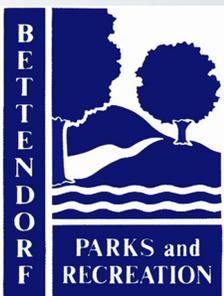
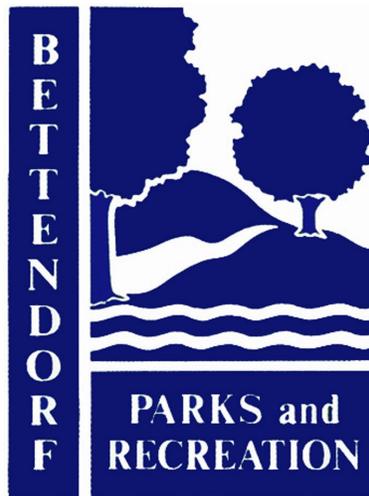


# Bettendorf Park and Recreation Master Plan

*October 2008*





# Bettendorf Park and Recreation

## Master Plan

Approved by the  
City of Bettendorf Park Board

*October 2008*

Prepared by:



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# Introduction

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This Master Plan contains eight sections.

1. Section One covers the background and purpose of the Master Plan. Section One will provide the basic goals and objectives of the plan and the coverage area the document will focus upon.
2. The "Natural Characteristics" section will concentrate on the geographic and natural make-up of the City of Bettendorf. This second section will cover the areas of topography and drainage, climate, geology, soils, vegetation, and wildlife.
3. Demographic characteristics and trends are outlined in Section Three. This section will focus on population characteristics and trends and provide projections and forecasts for the future demographic make-up of Bettendorf. It provides useful and informative comparison data of Bettendorf to the adjacent communities and the surrounding area. It also includes data on education and income among residents in Bettendorf and a sub-section on factors that need to be considered when determining the need for recreation space.
4. The fourth section covers the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards and the various ways they are used for determining park and recreation space needs.
5. The fifth section outlines existing park and recreation facilities. The section includes maps of the existing parks and current amenities with a list of recommended goals specific to each park/facility. Recreation programs and activities are also covered in this section.
6. Section Six is a needs analysis of those who utilize park and recreation facilities.
7. Section Seven discusses guidelines to be considered when planning for the acquisition and development of future park land/s. This section identifies and prioritizes areas within the community for acquisition of needed park land and recreation space.
8. The eighth and last section highlights general policies and issues when implementing park and recreation facilities. This section will cover the goals and priorities for the park and recreation system that the City of Bettendorf will consider over the next 5 to 15 years. This section also contains the conclusion to this master plan.

Throughout this document the terminology active recreation and passive recreation will be utilized, following is a brief description of those terms. A menu of potential active recreation facilities includes play structures, court games, "informal" (i.e. non-programmed) playfield or open space, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe area, ice skating area, wading pool, activity room. Facilities for passive activities include internal trails (that could connect to the greenway system), picnic/sitting areas, general open space, and "people watching" areas.

## SECTION I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

---

The City of Bettendorf, Iowa is located on the northern bank of the Mississippi River within the Quad City Metropolitan Area. Bettendorf's population grew to over 31,000 residents according to data from the 2000 Census.

Unlike the majority of communities within the Quad City Metropolitan area, the City of Bettendorf has and continues to see steady growth. Consequently, it is also receiving increasing pressure from residents for enhanced community services; recreation is one of many services the City can provide to its citizens.

The nation has become increasingly more aware of the need for recreation, outdoor leisure activities, and exercise. The City of Bettendorf strives to follow this national trend. In this pursuit, the City has requested the assistance of the Bi-State Regional Commission staff in preparation of a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to ensure that adequate park 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.

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. The public participation process also involved the use of a detailed phone survey, which allowed randomly selected Bettendorf residents to comment on a wide variety of park and recreation related questions. (The results of the public meetings and the phone survey are included in the appendix to this plan.)

Several additional steps were undertaken prior to the final adoption of this master plan as a working document. Officials of the Bettendorf Park Board along with administrative staff of the Parks and Recreation Department were provided draft copies of the plan for review. Revised draft copies were then made available to the public for comments. The final draft was then presented to the Park Board at a public hearing prior to its approval and acceptance as a working master plan.

### ***Basic Goals***

To provide adequate, desirable, and accessible park and recreation opportunities to the citizens of Bettendorf in a cost-effective manner.

1. To establish consistency between Bettendorf's Comprehensive Park and Recreation Master Plan and other local, regional or state plans.
2. To set aside land and protect natural resources for existing and future citizens of Bettendorf.
3. To enhance the physical beauty and quality of life for the City of Bettendorf.

## Section I

### ***Objectives***

Secure the amount of land needed in the City in the appropriate locations and at the most cost-effective price.

1. The parks and recreation amenities, facilities and programs are to be accessible to all ages and to the special needs population within the City.
2. The facilities should provide adequate recreational opportunities based on the needs and desires of Bettendorf residents.
3. The facilities, amenities and activities must be cost-effective in terms of acquisition, development and maintenance.
4. At a minimum, neighborhood parks should be located within a one-quarter mile radius of residential areas in the City (attention given to restrictive barriers such as major streets and ravines or creeks) thus creating a series of neighborhood parks pleasant and accessible to pedestrians.
5. With acquisition of new park lands, consideration will be given to the preservation of sensitive and natural areas such as wetlands, prairies and significant tree stands. Provisions will be sought to protect natural resources, manage wildlife habitats, control erosion, incorporate education opportunities, and to preserve general aesthetic appeal when possible.
6. An assessment of current and future park and recreational needs for residents of Bettendorf will be conducted on an annual basis.
7. The acquisition and development of recreational facilities on the riverfront or other viable properties available to the community.

### ***Coverage Area***

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

### ***Relationship with Surrounding Area***

All planning efforts involving Bettendorf must recognize the City's relationship with the larger community of Davenport and the other communities in the Quad City Metropolitan Area. Because there is a common border with Davenport, inter-jurisdictional use of existing facilities is commonplace. One of Davenport's largest parks (Duck Creek Park) is located immediately across Kimberly Road from Bettendorf and is utilized by many Bettendorf residents. Conversely, Meier Park, a neighborhood park in Bettendorf, is located in close proximity to Davenport and is used by Davenport citizens. Furthermore, Scott County Park, a large regional park operated by the County, is located a few miles north of Bettendorf and is used by people throughout Scott County.

## SECTION II. NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS

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### ***Topography and Drainage***

There were numerous glaciations that created the topography of Scott County. The oldest glaciations are collectively termed Pre-Illinoian. The Pre-Illinoian was followed by the Illinoian glaciation in the eastern portion of Iowa. The native rock material of the County is buried under glacial till which was overlain at varying depths with windblown loess after the retreat of the glaciers.

The major topographical feature in Scott County is the Mississippi 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 route through the Quad Cities in an east-west direction when westward moving ice lobe blocked the eastern flow of the Mississippi River. 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.

A distinctive depositional feature of Scott County is the hilly area in the northwest part of the county stretching from Mud Creek to the Mississippi at Princeton, Iowa. Contained in this area are boat-shaped hills and long narrow ridges running from northwest to southeast. The composition of these hills and ridges are Eolian (windblown) sand and silt and ice-molded glacial debris referred to as "the Paha". The remainder of Scott County is level to gently rolling with the stream valleys becoming deeper and the slopes increasingly pronounced as the valleys approach the Mississippi and Wapsipinicon Rivers.

Another feature of Scott County topography is the drainage network. The northern portions of Scott County drain into the Wapsipinicon River, which eventually flows into the Mississippi River. The southern portions of Scott County drain into the Mississippi River via streams and creeks. Major waterways in the Bettendorf area of Scott County include Duck Creek, Crow Creek, Pigeon Creek, and Spencer Creek, along with lesser streams and tributaries. These waterways serve as drainage systems for the upland regions of Bettendorf and more fully, Scott County. The largest drainage system or watershed in the Scott County area is associated with Duck Creek. However, Crow Creek drains the majority of the City of Bettendorf.

### ***Climate***

The climatic characteristics of the City of Bettendorf can best be described as temperate continental with a wide temperature range throughout the year. Periods of hot, humid

## **Section II**

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 occur during the winter. Average snowfall is 30 inches per year while the median temperatures are around 25°F.

The region's 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% of which usually falls the month of April through the month of September. The growing season is 154 days between May 15th and October 15th.

### **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, gullying and landslides, pollution of shallow well water supplies, and sinkhole occurrences. In addition the availability, quality, and quantity of ground water supplies and the potential for future recovery of mineral resources should be known to determine the land most suitable for park and recreational development.

The sedimentary bedrock units present in Bettendorf evolved from deposition of sediments in shallow seas which covered Iowa during several geologic periods of time spanning hundreds of millions of years. Underlying the entire region is approximately 500 million-year-old bedrock of the Cambrian and Ordovician periods. The bedrock closest to the surface in Bettendorf can be classified into one general type – the Middle Devonian – this type covers the area south of Interstate 80 throughout Scott County.

### **Soils**

Soils in Bettendorf were formed by three main forces attributed to the results of glacial and post-glacial activity. The three forces include: glacial drift, alluvial (water deposited) action, and windblown or 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 bluff in Bettendorf. Alluvial deposits are found along the river lowlands, while glacial drift materials are located mainly in the upper northern part of the community.

### **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 corporate limits as well as the surrounding area of Bettendorf have been used and is still being used for agricultural production with corn and soy beans being the dominant crops.

## **Wildlife**

There are a large variety of species, types, and numbers of wildlife found in the vicinity of Bettendorf. 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 song birds 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 Scott County Iowa, 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 Eagles are a federally protected species through the Bald Eagle Protection Act, which prohibits the take, transport, sale, barter, trade, import, export, and possession of eagles. Other wildlife that is protected by the Endangered Species Act in the area are the; Higgins eye pearlymussel (endangered), Sheepnose mussel (candidate) and the Spectaclecase mussel (candidate).

The Iowa Department of Fish and Wildlife has elevated the list to include Lake Sturgeon, Red-shouldered Hawk, Pistolgrip, Western Sand Darter Butterfly, Grass Pickerel, Orangethroat Darter, River Otter, Squawfoot, and Ornate Box Turtle.

## SECTION III. DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND TRENDS

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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***

The City of Bettendorf has a high percentage of people 54 years of age or younger. Data shows that 44.9% of the population is between 25 and 54 years of age. This is similar to the age distribution for all of Scott County and the State of Iowa. The next largest age cohort is residents 19 years of age or younger at 28.6%.

The median age in the City increased from 34.8 years in 1990 to 38.7 years in 2000. This corresponds to the national trend of an aging population. The median age in Bettendorf is 3.3 years older than the median age of 35.4 in Scott County and 2.1 years older than the State of Iowa's median age of 36.6 years.

Gender populations have remained stable over the last 10 years with the female population remaining at 51.5% of Bettendorf's total population from 1990 to 2000.

In 2000, the City had a relatively small minority population accounting for 5.0% of Bettendorf residents. This is considerably less than the 11.5% minority distribution in Scott County and is approximately 1% less than the 6.0% compilation of the State of Iowa.

In 2000, there were 12,474 households in Bettendorf, an increase of 17.0% over 1990. The number of persons per household decreased from 2.62 in 1990 to 2.48 in 2000. The number of families increased from 1990 by 9.7% totaling 8,714 families in 2000. During the same period, the average number of persons per family declined from 3.09 in 1990 to 3.01 in 2000.

### ***Trends and Forecast***

The population of the City of Bettendorf has increased dramatically since 1950. The population exploded between 1960 and 1970 with a 110% growth rate, more than doubling the population from 10,534 to 22,126. This population increase was uncharacteristic of the Bi-State region for the same time period. Population growth slowed during the 1980's, this was common throughout the region and is attributed to a recession which occurred during this time period. Bettendorf experienced only modest growth of 2.7% during this time, while the population of Scott County witnessed a decrease of 5.5% for the same period. The 1990 Census showed Bettendorf with a

### Section III

population of 28,139. A special Census taken in Bettendorf in 1996 reported the population at 30,878. The 2000 Census identified 31,275 residents in Bettendorf, which is an 11.1% increase from 1990. The 2005 population estimates show a further increase to 31,890 for Bettendorf. Through linear, regression analysis of Census data a population forecast of 45,394 persons is estimated for 2020.

**Table 1**  
**Comparison of Population Change**

<b>Population Changes</b>	<b>1980</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Percent Change 1990-2000</b>
<b>Scott County</b>	160,022	150,979	158,668	5.0%
<b>City of Bettendorf</b>	27,381	28,139	31,275	11.1%

Source: 2000 Census Bureau

### ***Income and Educational Attainment***

The City of Bettendorf's median family income (two or more related individuals) increased 42.4% from \$46,770 in 1990 to \$66,620 in 2000. Comparatively, Scott County's median family income was \$52,045 in 2000. Bettendorf families with incomes between \$35,000 and \$49,999 was 14.8%, 26.2% had incomes in the range of \$50,000 to \$74,999, and 41.6% had a median family income of \$75,000 or greater in 2000.

In 2000, Bettendorf's labor force contained 16,721 persons — 9,151 (54.7%) were male. There were 7,376 persons between the ages of 16 and 64 who were not in the labor force, 4,937 (66.9%) were females. Over 21% of the labor force was employed in education and health and social services in 2000, 17.3% were in wholesale or retail, and 16.9% were in manufacturing.

In 2000, there were 8,661 residents of Bettendorf, three years of age or older, enrolled in school. Of those students, 18.8% were enrolled in college while the rest were enrolled in pre-primary, elementary, or high school grades. Bettendorf's private school enrollment was 5.0% of the total population as compared to the 23.0% public school enrollment. The 2000 Census indicates 2.1% of Bettendorf residents 25 years or older have less than a 9th grade education, 22.9% are high school graduates, 23.1% had some college but did not obtain a degree, 7.8% have an associate's degree, 25.7% have a bachelor's degree, and 13.2% have a graduate or professional degree. The levels of educational attainment have increased from the 1990 Census to the 2000 Census in all categories except those having less than a 9<sup>th</sup> grade education and those with associate's degrees.

## Recreation Considerations

Studies on leisure time activities indicate that there is a correlation between the amount of disposable income and educational attainment with the demand for the type of leisure activities. Considering median age, age distribution, income and educational attainment, it is expected that high quality recreational opportunities will be needed to meet the demands of all age groups in the City of Bettendorf. The population of Bettendorf is expected to grow at a significant rate. This will increase the pressure on the Park Board to maintain and provide a full range of recreational opportunities and facilities. Refer to Table 2 & 3 for a breakdown of demographic figures and statistics.

**Table 2**  
**Income and Education Figures**  
**City of Bettendorf**

<b>INCOME and EDUCATION</b>		
<b>2000</b>		
	<b>Bettendorf</b>	<b>Scott County</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b><u>Dollars</u></b>	<b><u>Dollars</u></b>
Median Household Income	\$54,217	\$42,701
Median Family Income	\$66,620	\$52,045
<b><u>Educational Attainment</u></b>	<b>Number of Residents (% of Population)</b>	<b>Number of Residents (% of Population)</b>
Persons 25 Years of Age or Older	20,963 (67.0%)	102,149 (64.4)
Less than 9th Grade	446 (2.1%)	4,440 (4.3%)
High School Graduate	4,804 (22.9%)	31,372 (30.7%)
Some College, No Degree	4,832 (23.1%)	23,780 (23.3%)
Associate Degree	1,638 (7.8%)	7,610 (7.4%)
Bachelors Degree	5,378 (25.7%)	17,069 (16.7%)
Graduate or Professional Degree	2,760 (13.2%)	8,339 (8.2%)

Source: 2000 Census

**Table 3  
Demographic Statistics  
City of Bettendorf**

**Population Trends**

1950.....	5,132
1960.....	10,534
1970.....	22,126
1980.....	27,381
1990.....	28,139
1996.....	30,878
2000.....	31,275
2005.....	est.31,890

CENSUS YEAR	1990	2000
<b>Households/Families</b>		
Number of Households	10,663	12,474
Number of Families	7,941	8,714
Average Household Size	2.62	2.48
Average Family Size	3.09	3.01
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	13,635 (48.5%)	15,180 (48.5%)
Female	14,497 (51.5%)	16,095 (51.5%)
<b>Age Group Distribution</b>		
Under 5 Years	1,910	1,924
5 to 19 Years	6,616	7,016
20 to 24 Years	1,442	1,368
25 to 44 Years	9,358	8,756
45 to 54 Years	3,563	
55 to 59 Years	1,270	1,771
60 to 64 Years	1,147	1,264
65 to 74 Years	1,738	2,040
75 Years and Over	1,088	1,838
Median Age	34.8	38.7
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin</b>		
White	27,233	29,715
Black	386	494
American Indian and Alaskan Native	49	67
Asian	271	444
Hispanic or Latino Origin of any race*	606	772

\*Data from Census 1990 not directly comparable to data from Census 2000.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 1990 and 2000

## SECTION IV. PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

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National standards are one way in which a community may compare their current parks and recreation facilities to those of other similar communities. The purpose of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) 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 utilizing the standards of the NRPA deviations may occur to the standards to reflect community desires.

The Bi-State Regional Commission completed an inventory of existing outdoor park and recreation facilities within the corporate limits of Bettendorf. The location of each area was identified and facilities open and available to the public 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 acquisition, and may be seen on Table 6.

### ***National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) 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, 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 Bettendorf 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.

### City of Bettendorf Comparison to National Standards

The national standard used for years by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA) recommends a minimum of ten (10) acres of park land per 1,000 population. This means the City of Bettendorf should have at least 312.7 acres of public park and recreation space based on its 2000 Census population. Currently, with the exclusion of Palmer Hills Golf Course, the city provides 561.1 acres of varied public open space and recreation facilities to its residents.

**Table 4  
Standards by Classification and Population Ratio  
Recommended by the National Recreation and Park Association**

Classification	Acres/ 1000 Pop.	Desirable Size Range	Service Area	Bettendorf Comparison
Mini-Parks	.25 - .5 acres/ 1000 pop.	2500 sq. ft. - 1 acre ( $<5$ acres total)	$< \frac{1}{4}$ mile	Bettendorf is currently served by 6 parks
Neighborhood Parks	1 - 2 acres/ 1000 pop	5 – 15+ Acres	$\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile	Bettendorf is currently served by 9 parks
Community Parks	5 – 8 acres/ 1000 pop	20 - 50 Acres	$\frac{1}{3}$ to 3 Miles	Bettendorf is currently served by 5 parks
Large Urban Parks	Variable – no set standard	50- 75+ Acres	Within $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. Drive Time	Bettendorf is currently served by 1 park
Special Areas & Facilities	Variable – no set standard	Variable - depending on specialized use	Variable – usually within communities	Palmer Hills Golf Course; Duck Creek Parkway & Trail; Mississippi River Trail (MRT); Community Cntr., Life Fitness Cntr.

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

**Mini-Parks** – Mini-parks may serve targeted groups such as senior citizens only, children only, or all age groups, depending on the needs in the neighborhood. Typically, mini-parks are between 2,500 square feet to 1 acre in size. However, park areas less than 5 acres would technically be considered a mini-park. In a residential setting, vest-pocket parks serve the same general purpose as mini-parks and tot-lots. Tot-lots are small areas intended for children up to six or seven years of age residing in close proximity. Features may include children's play areas, quiet game areas, landscaping, and some sports activities such as multi-purpose courts, if space allows. Although these parks often include elements similar to those found in neighborhood parks, there are no specific criteria to guide their development. Mini-Parks typically are located within walking distance of the intended service area 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 five and twenty 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 five to thirteen 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 half 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.

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

Section IV

**Table 5**  
**Comparisons of Existing Park & Recreation**  
**Amenities in Bettendorf to NRPA Standards**

<b>Amenity</b>	<b>National Standard/Pop</b>	<b>Existing in Bettendorf</b>	<b>Need/Pop 31,275 (2000)</b>	<b>Need vs. Standard for Bettendorf</b>
Baseball Diamonds	1 per 6,000	14	6	Community adequately served
Softball Diamonds	1 per 3,000	8	11	Community adequately served
Tennis Courts	1 per 2,000	5	16	Community adequately served if utilize school facilities
Swimming Pool (50M)	1 per 20,000	1 - (50m) Outdoor 1 - (25m) Indoor	2	Other available Indoor pool facilities: Bettendorf H. S. 1-(25m) pool Pleasant Valley H.S. 1-(25M) pool
Community Center	1 per 25,000	1	2	Community adequately served
Outdoor Theaters	1 per 20,000	1 bandshell	2	Community not adequately served
Golf Courses (18 holes)	1 per 25,000	Palmer Hills	2	Community adequately served when including privately owned courses
Basketball Courts	1 per 500	11 (indoor/outdoor)	64	35 (indoor/outdoor offered by school districts)
Playground Facilities	1 per 1,000	18	32	Community is adequately served
Soccer/Football Fields	1 per 4,000	8-10	8	Approximately 14 additional facilities available at schools
Outdoor Ice Rink	1 per 2,500	1	13	Community is not adequately served

Sources: (1) National Recreation and Park Association Guidelines 1996; (2) Site Inventory

## SECTION V. EXISTING PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES

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### ***Park and Recreation Facilities Inventory and Coverage Area***

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.

**Map 1** provides an illustration of existing park facilities within Bettendorf.

**Map 2** 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 and amenities provided as additional variables in determining service area for each existing park and recreation facility. For example, Crow Creek Park, Devils Glen Park, Middle Park, and Veterans Memorial Park are large and diverse enough to serve the entire community, but also provide sufficient amenities to serve as neighborhood parks.

### ***Summary of Individual Park Goals***

Individual park goals and a prospective time frame have been established for guidance in implementing the proposed improvements. Maps for each park accompany the respective narrative portions.

Section V

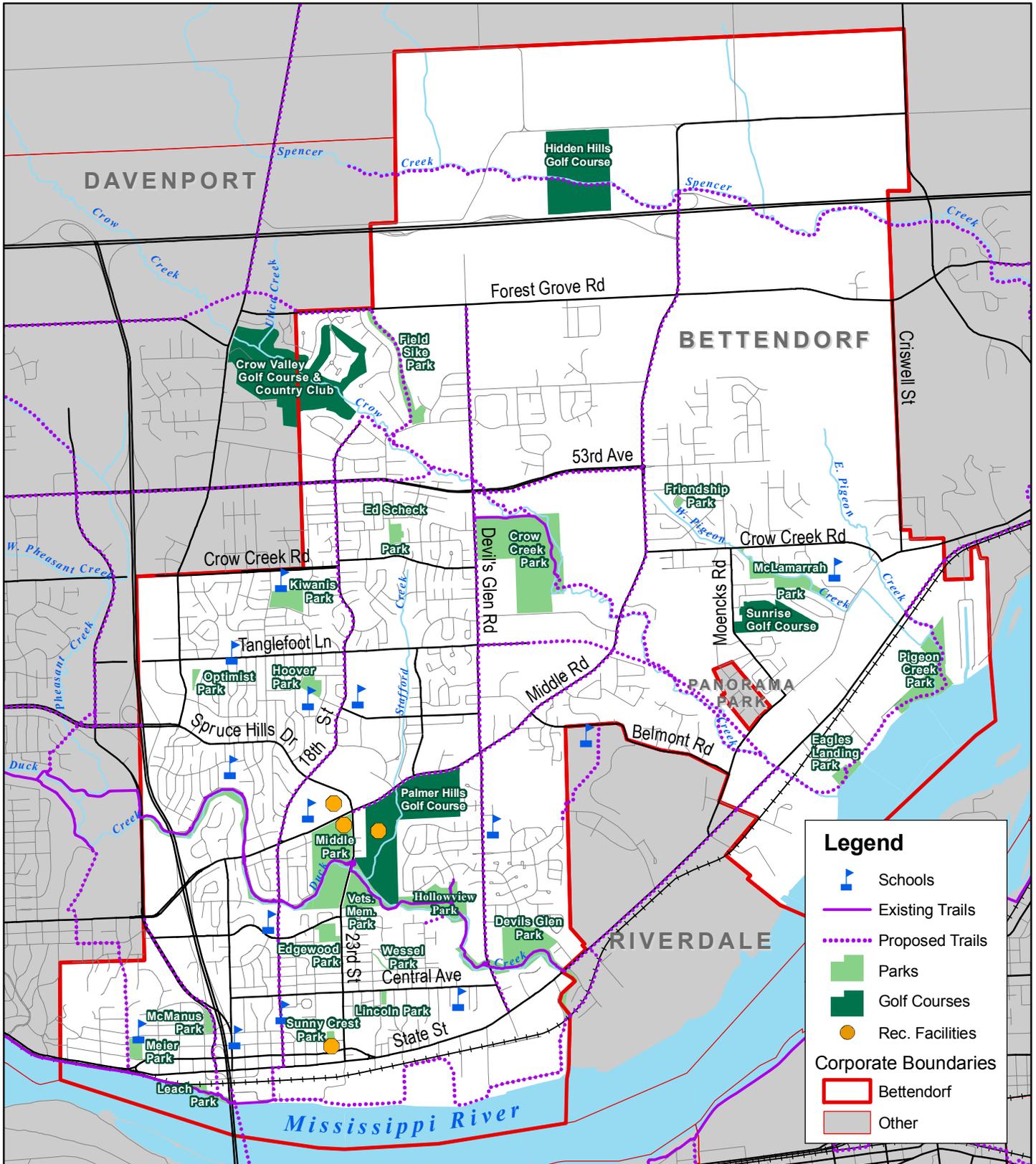
**Table 6  
Existing Park and Recreation Facilities**

<b>PARK/FACILITY NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMENITIES</b>	<b>ACREAGE</b>
Crow Creek Park	4800 North Devils Glen Road	Softball; Baseball; Soccer; Flag Football; Basketball Courts; Playgrounds; Picnic Shelters; Restrooms; Grills; Concession Stand; Open space; Natural areas; Quarry Pond; Fishing piers; Scenic overlooks; Interpretive Hiking trails; Cross-country trail; Recreation/Multi-use trail; Skate Park; Dog Park; Gazebo; Parking	134.0
Devils Glen Park	1101 Devils Glen Road	Large wooded area; Open space; Baseball; Archery Range; Disc Golf; Picnic Shelters; Grills; Playground, Restrooms; Multi-use trails; Duck Creek; and Parking	43.9
Duck Creek Parkway	Davenport to Riverdale	Multi-use trail (5.95 miles)	103.0
Eagles Landing Park	2731 62nd Street Court	Boat Launch; Courtesy dock; Shelter; Gazebo; Open space; Walking trails; Restroom; Parking	7.1
Ed Scheck Park	4792 Mayfield Drive	Playground; Baseball; Shelter; Restroom; Storm water detention basin	5.9
Edgewood Park	1400 23rd Street	Tennis courts; Playground; Shelter; Restrooms; Baseball; Parking	7.5
Field Sike Park	Field Sike Drive & Marynoel Avenue	Playground; Restrooms; Walking trails; Linear greenway; Parking	14.7-greenway 5-park
Friendship Park	5038 White Post Rd.	Sand volleyball; Playground; Shelter; Open space	1.4
Hollowview Park	1700 Sun Valley Dr.	Playground; Multi-use trail; Shelter; Open space; Parking	35.9
Hoover Park	3223 South Hampton	Playground; Shelter; Baseball; Tennis; Open space; Restrooms; Soccer	6.9
Kiwanis Park	4223 Greenbrier	Baseball/Softball; Tennis; Basketball; Playground; Sand play area; Walking paths; Shelter; Restroom; Parking	13.1
Leach Park	100 12th Street	Boat launch; Courtesy dock; Gazebos; Picnic shelters; Plaza area; Fishing piers; Multi-use trail; Outdoor art; Information kiosk; Restroom; Parking	5.7
Lincoln Park	951 27th Street	Playground; Basketball; Shelter; Walking path; Open space	1.7
McLamarrah Park	4100 Pinebrook Lane	Passive greenway; Pond; Natural area; Nature trails	19.3
McManus Park	1200 Mississippi Blvd.	Playgrounds; Multi-use court; Walking paths; Shelters; Flower garden; Restroom; Parking	3.9
Meier Park	601 Holmes Street	Playground; Baseball/Softball; Tennis; Shelters/Gazebo; Walking paths; Restroom; Parking	6.1
Middle Park	2407 Middle Road	Playground; Shelters; Pond; Ice Skating; Restrooms; Warming house; Grills; Multi-use trail; Aquatic center; Fishing; Baseball; Disc golf, Centennial gardens; Open space; Parking	45.7
Mississippi River Trail (MRT)	Davenport to Leach Park	Multi-use trail (Approximately 1 mile)	Approx. 6.0
Optimist Park	1130 Belair Road	Playground; Shelter; Grill; Open space	2.2
Pigeon Creek Park	6729 Marigil Lane	Native woodlands & grasses; Trails; Scenic overlook; Fishing; Gazebo/shelters; Restroom; Parking	43.0
Sunny Crest Park	2204 Grant Street	Playground; Shelter; Basketball; Open space	1.3
Veterans Memorial Park	1645 23 <sup>rd</sup> Street	Playground; Softball; Soccer; Sand volleyball; Disc golf; Sledding; Multi-use trails; Pavilion/shelter; Bandshell; Military veterans memorial; Restrooms; Parking	47.0
Wessel Park	2720 Oak Street	Passive greenway; Bio-swales & Rain gardens	.8
Palmer Hills Golf Course	2999 Middle Road	18-hole Golf Course, Driving Range, Clubhouse/Restaurant, Picnic Shelter; Restrooms	131.0
Life Fitness Center	2222 Middle Park	Basketball; Tennis; Lap Pool; Cardiovascular Room; Weight Rooms; Locker Rooms; Saunas; Running Track; Aerobics; Office Space; Lounge; Nursery	N/A
Community Center	2204 Grant Street	Gymnasium; Volleyball; Basketball; Administrative and Clerical Offices; Locker Rooms; Meeting Rooms; Kitchen Facility; Community Food Pantry; Flower Garden	N/A

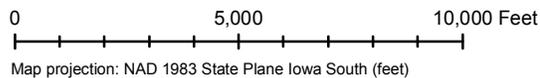
Source: Site Inventory

# Existing Parks and Trails

City of Bettendorf, Iowa

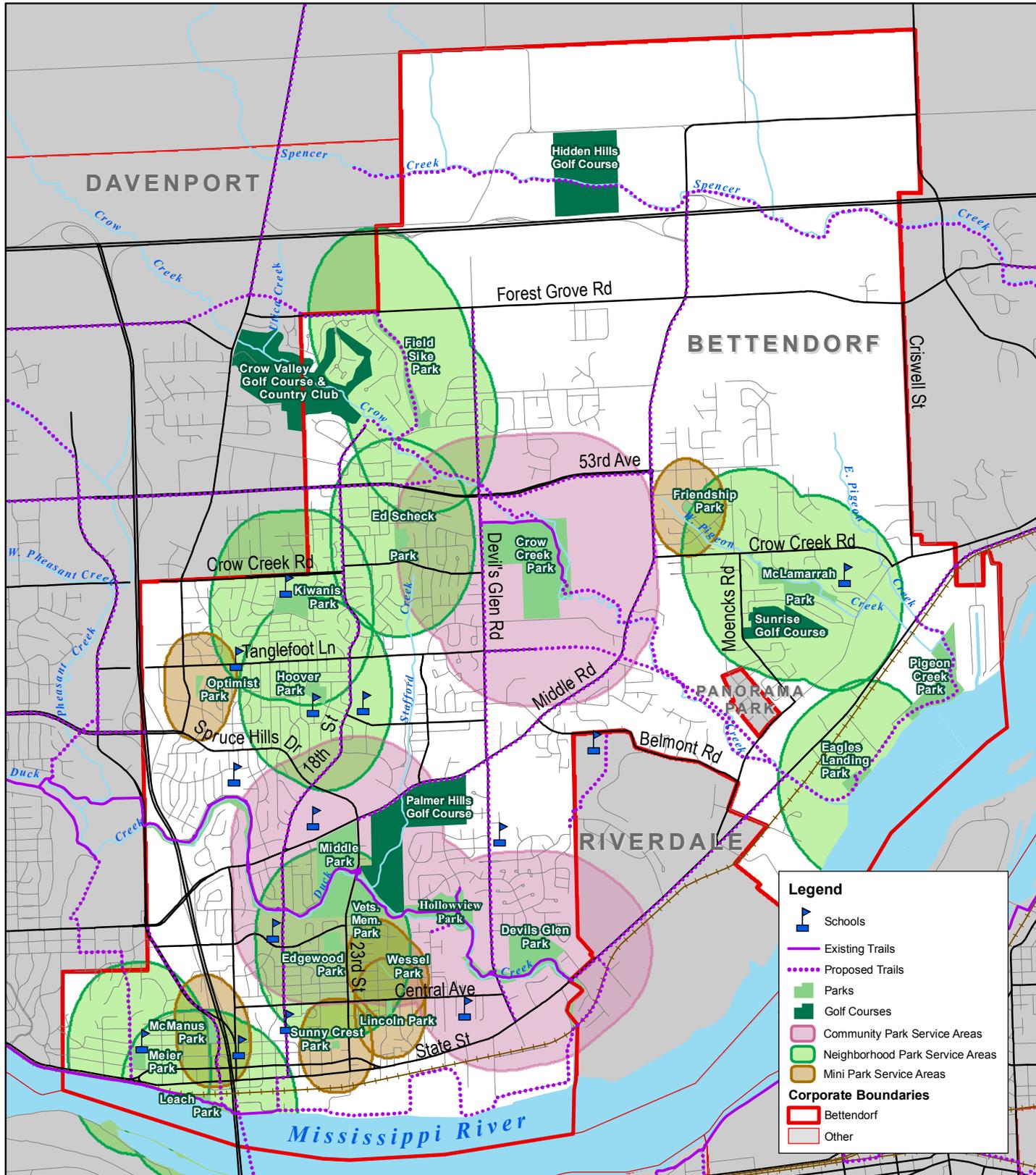


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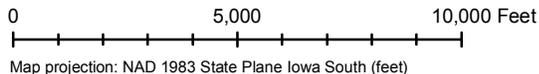


# Service Areas

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Prepared by:



# Crow Creek Park

**Section V**

**Crow Creek Park**  
4800 North Devils Glen Road

<b>Park Size:</b> 134.0 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 11 – Ball fields (5 Lighted); 3 to 5 – Soccer Fields; 2 – Flag football fields; 7 – Picnic Shelters (Grills); 2 – Playgrounds; 4 – Restrooms; 11 – Drinking Fountains; Passive/Open Space; Quarry Pond; Fishing pier; Walking/Interpretive Trails; Multi-use Recreation Trail; Cross Country Trail; Concession Stand; 2 – Basketball Courts; 1-Skate Park; 1-Dog Park; Gazebo; 3 – Scenic Overlooks; Parking (Approximately 300 vehicle capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and promote winter uses/activities</li> <li>• Install batting cages</li> <li>• Consider adding more lights to the ball fields</li> <li>• Install sun &amp; foul ball protective covering(s) over the bleachers at the 4-diamond ball field complex</li> <li>• Renovate playground by the Devil’s Glen Road park entrance</li> <li>• Install new playground equipment at the four-plex (addressing various age groups and ability levels)</li> <li>• Consider adding more restrooms</li> <li>• Develop multi-use trail connections</li> <li>• Consider Volleyball Courts</li> <li>• Continue development of the Crow Creek Recreation Trail to Middle Road and Field Sike Park</li> <li>• Develop a plan to install nature trails in the northeast quadrant of the park once access is available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider an archery range/skills course</li> <li>• Add an outdoor ice rink or a convertible ice skating to roller hockey/inline skating rink</li> <li>• Determine the feasibility of developing a miniature golf course (fee-based)</li> <li>• Consider installing new electronic scoreboards</li> </ul>

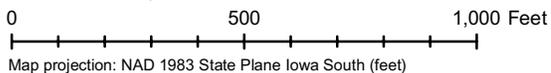
# Crow Creek Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Prepared by:



# Devils Glen Park

**Section V**

**Devils Glen Park**  
1101 Devils Glen Road

<b>Park Size:</b> 43.9 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Baseball Field (Lighted), 1 – Indoor Archery Range, 4 – Picnic Shelters (Grills), 1 – Playground, 2 – Restrooms (1 Accessible), 4 – Drinking Fountains, 1 – Disc Golf Course, Passive/Open Space, Parking (Approximately 110 vehicle capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement a tree management program to include interpretive signs and additional trees</li> <li>• Enhance natural aspects of the trail through the park and work on improving native plantings</li> <li>• Construct an additional shelter</li> <li>• Add more park benches/sitting areas</li> <li>• Institute traffic calming measures to reduce speeds</li> <li>• Provide directional signage</li> <li>• Add amenities along multipurpose trail</li> <li>• Resurface roadway</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider re-use or removal of old stone structures</li> </ul>

MAP 4

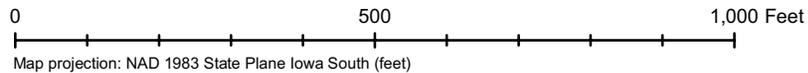
# Devils Glen Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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# Duck Creek Parkway

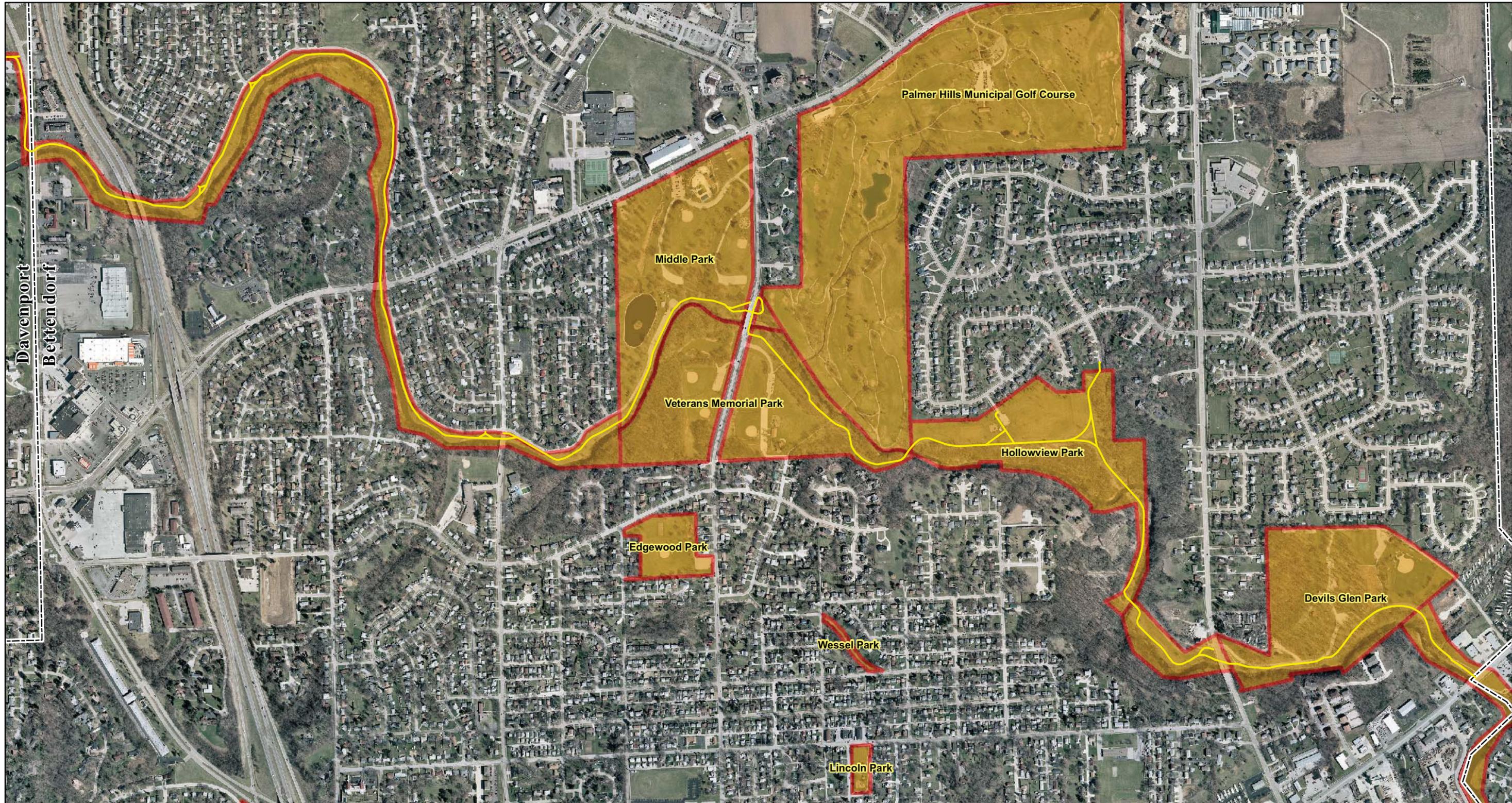
**Section V**

**Duck Creek Parkway**  
Davenport to Riverdale

<b>Park Size:</b> 103.0 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> Multi-use Trail (5.95 miles)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue Erosion Control Practices (also long-term goal)</li> <li>• Incorporate Native Grasses and Plants (also long-term goal)</li> <li>• Install Benches along Older Sections of Parkway</li> <li>• Add Signage Identifying the Parkway</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue Erosion Control Practices (also short-term goal)</li> <li>• Incorporate Native Grasses and Plants (also short-term goal)</li> </ul>

# Duck Creek Parkway

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf  
0 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet  
Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:  
  
October 2008

# Eagles Landing Park

**Section V**

**Eagles Landing Park**  
2731 62nd Street Court

<b>Park Size:</b> 7.1 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Boat Launch Area; 1 – Courtesy Dock; 1 – Shelter; 1 – Gazebo; Walking Trails; 1 – Restroom; Passive/Open Space; Parking (Approximately 20 vehicle capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase depth (dredge) boat access area and extend courtesy docks</li> <li>• Expand boat-trailer parking area</li> <li>• Improve shoreline aesthetics (explore alternatives to rip-rap)</li> <li>• Add seating and viewing areas</li> <li>• Improve directional signage to the park</li> <li>• Provide additional picnic tables</li> <li>• Resolve conflict between boaters and fishers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct a fishing pier</li> <li>• Extend trails in the park capitalizing on scenic views</li> </ul>

# Eagles Landing Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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0 150 300 Feet

Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:



# Ed Scheck Park

Section V

**Ed Scheck Park**  
4792 Mayfield Drive

<b>Park Size:</b> 5.9 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities</b> 1 – Playground; 1 – Baseball Field; 1 – Shelter; 1 – Restroom; 1 – Drinking Fountain; Passive/Open Space; Parking (Approximately 30 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Add park benches/social seating areas</li><li>• Install covers on the dugouts</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Upgrade Playground Equipment</li><li>• Plant additional trees</li></ul>

# Ed Scheck Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Parcel data from City of Bettendorf

0 150 300 Feet

Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



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Bi-State  
Regional Commission  
October 2008

# Edgewood Park

**Section V**

**Edgewood Park**  
1400 23rd Street

<b>Park Size:</b> 7.5 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Tennis Court; 1 – Playground; 1 – Shelter; 1 – Restrooms; 1 – Baseball Field; 1 – Drinking Fountain; Passive/Open Space; Parking (Approximately 50 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install pet clean-up stations and encourage picking-up after pets</li> <li>• Evaluate options for the tennis court area</li> <li>• Install an interior park path connecting 23<sup>rd</sup> Street to Lincoln Road and the ball field</li> <li>• Convert the existing full-length basketball court to accommodate half-court use</li> <li>• Resurface Basketball Court</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade playground equipment</li> </ul>

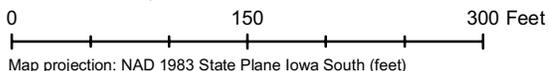
# Edgewood Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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# Field Sike Park

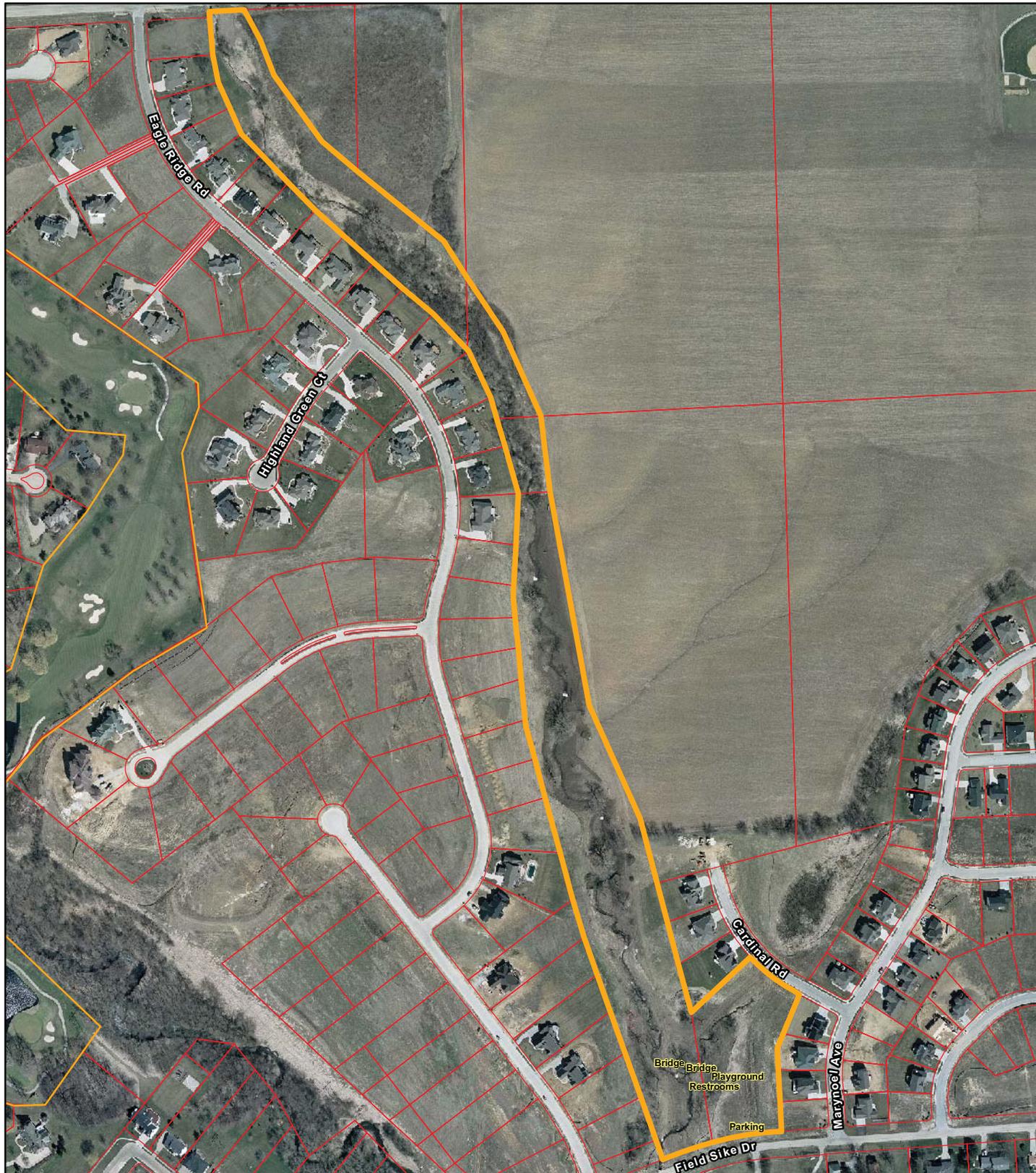
**Section V**

**Field Sike Park**  
Field Sike Drive & Marynoel Avenue

<b>Park Size:</b> 19.7 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Playground; 1 – Restroom; Greenway and natural area	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Install Interpretive signs</li><li>• Improve the greenway by establishing and maintaining native plantings and re-seeding</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop a recreational trail connecting Field Sike Drive to Forest Grove Road</li><li>• Plant Trees</li><li>• Expand greenway development to the upper portion of the Cardinal Creek Corridor</li><li>• Install benches and other suitable trail/greenway amenities</li></ul>

# Field Sike Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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0 500 1,000 Feet

Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



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# Friendship Park

**Section V**

**Friendship Park**  
5038 White Post Road

<b>Park Size:</b> 1.4 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Sand Volleyball Court; 1 – Playground; 1 – Shelter; Passive/Open Space	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider installing waterless restroom</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Renovate the playground</li></ul>

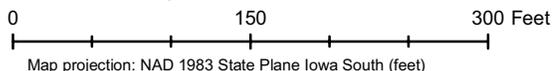
# Friendship Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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# Hollowview Park

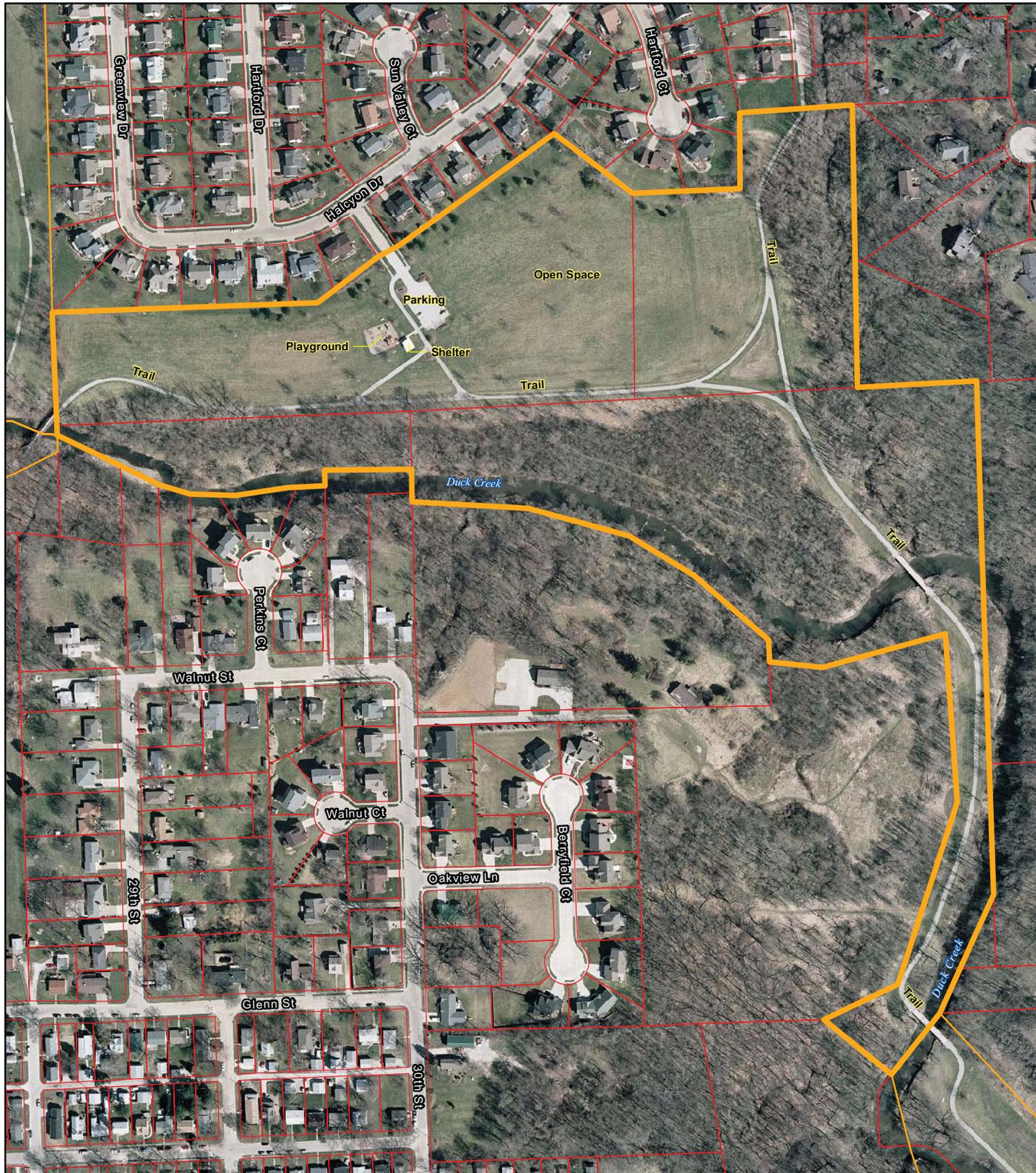
**Section V**

**Hollowview Park**  
1700 Sun Valley Drive

<b>Park Size:</b> 35.9 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Playground; Multi-use trail; 1 – Drinking Fountain; Shelter ; Parking (Approximately 20 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider expanding existing playground</li><li>• Add a waterless restroom</li><li>• Consider developing a disc golf course</li><li>• Replant and maintain wildflower area along the bike path</li><li>• Consider installing recreational backstop</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Renovate the playground</li></ul>

# Hollowview Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf

0 200 400 800 Feet

Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:



# Hoover Park

**Section V**

**Hoover Park**  
3223 South Hampton

<b>Park Size:</b> 6.9 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Playground; 1 – Shelter; 1 – Baseball Field; 1 – Tennis Court; 1 – Soccer Field (School); Passive/Open Space	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None Identified</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Renovate playground</li></ul>

# Hoover Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf

0 100 200 400 Feet

Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:



# Kiwanis Park

**Section V**

**Kiwanis Park**  
4223 Greenbrier

<b>Park Size:</b> 13.1 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Lighted Baseball; 2 – Tennis Courts; 1 – Basketball Court; Sand Play Area; 2 – Drinking Fountains; 1 – Playground; Passive/Open Space; Walking Paths; 1 – Shelter; 1 – Restroom, Parking (Approximately 25 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize the sand play area or replace with a hard-surfaced play area for pickle ball or other court games</li> <li>• Work with youth baseball association to replace the ball field lights</li> <li>• Resurface the parking area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider installing irrigation for the ball field</li> </ul>

# Kiwanis Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Parcel data from City of Bettendorf  
0 250 500 Feet  
Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:  
  
October 2008

# Leach Park

**Section V**

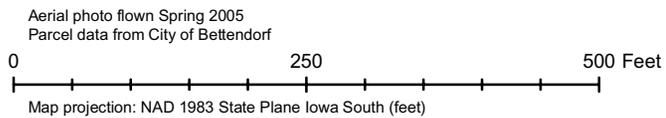
**Leach Park**  
100 12th Street

<b>Park Size:</b> 5.7 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Boat Launch Area; 1 – Restroom; 2 – Gazebos/Picnic Shelters; 3 – Mini-shelters; 1 – Plaza Area; 3 – Fishing Piers; 1 – Handicapped Accessible Fishing Pier; 1 – Drinking Fountain; 1 – Courtesy Dock; Multi-use Trail (MRT); Outdoor Art; Boat Trailer Parking; Parking (Approximately 15 vehicle capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-align the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) through the park</li> <li>• Work with the City Council on opportunities to expand the park area (Add more area for parking and improvements/additional amenities)</li> <li>• Improve signing to and designation of parking areas for park users/visitors only and increase enforcement for violations</li> <li>• Install bicycle racks</li> <li>• Dredge boat launch</li> <li>• Beautify and Enhance Levee Surface (i.e. Brick-Stamping)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace or renovate the west shelter</li> <li>• Improve shoreline aesthetics (explore alternatives to rip-rap)</li> </ul>

MAP 14  
**Leach Park**  
 City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Prepared by:  
  
 October 2008

# Lincoln Park

**Section V**

**Lincoln Park**  
951 27th Street

<b>Park Size:</b> 1.7 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Basketball Court; 1 – Playground; 1 – Shelter; Perimeter Walking Path; Passive/Open Space	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider adding a splash pad</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Upgrade the playground</li></ul>

# Lincoln Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf  
0 100 200 Feet  
Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:  
  
Bi-State  
Regional Commission  
October 2008

# McLamarrah Park

**Section V**

**McLamarrah Park**  
4100 Pinebrook Lane

<b>Park Size:</b> 19.3 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> Passive/Open Space; Interpretive Trail; Parking (Approximately 15 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve the access across Pigeon Creek for park maintenance equipment</li><li>• Consider trail development</li><li>• Add interpretive signage</li><li>• Add natural plantings</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain natural features and emphasize passive use and benefits</li></ul>

# McLamarrah Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf

0 500 1,000 Feet

Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:



# McManus Park

**Section V**

**McManus Park**  
1200 Mississippi Blvd.

<b>Park Size:</b> 3.9 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 2 – Playgrounds; 3 – Shelters, 1 – Multi-use Court; Passive/Open Space; Picnic Area; Flower Garden; 1 – Restroom; Parking (Approximately 30 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the parking area</li> <li>• Enhance aesthetics with additional tree plantings and landscaping</li> <li>• Add benches on north along 12th Street</li> <li>• Build a landscape buffer along East Kimberly/13th Street</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renovate older playground</li> </ul>

# McManus Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf  
0 100 200 300 Feet  
Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



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Bi-State  
Regional Commission  
October 2008

# Meier Park

**Section V**

**Meier Park**  
601 Holmes Street

<b>Park Size:</b> 6.1 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Playground; 1 – Shelter (Grills); 1 – Gazebo; 1 – Ball Field; 1 – Tennis Court; 2 – Drinking Fountains; Passive/Open Space; 1 – Restroom; Parking (Approximately 10 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trim the larger mature trees</li> <li>• Repair the ball-field (infield and outfield)</li> <li>• Consider installing fencing around tennis court</li> <li>• Update playground equipment</li> <li>• Additional landscaping</li> <li>• Consider removal or renovation of old restroom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None Identified</li> </ul>

# Meier Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf  
0 100 200 300 Feet  
Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:  
  
October 2008

# Middle Park

Section V

**Middle Park**  
2407 Middle Road

<b>Park Size:</b> 45.7 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> <b>Playground Area:</b> 1 – Playground; 1 – Shelter; 1 – Drinking Fountain; Passive/Open Space; Parking (Approximately 20 Vehicle Capacity) <b>Lagoon Area:</b> 1 – Lagoon (3 acres); Ice Skating; 1 – Restroom/Warming House; 1 – Shelter; Grills; 2 – Drinking Fountains; Multi-use trail (Duck Creek Parkway); Fitness Stations; Parking (Approximately 40 Vehicle Capacity) <b>Pool Area:</b> 1 – Aquatic Center ("Splash Landing"); 2 – Baseball Fields; Passive/Open Space; 1 – 18 target Disc Golf Course; 1 – Centennial; Gardens; Parking (Approximately 200 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dredge the lagoon</li> <li>• Renovate the walkway (perimeter path) around the lagoon</li> <li>• Address/correct drainage issue by the lagoon</li> <li>• Replace distance/mile markers</li> <li>• Add restroom near playground area</li> <li>• Develop a plan for renovation of Splash Landing</li> <li>• Install covers on the 23rd Street ball field dugouts</li> <li>• Add a waterless restroom near the 23rd Street ball field</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade restroom facilities by the lagoon</li> </ul>

# Middle Park

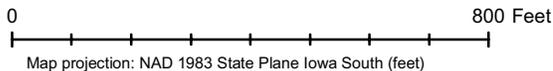
(Area North of Duck Creek)

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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October 2008

# Mississippi River Trail (MRT)

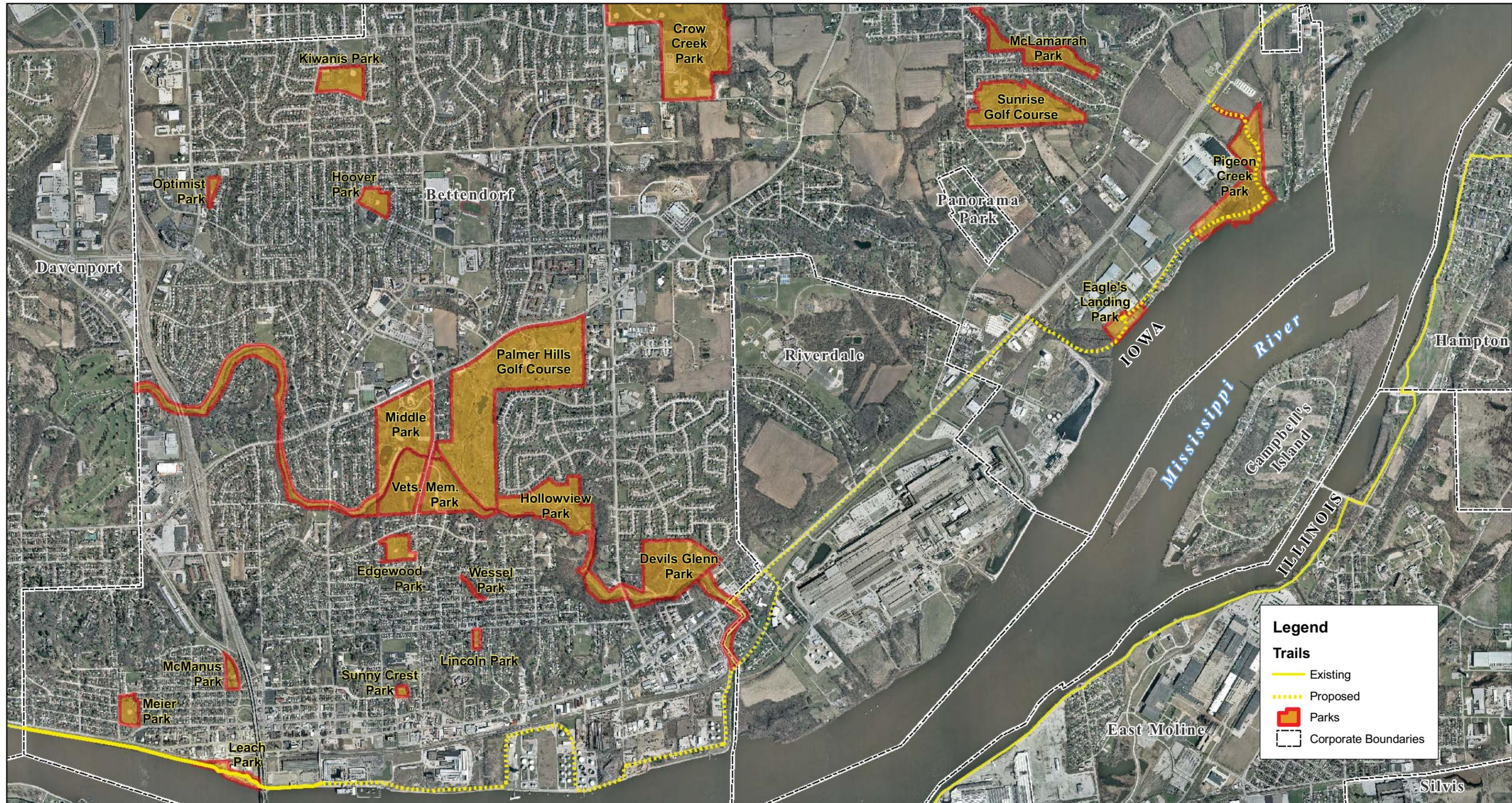
**Section V**

**Mississippi River Trail (MRT)**  
Headwaters to the Gulf (Bettendorf segment)

<b>Park Size:</b> Approximately 6.0 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> Multi-use trail (~1.3 miles)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete section from Leach Park to Riverdale</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete section from Riverdale through Pigeon Creek Park to Pleasant Valley/Scott County</li></ul>

# Mississippi River Trail

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
 Parcel data from City of Bettendorf  
 0 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 5,000 6,000 Feet  
 Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:  
**Bi-State**  
 Regional Commission  
 October 2008

# Optimist Park

Section V

**Optimist Park**  
1130 Belair Road

<b>Park Size:</b> 2.2 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Playground; 1 – Shelter; 1 – Grill; Passive/Open Space	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Renovate the shelter</li><li>• Upgrade the playground</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None Identified</li></ul>

# Optimist Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf

0 100 200 Feet

Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:



# Pigeon Creek Park

Section V

**Pigeon Creek Park**  
6729 Marigil Lane

<b>Park Size:</b> 43.0 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> Passive natural setting; Native grasses and woodlands; Trails; 1 – Restroom; 2 – Gazebos/Shelters; 1 – Scenic Overlook; Parking (Approximately 20 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work on MRT connection/s</li><li>• Expand interior nature trails</li><li>• Consider installing a bird-blind or wildlife viewing platform</li><li>• Add interpretive signage</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to expand interior nature trails</li><li>• Consider building interpretive center (requires additional parking)</li><li>• Add native plantings</li></ul>

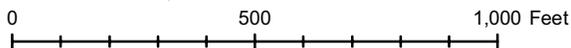
# Pigeon Creek Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf



Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:



# Sunny Crest Park

**Section V**

**Sunny Crest Park**  
2204 Grant Street

<b>Park Size:</b> 1.3 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 1 – Playground; 1 – Shelter; 1 – Basketball Court; Passive/Open Space	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Convert basketball court to half-court</li><li>• Renovate shelter</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Upgrade shelter</li></ul>

NOTE: (Community Center Facilities Service Park)

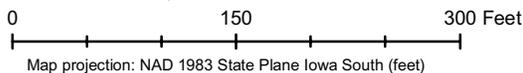
# Sunny Crest Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf



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# Veterans Memorial Park

**Section V**

**Veterans Memorial Park**  
1645 23<sup>rd</sup> Street

<b>Park Size:</b> 47.0 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> 3 – Softball Fields; 2 – Soccer Fields; 2 – Sand volleyball courts; Multi-use trail (Duck Creek Parkway); 1 – Playground; 1 – Bandshell; 1 – Pavilion/shelter; 1 – Restroom; 1 – Drinking fountain; Military veteran’s memorial, 1 – 18-target disc golf course; Passive/Open Space and wooded areas; Sledding hill; Parking (Approximately 150 Vehicle Capacity)	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider a Skate Park to the east of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and south of the entrance road</li> <li>• Address flooding/drainage issues at the north softball field to the west of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street</li> <li>• Designate areas for wildlife viewing</li> <li>• Install benches/sitting areas near the sand volleyball courts</li> <li>• Finish renovations to the bandshell (Both a short-term and a long-term goal)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish renovations to the bandshell (Both a short-term and a long-term goal)</li> <li>• Upgrade playground equipment and playground surface</li> </ul>

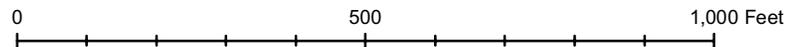
# MAP 24 Veterans Memorial Park

(Area South of Duck Creek)  
City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf



Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:



# Wessel Park

Section V

**Wessel Park**  
2720 Oak Street

<b>Park Size:</b> .8 acres	
<b>Existing Amenities:</b> Passive greenway; Bio-swales and rain gardens	
<b>Short Term Goals: (1 – 5 Years)</b>	<b>Long Term Goals: (5 – 15 Years)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Restore to natural park and passive greenway for primary use as a storm water management area</li><li>• Add a designated linear earthen path along the greenway</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None Identified</li></ul>

# Wessel Park

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Aerial photo flown Spring 2005  
Parcel data from City of Bettendorf

0 100 200 Feet

Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)



Prepared by:



## ***Recreation Programs, Activities, and Facilities***

Currently, the Bettendorf 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 Bettendorf will likely create the demand for the Park Board to increase the number 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 Bettendorf. Bettendorf residents could benefit from such cooperation. There may be opportunities to use the existing school facilities as recreation centers for youth oriented activities. Many outdoor school facilities are available for use by the general public when not being utilized for school sponsored activities. (Refer to Table 7) School facilities should be considered as viable opportunities for increased park and recreational space providing service to various areas throughout the community. (Refer to Map 26) Furthermore, if a 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 Bettendorf. Table 8 highlights existing programs and activities currently available to Bettendorf residents.

During the planning process emphasis was placed on the following needs related to programs, activities, and facilities in Bettendorf.

- Explore opportunities for providing more wintertime programming and activities;
- Develop a plan for the future of the Life Fitness Center and the Community Center;
- Formulate a plan to upgrade the irrigation system at Palmer Hills Golf Course; and
- Establish a long-term plan for Splash Landing considering the City's future Aquatic Center needs.

The appendix of this Plan contains additional comments related to programs, activities and facilities received at the public meetings and from the survey.

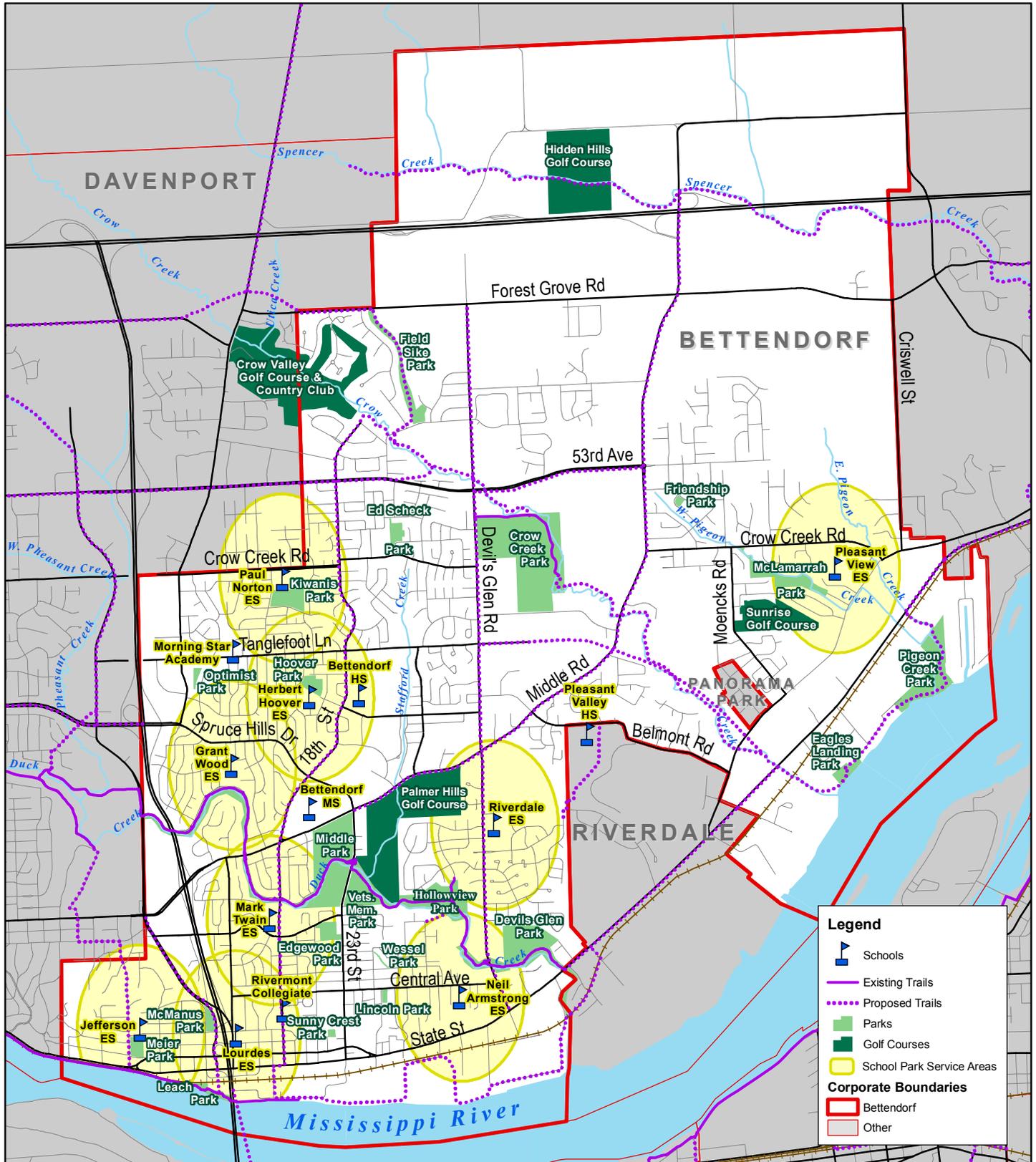
## Section V

**Table 7  
Public School Recreation Facilities**

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>AMENITIES</b>
Bettendorf High School	3333 – 18th Street	1 Football Stadium (Seats 6,000 & Equipped w/ 8-lane All-weather Track) 3 Athletic Practice Fields 1 Baseball Field 1 Softball Field 8 Tennis Courts Indoor: 25-Meter Swimming Pool 4 Basketball Courts 1 Weight Training Room
Bettendorf Middle School	2030 Middle Road	4 Athletic Fields 8 Tennis Courts 4 Indoor Basketball Courts 1 Weight Training Room
Neil Armstrong Elementary School	3311 – Central Avenue	3 Basketball Hoops 1 Playground Facilities 1 Indoor Gymnasium
Hoover Elementary School	3223 South Hampton Drive	1 Playground Facility 6 Basketball Hoops 1 Indoor Gymnasium
Thomas Jefferson Elementary School	610 Holmes Street	1 Recreational Backstop 1 Playground Facility 3 Basketball Hoops 1 Indoor Gymnasium
Paul Norton Elementary School	4485 Greenbrier Drive	3 Playground Facilities 1 Playing Field 4 Basketball Hoops 1 Indoor Gymnasium
Mark Twain Elementary School	1620 Lincoln Road	2 Basketball Hoops 1 Playing Field 1 Softball Field 2 Playground Facilities 1 Indoor Gymnasium
Grant Wood Elementary School	1423 Hillside Drive	1 Playground Facility 2 Basketball Hoops 1 Playing Field 1 Indoor Gymnasium
Pleasant Valley High School	604 Belmont Road	1 Football Stadium (Seats 5,000 & equipped w/ 8-Lane All-weather Track) 2 Athletic Practice Fields (“The Pit”) 1 Baseball Field 2 Softball Fields 1 Soccer Field 8 Tennis Courts Indoor 25-Meter Swimming Pool 2 Indoor Gymnasium 4 Basketball Courts 1 Weight Training Room
Pleasant View Elementary School	6333 Crow Creek Road	2 Playground Facilities 2 Baseball/Softball Fields 1 Playing Field 1 Indoor Gymnasium
Riverdale Heights Elementary School	2125 Devils Glen Road	4 Basketball Hoops 2 Playground Facilities 1 Baseball/Softball Field 1 Soccer/Open Play Field 1 Indoor Gymnasium

# School Park Service Areas

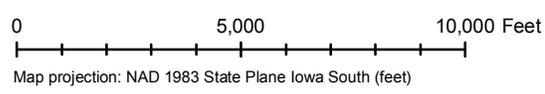
City of Bettendorf, Iowa



**Legend**

- Schools
- Existing Trails
- Proposed Trails
- Parks
- Golf Courses
- School Park Service Areas
- Corporate Boundaries**
- Bettendorf
- Other

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**Table 8  
Recreation Programs and Activities**

<b>Season</b>	<b>Activity/Program</b>	<b>Age Group</b>
	<b>Aquatics</b>	
Summer	Parent-Tot Program	8 mo. – 2 years
Summer	Tot-Poles	3 – 4 years
Summer	Red Cross Level 1 – Introduction to Water Skills	5+ years
Summer	Red Cross Level 2 – Fundamental Aquatic Skills	5+ years
Summer	Red Cross Level 3 – Stroke Development	5+ years
Summer	Red Cross Level 4 – Stroke Improvement	5+ years
Summer	Red Cross Level 5 – Stroke Refinement	5+ years
Summer	Red Cross Level 6 – Swimming Skills Proficiency	5+ years
Summer	Deep Water Exercise Class	5+ years
Summer	Shallow Water Exercise Class	5+ years
Summer	Adapted Aquatics – Special Populations	Varies
Summer	Adult Lessons	18 and older
Summer	Lap Swimming	18 and older
	<b>Baseball/Softball</b>	
Summer	Coach-Pitch Baseball	5 – 7 years
Summer	Coach-Pitch Softball	5 – 7 years
Summer	Girls Softball – Junior Division	2 – 3 grades
Summer	Girls Softball – Novice Division	4 – 6 grades
Summer	Girls Softball – Intermediate Division	7 – 12 grades
	<b>Tennis</b>	
Summer	Beginners – Advanced Beginners	5 – 7 years
Summer		8 – 11 years
Summer		18+ years
Summer	Intermediate	8 – 11 years
Summer		12+ years
Summer		18+ years
Summer	Advanced	12+ years
Summer		18+ years
	<b>Soccer</b>	
Summer	Youth Soccer (Spring)	Pre K-5 <sup>th</sup> grade
Summer	Soccer Camp	Pre K-5 <sup>th</sup> grade
	<b>Volleyball</b>	
Summer	Junior High-High School Girls	7 <sup>th</sup> –12 <sup>th</sup> grades
	<b>Toddler/Youth</b>	
Summer	Tot-Lot	3 – 5 years
Summer	Summer Playgrounds	5 – 12 years
	<b>Special Populations/Activities for Persons with Special Needs</b>	
Summer	Camp Mac	7 – 18 years
Summer	Stepping Stones	Varies
Summer	Dances (Spring Formal; Swim Bash; and Hoe Down)	Varies

Section V

**Table 8 (continued)  
Recreation Programs and Activities**

<b>Season</b>	<b>Activity/Program</b>	<b>Age Group</b>
	<b>Area Activities</b>	
Summer	Bettendorf Swim Club	5 – 18 years
Summer	Mississippi Valley Track Club	9 – 18 years
Summer	Bettendorf/Pleasant Valley Baseball	7 – 18 years
Summer	Bettendorf Park Band	High School+
Summer	Movies in the Park	All Ages
Summer	“For Sale By Owner” Event	All Ages
	<b>Day Camp</b>	
Summer	Explore or Community	5/6–8 & 9-12 yrs
Summer	Exploration	5/6–8 & 9-12 yrs
Summer	Wild About Animals	5/6–8 & 9-12 yrs
Summer	Sports and Games	5/6–8 & 9-12 yrs
Summer	Discovery	5/6–8 & 9-12 yrs
Summer	Beach Party	5/6–8 & 9-12 yrs
Summer	Health and Safety	5/6–8 & 9-12 yrs
Summer	Carnival Fun	5/6–8 & 9-12 yrs
Summer	Last Summer Blast	5/6–8 & 9-12 yrs
	<b>Mentoring</b>	
Summer	Counselor in Training (CIT)	13 – 15 years
	<b>Golf Lessons</b>	
Summer	Beginner and Intermediate	All Ages

**Table 8 (continued)  
Recreation Programs and Activities**

<b>Season</b>	<b>Activity/Program</b>	<b>Age Group</b>
	<b>Youth Sports Activities</b>	
Fall/Winter	Little All-Stars Basketball Program	5 – 8 years
Fall/Winter	Flag Football	2 <sup>nd</sup> –6 <sup>th</sup> grades
Fall/Winter	Soccer	K-5 <sup>th</sup> grades
Fall/Winter	NFL/Gatorade Punt, Pass, Kick Competition	8 – 15 years
	<b>Adult Sports Activities</b>	
Fall/Winter	Women's Volleyball	18 and older
Fall/Winter	Men's Volleyball	18 and older
Fall/Winter	Co-ed Volleyball	18 and older
Fall/Winter	Basketball “B and C” Leagues	18 and older
	<b>Group Fitness Classes</b>	
Fall/Winter	Chisel	Varies
Fall/Winter	Pilates Plus	Varies
Fall/Winter	Senior Fitness/Strength	50+ years
Fall/Winter	Aqua Fit	All ages
Fall/Winter	Fitness Combo	All ages
Fall/Winter	Ball & Strength	All ages
Fall/Winter	Zumba	Varies
Fall/Winter	Yoga	Varies
Fall/Winter	Beach Circuit/Core-Ruption	Varies
	<b>Specialty Wellness Classes</b>	
Fall/Winter	Senior Strength and Fitness Classes	Varies
Fall/Winter	Women’s Strength Training	Varies
Fall/Winter	Youth Strength Training	Varies
Fall/Winter	Muscle Restoration & Regeneration	Varies
Fall/Winter	Weight Management	Varies
Fall/Winter	Yoga	Varies
Fall/Winter	Karate	Varies
Fall/Winter	Balance & Movement (Tai Chi based exercise)	Varies
Fall/Winter	Sport-related conditioning/training classes	Varies
Fall/Winter	Walking Group, 100/250 Mile Club	Varies
	<b>Other Activities</b>	
Fall/Winter	Personal Training	Varies
Fall/Winter	Training Packages	Varies
Fall/Winter	Nursery	7 and younger
Fall/Winter	Play Gym	6 and younger
Fall/Winter	Youth Events and Activities	Varies
Fall/Winter	Birthday Party Special	Varies
Fall/Winter	Golf Cart Tour	All Ages

## SECTION VI. NEEDS ANALYSIS

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### ***Introduction***

The Background, Natural Resources, and Demographic sections stressed those characteristics of Bettendorf 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 consider citizen input which further assist in determining the current and future park and recreation needs of Bettendorf residents.

### ***Guidelines or Standards***

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. For planning purposes the following documents should also be identified as potential sources for guidelines and information, The Iowa State 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 Bettendorf. Other factors such as the desires and concerns of residents influence need. Standards established by the National Park and Recreation Association should be viewed as guidelines and used to provide a base for the development of a balanced park and recreation system.

Standards also 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 can support decisions of elected officials and justify needs to the taxpayers.

### ***ADA Compliance***

There are also needs of special population groups, including the elderly and differently-abled that need to be addressed. The City of Bettendorf works to ensure recreational programs, services and facilities are available and accessible, within reason, to all persons regardless of ability. The City will make every reasonable accommodation to ensure each willing participant full enjoyment of the parks and recreation system.

### ***Current and Future Trends***

Currently, the City of Bettendorf 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 within a 5 to 15 year implementation period.

The maintenance of existing facilities is one issue facing the Bettendorf Park Board and City Council. For a community the size of Bettendorf, upkeep of these facilities is a major issue. A part of the maintenance would be updating and/or replacing equipment and facilities as required to meet the needs of the community. These costs can be of significant concern.

The projected population increase over the next ten to twenty years in the City will increase recreation demands. It will be important for the City to take notice of the "Standards" set forth by the National Park and Recreation Association when evaluating the status of the system.

As was mentioned previously in this document, the City of Bettendorf is expected to grow at a significant rate over the planning period of this document and beyond. It will be critical that the City provide park and recreation facilities to these newly developed areas and to areas of the existing community through land acquisition and development. Map 1 reflects the current service area of the existing parks. From this map, it is apparent that the City needs to consider land acquisition and development in various areas of the community. Recreation needs are further discussed in the subsequent section.

## SECTION VII. LAND ACQUISITION

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### ***Introduction and Purpose***

The number one priority of the Bettendorf Park and Recreation Board is to accommodate the park, recreation and leisure time needs of Bettendorf Residents. This section identifies areas of growth or potential growth within the community. Population projections will be used to help determine the areas where the greatest need will be for future park land. This section will also identify existing areas inadequately served or deficient of suitable park and/or open space.

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.

This 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 due to the fact property ownership and land use changes over time. What today appears as an improbable area in which to acquire property may soon be a top priority for purchasing land.

### ***Location Identification Process***

Established residential areas deficient of adequate open space and projected growth areas over the next 20 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, Crow Creek Park has a one-mile service or coverage area. Meier 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 2).

During the planning process identifying other obstacles to park access should be 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 users of community-wide or large-urban park facilities.

## Section VII

For the most part, the City of Bettendorf serves the needs of the current population well, with exception to some of the newly developed or developing areas. These growth areas, mainly to the north, are where the real challenge exists. The Future Land Acquisition Section of 2001 Bettendorf Parks and Recreation Master Plan was used as a base for updating identified acquisition areas.

Population projections for the City of Bettendorf were completed for use in developing the 2035 Quad City Area Long Range Transportation Plan (March 2006). Portions of data gathered and compiled for use in the Long Range Transportation Plan are also being utilized in the formation of this Master Plan (Reference Table 9).

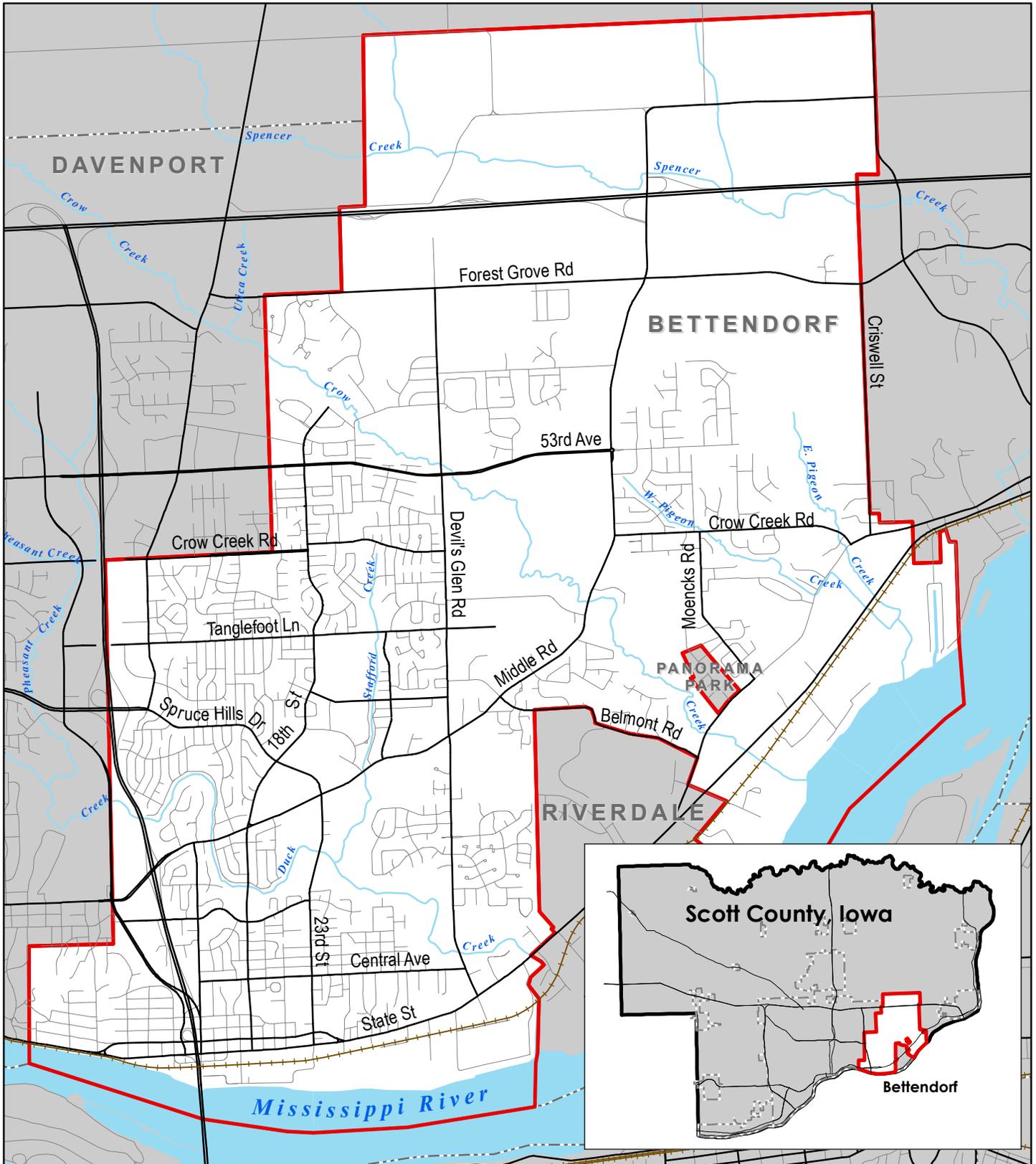
**Table 9  
City of Bettendorf  
Age Cohorts 2000 and 2020**

<b>Age</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2000–2020 Change</b>	<b>2000–2020 % Change</b>
Under 5	1,924	1,965	41	2.13
5 to 9	2,242	2,170	(72)	(3.21)
10 to 14	2,475	2,732	257	10.38
15 to 19	2,299	3,030	731	31.80
20 to 24	1,368	1,228	(140)	(10.23)
25 to 34	3,579	2,517	(1,062)	(29.67)
35 to 44	5,177	5,219	42	0.18
45 to 54	5,298	10,457	5,159	97.38
55 to 59	1,771	3,168	1,397	78.88
60 to 64	1,264	1,522	258	20.41
65 to 74	2,040	2,274	709	34.75
75 to 84	1,373	2,274	901	65.62
85 and Over	465	835	370	79.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,275</b>	<b>39,866</b>	<b>8,591</b>	<b>29.12</b>
<b>Worst Case</b>	<b>32,839</b>			
<b>Middle Case</b>	<b>39,866</b>			
<b>Best Case</b>	<b>46,913</b>			

Source: U.S. Census 2000 and Bi-State Regional Commission

MAP 27  
**General Location Map**

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



**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.

0 2,000 4,000 8,000 Feet

Map projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Iowa South (feet)

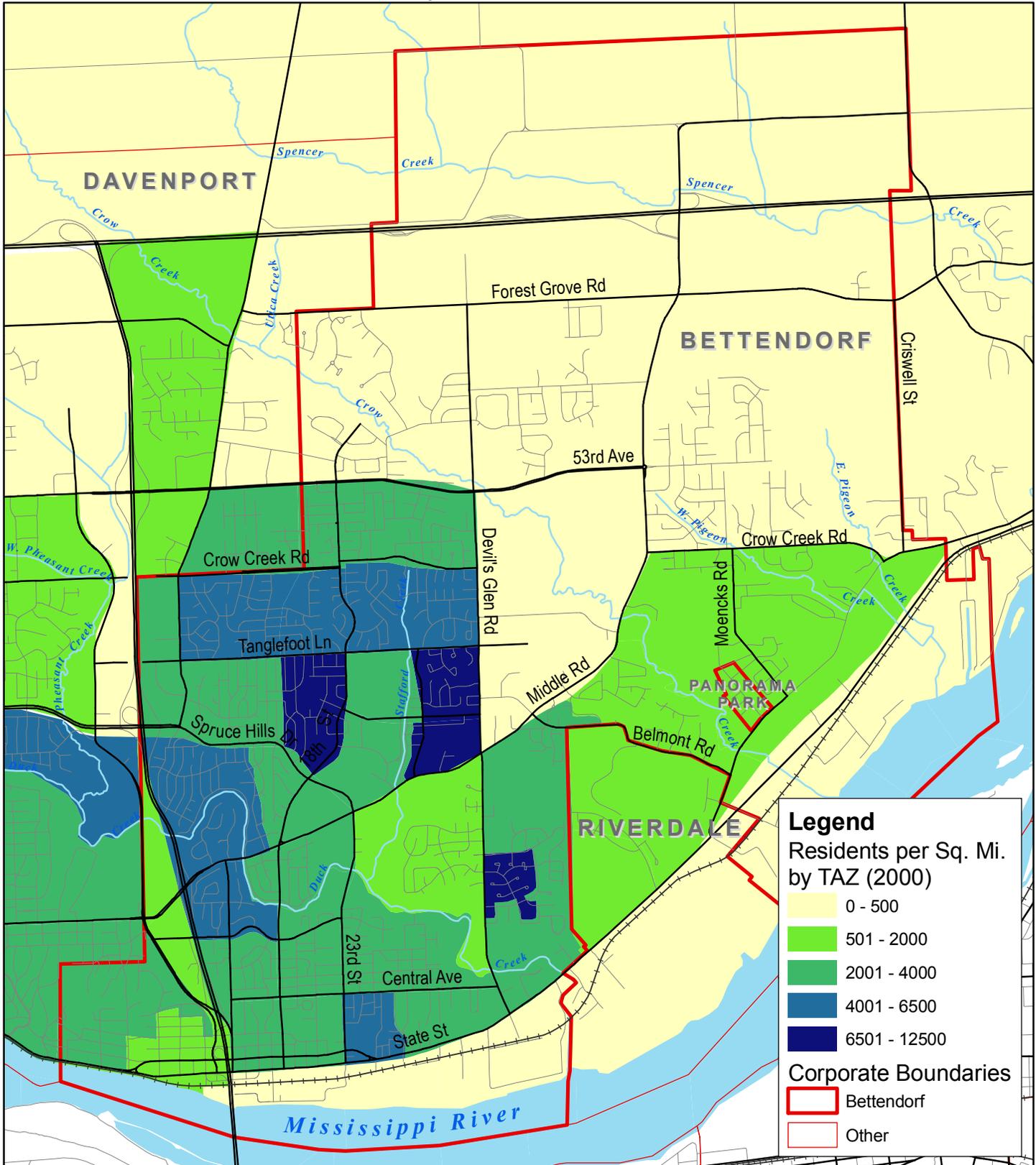


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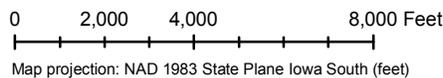


# Residents per Square Mile by Traffic Analysis Zone (2000)

City of Bettendorf, Iowa

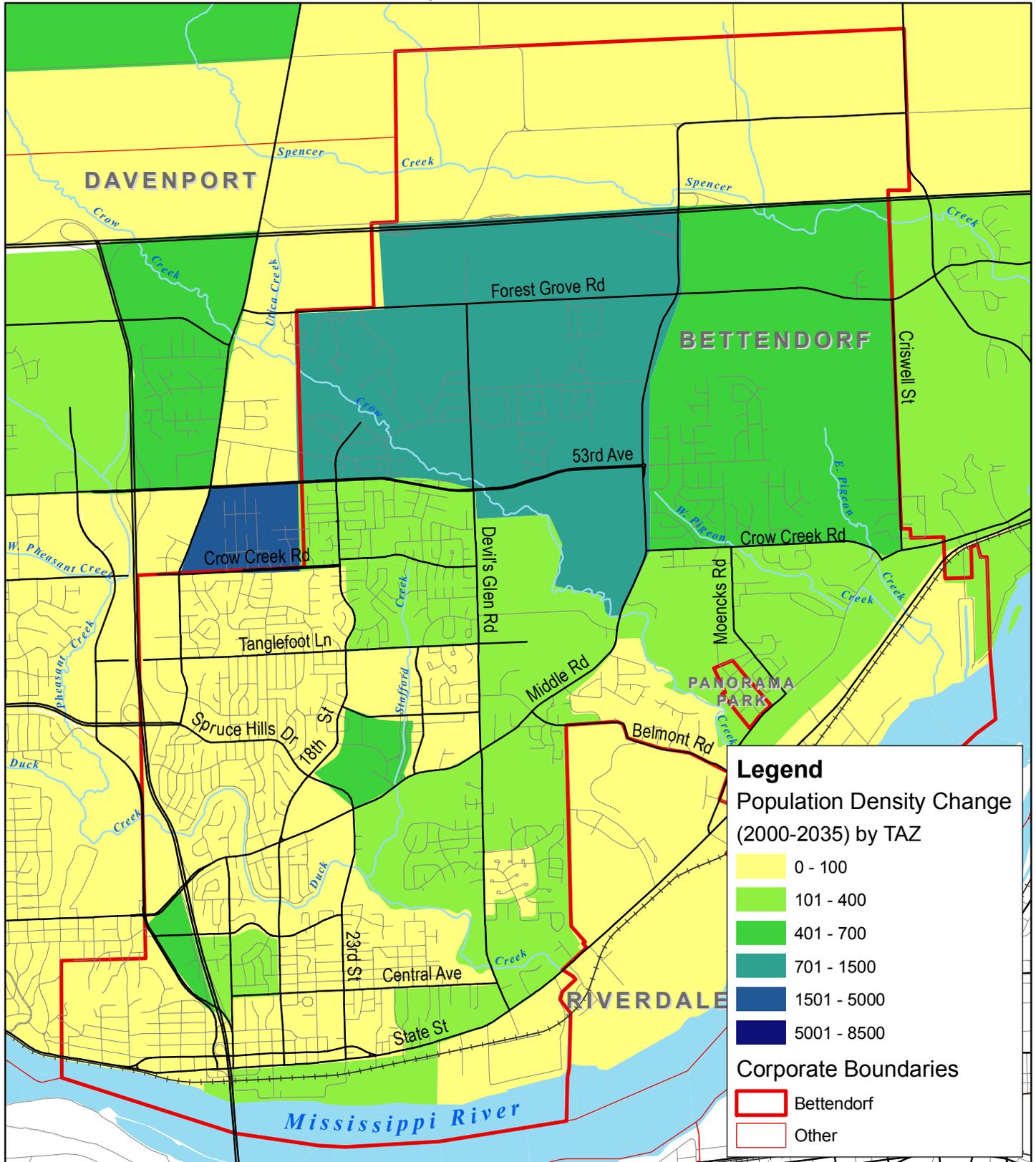


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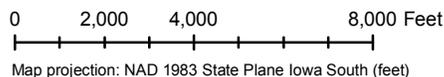


# Population Density Change from 2000 to 2035 by Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ)

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



**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 herein.



## ***Acquisition Area Locations and Descriptions***

**Area: A** – This area covers the northern section of Bettendorf from Interstate 80 north to the city limits. This is a section of land not anticipated to be a major residential growth area over the next twenty plus years, but is an area with potential for commercial and industrial development. Interstate 80 currently has an interchange at Middle Road. Property surrounding this area is expected to see commercial or industrial development over the next five to ten years.

During the planning process this was recognized as a high priority area for a community or neighborhood park at some time. Though not an immediate need the procurement of a sizeable portion of land in this vicinity may be a wise Park Board or City investment for long term potential.

Acquisition of Hidden Hills Golf Course is another feasible option in this area. The privately owned twenty-one hole public golf course has potential to be a valuable asset complimenting existing facilities of the Bettendorf Park Board. The Park Board administers and operates the championship caliber Palmer Hills Golf Course located on Middle Road in proximity to the geographic center of the community. The addition of the Hidden Hills facility would provide added value to the existing parks system. The acquisition would guarantee the preservation of the land as an open space recreational area for future generations. This area should be integrated with future development.

**Area: B** – This section has been identified due to the projected growth of mixed-use and single-family residential development between Forest Grove Road and I-80 east of Middle Road.

This area affords wooded ravines and is amenable to development of nature or “eco” parks. Spencer Creek runs adjacent to this development zone and a greenway type development of active and or passive natural amenities could be implemented along this linear corridor. It would also be feasible to develop a Community or Large Urban Park in this vicinity in conjunction with and to complement new development planned for the I-80 and Middle Road interchange.

**Area: C** – Area C is a top priority interest because of Pleasant Valley School District property in the center of the identified acquisition area. Development of park and open space adjacent to or near the school property would be a great asset to the area. Area C is a projected residential growth area and would benefit from a neighborhood park or mini park. It's bordered by Forest Grove Road on the north, Devils Glen Road to the west, Middle Road to the east, and Hopewell Avenue on the south. Projected increases in traffic along these major arterials will limit mobility and raise safety concerns for children and other pedestrian attempting to access park and recreation facilities. The Bettendorf Park Board and Pleasant Valley School District are working on a cooperative agreement to share development costs and usage of a parcel of School District property at the Hopewell site.

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**Area: D** – Area D is recognized based on current deficiencies of open space and recreational facilities in the vicinity. Residential development is projected to significantly impact this section of the community. Area D encompasses lands south of Forest Grove Road and north of the 53rd Avenue extension. The remainder of its perimeter consists of Middle Road to the west and Criswell Street to the east. Acquisition opportunities in this area should focus on the needs for mini parks and possibly a future community park. Tentative plans are to develop a regional storm water detention basin in this area. Incorporating an open green space area or a special-use facility in conjunction with the basin is a viable possibility and should be considered upon implementation.

**Area: E** – This linear corridor is recognized for the potential recreational benefits along Crow Creek. Primary interest is the potential to extend the multi-use recreational trail along the linear greenway from Crow Creek Park northeast to Field Sike Park.

**Area: F** – This section is located south of 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and west of Middle Road. A neighborhood park or special-use facility may fit well in this area. The acquisition of land for park space in this vicinity should take in to account the location of the former landfill, which may limit intended park and recreation use or development.

**Area: G** – This is a portion of the Crow Creek greenway from Crow Creek Park southeast to Middle Road. It is a small yet significant linear corridor that would allow for the development of a crucial section of the multi-use recreation trail along Crow Creek.

**Area: H** – Similar to Area G, the significance of this section of the Crow Creek greenway is somewhat dependent on the completion of the multi-use trail from Crow Creek Park to Middle Road. Area H is the next level of development for the trail continuing it from Middle Road to State Street. Land along this portion of the Crow Creek greenway is a vital to the continuation of the multi-use recreation trail and its eventual connection to Eagles Landing Park and the developing Mississippi River Trail.

**Area: I** – Situated in the vicinity of Pleasant Valley High School and Scott Community College near Belmont Road and the Bettendorf –Riverdale corporate line. Currently, this area is inadequately served lacking park and open space facilities for neighborhood residents. Of main concern in this area is the availability of accessible, adequate park and recreation opportunities. Pleasant Valley High School and Scott Community College provide the public access to ball fields, lighted tennis courts and an all weather track. Acquiring land in this location should take into account the need for a neighborhood or mini-park and a possible trail connection to Pleasant Valley High School.

**Area: J** – This area located north of Central Avenue, east of 30<sup>th</sup> Street and to the southwest of the Duck Creek Parkway is a possible location for open space acquisition. Opportunities may exist in this area to obtain land for the development of park and recreation space. Consider acquisition of property owned by the Church of Latter Day Saints or other parcel/s in the vicinity.

This section of the community has relatively easy access to Duck Creek Parkway. However, the procurement of a parcel and development of a neighborhood or mini-park in this area has merit and would provide additional services to the residents of Bettendorf.

**Area: K** – Consideration should be given to acquiring available land for the expansion and betterment of Leach Park. This area is also identified as a top priority given the potential for available land west of the proposed new I-74 bridge. Park and recreation space is extremely popular among residents and visitors to the Quad Cities.

**Area: L** – Identifies the linear corridor and possible areas where acquisition would be required to extend the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) upstream from Leach Park to the Duck Creek Parkway trailhead in Riverdale. This area would provide the land necessary to complete a significant segment of this national trail. It also would create the eastern portion of a larger loop trail using the Duck Creek Parkway and the MRT in Bettendorf, Riverdale and eventually Davenport on the west end.

**Area: M** – This is an area north of State Street and south of Valley Drive. It extends roughly from about Criswell Street on the east to near Zimmerman Drive on the west. Opportunities to obtain land in this area would allow for the expansion of Pigeon Creek Park.

**Area: N** – An area considered a top priority for acquiring or securing an easement for the extension of the MRT upstream to LeClaire. Area N is located east of Pigeon Creek Park and west of Harbor Drive.

**Area: O** – This area would allow development of the multi-use recreation trail along the Crow Creek greenway from State Street to Eagles Landing Park. Along with the completion of Areas G and H this segment of the trail would establish a connection spanning from Field Sike Park to the Mississippi River and MRT within the Crow Creek greenway.

### ***Land Acquisition Priorities***

The areas identified in the previous section are those where a need has been established for the acquisition and potential development of future recreation and park space. These areas have been prioritized as *Top Priority*, *High Priority* or *Other Priority* based on the following criteria which are listed in random order:

1. Cost
2. Availability
3. Projected Population Growth
4. Current Need/Demand
5. Relationship to Existing City Plans
6. Expected Benefit to Bettendorf and Bettendorf Residents

## **Section VII**

### **Top Priority Areas:**

Area B; Area C; Area G; Area K; Area L; and Area N

### **High Priority Areas:**

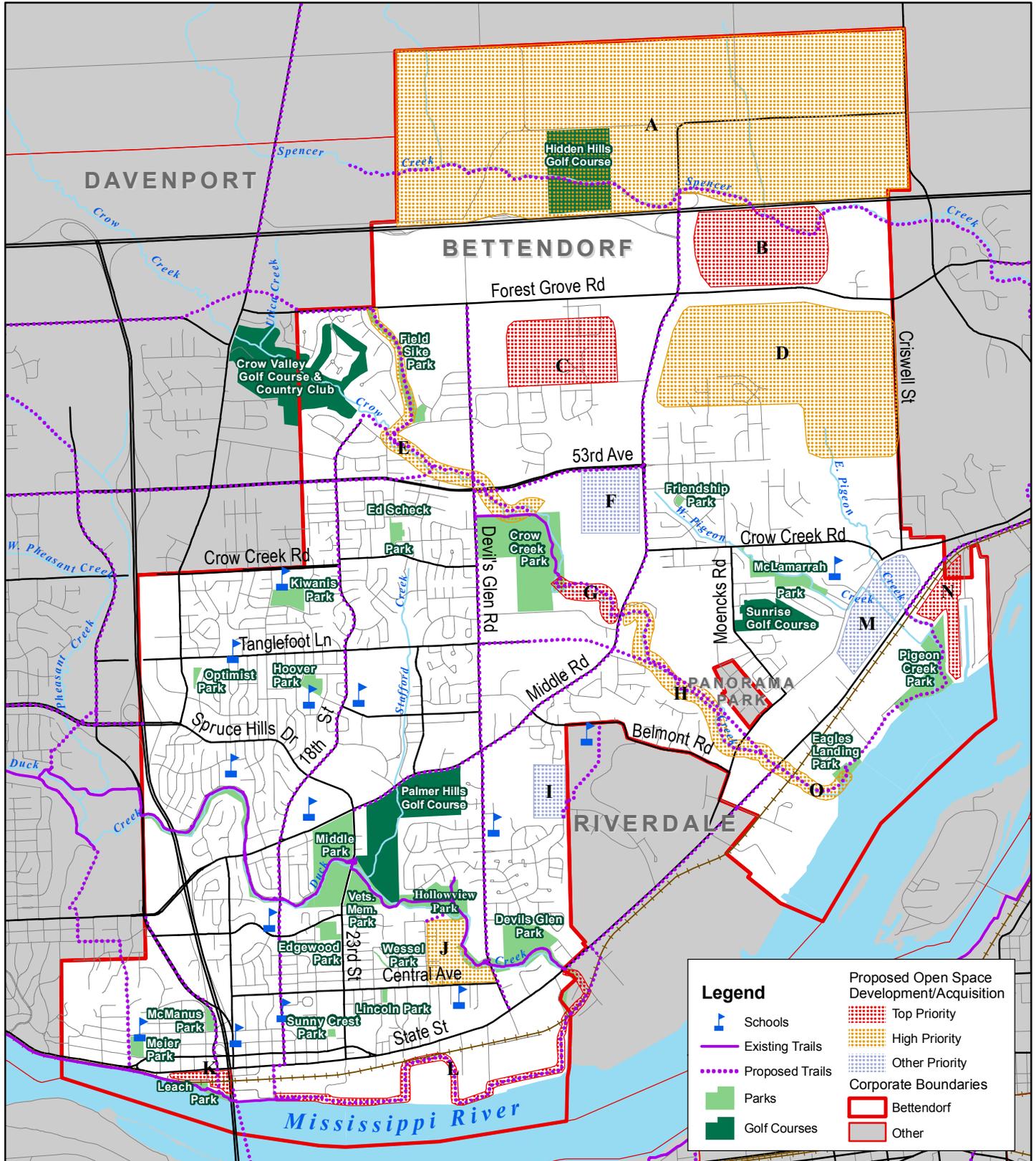
Area A; Area D; Area E; Area H; Area J; and Area O

### **Other Priority Areas:**

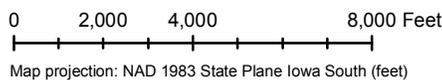
Area F; Area I; and Area M

# Proposed Areas for Park & Open Space Acquisition and Development

City of Bettendorf, Iowa



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Prepared by:



## SECTION VIII. POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

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As with the other sections of this plan, a need exists to continually examine the policies and implementation strategies. They should be revised and updated as needed, based on progress that has been made and changes in park and recreation interests or trends.

### ***Policies***

When considering the development of a park and recreation system, there should be an understanding of basic policies. These policies are nothing more than good common sense. The following policies are paramount in obtaining a balanced allocation of land and facilities to meet the communities' needs.

**Opportunities for All** – The park and recreation system should not alienate any demographic group. 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 all resources available 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, alternative use of facilities such as parking lots 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.

**Proper Distribution** – The park and recreation system must be a unified development with the areas properly distributed and continuity maintained 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 easy access to and 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:

- All recreation and park facilities should be required to develop and implement a schedule designed to eliminate architectural barriers and provide integrated facilities.

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- Representatives of disabled organizations should be asked and encouraged to attend public hearings, meetings, etc., to express their park, recreation, and leisure needs.
- Bettendorf Park Board members, city staff and elected officials must be aware of the existing federal and state legislation that requires barrier-free facilities where State and Federal funds are used.
- The Bettendorf Park Board should reach out to differently-abled individuals or groups for guidance concerning the identification of architectural barriers within their jurisdiction and for information of how best to eliminate them.

**Consideration of Land Uses Best Suited to the Soil** – The land or site should be evaluated to identify the appropriate uses of the site based on soil types. This will involve reference to the soil survey of the County (which was completed in 1994). 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.

**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 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, and make schools park-like in character and additional assets to the community that 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.

**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.

## ***Implementation Strategies***

Implementation implies a process that takes time and typically involves more than one step. Certainly this is true of many of the specific projects, studies, and programs recommended in the following pages. 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, Bettendorf may be in short supply of public recreation lands and facilities in the near future. Existing areas and facilities will increasingly be overcrowded and overused. At the minimum, the City should try to maintain the existing ratio (1 acre per 55 people) between recreational acres and population.

During the planning and development of this Park, Recreation and Land Acquisition 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 that are in need of repair or replacement.

As previously stated it is critical the City of Bettendorf 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.

## ***Overall Goals and Priorities (Listed in random order)***

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 continued acquisition of quality equipment and suitable sites will be important. The Park Board should assure that adequate personnel are available to maintain the existing inventory before looking toward additional development.
2. **Expand Parks System (Land and Facilities) to be Family Orientated and Safe for Resident Use** – The Park Board and City Council should encourage residents of Bettendorf to provide input regarding deficiencies in current facilities and programs. The Park Board is currently aware of the need to acquire and develop land in the growing areas of the community. Every attempt will be made to ensure that facilities and programs are available. The financial constraints will be a major consideration when looking to expand and enhance the current facilities and programs.
3. **Preservation of Natural Resources of the Riverfront with Access for Citizens** – The Park Board realizes one of the greatest resources the community has is the Mississippi River. Through continued land acquisition efforts and awareness of sensitive riverfront developments the community will be able to provide riverfront access to residents and visitors to the area, while harnessing the natural beauty of

## Section VIII

the River. The most important riverfront goal identified by Bettendorf Residents was completion of the Riverfront Trail from Leach Park to the Davenport-Bettendorf border.

4. **Compliance with the "Americans with Disabilities Act" (A.D.A.)** – Every attempt will be made to bring the existing facilities into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. All new facilities must be constructed in accordance with A.D.A. requirements. The City of Bettendorf is committed to making every reasonable effort to ensure that its park and recreational facilities can be used and enjoyed by everyone.
5. **Monitor Aquatic Opportunities and Facilities** – Projected population growth along with growing demand for aquatic centers will require the Park Board to closely monitor the use and condition of existing facilities. The Park Board should consider the short-term possibility of renovating the existing Middle Park facility "Splash Landing" and the long-term potential need for an additional facility.
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 financial constraints: community awareness of problems and priorities; alternative funding, such as grants, donations, and use of volunteer organizations

### ***Potential Funding Sources***

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 policies adopted.

- 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 require local matching dollars (a percentage of the total project to be cost-shared) and in many cases the grantee will have to assume 100% of the project costs up front then request reimbursement of the awarded grant amount. The assistance programs listed below are by no means inclusive of the available sources the City can and should, pursue to aid in funding park and recreation related projects. Most of the programs are highly competitive and require submission of a thorough and concise application. At a minimum, several months should be devoted to the application preparation process and the City should be ready to proceed with the project if awarded funds. Some of the funding assistance opportunities the City may be inclined to pursue include:

**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. This program funds enhancement or preservation activities associated with transportation-related projects. The activity areas for projects include trail and bikeway facilities; historic and archaeological; and scenic and environmental. Under the current SAFETEA-LU program a minimum 30% non-federal match is required for statewide enhancements; 20 % non-federal match is required for urban and regional enhancement projects. The majority of the Quad City bike trails have been funded to some degree with these funds or with funds available under the previous federal programs ISTEA and TEA-21.

**Recreational Trails Program (Federal)** – This federal program funds the development and maintenance of motorized and non-motorized recreational trails and trail related projects within the state of Iowa. It's administered by the Iowa Department of Transportation. A minimum 20% match is required for projects.

**Recreational Trails Program (State)** – Administered by the Iowa Department of Transportation this program funds trail development and land acquisition on a statewide competitive basis. This state program requires a minimum 25% local match (volunteer services and other state grants are not eligible as matching funds). Proposed projects must be part of a local, area-wide, regional, or statewide trail plan.

**Safe Routes to Schools Program** – Provides funding for infrastructure and non-infrastructure improvements, which will result in more K-8 students walking or bicycling to school. This federal program is also administered by the Iowa Department of Transportation. No local funding match is required for projects. All applications must address both infrastructure and non-infrastructure components.

**Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)** – The LWCF Grant Program is a federal program that provides funds to incorporated cities and county conservation boards for projects that include the acquisition and/or development of land for

## Section VIII

outdoor recreation. The renovation of existing facilities is also eligible. This program is administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and requires 50% local participation. Funding assistance is provided on a reimbursement basis. Funding assistance is population based.

**REAP – Resource Enhancement and Protection Program** – This state program is administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and funds land acquisition and development projects that have a positive impact on the environment. This program is funded on a competitive basis. In 1994 a 54 acre parcel was acquired at Crow Creek Park with assistance from the REAP program. The Crow Creek Park Quarry Restoration was also supplemented through this funding program.

**Community Attraction and Tourism (CAT) Fund** – Iowa cities, counties, or public organizations may receive grants, loans, forgivable loans, and loan guarantees from the Community Attraction and Tourism Development (CATD) Programs. The objective of the CAT component is to provide financial assistance for community-sponsored attraction and tourism projects. CAT projects may include but are not limited to the following: museums, theme parks, cultural and recreational centers, heritage attractions, sports arenas and other attractions. Applications are reviewed by the Vision Iowa Program Board which takes into account the application information as well as the location of the project, the geographic diversity of the applications, and whether the applicant has received financial assistance in the past. CAT funds may comprise up to one half of the total project cost.

**River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT) Fund** – Iowa cities, counties, or public organizations may receive grants, loans, forgivable loans, and loan guarantees from the Community Attraction and Tourism Development (CATD) Programs. The RECAT component is intended to provide financial assistance for projects that are related to, closely connected with and which enhance rivers, lakes, or river corridors within cities. River enhancement projects may include but are not limited to pedestrian trails and walkways, amphitheaters, bike trails, water trails, or whitewater courses for watercraft, and any modifications necessary for the safe mitigation of dams. Applications are reviewed by the Vision Iowa Program Board which takes into account the application information as well as the location of the project, the geographic diversity of the applications, and whether the applicant has received financial assistance in the past. RECAT funding may constitute up to one third of the total project cost.

**Riverboat Development Authority** – The Riverboat Development Authority is a local Scott County entity that distributes a portion of the proceeds gained from the Rhythm City Riverboat and Casino. Types of activities that are funded include: Riverfront Development, Economic Development, Neighborhood Development, Arts, Culture, Heritage, Education, and Human Services. Applicants must be located in the Quad City metropolitan area and provide programs or services in or to residents of Scott County, Iowa.

**Scott County Regional Authority** – The Scott County Regional Authority is a nonprofit corporation affiliated with the Isle of Capri Riverboat Casino in Bettendorf, Iowa and distributes a portion of the proceeds gained from the Capri Riverboat Casino Riverboat. Types of activities that are funded include: Riverfront Development, Economic Development, Neighborhood Development, Arts, Culture, Heritage, Education, and Human Services. Applicants must be located in the Quad City metropolitan area and provide programs or services in or to residents of Scott County, Iowa. Joint applications can be submitted with the Riverboat Development Authority, on their respective forms, for large projects or programs.

The State of Iowa provides other grant and funding assistance programs through a variety of state agencies including the Department of Transportation, Department of Natural Resources, and the Department of Economic Development. There are also many not-for-profit groups and agencies as well as private corporations and other federal government programs to consider as possible funding resources. The Internet is a valuable research tool to find information on grant programs and funding assistance opportunities for park and recreation related projects.

**d. Gifts and Trusts**

Another method for enhancing the park and recreation system is through donations of land or money. Encouraging contributions through estate planning is another method of financing the acquisition, improvements, and maintenance of park and recreation facilities. Trust and endowments play an important role in providing park and recreation facilities in various communities across the nation.

**e. Other Potential Sources**

There are few other possible sources for funding park and recreation acquisition and/or development projects. These include but are not limited to, area service clubs; friends of... or other support groups; not-for-profit organizations; societies and foundations (i.e. Bettendorf Park and Recreation Foundation). Fundraising events, activities and special promotions can also be excellent revenue generators. Indirect benefits could be realized through encouraging volunteerism and establishing or expanding ambassador programs. These and other similar initiatives are typically seen as opportunities to defray costs associated with maintaining and policing public lands.

## **Conclusion**

The City of Bettendorf Parks and Recreation Master Plan contains a variety of information on parks, recreation, and open space opportunities in the City. The primary goal for the Plan is to provide the highest quality parks, recreation, and open space opportunities possible.

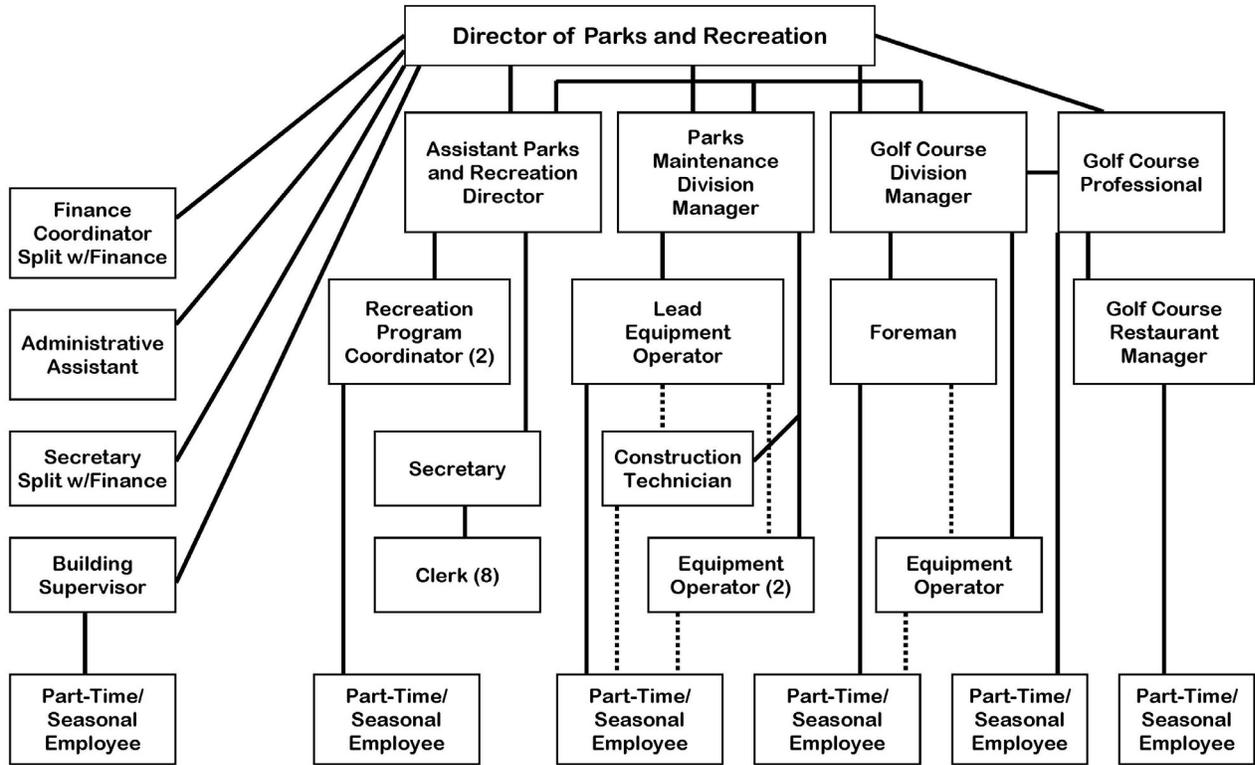
This Plan has been prepared to guide the City of Bettendorf in the acquisition, development, and maintenance of parks, recreation, and open space. The contents of the plan offer support towards the City's efforts to secure funding for improvements or enhancements to the existing system.

## **Section VIII**

Current trends indicate that the public will continue to use parks, recreation, and open space areas close to where they live and work. Therefore, future parks, recreation, and open space needs are expected to be greatest within local communities. The ability to continue to meet or exceed the needs of the City depends, to a large extent, upon local partnership, cooperation and ongoing communication between the residents and their elected officials. Encouraging on-going citizen involvement in the planning and implementation process will help the City to successfully fulfill the goals, objectives and priorities outlined in this Master Plan.

## APPENDIX – A

### Parks and Recreation Organizational Chart January 1, 2008



**KEY:**                      = Directly Reports To                      = Subject to Supervision

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# APPENDIX – B

## Bettendorf Park Amenities Matrix

Existing Parks & Facilities	Size (Acres)	Parking (Approximate Vehicle Capacity)	Picnic Shelter/Pavilion	Playground	Baseball Field	Softball Field	Football/Soccer Field	Tennis Court	Basketball Court/Hoops	Volleyball Courts	Multi-use Court	Passive/Open Space	Natural Area/Greenway	Multi-use Trail	Recreation/Fitness Trail	Drinking Fountains	Restrooms	Concession Stand	Skate Park	Pool/Aquatic Center	Fenced Dog Park	Ice Skating Area	Warming House	Sledding	Observation Deck/Scenic Overlook	Gazebo	Plaza Area	War Veterans Memorial	Greenhouse/Gardens	Lake/Pond/Lagoon	Fishing Pier	Boat Launch/River Access	Courtesy Dock	Beach/Riverfront	Archery Range	Band shell/Amphitheater	Golf Course	Frisbee/Disk Golf
<b>PARKS</b>																																						
Crow Creek Park	134.0	300	7	2	6	5	5-7		2		1	1	1	1	11	4	1	1		1				3	1													
Devils Glen Park	43.9	110	4	1	1						1	1	1		4	2																		1			1	
Duck Creek Parkway	103.0	N/A										1	1	1																								
Eagles Landing Park	7.1	20	1								1	1		1		1									1				1	1	1							
Ed Scheck Park	5.9	30	1	1	1						1				1	1																						
Edgewood Park	7.5	50	1	1	1			1	1		1				1	1																						
Field Sike Park	14.7-greenway 5-park 19.7-Total	Y		1							1	1																										
Friendship Park	1.4	N/A	1	1						1	1																											
Hollowview Park	35.9	20	1	1							1		1		1																							
Hoover Park	6.9	N/A	1	1	1		1	1			1					1																						
Kiwanis Park	13.1	25	1	1	1			2	1		1			1	2	1																						
Leach Park	5.7	15	4								1	1	1	1	1	1									1-2	1			1	1	1	1			1			
Lincoln Park	1.7	30	1	1					1		1			1																								
McLamarrah Park	19.3	15									1	1	1	1																								
McManus Park	3.9	30	3	2						1	1				1	1																						
Meier Park	6.1	10	1	1	1			1			1			1	2	1									1													
Middle Park	45.7	260	2	1	2						2	1	1	1	3	1				1	1	1	1														1	
Mississippi River Trail (MRT)	6.0												1																									
Optimist Park	2.2	N/A	1	1							1																											
Pigeon Creek Park	43.0	20										1		1		1								1	2				1				1					
Sunny Crest Park	1.3	N/A	1	1					1		1																											
Veterans Memorial Park	47.0	150	1	1		3	2			2			1	1	1	1							1												1		1	
Wessel Park	.8	N/A											1																									
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>561.1</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8-10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>FACILITIES</b>																																						
Palmer Hills Golf Course	131.0	N/A																																			1	
Life Fitness Center	N/A	N/A																		1																		
Community Center	N/A	N/A																																				
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>692.1</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8-10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

## APPENDIX – C

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Bettendorf Park and Recreation Master Plan  
Citizens Input Meeting  
January 8, 2008

A public meeting was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at Bettendorf City Hall. The meeting was the second of five planned citizen input meetings. These meetings serve as forums for exchanging ideas and openly discussing issues related to Bettendorf's Park and Recreation system. Existing parks was the discussion topic for this latest meeting. The following is a summary of the short-term goals (1-5 years) and the long-term goals (6-10 years) identified for the existing parks covered at the meeting:

### **CROW CREEK PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Identify and promote winter activities;
- Install batting cages;
- Add lights to the ball fields;
- Install gates to block vehicular access when park is closed;
- Install new play equipment for varied ages and abilities;
- Improve existing restrooms, address restroom cleanliness and add more restrooms.

(Long-term goals)

- Add archery range/course;
- Add outdoor ice rink, or convertible ice/roller hockey rink;
- Consider developing an adventure/putt-putt golf course;
- Install new electronic scoreboards.

### **DEVILS GLEN PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Institute a tree management program and include interpretive signage;
- Pursue geological studies and include interpretive signage;
- Construct an additional shelter;
- Add more benches;
- Identify locations to place unique/donated sculptures (Identified as both a short-term and a long-term goal).

(Long-term goals)

- Re-surface interior park roads;
- Identify locations to place unique/donated sculptures (Identified as both a short-term and a long-term goal).

## Appendix – C

### **EAGLES LANDING PARK**

#### (Short-term goals)

- Improve boat access ramp/launch (too shallow) and extend courtesy docks;
- Expand boat-trailer parking area
- Improve shoreline aesthetics (alternative to rip-rap)
- Add sculpted earth-form or interpretive rock/stone social seating and viewing areas;

#### (Long-term goals)

- Construct a fishing pier;
- Develop a site appropriate garden area;
- Extend trails throughout the park capitalize on the scenic views.

### **EDGEWOOD PARK**

#### (Short-term goals)

- Encourage users to clean-up after pets, pet clean-up stations;
- Evaluate options for tennis court area;
- Put in a park path connecting 23<sup>rd</sup> Street to Lincoln Road;
- Upgrade basketball court for half-court use.

(Long-term goals) – None identified

### **FIELD SIKE PARK**

#### (Short-term goals)

- Install interpretive signs.

#### (Long-term goals)

- Develop a recreational trail connecting Field Sike Drive to Forest Grove Road;
- Plant trees;
- Expand greenway development to the upper portion of the Cardinal Creek corridor;
- Install benches and other trail amenities.

### **MIDDLE PARK**

#### (Short-term goals)

- Dredge lagoon;
- Renovate walkway around lagoon;
- Address drainage issues by lagoon and ball-field;
- Replace mile markers.

#### (Long-term goals)

- Improve restroom facilities by lagoon.

## **VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK**

### (Short-term goals)

- Consider a skate park east of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and south of entrance road;
- Address flooding at the north ball-field on the west side of the park;
- Designate wildlife viewing areas;
- Add benches/sitting areas near sand volleyball courts;
- Complete renovations to the Band Shell (Identified as both a short-term and a long-term goal).

### (Long-term goals)

- Complete renovations to the Band Shell (Identified as both a short-term and a long-term goal).

The existing parks not covered during this meeting will be added for discussion at the subsequent meetings. The input collected to this point is preliminary and it will be refined as the input and planning process continues.

A public meeting was held on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at Bettendorf City Hall. The meeting was the third of five planned citizen input meetings. These meetings serve as forums for exchanging ideas and openly discussing issues related to Bettendorf's Park and Recreation system. Park and Recreation Programs, Activities, and Policies were the discussion topics for this latest meeting. The following list reflects citizen input received at the meeting:

**Programs; Activities; and Policies:**

- Consider offering additional day trips and overnight trips to various destinations and events;
- Improve program coordination with other groups/organizations to minimize conflicts and overlap;
- Target cultural, arts and crafts, and other programs oriented towards the interests of older age groups;
- Identify opportunities to increase and better utilize the band shell for events and programs;
- Develop a leisure buddy or leisure companion motivational program;
- Identify ways to raise awareness and encourage involvement in leisure programs and activities;
- Provide fishing clinics and boating awareness, use and safety programs (Research possible collaboration with the Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; et. al.)
- Consider providing junior/youth recreational shooting programs and firearms safety clinics;
- Provide additional special events such as a Fire Festival to recognize the 100 year anniversary of Bettendorf's volunteer fire department;
- Offer more family or parent-child/youth programs and activities other than going to the Family Museum;
- Consider corporate sponsors or research other funding alternatives to offset administration and staffing costs for certain programs and activities;
- Allow scouts and/or other organized groups to use parks and facilities for special events, programs or activities;
- Provide more programming for the differently-abled and those with restricted mobility such as, adaptive gardening or raised gardening;
- Offer physical fitness and social skills programs directed towards groups of individuals who've acquired disabilities, such as amputees, and evaluate possibilities to coordinate on a regional level;
- Address possible access and mobility issues affecting program participation;
- Work on regional coordination for special needs programs;
- Offer programs utilizing interactive recreational technology such as Nintendo® Wii™ System Programs, Dance-Dance Revolution, etc.;

- Provide more winter programs;
- Construct an outdoor lighted ice-rink and/or coordinate with the Q.C. Sports Center to offer ice skating programs and activities;
- Consider opportunities to promote physical activity by walking dogs to decentralized neighborhood dog parks;
- Evaluate possibilities for offering dog obedience classes;
- Provide nature programs;
- Consider programs related to self-defense and/or the martial arts;
- Offer educational programs related to cultural diversity, significant historical events, and other areas of interest;
- Provide programs coordinated with State initiatives, such as Lighten up Iowa;
- Offer more programmed activities and classes consistent with current trends in physical fitness and recreation (i.e. Zumba, Spinning, etc.); and
- Consider possible after school programs, activities and classes.

A public meeting was held on Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at Bettendorf City Hall. The meeting was the third of four planned citizen input meetings. These meetings serve as forums for exchanging ideas and openly discussing issues related to Bettendorf's Park and Recreation system. Park and Recreation Special-use Facilities; Trails and Amenities were the discussion topics for this latest meeting. The following list reflects citizen input received at the meeting:

**Special Use Facilities:**

- Consolidate the Community Center and the Life Fitness Center into one new dual purpose facility at centrally located site, possibly near Splash Landing or the Learning Campus, complete a plan within the next 5 years to implement in the next 5-15 years;
- Determine City Council's philosophy regarding Special-use facilities (subsidized or self-supporting, user fees or taxes, etc.);
- Determine if the function of City owned and operated Special-use facilities should be to fill gaps in services not being provided by private facilities;
- Adapt to changing demographics and trends (e.g. needs and interests of seniors);
- Maintain/provide a facility for young families with toddlers;
- Establish a Senior Center to address spill over use of the former Eagle Foods building and the Family Museum;
- Consider a campus style development with multiple Special-use facilities concentrated at a single centralized location;
- Examine partnering opportunities for providing facilities;
- Identify the long term maintenance and renovation needs at Splash Landing;
- Consider a retractable domed indoor-outdoor Aquatic Center as a long term option if and when completely remodeling or replacing Splash Landing;
- Replace irrigation system at Palmer Hills Golf Course;
- Monitor the need for another Dog Park;
- Identify possible areas to increase parking at Leach Park.

**Trails and Amenities:**

- Provide connections to major amenities, attractions, libraries, schools/colleges, health care facilities, parks, special-use facilities, public buildings, adjacent communities, and other points of interest;
- Complete connection of the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) from Leach Park to the Duck Creek Parkway trailhead in Riverdale;
- Complete MRT from Riverdale east to the Bettendorf corporate limits;
- Finish development of a 10' separated corridor trail along Crow Creek from the MRT to the Field Sike Park greenway trail;
- Develop 10' separated corridor trail along Middle Road from Devil's Glen Road to 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue;
- Extend a trail along Devil's Glen Road from 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue north to Hopewell Avenue;
- Develop a trail along 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue from Middle Road west to Devil's Glen Road and south to the Crow Creek Trail;
- Consider placing bike lanes along 18<sup>th</sup> Street from the MRT north to the Field Sike Park greenway trail;
- Construct an 6'-8' side path along Devil's Glen Road from the Duck Creek Parkway to Crow Creek;
- Complete Field Sike Park greenway trail from Field Sike Drive to Forest Grove Drive;
- Consider adding lights along certain trails with the possibility of allowing ornamental light posts to be placed on trails as donated memorials;
- Coordinate with the Cornbelt Running Club who has volunteered to measure and install distance markers along the Duck Creek Parkway trail;
- Showcase and preserve the bluebell area, next to the stretch of new bike path just east of Devil's Glen Road, because it is an unusual asset and has tourism potential.

A public meeting was held on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at Bettendorf City Hall. The meeting was the last of four planned citizen input meetings. The meetings provided forums for exchanging ideas and openly discussing issues related to Bettendorf's Park and Recreation system. Park Acquisition and Development Areas along with the existing parks not yet discussed were the discussion topics for this meeting. Following is a summary of the acquisition areas input and the short-term goals (1-5 years) and the long-term goals (6-10 years) identified for the remainder of the existing parks covered at the meeting:

### **Park Acquisition and Development Areas**

- Consider large parcel to the north of Forest Grove Road and a smaller parcel south of Forest Grove Road both parcels south of I-80, and east of Middle Road are top priorities;
- Identify large area north of I-80 as a high priority for park space;
- Coordinate with Pleasant Valley Schools on the high priority area south of Forest Grove Road between Devil's Glen Road and Middle Road;
- Consider the area east of Middle Road between Crow Creek Road and 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue still viable with awareness to former landfill site;
- Offer incentives, such as name recognition, to entice reduced acquisition costs and encourage endowments, land dedications and park proffers;
- Recognize the Crow Creek greenway as a top priority;
- Acquire or annex land near Riverdale primarily in the area south of Belmont Road, for neighborhood park and trail connection to Pleasant Valley;
- Consider the Church of Latter Day Saints property and/or other parcels in the area north of Central Avenue and east of 30<sup>th</sup> Street on the southwest side of the Duck Creek Parkway as a high priority;
- Monitor the area around Leach Park, particularly to the north and east, opportunities to acquire land for expanding facilities at Leach Park is atop priority; and
- Recognize as a top priority easement acquisition along Harbor Drive to extend the MRT upstream from Pigeon Creek Park, and place high priority on acquiring land between US 67 and Valley Drive to expand Pigeon Creek Park to the northwest.

***Existing Parks Concl...***

**FRIENDSHIP PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- None Identified.

(Long-term goals)

- Renovate playground.

**HOLLOWVIEW PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Add a waterless restroom;
- Consider installing a disc golf course;
- Install a recreational backstop;
- Expand existing playground.

(Long-term goals)

- None Identified.

**HOOVER PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- None Identified.

(Long-term goals)

- Upgrade playground.

**KIWANIS PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Minimize or remove the sand play area, consider replacing with pickle ball and adding a hard play surface;
- Re-surface the parking lot;
- Replace the ball field lights.

(Long-term goals)

- Add irrigation to the ball field.

## Appendix – C

### **LEACH PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Re-align the MRT through the Park;
- Work with the City Council on opportunities to expand the Park;
- Improve parking signs, clarify parking areas for park patron use and emphasize enforcement of parking violations;
- Add bicycle racks;
- Dredge the boat launch.

(Long-term goals)

- Replace the shelter;
- Improve aesthetics of shoreline.

### **LINCOLN PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Consider adding a sprayground.

(Long-term goals)

- Upgrade playground.

### **MCLAMARRAH PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Install an access, for park maintenance equipment, across Pigeon Creek.

(Long-term goals)

- Maintain as a natural park area.

### **MCMANUS PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Re-surface the parking lot;
- Enhance landscaping and more tree plantings.

(Long-term goals)

- Renovate playground.

### **MEIER PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Prune larger/mature trees;
- Remove the old restroom;
- Repair the ball field (infield and outfield).

(Long-term goals)

- None Identified.

### **OPTIMIST PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Renovate the shelter.

(Long-term goals)

- Upgrade playground.

### **PIGEON CREEK PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Work on establishing an MRT connection;
- Consider installing a bird blind or wildlife-viewing platform.

(Long-term goals)

- Continue expanding nature trails within the park.

### **ED SCHECK PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Add benches/seating areas;
- Install covers over the ball field dugouts.

(Long-term goals)

- Upgrade playground.

### **SUNNYCREST PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Upgrade playground.

(Long-term goals)

- Upgrade shelter.

### **WESSEL PARK**

(Short-term goals)

- Restore to a natural park/greenway and storm water management area;
- Consider a natural turf path along the greenway.

(Long-term goals)

- None Identified.

The input collected to this point is preliminary and it will be refined as the input and planning process continues.

**Bettendorf Park & Recreation Plan Public Hearing  
Citizen Input and Comments 11-13-07**

<b>Identified Strengths of Current System</b>	<b>Total Votes</b>
Diversity of overall choices and volunteerism	2
Quantity and quality of parks for a community of its size	2
Community band	1
Elected park board	1
Geographic Area – Diversity of flora and fauna	1
Joint/cooperative park development and coordinated use of parks and facilities (City, parks, schools, etc.)	1
Location of parks relative to neighborhoods	1
Maintenance	1
Support of residents and City Council	1
Existing trails and commitment to expand trails	1
Trees are Us Committee	1
Ability to address needs of citizens	
Best maintained and best overall park system in area	
Hospitality	
Diversity of activities & amenities at parks	
Increased emphasis on water quality and management	
Palmer Hills Golf Course & Clubhouse	
Park Ambassadors Program	
Quantity and quality of parks for a community of its size	
Quality staff	
Secure community	
Skate park	
Upkeep of trails	
Usage of parks	

<b>Identified Needs of Current System</b>	<b>Total Votes</b>
Land – large parcel in particular	12
Expand trails system and connections	8
More riverfront park land	5
Trail linking Deerbrook and Pleasant Valley High School	5
Ability to fund and provide resources and staffing to maintain existing parks and facilities	4
Develop a youth center for year round use	4
Hopewell School site joint usage	4
Additional security, especially at dusk after dark	3
Effective use of volunteers, particularly high school community service requirements	3
Enhance walkability of City with widened sidewalks, roadside trail access, etc.	3
More year round restrooms and drinking fountains; including school sites	2
Neil Armstrong School, ball field development	2
Communicating the value of parks and recreation	1
Community Center update and more usage	1
New irrigation system at Palmer Hills	1
Expanded Park Ambassadors Program and more authority	
Observation tower at Crow Creek Park	
Promote geographic diversity and importance of flora and fauna	

## Appendix – D

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### Bettendorf Parks and Recreation Department Telephone Survey Report



**CENTRAL SURVEYS, INC.**

111 NORTH ELM STREET  
P.O. BOX 100 • SHENANDOAH, IOWA 51601  
PHONE (712) 246-1630  
FAX (712) 246-5420

*Opinions of Bettendorf (IA) Residents Regarding  
Ways to Improve Facilities/Programs Offered by the*

**BETTENDORF PARKS AND  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

*August 6 – 15, 2007*

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**ADDENDUM** – *Copy of Questionnaire*

## **INTRODUCTION**

This report is based on a total of 400 interviews conducted with residents (16 years of age or older) of Bettendorf, Iowa, to learn ways to improve the facilities and programs offered by the Bettendorf Parks and Recreation Department. All interviews were conducted by telephone, August 6 – 15, 2007, from the office of Central Surveys, Inc. in Shenandoah, Iowa.

A random list of Bettendorf residents was purchased for this study (from J. Edwin Brown). To supplement this sample, Central Surveys, Inc. used the Internet to retrieve additional telephone listings – specifically, cell phone numbers (as a means of reaching more respondents in younger age groups). In managing the sample, Central Surveys used the Profile of General Demographic Characteristics for Bettendorf as a guide for establishing desired quotas for age groups represented in this study.

Two versions of the questionnaire were used to eliminate positional bias based on the order in which various statements/answer choices were read to the respondents. Replies to some questions in this survey may add to more than 100 percent due to multiple answers. Also, percentages may occasionally total more or less than 100 as a result of rounding to whole numbers.

### **Statistical Reliability**

Any sampling procedure is subject to a range of tolerance or “margin of statistical error” due to the laws of probability or chance. The likelihood of chance statistical error depends primarily on the number of interviews in the sample, or in a subsample under consideration, and on the proportion of respondents giving a reply. There is less likelihood of chance error whenever percentages are based on the total cross-section sample of 400 interviews than when findings are reported separately for a smaller group such as the 70 respondents indicating that the total number of people living in their household is 5 or more. Also, there is less probability of error whenever answers are given by very large proportions (95%) or very small proportions (5%) than there is when findings approach 50 percent.

The table below shows examples of margins of error for key subgroups of respondents in this survey. This table is calculated to the 95 percent confidence level. When the proportion giving an answer is close to the percentages at the top of the table, based on the number of interviews at the left, there is a 95-percent certainty (19 chances in 20) the survey finding is a statistically precise measurement within plus or minus the margin of error shown in the table.

<b>TABLE OF STATISTICAL RELIABILITY</b>						
<b>95 PERCENT CERTAINTY – 1.96 STANDARD ERRORS</b>						
<i># of Ints.</i>	<b>Group/subgroup</b>	<i>If the Percentage Giving an Answer Is Near:</i>				
		<i>5 or 95 %</i>	<i>15 or 85 %</i>	<i>25 or 75 %</i>	<i>35 or 65 %</i>	<i>45 or 55 %</i>
<b>400</b>	<b>Survey total</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.9</b>
96	Age 34 or under	4.4	7.1	8.7	9.5	10.0
90	35 to 44	4.5	7.4	8.9	9.9	10.3
89	45 to 54	4.5	7.4	9.0	9.9	10.3
123	Age 55 or older	3.9	6.3	7.7	8.4	8.8
172	Male	3.3	5.3	6.5	7.1	7.4
228	Female	2.8	4.6	5.6	6.2	6.5
210	No children living in household (Q.18/18a/18b)	2.9	4.8	5.9	6.5	6.7
186	One or more under the age of 18 living in household	3.1	5.1	6.2	6.9	7.1
117	One or more under the age of 10 living in household	3.9	6.5	7.8	8.6	9.0
177	1 or 2 people in household (Q.18)	3.2	5.3	6.4	7.0	7.3
149	3 or 4 people in household	3.5	5.7	7.0	7.7	8.0
70	5 or more people in household	5.1	8.4	10.1	11.2	11.7
100	Frequent users of city parks and facilities (Q.2)	4.3	7.0	8.5	9.3	9.8
241	Occasional users of city parks and facilities	2.8	4.5	5.5	6.0	6.3
59	Nonusers of city parks and facilities	5.6	9.1	11.0	12.2	12.7
99	Frequent users of recreational trails (Q.5)	4.3	7.0	8.5	9.4	9.8
193	Occasional users of recreational trails	3.1	5.0	6.1	6.7	7.0
108	Nonusers of recreational trails	4.1	6.7	8.2	9.0	9.4

For example, 25.0 percent of the respondents indicate (Q.2) that they or members of their family are frequent users of the city parks and facilities in Bettendorf. This percentage is based on the 400-interview cross-section sample, and (as shown in the table on the previous page) the margin of error is 4.2 percentage points. In other words, there is a 95-percent certainty that a complete census of Bettendorf residents (with telephones) would find at least 20.8 percent and no more than 29.2 percent indicating that they are frequent users of Bettendorf's city parks and recreational facilities.

Most of the time, actual errors will be smaller than the margins in the preceding table. Two-thirds of the time, errors will be about one-half of these margins, and the average chance sampling error will be about one-third of the margins of the table. As the table indicates, large sampling errors are possible whenever percentages are based on fewer than 100 respondents.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- ◆ Ninety-eight percent of the respondents rate the overall condition of parks and facilities in the Bettendorf park system as “excellent” (48%) or “good” (50%). The proportion saying “excellent” rather than “good” decreases, however, as the number of people/children in the household increases.
- ◆ Eighty-five percent say they use city parks and facilities, including 25% who describe themselves as frequent users.
- ◆ Nearly three-fourths (73%) say they use recreational trails, including 25 percent who identify themselves as frequent users.
- ◆ Recreational trails appeal to many residents who do not otherwise use parks or park facilities. Half (51%) of the nonusers of parks or park facilities say they are users of the city’s recreational trails.
- ◆ Park usage increases with the presence of children in the household and as the number of people in the household increases.
- ◆ Trail usage does not vary significantly based on presence or absence of children in the household. Approximately four-fifths of Bettendorf residents age 54 or under are trail users, compared to only three-fifths of people age 55 or older.
- ◆ By a ratio of 9 to 2, Bettendorf residents prefer that the Parks and Recreation Department spend most of their money maintaining and improving existing parks rather than developing new or additional facilities.
- ◆ By a ratio of more than 2 to 1, Bettendorf residents prefer that the Parks and Recreation Department spend 50% or more of its money on outdoor rather than indoor facilities (*see graph on Page 32*).
- ◆ In reference to outdoor recreation programs/open spaces, two-thirds (68%) prefer that the Parks and Recreation Department spend 50% or more of its outdoor budget for improving or maintaining existing facilities rather than developing new ones (26%).
- ◆ In reference to indoor facilities, two-thirds (66%) also prefer that 50% of the indoor budget or more be allocated to improving and maintaining existing facilities rather than developing new facilities (28%).
- ◆ Two-thirds (66%) say they are willing to pay higher taxes or increased user fees to support park improvements. By better than a 2 to 1 margin, however, Bettendorf residents prefer increased user fees over higher taxes.
- ◆ Eighty percent believe that parks and recreational facilities are equally distributed throughout the City of Bettendorf. If any areas are underserved, however, it would be the Northwest and Northeast areas (named as lacking facilities by 19% and 13% respectively).

- ◆ Based on the proportions using various programs or activities offered by the Parks and Recreation Department, the top five activities or programs are as follows: concerts or special events, fitness activities, aquatic activities, social activities, and individual sports.
- ◆ Based on the proportions saying the Parks and Recreation Department should expand various programs or activities, the top five programs or activities to be considered are concerts or special events, environmental education, fitness activities, intergenerational activities, and senior activities.
- ◆ When asked what specific equipment or facilities they would like to see added or expanded, 18 percent make reference to recreational trails and 13 percent refer to playground equipment or toddler/preschool playground equipment. No other single suggestion is offered by more than 5 percent of the respondents, and twenty-five percent say nothing needs to be added or expanded.

# DISCUSSION OF SURVEY FINDINGS

## Usage of Parks and Facilities

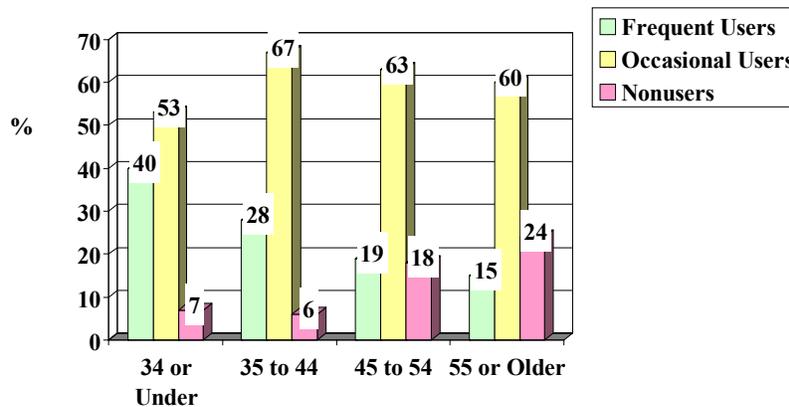
(Q.2-2a)

**Q.2: I would like to ask you a few questions about your use of city parks, trails, and the various types of activities and programs offered by the Parks and Recreation Department. First, thinking about the parks and the facilities in those parks such as picnic tables, shelters, or playground equipment, would you describe you or members of your family as a frequent user of city parks and facilities, an occasional user, or a nonuser of city parks?**

Eighty-five percent say they use city parks and facilities, including 25 percent who describe themselves as “frequent users” and 60 percent who say they are “occasional users.” Most of those under the age of 45 say they or their family members use the parks at least occasionally; the age pattern of usage is shown below.

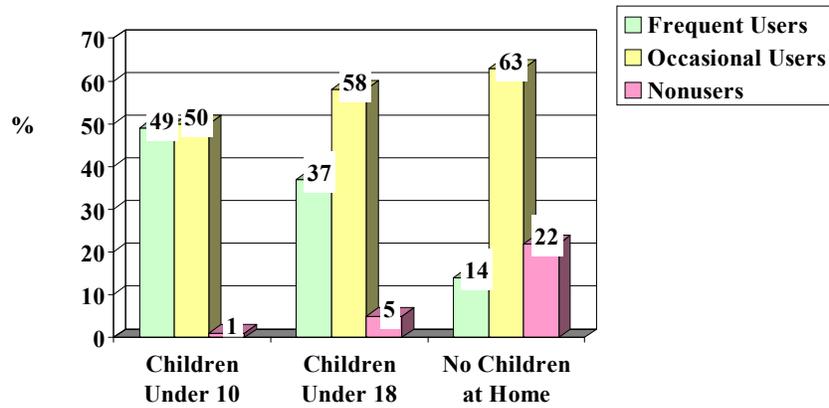
### **Q.2: Usage of Parks and Facilities such as Picnic Tables, Shelters, or Playground Equipment**

*(Differences Based on Age of Respondents)*



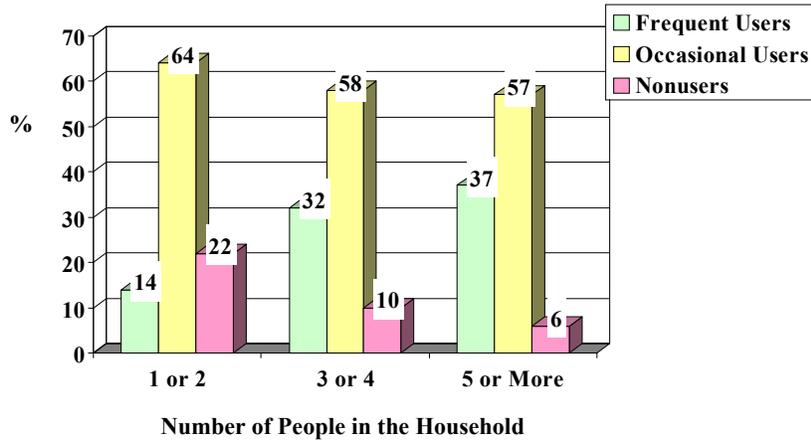
Nearly half (47%) of the respondents say there are children under the age of 18 in their households; 29 percent have children under the age of 10. As shown graphically below, households with children (especially those with children under age 10) are significantly more likely to be frequent park users than are respondents in households with no children living at home.

**Q.2: Usage of Parks and Facilities such as Picnic Tables, Shelters, or Playground Equipment**  
*(Differences Based on Presence of Children in the Household)*



A related graph on the following page shows that park usage increases with the number of people in the household.

**Q.2: Usage of Parks and Facilities such as Picnic Tables, Shelters, or Playground Equipment**  
*(Differences Based on Number of People in the Household)*



Fifteen percent say they do not use city parks, and their reasons are shown below.

**Q.2a: What are the reasons you do not use the existing parks and facilities?**

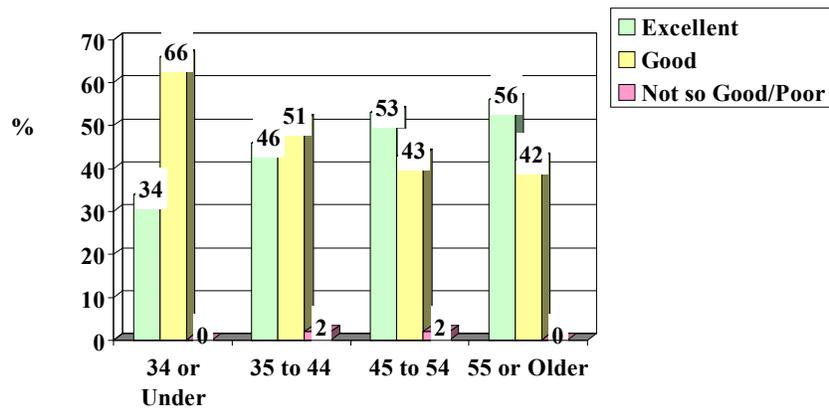
	<i>Number Asked</i>
	[59]
	(%)
No children or no small children, no family in the area	29
No reason to use the parks, we have play equipment in our own backyard, etc.	20
Age, I am too old to use the parks	19
No time, I am too busy	15
Health reasons, limited capabilities for activity	12
They don't offer things we are interested in, we have other interests, etc.	9
Miscellaneous other answers	12
Don't know	5

## **Overall Condition of Bettendorf Park System** **(Q.3-3a)**

**Q.3: Would you rate the overall condition of the parks and facilities in the Bettendorf park system as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?**

Ninety-eight percent rate the overall condition of Bettendorf parks and facilities as either “excellent” (48%) or “good” (50%), while only 1 percent say either “not so good” or “poor” and 1 percent say they “don’t know.” The size of the proportion saying “excellent” increases directly with the age of respondents, as illustrated below.

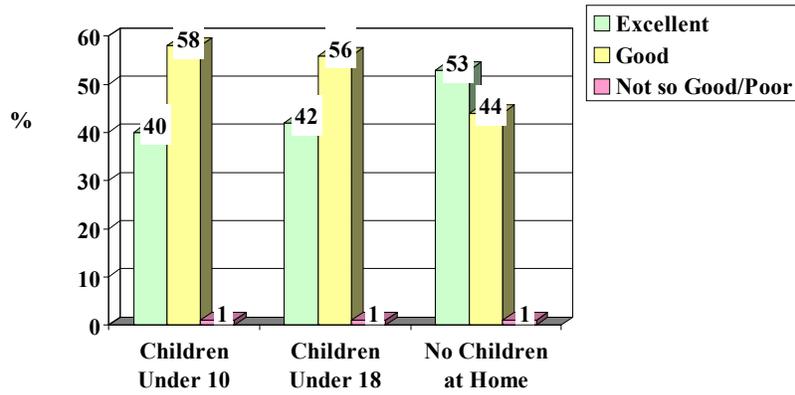
### **Q.3: Overall Condition of Parks and Facilities** *(Differences Based on Age of Respondents)*



Respondents in households with children living at home are more likely to say “good” than “excellent,” while the opposite is true for respondents in households with no children living at home. This finding is illustrated graphically at the top of the following page. The second graph on the following page shows that respondents in households with 5 or more people are less likely than households with fewer people to rate the park system as “excellent.”

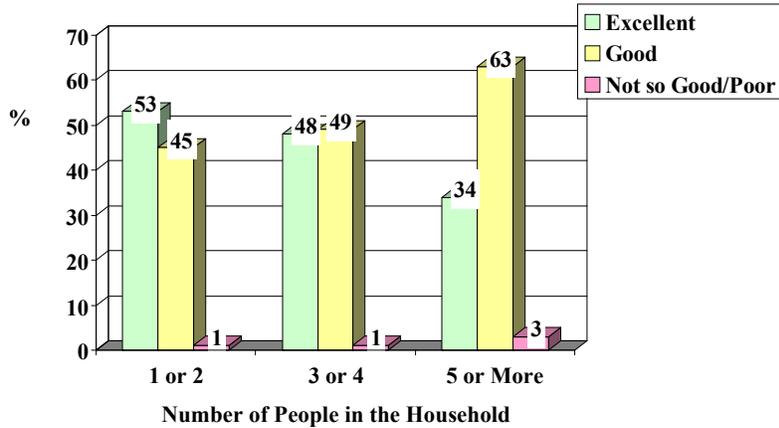
### Q.3: Overall Condition of Parks and Facilities

*(Differences Based on Presence of Children in the Household)*



### Q.3: Overall Condition of Parks and Facilities

*(Differences Based on Number of People in the Household)*



The answer patterns for frequent users and occasional users are identical on this question. Responses by nonusers do not vary significantly from answers by users, except that 10 percent say they “don’t know.”

Only 4 respondents rate the Bettendorf parks and facilities as either “not so good” or “poor” (Q.3), and these people were asked Question 3a: “*What specific issues or concerns do you have regarding the city parks or facilities within the parks?*” On average, these four respondents each mention two things; all answers are listed below.

- 2 Cleanliness or not very clean
- 1 Maintenance of playground equipment
- 1 Kiwanis basketball court is sometimes flooded
- 1 Kiwanis Park is not very well lit
- 1 We can’t feed the ducks
- 1 Trails are inadequate
- 1 Need more recreational activities such as go-carts or miniature golf

## **Equipment or Facilities Needed** **(Q.4)**

**Q.4: What types of specific equipment or facilities would you like to see added or expanded?**

One-fourth (25%) say “none” or that no improvements or expansions are needed, while 16 percent say they “don’t know.” The remaining 60 percent offer a wide variety of answers; suggestions offered by 1 percent or more of the respondents are shown in the summary table on the following page.

**Q.4: What types of specific equipment or facilities would you like to see added or expanded?**

	<i>Number Asked</i>
	<i>[400]</i>
	<i>(%)</i>
Improve/expand bike paths or trails	9
More or safer playground equipment (swings, slides, teeter-totters, etc.)	8
More/cleaner/better maintained restrooms or add porta-potties	5
Toddler/preschool playground equipment	5
Dog park	5
Walking/hiking/running/foot trails	4
Shelters/pavilions, sheltered/shaded picnic areas	4
Water/drinking fountains in the parks or along the trails	3
Frisbee golf, 18-hole disk golf	3
More seating/benches/bleachers	2
Picnic tables	2
Volleyball/sand volleyball courts	2
Safer ground cover, rubber padding under playground equipment	2
Bigger/another swimming pool, pool with a high diving board	2
Tennis courts	2
Basketball courts/hoops	2
Ponds, lagoons or lakes	2
Grills or fire pits	1
Skate parks	1
Baseball/softball fields	1
Fitness center, exercise equipment	1
Soccer fields	1
Water-spray fountains, water recreation areas, water pathways	1
Expand parks, including but not limited to Middle Park/Veterans Park/Rocket Park	1
Connecting bike/hiking trails	1
Trails (nonspecific)	1
Handicap accessible parks/playgrounds	1
Rock-climbing walls	1
Security, officers in the park or on the trails	1
Flower gardens, floral plantings	1
Miscellaneous other answers (single mentions)	15
None, I can't think of anything I would like to see added	25
Don't know	16

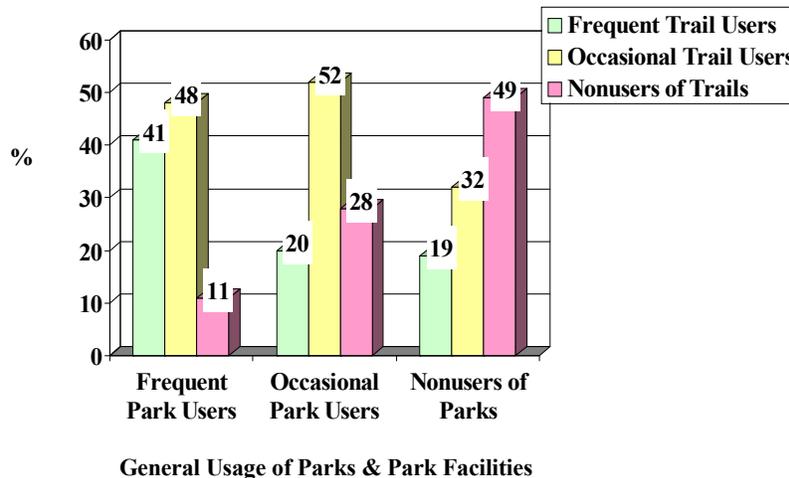
Several of the answer categories shown above are references to riding or hiking trails. Collectively, nearly one-fifth (18%) make reference to trails.

## Recreational Trails (Q.5 & 6)

**Q.5: Thinking specifically about recreational trails in Bettendorf, are you or members of your family frequent users of recreational trails, occasional users, or nonusers of trails?**

Nearly three-fourths are either frequent users (25%) or occasional users (48%), while 27 percent say they are nonusers. Bettendorf residents who are general users of parks and park facilities are also significantly more likely to be users of trails, compared to nonusers of other city parks/facilities. This is illustrated graphically below.

**Q.5: Usage of Recreational Trails**  
(Differences Based on Usage of Parks/Park Facilities in General)

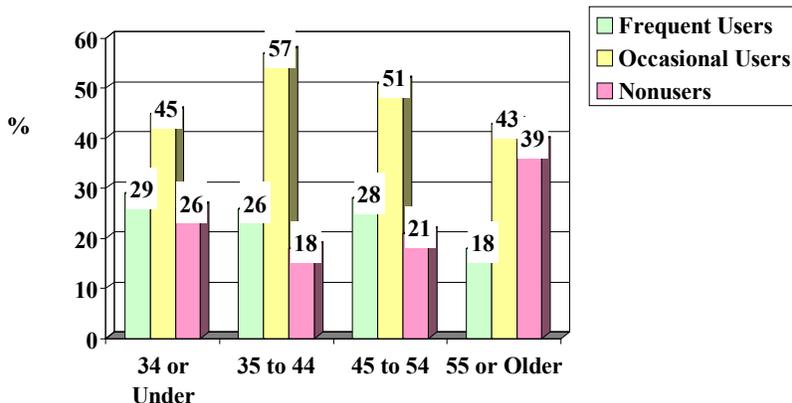


Approximately half (51%) of those who don't currently use parks or park facilities in Bettendorf (Q.2) say they do use recreational trails occasionally (32%) or frequently (19%). Although frequent park users are also the most frequent users of trails, it is clear that trails appeal to a segment of Bettendorf residents that do not otherwise use city parks and park facilities.

The graph at the top of the following page shows that people age 55 or older are significantly less likely to use trails than are younger people.

### Q.5: Usage of Recreational Trails

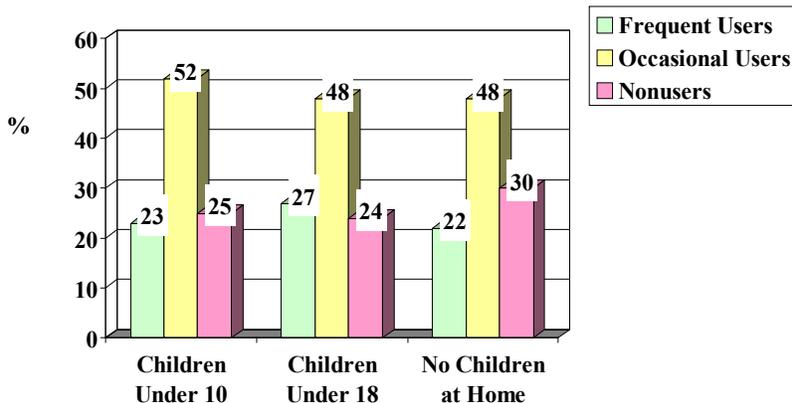
*(Differences Based on Age of Respondents)*



There are no significant differences in the answer patterns on this question based on whether or not children are present in the household.

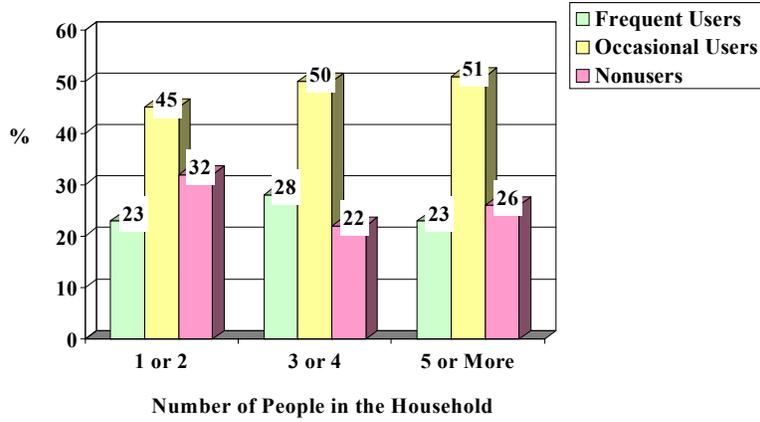
### Q.5: Usage of Recreational Trails

*(Differences Based on Presence of Children in the Household)*



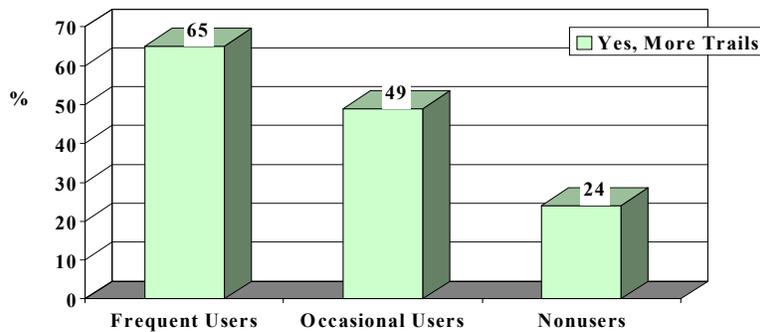
Households with only one or two people are slightly less likely to be trail users than are households with 3 or more people.

**Q.5: Usage of Recreational Trails**  
*(Differences Based on Number of People in the Household)*



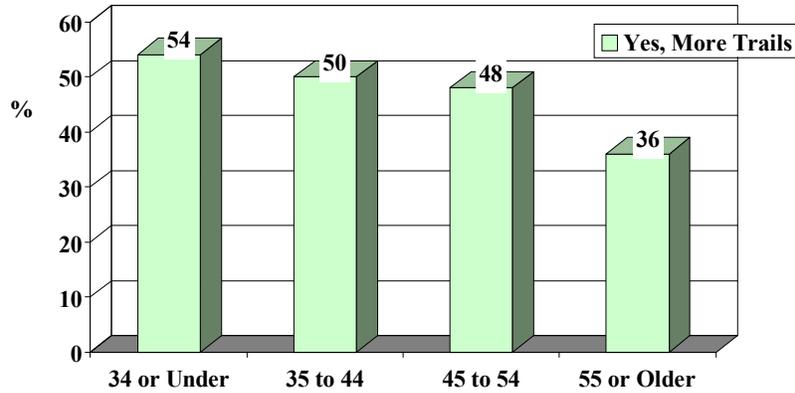
Not quite half (46%) of the survey respondents say they would like to see additional recreational trails developed in Bettendorf. As shown below, nearly two-thirds of the frequent users would like to see additional recreational trails developed, and one-fourth of the nonusers think this is a good idea.

**Q.6: Percent Saying They Would Like to See Additional Recreational Trails in Bettendorf**  
*(Differences Based on Current Trail Usage)*



Approximately half of those under age 55 would like to see additional recreational trails developed in the Bettendorf area, compared to 36 percent of those age 55 or older.

**Q.6: Percent Saying They Would Like to See Additional Recreational Trails in Bettendorf**  
*(Differences Based on Age of Respondents)*



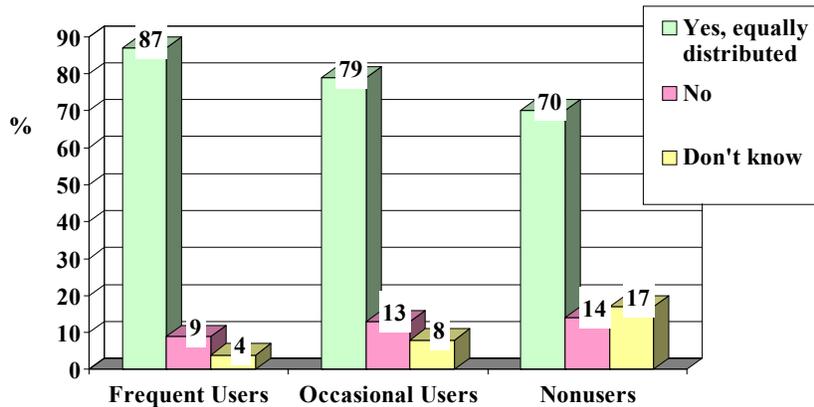
A larger proportion of men (51%) than women (42%) would like to see more recreational trails. Also, a larger proportion of households with children at home would like to see trail expansion (50%), compared to 43 percent of those households without any children living at home.

## **Distribution of Parks and Recreational Facilities** **(Q.7 & 8)**

**Q.7: Do you think the parks and recreation facilities are equally distributed throughout the city of Bettendorf?**

Four-fifths (80%) believe the parks and recreational facilities are equally distributed throughout Bettendorf. Frequent park users are better satisfied with the distribution of parks and park facilities, compared to occasional users or nonusers, but sizable proportions in all three groups seem to be satisfied with the distribution of parks and facilities.

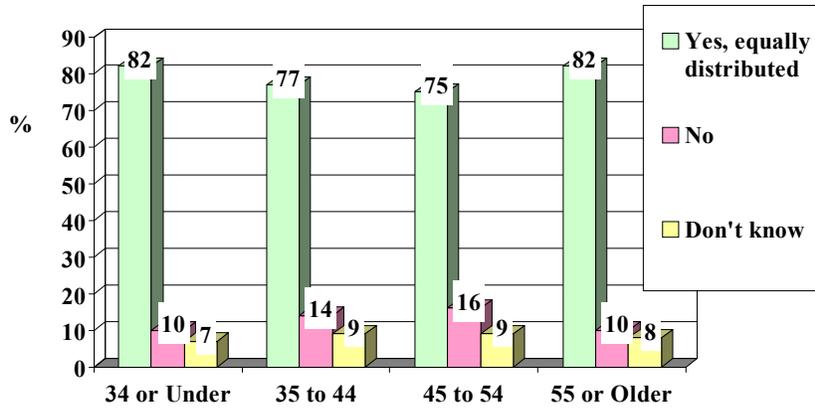
### **Q.7: “Do you think the parks and recreation facilities are equally distributed throughout the city?”** *(Differences Based on Current Park Usage)*



Considering that large proportions of the occasional users and nonusers say the parks and facilities are equally distributed throughout the city suggests that convenience of parks is not the main reason for their underutilizing park facilities.

As shown below, sizable proportions in all age groups say the parks and park facilities are equally distributed throughout the city of Bettendorf.

**Q.7: “Do you think the parks and recreation facilities are equally distributed throughout the city?”**  
*(Differences Based on Age of Respondents)*

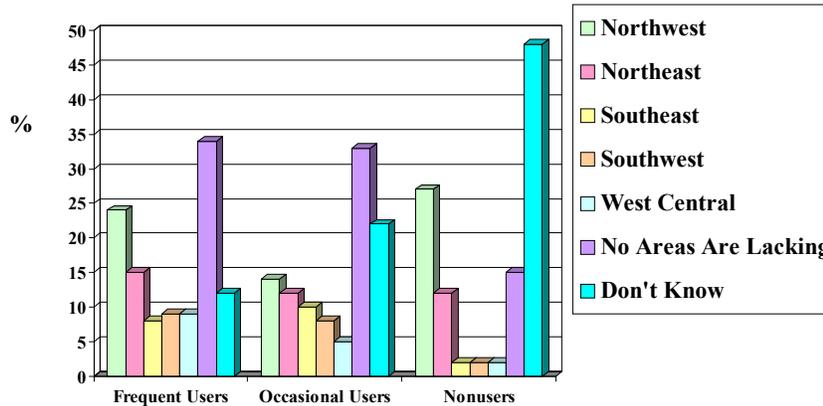


**Q.8: Which geographic areas of Bettendorf, if any, are lacking parks or have inadequate parks or facilities? Would it be (A) Northwest – north of 53<sup>rd</sup> and west of Middle Road? (B) Northeast – north of Crow Creek and east of Middle Road? (C) Southeast – south of Crow Creek and east of Middle Road and Riverdale? (D) Southwest – south of Middle Road and west of Riverdale? (E) West Central – south of 53<sup>rd</sup> and north or west of Middle Road?**

As shown graphically at the top of the following page, if any areas are under-served, it would be the Northwest and Northeast areas. Less than half of the respondents name any area as lacking in parks or facilities. The Northwest area is named by larger proportions than other areas by frequent users, occasional users and nonusers alike.

**Q.8: “Which geographic areas of Bettendorf, if any, are lacking parks or have inadequate parks or facilities?”**

*(Differences Based on Current Park Usage)*



**Activities and Programs**  
**(Q.9-9b & 10)**

**Q.9:** Now I am going to read a list of activities or programs that are offered by the City Parks and Recreation Department. I would like to know which of the activities you or your family members currently use, and which programs you would like to see expanded or developed.

First, do you or your family members currently use *(insert activity or program)*?

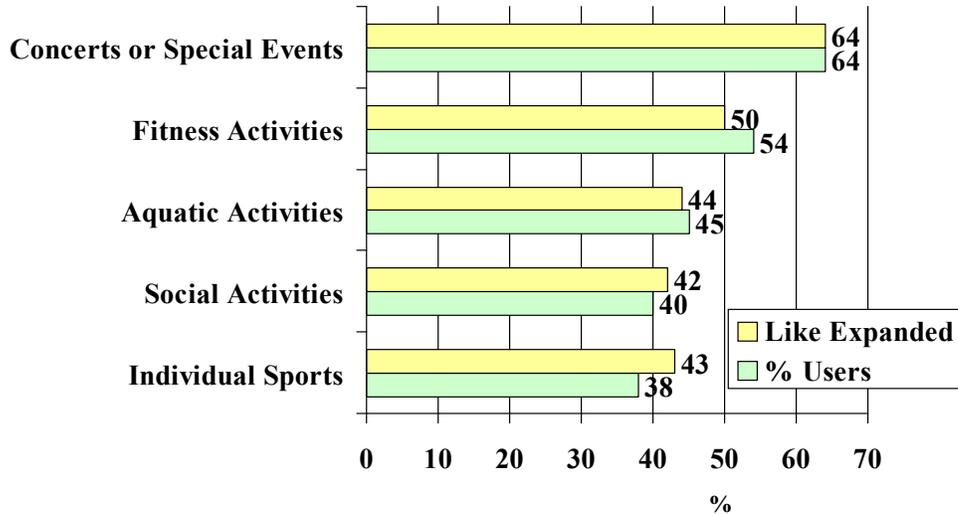
**Q.9a:** Next, would you like to see *(insert activity or program)* developed or expanded?

**Q.9b:** *(Asked only of those saying the program or activity should be developed or expanded)* Are you interested mainly in development or expansion of youth or adult *(insert activity or program)*?

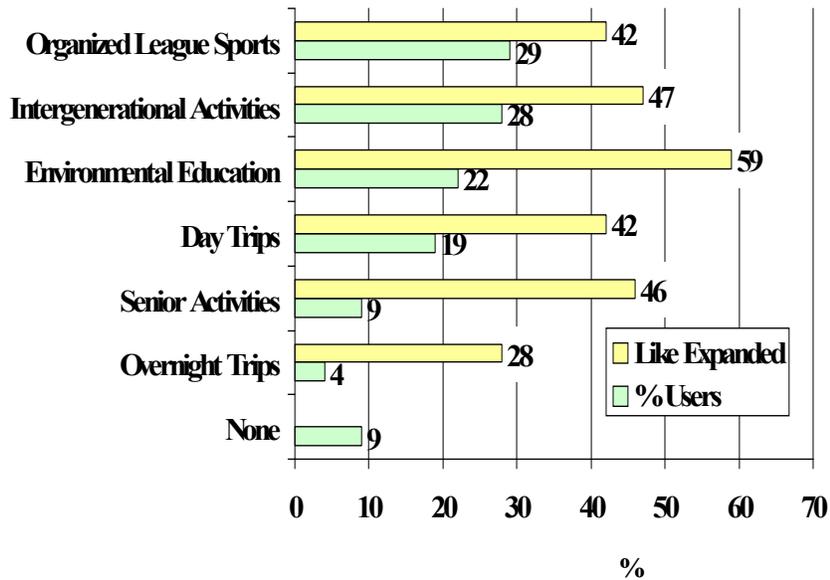
**Q.10:** What other specific activities or programs would you like to see offered or expanded by the Bettendorf Parks and Recreation Department?

A graphic summary of responses to Questions 9 and 9a is found on the following page.

**Q.9: Percent Currently Using Various Activities/Programs**  
**Q.9a: Would Like to See Program/Activity Expanded**  
*(Programs/Activities Most Utilized)*



**Q.9: Percent Currently Using Various Activities/Programs**  
**Q.9a: Would Like to See Program/Activity Expanded**  
*(Programs/Activities Used by Less than 30% of Households)*



Quite a few nonusers express interest in development or expansion of some programs or activities – especially environmental education (52%), concerts or special events (51%), senior activities (44%), intergenerational activities (40%), and fitness activities (40%).

The table below summarizes responses to Questions 9-9b based on the total sample (n=400).

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
Activity or Program:	%	%	%	%	%
Concerts or special events	64	64	5	8	50
Fitness activities	54	50	4	8	38
Aquatic activities	45	44	10	4	29
Social activities	40	42	7	6	30
Individual sports	38	43	7	5	31
Organized league sports	29	42	14	4	24
Intergenerational activities	28	47	3	1	43
Environmental education	22	59	10	3	45
Day trips	19	42	8	6	28
Senior programs/activities	9	46	-- <sup>1</sup>	--	--
Overnight trips	4	28	2	5	21

Most of those saying programs should be expanded tend to believe they should be expanded for both youth and adults.

There are some variations in the usage and interest in development or expansion of these programs and activities that relate to age, sex of respondents, presence or absence of children, number of people in the household, and whether or not members of the household currently use the program or activity. These are shown in table form over the next few pages.

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<sup>1</sup> Not Applicable/Not Asked

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
<b>Concerts or special events</b>	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=254)	100	71	6	7	58
Nonusers (n=146)	-	51	4	9	37
Age 34 or under	57	76	12	10	54
35 to 44	67	70	6	9	54
45 to 54	67	56	-	8	48
55 or older	63	55	4	5	46
Men	63	63	6	9	48
Women	64	64	5	7	52
No children living at home	61	61	3	8	49
One or more child under 18	66	67	7	8	52
One or more child under 10	63	68	9	8	50
1 or 2 people in the household	61	61	2	7	51
3 or 4 people in the household	64	65	7	9	49
5+ people in the household	67	67	7	7	51

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
<b>Fitness activities</b>	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=214)	100	59	4	9	45
Nonusers (n=186)	-	40	3	7	30
Age 34 or under	53	60	8	7	44
35 to 44	59	54	3	7	44
45 to 54	53	48	1	10	36
55 or older	50	42	2	8	31
Men	53	50	3	8	40
Women	54	50	4	8	37
No children living at home	48	45	1	9	34
One or more child under 18	60	57	7	7	43
One or more child under 10	55	56	8	8	40
1 or 2 people in the household	48	45	1	10	33
3 or 4 people in the household	57	51	3	5	43
5+ people in the household	60	63	11	7	41

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
<b>Aquatic activities</b>	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=178)	100	55	12	5	38
Nonusers (n=222)	-	35	8	4	22
Age 34 or under	44	54	16	2	34
35 to 44	63	48	13	-	34
45 to 54	47	37	4	7	26
55 or older	28	38	7	7	23
Men	40	45	10	4	30
Women	48	43	10	4	28
No children living at home	28	39	6	8	25
One or more child under 18	63	49	14	1	34
One or more child under 10	69	57	21	1	35
1 or 2 people in the household	27	38	6	7	25
3 or 4 people in the household	55	44	10	2	31
5+ people in the household	64	57	17	3	36

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
<b>Social activities</b>	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=161)	100	60	7	6	45
Nonusers (n=237)	-	31	6	5	20
Age 34 or under	54	56	10	8	36
35 to 44	43	44	8	4	32
45 to 54	35	39	6	4	29
55 or older	30	33	3	5	24
Men	40	40	6	5	28
Women	41	44	7	6	31
No children living at home	33	37	3	6	28
One or more child under 18	47	48	10	5	33
One or more child under 10	48	52	9	4	38
1 or 2 people in the household	33	37	3	7	27
3 or 4 people in the household	43	44	9	3	30
5+ people in the household	50	51	7	7	37

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
Individual sports	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=152)	100	63	11	8	43
Nonusers (n=248)	-	31	5	3	24
Age 34 or under	38	50	6	6	38
35 to 44	44	47	11	4	31
45 to 54	47	45	7	6	33
55 or older	26	35	6	3	26
Men	47	44	7	4	33
Women	32	43	7	5	30
No children living at home	34	38	4	4	30
One or more child under 18	42	50	11	5	33
One or more child under 10	43	53	14	6	33
1 or 2 people in the household	32	41	5	5	31
3 or 4 people in the household	41	44	9	6	30
5+ people in the household	44	50	11	1	37

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
Organized league sports	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=114)	100	61	22	5	33
Nonusers (n=286)	-	35	10	3	21
Age 34 or under	27	54	18	8	27
35 to 44	47	50	19	3	28
45 to 54	30	33	9	1	21
55 or older	15	35	11	2	23
Men	34	50	13	5	31
Women	25	36	14	3	20
No children living at home	15	36	9	3	23
One or more child under 18	44	50	20	4	26
One or more child under 10	50	56	22	3	30
1 or 2 people in the household	16	38	10	4	23
3 or 4 people in the household	30	42	14	4	23
5+ people in the household	56	56	23	1	31

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
<b>Intergenerational activities</b>	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=110)	100	65	3	1	62
Nonusers (n=290)	-	40	3	1	36
Age 34 or under	34	59	4	1	53
35 to 44	26	44	3	1	40
45 to 54	27	44	1	1	40
55 or older	24	43	2	2	39
Men	28	47	3	-	44
Women	27	47	3	2	42
No children living at home	23	45	2	2	40
One or more child under 18	31	50	3	1	46
One or more child under 10	34	53	3	1	50
1 or 2 people in the household	23	45	3	2	40
3 or 4 people in the household	30	50	2	1	47
5+ people in the household	31	49	3	1	43

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
<b>Environmental education</b>	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=86)	100	84	16	2	65
Nonusers (n=313)	-	52	9	4	39
Age 34 or under	21	68	16	3	49
35 to 44	20	59	16	4	38
45 to 54	28	56	11	3	42
55 or older	19	53	2	2	49
Men	24	59	9	3	47
Women	20	58	11	4	43
No children living at home	18	55	3	4	48
One or more child under 18	25	63	18	2	42
One or more child under 10	23	62	21	3	38
1 or 2 people in the household	18	54	3	4	46
3 or 4 people in the household	23	62	11	3	48
5+ people in the household	26	63	26	1	36

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
<b>Day trips</b>	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=75)	100	76	21	7	48
Nonusers (n=324)	-	34	4	6	23
Age 34 or under	23	48	13	1	34
35 to 44	23	47	14	2	30
45 to 54	17	28	1	8	19
55 or older	13	44	3	12	28
Men	20	41	8	5	28
Women	18	43	7	7	28
No children living at home	11	39	2	10	27
One or more child under 18	27	45	13	2	30
One or more child under 10	24	44	17	1	26
1 or 2 people in the household	13	39	3	11	25
3 or 4 people in the household	21	42	6	3	34
5+ people in the household	27	47	23	1	23

	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
<b>Senior programs and activities</b>	%	%	--	--	--
Current Users (n=36)	100	75			
Nonusers (n=361)	-	44			
Age 34 or under	3	46			
35 to 44	7	37			
45 to 54	3	46			
55 or older	19	54			
Men	10	44			
Women	8	48			
No children living at home	14	53			
One or more child under 18	3	38			
One or more child under 10	3	41			
1 or 2 people in the household	15	53			
3 or 4 people in the household	4	41			
5+ people in the household	1	41			

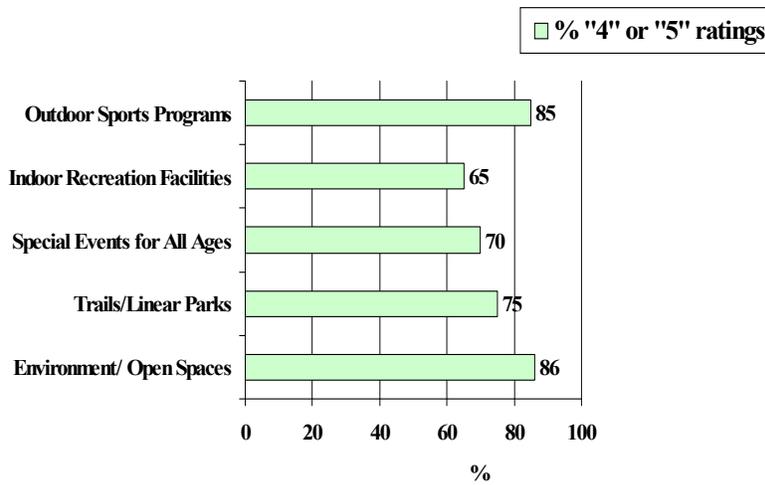
	Currently Use (Q.9)	Like to See Developed/ Expanded (Q.9a)	Mainly Interested in...(Q.9b):		
			Youth	Adults	Both
<b>Overnight trips</b>	%	%	%	%	%
Current Users (n=16)	100	94	-	13	81
Nonusers (n=382)	-	25	2	4	18
Age 34 or under	6	38	4	3	29
35 to 44	3	19	-	-	19
45 to 54	-	19	1	6	12
55 or older	6	33	1	9	22
Men	4	28	1	3	23
Women	4	27	2	6	19
No children living at home	4	30	1	7	21
One or more child under 18	4	25	3	2	20
One or more child under 10	3	22	3	1	19
1 or 2 people in the household	4	29	1	8	20
3 or 4 people in the household	3	24	1	2	21
5+ people in the household	6	30	6	3	21

Respondents were asked a follow-up question (Q.10): “*What other specific activities or programs would you like to see offered or expanded by the Bettendorf Parks and Recreation Department?*” Only 22 percent of the respondents are able to think of any other activities or programs they would like to see offered or expanded; expansion of bike/hiking trails tops the list (7%). Other activities named by 2 percent (each) include tennis courts/lessons/tournaments, a dog park, dancing lessons, and golf activities or events. Other activities or programs named by multiple respondents (but less than 2%) include frisbee/disk golf, movies in the park, better publicity about existing programs, and activities for special-needs children. Nine percent give miscellaneous other answers (named by only one respondent each).

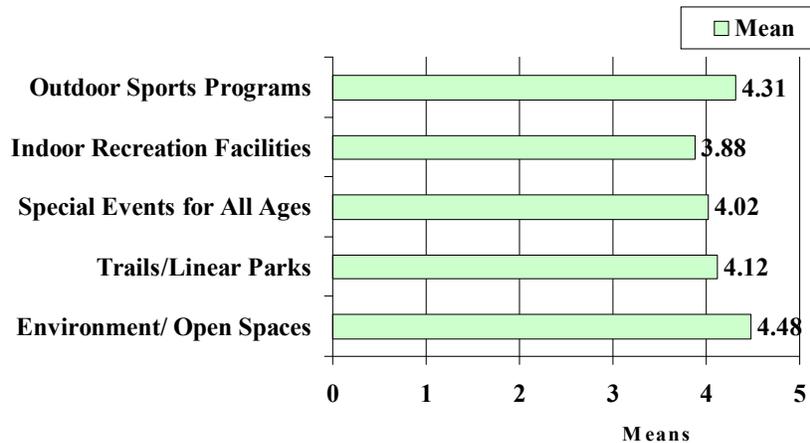
**Importance of Various Functions  
Of Bettendorf Parks Department  
(Q.11)**

As illustrated below, preserving the environment and providing open spaces and providing places for the enjoyment of outdoor sports programs are rated higher in importance than the other programs tested.

**Q.11: Importance of Various Functions of the Bettendorf  
Parks & Recreation Department**  
(“4” or “5” ratings on a 5-point scale)



**Q.11: Importance of Various Functions of the Bettendorf  
Parks & Recreation Department**  
(Mean ratings on a 5-point scale)



The tables below and on the following pages show that there are differences in priorities based on age, presence of children, and number of people in the household.

	<b>Percent High Importance (“4” or “5”)</b>	<b>Mean Ratings</b>
<b>(A) Providing places for the enjoyment of outdoor sports programs</b>	<i>%</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Frequent park users (n=100)	91	4.53
Occasional park users (n=241)	85	4.27
Nonusers (n=59)	78	4.14
Age 34 or under	88	4.27
35 to 44	86	4.37
45 to 54	82	4.24
55 or older	85	4.37
Men	84	4.28
Women	86	4.33
No children living at home	82	4.23
One or more child under 18	89	4.42
One or more child under 10	89	4.46
1 or 2 people in the household	82	4.28
3 or 4 people in the household	85	4.24
5+ people in the household	94	4.59

Clearly, providing places for the enjoyment of outdoor sports programs is a high priority to Bettendorf residents in all segments shown in the table above. The highest importance scores are found among frequent park users and households with 5 or more people, but even a majority of nonusers give this a high importance rating.

	<b>Percent High Importance (“4” or “5”)</b>	<b>Mean Ratings</b>
<b>(B) Providing facilities for indoor recreation and fitness activities</b>	<i>%</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Frequent park users (n=100)	71	4.07
Occasional park users (n=241)	61	3.82
Nonusers (n=59)	68	3.81
Age 34 or under	67	3.82
35 to 44	59	3.86
45 to 54	70	3.94
55 or older	64	3.92
Men	58	3.70
Women	70	4.02
No children living at home	60	3.77
One or more child under 18	70	4.02
One or more child under 10	66	3.96
1 or 2 people in the household	64	3.88
3 or 4 people in the household	61	3.85
5+ people in the household	74	4.00

Women place higher importance than do men on facilities provided for indoor recreation and fitness activities. The highest importance scores are found among frequent park users, women, households with children, and the overlapping group comprising households with 5 or more people. These scores are significantly lower than the importance ratings for providing places for the enjoyment of outdoor sports programs (item A) or preserving the environment and providing open spaces (item E).

	<b>Percent High Importance (“4” or “5”)</b>	<b>Mean Ratings</b>
<b>(C) Providing special events for residents of all ages</b>	<i>%</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Frequent park users (n=100)	79	4.23
Occasional park users (n=241)	68	3.97
Nonusers (n=59)	61	3.86
Age 34 or under	72	4.02
35 to 44	72	4.02
45 to 54	70	4.04
55 or older	67	4.00
Men	65	3.89
Women	74	4.11
No children living at home	67	3.99
One or more child under 18	74	4.05
One or more child under 10	73	4.05
1 or 2 people in the household	68	4.03
3 or 4 people in the household	71	3.99
5+ people in the household	73	4.06

There are no significant differences in importance ratings based on the age of respondents. In fact, most of the differences shown in the table above are not statistically significant. Women place higher importance than do men on special events for all ages, however, and frequent park users rate it higher in importance than do nonusers of the city’s parks and recreation facilities.

	<b>Percent High Importance (“4” or “5”)</b>	<b>Mean Ratings</b>
<b>(D) Providing trails and linear parks that connect people and neighborhoods to community facilities, events, services, and businesses</b>	<i>%</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Frequent park users (n=100)	84	4.39
Occasional park users (n=241)	72	4.04
Nonusers (n=59)	71	3.98
Age 34 or under	80	4.19
35 to 44	78	4.31
45 to 54	73	4.06
55 or older	70	3.98
Men	70	4.04
Women	79	4.18
No children living at home	71	4.01
One or more child under 18	80	4.26
One or more child under 10	79	4.24
1 or 2 people in the household	73	4.03
3 or 4 people in the household	78	4.21
5+ people in the household	76	4.20

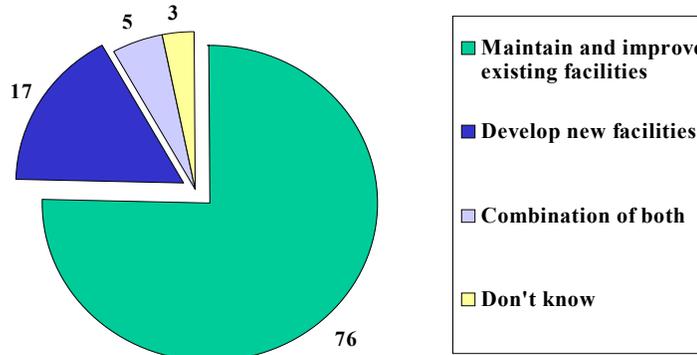
The highest ratings on this item are found among frequent park users, women, people age 44 or under, and households with children living at home. Overall, this item ranks third of the five types of programs tested by this question.

	<b>Percent High Importance (“4” or “5”)</b>	<b>Mean Ratings</b>
<b>(E) Preserving the environment and providing open spaces</b>	<i>%</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Frequent park users (n=100)	89	4.60
Occasional park users (n=241)	88	4.46
Nonusers (n=59)	76	4.32
Age 34 or under	79	4.38
35 to 44	90	4.49
45 to 54	87	4.48
55 or older	89	4.55
Men	82	4.35
Women	89	4.57
No children living at home	86	4.49
One or more child under 18	88	4.48
One or more child under 10	89	4.48
1 or 2 people in the household	87	4.50
3 or 4 people in the household	86	4.47
5+ people in the household	89	4.50

Preserving the environment and providing outdoor spaces has universal appeal. Most of the differences shown in the table above are not statistically significant, though people age 34 and under tend to assign lower importance ratings than people age 35 or older, and nonusers of Bettendorf parks and facilities tend to offer lower importance ratings than do users.

**Funding New Facilities Versus  
Improving Existing Facilities  
(Q.12)**

**Q.12: “Generally, do you think the Bettendorf Parks and Recreation Department should develop new or additional facilities, or would you prefer that they spend most of their money maintaining and improving existing facilities?”**



In all survey subgroups, we find proportions of 70 percent or more saying most of the city’s money budgeted for parks and recreation should be spent maintaining existing facilities rather than developing new facilities.

Those (17%) who say additional or new facilities should be developed were asked Question 12a: “*What specific additional facilities should be provided for Bettendorf residents?*” Approximately one-third of the respondents who believe new facilities should be developed advocate development of trails (bike trails or walking/hiking trails). Smaller proportions express preference for building a new swimming pool or aquatic center, developing new parks in the newer sections of town (northwest or northeast), adding playground equipment, a fitness center or community recreation center, new restrooms, etc. [When these responses are based on the total sample of 400 respondents (including the 76% who prefer the city Parks and Recreation Department spend its money on existing facilities), only 7 percent advocate new trails being developed, while proportions of only 2 percent or less advocate development of any other specific type of new park facility.]

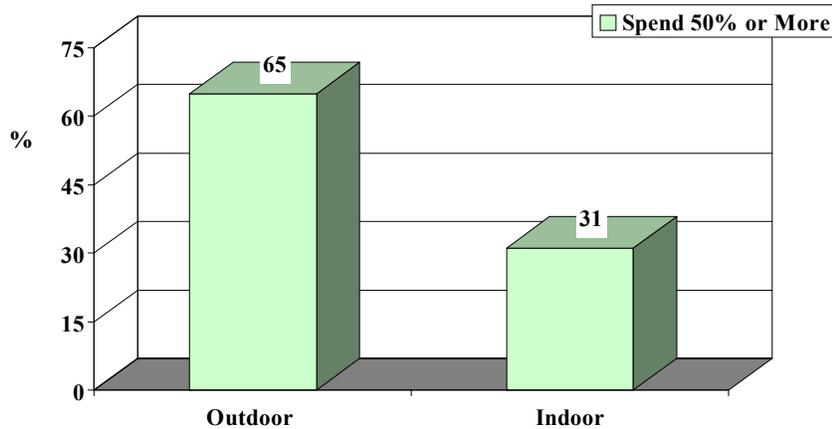
## **Budgeting for Outdoor Versus Indoor Facilities (Q.13-15)**

**Q.13: If you were asked to help prepare a budget for the Parks and Recreation Department, what percentage of the budget would you allocate to outdoor recreation facilities, parks, and open spaces, and what percentage would you allocate to indoor recreation facilities?**

Approximately two-thirds (65%) of the respondents prefer that the Parks and Recreation Department spend 50 percent or more of its money on outdoor recreational facilities, compared to only 31 percent who would prefer that the Parks and Recreation Department spend 50 percent or more of its money on indoor facilities. Approximately one-fifth (21%) of the respondents prefer that the money be allocated 50-50 between indoor and outdoor facilities. (Only 10 percent would spend more than 50% on indoor recreational facilities).

### **Q.13: Allocation of Budget to Indoor Versus Outdoor Park and Recreation Facilities**

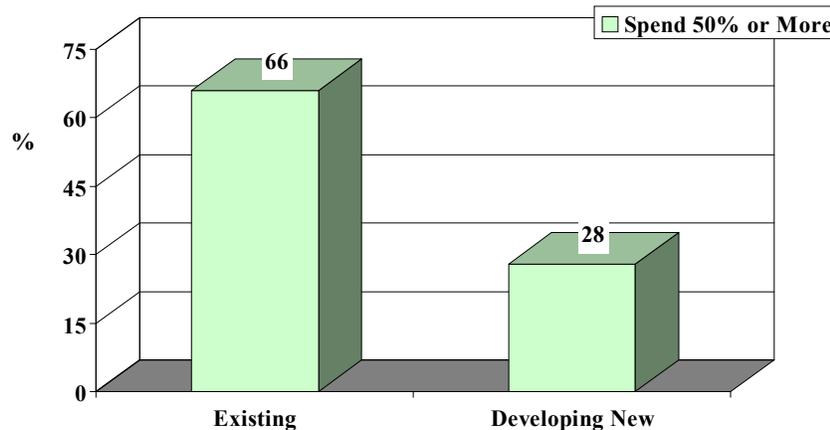
*(Shows Proportions Saying 50% or More of Budget Should be Spent on  
Outdoor and Indoor Recreation Facilities)*



**Q.14: Thinking first about the indoor recreation facilities, what percent of the indoor recreation budget would you allocate to improving and maintaining existing facilities, and what percent to developing or building new indoor recreation facilities?**

Approximately two-thirds (66%) of the respondents prefer that the Parks and Recreation Department spend 50 percent or more of its money on existing indoor recreational facilities, while only 28 percent prefer that the department spend 50 percent or more of its money on developing or building new indoor recreation facilities. One-fifth (19%) of the respondents would divide the money equally between maintaining existing facilities and developing new indoor facilities. (Only 9 percent would allocate more than 50% to development of new indoor recreation facilities).

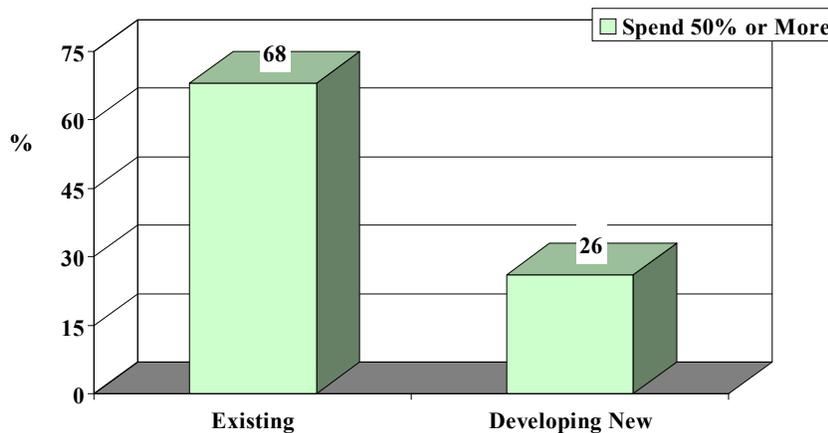
**Q.14: Allocation of Indoor Recreation Budget Between Maintaining Existing Facilities and Developing New Facilities**  
*(Shows Proportions Allocating 50% or More of Budget to Maintaining Existing Facilities Versus Developing New Indoor Recreation Facilities)*



**Q.15: What percent of the city budget for outdoor recreation would you allocate to making improvements and maintaining existing parks and open spaces, versus creating or developing new outdoor recreation facilities, including parks, trails, and open spaces?**

More than two-thirds (68%) say 50 percent or more of the city budget for outdoor recreation should be allocated to improving or maintaining existing parks and open spaces, while only 26 percent would allocate 50 percent or more of the budget to the development of new outdoor spaces. Nearly one-fifth (18%) would allocate the money 50-50 between new and existing facilities. (Only 8 percent would allocate more than 50% to developing new outdoor spaces).

**Q.15: Allocation of Outdoor Recreation Budget Between Maintaining Existing Facilities and Developing New Facilities**  
*(Shows Proportions Allocating 50% or More of Budget to Maintaining Existing Facilities Versus Developing New Indoor Recreation Facilities)*



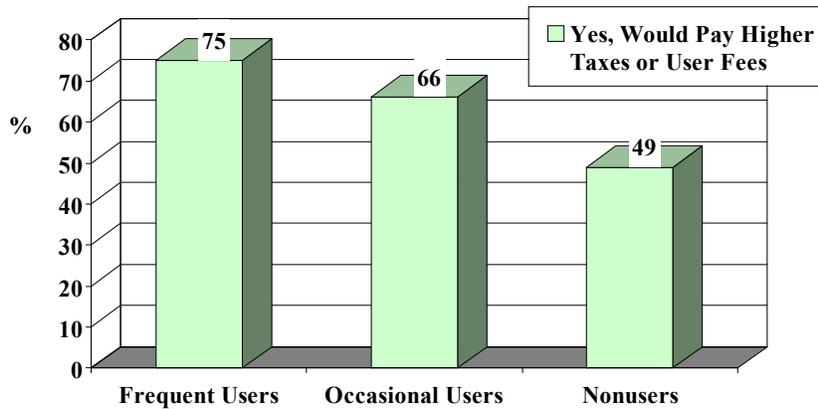
In summary, residents of Bettendorf would allocate more budget dollars to outdoor facilities than to indoor facilities and more dollars to maintaining and improving existing facilities than to developing new recreational facilities.

**User Fees and Taxes**  
**(Q.16-16a)**

**Q.16: If the City of Bettendorf were to acquire new land or develop new facilities, the funding would probably come from a combination of corporate and private donations, increased user fees, and higher taxes. Are you willing to pay higher taxes or user fees to support improvement in the parks and recreation facilities and amenities?**

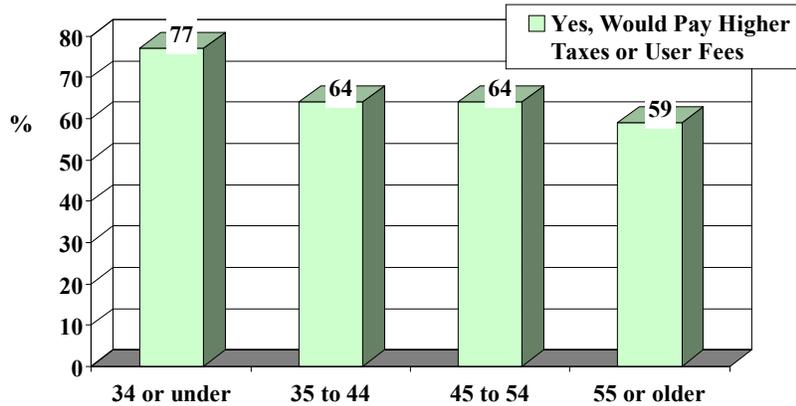
Two-thirds (66%) say they are willing to pay higher taxes or increased user fees to support park improvements. There are significant differences in the answer patterns based on the current level of park usage and the age of respondents, however, as shown in the following two graphs.

**Q.16: Percent Willing to Pay Higher Taxes or User Fees to Support Park Improvements**  
*(Differences Based on Current Park Usage)*



**Q.16: Percent Willing to Pay Higher Taxes or User Fees to Support Park Improvements**

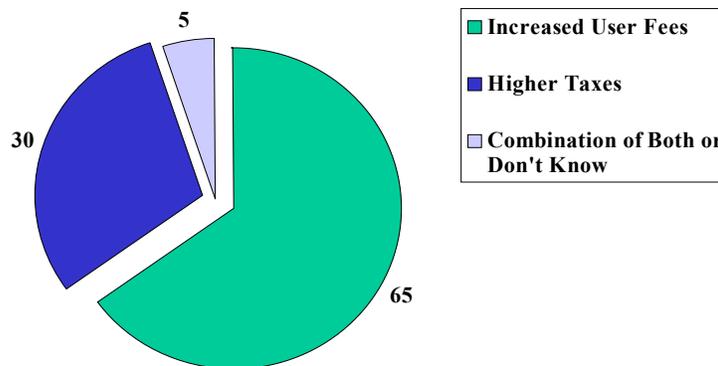
*(Differences Based on Age of Respondents)*



Bettendorf residents who answer “yes” to Question 16 were asked Question 16a: “Which do you prefer – increased user fees or higher taxes?” As shown below, respondents prefer increased user fees to higher taxes by a ratio of more than 2 to 1.

**Q.16a: Preference for Increased User Fees or Higher Taxes**

*(Based on 263 respondents who say “yes” on Question 16)*



**Demographic Profile of Respondents**  
**(S1, Q.1 & Q.17-18b and Sex)**

Only residents of Bettendorf age 16 or older were interviewed (S1). The age distribution of the sample is shown below.

**Q.1: Are you 16 to 24, 25 to 34, 35 to 44, 45 to 54, 55 to 64, or 65 or older?**

	<i>Number Asked</i>
	[400]
	(%)
16 to 24	9
25 to 34	16
35 to 44	23
45 to 54	22
55 to 64	13
65 or older	18

Interviewers determined the sex of respondents by voice characteristics, and the sample includes a larger proportion of women (57%) than men (43%). Also, ninety percent of the survey respondents are homeowners rather than renters (Q.17).

As shown in the table below, more than half of the respondents live in households with 3 or more people. Less than half of the households in the sample have children living in the home<sup>2</sup>, however, as shown in the graph at the top of the following page.

**Q.18: What is the total number of people in your household?**

	<i>Number Asked</i>
	[400]
	(%)
One person	13
Two people	32
Three people	15
Four people	22
Five or more	18
Refused to say	1

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<sup>2</sup> Single-person households were assumed to have no children living at home.

**Q.18a: What is the total number of children, including teenagers, under the age of 18 living in your household?**

	<i>Number Asked</i>
	<i>(%)</i>
No children at home	52
One child	15
Two children	21
Three or more children	11
Refused to say	1

Nearly two-thirds (63%) of the households with children living at home say they have at least one child under the age of 10, while 37 percent of the households with children under 18 have children only above the age of 10. Altogether, 117 survey respondents (29% of the total sample) have children under 10 living in their homes.