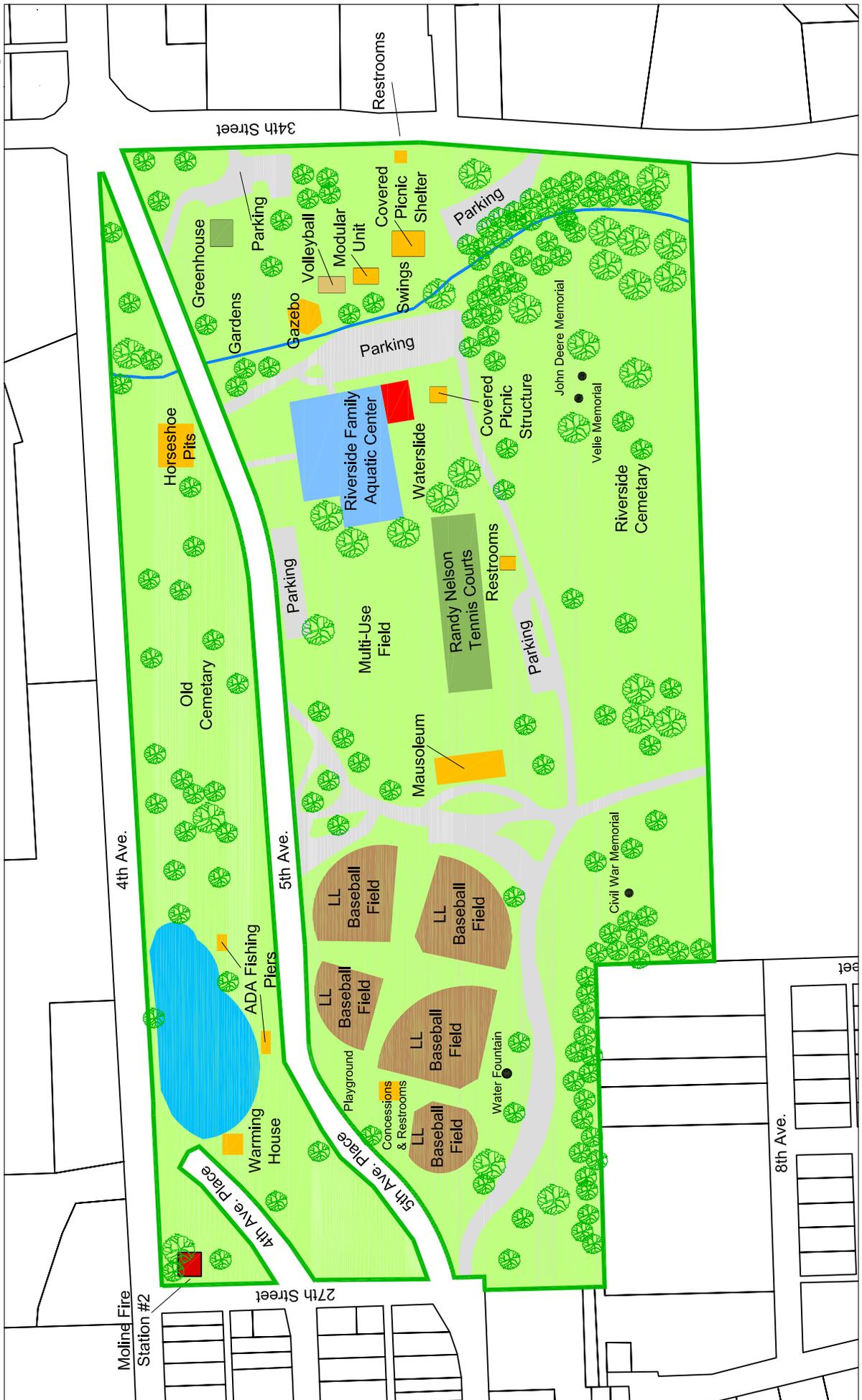
- Add pavilion and to Little League diamonds (include picnic tables with pavilion)
- Upgrade concession stand and restroom facilities at Little League diamonds
- Provide better ice skating facility – room for hockey and ice-skating – maybe separate ice for each activity
- Continue cemetery walk program
- Purchase new equipment for smaller kids –toddler and kids playground!
- Replace trees that have fallen or been removed
- Install LED sign for park activities
- Find alternative site to store construction/maintenance equipment
- Take down fatality billboard
- Identify location for permanent Parks Department office
- Renovate and expand horseshoe courts

**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Add skateboard and in-line skate amenities (Consider additional skateboard or BMX Park)
- Install lights on Little League diamonds #3 & #4
- Rehab Riverside lagoon – Dredge lagoon, implement erosion control bank/shore stabilization, storm water management/drainage control measures and continue cooperation with ILDNR for fishing programs and fish stocking
- Improve accessibility for all people at all parks; review the Illinois Accessibility Code (IAC) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ensuring required accommodations are included with any park development or upgrades
- Establish program to replace fruit trees along boulevards – shade trees

# Riverside Park Community Park

Map M-7



**Stephens Park**  
7<sup>th</sup> Street & 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~19.0 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Ballfields (2) 1-lighted), Modular playground-w/ age appropriate signage (1), Sand volleyball/Ice rink (1), Restroom facilities (3), Drinking fountains (2), Rolle-Bolle courts (16-lighted), Basketball Court (1), Covered picnic area (2) (1-covered~24-person) & (1-covered~60-person), Fire-ring (1), Open field w/ recreational back-stop (1), Parking (~90 vehicles), Natural/passive areas with nature/hiking trails, Park benches (~12), Fenced playground area

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Designate an area for Dog Park on S.W. side
- Update restrooms
- Install working fountain/water faucet in rear of park
- Contract with vendors during summer baseball season

**Long Term Improvements (5 - 15 Years)**

- Add parking near picnic/volleyball areas
- New fencing
- Make park ADA accessible and compliant with the Illinois Accessibility Code
- Install permanent cover over Rolle Bolle Courts
- Stabilize embankment on north edge of Rolle Bolle courts
- Implement best management practices for drainage control and storm water run-off

# Stephen's Park

## Community Park

Map M-8



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Map Prepared by:



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## **Existing Parks Improvements, Continued -**

### **Neighborhood Parks -**

#### **Browning Playground** 15<sup>th</sup> Street 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~2.8 acres

#### **Existing Amenities:**

Skate park (1), Sand volleyball court (1), Jungle gym (2), Swing-sets (2), Picnic benches (2), Restrooms (1), Drinking fountain (1), Park storage building (1), Perimeter fence, Parking (on-street or private lots on south edge of park)

#### **Short Term Improvements: (1-5 Years)**

- Update playground equipment
- Install new flagpole, sign and retaining wall
- Enhance landscaping/buffered area along 16<sup>th</sup> Street
- Keep and maintain sand volleyball area
- Monitor major drainage issues – dissipation of storm water
- Address accessibility and safe crossing issues at 16<sup>th</sup> Street
- Incorporate entrance from south – Whitey's/Country Style lot
- Address Skate Park issues, devise alternatives
- Create a fitness walk around perimeter of park
- Remove existing perimeter fence and replace with new safety barrier and park buffer

#### **Long Term Improvements: (5-15 Years)**

- Renovate restroom facility
- Connect shelter to restrooms (open area under canopy)
- New shelter addition and paved patio
- Seal-coat and paint skate park floor – let young local artist decorate with skating theme
- Develop new interior pathway
- Install benches
- Add concession stand and vending machines
- Install fencing around playground equipment

# Browning Playground

Neighborhood Park

Map M-9



21st Ave.

16th St.

23rd Ave.

## **Butterworth Playground** 15<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~1.9 acres

### **Existing Amenities:**

Modular play unit (1), Swing-sets (2), Monkey bars/Jungle gym (1), Wooden outlook/Crow's Nest (1), Tube/tunnel slide (1), Picnic bench (1), Park bench (1), Perimeter fence, Parking (on-street only)

### **Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Update/replace dilapidated playground equipment
- Repair damaged turf areas under playground equipment and where needed throughout park.
- Improve park atmosphere and environment, aesthetic enhancements and general park characteristics, attention given to layout, design and relationship of various amenities
- Add restroom facilities
- Install outdoor domino/game tables
- Add landscaping/flower planting and planters
- Provide picnicking amenities to encourage downtown workers and others within the service area to utilize park for lunches or lunch breaks
- Add security lighting
- Improve park signage
- Consider a location for development/placement of skate park

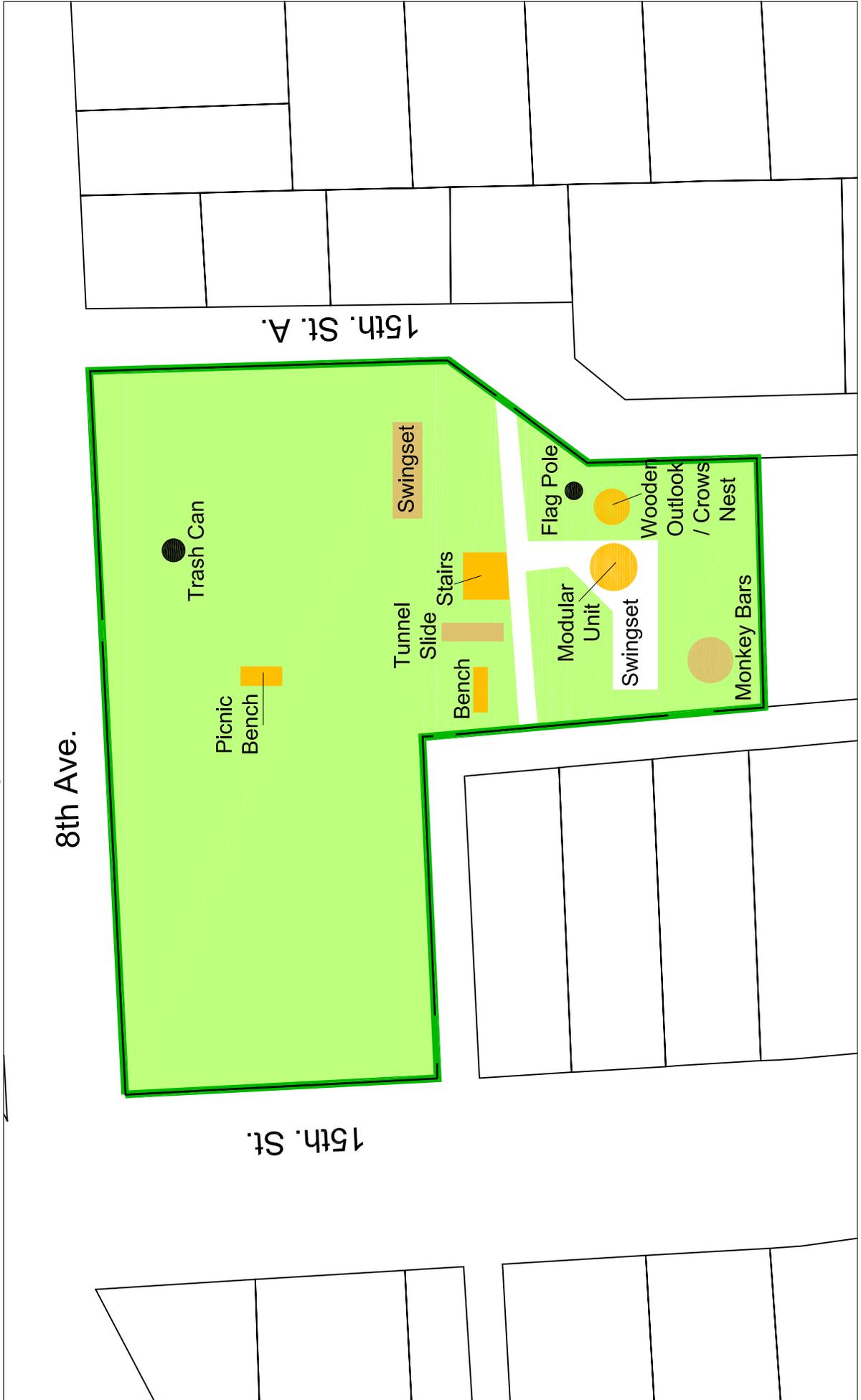
### **Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Install new perimeter fence
- Install covered shelters
- Utilize existing sidewalk and park paths to establish continuous walking/ fitness trail around and through park (gaps will need to be filled)
- Conduct parking study to improve safety and accessibility for park patrons (one-ways make parking and access challenging)

# Butterworth Playground

Neighborhood Park

Map M-10



**East End Park**  
46-48<sup>th</sup> Street and 4-5<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~2.5 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Slides (1), Jungle gyms (2), Monkey bars (2), Swing-sets (2), Basketball court (1), Recreational backstop (1), open field area (1), Benches (2), Covered picnic shelter w/ restroom facilities (1), Parking (minimal on-street available)

**Short Term Improvements: (1-5 Years)**

- Acquire land to the north for parking, park expansion
- Improve accessibility (Currently, the park is not very accessible, only one entrance impeded by a busy street; access is dangerous and difficult for young children who reside within the service area)
- Refine identification signage, more visible
- Add bike racks
- Update dilapidated playground equipment
- Improve lighting
- Establish programs to encourage park usage and stimulate awareness

**Long Term Improvements: (5-15 Years)**

- Identify the 48<sup>th</sup> and 53<sup>rd</sup> Street corridor, south of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, as an active greenway and develop a multi-use trail along the east or west side to direct users to the park (Trail/greenway should be consider a linear extension of East End Park with connectivity to other city parks and trails)

# East End Park

## Neighborhood Park

Map M-11



Disclaimer: This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. Bi-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.

**Harold's Landing**  
52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and North Shore Drive

**Park Size:** ~4.5 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Boat launch/ramp (1), Staging area (1), Courtesy dock (1), Restroom facilities (1), Covered gazebo (1), Open field area (1), shoreline fishing, Kiwanis bike/jog trail (Trail-head), Parking (~50 vehicles), Recycle drop-off (1)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Install signage and promote as a trailhead location for the Kiwanis Bike/Jog Trail
- Add state property east to 27<sup>th</sup> Street and consider as additional park ground

**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

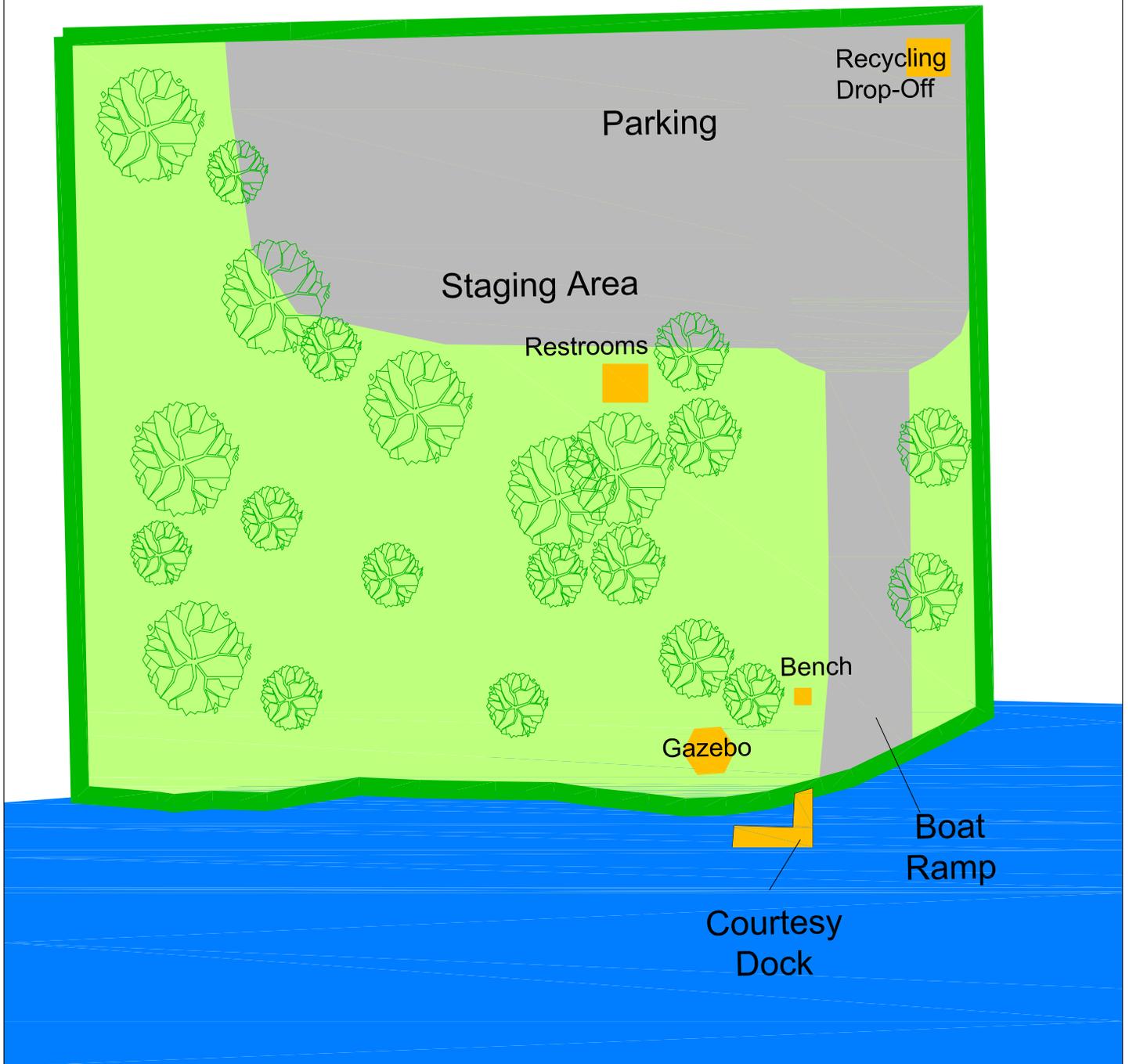
- Add necessary support facilities for the Kiwanis Bike/Jog Trail
- Install play structure for multiple age and ability groups on west side
- Incorporate a safety barrier between the parking lot and the grass area to the west
- Construct a large covered picnic shelter (available for rentals)

# Harold's Landing Neighborhood Park

Map M-12

25th St

N. Shore Drive



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**Jefferson Park**  
3010 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~23.7 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Modular play unit (1), Swing-sets (1), Ballfields (3), Covered picnic shelter (1), Open field area, Parking (small lot near school and on-street)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Upgrade playground equipment
- Install restrooms
- Improve parking during events (i.e. ball games)
- Enhance directional/wayfinding and park identification signage
- Incorporate landscaping
- Add lighting to rear of park
- Additional picnic tables & benches

**Long Term Improvements: (5 -15 Years)**

- Consider as a possible fee-based, putt-n-chip golf facility or course
- Consider for dog park site

# Jefferson Park

## Neighborhood Park

Map M-13



Disclaimer: This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. Bi-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.

**Karstens Park**  
6<sup>th</sup> Street and 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~1.7 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Modular play unit (1), Modular triple slide (1), Swing-set (1), Toddler swing-set (1), Ballfield (1), Basketball court (1), Covered brick entrance w/ restrooms (1), Sidewalk/fitness path (~¼ mile), around perimeter of park fence, Perimeter fence, Open space area, Parking (on-street only)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Replace existing perimeter fence – keeps small children out of the street, entrances need to be A.D.A. compliant
- Improve small ball diamond area in northwest corner for use by K - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade children
- Upgrade maintenance and ball field and backstop
- Replace old/worn park benches
- Install signage mandating patrons clean-up after and restrain their dogs
- Place wayfinding signage off of 7<sup>th</sup> Street

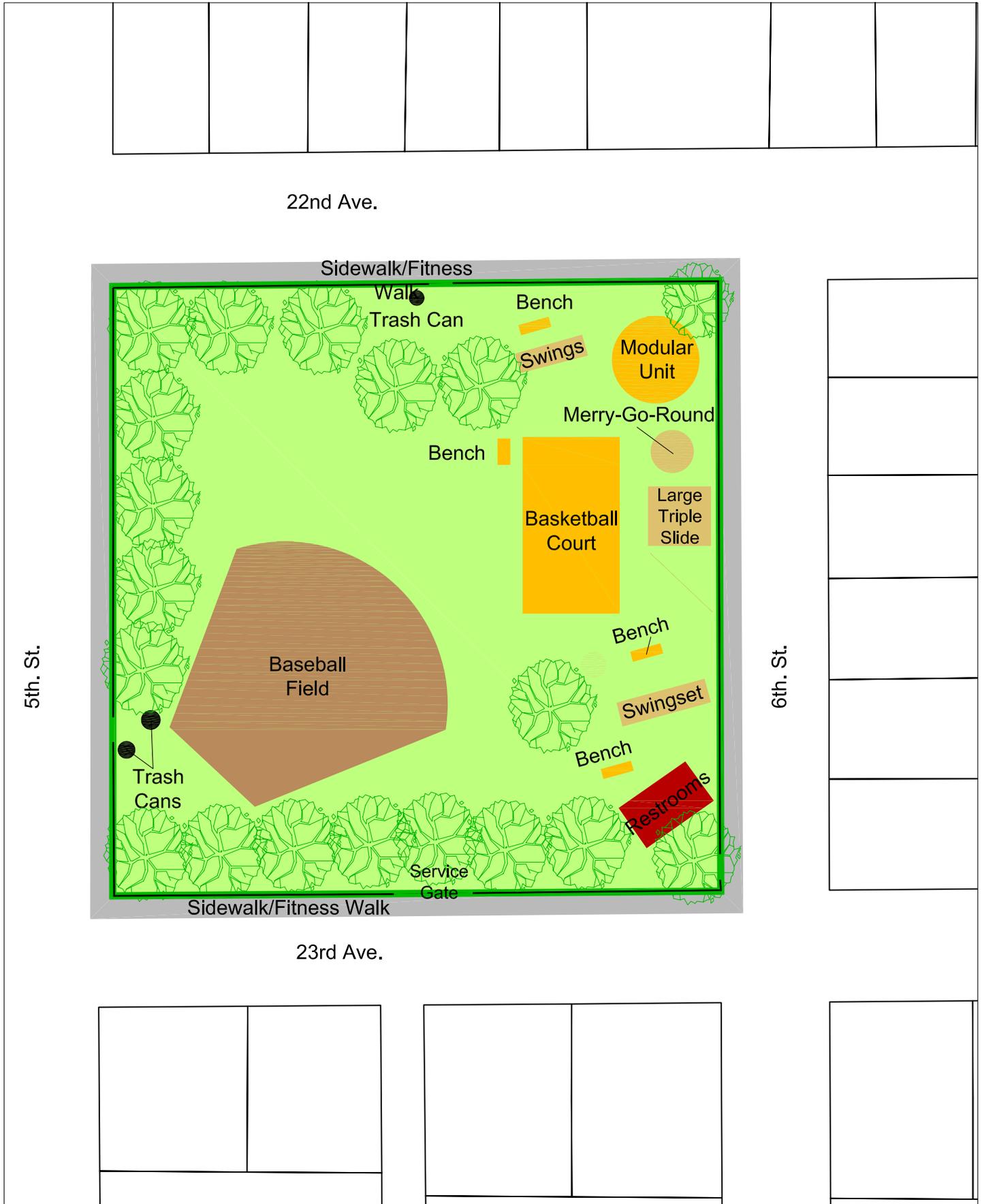
**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Add sheltered area
- Improve play area for 6-12 age group
- Improve lighting – add security lighting in park away from pavilion

# Karstens Park

## Neighborhood Park

Map M-14



Disclaimer: This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. Bi-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.

**Kiwanis Park**  
18<sup>th</sup> Street and 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~1.0 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Modular play unit (1), Swing-sets (2), Slides (1), Basketball court (1), Covered picnic structure/shelter (1), Park benches (5), Drinking fountain (1), Open play field area, Parking (on-street only)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Install new park identification and wayfinding signage
- Place sidewalk around entire perimeter of park for use as fitness trails; include distance demarcation\*

**Long Term Improvements: (5 -15 Years)**

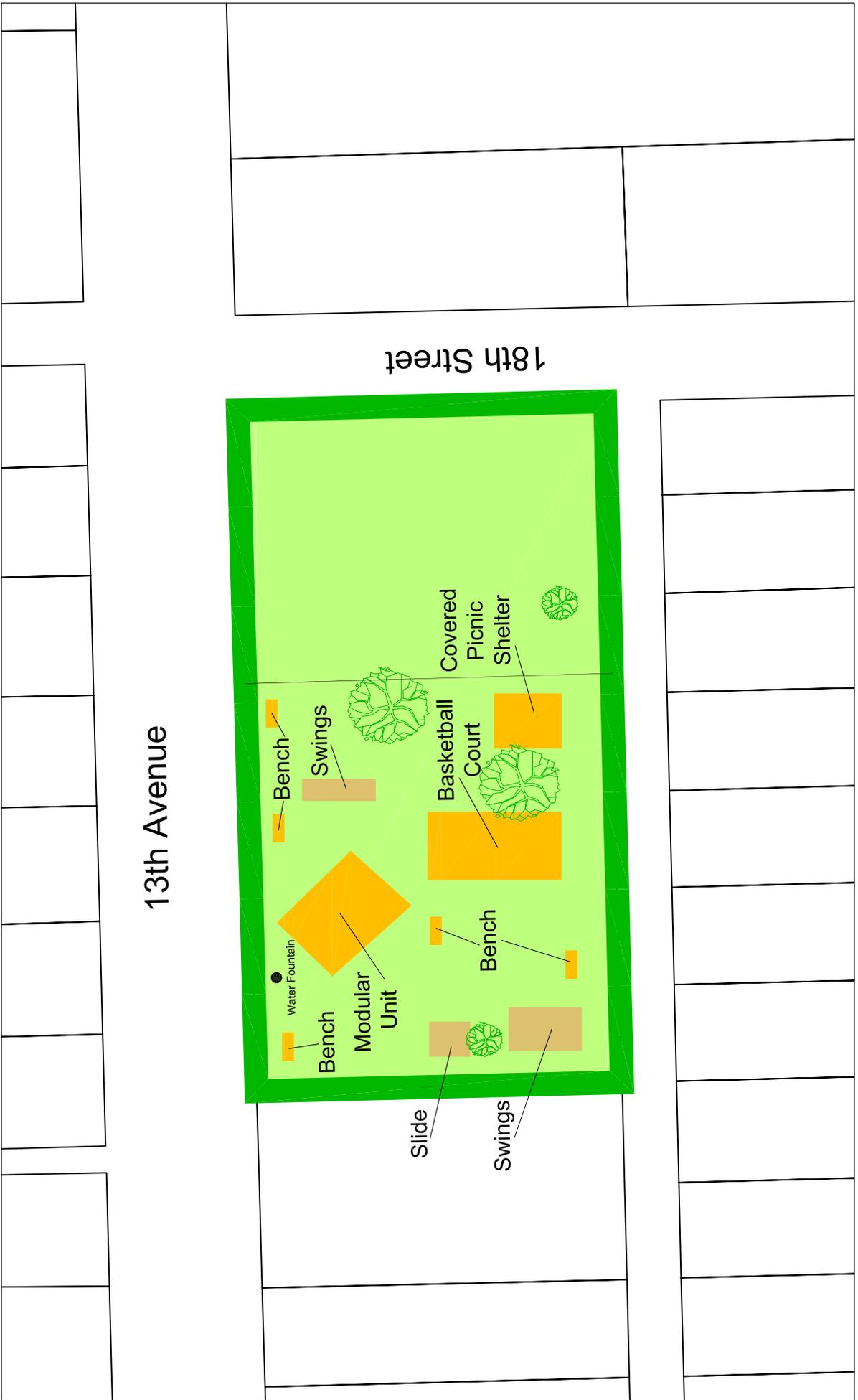
- Add restroom
- Improve lighting

*\* (A perimeter fitness walk should be an added consideration for all existing and future neighborhood parks. Refer to Section IX- Policies and Implementation Strategies; Comprehensive Park and Recreation Goals and Priorities; Item #2.)*

# Kiwanis Park

## Neighborhood Park

Map M-15



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Map Prepared by:  
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**McCandless Park**  
1<sup>st</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~5.9 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Modular play unit-elementary age (1), Toddler play area (1), Basketball court (1), Covered shelter w/restrooms (1), Soccer field (1), Ballfield (1), Forested bluff area w/ trail/stairs access, Perimeter fence, Parking (1-gravel lot ~15 vehicles & on-street)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Ensure improvements coincide with the individual park plan
- Install new playground equipment with composite ground cover for juveniles and toddlers
- Add trash cans, grills, and containers for used charcoal
- Place picnic benches in open areas
- Install permanent benches/seats in designated areas
- Implement grass and flower seeding program
- Enhance soccer/ballfield area (grading, seeding, placement of soccer goals)
- Install drinking fountains with faucet for watering flowers
- Fix restrooms for privacy and safety
- Install new sidewalk, steps/ramps to access shelter
- Upgrade park amenities to comply with the Illinois Accessibility Code and ADA

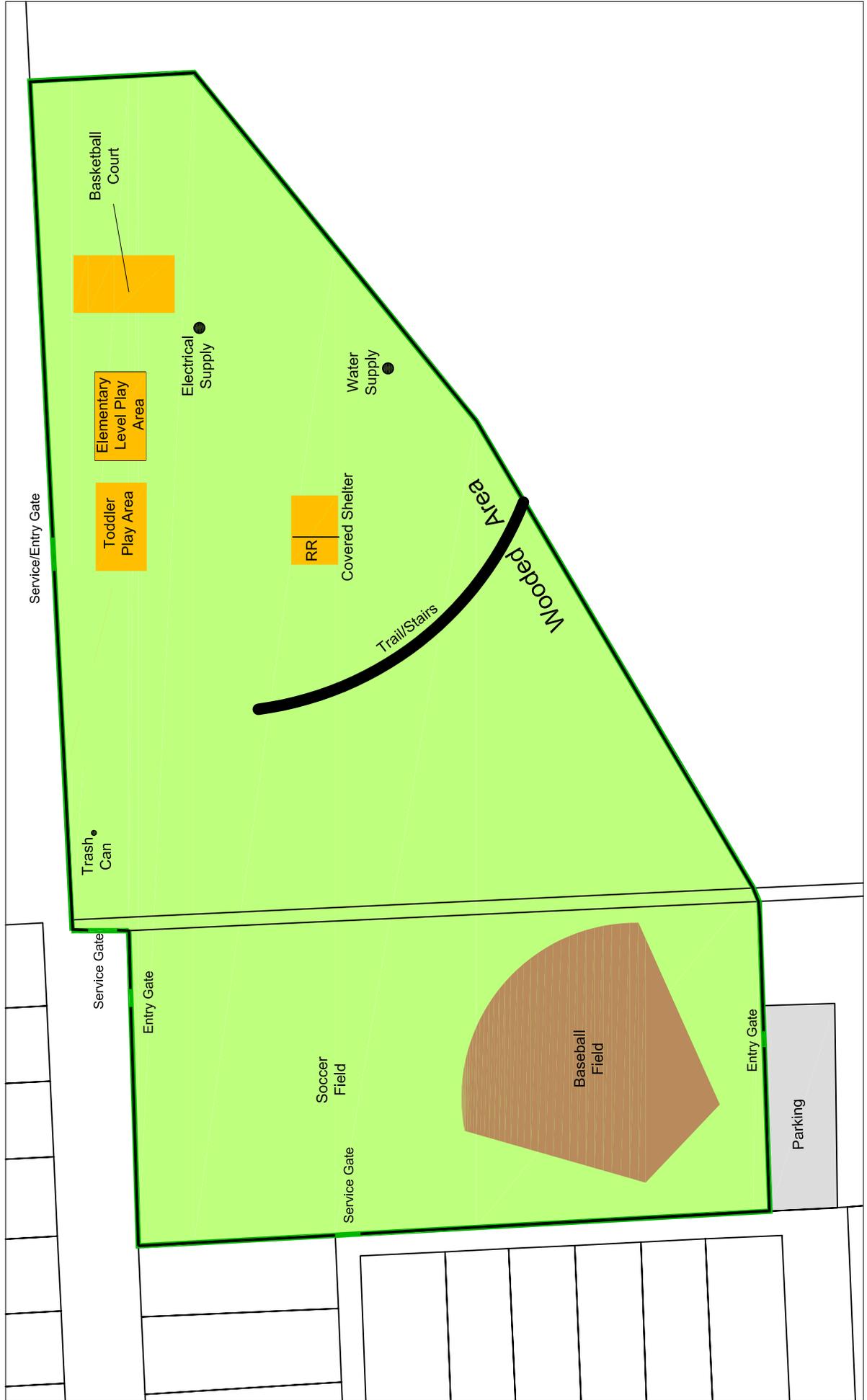
**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Pave parking lot and add additional parking
- Park signage and usage rules in English/Spanish/Braille
- Refine overall park lighting
- Install Lower level accessible restroom
- Repair/replace fencing, especially at access points/gates
- Install safety/emergency communication system

# McCandless Park

## Neighborhood Park

Map M-16



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Map Prepared by:  
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**Meersman Park**  
24<sup>th</sup> Avenue & 34<sup>th</sup> Street

**Park Size:** ~4.5 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Open space area at entrance transitions into wooded ravine. No developed amenities in park

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Continue intergovernmental agreement with School District 40

**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Find alternative location for useable parkland within the neighborhood service area

# Meersman Park

Neighborhood Park

Map M-17



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Map Prepared by:



**Millennium Park**  
79<sup>th</sup> Street and 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~9.5 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Modular play unit (1) Swing-set (2), Walking/hiking/nature trail (1-lighted), Restroom facilities (1), Parking (~15 spaces), Covered picnic structure/shelter (1), Covered picnic tables (2)

**Short Term Improvements: (1-5 Years)**

- Add distance markers on trails
- Install benches
- Improve park fitness trails – crushed aggregate/lime screen throughout park
- Enhance landscaping
- Establish cooperative agreement with the City of East Moline to ensure improvements identified in this plan are met and any future goals and objections are obtained

**Long Term Improvements: (5-15 Years)**

- Install large covered picnic shelter
- Continue upkeep and enhancement of landscaping
- Maintain rotating maintenance agreement with the City of East Moline – 5 year increments for 60 years

# Millennium Park

## Neighborhood Park

Map M-18



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**Optimist Park**  
27<sup>th</sup> Street and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue A.

**Park Size:** ~1.0 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Modular play unit (1), Swing-sets (2), Covered picnic structure/shelter (1), Park benches (3), Open field play area, Parking (on-street only)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Upgrade playground equipment
- Combine toddler and elementary swings
- Install drinking fountains
- Install new park identification and wayfinding signage – enhance awareness of all park locations
- Share equipment with nearby schools and other organizations
- Landscape
- Refine entrances
- Improve lighting

**Long Term Improvements: (5 -15 Years)**

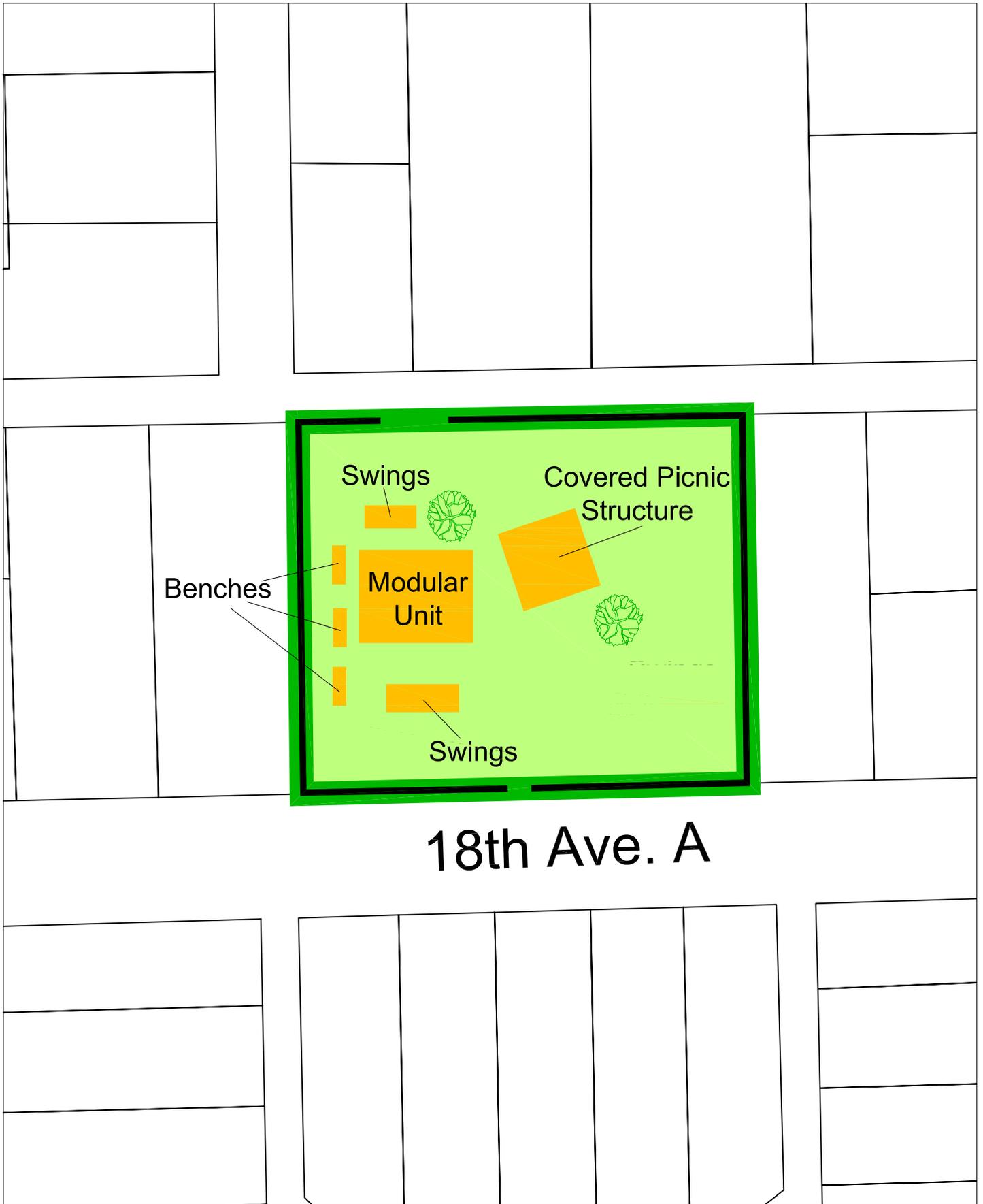
- Implement a joint purchasing program of park equipment, supplies and amenities\*
- Consider rentals of small parks\*

\* *(Consider for all city parks as a potential revenue generating mechanism. Refer to Section IX- Policies and Implementation Strategies; Comprehensive Park and Recreation Goals and Priorities; Item #6.)*

# Optimist Park

Neighborhood Park

Map M-19



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**Peterson Park**  
35<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~15.0 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Jungle gym (1), Swing-sets (1), Slides (1), Overlooks/scenic vistas (2), Picnic pavilions (1), Picnic benches (2), Internal walkways (2), Restrooms facilities (1), Parking (~30 spaces), sundial (1)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Install new park identification and wayfinding signage, remove maple tree at east side of park entrance to improve visibility
- Landscape entrance once new signage is in place
- Place signs, bollards/other deterrents around parking lot to prohibit driving on grass
- Trim and manicure trees to improve the river view and thin woods around the pavilion, especially on the west side, remove invasive species and volunteer growth.
- Continue spring and fall clean-ups
- Clear inside corners of 36<sup>th</sup> Street at both 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues
- Increase security at park, thin wooded area on west to make park more open and visible and to discourage vandalism and other unwarranted activities

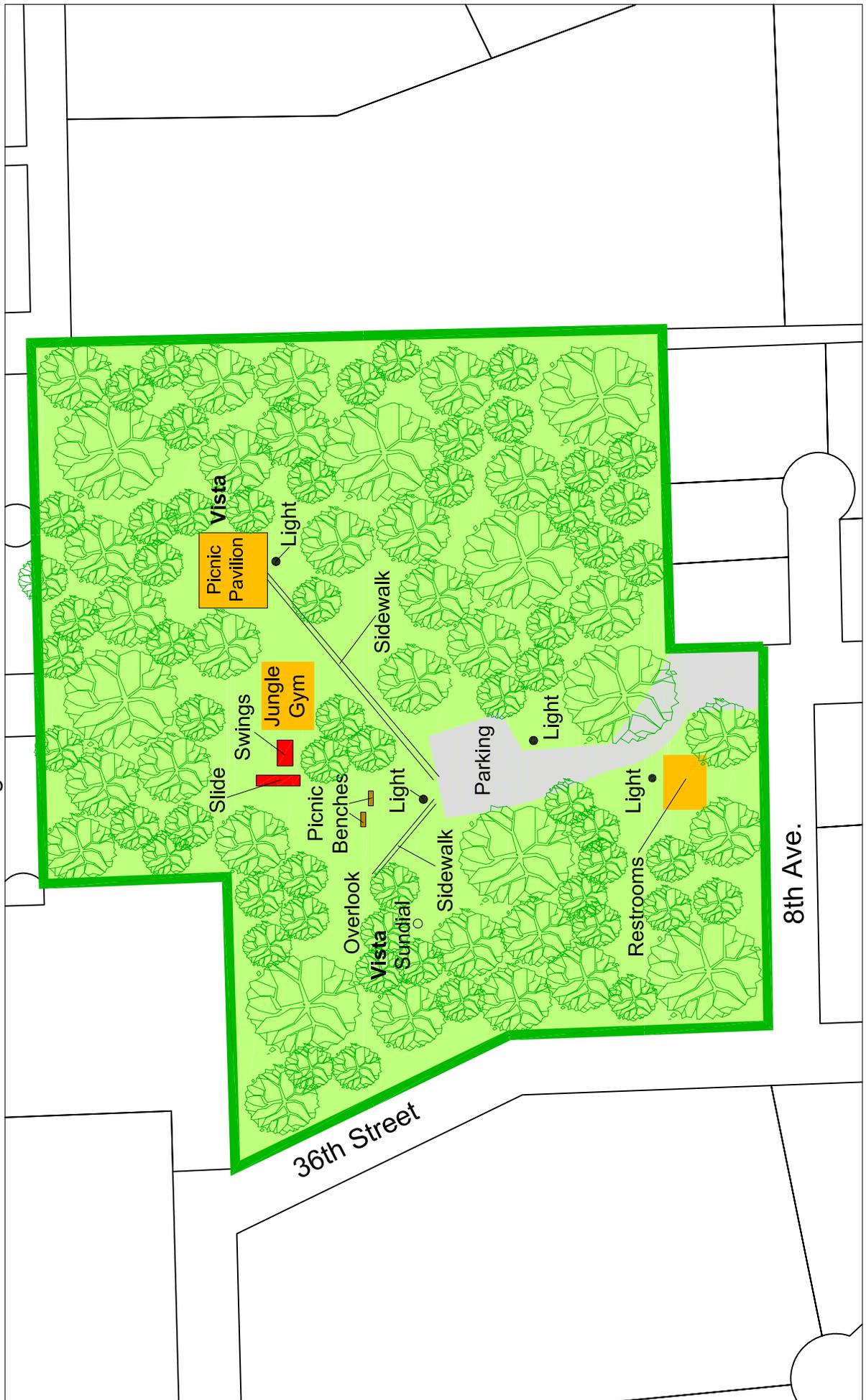
**Long Term Improvements: (5 -15 Years)**

- Install permanent binocular stands at the overlooks
- Add slide to playground equipment
- Remove all stumps from grass area
- Provide more attractive and varmint-proof refuse containers

# Peterson Park

Neighborhood Park

Map M-20



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Map Prepared by:  
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**Stephen's Square**  
620 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~0.8 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Outdoor garden (1), Soldiers from Moline memorial (1), Memorial pathways (4 diagonal paths intersect at memorial), Picnic tables (3), Park benches (10), Flower planters (2), Parking (limited at adjacent Moline Activity Center-MAC)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Implement better plant maintenance program (i.e. regular weeding, mulching, manicuring and covering rose bushes during winter)
- Consider maintenance and planting program using volunteers and materials from the Riverside Park Garden Center\*
- Remedy limited parking issues and impose safer pedestrian access
- Refine identification and wayfinding signage
- Determine locations for additional picnic tables/benches

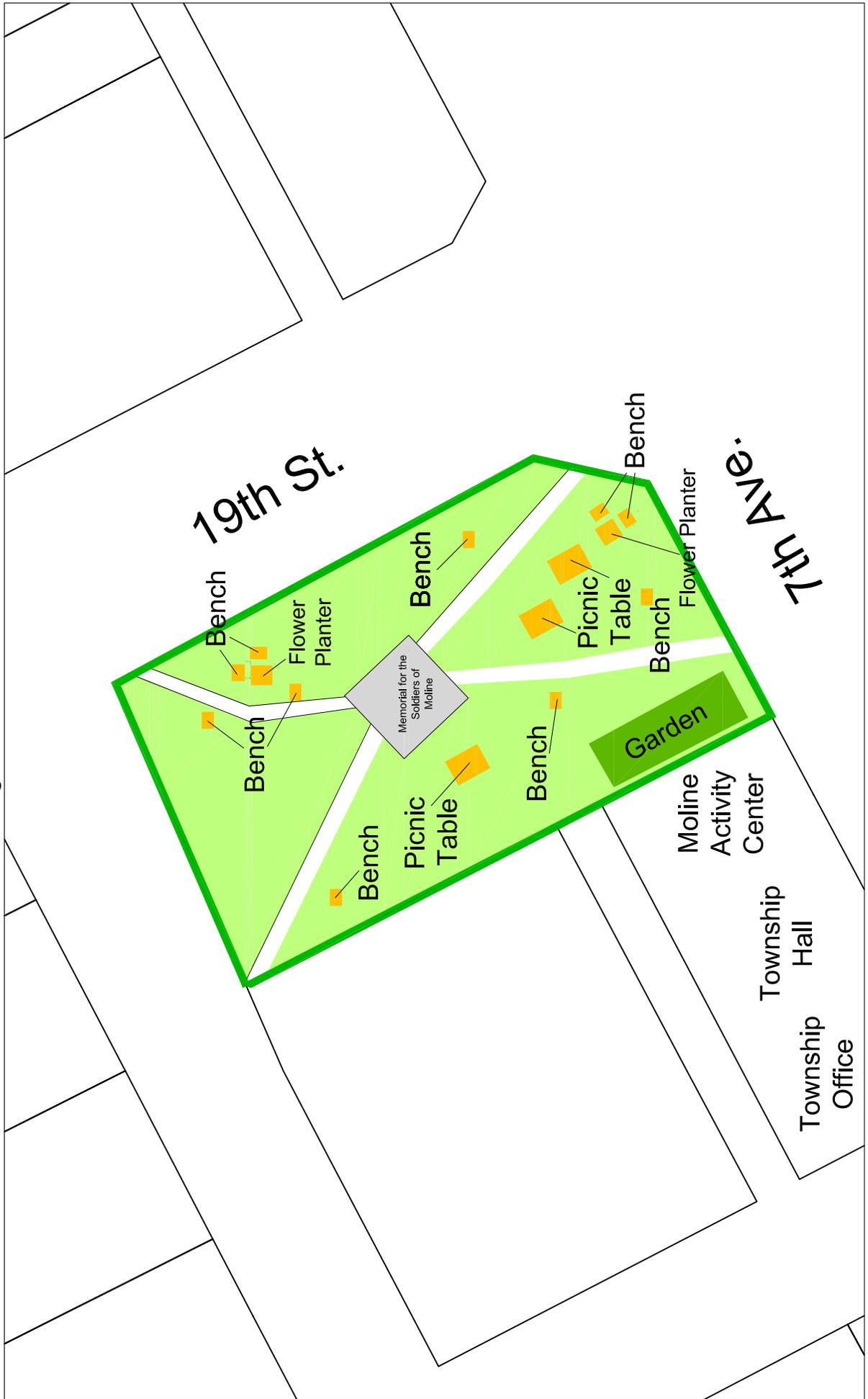
**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Enhance lighting for dances
- Plant a small vegetable garden
- Install a fish/koi pond, birdbaths and more ornamental garden features
- Consider possible locations for construction of a new Indoor Activity and Recreation Center (also may serve as a replacement for the Coolidge Teen Center and could incorporate an outdoor band shell)

# Stephen's Square Park

Neighborhood Park

Map M-21



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**Sylvan Island**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~36.0 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Nature/hiking/mountain biking trails around perimeter and throughout island, Park benches (~8), Fishing piers (3), Picnic tables (3), Look-outs (2), Information center/kiosk (1), Large wooded area, Pedestrian bridge-access to island (1), Parking (available on mainland across from pedestrian bridge)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

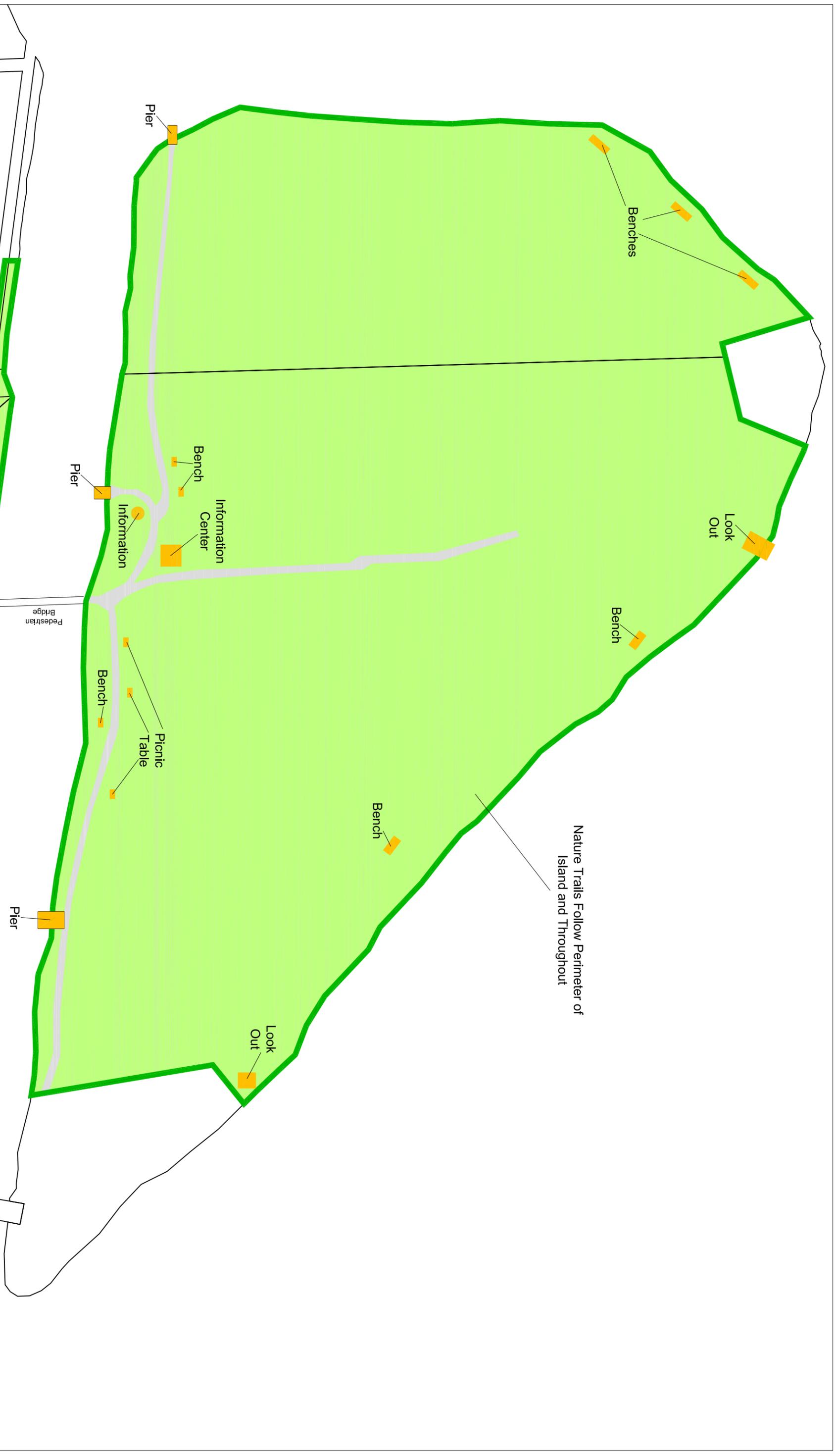
- Identify and increase grooming and maintenance efforts on those trails which are becoming overgrown
- Address open tunnels on island and ease of access throughout for maintenance vehicles/equipment
- Keep island as a natural area/park
- Address potential liability and other concerns with fencing off an area for dog run/park
- Install wayfinding signage from River Drive to the trailhead and island

**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Conduct site evaluation to determine the best long term recreational uses for the Island
- Replace access bridge to Island

# Sylvan Island Park Community Park

Map M-22



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**Sylvan Island Trail-Head Park**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~2.8 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Great River Trail, Trailhead parking (~20 vehicles)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Cut down and remove evasive plants and vegetation along north bank for visibility from trail to island
- Rectify safety perceptions, possibly security lighting
- Develop trailhead park site for active recreation and support facilities (i.e. restrooms, drinking fountain, informational kiosk, bike racks, playground, picnic tables/shelter, etc.) - Joint project with the City of Rock Island and John Deere
- Enhance and define parking accommodations
- Install wayfinding signage from River Drive to the trailhead and island

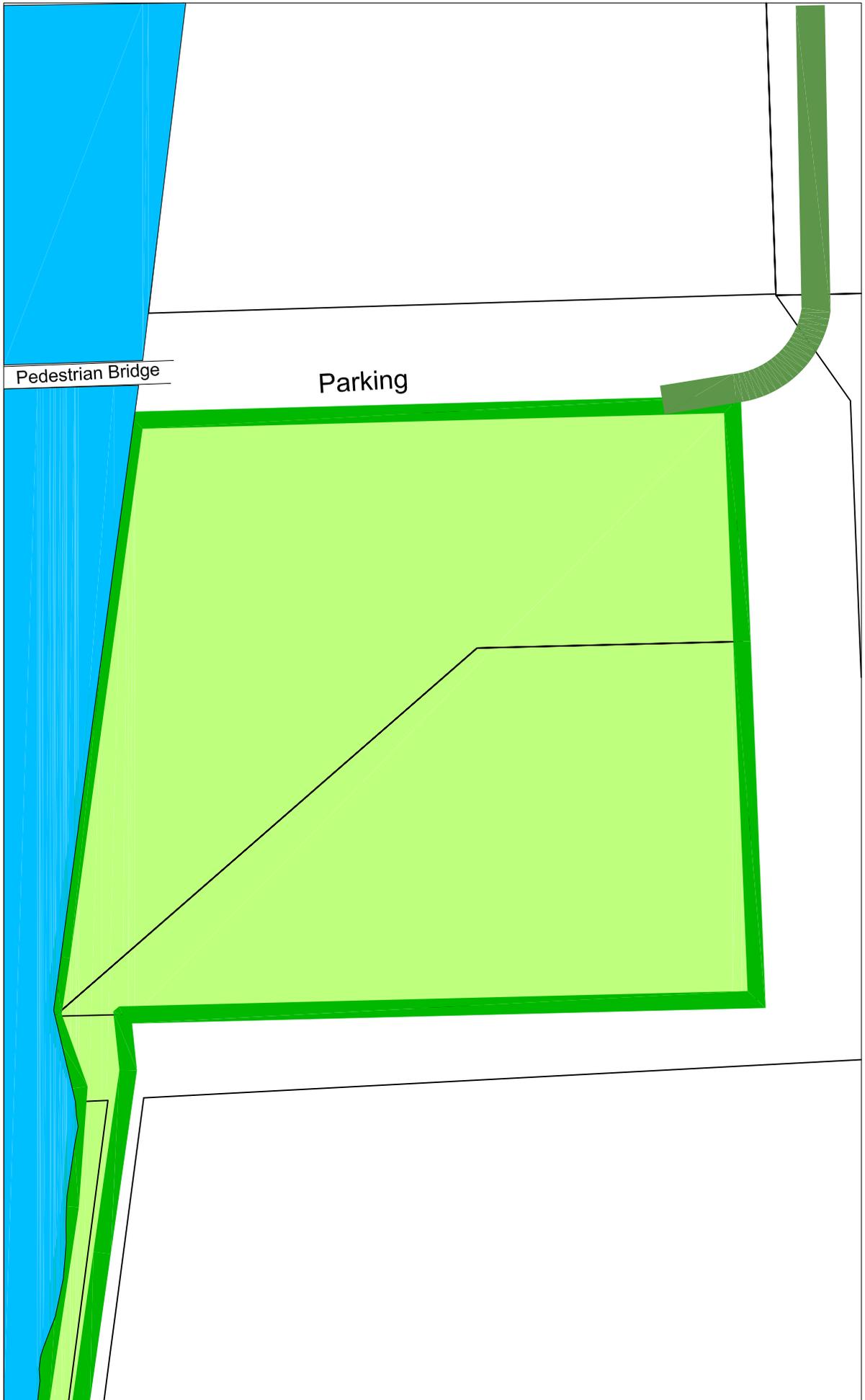
**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Replace access bridge to Sylvan Island

# Sylvan Island Trail Head Park

Neighborhood Park

Map M-23



Disclaimer: This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. BI-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.

Map Prepared by:  
  
December 2004  
<http://www.bistateonline.org>

**Velie Park**  
11<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Park Size:** ~3.5 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Large passive area, Inter-connected paved walking paths, Spanish-American War memorial, Flanking limestone entrance pillars, Scenic/panoramic vistas, Park benches (~6), Drinking fountain (1), Lots of trees, Parking (minimal on-street only)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Create scenic overlook by clearing trees and installing short retaining wall
- Add new and replace old benches
- install binocular stands at the overlook
- Replace trash containers
- Continue to clear brush/remove stumps
- Upgrade maintenance schedule for memorial plaques
- Designate Earth Day each year as park clean-up day

**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Implement a landscaping plan starting at the front (south) of park
- Construct picnic pavilion with 3-4 picnic tables (not near residences)
- Add restroom facilities
- Establish a designated power source and other utility hook-ups necessary to conduct events in the park
- Install drinking fountain with faucet to water plantings (possibly use water line, which may exist from old concrete restroom structure on property)
- Enhance park lighting (historic area –period/architectural lighting)

# Velie Park

## Neighborhood Park

Map M-24



Disclaimer: This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. Bi-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.

Map Prepared by:



December 2004

<http://www.blstateonline.org>

**Wiman/Miss Pattie's Park**  
3550 8<sup>th</sup> Street

**Park Size:** ~5.5 acres

**Existing Amenities:**

Modular play unit (1), Picnic tables (6 – (2 covered & 4 uncovered)), Swing-set (1), Restroom facilities (1), Park benches (3), Open field area, Scenic vistas, Parking (~20 vehicles)

**Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

- Plant and maintain flowers and trees
- Ensure general maintenance and upkeep (i.e. weeding, raking, and spreading new sand in play area, cleaning bugs out of security lighting, scrubbing trash receptacles, etc.)

**Long Term Improvements: (5 - 15 Years)**

- Construct scenic overlook/tower on south edge of park
- Paint picnic tables and shed
- Improve lighting in rear of park

# Wiman/Miss Pattie's Park

Neighborhood Park

Map M-25



Disclaimer: This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. Bi-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.

## **RECREATION FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS -**

The following are facilities which are under the auspices of the Park Board and Parks Department of the City of Moline. These facilities have unique features or characteristics and provide recreational opportunities, which are atypical of a standard community/neighborhood park. In some cases the facilities identified provide limited active recreational opportunities serving the entire community. Others are identified because they provide a single and specific recreational facet.

### **Moline Activity Center (MAC)**

620 18<sup>th</sup> Street

The Moline Activity Center (MAC) provides a variety of programs and activities focused on recreation, wellness and community involvement-volunteer action, clubs, classes, presentations, social gatherings, indoor and outdoor events and computer center offerings are also available. The MAC serves both members and non-members and encourages older adults to remain "Active for Life" through a wide array of senior programs.

#### **Short Term Improvements: (1-5 Years)**

- Improve accessibility
- Add programming/activities for all ages
- Address limited parking, pedestrian access and safety issues

#### **Long Term Improvements: (5-15 Years)**

- Improve parking
- Add bandshell

### **Riverside Park Garden Center, Conservatory/Arboretum**

3400 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue

A passive recreation facility used for displaying and viewing various horticultural and botanical specimens. It has a functioning greenhouse, outdoor landscaped gardens and interpretive signage for the displayed flora. The garden center has an air-conditioned meeting/reception area available for rental. The Riverside Park Garden Center is open to the public during advertised viewing times and conducts annual plant sales.

#### **Short Term Improvements: (1-5 Years)**

- Replace Garden Center/Conservatory and greenhouse – new building more opportunity for exhibits and programs
- Retain passivity of Garden Area/Conservatory
- Ensure the retention and further enhancement of the Ruth Pieper Memorial Hosta Bed
- Add accessible water hose connections on the east, west and north sides of the Garden Center
- Improve signage/promotion for plant sales
- Allow Horticultural Society to use building for meetings in exchange for helping at Garden Center

### **Long Term Improvements: (5-15 Years)**

- Install paved path from south end of parking lot the Conservatory entrance
- Build retaining wall on the north and west sides, add fresh soil
- Redevelop the abandoned rock garden
- Consider implementing a tree nursery
- Provide for parking along 34<sup>th</sup> Street

### **Coolidge/Teen Center-The Cellar**

3400 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

Serves as a location for teenage events, social gatherings, dances, etc.

### **Short Term Improvements: (1-5 Years)**

- Find alternative site for teen center (Possibly in conjunction with a new Indoor Activity and Recreation Center)

### **Long Term Improvements: (5-15 Years)**

- None identified

### **Moline City Cemeteries**

**Moline Memorial Park** - 5001 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Riverside Cemetery** - 31<sup>st</sup> - 34<sup>th</sup> Street & 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Both cemeteries provide pastoral settings for minimal passive recreation, internment of the deceased, placement of memorials and a haven for reflection and peace. (City park facilities not intended for active recreation.)

### **Short Term Improvements: (1-5 Years)**

- Continue Cemetery Walks (Riverside Cemetery)
- Review alternatives for maintenance and upkeep on an annual basis (Both)
- Seek funding source for restoration of Civil War Memorial (Riverside Cemetery)
- Replace retaining wall along the north access road (Riverside Cemetery)

### **Long Term Improvements: (5-15 Years)**

- Pave interior roadways (Both)
- Seek alternatives to in ground burials (i.e. mausoleums, cremations, etc.) (Both)

### **Facilities Provided by Others**

School facilities may be considered as viable opportunities for increased park and recreational space for a variety of age groups. The outdoor school facilities are available for use by the general public when not being utilized for school sponsored activities. Table 7 outlines public school facilities.

*“Facilities provided by the Moline School District and the YMCA complement those provided by the City. Each entity, the City, YMCA and School District recognize that the demand for services requires collaboration, non-duplication of programs, and*

partnerships, when possible. Facilities provided by the School District and YMCA are listed here.

*Provided by the School District are: 20 – tennis courts, 33 – baseball/softball fields, 20 – outdoor basketball courts, 3 – football fields, 18 – indoor gymnasiums, 1 – indoor pool, playground equipment at each elementary school and several acres of open space. Opportunities exist for the city to work closely with the School District to utilize greenspace owned by the District as neighborhood parks – similar to what has been accomplished at Jefferson Park. By leveraging resources, the City and School District can provide improvements unique to each school/neighborhood.”*

Source: *City of Moline, Illinois – Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 8: Parks and Recreation System, pg. 8-17&18*

**Table 7  
Public School Facilities**

SCHOOL NAME	LOCATION
Jane Addams Elementary	3520 53 <sup>rd</sup> Street
Bicentennial (K-3) Elementary	1004 First Street, Coal Valley
Butterworth Elementary	4205 48 <sup>th</sup> Street
Ericsson Elementary	335 Fifth Avenue
Franklin Elementary	5312 11 <sup>th</sup> Avenue C.
Garfield Elementary	1518 25 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
Hamilton Elementary	700 32 <sup>nd</sup> Avenue
Lincoln-Irving Elementary	1015 16 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
Logan Elementary	1602 25 <sup>th</sup> Street
Horace Mann Elementary	3601 69 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
Roosevelt Elementary	3530 Avenue of the Cities
Washington Elementary	1550 41 <sup>st</sup> Street
Willard Elementary	1616 16 <sup>th</sup> Street
John Deere Middle School	2035 11 <sup>th</sup> Street
Wilson Middle School	1308 48 <sup>th</sup> Street
Moline High School	3600 Avenue of the Cities
Moline Alternative High School	3420 Avenue of the Cities
Jefferson Early Childhood Center	3010 26 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
Black Hawk Area Education Center	4680 11 <sup>th</sup> Street, East Moline
Wharton Field House	1800 20 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
Coolidge Building	3430 Avenue of the Cities
Moline School District #40 –Administrative Offices (Allendale)	1619 11 <sup>th</sup> Avenue

**Recreation Programs/Activities Term Improvements -**

Currently, the Moline Park Board administers numerous recreation programs for the community. Recreation programs are available to both active and passive recreation enthusiasts without discrimination to gender, physical ability, race or any other demographic characteristic.

The projected population growth within the City of Moline will likely create the demand for the Park Board to increase the quantity, quality and diversity of recreational activities that it provides to all its residents. Ongoing communication during the planning process is a key element for all involved. It is recommended that the Park Board work jointly with school officials, private enterprise and members of the community in planning future recreational

activities within the City of Moline. Programs, may currently not be offered to Moline residents who could benefit from such cooperation. If the need exists or there is the demand for specific programs that currently are not available then it would be beneficial for the Park Board to consider providing such programs to the residents of Moline. There may also be opportunities to use the existing school facilities as recreation centers for youth oriented activities. Cooperation is recommended for the benefit of the entire community. Table 8 highlights existing programs and activities currently available to Moline residents. Additional information and/or seasonal park activity and program guides are available at the City Parks office. The activities/programs outlined in Table 8 are subject to change as recreation needs and trends evolve over time. Any such changes should be made when updating this Master Plan. See the appendix sections of this Plan for public comments received regarding park and recreation programs and activities.

**Short Term Improvements: (1-5 Years) -**

- Continue playground program
- Include mixed-generation programming, activities for all ages
- Implement a wayfinding and educational signage program
- Collect input from and work with those who have disabilities
- Establish programs for non-traditional sports and recreation (i.e. cricket, rolle-bolle, la crosse, rowing, disk golf, etc.)
- Promote challenger league (softball league for the young and physically challenged)

**Long Term Improvements: (5-15 Years) -**

- Create indoor volleyball – junior high to varsity ages
- Provide indoor court sports
- Develop more soccer fields on the west side of City – Possibilities: Butterworth Trust Property, overlay hospital baseball field at Stevens Park, use John Deere Middle School
- Construct fire pits available for night time activities (i.e. council rings)
- Continue Skate Park, consider learning/ beginner programs

**Table 8  
Existing Recreation Activities and Programs**

<b>Season</b>	<b>Activity/Program</b>	<b>Age/Skill Level</b>
<b>Aquatics</b>		
Spring/Summer	Morning Youth Group Learn-to-Swim Program	4-13
Spring/Summer	Evening Youth Group Learn-to Swim Program	4-13
Spring/Summer	Parent-Tot Learn-to Swim Program	18 mos. - 4 yrs
Spring/Summer	Youth and Adult Private Learn-to Swim Lessons	All
<b>Tennis</b>		
Spring/Summer	Youth Tennis Lessons – Sessions I-IV	5-6 Jr. Beginner
Spring/Summer	Youth Tennis Lessons – Sessions I-IV	7-10 Beginner
Spring/Summer	Youth Tennis Lessons – Sessions I-IV	11-13 Beginner
Spring/Summer	Youth Tennis Lessons – Sessions I-IV	11-13 Intermediate
Spring/Summer	Youth Tennis Lessons – Sessions I-IV	14-18 Intermediate
Spring/Summer	Adult Tennis Lessons – Sessions I & II	Beginner
Spring/Summer	Adult Tennis Lessons – Sessions I & II	Intermediate
Spring/Summer	USA Team Tennis Leagues – Youth	11-13
Spring/Summer	USA Team Tennis Leagues – Youth	14-18
<b>Volleyball</b>		
Spring/Summer	League – Coed Monday Sand Volleyball	Adult
Spring/Summer	League – Coed Tuesday Sand Volleyball	Adult
Spring/Summer	League – Thursday Women’s Sand Volleyball	Adult
Spring/Summer	Dig This Volleyball Camp – Girls	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades
<b>Golf</b>		
Spring/Summer	Session I – (Lessons focus on Beginners)	Adult
Spring/Summer	Session II – (Lessons focus on Beginners)	Adult
Spring/Summer	Youth Lessons – (Lessons focus on Beginners)	Youth/Junior
<b>Fun on the Water</b>		
Spring/Summer	Beginning Sweep Rowing Classes – (Sessions I – III)	15+, Ability to Swim and Lift 30# Overhead
Spring/Summer	Fishing for Fun – Fishing Clinic	Youth 6-16
<b>Pre-School Soccer/T-Ball</b>		
Spring/Summer	Pre-School Soccer – (Sessions I - III)	4-5
Spring/Summer	Pre-School T-Ball – (Sessions I & II)	4-5
<b>Fun for Kids</b>		
Spring/Summer	Pre-School Tumbling	4-5
Spring/Summer	Children’s Musical Theater	8-12
<b>Special Interest</b>		
Spring/Summer	Cooking and Wine Class – (Sessions I & II)	Adult
Spring/Summer	Beginning Yoga – (Sessions I – III)	Adult
<b>Season</b>	<b>Activity/Program</b>	<b>Age/Skill Level</b>
Spring/Summer	Tai Chi Ch’uan – (Sessions I & II)	Adult

**Table 8 (Continued)**

<b>Season</b>	<b>Activity/Program</b>	<b>Age/Skill Level</b>
<b>Moline Activity Center – MAC Happenings</b>		
Spring/Summer	Summer Concert Series	All
Spring/Summer	Dad/Daughter Dazzle Dance	Daughters ages 4 – 4 <sup>th</sup> grade
<b>Season</b>	<b>Activity/Program</b>	<b>Age/Skill Level</b>
<b>Volleyball</b>		
Fall/Winter	Adult Leagues – Coed	Adult
Fall/Winter	Adult Leagues – Women	Adult
Fall/Winter	Adult Leagues – Men	Adult
Fall/Winter	Adult Team Practice Night	Adult
Fall/Winter	Early Spring Adult Extended Volleyball Leagues	Adult
Fall/Winter	5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Volleyball	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades
Fall/Winter	Girls USA Volleyball	12 & Under
Fall/Winter	Girls USA Volleyball	14 & Under
Fall/Winter	Girls USA Volleyball	16 & Under
Fall/Winter	Girls USA Volleyball	18 & Under
<b>Basketball</b>		
Fall/Winter	5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys and Girls	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades
Fall/Winter	7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grades
Fall/Winter	Freshman/Sophomore Basketball	9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Grades
<b>Gymnastics/Wrestling</b>		
Fall/Winter	Gymnastics – (Sessions I – III) Girls and Boys	5-8 (Novice, Beginner I & II, Adv. Beg. I & II, Intermediate)
Fall/Winter	Gymnastics – (Sessions I – III) Girls	5 + (Novice, Beginner I & II, Adv. Beg. I & II, Intermediate)
Fall/Winter	Gymnastics – (Sessions I – III) Girls	7 + (Novice, Beginner I & II, Adv. Beg. I & II, Intermediate)
Fall/Winter	Wrestling	K – 4
Fall/Winter	Wrestling	K – 6
<b>Futsal (Indoor Soccer)</b>		
Fall/Winter	Pre-School & Kindergarten Futsal – (Sessions I & II)	4 & Over
Fall/Winter	Elementary Futsal – (Sessions I & II)	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grades
Fall/Winter	Elementary Futsal – (Sessions I & II)	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Grades
Fall/Winter	Elementary Futsal – (Sessions I & II)	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades
Fall/Winter	Middle School Futsal – (Sessions I & II)	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grades
<b>Flag Football/Martial Arts</b>		
Fall/Winter	Flag Football (Boys and Girls)	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Grades
Fall/Winter	Basic Self-Defense Skills Classes	Children
Fall/Winter	Kick Boxing Classes	Adult
<b>Special Interest</b>		
Fall/Winter	Horseback Riding – (Sessions I & II) – Beginning Riding for Kids	Ages 6-16
Fall/Winter	Ski Snow Star – Skiing	Age 9+

**Table 8 (Continued)**

Season	Activity/Program	Age/Skill Level
Fall/Winter	Ski Snow Star – Snow Boarding	Age 12+
Year-round	Oil Painting Classes	Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced
Year-round	Computer Classes	Adult/Basic Introductory
<b>The Cellar/Teen Center</b>		
Fall/Winter	Cellar Dances	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Fall/Winter	Ski with The Cellar	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b>Moline Activity Center (MAC) Happenings</b>		
Fall/Winter	Master Gardener – Fall Planting	All
Year-round	Rules of the Road	16+
Year-round	Bridge Lessons	50+
Year-round	Bridge Tournaments	50+
Year-round	Card Tournaments & Games (Pinocle, Bunco, Progressive 500, Euchre, Bingo)	50+
Year-round	Kick Back Book Club	All
Year-round	Craft Workshops and Craft Classes	Adult
Year-round	Shuffleboard & Pool Tournaments	Adult
<b>MAC Healthy Lifestyles</b>		
Year-round	Exercise Class	Adult
Year-round	Wellness Words with Donna	Adult
Year-round	Healthy Lifestyles Weight Management	Adult
Year-round	Well-Man	Adult
Year-round	Monthly Dances	Adult
Year-round	Adopt-a-Park Program	Varies
<b>Moline City Cemeteries</b>		
Year-round	Cemetery Walk – “Echoes from Riverside” (Historical Re-enactment & Tour)	All

Source: *Moline Parks and Recreation Program Guide*

### **Multi-purpose/Recreation Trails Improvements -**

The Bi-State region is in the planning and development phases of a large multipurpose trail network. The Quad Cities trails, both existing and proposed, have local, regional, state and national significance. Moline will continue to work in conjunction with officials and representatives of bordering States and adjacent jurisdictions to ensure the maximum benefits are derived through cooperative efforts. The City of Moline supports community-wide, multi-purpose trail development and is fortunate to be a part of two national trail systems. The Mississippi River Trail (MRT), from the Mississippi River’s headwaters in Lake Itasca, Minnesota to its confluence with the Gulf of Mexico, this multi-state trail will parallel both banks of the Mississippi River. The American Discovery Trail (ADT) passes through the Quad City Metro Area as it connects the east and west coasts of the United States from Cape Henlopen, Delaware to Point Reyes California.

Moline’s portion of the proposed trail network outlined in the *March 2001 Quad City Metropolitan Area Long Range Transportation Plan; Chapter V*, focuses on linking its trails with those of the greater Quad City community. Currently, efforts are underway to work with

the City of Rock Island to join the Kiwanis Trail, along the north shore of the Rock River, to the separated trail component of the West Rock River Bridge. This nexus would allow the City of Rock Island to extend a trail from the confluence of the bridge easterly to its Ben Williamson Park and ultimately through Black Hawk State Park creating more options for trail users.

On the southern side of the new West Rock River Bridge the Village of Milan has received funding through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to connect the bridge to the existing Hennepin Canal trail heading westward. A future trail component has also been identified heading east along the south shore of the Rock River through Coal Valley and connecting into the Grand Illinois Trail at the Hennepin Canal in Colona. Back on the north shore of the Rock River the City of Moline would like to extend the Kiwanis Trail eastward and connect into the Grand Illinois trail in Carbon Cliff, or potentially Colona with a new bike/pedestrian bridge spanning the Rock River.

A need has been identified to establish north-south routes through the City of Moline connecting the Ralph B. Birks Trail/ Great River Trail, skirting the banks of the Mississippi River, to the Kiwanis Trail, along the Rock River. The benefits derived from implementing several river-to-river connections would be a greater diversity of options for recreation and transportation, easier access to locations throughout the area, and an enhanced quality of life and more livable community.

Potential north-south connections include the 7<sup>th</sup> Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Street, 19<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> Street, 48<sup>th</sup>/53<sup>rd</sup> Street corridors and possibly a separated trail incorporated along a meandering ravine on the east side of the City. A significant amount of emphasis is being placed on formulation of trail connections between the two rivers. It would be to the City's benefit to incorporate existing crossings and publicly owned right-of-way when and if possible. Inclusions of trail components and completion of gaps/connections in the pedestrian/sidewalk network when planning for new infrastructure such as the extension of 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to the east and widening of John Deere Expressway will prove vital to the City from a cost to benefit ratio. Redesign and modifications to the egress and ingress of the existing pedestrian bridge crossing of John Deere Expressway near 12<sup>th</sup> Street would allow this corridor to be utilized as a viable crossing for river-to-river connectivity. The Park Board and the City should refer to both the Long Range Transportation Plan, mentioned early, and *Greenways of the Illinois Quad Cities: Our Green Infrastructure – A comprehensive Greenway Plan for the Illinois Quad Cities Metropolitan Area, May 1997*.

The Park Board and the City also should support bike/pedestrian accommodations in conjunction with any new river crossing (i.e. the proposed I-74 corridor, a new East Rock River Bridge, etc.). Advocating for such projects enhances the trails network for the entire Quad City community and adds to the quality of life for Moline residents.

The Dan O' Watkins Memorial Bike Route once comprised a well defined and signed shared access system throughout the City and should be reestablished. It was once located along city streets serving as an on-street connection between schools, parks and various points of interest. It was a 16-mile course and an easily navigable strategic tour of the City. Over the years the route has become neglected and the signage has not been maintained which has left a bifurcated route. This route is difficult if not impossible to traverse. A renewed

nationwide impetus on combating obesity through promoting physical activity, increasing attention on child and user safety with “Safe Routes to Schools” programs and encouraging healthy lifestyles by promoting alternative transportation, improved air quality, social involvement and community interaction is ample justification for reintegrating this strategic route.

It is paramount for the City to be certain necessary provisions for short and long-term transient parking, bicycle racks, restrooms, and other support facilities and amenities are included along all existing, reestablished, and/or newly developed trail corridors. Furthermore, the implementation of new trails should provide transportation alternatives, recreational qualities and/or connections to existing and or other proposed local, regional, state, and national trail systems. Separated corridor trails and connectors should be considered as a first option. However, shared access trails may be necessary in certain locations. Most importantly, the City needs to be persistent in assuring trails and greenways are incorporated into any new developments, roadway projects and the like. According to a U.S. Department of Transportation document created in February 2000, “Bicycle and walking facilities will be incorporated into all transportation projects unless exceptional circumstances exist”. Trail development and extensions were identified in the Public Input Meetings as significantly important items. The City and the Parks Board should ambitiously pursue accommodations along identified roadways and connections to existing trails within the city and throughout the greater Quad City area.

#### **Existing Trails -**

##### **Ralph B. Birks Trail/Great River Trail**

Mississippi River, from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to 55<sup>th</sup> Street

**Trail Length:** 7.5-miles

##### **Kiwanis Bike - Jog Trail**

Rock River, from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to 60<sup>th</sup> Street

**Trail length:** 6.5-miles

##### **Dan O Watkins Memorial Bike Route**

Throughout entire City (On-road route)

**Trail length:** 16-miles

### **Short Term Improvements: (1 - 5 Years)**

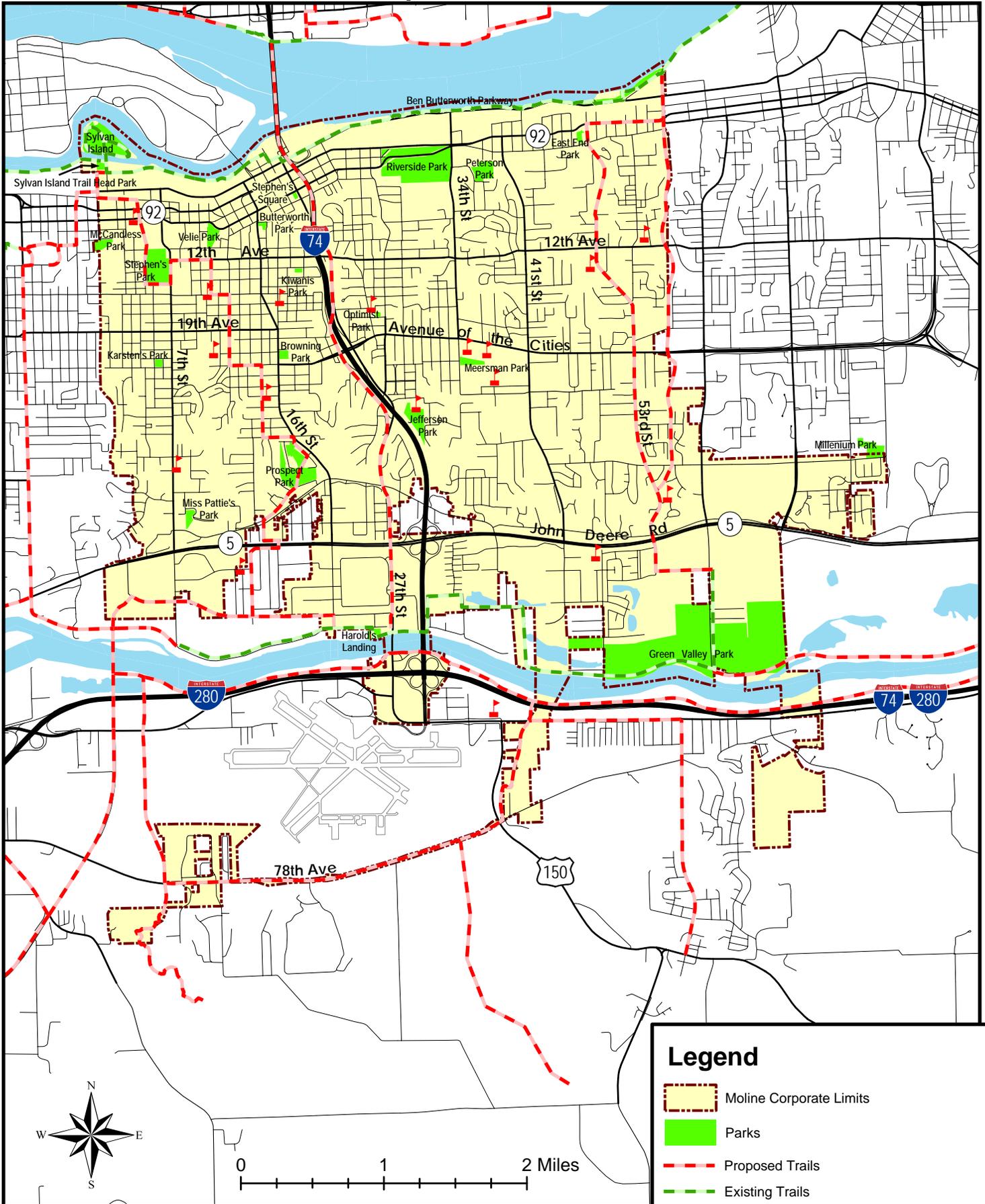
- Connect north end of the new West Rock River Bridge to the existing Kiwanis Trail
- Develop north-south connections
- Implement and maintain wayfinding/signage to and on the trails
- Add support facilities (i.e. bicycle racks, restrooms and water fountains) along trails
- Place attractive trash receptacles, add screening buffers and implement standardization
- Include a link to lodging information on City trails website
- Implement the 10,000 step program on all trails to encourage active and healthier lifestyles

### **Long Term Improvements: (5-15 Years)**

- Create and make accessible a map of all City trails and routes
- Place distance markers on trails and more cohesive signage, eliminate confusion
- Install a pedestrian crossing at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and John Deere Expressway for north-south pedestrian and cycling access
- Connect sidewalks throughout the City

# Future Trail Development

*This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. Bi-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.*



## **SECTION VI. FUTURE LAND ACQUISITION**

### **Introduction and Purpose -**

The number one priority of the Moline Park and Recreation Board is to accommodate the park, recreation, open space and leisure time needs of Moline residents. This section defines areas of growth or anticipated growth within the community. It will also identify existing areas inadequately served or deficient of suitable and safely accessible parkland.

The purpose of including future land acquisition as a planning component is to have a working document in place when looking towards future procurement of properties for open space or facility expansion and development.

The information provided in this section is by no means the only option for the Park Board and City Council when analyzing land acquisition for future parks and recreation. All options should remain open since property ownership and land-use changes over time. What now may seem a challenging location in which to acquire property could soon develop into a highly probable area for procuring parkland.

### **Location Identification Process -**

Established residential areas deficient of adequate open space and projected growth areas over the next 15 years were the main variables used to identify potential land acquisition sites within the community.

The current service area was determined through a radius study. Classification of each park was established utilizing the guidelines established by the NRPA. Table 4 in Section IV of this Plan illustrates the NRPA criteria used in determining individual park classifications (whether it be a mini-park, neighborhood park, community park, etc). For example, based on its acreage, Greenvally Park has a one-mile service area. Karstens Park, utilizing the same criteria, has only a quarter-mile service area. The service area is determined from the center point of the park extending outward to form a perfect circle (Refer to Map #3).

During the planning process identifying other obstacles to park access is a priority. For planning purposes the community was divided into neighborhoods. Major arterial roadways, forming obstacles or barriers, suppressing pedestrian (most notably children, elderly, and physically impaired residents) access to park and recreation areas were used to demarcate the neighborhoods. Through this process it became clear which neighborhoods had inadequate park and recreation opportunities. This division process also allowed for determinations to be made where access was hindered or unsafe for residents who utilize community-wide or large-urban park facilities, especially those residents who live within an area of the community where no alternative neighborhood park facilities are nearby.

The City of Moline has a large concentration of existing parks to the west of 41<sup>st</sup> Street. These parks, with few exceptions, serve the current population in this area well. There are however some established areas outside of the neighborhood park service radii which currently lack adequate provisions or where accessibility is thwarted by major arterials or other encumbrances.

A large portion of the community to the east of 41<sup>st</sup> Street presently lacks adequate and accessible City park/recreation facilities. The acquisition/development of parklands, amenities and facilities in the heavily defined eastern area, illustrated on Map #28, needs to be a top priority. Identifying and procuring amenable parkland in these areas needs to be done expeditiously since viable park sites are sparse. The City and Park Board should work cooperatively with landowners and other public and/or private organizations within these demarcated areas to reach an acceptable accord. Ensuring viable park and recreation opportunities can and will be provided to the citizens residing east of 41<sup>st</sup> Street is a vital objective. The development of defined linear parks or active greenway corridors, providing safe connectivity to and from park and recreation amenities, is one potential way of addressing the existing deficiencies.

Proposed future development areas are also in need of adequate service. These urban growth areas, mainly to the south of the Rock River, are where required parkland ordinances and variances for development would best serve the City. It is much easier to establish a park or set aside greenways prior to or during the planning and development stages of new construction than it is to try and retrofit parks, greenways and trails into the built environment.

The City of Moline has tenaciously undertaken the task of redefining the downtown as a livable community. The acquisition of land for downtown parks will only enhance the City's quality of life. Furthermore, Moline needs to continue its cooperative efforts with its adjacent communities in developing the riverfront. Continuity in planning and implementation through joint ventures will benefit the entire Quad Cities community.

It is paramount pedestrian connections be provided to the riverfront and other park and recreation facilities. Pedestrian flow and provisions for safe accessibility to all the park areas are a crucial element of a viable system. The City needs to determine locations for installation of pedestrians crossing of River Drive to the Ben Butterworth Parkway, currently no identified crossings are in place.

The City should continue to incorporate greenspace and park developments in its downtown revitalization. Moline has made tremendous strides towards re-acclimating itself to the Mississippi River. The City's Comprehensive Plan proposes expanding Riverside Park northward to River Drive and across from Ben Butterworth Parkway, the Bass Street Landing project, now underway, includes an area dubbed "the green" which is a multi-faceted downtown park and progress continues on the development of a trailhead park at Sylvan Island. Every attempt should be made to pursue opportunities which highlight and attract people to the Riverfront areas of the community. Some locations may warrant the installation of signals, crosswalks with enhance alert systems and/or refuge islands.

#### **Future Park Acquisition/Development -**

Public Input Received:

- Establish/develop designated dog parks to eliminate issues in other parks
- Develop Rock River area to the East Moline border for recreation use
- Incorporate wellness/fitness trails into parklands
- Landscape area from 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Street along railroad tracks (R.O.W.)
- Continue to develop Harold's Landing
- Consider area south of MHS driving range (Genesis Health Systems property) for location of a new neighborhood park

- Develop pocket-parks
- Ensure adequate and desirable land is protected, south of Rock River, for future parks
- Locate site for development of multi-use indoor recreation center, including climbing walls and indoor pool
- Identify location and develop a permanent Parks Department Office
- Install or require buffers between residential and commercial/industrial areas
- Leave greenspace areas in new annexations or potential urban growth or expansion areas
- Cooperate with schools, churches, hospitals and other public or private sources for use and development of park and recreation space and facilities
- Preserve park space out near Rock Island-Milan Parkway
- Utilize airport land for park space
- Provide parks/greenways in annexed area – residential areas, neighborhood parks
- Provide safe and accessible destination parks for walking – pocket parks
- Utilize residual lands as passive pocket parks
- Require provisions for trails in annexed area
- Ensure any new development provides sidewalks and trails
- Evaluate need for the identifying/acquiring a suitable site for placement of a BMX/ bicycle park, extreme sports/adventure park, ropes challenge course/climbing wall, and/or a paint ball park.
- Strive to preserve existing greenways – ravines and greenspace in general

The information above was collected through five public input meetings to aid in identification of future land acquisition and development areas. Determinations were also made utilizing existing information based on service area, NRPA standards, accessibility issues, existing City plans and priorities/goals established by the Moline Park Board. Further, analysis utilized the local level of service needs within the City and new or changing trends in park and recreation amenities, facilities, programs and services. Provisions for accommodating these new trends need to be considered for the City to continue in its quest of improving life for all residents.

### **Land Acquisition Locations and Descriptions -**

The number areas identified and described below for future land acquisition and park development correlate to Map #28 entitled “Future Park Land Acquisition & Development Areas”. The information outlined in the preceding chapters of this plan were utilized in conjunction with an evaluation of service area radii and citizen input to determine the locations within the City where park space is needed. Further stratification was warranted to ascertain a level of importance or priority for each area. The primary, secondary and tertiary identification coincides with the respective crosshatched zones delineated on Map #28. This map should help reinforce the summary information following each of the priority areas outlined below.

#### **Area: #1 (Tertiary Priority)**

A small neighborhood park is needed in the area from 7<sup>th</sup> Street west to the City’s corporate limits with Rock Island. 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the north to a little south of 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue completes the designate area. Although outside the service area of Karstens Park to the north, low volume residential streets provide relatively safe and easy access for bicyclists and walkers possessing the ability to traverse the distance. Ideally, park provisions should be available within this defined area. Cooperation to utilize amenities at nearby Hamilton Elementary School would alleviate some of the needs. However, with a high concentration of apartments

and condominiums and consideration for young children and the elderly a location for development of both passive and active park amenities is warranted in this area.

**Area: #2** (Tertiary Priority)

Located on the east side of 7<sup>th</sup> Street, directly across from Area #1, it continues east to approximately 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The north and south boundaries are 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue respectively. The nearest neighborhood park is Wiman/Miss Pattie's Park to the south. However, the sidewalk along the east side of 7<sup>th</sup> Street is incomplete past Hamilton Elementary School, which creates an impediment to accessing the park. Similar to Area #1, cooperation to utilize amenities at nearby Hamilton Elementary School would alleviate some of the needs in this area. Regardless, this portion of the community is not located within the service area of any existing neighborhood park and therefore provisions need to be considered by the City and Park Board.

**Area: #3** (Tertiary Priority)

At the crossroads of 34<sup>th</sup> Street and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue is a residential area outside the parameters of an existing neighborhood park service area. Both streets have relatively significant traffic volumes and no pedestrian crossing accommodations are provided at the intersection. With both Peterson and Riverside Parks to the north of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue a location on the south side, either east or west of 34<sup>th</sup> Street would be most logical for placement of a neighborhood park. Crossing accommodations will still need to be made at the intersection of 34<sup>th</sup> Street and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Possibly a widened pathway could be installed south of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue for easier access to Riverside Park.

**Area: #4** (Primary Priority)

Located between 41<sup>st</sup> Street and 48<sup>th</sup> Street with 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the south this area is largely developed residential. The closest neighborhood park is East End Park on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, which lies outside the service area. This is one of six areas, blanketing the entire portion of the community, east of 41<sup>st</sup> Street without sufficient park and recreation provisions. Opportunities exist in this area to establish and develop an active greenway corridor with a trail component providing connectivity to East End Park and potentially continuing south along the entire stretch of 48<sup>th</sup>/53<sup>rd</sup> Street. Coordination with nearby schools, the Y.M.C.A., churches and/or other property owners to establish amenable park accommodations is an option. Ideally, the City should secure land within this designated area for park and recreation development.

**Area: #5** (Secondary Priority)

Area #5 is identified as a secondary priority. This location could be served in a couple of ways. Franklin Elementary School is located within close proximity to nearby residential areas. Cooperation with the school would aid in alleviating the lack of suitable parkland. Access to and from this area is restricted by 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the south side. It may be possible to coordinate with East Moline for a joint park development near the corporate boundary, which this delineated area abuts. As with Area #4, development of a linear greenway trail along the 48<sup>th</sup> Street corridor could be an alternative for easier access to the nearest neighbor park, East End.

**Area: #6** (Primary Priority)

A deficiency in parkland and amenities is also present in this section of the City. Wilson Junior High School is located within Area #6 and has large open field play areas and tennis courts. The school is easy to access for the residents in the area with no substantial barriers or impediments. By working with the school these facilities could provide some recreational benefits. However, the school lacks many standard amenities common to most neighbor

parks (i.e. playground facilities, toddler play areas, accessible restrooms, picnic and shelter facilities, etc). This area is bordered on all sides by major roadways; 48<sup>th</sup>/53<sup>rd</sup> Street to the east, 41<sup>st</sup> Street on the west, 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue is the northern boundary and to the south is Avenue of the Cities. Each of these invokes challenges for non-vehicular access to other City of Moline parks and facilities. The City should focus on identifying and providing viable park and recreation components within this area.

**Area: #7** (Tertiary Priority)

Just east of 48<sup>th</sup>/53<sup>rd</sup> Street and south of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue is a mix of residential development, which currently lacks City of Moline park accommodations. The area is comprised of both old and new housing, condominiums, apartments and small offices, clinics and shops. Also located in this area are churches and the Y.M.C.A. all of which have recreational components of one form or another. Through a cooperative venture with these organizations an amenable accord could be reached which benefits everyone. Locating and developing a separate neighborhood park in this area is the ideal solution. If suitable land is or should become available the City and Park Board should promptly consider the viability of acquisition. Furthermore, the potential exists to work jointly with neighboring East Moline as they prepare to extend 1<sup>st</sup> Street south to the Avenue of the Cities to accommodate new development. Just to the west of the new 1<sup>st</sup> Street extension and adjacent to an existing senior housing complex, may be an opportunity to partner in a park development. This would require pedestrian crossings to be installed along 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue A. to improve user access from the north.

**Area: #8** (Primary Priority)

Located east of 41<sup>st</sup> Street and north of John Deere Road/Illinois 5 is a residential area, which is devoid of ample park and recreation opportunities. Roadway and geographic impediments prevent easy access to existing City parks. The acquisition and development of a neighborhood park is needed in this location. The City should make a concerted effort to work jointly with Genesis Health Systems in this area. Genesis owns a large parcel of undeveloped land adjacent to 41<sup>st</sup> Street comprising about one-third of the northern demarcated section of Area #8 illustrated on Map #28. Nation-wide attention is being focused on health and fitness. Both the City of Moline and the Medical Center could benefit from a joint recreational and fitness facility development.

**Area: #9** (Primary Priority)

There is definite need for developed park and recreation space or facilities in Area #9. Largely residential it is currently lacking in adequate and suitable park amenities. Area #9 is bordered to the north by the Avenue of the Cities and by John Deere Road/Illinois 5 on the south. Its eastern edge abuts 53<sup>rd</sup> Street and 41<sup>st</sup> Street provides the western boundary. Moline Memorial Cemetery is located within this area. The City and Park Board should consider working in conjunction with the proposed new southeast branch library. Incorporating parkland with both active and passive recreational components could provide some unique and educational opportunities. Other options include locating and procuring adequate parklands for development of neighborhood parks to serve this area or working in concert with other organizations, business, residents or community groups to ensure standards are met.

**Area: #10** (Secondary Priority)

The area east of 53<sup>rd</sup> Street and north of John Deere Road/Illinois 5 is in need of parkland. The potential exists in this area for shared use of playground equipment and other amenities with Jane Addams Elementary School. The nearest neighborhood park facility is Millennium

Park, one of the City's newest park developments. With improved accessibility and crossings along 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 60<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> Streets this park could be utilized by some of the residents in Area #10. The City should consider working with Black Hawk College and other organizations, churches, businesses to acquire and develop needed park amenities in this area. The City should also pursue any suitable property on the market, which is fairly priced and has the potential for multi-faceted neighborhood park development.

**Area: #11 (Secondary Priority)**

Unlike the areas identified earlier. Area # 11 is largely undeveloped. However, new subdivisions and developments are being planned for mixed-use and/or residential construction. This area has been identified for acquisition and development of a multitude of park facilities and recreation needs. Development of a large urban park, 18-hole golf course, neighborhood and pocket parks and parks containing both active and passive amenities should all be considered prior to or in conjunction with any new development. Area #11 could also be the site of an adventure complex or an Extreme Sports park with items such as, skateboarding facilities, BMX biking, paintball, an ATV track and possibly snowboard trick ramps (seasonal). The City should also look towards creating a multi-generational playground, a place where adults/parents can interact in physical activity with kids. Or provide alternative adult oriented activities, with various skill levels, located in proximity to where they can supervise their children. The City should be proactive in providing a variety of opportunities to entice its citizens to be physically active. As development begins in this proposed urban growth area it is imperative for Moline to make sure adequate and desirable parcels are available for parklands. It is much easier to build around designated parks and greenways than it is to retro fit the parks and greenways into an existing development. Green space is an important aspect to establishing thriving communities and creating healthy lifestyles. It encourages economic development and should be considered one of the most important elements of any community. Area # 11 affords ample opportunities for the City to make parks and greenway connections a top priority for the betterment of the community.

**Land Acquisition Priorities -**

The areas previously discussed are those where a need has been identified for the acquisition and potential development of future recreation and park space. These areas have been stratified according to level of priority as either a *Primary*, *Secondary* or *Tertiary Priority* based on the following criteria which are listed in no particular order of preference or priority:

- 1) Cost
- 2) Availability
- 3) Projected population growth
- 4) Current demand
- 5) Relationship to existing City plans
- 6) Expected Benefit to Moline and Moline residents

***Primary Priority Areas:***

Area #4, Area #6, Area #8, Area #9

***Secondary Priority Areas:***

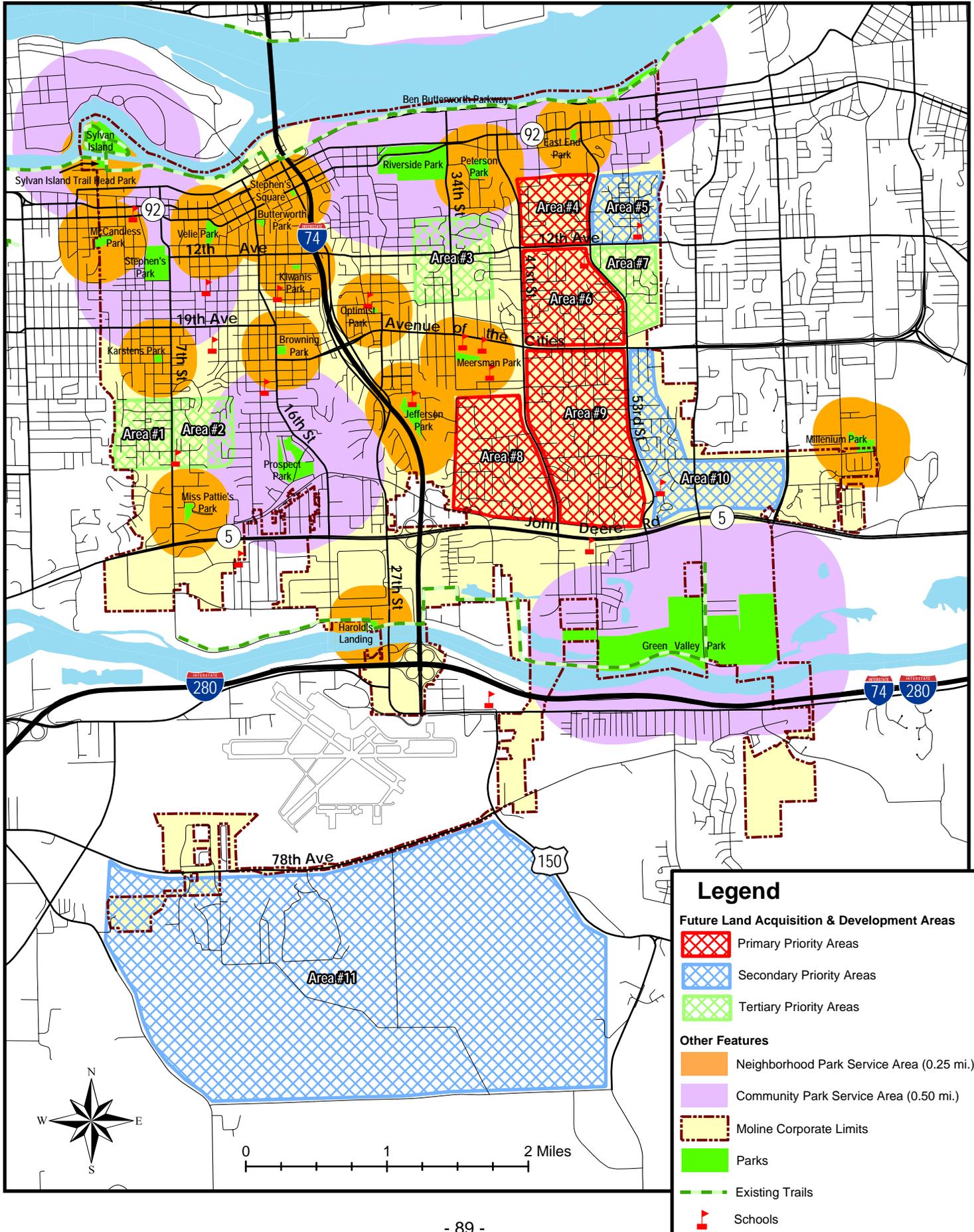
Area #5, Area #10, Area #11

***Tertiary Priority Areas:***

Area #1, Area #2, Area #3, Area #7

# Future Park Land Acquisition & Development Areas

*This map is for reference only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. Bi-State Regional Commission disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.*



**Legend**

**Future Land Acquisition & Development Areas**

- Primary Priority Areas
- Secondary Priority Areas
- Tertiary Priority Areas

**Other Features**

- Neighborhood Park Service Area (0.25 mi.)
- Community Park Service Area (0.50 mi.)
- Moline Corporate Limits
- Parks
- Existing Trails
- Schools

## **SECTION VII. BASIC GOALS AND PLAN OBJECTIVES**

### **Introduction -**

The City of Moline Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master plan is founded on goals and objectives, which provide the framework for decision-making and investments in the City's park system and recreational programs. These goals were derived from thorough site inventories of existing park amenities and facilities, analysis of existing comprehensive city/regional plans and strategic goals and visioning by the Park Board. Comments received from five public input meetings, conducted to aid in the development of this plan, were utilized to help determine the basic goals and plan objectives and the overall needs of the parks and recreation system. As policies and implementation strategies are developed and refined, these goals and objectives will offer guidance for future park development and programming.

### **Basic Goals of the Master Plan -**

- To provide adequate, desirable and accessible park and recreation opportunities to the citizens of Moline in a cost-effective manner.
- To coordinate Moline's Park and Recreation Master Plan with other Quad City community and regional park system plans.
- To set aside land for open space and parks and to protect natural resources for the benefit of Moline residents.
- To enhance the physical beauty and the quality of life within the City of Moline while continuing to balance the livability of the community with population growth and development.

### **Plan Objectives -**

- Procure and maintain the amount of parklands needed in the City at the appropriate locations and in the most cost-effective manner.
- Provide viable park amenities, facilities and programs accessible to all ages and to the special needs population within the City.
- Ensure facilities provide adequate recreational opportunities based on the needs and desires of Moline residents. Take into account Local Operations Standards (LOS), in conjunction with Illinois State minimum requirements and National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards for population. Considering use and demand for certain park amenities and/or modern recreational trends the LOS may require the City to expand/exceed or conversely decrease recommended population based amenity levels/standards established by the State of Illinois and the NRPA. Furthermore, the recommendations outlined in the City of Moline Comprehensive Plan (*Chapter 8: Parks and Recreation System*) adopted November 13, 2001 by the Moline City Council and the Moline Park Board Goals and Priorities will be considered when determining the short and long term plans for the City's park system.

- Establish and implement recreation facilities, amenities, programs and activities, which are durable, cost-effective, varied, age-appropriate and accessible. Review programs and activities on an annual basis to determine participation levels. Seek public input during individual park planning and before developing community and neighborhood parks so development or renovation is conducive to the needs and wants of the residents. Separate conflicting uses whenever and wherever possible.
- Require, at a minimum, neighborhood parks within a ¼ mile radius of residential areas in the City, Community (Metropolitan/Destination) parks are typically within a ½ mile minimum radius and Special-use parks/facilities serve the entire community. The City will consider reasonable corrective measures where restrictive barriers such as major streets, incomplete sidewalk/pedestrian systems and ravines or creeks prevent or impede access for patrons within a designated park service area. Ostensibly, the City will strive to create a utilitarian park and recreation system, which is pleasant, accessible and provides benefits to all intended users.
- Consider preservation of sensitive and natural areas such as wetlands, prairies and significant tree stands when acquiring new parklands. Provisions will be sought to protect natural resources, provide for wildlife habitat, control erosion, limit environmental impacts, provide education opportunities, and to preserve general aesthetic appeal when possible.
- Conduct an assessment of current/existing conditions, future park trends and recreational needs for residents of Moline on an annual basis.
- Give priority to the acquisition and development of recreational facilities on the riverfront and other viable properties available to the community, which enhance the parks system. Require emphasis to be placed in areas currently lacking sufficient or accessible facilities.
- Pursue opportunities to work in conjunction with neighboring communities to ensure comprehensive benefits for the entire area. Conscientious efforts to acquire and developed facilities cooperatively and concurrently would benefit each community. All planning efforts involving Moline must recognize the City's relationship with the other communities in the Quad City Metropolitan Area. Because there is a common border with Rock Island, East Moline, and Coal Valley, interjurisdictional use of existing facilities is commonplace.

## **SECTION VIII. NEEDS ANALYSIS**

### **Introduction -**

The Background, Natural Resources, and Demographic sections stressed those characteristics of Moline that have implications for park and recreation and identified physical constraints and potentials for development. However, other criteria assist in analyzing the current and future needs of those who utilize park and recreation facilities. This section will view guidelines and include direct observation, which further assist in determining the current and future park and recreation needs of Moline residents.

### **Guidelines -**

Guidelines or standards are important in the development of a park and recreation master plan. When implemented, they serve both to illustrate the deficiencies of the current park and recreation system, as well as to establish objectives in developing or improving the park and recreation system. This plan utilizes the standards set forth by the National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA), with certain exceptions noted previously in this Master Plan. For planning purposes the following documents should also be identified as potential sources for guidelines and information, The Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Guidelines for the Development of Bicycle Facilities.

Guidelines or standards are an important tool in developing and enhancing the park and recreation system; however they should not be viewed as the sole determinant of need in Moline, as other factors such as the desires and concerns of residents influence need. Standards recommended by the NRPA, should be viewed as guidelines, which have been tested and researched and found to provide a general approach in developing a specific park and recreation system; they are in no way a panacea for a city's park system nor should they be viewed as the final vestige for what is needed in the City of Moline. However, standards serve to measure the effectiveness of the decision-making and planning process of the park and recreation system. With established standards, local officials can determine where, what type, and how many recreational objectives need to be included in the planning process. Established standards serve to validate decisions of elected officials and the taxpayers.

### **Trends and Forecast -**

The population of the City of Moline has fluctuated since 1950. The greatest period of growth was from 1950 to 1970 when the population grew from 37,397 to 46,237 a 19.0% increase. From 1970 through 1990, Moline experienced a slow decline in population. This was common throughout the region and is attributed to a recession, which occurred during this time period. Over these two decades Moline went from a high of 46,237 residents in 1970 to 43,202 residents in 1990, a minor decline of approximately 2,000 residents or a 7.0% drop in population. By the 2000 Census the City of Moline had begun to rebound and was again gaining population. The 2000 Census tabulations indicate slight growth for the City of Moline with an additional 566 residents over the 1990 Census computations. The City has begun to institute measures to ensure continuation of this upward growth trend and retention of existing families. The creation of this Master Plan is one step toward this goal. The City recognizes and is responding to increasing pressure from residents for enhanced community services; recreation is one of many necessary and valuable services the City can provide to its citizens. Park and recreation facilities and amenities create livable communities, heighten

the quality of life and promote healthier, more physically active lifestyles. Recreational amenities are increasingly becoming more important components in attracting economic development, retaining existing businesses and encouraging population sustenance and growth.

### **Needs of Special Populations -**

There are also needs of special population groups, including the elderly and disabled that must be met. The City of Moline works to ensure recreational programs and services are available and accessible to all persons regardless of ability. The City will make every reasonable accommodation to ensure each participant full and equal enjoyment of such programs and services.

### **Specific Use, Demands and Needs -**

Currently, the City of Moline is providing the community with a variety of recreational opportunities. The City has made a commitment to providing facilities, which have been requested by the public in a fiscally responsible manner. If the City is to continue to provide for its residents as it has in the past, it needs to maintain the existing facilities, as well as stay informed of the recreational trends of the region and the nation. This master plan is designed to be a long-range plan, identifying park needs with a 15-year implementation period.

The maintenance of existing facilities is one issue facing the Moline Park Board and City Council. For a community the size of Moline, upkeep of these facilities is a major issue. Part of the maintenance of these facilities will be the replacement of antiquated equipment and amenities, which no longer benefit the community. These costs will be of significant concern. Preservation and maintenance of existing facilities is considered a high priority for the City.

As was mentioned previously in this document, the City of Moline is experiencing population growth. It is crucial for the City and Park Board to search for, and acquire when necessary, reasonable parkland and recreation accommodations to under served or neglected areas of Moline. Map #3 reflects the current service area of the existing parks. From this map, it is apparent that the City needs to aggressively pursue land acquisition for safely accessible neighborhood park development along the eastern edge of the community. Much of the eastern portion of the community is flanked by East End Park to the north and Millennium Park to the south. Between these two neighborhood parks and east of 41<sup>st</sup> Street exists several neighborhoods lacking sufficient neighborhood parkland and facilities. South of the Rock River, in the urban growth area, the City and Park Board need to be proactive to ensure appropriate and viable lands and facilities are protected and included with any future development(s). The City and Park Board must be diligent in referring to and using existing plans and documents to protect identified active and passive greenway corridors and potential parklands from undesirable incursions. The Park Board should encourage the City to view this area as a clean slate of open space lands. Developers should be required to plan, design and build with the understanding this entire area is first and foremost a park and this concept should receive priority when proposing development(s). Recreation needs are further discussed in the subsequent section.

## **SECTION IX. POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**

This section is intended to provide policies, programs, and priorities, which Moline can use to help meet recreational needs in the community, particularly over the next five-year period. As with the other sections of this plan, a need exists to examine the implementation strategies along with the short and long-term goals on an annual basis. Yearly review, revisions and updates to the Master Plan, based on progress and changes in trends will help foster the viability of the parks system and the vitality of this Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Any amendments or changes to this plan should be consistent with other planning documents either supported through resolution or officially adopted by the City. Furthermore, it is imperative for the Park Board to reference and utilize this plan during the development of their bi-annual Strategic Plan.

### **Policies -**

When considering the development of a park and recreation system there should be an understanding of basic policies. The following policies are paramount in obtaining a balanced allocation of land and facilities to meet the community's needs.

### ***Opportunities for All***

The park and recreation system should appeal to all demographic groups. It should provide opportunities for all persons regardless of age, race, creed, sex, economic status, or ability.

### ***Resource Evaluation***

An analysis must be made of available resources in the community, including but not limited to: flood plains, mature woodlands, and forest areas, marshlands and bluffs; unique ecological areas; historical and archeological sites; vacant lots; and lands that may be reclaimed for recreation. Where lack of space is critical, multiple uses of facilities such as parking lots, tennis courts and open green space should be considered.

### ***Planning Ahead***

Advance acquisition based upon a comprehensive park and recreation plan is essential. Unless sites are acquired well in advance of burgeoning growth, land costs may make their acquisition prohibitive. An analysis should be made on an ongoing basis of recreation activity needs and trends in order to project space/facility requirements realistically and to allow for timely and cost-effective implementation.

### ***Proper Distribution***

The park and recreation system must be a unified development with the areas properly distributed to maintain continuity within the community. Facilities should be appropriately located within the area that they are intended to serve and must have safe and adequate access.

### ***Architectural Barriers***

Special efforts should be made to provide for ease of access and for the use of all facilities by the elderly, ill and disabled, very young and other less mobile groups in the community. To ensure that recreational opportunities are available to these and any other special needs groups the following should be considered:

- All recreation and park facilities should be required to develop and implement a schedule designed to eliminate architectural barriers and provide integrated facilities.
- Representatives of disabled organizations should be asked and encouraged to attend public hearings, meetings, etc., to express their park, recreation, and leisure needs.
- Moline Park Board members, city staff and elected officials must become educated or versed on the existing federal and state legislation that requires barrier-free facilities where State and Federal funds are used.
- The Moline Park Board and/or the City should be proactive in collaborating with representatives of organization working with handicapped people and persons with special needs. Such an approach would allow the Park Board to receive guidance concerning accessibility impediments, accommodation deficiencies, poorly designed facilities, aid in the identification of architectural barriers within the City, and the assimilation of ideas on how best to address or eliminate them.
- ***Consideration of Land Uses Best Suited to the Soil and Slope***  
The land or site proposed for future parks or for improvements to existing facilities should be evaluated to determine appropriate uses based on soil types and slope. This will involve reference to the most recent soil survey of the County. The survey will provide detailed soil information, which can be used to determine the suitability of tracts of land for farming, industry and recreation.
- ***Citizen Involvement***  
There should be comprehensive citizen involvement during all phases of the planning effort. Through neighborhood groups, citizen task forces, or the most effective means that can be established for mutual cooperation and adequate communications. It is also important for the citizens to become involved in the quality and care of their parks system.
- ***Relationship with Other Agencies***  
There should be cooperation and coordination with other agencies responsible for the planning, administration and/or operation of park and recreation services. This includes other public bodies and voluntary, private, church, and business agencies.
- ***School-Park and Other Public/Private Coordination***  
Wherever possible, outdoor recreation and open space areas at the neighborhood and community levels should adjoin and be planned in conjunction with public and private schools. This can avoid duplication of facilities, make schools more park-like in character and provide additional assets to the community they serve. Consideration should be given to joint planning, financing, acquisition, programming, and maintenance, to insure the most effective use of school buildings and grounds. The parks department should also consider coordinating with churches for programming options and possibly development of neighborhood park facilities.
- ***Loss of Park and Recreation Land***  
All park facilities, outdoor recreation and open space land should be protected in perpetuity against encroachment and non-recreation related purposes. It should not be

considered the “path of least resistance” for highways, city streets, public utilities and public buildings not suitable for recreation related purposes or activities. The City should be proactive in mandating, where necessary, granted variances or public utility easement corridors to be identified as potential greenway corridors and utilize these protected areas for active/passive greenways.

**Implementation Strategies -**

Implementation implies a process, which takes time and involves more than one step. Certainly this is true of many of the specific projects, studies, and programs recommended within this plan. Dollars are always in much shorter supply than are the means of expending them. The same can be said for available manpower. Based on population projections, Moline may be in short supply of public parklands and recreation opportunities. Existing areas and facilities will increasingly be overcrowded and overused. At the minimum, Moline should maintain the existing ratio of (1/75) between recreational acres and population.

During the planning and development of this Comprehensive Park and Recreation Master Plan public input indicated a need to focus attention on the acquisition of land in developing areas and in areas currently deficient of adequate and accessible park space. A need was also identified for the Park Board and Parks Department to focus on acquisition and development of parks in growing areas of the community. Additional attention should be paid to existing park and recreation amenities, which have outlived their usefulness and are in need of repair or replacement.

As previously stated it is critical the City of Moline begin consideration of land acquisition where there is a current and/or projected need for park development. This process can often be time consuming and a financial strain.

**Comprehensive Park and Recreation Goals and Priorities -**

*(Listed randomly, No particular order of priority)*

**1. Preserve and Maintain Parks, Equipment and Facilities**

As in all communities, the number one priority should be the preservation and maintenance of the existing facilities. Neglect will lead to deterioration of current facilities and programs. The acquisition of quality, durable, low maintenance equipment and suitable park sites will continually be important. The Park Board should assure that adequate personnel are available to maintain the existing inventory before looking toward additional development. Input from the public meetings emphasized the importance of preservation and maintenance of the existing parks system and bringing parks up-to-date with current standards, trends, and/or community needs.

**2. Expand System (Parks, Facilities, Programs and Trails) to be Family Oriented and Safe for Resident Use**

The Park Board and City Council has and should continue to encourage residents of Moline to provide input regarding accessibility, safety and deficiencies in current parklands, open space, recreation facilities, programs and trail opportunities. The Park Board is currently aware of the need to acquire and develop land in the growing areas of the community. The acquisition and development of accessible, nearby neighborhood park areas on the east side of the community, the preservation of parklands in the urban

growth area south of the Rock River, identification and development of dog parks/dog runs, creation of programs and facilities which promote multi-generational participation and ability levels, installation or completion of sidewalks around the perimeter of existing neighborhood parks to serve as fitness walks and the development of north-south trail connections were a few of the items repeatedly mentioned at public input meetings. Every attempt will be made to ensure that facilities and programs are available to all who wish and are willing to participate. Budgetary issues will play an important role in expanding and enhancing the current parks, facilities, programs and trails. Exploration of a variety of funding alternatives and partnerships will enable the community to address financial hurdles to enhancement and expansion plans.

### **3. Preservation of Natural Resources of the Riverfront with Access for Citizens**

The Park Board realizes the greatest resources the community has are its waterways. The Mississippi River and Rock River provide and continually afford new opportunities to enhance the park and recreation system. Through continued systematic land acquisition efforts and awareness of sensitive riverfront developments the community will be able to provide riverfront access to residents and visitors, while enhancing the natural beauty of these waterways. Conservation of natural areas is an important item identified by residents through the public input processes.

### **4. Compliance with the “Illinois Accessibility Code (IAC) and “Americans with Disabilities Act” (ADA)**

Every attempt will be made to bring the existing facilities into compliance with the Illinois Accessibility Code (IAC) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All new facilities must be constructed in accordance with IAC requirements. The Illinois Accessibility Code (IAC) is intended to resolve areas of difference between those federal standards of ADA and the former Illinois accessibility standards, applicable to buildings and facilities in the State of Illinois covered by the Illinois Environmental Barriers Act (EBA). The drafters of the IAC compared and adopted the stricter of the former State or Federal accessible design standards. The City of Moline is committed to making every reasonable effort to ensure that it's park and recreational facilities can be used and enjoyed by everyone. The City may also want to research the demand and possible need for a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS). Possibly working jointly with other area park and recreation departments and/or healthcare organizations depending upon the need and demand for such services.

### **5. Monitor New or Changing Recreational Trends**

Continued population growth along with an increasing demand for special-use parks and facilities will require the Park Board to consider developing and up-dating facilities to meet current and future trends. The Park Board should consider the demands for extreme sport facilities, adventure parks/challenge courses, team building facilities and programs. Special-use areas should be expandable and meet new and/or developing park and recreation trends. Active participation in the City's planning and implementation of future development areas should be a short-term if not an immediate priority of the Park Board. Awareness of existing and changing land-use patterns, zoning classifications and/or annexation areas will ensure adequate park and recreation provision are implemented to meet growing/changing demands and current trends.

## **6. Enhance Financial Stability and Resources to Support Quality Facilities and Services**

The City is faced with financial constraints when looking towards land acquisition and improvements to existing facilities and programs. The following should be considered in order to relieve some of the constraints: community awareness of problems and priorities; alternative funding, such as grants and donations; involvement in a joint purchasing program, with other communities in the Bi-State region, for park equipment, supplies, maintenance items and amenities; use of volunteer organizations; neighborhood park rentals for gatherings and receptions; and the possibility of increased tax dollars to fund certain park and recreation projects.

Priorities for implementation were determined by a number of factors. They included the identification of short and long-term improvements, analysis of future land acquisition areas, consideration of the basic goals and plan objectives, needs analysis and policies and implementation strategies. In addition, City staff and Park Board input and review, current park and recreation trends, existing City plans and community wants and needs were examined as part of this prioritization.

The following list outlines needed improvements to the existing park system based upon the comprehensive goals and priorities listed above:

### **Short-Term Improvements -**

- Complete new Riverside Family Aquatic Center.
- Complete development of Sylvan Island Trailhead Park and review options for replacing bridge to Sylvan Island.
- Secure a site and construct an indoor, multi-use recreation center with gymnasium, cardio/fitness, etc.
- Continue to work on renovation/revitalization of Prospect Park.
- Continue expansion and development of Greenvally Park/Complex (Eliminate multiple park names and change to Greenvally East and Greenvally West).
- Establish new permanent offices for the Parks Department staff.
- Improve marketing and promotion of recreation programs and activities
- Determine location for Canine Park/Dog Run – location where support facilities can be provided.
- Identify/procure lands in under-served areas and neighborhoods on the east side of City
- Begin planning for a large urban park south of the Rock River in the new urban growth area, possibly in conjunction with establishment of an 18-hole golf course, As area develops require adequate and useable park/green/open/natural space be retained. Envision all development as occurring within a park.
- Bring parks up to date with current standards, trends/needs – Diversification of activities/programs within parks for all users groups.
- Work with adjacent jurisdictions on joint projects (i.e. Connecting the west end of the Kiwanis Trail to the new West Rock River Bridge) Rock Island has interest in connecting to this Bridge as well.
- Encourage adjacent community Adopt-a-Park groups/neighborhood associations/Friends of the Parks and parks departments to work together, promoting joint use, maintenance, and management of bordering neighborhood and community parks.
- Emphasize benefits of greenway connections “Quality of Life & Livable Communities”.

- Establish north-south trail and greenway connections; implement 10,000 steps program and other national/state fitness programs to encourage healthier lifestyles.
- Implement a new, vibrant and uniform park signage system for all City parks and park facilities); wayfinding signage to and within larger community special-use parks and facilities; age appropriate signage for active recreation amenities; legacy markers/educational/historical signage or plaques identifying, recognizing, and/or explaining designated names for City parks, trails and facilities. (Signage design, fabrication and installation should follow the recommendations outlined in the Moline Parks Signage Master Plan.)

### **Long Term Improvements -**

- Build new Conservancy/Garden Center/Arboretum/Greenhouse at Riverside Park.
- Add green space to downtown mall area (i.e. “*the green*” at Bass Street Landing).
- Widen Ralph B. Birks trail to 12-feet through Ben Butterworth Memorial Park separating conflicting uses; add binocular stands along the parkway – potential revenue source.
- Re-establish and sign the Dan O’ Watkins Memorial Bike Route connecting parks, schools and neighborhoods – Potential “Safe Routes to Schools” project.
- Identify location for Adventure Park Complex/ Extreme Park Complex – Amenities for both adults and children (i.e. challenge courses, paintball, climbing walls, BMX park).
- Consider Astronomy/Pioneer park in the urban growth boundary area to the south of the Rock River maintain minimal impediments/intrusions from light pollution and potentially include non-conflicting and daytime uses such as hiking, orienteering and the like.
- Unique sport programming (i.e. cricket, rolle bolle, bocce ball, la crosse, disk golf, etc.) work cooperatively with existing clubs/organizations to teach interested participants.
- Dredge and redesign Riverside Park lagoon.
- Pursue and promote clean-up, conversion and adaptive reuse of existing and former brownfield sites.
- Study options for managing and maintaining Riverside and Moline Memorial cemeteries.

### **Plan Summary -**

The City of Moline Park and Recreation Master Plan includes a panoply of information on recreation and open space opportunities in the City. This Master Plan’s primary objective is to establish a viable framework of goals and priorities, as well as short and long-term improvements, which will guide the City and Park Board in achieving the highest quality system of parks, recreation facilities, recreation programs and connecting trails.

This Plan has been prepared to guide the City of Moline in the development, acquisition and maintenance of parks, facilities, programs, trails and open space. The City of Moline Park and Recreation Master Plan is also a helpful tool for illustrating specific priority improvements, and documenting the needs and desires of Moline residents. The information contained herein can and should be included to support applications for funding assistance through state and federal grant programs and other funding opportunities.

Current recreational trends indicate that the public will continue to use recreation and park areas close to where they live and work. Therefore, future needs are expected to be greatest within local communities. The ability to continue to meet or exceed the requirements and expectations of the City depends, to a large extent, upon local partnership, cooperation and ongoing communication between the residents and their elected or appointed officials. Encouraging an uninhibited, free-flow of ideas amongst everyone within the City of Moline will foster a meaningful accord and perpetuate the desired benefits to be derived from this Master Plan.

## **APPENDIX - A**

***City of Moline***  
***Park & Recreation***  
**June 11, 2003**  
***Public Input Meeting #1***

**PARKS**

***Butterworth Playground - 1.9 Acres***

**Problems:**

- No Restroom
- Rusting chain link perimeter fence
- No off street parking
- Rusting playground equipment needs paint

**Wants/Needs:**

- Restrooms
- Small Shelter
- Domino/Game tables
- Landscaping
- Security lighting
- Landscape for use as downtown workers lunch break park

***Karstens Park - 1.7 acres***

**Problems:**

- Kids leaving water running in restrooms has caused mosquito problem near restrooms.\*
- Perimeter fence needs paint
- Baseball field and back stop needs maintenance
- Dogs running loose/defecating in park
- Needs better lawn care/mowing

**Wants/Needs:**

- Sidewalk on all four sides of park. (With possible distance markings for walkers.)\*
- Security lighting in park away from pavilion\*
- Signage - rules for use of the park/dogs like Stephens Park \*
- Wayfinding signage off of 7<sup>th</sup> Street
- Improve small ball diamond area in NW corner for use by K through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade children
- Friends of park group
- Park restroom keys left with neighbors to open/close restrooms.
- Needs better play area for 6-12 age group.
- More advertising of summer program.

\*=Priorities

**Not wanted:**

- No lights on basketball court.
- No grills needed at shelter.
- Removal of fence - keeps small children out of the street

**Positive Improvements:**

- New playground equipment is being installed.

***McCandless Park - 5.9 acres*****Problems:**

- Park location needs to be corrected on Moline website and in Park Program Books.
- Very small off street parking lot.
- No signs on restrooms
- Fence needs repair
- Concrete floor in pavilion has shift crack of about one inch
- No gutters on shelter
- Steps are a hazard

**Wants/Needs:**

- Improved Lighting\*
- Trash cans, grills, containers for used charcoal\*
- Drinking fountains with spigot for hose for watering flowers\*
- Additional parking\*
- Grass and flower seeding
- ADA accessibility improved in the park
- Phone for emergency access to 911 system.
- Park signage and usage rules in English/Spanish/Braille
- Soccer field
- Benches

**Positive improvements:**

- Friends Group - Hildago Adopt-A-Park Group
- New playground equipment arriving
- Brush clearing on hillside
- Park planning in process

***Recreation Facilities***

No new Rolle Bolle needed, just improve current court  
Riverside Aquatic Center will be improved.

\*=Priorities

### ***Recreation Programs/Activities***

- No indoor volleyball - League time activity Jr. High to Varsity ages. Must go to Davenport.
- More indoor court sports
- More soccer fields to serve residents on west side of Moline. Possibilities: Butterworth Trust property, overlay hospital baseball field at Stephens Park, John Deere School
- Disk Golf course
- Pop-up portable shelters for summer activities
- Continue playground program
- Continue skate park
- Wellness trails

### ***Recreation Trails - No Input***

#### **Areas for Park Acquisition & Development**

- Develop dog parks to eliminate problems in other parks\*
- Develop Rock River area for recreation to the East Moline border
- Wellness trails
- Landscape area 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Street along railroad tracks
- Harold's Landing Park

### ***Stephens Park - 19 acres***

#### **Problems:**

- Dumpster not located in good place - smells
- Playground equipment chipped and worn

#### **Wants/Needs:**

- Area for dog park on SW side\*
- Additional parking near picnic/volleyball areas\*
- Update restrooms\*
- Cover for Rolle Bolle Courts

### ***Velie Park - 3.5 acres***

#### **Problems:**

- Only one poorly maintained trash can
- Memorial plaques near new maples hidden by mulch or missing.
- No restroom facility

\*=Priorities

**Wants/Needs:**

- Power source for events
- Picnic Pavilion with 3-4 picnic tables (not near residences)
- Drinking fountain with water spigot to water plantings. Water line possibly exists from old concrete restroom structure on property.
- Create scenic overlook by clearing trees and installing short retaining wall. Add benches and pay telescopes to the overlook.
- Implement the landscaping plan starting at front of park.
- Continue to clear brush/remove stumps

**Positive improvements:**

- Clearing of brush on hillside
- Friends Group
- Landscape Plan
- Lighting of Statue has curbed vandalism to it.
- Addition of a couple of memorial maple trees.
- Working fountain/water faucet in rear of park
- More advertising of summer program
- Contract with vendors during summer baseball season
- New fence
- ADA accessible

**Positive improvements:**

- Good shelter
- Good baseball fields
- Good summer supervised activity program

\*=Priorities

***City of Moline***  
***Park & Recreation***  
**June 12, 2003**  
***Public Input Meeting #2***

**PARKS**

***Covemakers***

- Playground equipment at soccer fields
- Well by concession stand or connect into City water at soccer fields \*\*\*
- Access to new soccer fields need gravel and blacktop \*\*
- Annex area east and south of Covemaker addition into Moline \*

***Greenvalley Park***

- Expand parking for soccer/ball tournaments \*
- 60<sup>th</sup> Street/John Deere-W turn light timing needs to be longer
- Restroom facility – concession/restroom being added currently \*\*
- Restroom facilities east side of 60<sup>th</sup> Street (soccer field side) \*
- Clearing area for mosquito abatement, trail to Rock River
- Weeds need to be cut – area regarded and seeded – possibly more soccer fields
- Irrigation system for old fields
- Running water, drinking fountains near soccer club fields
- Additional soccer fields
- Indoor soccer complex \*
- ATV usage needs to be addressed! Old Greenvalley area \*
- Dog park area designated and fenced \*\*
- Parking stand moved farther in, to reduce back up of 60<sup>th</sup> Street traffic
- Kennel Road one-way access, establish alternate access/exit
- 51<sup>st</sup> one-way in, 50<sup>th</sup> one-way out
- Drainage issues east of 60<sup>th</sup> Street

***Meersman Park***

- Will become school facilities bare fields
- Possible dog park, foot trails \*
- Water faucets, drinking fountains

***Millenium Park***

- Distance marking on all trails
- Beautiful park

\*=Priorities

### ***Old Greenvalley/Veterans***

- R.V. Park, campgrounds
- Drainage issues – maintenance of drainage ditches. Rip-Rap \*

### ***Veteran's Memorial***

- Area of Veteran's needs to be enhanced \*
- Road through Veteran's needs improved!
- Maintain and improve prairie area in Old Greenvalley
- Mowing near new wetland mitigation property mowing times need to be addressed.
- Need restrooms

### **TRAILS & GREENWAYS**

- Designated ATV trails/park
- North-south connections \*
- Wayfinding to trails \*
- Signage uniformity – clarification!
- Water stops in general!
- Support facilities

### **FUTURE LAND ACQUISITION**

- Area south of MHS driving range
- Pocket parks
- Ordinance for developers to include openspace parkland for new development \*\*
- Land set aside south of Rock River
- Indoor pool facility
- Olympic sized pool
- Multi-use indoor space – climbing walls

### **FACILITIES**

- Parking
- Accessibility
- MAC – band shell
- Garden Center uses
- Activities for all ages
- Inter-generational programming
- Disc golf – Butterworth Parkway?

\*=Priorities

***City of Moline***  
***Park & Recreation***  
**June 18, 2003**  
***Public Input Meeting #3***

**PARKS**

***Browning Field/Park***

- Update playground equipment
- Connect shelter to restrooms (open area under canopy)
- Enhancements along 16<sup>th</sup> Street border
- Major drainage issue
- Maintain sand volleyball area
- Plan goals established and review approval for implementing
- Skate park floor – color coat
- Improve sign and stone wall, landscaping, flag (U.S. and park flag)
- Entrance/walkway from south – Whitey's/Country Style lot \*\*
- Rehab restroom facility

***Harold's Park***

- Sign on 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to Harold's Park \*
- Trail head location – signage
- Support facility for trail users
- West side of parking lot barrier for grass area

***Prospect Park***

- Concerts in the Park – using renovated pavilion or band shell \*\*\*\*
- Lower level of pavilion incorporate kitchen for use when rented
- Brick or landscape retainer to prohibit overflow parking next to Music Guild (parking damaging neighbors landscaping)
- Define parking near MusicGuild
- Wayfinding/signage distance markers \*
- Path asphalt – accessible for strollers \*\*
- Retention at fire pit/warming house
- Consider maintenance - edging/borders for trees and landscaping, group landscaping to concentrated areas to ease mowing
- Ice skating on pond?
- One large ice rink instead of two small ones! \*
- Encourage Adopt-a-Park participation at Prospect \*
- Utilize Adopt-a-Park members for maintenance for potential sunken garden
- Overlook at southeast side next to trail
- Mosquito abatement – aeration and chemicals

\*=Priorities

- Bat or Martin houses
- Dredging pond \*\*
- Dog park somewhere in City, possibly property that can't be used for other recreation/park amenities
- Best management practices for storm water run-off
- Permeable paving parking lot, bioswales. Landscaping by walkways along pond
- Gem of the City
- Northside buffers under equipment in playground
- Lighting added on upper side
- Incorporate 1920s period lighting throughout park
- Security lighting on Pavilion
- Park patrols at night – volunteer Neighborhood Partnership groups and Neighborhood Watch groups
- Alternatives for honorariums/memorials other than trees and benches
- Security cameras near pavilion web cams
- Update playgrounds and shelter on north
- Maintenance near Park 16<sup>th</sup> Street entrance
- Motorcross/ATV park-use
- Paddle boat, canoes, boating!

### ***Wiman Park***

- Neighbors in service area should provide input

### **TRAILS**

- Map of all existing trails
- Distance markers on trails, more cohesive signage!
- Attractive trash containers, screening buffers. Standardization!

### **FUTURE LAND ACQUISITION**

- Ordinance requiring future developers include parkland, greenways and trails. Should be desirable land. Connections to other areas of city
- Landscaping and aesthetics included with new commercial development
- Buffers between residential and commercial/industrial areas
- Leave greenspace area in potential new annexation expansion areas
- Joint cooperation with schools for use and development of park and rec space and facilities!

### **PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES**

- Promote Challenger League (young physically challenged softball league)
- Programs for new recreational opportunities i.e. cricket, rolle bolle, etc.
- Facilities available at night for burning fire pits (council ring)

\*=Priorities

***City of Moline***  
***Park & Recreation***  
**June 19, 2003**  
***Public Input Meeting #4***

**PARKS**

***Ben Butterworth***

- Traffic issues – distracted drivers – truck traffic (major issue) \*
- Entrances – maybe put turn lanes – traffic calming issues \*
- Divert truck traffic
- Pedestrian crossings
- Wider park trail \*
- Pick up after dogs – signage?
- More swings – playground equipment
- Marina on west end - Henri's property access \*
- Additional restroom facilities near QCCVB office/17<sup>th</sup> Street area
- 19<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Street relocate closer to river
- Distribution/marketing at parks and trails – brochures/info to hotels and motels \*
- Trolley tours at and from Ben Butterworth
- Partnership opportunities with hotel and parks – include park amenities in QCA brochure at airports and transportation hubs \*
- Bike/inline skates rental – possibly Sylvan Island
- Surplus police bikes brightly painted for use along trail!
- Portable concession carts – X # of permits/licenses – proposals/bids auction!

***Stephen's Square***

- Parking issues – need more
- Pedestrian access
- Success due to indoor MAC facility – available next to park; open during concerts/events
- MAC – Dad-daughter dazzle – intergenerational
- Identification needed!
- Chair rentals
- Promote night time activities more nights of the week

***Sylvan Island***

- Possible dog park site (Dog Island). Certain dog days/times – natural barrier \*\*\*\*\*
- Limited fencing required – address liability – possibly fence off-area on Island for dogs exclusively

\*=Priorities

- Issues with open tunnels on island and maintenance equipment getting to Island \*
- Hunting dogs
- Natural area
- Identify best uses for Island

### ***Sylvan Trail-Head Park***

- No hostel!
- Possibly low rates for trail-users at nearby hotels – utilize existing hotels – possibly old Stardust!
- Include hotels in area trails brochure \*
- Joint development with Rock Island
- Cut down vegetation along north bank for visibility from trail to Island
- Improve safety-perception
- Parking issues – confusing – need to be identified in developing plan
- Small building possible for dog grooming site \*
- Restroom

### **TRAILS**

- Lodging link with trails website
- Illinois hotel association/links to website for cross promotion
- Pedestrian crossings at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and John Deere Expressway – north-south pedestrian access along John Deere Road
- Sidewalks need to be connected throughout City!

### **FUTURE LAND ACQUISITION**

- Ordinance for developers to provide adequate/suitable park space
- Park space out by beltway
- Utilize airport land for park space
- Parks/greenways need to be provided in annexed area – residential areas, neighborhood parks!
- Increase zoning set-asides
- Safe/accessible destination parks for walking – pocket parks!
- Utilize residential land as passive pocket parks
- Trail provisions in annexed area
- Any new development – accommodate sidewalks and trails \*
- Bicycle park – Extreme Park Complex

### **FACILITIES**

- RV dump station at depot site
- Multi-use indoor facility
- ATV Park
- Aquatic center will include zero depth – toddler area (water playground) \*\*

\*=Priorities

### **PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES**

- Wayfinding signage

\*=Priorities

***City of Moline***  
***Park & Recreation***  
**June 25, 2003**  
***Public Input Meeting #5***

**PARKS**

***East End***

- No parking/accessibility
- Low visibility, low use!
- Use 48<sup>th</sup> Street corridor for access to park – create trail along 48<sup>th</sup>, connect to park and Ben Butterworth
- Programs to create park awareness
- Land available on north for possible acquisition and parking

***Jefferson Park***

- Youth usage has diminished – need to increase use, possible dog park
- Possibly a chip and putt golf facility or course – generate revenue \*
- Need restrooms \*
- When there are events, parking becomes a problem – signage \*\*
- Wayfinding (park location)

***Kiwanis***

- Signage, wayfinding
- Perimeter sidewalks with distance markers, wellness trails
- Accessible fishing piers on west end of Ben Butterworth – A.D.A. compliant accommodation

***Riverside Park***

- Riverside lagoon – erosion control bank/shore stabilization
- ILDNR cooperation for fishing programs and fish stocking
- Replace Garden Center/Conservatory – new building more opportunity for exhibits and programs  
\*\*\*\*\*
- Better ice skating facility – room for hockey and ice skating – maybe separate ice for each \*\*
- Likes cemetery walk – continue program
- New equipment for smaller kids – toddler and kids playground!
- Handicapped accessible playground and equipment
- Shouldn't be used to store construction equipment \*\*
- Take down fatality billboard \*\*

\*=Priorities

- LED sign for park activities
- Remove one-way designation and make streets two-ways
- More skateboard and in-line skate amenities
- Another skateboard or BMX park
- Not many parks in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> wards – makes Riverside District parks used by these residents
- Garden Area/Conservatory remain passive
- Replace trees that have fallen or been removed \*\*
- Possibly start tree nursery
- Program to replace fruit trees along boulevards – shade trees
- Accessibility for all people at all parks. All parks need to be improved for accessibility. Accessibility should be considered with any park development or upgrades
- Accessibility programming \*
- Additional restroom facilities at ballfield area
- New fenced playground
- Signage to slow traffic through park

### ***Optimist Park***

- Needs new playground equipment \*
- Wayfinding (location)
- Drinking fountains
- Combine toddler and elementary swings \*
- Shared facilities and information with schools, YMCA's, other cities, etc. \*
- Share equipment purchases
- Toddler equipment should be provided at every park
- Elementary equipment at school (Logan); toddler equipment at park
- Awareness of park locations – neighborhood and pocket parks
- Small park rental

### ***Peterson Park***

- Trees block view to river \*
- Has improved, need barriers to prevent vehicles from driving on grass (bollards along perimeter) \*\*\*\*\*
- Need to prohibit driving on grass \*
- Adopt-a-Park group policing – has significantly decreased vandalism and graffiti
- Ordinance requiring usable property set asides in new development
- Possibility to use parcel adjacent to Peterson, agreement with owner! \*\*

### **FACILITIES**

- Accessible disc golf
- Parking needed at MAC

\*=Priorities

- Indoor recreation center
- Astronomy facility (concrete pads, electricity, restrooms, walking paths) – south of airport \*
- Consistent communication between facilities and agencies for accommodation and ADA compliance \*
- Use available resources
- Collect input from and work with those who have disability or impairment

### **FUTURE LAND ACQUISITIONS**

- Work harder to preserve existing greenways – ravines and greenspace in general

### **PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES**

- Programs/services to youth and elderly for special recreation programs (programming for children and adults with disability) \*\*\*\*\*
- Mobility, seizure, vision, hearing impairments programs to address persons with disabilities )
- Possibly joint programming with East Moline, Rock Island (need programs on Illinois side – programs provided only in Davenport Q.C
- Partnerships with groups and organizations/agencies
- Certified professionals CTRS on staff or work with staff. \*\*\*\*\*
- Theater group, cooking classes – special needs programming!
- Programming guides should welcome people with disabilities and indicate programs and accommodation will be provided – educate staff on communication with people who have disabilities \*\*\*

\*=Priorities

## **APPENDIX - B**



# City of Moline Adopt-A-Park Program

## Adopted Park Plan



Park Name: Browning Park

Name of Sponsor: Verbeke Family

Contact Name: Tammy Verbeke Phone Number: 762-1012

Please use the space below to outline your Adopted Park Plan. Items included in your plan may include, but are not limited to: planting flowers, holding clean up days, painting park equipment, requesting new equipment, spreading sand in play areas, etc. Please feel free to include suggestions and recommendations you have for park improvement, and attach any additional information regarding your plans to improve your park.

*\*\*Please note that all plans require staff approval. Funding is limited. All capital projects require adequate time to be put through the City of Moline's budget process.*

New flag pole, sign + retaining wall

PAINT SKATE PARK floor + decorate with SKATING theme

New PATH + BENCHES

New shelter addition + PATIO

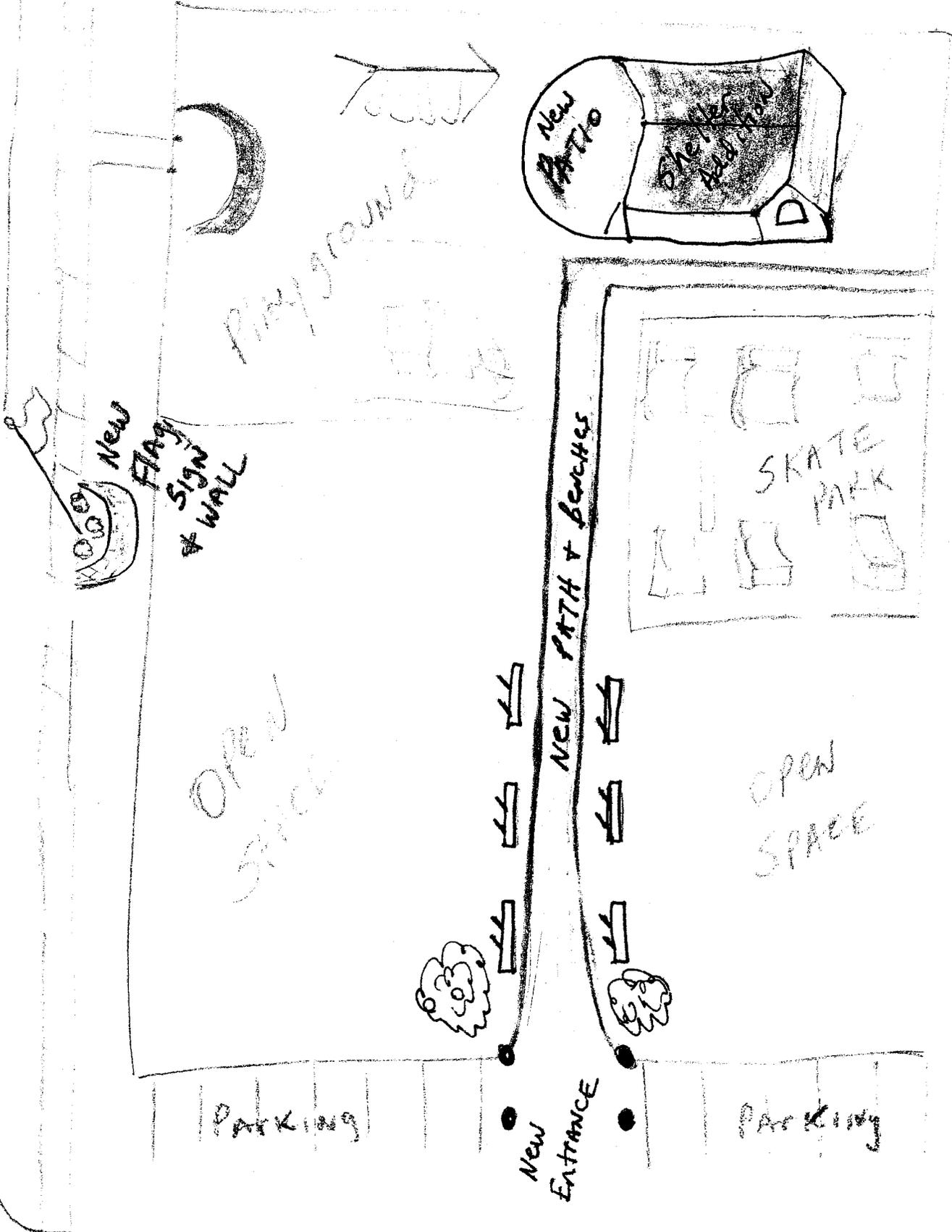
UPDATE PLAY ground equipment

PLANT MORE trees

**\*\*Please mail your completed Adopted Park Plan to:**

**Moline Park Office, Attn: Terri, 3300 Fifth Avenue, Moline, IL 61265**

12th Street



Browning Park

new style



# City of Moline Adopt-A-Park Program



## Adopted Park Plan

Park Name: BUTTERWORTH PLAYGROUND

Name of Sponsor: MOLINE LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORER POST #9330

Contact Name: OFFICER CATHLEEN HARDESTY <sup>DAYTIME</sup> Phone Number: 797-0411

Please use the space below to outline your Adopted Park Plan. Items included in your plan may include, but are not limited to: planting flowers, holding clean up days, painting park equipment, requesting new equipment, spreading sand in play areas, etc. Please feel free to include suggestions and recommendations you have for park improvement, and attach any additional information regarding your plans to improve your park.

*\*\*Please note that all plans require staff approval. Funding is limited. All capital projects require adequate time to be put through the City of Moline's budget process.*

WE WOULD LIKE TO PLANT FLOWERS, HOLD CLEAN UP DAYS,  
PAINT PARK EQUIPMENT, SPREAD SAND IN PLAY AREAS,  
FIX (OR HAVE SOMEONE FIX) FENCING AREAS THAT ARE  
DAMAGED / BENT, FIX PLAYGROUND EQUIP. OR HAVE  
SOME OF IT REPLACED. - A NEEDS ASSESSMENT NEEDS TO BE CONDUCTED)  
WE WOULD LIKE TO BUILD SOME SHELTERS FOR COVER  
OVER PICNIC TABLES. WOULD LIKE TO BUILD OR PURCHASE  
PICNIC TABLES - WOULD ALSO THEN NEED ADD'L WASTE RECEPTACLES.  
WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ASK NEIGHBORS WHAT THEY  
WOULD LIKE TO SEE DONE TO IMPROVE THE PARK / BETTER  
FULFILL THEIR NEEDS.

*\*\*Please mail your completed Adopted Park Plan to:*

*Moline Park Office, Attn: Terri, 3300 Fifth Avenue, Moline, IL 61265*



# City of Moline Adopt-A-Park Program

## Adopted Park Plan



Park Name: Peterson Park

Name of Sponsor: Pals of Peterson Park

Contact Name: Don Fey Phone Number: 764-2514  
(762-4561 alt)

Please use the space below to outline your Adopted Park Plan. Items included in your plan may include, but are not limited to: planting flowers, holding clean up days, painting park equipment, requesting new equipment, spreading sand in play areas, etc. Please feel free to include suggestions and recommendations you have for park improvement, and attach any additional information regarding your plans to improve your park.

*\*\*Please note that all plans require staff approval. Funding is limited. All capital projects require adequate time to be put through the City of Moline's budget process.*

1. Remove maple tree at east side of entrance to the park.
2. Install "Peterson Park" sign, viewable to traffic coming up 8<sup>th</sup> Ave (similar to the one at the Garden Center)
3. Thin the woods around the pavillion, esp on the west side.
4. Install "fixed" binoculars at pavillion to view river & Hampton Dam (similar to the one on the Arsenal)
5. Install posts around parking lot every 5', with one "removal" for authorized traffic.
6. Add slide to playground equipment.
7. Continue spring & fall clean-up.
8. Increase police traffic at night (already great @ daytime)
9. Plant flowers at new entrance sign & around entrance & park.
10. "Recognition" sign mounted between the entrance & the toilets.
11. Remove all stumps from grass area.
12. Move "attractive" & varmit-proof refuse containers.
13. "clearing" the inside corner at 36<sup>th</sup> St & 8<sup>th</sup> Ave and 36<sup>th</sup> St & 7<sup>th</sup> Ave should be done every year.

*\*\*Please mail your completed Adopted Park Plan to:*

(over)

Moline Park Office, Attn: Terri, 3300 Fifth Avenue, Moline, IL 61265

**Moline Adopt a Park list of ideas for McCandless/Hidalgo Park (2/18/03)**

New playground equipment with composite ground cover for  
Juveniles (slides, gym, swings, carousel)  
Toddlers (swings, slides, gym)

Water fountains and trash cans

New sidewalk and steps/ramps for accessibility to shelter

Lower level accessible rest room

Improvement of soccer/baseball field (grading, seeding, placement of soccer goals)

Perimeter lighting

Fix restrooms for privacy and safety

Fix and/or replace fencing, especially at openings

Picnic benches in open areas

Permanent seats in designated areas

Paved parking lot

Cooking grills

Submitted by  
Terry Stimpson, KeyStone Neighborhood Association  
Ramon Rosales, Hidalgo Adopt-A-Park Group

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **Seeding** - grass & flower seeding
2. **Fence Repair**
3. **Signage** - hours and regulations; gender specification for toilet doors; English/Spanish/Braille
4. **Playground Equipment** - Accessible for children with disabilities, including appropriate ground surface to accommodate children who use walkers/wheelchairs
5. **Trash Containers** - new containers throughout park to accommodate trash; and ones designated to hold charcoal
6. **Water Fountains** - including access to faucet that will hold a hose connection for irrigation of flowers by volunteers; designated areas for fountains include near current pavilion, playground area and baseball/soccer field
7. **Outdoor Grills** - none currently in park, people bring their own
8. **Baseball/Soccer Field** - ground surface improvement
9. **Lighting** - improvement near parking lot, baseball/soccer fields/ playground and toilet areas
10. **Walk Pathways/Trails** -- grading of terrain to improve pathways for ADA compliance
11. **Steps** - current cement and railroad board steps are hazardous and need replacement and modification to accommodate people with disabilities
12. **Accessible Toilets** - none exist; perhaps this accommodation could be included in the design of a pavilion at a lower and more accessible site within the park

- 13. Concrete Floor at Current Pavilion - needs repair; about a one inch separation exists which is hazardous**
- 14. Parking Lot - ground surface improvements & lighting needed and should include appropriate designated parking slots to accommodate vehicles/vans used by people with disabilities**
- 15. Safety Communication System - similar to that used on college campuses and highways; a phone system with access to local law enforcement agency for emergency use**



Adopted Park Plan for 2003/04 –Moline Conservatory Center, Inc.

Our primary goal is to effect the replacement of the Conservatory. Toward that end we will continue setting aside the profits from our plant sales which also help to beautify residents yards..

Secondary is to continue to maintain the gardens contiguous to the Garden Center, the Ruth Pieper Memorial Hosta Bed, the bed at the entrance driveway off the Avenue, and with proper support, redo the rock garden abandoned by the Moline Horticulture Society.

Our mission is to educate. This is presently achieved through the displays, plant sales and answering questions by our Master Gardeners. We continue to work toward labeling the collections and maintain a small library of reference material at the conservatory.

We plan to continue to add volunteers to our group by meeting both during the day and evening on Wednesdays. We will weed and offer plants for sale during those times as well.

We hope to develop a plant bank in the former rose garden bed to preserve stock which would be destroyed during demolition and construction. We need to identify a similar space so we can do the same with shade plants and have a bed prepared.

When the trees are removed at the top of the rock garden, two of our members plan to redo it. They will need replacement stock.

Our President who maintains the hosta bed would like it extended to the West so as to be able to add new varieties. (This was the first public hosta collection in the Quad Cities)

We would also like to add new grasses to that collection and will need assistance thinning out some of the present stands. We are adding to the perennial collection and will need a machine to help dig up roots of invasive ivy.

We will also continue to pick up litter while we are there and water our plants in the Conservatory on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

#### NEEDS:

The driveway bed needs a retaining wall on the N and W sides. Then fresh soil.

Accessible hose connections on the West, East and North sides of the Garden Center.

Check between buildings for wasp nests.

Annual plants for front of building and the edge of the West grass bed.

100 lbs. of 10/10 fertilizer for the hosta bed and gardens. Quality bark for mulch.needed for the hosta bed the end of May.

Maintain piles of mulch and top soil at South edge of parking lot.

Help making signs for our plant sales which we would post around town as well as the two we requested last year to hang on entrance signs..

#### SUGGESTIONS

We would like to see a paved path from the South end of the parking lot to the Conservatory door and the European Bird Cherry/Swedish Hagg Tree replaced.

The new greenhouse as soon as possible.

Install drive from picnic area to parking lot in advance of new building. This would correct a longstanding exit problem and make it easier access for the builders.

**From:** "House, Doug" <DHouse@moline.il.us>  
**To:** "Doug DeLillie (E-mail)" <ddelille@bistateonline.org>  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 10, 2003 10:52AM  
**Subject:** FW: city park improvement / Master Plan

Doug, I am forwarding the comments of our Stephens Adopt A Park Organization that will be unable to attend the public input meeting for Stephens Park. Please include these comments with the others that you receive for Stephens Park.  
Thanks,  
Doug House

-----Original Message-----

From: Kaufman, Terri  
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2003 9:18 AM  
To: Hand, Milt; House, Doug  
Subject: FW: city park improvement

Milt and Doug,

I spoke yesterday with Bill Fisher, President of the Center for Belgium Culture (AAP Sponsors of Stephens Park). He is unable to attend the Stephens Park District Input meeting, and unable to find a substitute to represent him and the AAP group. However, he did send me the following email regarding improvements he would like to suggest for Stephens Park Rolle Bolle Courts. I told him I would pass it along for the input meeting.  
Thanks!

--Terri--

-----Original Message-----

From: william fisher [mailto:stpatgm95@tworiversmassage.com]  
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2003 11:02 PM  
To: tkaufman@moline.il.us  
Subject: city park improvement

Ms. Kaufman; I would like to acquaint you with the game of ROLLE BOLLE, This skilled contest is played by men, women, & kids in this area for over a hundred years. The game was brought to this country by the Belgian immigrants and was first played in barnyards on Sunday afternoons by the men..... women & kids were strictly prohibited from participation. As the Belgian population increased, so did the game. In time the barnyards could not contain the number of bolders who wanted to play. This resulted in the forming of the United Bolders Clubs of Western Ill. Today there are eleven clubs that make up the league. Four of these clubs have a home in Moline. Three of these organizations are based in the Belgian community in the 7th str. area- the Center for Belgian Culture, the Friends Circle Club, and the Belgian Village Inn. The playing field for these three clubs is the courts located in Stephens park. Other contests staged at Stephens include games sponsored by the 7th str. Olde Towne Assoc., the Daily Dispatch, a special game promoted by Shawn!Karen Manning,( Belgian Village owners ), and a summer season league , held on Weds. nites. In addition to these tournaments there are games played at Stephens throughout the outdoor season by picnickers, family reunions, etc. The gist of this letter is to inform you

that a little bit of rain severely impedes the progress of the tournament. While the games do continue( in the rain, mud, & so on) it sure makes for a miserable experience. And, there are no rain dates! The year's schedule is arranged in March and every available Sunday (league games) is booked. No other day of the week is accommodating for league play. So, we play on Sunday, rain or shine. This soggy situation could be largely eliminated if the courts at Stephens had a court-wide canopy, or roof covering the playing field. Hundreds of people (most not from Moline) would be very appreciative for this addition to the public courts. This also would help to preserve and promote this challenging game as well as to help maintain a little bit of Belgian culture.... culture the stuff that so richly embellishes this country. Thank you very much for your efforts to improve Moline's green spaces.

Bill Fisher  
1227 4th Street  
Moline IL 61265  
309-764-8068

**CC:** "Kaufman, Terri" <tkaufman@moline.il.us>, "Patty Pearson (E-mail)" <ppearson@bistateonline.org>



# City of Moline Adopt-A-Park Program



## Adopted Park Plan

Park Name: Guide Stearns Park

Name of Sponsor: MAC members

Contact Name: Linda Olvera Phone Number: 797-0789

Please use the space below to outline your Adopted Park Plan. Items included in your plan may include, but are not limited to: planting flowers, holding clean up days, painting park equipment, requesting new equipment, spreading sand in play areas, etc. Please feel free to include suggestions and recommendations you have for park improvement, and attach any additional information regarding your plans to improve your park.

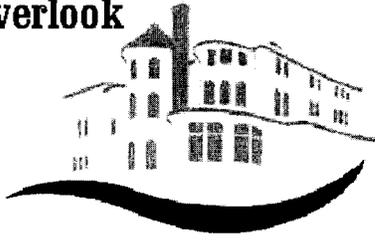
*\*\*Please note that all plans require staff approval. Funding is limited. All capital projects require adequate time to be put through the City of Moline's budget process.*

- plants weeded better than last year
- put mulch down
- Rose bushes need to be manicured (clipped better) Covered during winter
- small garden (vegis)
- put a fish pond out there
- ~~put a fish pond out there~~ - bird baths
- more picnic tables
- more lights for dance
- if we can't get picnic tables - more benches.

**\*\*Please mail your completed Adopted Park Plan to:**

Moline Park Office, Attn: Terri, 3300 Fifth Avenue, Moline, IL 61265

# Overlook



## Historic Neighborhood

### Our Mission:

To promote the Overlook Historic Neighborhood as a desirable, safe neighborhood to live. To educate the public on the historical significance of the area. To promote the convenient proximity to Downtown Moline amenities and new development.

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To: Milt Hand, Director Parks & Recreation Department  
Rodd Schick, Park Operations & Maintenance Manager  
Doug House, Municipal Services General Manager  
From: Overlook Historic Neighborhood Association  
Date: June 11, 2003  
Re: Stephens Park District Public Input Meeting

Park Name: Velie Park  
Contact Name: Tony Castro  
Phone Number: 797-4292

OHNA suggestions for park improvement, in order of importance

- 1) Install a drinking fountain and water spicket in the front area of the park.  
The drinking fountain would provide a place for the people to get a drink while using the park facilities. The water spicket would enable volunteers to easily water plants installed in the landscaping plan.
- 2) Create scenic overlook area on the lower flat area of the park  
At the North end (6<sup>th</sup> Avenue).  
A scenic overlook, similar to Prospect Terrace Park in Davenport, would provide Sweeping views of Downtown Moline, including the Mark, John Deere Commons, and the I-74 bridge, as well Davenport and Bettendorf. Velie Park could become a must see destination for tourists and residents alike in the Quad-Cities to take in the breath taking view.

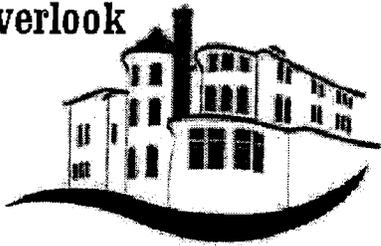
An overlook area was included in a proposed landscaping plan presented February 26, 2003 in the Overlook Historic Neighborhood Association Adopted Park Plan.

The following would need to be done to create the scenic overlook area:

- A) Clear any trees obstructing the views.
  - B) Install a short retaining wall to keep people from venturing down the steep hill.
  - C) Install benches for people to sit while enjoying the view.
  - D) Install telescopes people could pay to use
- 3) Two pavilions placed in the park.  
The pavilions could be rented to **generate income** from the park. 3-4 picnic tables could be placed in each of them.

- 4) Implement landscaping plan submitted by OHNA in phases, starting with front area of the park.
  
- 5) Continue clearing overgrown brush and removing selected trees on the East hill. Remove any stumps to make the hillside easier to maintain. This project was started last year by the Park Department. The result of their work was a dramatic improvement in the appearance of the front area of the park.
  
- 6) Access to power source for events in the park. Maybe some exterior receptacles could be installed on the bottom of the light poles.

## Overlook



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---

To: Terri Kaufman  
From: Tony Castro, President, Overlook Historic Neighborhood Association  
Date: February 26, 2003  
Re: Adopted Park Plan

Park Name: Velie Park  
Name of Sponsor: Overlook Historic Neighborhood Association  
Contact Name: Tony Castro  
Phone Number: 797-4292  
Placement of  
Adopt-A-Park Sign: On the east side of the old stone fence post on the east side of the park.

### OHNA Plan:

- 1) Hold a clean up day Saturday, April 26.  
Coordinate the event with Park Department and contact other groups to participate in the clean up.
- 2) Work with the City of Moline to implement enclosed landscaping plan.
- 3) Continually monitor the park to keep it free of litter.

### OHNA suggestions for park improvement:

- 1) Continue clearing overgrown brush and removing selected trees on east hill, remove any stumps to make maintaining the hillside easier.  
This project was started last year by the Park Department. The result of their work was a dramatic improvement in the appearance of the front area of the park.
- 2) Install a drinking fountain.



# City of Moline Adopt-A-Park Program

## Adopted Park Plan



Park Name: WIMAN (MISS PATTIE'S) PARK, 3550 8TH ST

Name of Sponsor: CRIME STOPPERS OF THE QUAD CITIES

Contact Name: DETECTIVE SCOTT WILLIAMS Phone Number: 797-0449

Please use the space below to outline your Adopted Park Plan. Items included in your plan may include, but are not limited to: planting flowers, holding clean up days, painting park equipment, requesting new equipment, spreading sand in play areas, etc. Please feel free to include suggestions and recommendations you have for park improvement, and attach any additional information regarding your plans to improve your park.

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1. PLANT AND MAINTAIN FLOWERS

2. GENERAL CLEAN-UP EACH MONTH OR AS NEEDED

3. PAINTING OF PICNIC TABLES AND THE SHED

4. WEEDING OF SAND IN PLAY AREA AND SPREADING OF NEW SAND

5. CLEAN BUGS OUT OF SECURITY LIGHT AND SCRUB TRASH CANS (2)

GOALS: 1. KEEP PARK VERY CLEAN

2. FLOWERS, FLOWERS, FLOWERS!

3. PURCHASE AND PLANT TREES ON NORTHEAST SIDE OF PARK

***\*\*Please mail your completed Adopted Park Plan to:***

***Moline Park Office, Attn: Terri, 3300 Fifth Avenue, Moline, IL 61265***



**Moline Little League will be hosting the 2004 Little League Illinois State Tournament at the Warren Giles Riverside Diamonds.**

**Current Projects:**

- **Concession Stand**
- **Pavilion**

**Future Projects:**

- **Rest Rooms**
- **New Play Ground Equipment**
- **Lights for Diamonds 3 and 4**

**Differences between Dad's Club and Little League**

**We provide our own:**

- **Ag-lime**
- **Sugar Clay**
- **Turf**
- **Fertilizer**
- **Maintenance Cost including tractor, fuel and labor to maintain the fields.**
- **Plus we spent in excess of \$100,000 to build new diamonds over the past 10 years**

**What we need:**

- **Six picnic tables for the new pavilion.**
- **\$1,200.00 to offset half the cost to add new wiring and to and bring the existing electrical wiring in concession stand to code.**
- **Like you to take a look at what we need to do to enlarge the existing restrooms and to allocate the money that is needed.**



# *Moline Soccer Club*

*Spring 2003*



**Statistics:**      **Founded in 1978; 2002 2003 Season - 847 youth from ages 4 – 14 years old; 84 teams; 1,176 games**  
**Season: Fall – August thru October; Spring – March thru May, Summer Camps – June & July**

**Club Assessment:**      **Comments:**

## Fields

Existing fields	Need to be regraded, irrigated and reseeded, Removal/thinning of trees on south end, Fencing on the south end
New fields	Ready no later than Fall '04, Additional fields need to be developed (North)

## Facilities

Restroom	Rent Porta-Johns, need permanent facilities
Running Water	No access to date
Parking Lots	Need more parking space developed with gravel and blacktop (east/west)
Road Access	East end, need gravel and blacktop
Shelter	None,
Lighting	None, need security lighting, need field lighting for expanded use
Storage facilities	Limited, 12 x 12 shed, need larger storage facility
Concession	Limited, no running water, limited space
Picnic Tables	Poor condition
Walkways	None, need to develop
Indoor	None, closest available is the former Marycrest college – one field

## Equipment

Goal Posts	Need goal posts for new fields (portable) & additional goal posts for training Need padding for all goal posts
Kicking Boards	None, need for training purposes
Player Benches	None, need for teams
Bleachers	3 available, need additional for existing and new fields
Flags	Self-made, need new flags with spring

## Maintenance Equipment

Gator	None, would support field maintenance and development
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***P.O. Box 1200, Moline, IL. 61265***  
***www.molinesoccerclub.com***

Doug DeLille

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From: "Thompson, Glenn" <gthompson@shscares.org>  
To: "ddelille@bistateonline.org" <ddelille@bistateonline.org>  
Date: 6/25/2003 2:09 PM

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June 25, 2003

The Honorable Stan Leach  
Mayor  
City of Moline

Dear Mayor Leach,

I am writing in support the hiring of Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists (CTRS) staff for the City of Moline Parks and Recreation Department. Individuals with these credentials possess the knowledge and skill that assures success in designing and implementing special recreation interventions for the city. Rising to the task of appropriately meeting the diverse needs within a community is very challenging. The inclusion of the qualified individuals (CTRS credential) on your staff maximizes the inclusive opportunities for all of Moline's citizens.

My understanding is that this initiative has potential to be completed as collaboration and in partnership with other area Parks and Recreation Departments, as well as, area businesses and organizations for sharing financial responsibilities. This approach may be helpful in addressing the transportation needs and barriers that frequently prevents persons with special needs from accessing community programs.

As the President of the American Therapeutic Recreation Association I am well aware of the benefits that can be delivered under the direction of an individual who is a CTRS. Diverse Recreation Therapy services provided by a certified therapeutic recreation specialist is capable of meeting the needs of the Illinois Quad-City community.

If we can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact our Association.

Sincerely,

G.T. Thompson, M.Ed., CTRS  
President

cc Milt Hand, Director of Moline Parks and Recreation  
Doug DeLille - Senior Planner/Trail Coordinator Bi-State Regional  
Commission  
Stacia Carroll, CTRS

Message containing VBS/SHS/KAK attachments found.  
This message contained attachments that have been blocked  
by Guinevere. Please see your system administrator for  
more details

## **APPENDIX - C**

## MECHANISMS FOR PARK AND RECREATION FUNDING

### **Potential Funding Methods -**

The following discussion attempts to analyze the ways in which the various financial methods can be used to implement the plan. Actual use in the future will depend on the projects and programs being pursued.

#### **a. Current Revenues**

The main advantage of financing park and recreation improvements from current revenues is that it is less expensive in the long run, because interest charges can be eliminated. Financing from current revenues is the most appropriate when expenses are of a recurrent nature, which unfortunately is not the normal situation in the area of park and recreation development.

#### **b. Borrowing**

In some cases, deficit financing can be used to finance acquisition of land and construction of recreation improvements. The sale of bonds to be paid back with future revenues can provide for the construction of recreation facilities in those instances where existing needs exceed current revenues. In addition, bond financing provides equitable means by which the cost of park and recreation facilities can be shared by both present and future users. The disadvantage of financing recreation improvements with the sale of bonds is the amount of potential funds lost in the payment of interest charges.

#### **c. Grants-In-Aid**

To aid local governments and private individuals in the development of recreation and open space areas, the federal and state governments have instituted various financial assistance programs. Some programs that the City may wish to apply to include the following:

**Transportation Enhancement Program** - A federal program initially established under the 1991 Federal Highway Bill, commonly referred to as the Transportation Enhancement Act. Ten percent of highway funds were set aside to fund "Enhancement" projects. These projects include bicycle/pedestrian facilities, preservation of historic transportation corridors and buildings, and beautification to roadway corridors. The majority of the Quad City bike trails have been funded to some degree with these funds. Both previous Transportation Enhancement programs, ISTEA and TEA-21 have required a 20% non-federal match. TEA-21 expired October 1, 2003. A new six-year program is currently being debated in Congress. Once signed by the Administration funding opportunities should once again be available.

**National Recreational Trails Program (RTP)** - The Federal "Recreational Trails Program" (RTP) provides up to 80% funding assistance for acquisition, development, rehabilitation and maintenance of both motorized and non-motorized recreation trails. Eligible applicants include federal, state and local government agencies and not-for-profit organizations. Eligible project costs include: Acquisition from willing sellers of trail corridors by means of easements or fee simple title; trail construction and rehabilitation; construction of trail related support facilities and amenities such as trailhead parking,

restrooms, rest areas, signage, etc.; restoration of areas adjacent to trails damaged by unauthorized uses. March 1st is the deadline date for submitting applications to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR) who administers the program in Illinois.

**Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) & Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**

– The State’s “open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Program and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) provide funding assistance to local government agencies for the acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and open space. Projects vary from small neighborhood parks or tot lots to large community and county parks and nature areas. Both programs provide funding assistance up to 50% of approved project costs. Maximum grant awards are currently limited to \$750,000 for acquisition projects, while development/renovation projects are limited to \$400,000.

Applications are evaluated and prioritized for funding assistance based upon recreation priorities and criteria identified in the Department’s Statewide Outdoor Recreation Partnership Plan (SORPP). Examples of eligible OSLAD/LWCF projects include: Acquisition of land for new park sites or park expansion, water frontage, nature study, and natural resource preservation. Development/Renovation of: picnic and playground facilities; outdoor interpretive facilities; sports courts and playfields; swimming pools, beaches and bathhouses; campgrounds and fishing piers; winter sports facilities; park roads and paths, parking, utilities and restrooms; and architectural/engineering (A/E) services necessary for proper design and construction of approved project components. Written applications for both the OSLAD and LWCF programs must be submitted to IDNR between May 1st and July 1st of each calendar year, with grant awards typically announced by December or January. A single application receives consideration under both programs. Only those local government agencies having statutory authority to acquire and develop land for public park purposes are eligible to apply for and receive OSLAD/LWCF assistance.

**Illinois Bicycle Path Program** - The Illinois Bicycle Path Grant Program was created in 1990 to financially assist eligible units of government acquire, construct, and rehabilitate public, non-motorized bicycle paths and directly related support facilities. Grants are available to any local government agency having statutory authority to acquire and develop land for public bicycle path purposes.

Financial assistance up to 50% of approved project costs is available through the program. Maximum grant awards for development projects are limited to \$200,000 per annual request; no maximum exists for acquisition projects. Eligible project costs include: linear corridor land acquisition costs, including associated appraisal fees; and bicycle path development or renovation including site clearing and grading, drainage, surfacing, bridging, fencing, signage, and directly related support facilities such as potable water and restroom facilities.

Applications for grant assistance must be received by IDNR between January 1st and March 1st of each calendar year. Grant awards are generally announced within six months following the application deadline date.

**Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) recreation Trails Program** – The State OHV program provides financial aid to government agencies, not for profit organizations, and individuals to develop, operate, maintain, and acquire land for off-highway vehicle parks and trails that are open and accessible to the public.

Entities other than governmental bodies seeking financial assistance through the grant program must possess minimum liability insurance coverage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence on facilities operated under the scope of the proposed project application. Eligible project costs include: land acquisition from willing sellers for OHV trails and scramble areas; construction, rehabilitation, maintenance, and necessary design services for OHV trails/routes and scramble areas; restoration of areas damaged by OHV usage; rider education and safety programs; and necessary facility security. Funding up to 100% of approved project costs is available. The application deadline is March 1st of each year.

**Open Lands Trust Program** – The Open Lands Trust (OLT) Program is authorized for a four year period beginning FY 2000 to provide grant funding assistance on a competitive basis to eligible local units of government for the acquisition of land from willing sellers for public conservation, open space and natural resource-related recreation purposes. Funding assistance up to 50% of eligible project costs, or 90% for agencies qualifying as “economically disadvantaged”, is available through the program. The maximum grant award for any single project is \$2.0 million annually. A conservation easement shall be conveyed to IDNR for all property acquired with OLT assistance. The deadline date for submitting applications to DNR for this program is publicly announced each year. (NOTE: Currently the DNR is NOT accepting applications for the OLT program. The program is being considered for reinstatement and is being revised.)

**Boat Access Area Development Program** – The State Boat Access Area Development Program, financed with revenues derived from marine motor fuel tax and boat/canoe registration fees provides financial assistance to local government agencies for the acquisition, construction, and expansion/rehabilitation, including necessary A/E services, of public boat and canoe access areas on Illinois’ lakes and rivers. Examples of eligible project activities include: water frontage land acquisition for public access areas; and new construction or renovation of: boat/canoe launching ramps and courtesy docks; restrooms and security lighting; parking areas, access roads and walkways; and other boating related facilities deemed appropriate by IDNR.

The program provides up to 100% of approved project construction costs and 90% of approved land acquisition costs. Grant awards are limited to a \$200,000 annual maximum per project. Applications for grant assistance must be received by IDNR between July 1st and September 1st of each calendar year. Awards are typically announced the following spring.

**Other Grant and Technical Assistance Programs** - The State of Illinois provides many other grant and funding assistance programs through a variety of state agencies including, but not limited to, Department of Water Resources, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Public Museums and additional programs through the Department of Natural Resources and Department of Transportation. Information on grant programs and funding opportunities is

available by contacting any of these agencies. The information may also be available via the internet at agency websites.

#### **d. New Development/Subdivisions**

Consideration of adequate and desirable park lands, as a high priority attribute for the City at the onset will provide lasting benefits for the community and its posterity. Working cooperatively by establishing a clear dialogue with developers of planned or proposed new projects will ensure viable park areas, greenway/trail connectivity and pedestrian accessibility are a primary element of any development plan.

#### **e. Gifts and Trusts**

Another method for financing the development of the park and recreation system is through donation of land or money and endowments. Use of trusts is an additional method for financing the acquisition, improvements, and maintenance of park and recreation facilities. Trust funds and endowments play an important role in providing park and recreation facilities in various communities across the nation.

#### **f. Other Potential Sources**

There are some other possible sources for funding park and recreation acquisition and/or development projects. These include but are not limited to, area service clubs, area wide support groups, not-for-profit organizations, and foundations. The use of volunteers can be important in maintaining a viable park and recreation system. The City should also consider cooperative use, development and maintenance of parks, which border adjacent cities and the county. Cooperation between the City of Moline and Rock Island on Sylvan Island and the trailhead park across the slough will ultimately serve areas of two communities without duplicative development. This same camaraderie is demonstrative of McCandless Park. The Friends of McCandless and Adopt-A-Park group in Moline have worked with the Hildalgo Neighborhood Association in Rock Island for the betterment of the park and communities it serves. Millennium Park was successfully completed through a cooperative venture with East Moline and the assistance of many volunteer laborers and donations. A joint venture is now underway to connect Moline's Kiwanis Trail and a new bike /pedestrian trail to Ben Williamson Park in Rock Island with the West Rock River Bridge separated bike/pedestrian accommodations. The potential exists for the City of Moline to continue in these efforts and work with other adjacent communities to provide shared park and recreation amenities. Ultimately this will save both jurisdictions money while still providing adequate and necessary recreation facilities.

## **APPENDIX - D**

## CITY OF MOLINE PARK AMENITIES MATRIX

Location/Park Type	Size (Acres)	Picnic Area/Shelter	Play Area	Baseball/Softball Field	Soccer Field	Tennis Court	Basketball Court/Hoops	Ice Skating Area/Warming House	Natural/Passive Area/Sanctuary	Recreation/Fitness Trail	Restrooms	Volleyball Courts	Cricket Field	Boat Launch/River Access	Fishing Area/Piers	Radio Controlled Flying Field	Concessions	Fire Ring	Sled Hill	Scenic Overlook/Vistas	Observation Deck/Look Out	Pool/Aquatic Center	Greenhouse/Gardens	Horseshoe Pits	Rolle Bolle Courts	Recreational Backstop	Skateboard Park	Gazebo	Informational Kiosks	Pond/Lagoon	LL Baseball Field	Recycling Facility
<b>COMMUNITY PARKS</b>																																
Ben Butterworth Memorial Parkway	16.0	22	2						1	1	2			1	2																	
Greenvalley Park/Complex (Covemakers, Veterans/ Old Greenvalley)	350	1	1	10	9				2		3		1	2		1	3															
Prospect Park	25.0	1	1	1			1	1/1	1		2							1	1	1	2											
Riverside Park	55.0	2	2			1		1/1	1		3	1			2		1			1		1	1						1		1	5
Stephens Park	19.0	1	1	2			1	1/0	1		3	1						1							16	1						
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3/2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>																																
Browning Playground	2.8		1								1	1									1						1					
Butterworth Playground	1.9		1																													
East End Park	2.5	1	2			1					1															1						
Harold's Landing	4.5								1		1			1														1				1
Jefferson Park	23.7	1	1	3					1																							
Karstens Park	1.7		2	1			1																									
Kiwanis Park	1.0	1	1	1																												
McCandless Park	5.9	1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1																					
Meersman Park	4.5								1																							
Millennium Park	9.5	3	1						1	1	1																					
Optimist Park	1.0	1	1																													
Peterson Park	15.0	1	1						1		1										1	1										
Stephen's Square	.8								1														1									
Sylvan Island	36.0								1	1					3					1	2								1			
Sylvan Island Trail-Head Park	2.8								1																							
Velie Park	3.5								1												1											
Wiman/Miss Patti's Park	5.5	2	1						1		1																					
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>122.6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>					<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>587.6</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3/2</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>