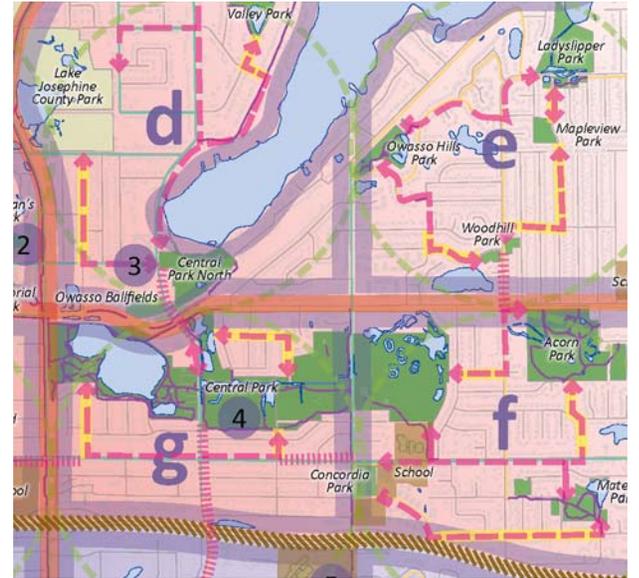




Parks and Recreation System

# Master Plan

FINAL | 3 November 2010



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Parks and Recreation System

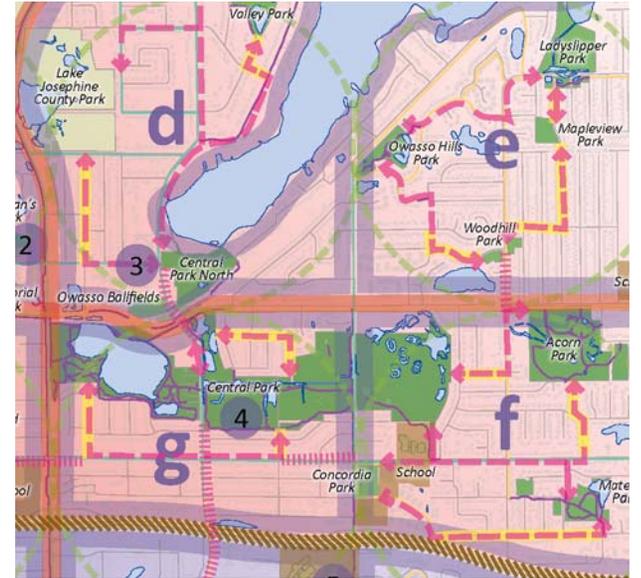
# Master Plan

FINAL | 3 November 2010

Prepared for:  
The City of Roseville, Minnesota

Prepared by:  
Roseville Parks and Recreation Department

LHB, Inc.  
Cornejo Consulting



## Credits

### Citizen Advisory Team

Richard “Jake” Jacobson	<i>CAT facilitator</i>
David Holt	Gale Pederson
Bob Willmus	Julia Jacobson
Dan Roe	Erin Azer
Bob Bierscheid	Michael Butler
Gregg Cummings	Bill Farmer
Alisa Farmer	Rick Goodmanson
Cecelia Green	Gary Grefenberg
Andrea Gruver	Elfrieda Hintze
Brent Huberty	Sheila Mahnken
Michael Maristuen	Rose Masanz
Nancy O’Brien	Brad Peper
Matthew Sundeen	Tom Turba
Ken Yokanovich	Katie Young

### Parks and Recreation Commission

James Stark	<i>Chair</i>
Jason Etten	<i>Vice Chair</i>
Julia Jacobsen	<i>Student Representative</i>
Erin Azer	
Randall Doneen	
David Holt	
Mary Holt	
Gale Pederson	
Harold Ristow	
Robert Willmus	

### Technical Advisory Team

Kyle Axtell	<i>Water Resource Specialist, Rice Creek Watershed District</i>
Connie Bernardy	<i>Coordinator, Active Living Ramsey Communities</i>
Bob Fossum	<i>Capitol Regional Watershed District</i>
Karen Schaub	<i>Director of Community Education and Public Relations, Independent School District 623</i>
Nick Temali	<i>Director of Community Education/Technology, Mounds View Community Education</i>
Doug Thomas	<i>Administrator, Rice Creek Watershed District</i>
Jan Vanderwall	<i>Transportation Coordinator, Roseville Area Schools</i>
Jody Yungers	<i>Director of Park Services and Operations, Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department</i>
Merrie Zakaras	<i>Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Independent School District 623</i>
Jeanne Kelsey	<i>Housing and Redevelopment Authority, City of Roseville</i>
Rick Mathwig	<i>Police Chief, City of Roseville</i>
Bill Malinen	<i>City Manager, City of Roseville</i>
Chris Miller	<i>Finance Director, City of Roseville</i>
Tim O’Neill	<i>Fire Chief, City of Roseville</i>
Duane Schwartz	<i>Public Works Director, City of Roseville</i>
Pat Trudgeon	<i>Community Development Director, City of Roseville</i>

### City Council

Craig Klausung	<i>Mayor</i>
Amy Ihlan	
Jeff Johnson	
Tammy Pust	
Dan Roe	

### Parks and Recreation Department

Lonnie Brokke	<i>Director</i>
Kara Thomas	<i>Department Assistant</i>
Jill Anfang	<i>Assistant Director</i>
Jeff Evenson	<i>Park Superintendent</i>
Brad Tullberg	<i>Skating Center Superintendent</i>

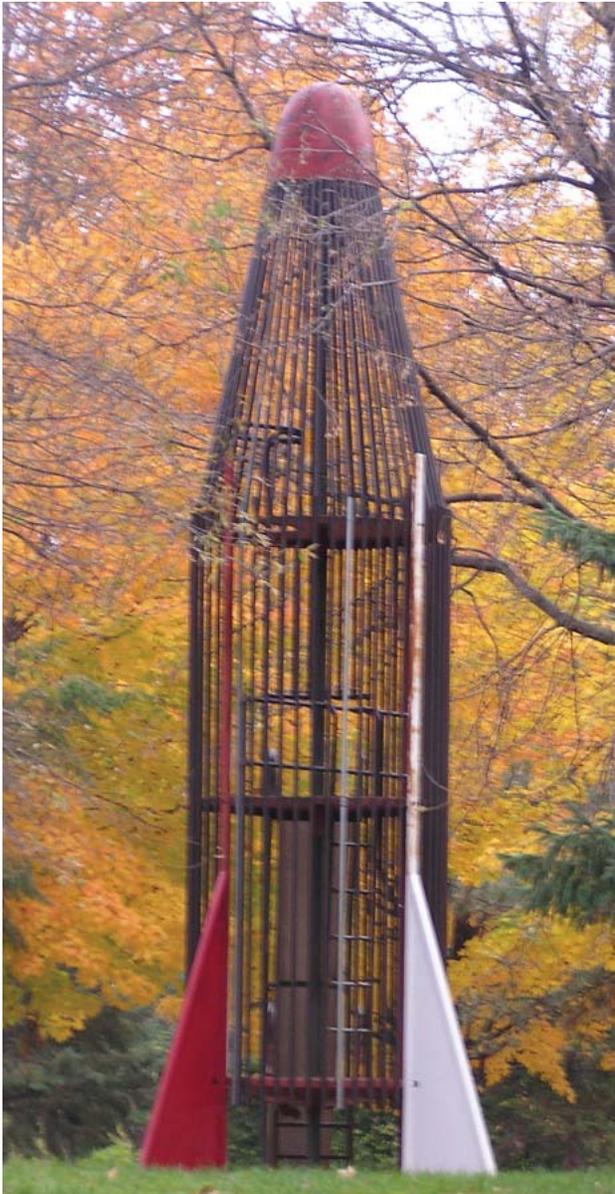
*Contributions were made by entire Parks and Recreation Department Staff throughout process*

### Design Team

Michael Schroeder	<i>LHB, Inc.</i>
Dan Cornejo	<i>Cornejo Consulting</i>
Lydia Major	<i>LHB, Inc.</i>
Jason Aune	<i>LHB, Inc.</i>
CJ Fernandez	<i>LHB, Inc.</i>
Jeff Evenson	<i>Parks Superintendent, City of Roseville</i>



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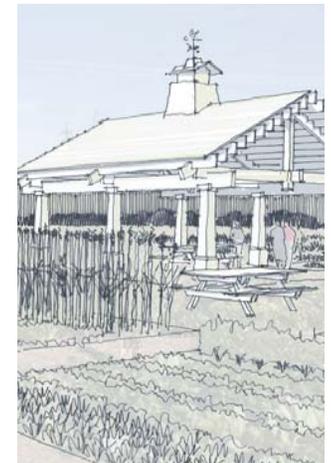




Parks and Recreation System

# Master Plan

## Part A | Core Values and Key Directions



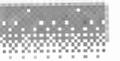
**Just imagine . . . Right Here In Roseville,  
All These Close-By Recreational Facilities,  
For Your Family And Friends To Enjoy The Whole Year 'Round!**

- 5 Neighborhood Parks
- 12 Playgrounds
- 1 Central Community Park
- 2 Beach Areas



**Village of Roseville**

**KEY TO MAP**

 PROPOSED SITES to be acquired or developed with local funds	 SITES OWNED or leased by Village, to be developed with local funds	 SCHOOL PROPERTY including school playgrounds	 COUNTY PROPERTY for recreational use
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*In 1960, when Roseville was still a “village,” residents imagined recreation facilities oriented to families in what became the city’s first Parks and Recreation Plan. Today, the community continues to enjoy their forward looking plans for a robust and vibrant park and recreation system.*



## A legacy of parks and recreation

*By starting now to set aside the land which we will need, at locations which can best serve all neighborhoods, it is our confident belief that we can materially add to the general welfare and desirability of our village.*

Robert C. Bell, Chairman  
Roseville Planning Commission  
from the **Roseville Parks and Recreation Plan**, 1960

More than fifty years ago, residents of a much younger Roseville set about framing a community around its parks and forged a path toward the park and recreation system we enjoy today. Since then, Roseville has multiplied far beyond its population in 1960. Our land has been consumed by development to the point where few, if any, undeveloped parcels remain. We seem to have less time for leading balanced lives, but we hear that new technology promises greater opportunities for leisure. Resources seem ever more limited. And our community's personality is evolving to embrace new residents and cultures. These challenges and opportunities mean that our parks, programs, and facilities are more important than ever. The purpose that Chairman Bell and his contemporaries intended in the city's original plan has served Roseville well for the last fifty years, but today, our parks need attention.

Now, we enjoy the fruits of their efforts as we look forward to a Roseville that continues to respond with parks, programs, and facilities that are a valued and essential part of our community. Roseville has an outstanding parks and recreation system with 679 acres of parkland, 30 parks, numerous facilities and a variety of opportunities. Ramsey County and school district properties complement our award-winning Parks and Recreation System. But much of our parks and recreation system was acquired and constructed in the 1960s, 70s, and 80s. Many elements are aging or need updating. Recreation trends and changing demographics suggest the need for facility or programming changes.

Now, it's our turn to create a plan to guide our parks.

### ***Outcomes, constellations and sectors, and evolving parks and facilities***

As we consider of our parks and recreation system, our master plan will provide...



***outcomes*** that provide a way of framing what we want our parks and recreation system to be and a way of measuring how well we are doing in achieving our goals



***constellations and sectors*** that offer a way of delivering parks and recreation facilities and services to Roseville's neighborhoods and connections that unite our community



***parks and facilities that evolve*** to meet our changing needs and are shaped through processes that engage residents and stakeholders to define appropriate directions

## ***Imagine Roseville 2025: a springboard for the future of our parks and recreation system***

During 2006, Roseville embarked on an ambitious program of engaging citizens to define the future of their community. By the end of the year, and through dozens of meetings and workshops, a vision was framed to address the foundations of a great community. While many of the goals relate directly to our parks and recreation system, one in particular stands out:

***Roseville has world-renowned parks, open space, and multi-generational recreation programs and facilities.***

This goal is supported by two strategies which are reflected in the work of the master plan:

- Expand and maintain year-round, creative programs and facilities for all ages, abilities, and interests
- Provide high quality and well-maintained facilities, parks, and trails

In 2009 the City initiated an effort to update the City Parks and Recreation System Master Plan. Over the years, there have been ongoing citizen planning efforts to improve various parks, programs, and facilities. This update looked more in-depth and system-wide. This effort included extensive public outreach to ensure citizens' needs, expectations, and standards are met for today and into the future. We have, in this master plan, a chance to consider how our parks and recreation system will evolve to serve Roseville over the next fifty years, continuing the legacy first forged by Chairman Bell and his colleagues in 1960 by:

- aligning the master plan with Imagine Roseville 2025;
- evaluating the needs and desires of our community;
- identifying parks and recreation system needs, desires, and interests of the community today and in the future based on anticipated demographic, economic and sociologic changes;
- setting a clear vision for Roseville's parks, programs, and facilities;
- establishing program priorities for the parks and recreation system;
- evaluating existing parks and recreation system features, amenities and services related to peer communities and accepted national standards to identify problems and potentials;
- prioritizing parks and recreation system improvements;
- identifying sustainable funding sources and investing wisely; and
- establishing policies and priorities for preserving and restoring existing natural features and amenities for the benefit of the community as a whole.

## An essential service

Parks and recreation services are essential to our community because they establish and maintain our quality of life, ensure the health and well-being of families and youth, promote social bonds by uniting neighbors, and contribute to the economic and environmental well-being of Roseville.

Parks as an essential service was envisioned in our first parks and recreation plan. We can look to the words of its framers to understand what they imagined:

*The Plan is comprehensive in scope and looks to the day when Roseville will contain some 46,000 persons and when open space will be as precious a commodity as it is in the large central cities of the nation. By starting now to set aside land which we will need, at locations which can best serve all neighborhoods, it is our confident belief that we can materially add to the general welfare and desirability of our Village. Hard work will still be required to change the plan as laid down on paper into a reality of developed parks and playgrounds which we and our children can enjoy. The realization of this ambition must involve citizen participation and a community-wide willingness to support the philosophy, goals and individual locations which are involved. Any criticism of these items as discussed in the present report are welcomed by the Planning Commission which is very anxious to reflect your needs in its plans.*

Robert C. Bell, Chairman  
Roseville Planning Commission  
excerpt from the **Roseville Parks and Recreation Plan**, 1960



*A neighborhood gathering in a park is a simple event that forms tighter bonds between residents and greater appreciation for their community. This kind of activity is a clear demonstration of the essential nature of parks and recreation in Roseville.*

## Engaging the community

The master plan for our parks and recreation system was founded in a process of resident and stakeholder engagement, allowing us to frame a plan based on shared values and a clear vision. Our process included:

- more than a dozen meetings with a 28 member Citizen Advisory Team;
- meetings with a Technical Advisory Team composed of representatives of the schools, Ramsey County parks, neighboring cities, watershed districts, and city staff;
- community meetings and a parks planning workshop;
- listening sessions with neighborhoods, parks and recreation groups, and local businesses;
- questionnaires and surveys;
- and more than 100 “meetings in a box,” where groups of stakeholders shared their ideas and concerns directly with Citizen Advisory Team and Parks and Recreation Department staff.

*The master plan process was rooted in community engagement. The range of events allowed the Citizen Advisory Team to understand more than community desires—they gained a sense of the values the people of Roseville held for their parks and recreation system.*



## A vision for Roseville's parks and recreation system

### *The spirit of our vision*

*It's in a spirit of finding a common sense of purpose—a vision—that we find resonance with the ideas citizens have carried forward in Roseville. Through dialogue and the exchange of ideas, an understanding of changing contexts and new challenges, we have come to understand that our parks are, in fact, world-renowned. Because we have created the means to make and keep them our own, we recognize the need to perpetuate their presence as a vital and essential part of our community. We know that as we secure a future for parks for our individual reasons, we secure them for the more universal purposes of our common life as a community.*

### *The components of our vision*

**Playing and Learning Life Skills.** We envision parks as places for play, embracing both age and culture, where games happen for the sake of amusement, where we learn through play to act and interact, and where we compete as our proficiencies grow.

**Active Living All the Time.** We envision activities where we gain skills that bring life-long physical and mental health and create a state of well-being from activity and interaction.

**Citizen Engagement.** We envision parks and facilities as places for programs that engage our citizens, young and old, with activities and adventures that they might not otherwise engage in, with services directed to community needs, with programs that connect people of similar interests while yielding a greater sense of community, and with events that celebrate traditions and create new customs.

**Environmental Stewardship.** We envision our parks as an opportunity to care for our wild places and creatures, where we have been entrusted to manage a resource so future generations benefit from the spirit of nature, and where nature is extended to the experience of every park visitor.

**High Quality and Maintenance.** We envision administering our parks to ensure continuity and quality of service, where we maintain well what we have created, and where we plan carefully new additions so that they, too, become integral, well-cared for parts of our parks and recreation system.

**Community Connections.** We envision parks, and the connections between them, as a way of binding us to our neighborhoods and to our community, where we connect to nature and to each other—both being essential elements of our place, where we celebrate our common cultures, where we form friendships, practice citizenship, and where we choose to create commitments to our community.

**Community Character and Identity.** We envision our parks and recreation system as a feature that we frame for ourselves, that we invite others who share our passion for parks and community to help us create, that we mold as Roseville continues to change, and that we embrace as an essential part of our community's character and identity.

## Context and challenges

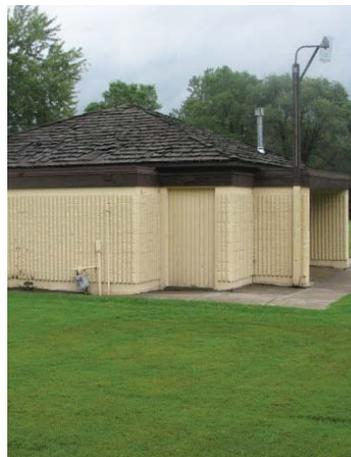
While Roseville’s parks and recreation system is clearly a great system, there are challenges. Many parts of the system are aging, obsolete, or have simply reached the end of their useful life. Others fail to highlight the kind of community Roseville truly is.

The community is changing. Today, Roseville is nearly fully developed, with only about two percent of land undeveloped. Our demographics are changing, with trends suggesting greater cultural diversity, an increase in the age of the population, and a higher number of one and two person households. Demographic change suggest we will soon see a trend toward younger families, as they fill homes once occupied by seniors.

Finally, as sound as the first parks plan was, there are parts of Roseville that are underserved. In the city’s Planning District 12 (in southwest Roseville), the nearest parks are in Falcon Heights and Lauderdale. In areas of the community with a work-day population, recreation opportunities are also lacking.

While we view our parks and recreation system with pride, we also see its wear—from age, and from intensive use. Today, more than 280,000 people are involved in more than 1,850 programs, services, and events each year. We see this level of participation growing, keeping citizens engaged, building a greater sense of community, and placing additional stress on our parks and recreation system.

*The experience people have in our parks and recreation system is diminished by conditions in many areas: a deteriorating bridge limits access to unique parts of our parks; intensive use of fields wears grass to the point where play is difficult; and shelters need significant updating or replacement to serve their users.*



## Constellations and sectors

As an evolution from the 1960 Parks and Recreation Plan, and through the process of developing this Master Plan, we envision an organizational structure that better serves the parks and recreation needs and desires of a nearly fully developed community. Sectors and constellations organize Roseville into four sectors (formed by Snelling Avenue and Highway 36) and 15 constellations (formed by a combination of factors, primarily significant roads and a ½ mile walking radius centered in a neighborhood). Sectors and constellations are enhanced by green park-like connections that emphasize pedestrian and biking paths between parks in each constellation, which links to nearby constellations and sectors.

While some park components or services are best delivered on a community-wide basis, others are better delivered to smaller segments of the community. With sectors and constellations, each part of Roseville and every neighborhood will be afforded the parks and recreation opportunities it needs, with each park playing a role that balances immediate neighborhood needs with those of the broader community. In this approach, parks within walking distance of a neighborhood are organized to serve a majority of the neighborhood’s park and recreation needs.



## Neighborhood and community orientations for parks

As parks are organized into constellations and sectors, each must fill a role in its constellation to serve the needs of a neighborhood. Each park might also fulfill a broader role—based on the park’s ability to support additional activity.

The master plan envisions that nearly **every park** will include:

- unprogrammed, open play area
- play structure for up to 20 children
- small wild area
- pavilion or shade structure
- small gathering area
- trails or pathways within the park
- signs or information kiosks

*Parks in the constellation and sector pattern serve a variety of parks and recreation needs, but a real focus is providing opportunities for play and places where neighbors can gather.*



A **constellation** may have these components:

- a open area programmable for one activity
- tennis courts and court games area
- play structure for up to 50 children, with a unique feature
- larger wild area
- picnic area and pavilion
- recreation and maintenance storage areas

A **sector** may have these types of components:

- field area programmable for multiple use
- major play structure and climbing element
- free skating area and hockey rink
- splash pad or other water play feature
- significant wild area
- community garden or display garden
- shelter with meeting rooms that can be programmed or reserved

**Community-wide** components may include:

- community center
- aquatics facility
- aggregated athletic fields
- other unique recreation facilities

## Goals and policies

**Parks and recreation systems management.** Maintain an ongoing parks and recreation planning, maintenance, and asset management process that engages citizens, adheres to professional standards, and utilizes prudent industry practices. Ensure timely guidance for protecting the community's investment in parks, open space, and recreation programs and facilities to ensure their long-term and sustained viability.

**Parks development, redevelopment, and rehabilitation.** Provide a high-quality, financially sound system of parks, open spaces, trails, and waterways that meets the recreation needs of residents, offers a diversion from the hard surfaces of urban development, enhances our quality of life, and forms an essential part of our community's identity, character, and services.

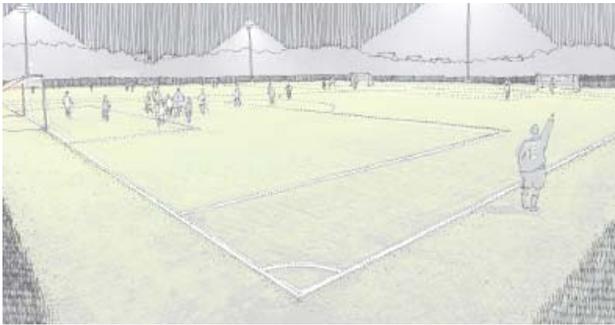
**Parks and open space acquisition.** Add new parks and recreation facilities to achieve equitable access in all neighborhoods, accommodate the needs of Roseville's redeveloping areas, and meet residents' desires for a broad range of recreation opportunities serving all ages and cultures.

**Trails, pathways, and community connections.** Create a well-connected and easily accessible system of parks, open spaces, trails, pathways, community connections, and facilities that links neighborhoods and provides opportunities for residents and others to gather and interact.

**Recreation programs and services.** Provide residents with opportunities to participate in a variety of recreation, athletic, wellness, art, social, learning, and environmental education activities and programs through well-designed, cost effective, and relevant services.

**Community facilities.** Locate, design, construct, and manage community facilities to meet the needs of current and future residents.

**Natural resources management.** Preserve significant natural resources, lakes, ponds, wetlands, open spaces, wooded areas, wildlife habitats, and trees as integral aspects of the parks system.



*Ideas discussed as key elements of a parks and recreation system vision for Roseville (from top): a community center including social and recreation opportunities for all ages; enduring surfaces for active play fields; and open play areas in every park.*

## Outcomes

As stewards of the natural environment and our parks, facilities, and programs, we are dedicated to outcomes that guide our efforts and offer insights about the kind of parks and recreation system we choose for ourselves. These outcomes are our expectations; they cannot be relaxed without diminishing our intentions. They offer a common language to speak about our parks and recreation, and the ways we are shaping them to guide an evolution of our community.

- Preserve natural assets and significant environmental features and provide spaces for active recreation.
- Foster environmental awareness and promote and manage the presence of wildlife and wild places.
- Create life-long experiences and intergenerational and intercultural opportunities by providing activities and options for play throughout residents' lives which generate friendships and memories extending beyond park bounds.
- Improve physical and emotional health and provide residents with opportunities for active living as part of a vibrant community.
- Stem potential public safety issues by keeping people active and engaged and by populating our public spaces.
- Provide education for all aspects of life and facilitate learning to act, interact, and collaborate.
- Encourage healthy and active lifestyles for people who live, work, and play in Roseville.
- Enhance property values in Roseville.
- Maintain park and program accessibility and affordability for every resident.
- Develop a sense of civic responsibility, creating a sense of obligation to maintain and enhance the system we enjoy today and to convey something equally profound to succeeding generations.
- Harness parks' potential to attract and retain residents by understanding the choices of prospective residents and knowing that parks play a role in existing residents' decisions to remain in Roseville.
- Encourage volunteerism as a connection to community service and community-building, as well as developing leadership skills and life training.
- Support parks and programs through a variety of funding methods, including partnerships with other public entities, the private sector, and non-profits.

## Community input and key recommendations

The master plan was guided by a Citizen Advisory Team and engaged hundreds of residents through community meetings and workshops, listening sessions, questionnaires, and more than 100 “meetings in a box.” As residents and stakeholders shared their concerns and ideas, several clear desires stood out:

- well-cared for system, with a focus on maintaining well what already exists;
- more connected community, created through pathways and sidewalks;
- all-ages social and recreation center;
- aquatics facility, without preference for an indoor or outdoor facility; and
- open play areas in parks

Several recommendations resulted from engaging the community and shaping the master plan:

- Review capital and operating expenditures for parks and facilities maintenance, and confirm items requiring immediate attention;
- Pursue constellations and sectors as a means of delivering parks and recreation and services for neighborhoods;
- Establish benchmarks for parks and recreation programs, services, and events tied to outcomes;
- Create pathways and sidewalks linking parks and constellations to create a more connected community;

- Improve parks and recreation opportunities for residents in southwest Roseville and for the working population of commercial and industrial areas of the community;
- Investigate funding that results in consistent financing of parks and recreation operations;
- Explore additional sport fields offering high quality experiences and extended play through lighting and enduring surfaces;
- Acquire parcels offering the ability to enhance the viability, utility, and flexibility of existing parks, focusing on underutilized adjacent lands;
- Improve shelters at parks that enhance use within the park and offer opportunities for gathering at the constellation or sector level and create spaces that encourage neighborhood gathering at every park;
- Establish a process to study the feasibility of implementing a community center;
- Use a park concept planning process to initiate discussions with neighborhoods regarding changes to parks; and
- Add unique components and play opportunities according to the constellation and sector structure.



*Ideas discussed as key elements of a parks and recreation system vision for Roseville (clockwise, from top): a gathering pavilion incorporated into a community garden; trails and sidewalks linking homes to parks, schools, transit, and other community destinations; and a high adventure course that challenges users with new experiences and challenges them to explore their own limits and abilities.*



## Building community: a call to action!

This master plan guides investments in the parks and recreation system for 20 years and suggests directions for the system for even longer. Pursuit of this plan will continue to engage residents and stakeholders, asking them to dedicate their time, talents, and resources toward its goals and outcomes.

What can you do?

- Volunteer to help a recreation program or activity!
- Offer to help care for one of our parks through the “adopt a park” program!
- Stay aware of the plan’s progress and participate when parks and recreation issues are discussed!
- Share the word with friends and neighbors about the value of parks and recreation in Roseville!
- Spend time in one of the 30 parks or dozens of park facilities!
- Be a part of hundreds of programs or special events put on by Roseville Parks and Recreation!



*One of the most significant outcomes of Roseville’s parks and recreation system is the ability to foster a greater sense of community. Special events, like the Fourth of July Parade, form a key part of our vision of creating events that bind us as a community.*

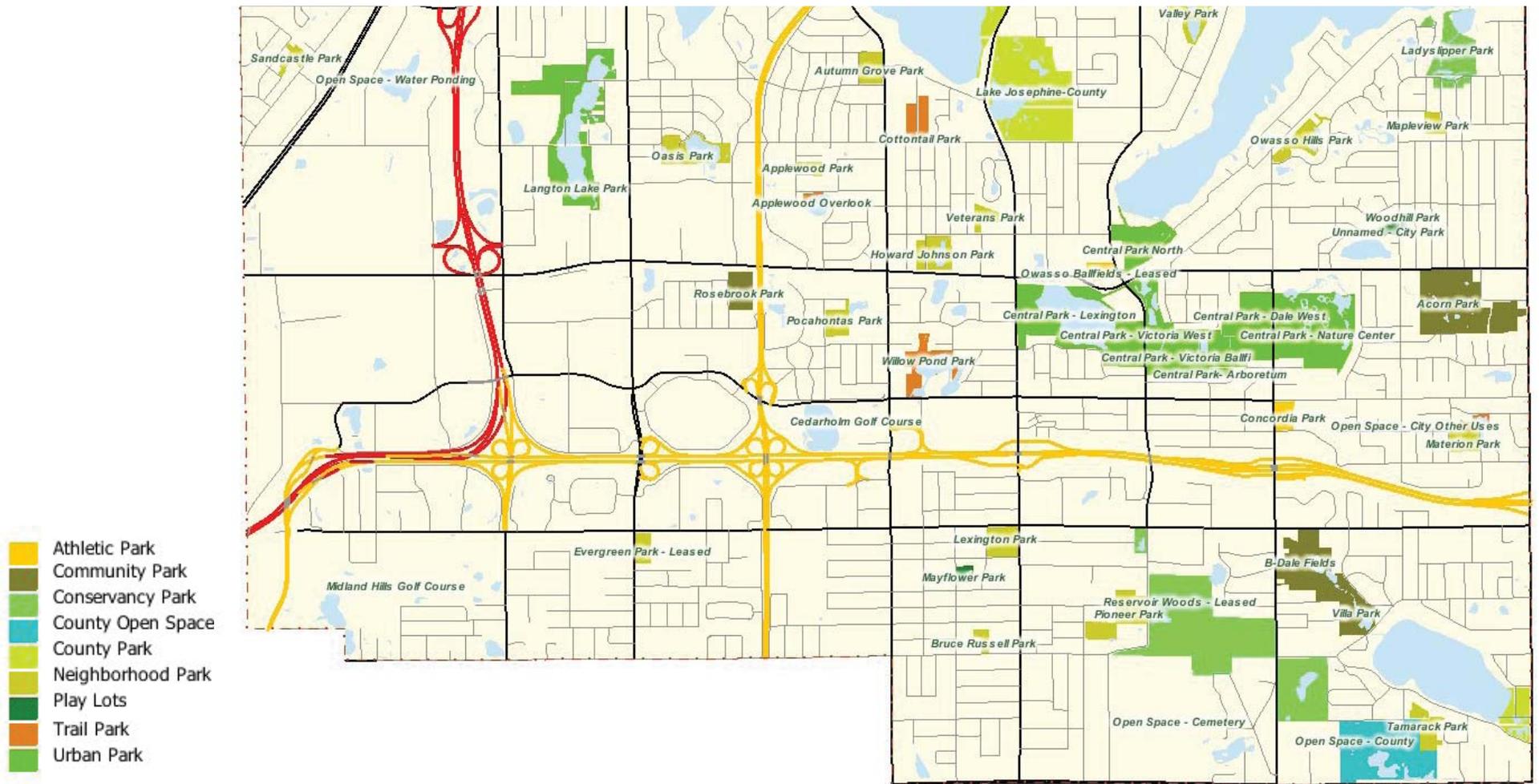


Parks and Recreation System

# Master Plan

Part B | **Vision and Master Plan**





Roseville's parks and recreation system includes 30 parks, 679 acres of city-controlled park lands, and numerous facilities. The Parks and Recreation Department annually offers more than 1,850 program and services in those parks and facilities, and hosts events that engage the entire community. Roseville residents also benefit from two Ramsey County parks located within their community.



## The need for a master plan

*The key directions of the master plan are founded in a vision shaped by the community and offering an overview of the master plan. It offers reasons why a community would be interested in creating a master plan for their parks and recreation system. While other sections provide detail, this section demonstrates the context for planning and suggests the broad directions for Roseville's parks and recreation system.*

### *The benefits of parks and recreation*

There are many individual and community benefits associated with parks, recreation, and leisure activities. This master plan attempts to link sound planning practices with the ability to leverage those benefits for the betterment of the community, recognizing the physical activities are an important but not sole purpose of Roseville's parks and recreation system.

- Varied and attractive recreation opportunities make physical activity interesting and enjoyable, and encourage life-long fitness habits. Studies have demonstrated that the physical health benefits associated with recreation which specifically involve physical activity include reduced weight, enhanced immune systems, and increased life expectancy.
- Our environment and our personal health are

linked. Accessible and safe parks are essential ingredients for healthy neighborhoods and communities. Having a safe and attractive place to exercise and play not only means a person can not only improve their own health but it means an opportunity to spend time with their neighbors or make new friends.

- Recreation and leisure activities contribute to overall mental health and well-being. Recreation activities reduce alienation and loneliness. Rest, relaxation, and revitalization through recreation activity are essential to managing stress. Parks and recreation activities provide a social atmosphere that draws people out of their houses and into community life.
- Recreation is fundamental for children's physical, mental, social, and emotional development. Participating in recreation activities helps to develop youth, augments their formal education, and deters negative behavior. Recreation helps youth to develop decision-making skills, cooperative behavior, positive relationships, and empowerment. Youth can explore strategies for resolving conflicts while recreating and playing. Play can enhance cognitive and motor skills.
- Parks have been traditionally recognized as major contributors to the physical and aesthetic quality of communities. But more and more, parks also are seen as contributing to larger community policy objectives such as relative home values, job opportunities, attractiveness for business retention and



*Benefits of parks and recreation include basic active play opportunities that accommodate a range of ages and abilities, in settings that connect people to nature and outdoor experiences.*



*Roseville's parks and recreation system includes more than sports; programs are focused on arts, the environment, and other activities that bring families and the community together.*

recruitment, youth development, public health, and community building.

- Parks and recreation activities bring neighbors together, encourage safer and cleaner neighborhoods, and create a livelier community atmosphere. They also help improve a community's image and self-identity, socio-economic status, and enhance the community's desirability.
- Well-maintained parks and recreation facilities help reduce crime in a community. In turn, low crime rates increase property values and help residents feel secure.
- Participation in recreation activities promotes volunteerism and stronger stewardship of the land. People who enjoy outdoor recreation become more familiar with natural resources, which helps them understand how their personal actions can affect the environment.
- Parks and recreation facilities promote social bonds by uniting families and neighbors intergenerationally, building cultural tolerance, and supporting individuals with special needs: youth, the disabled, and seniors.
- Recreation activity, especially when carried out in well-maintained public parks and recreation facilities, helps participants in their personal physical and mental growth, and contributes to connections to neighborhood and community life.

All of this points to the need to plan carefully. We can look back to early Roseville residents' foresight

when they laid out a plan for a community built around parks and recreation. We must look forward recognizing that these same benefits will be appreciated by future generations.

### *A parks and recreation system master plan*

The Parks and Recreation System Master Plan sets direction for the next several generations and includes specific program of development, management, and improvements for the next 20 years. The Plan includes a summary of public input, desires and needs, vision, intended outcomes, goals and policies. The Parks and Recreation System Master Plan is a living document, to be evaluated and refined on a regular basis to keep pace with demographic, recreation, funding and other trends as they evolve. This document will also build awareness and understanding of contemporary parks and recreation needs, as well as create a path for implementing improvements for parks, programs, and facilities.

Roseville's parks and recreation master plan is founded in a vision shared by residents. During the master planning process, thousands of residents and stakeholders were involved, and while many could identify shortcomings of the system, all expressed pride in what Roseville has created, and believe its parks is a community signature. As they look forward, they have high expectations for their parks and recreation system—in the parks

and facilities aimed at serving the community, and in the programs and services that are offered to residents. As a result, the master planning process focused on visionary ideas to create a framework for moving forward, intending that their contributions to this master plan set a direction for the next generation of the parks and recreation system, but also identifying improvements that are necessary to maintain the quality of the system they enjoy today.

### *The need for a master plan*

Parks and recreation services are an essential service for the community. They contribute to the social, cultural, and economic well-being of residents and enhance the overall quality of life. The timing of this Master Plan could not be more appropriate. Roseville's parks and facilities are in need of significant capital investment, with many of the major components at or near the end of their service life. Residents continue to use these facilities, but their experience is diminished by the condition of many of the facilities. And they continue to expect more of their parks—new or expanded programs and new activities that might never have been anticipated to be a part of the parks and recreation system.

Roseville's parks and recreation system is accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) and it has received the Gold Medal from the National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA). While these

awards attest to the quality of Roseville's parks and recreation system, there are, nevertheless, many reasons why a new Master Plan is needed.

- **Development pressures/lack of lands for new parks.** Roseville is an established and mature community. Only 129 acres, or 1.5 percent of Roseville, is vacant and has potential to be developed. More than half of all nonresidential development was built before 1980 and more than 55 percent of existing housing was built prior to 1960. We will likely see an increased pace of redevelopment, likely at higher densities.
- **Demographic changes.** Metropolitan Council forecasts indicate that Roseville's population will increase by 4,610 people from 2000 to 2030. More important, Roseville has a larger proportion of older residents than Ramsey County or the greater metropolitan area. In 2000, 20 percent of the city's population was age 65 or older. This compares with 12 percent for Ramsey County and 10 percent for the Twin Cities region. In terms of youth, however, the significant demographic dimension is the change in racial and ethnic diversity, with 34 percent of total school enrollment classified as non-white.
- **Shifting levels of park usage/changing demands.** With the increased emphasis on more active lifestyles, and concurrent with the growing diversity of the population using Roseville's parks and recreation services, there are demands for new and



*In Roseville, about 98 percent of the land is developed. Opportunities for new parks are limited, but as redevelopment occurs in the community, the need for new parks to serve those uses may become evident.*



*Outreach to the community during the master plan process included non-traditional methods of engaging residents and stakeholders, including “meetings in a box” and sessions with students and groups affiliated with parks and programs.*

different facilities and services. There are also unprecedented high levels of usage on fields and facilities, which places increased demands for more frequent maintenance, repair, and replacement. It may also result in conditions that require temporarily closing the field to activities to allow the turf to recover sufficiently.

- ***Need for more resilient facilities, more flexible services, and more creative management.*** The current economic situation has placed strains on household budgets, business financial balance sheets, and governments’ fiscal conditions and outlook. There is a growing awareness that all assets, resources, and potential investments need to be scrutinized. Simply put, most people are realizing that they need to do more with what they have and that they need to focus expenditures on things that will produce the most value. In shaping the future of parks and recreation services, communities need to develop policies and administrative procedures that embrace principles of conservation and sustainability, not only in environmental terms, but in terms of fiscal responsibility, and forge methods that pursue best practices defined by the parks and recreation industry.

### *Creating a master plan: Engaging our community*

The master plan for our parks and recreation system was founded in a process of resident and stakeholder engagement, enabling the plan to be framed on shared values and a clear vision. The master plan process included:

- More than a dozen meetings with a 28-member Citizen Advisory Team;
- Meetings with a Technical Advisory Team composed of representatives of the schools, Ramsey County, neighboring cities, watershed districts, and city staff;
- Community meetings, open houses, and a park concept plan design workshop;
- Meetings and updates with the City Council and city commissions;
- Listening sessions with neighborhoods, parks and recreation affiliated groups, local businesses and organizations, the City Council, city commissions, and city staff;
- Questionnaires and surveys (more than 2000 surveys were completed);
- More than 100 emails and other correspondence directed to the CAT and the Parks and Recreation Department related to the master planning process; and
- More than 100 “meetings-in-a-box,” where groups of stakeholders shared their ideas and concerns directly with Citizen Advisory Team and Parks and Recreation Department staff.



*Community engagement events included workshop meetings at key points in the master plan process, each with opportunities for residents and stakeholders to work together in small groups and share their thoughts with other workshop participants.*



## Parks and recreation system needs

*This section outlines the current condition of Roseville's parks and recreation facilities, comments on how Roseville's changing demographics affects planning for the future, describes how local and national trends inform people's expectations, compares Roseville's system to others, and evaluates system needs.*



### General conditions of parks and facilities

Roseville's parks and recreation system is a source of pride for residents, and in most instances they offer a positive opinion of the city's parks. There is a diversity of park environments and experiences available, and updates have tried to keep up with needed replacements. Most people suggest that Roseville's parks and facilities are in generally good condition. Still, when probed further, most identify items needing replacement or that require greater care. That is the critical need—parks and recreation facilities require constant attention. The high level of use results in wear (which is a good thing, in many ways) and forces the need for continuing maintenance and eventual replacement.



*Across the parks and recreation system, components and facilities are failing, becoming obsolete, or needing significant repair. These conditions diminish the quality of the experiences that people have in Roseville's parks, programs, and facilities.*

While Roseville's parks and recreation system is clearly a great system, there are challenges. Many parts of the system are aging, obsolete, or have reached the end of their useful life. Others fail to highlight the kind of community Roseville truly is.

### Aging components

While we view our parks and recreation system with pride, we also see its wear—sometimes from age and sometimes from intensive use. Today, more than 280,000 people are involved in more than 1,850 programs, services, and events each year. We see this level of participation growing, keeping citizens engaged, building a greater sense of community, and placing additional stress on our parks and recreation system.

Many, if not most, of the components of our parks and recreation system have a limited service life. Playgrounds, trails, picnic tables and park benches, and even plants have to be replaced as they age. Staggering the timing of the improvements in Roseville's parks ensures that there will always be components that meet current standards, but it also suggests that some elements will be out-of-date or in need of updating—particularly as components near the end of their service life. For instance, play structures have a useful life of about 15 years, trails need to be resurfaced every 15 to 20 years, ballfields might need major renovations every 15 years. More substantial structures, like a park shelter, might have a lifespan of 30 to 40 years. And during this time, all of these elements require on-going maintenance, repairs, and inspections.

## Changing community

The community is changing. A recent update of Roseville's Comprehensive Plan offers insights about the incremental change that is occurring, including these key points:

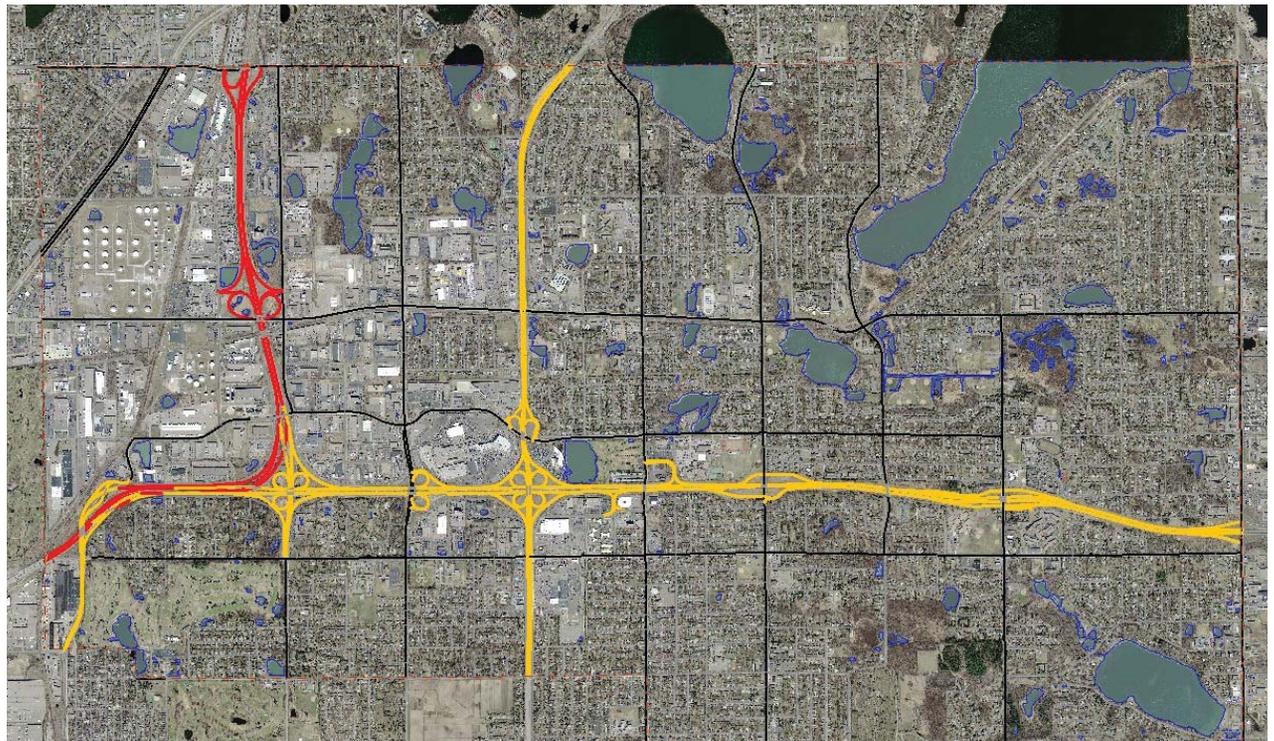
- Today, Roseville is nearly fully developed, with only about two percent of the land in the community being undeveloped; and
- Demographics are changing, with trends suggesting greater cultural diversity, an increase in the age of the population, and a higher number of one and two person households.

During meetings with the CAT and the community, it was suggested that demographics are changing as younger families move into homes once occupied by seniors. The most recent Census will verify if this is the case. If true, it's likely that seniors will be interested in remaining in Roseville (which is the case most often cited by developers of senior housing facilities), and that the new families will not likely be as large as those that once occupied the homes. Still, this trend might suggest the need for increasing diversity in the offering of parks programs and the continuing need to provide recreation components that serve a broad range of community residents. The results of the 2010 Census will offer insights about these scenarios, both of which bear on the needs of Roseville's parks and recreation system.

Roseville is a first tier community that has experienced significant growth and change since the first parks and recreation plan was created. Then, new development consumed "vacant" land—which in reality was not vacant, but more likely was in agricultural production, woodlands, or wetlands. Where many choices might have been available for park lands in 1960, few choices for new park lands exist today.

That doesn't mean the face of the community isn't changing. Redevelopment activity—development aimed at replacing tired, obsolete, or otherwise

*Roseville is nearly fully developed, with less than two percent of the land available for development. Still, people are interested in redevelopment—essentially, reinventing parts of the community with new uses. These changes present challenges and opportunities for parks and recreation in the community.*



*Parks and programs are no longer focused solely on children. Trends suggest a focus on providing facilities and programs based on ability, not age.*



less-than-productive uses—is introducing new uses and activities to Roseville, and often those uses impact parks. In Roseville, redevelopment in the Twin Lakes area will likely take advantage of the amenities of adjacent Langton Lake, but it might also allow for the introduction of parks and recreation facilities unique to the redevelopment activity. Ultimately, the process of redevelopment in a “built-out” community should be viewed as an opportunity to expand a parks and recreation system to serve those evolving areas, often with new components that wouldn’t easily fit the community’s other parks.

### *Recreation trends*

The 1960 master plan anticipated a great deal of change in the Roseville community, and likely looked to trends to suggest a system that would

accommodate as many activities within the system as possible. Significant recreation trends affecting the future of Roseville’s parks and recreation system might include:

#### ***Trends in parks and recreation planning and funding***

- Resources available to fund parks and recreation services and improvements are becoming more limited, and focus is often directed to other pressing needs in a community. The public expects more for less, with greater efficiencies, but with the expectation of continued high levels of service and quality.
- Parks users anticipate greater involvement in defining directions and improvements, much like citizens are becoming more active in many aspects of local politics.
- Parks and recreation facilities are being created in more inventive ways to provide recreation opportunities that better serve a community, and in many cases, with a motivated private sector entity. In some cases, park-like spaces are being created as a part of new development projects, in effect yielding publicly accessible, but privately developed and maintained, public spaces.
- Greater cooperation between governmental units at many levels provide parks and recreation services and facilities in a more cost-effective manner. Higher levels of government encourage this type of creative

delivery of services, often recognizing highly effective initiatives as best practices or innovators.

- Non-profit entities, especially health care organizations, are extending their reach to support active living, development patterns, and educational programs that result in more active lifestyles.
- Parks and recreation providers are recognizing the need to increase fees for services and programs in order to maintain the quality of their services. At the same time, many recognize the need to maintain affordability for their residents and offer assistance to ensure equal participation.
- “Special interest” park user groups create both challenges and opportunities posed by their cooperation, as they “trade” their ability to provide funds and volunteer labor for improvements projects with demands for resources.
- Integration of new park lands in fully developed communities often put the city in a position of having to deal with reclamation of lands spoiled by previous development.

#### ***Trends in parks and recreation participation and use***

- Technology-based recreation activities is increasing, with a current focus on activities like geo-caching and orienteering, or more interactive team-based gaming using GPS and the internet.

- Parks and recreation programs are sometimes seen as a substitute for child-care providers, demanding services beyond traditional parks and recreation offerings. In some cases, parks provide recreation services that help children compete at school.
- Recreation demands are shifting to hours traditionally not heavily used (late evening to very early morning).
- Busy families desire their parks and recreation opportunities—programs, open play, and access to nature—close to home.
- Residents with limited financial resources see parks as an outlet for leisure time, expanding the ways they use parks.

#### ***Trends in parks and recreation facilities and components***

- Some areas of Roseville may experience a different kind of development, with patterns of mixed use and higher density development that were not present until more recently. Parks and recreation is still a critical piece of this type of development, and parks that are more urban—or plaza-like—may result to serve the population of these parts of the community. In some cases, parks in redeveloping areas may actually serve as a catalyst to development and encourage a higher quality of development.
- Park facilities are becoming larger in order to accommodate a greater range of users, and particularly to serve a demographic that



*Components of a parks and recreation system are in need of constant attention, as wear diminishes the quality of the experience and can pose hazards for users. Every component of a system needs to be replaced someday.*



*New sports will need to be accommodated into the parks and recreation system, and many will eventually become familiar activities for the community.*

enjoys a more extended sense of family. The most direct manifestation of this trend is larger picnic shelters, or picnic facilities that offer a greater range of use by including features such as kitchens.

- Participants in recreation activities expect a high level of quality in their play experiences, and will seek higher quality venues even when a facility of lesser quality exists nearby. There are also a greater range of recreation activities that must be accommodated in parks, with new sports being played—which suggest more facilities and facilities of higher quality.
- Demand for indoor facilities is increasing in part because of what people experience in other places. As these facilities are considered, people expect them to be recreation spaces as well as places for gathering, and capable of accommodating a range of activities and ages.
- Expectation for quality play experiences lead to the use of artificial surfaces for sports. Artificial turf and outdoor artificial ice provide greater access to quality facilities and expand the season for activities occurring on those surfaces.
- An increasing orientation to competitive play, even in youth sports, creates the need for more facilities capable of supporting those activities. Participation in sports on a year-round basis creates the need for facilities for many sports year round. Some sports are creating additional demand for field

space; lacrosse and cricket are emerging as important recreational activities. While youth sports may be trending to be more competitive, some sports, such as disk golf or ultimate Frisbee, are gaining in popularity.

- People expect quality in the facilities that support their recreation activities. Park users expect restrooms, concession facilities, and even benches, picnic tables, and grills.
- Demand for off-leash dog parks is increasing in many communities. While it might be considered that dog parks are most attractive in locations where limited space is available for people with dogs, the demand is increasing in all communities.
- Use of trail facilities is increasing at a rate greater than any other recreation activity. Walking, jogging, biking, and in-line skating are competing for the use of paved trails, sidewalks, or roadway shoulders. There is also an increasing demand for unpaved trails for walking, hiking, and cross-country skiing.
- Green belts—natural resource-based corridors accommodating multiple uses beyond trails, are valuable links for movement and connections to nature.
- Parks that immerse users in the natural environment are becoming increasingly popular, which causes issues with the kinds of experiences that users anticipate (more people suggest a less nature-oriented experiences).
- As risks of exposure to sun become better known, users want better protection from

the sun. Shade structures over picnic areas—even small ones, at play areas, and even over bleacher areas are becoming more popular.

- Splash pads are gaining popularity, especially when compared to wading pools, as a result of their interactivity and the ability to better control sanitation concerns.
- Adult-scaled play equipment is becoming increasingly popular, and playground equipment oriented to children is becoming more creative and even more “natural.” Outdoor learning environments are more popular, with multi-sensory play environments oriented to younger children.
- The integration of public art is becoming far more common, even in parks oriented to active sports. Public art tells stories of the community, its history, and its setting, and while it may not be obvious, artists are more frequently a part of the park design process. In this way, their work is integrated as a part of the park, and not free-standing sculptures.
- Healthy eating and community gardens are becoming increasingly popular, and are being provided to communities in parks and other remnant spaces in cities and neighborhoods.

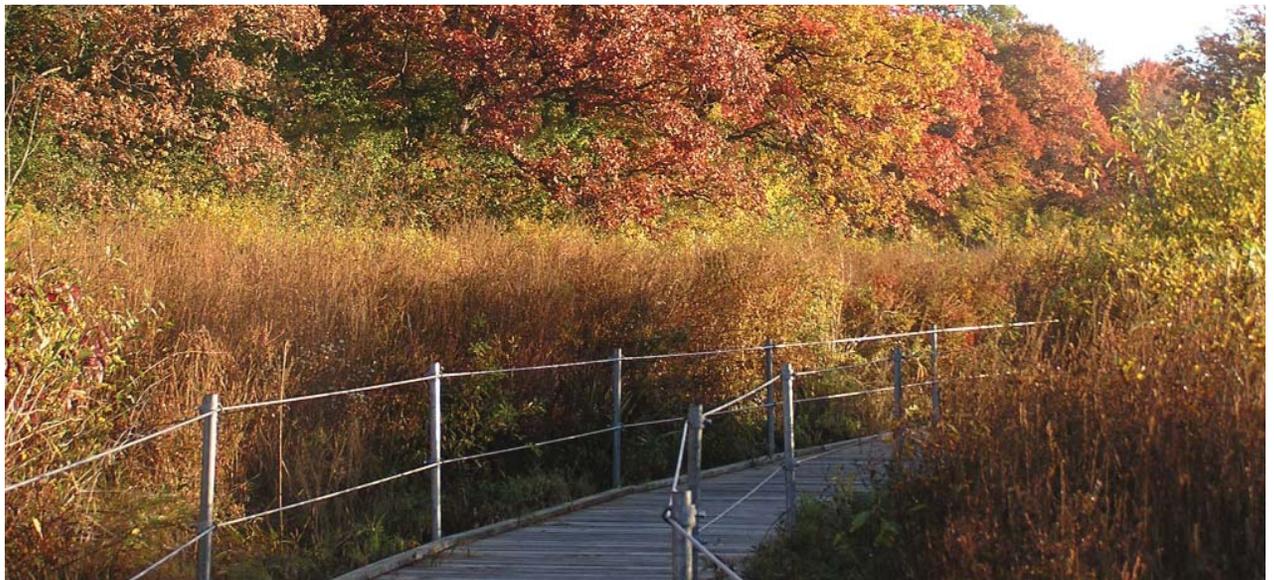
### ***Trends in parks and recreation programs and services***

- Park services and facilities are, in some communities, becoming a private sector enterprise. There are examples of partnerships between cities and private

companies to provide community center-like facilities and ice arenas. Financial circumstances and the public’s desire for facilities of a higher quality, can lead a community toward these kinds of partnerships.

- To offset the costs of operating a parks and recreation system, it is more common to see advertising in park facilities, sponsorships of parks and recreation events, and even naming of park facilities.
- As rates of obesity and other health issues are more frequently recognized, active living movements have arisen. Active Living Ramsey Communities is an example of a group that focuses awareness on health issues by promoting more active lifestyles—

*Natural places are increasingly important in a parks and recreation system. Lands set aside from development allow residents to experience nature, and encourage habits that are important to biologic diversity in a community.*





*People are remaining active much longer, and parks and recreation facilities need to accommodate the needs of this part of a community's population.*

and the benefits of walking and bicycling. Health care organizations are also promoting active lifestyles, and in some cases, offer funding that encourage active living.

- New activities—perhaps in aggregation referred to as “extreme sports”—are gaining in popularity. Off-road biking, adventure/challenge course, climbing, skateboarding, in-line skating, which are primarily directed to individuals, are gaining in popularity. Many of these activities will, by default, occur in parks—even if specialized facilities are not provided, in which case the activity may be detrimental to the park.
- Adult and senior recreation programs are increasing in popularity, and it’s not just passive activities. Health and wellness activities are popular, as are team-oriented sports programs.
- Cultural programming is increasingly popular, and some activities, like farmers markets, are finding homes in reasonably situated parks.
- Art programs are becoming a part of the typical offerings of a park and recreation system, serving a wide variety of ages and abilities. These kinds of programs often require somewhat specialized spaces—art rooms with storage, sinks, and even kilns.
- Groups affiliated with parks and recreation programs are trending toward high participation activities that require specialized facilities like ice sheets, gymnasiums, and theater space.

### *Analysis of current parks and recreation facilities and system*

Guidelines exist to assess a park system’s ability to accommodate residents’ parks and recreation needs. Using a Level of Service (LOS) analysis, a community can determine if sufficient recreation components exist to satisfy a guideline, but it’s important to note that a guideline is not a standard. Having a greater quantity of one component than suggested by a guideline may be a fair reflection of a community’s preferences, and while there are certain components that may not satisfy the guidelines in this assessment, it may be that the community feels well served without adding to the supply of that component. In addition, a well-rounded parks and recreation system strives to provide a core group of recreation opportunities, even though demand for some components may not be immediately evident.

The LOS assessment is useful for a cursory examination of recreation opportunities, but a parks and recreation system needs to be flexible to accommodate activities that shift with time. It must be noted that the LOS assessment only analyzes those recreation components that are a part of the system; components outside the system, while they may be available to the community, are not controlled by the city, and may change without regard to community need.

The master plan aims to provide services to the community in a balanced way, both in terms of

geography and population. While we may no longer use explicit guidelines for the numbers of acres of parks required for a community's population, in Roseville it is reasonable to make internal comparisons—that is, to compare one part of Roseville to another. In this way, we can better determine the balance of park geography and population served and define areas of the community or those portions of the population that fail to meet the average for Roseville.

To analyze a service area for a park—essentially, an area served by a given park, it is necessary to frame a zone that is logical to be associated with the park. Our analysis assumed that, for neighborhood parks, major transportation elements or natural features limit access by children, a major park user population and the one that is the least mobile. For this analysis, it was assumed that park users might walk or bike up to a half-mile, but would not cross significant barriers. The result of this analysis was mapped and it highlighted the lack of parks serving neighborhoods in the southwest portion of Roseville. This finding was consistent with analyses in other community planning efforts. In addition to the southwest neighborhoods, commercial/ industrial areas along I-35W lacked parks, a point confirmed by local businesses who noted the need for recreation opportunities for their employees.

Several iterations were analyzed, and the only variable that influenced the result was the inclusion of parks in Falcon Heights and Lauderdale. While street crossings are a barrier, traffic levels may be

low enough to suggest that those parks may serve some needs of residents in southwest Roseville. It remains clear, however, that no park within Roseville adequately serves those neighborhoods.

A comparison of population to parks was also conducted. In this case, the population within a given radius (the same radius used in the service area assessment) of a park was compared to the area of land in a park. While not a perfect analysis (since parks vary in the recreation opportunities they provide), there are striking differences in Roseville. For instance, in areas served by parks (considering the land area of Roseville parks only), Planning District 7 (largely surrounding Central Park) has about 14 persons per park acre, while neighborhoods in the northeast part of Roseville (Planning District 5) have more than 147 persons per park acre. Southwest neighborhoods are equally disadvantaged; Planning District 13 has more than 668 persons per park acre, and because Planning District 14 does not have a park, a calculation is not possible.

Southwest Roseville neighborhoods are not well-served by parks within the city. Parks and recreation opportunities are available in relative proximity to the southwest. Assessing the ability of components within parks is a more difficult assessment, but the direction for this analysis becomes less relevant as a new paradigm for delivering parks and recreation services arose during the master planning process.



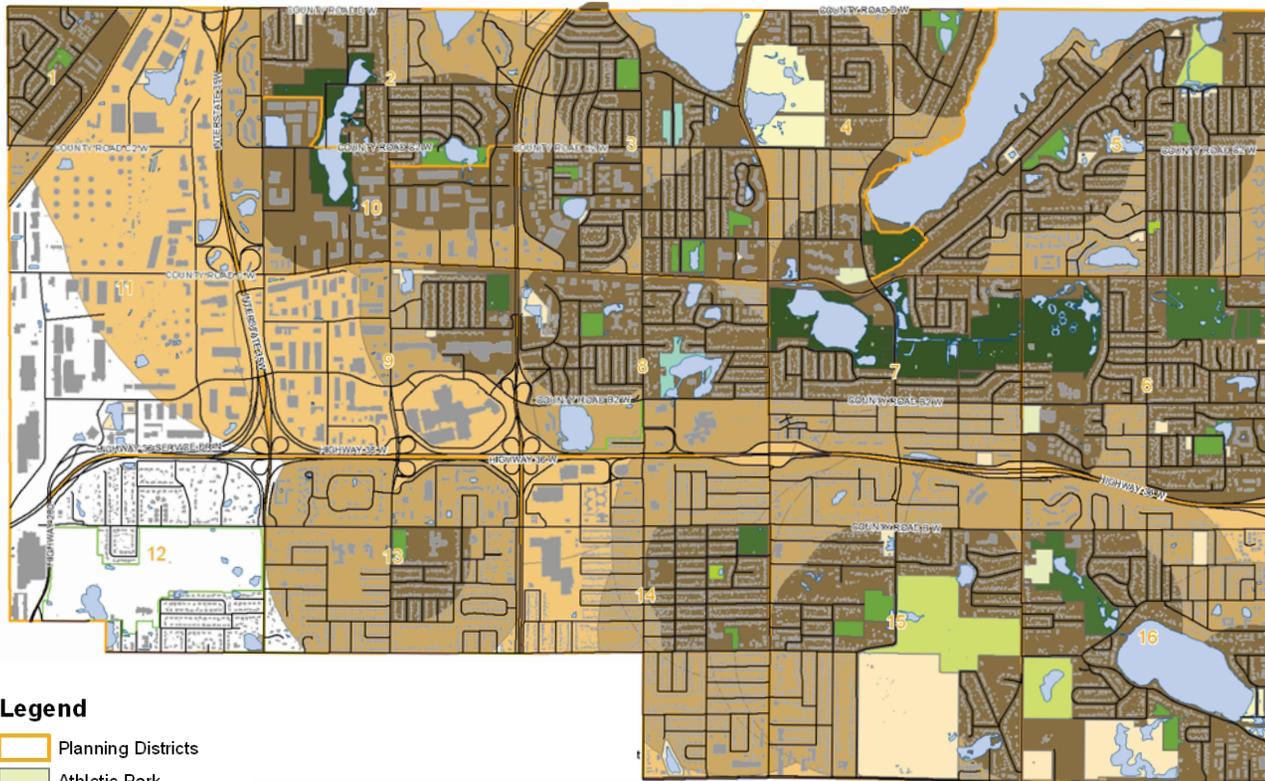
*Parks in nearby communities may be serving the parks and recreation needs of Roseville residents, especially since few people view municipal boundaries as obstacles to use of a park. For southwest Roseville, it's likely that residents use parks in adjacent communities—like Falcon Heights Community Park, but there still is a lack of Roseville parks proximate to their homes.*

Recreation component recommendations							
<i>Component</i>	<i>Space requirements</i>	<i>Recommended size and dimensions</i>	<i>Minimum quantity per population</i>	<i>Minimum service radius</i>	<i>Notes</i>	<i>Quantity required by LOS standard (rounded up at .2)</i>	<i>Quantity available in system</i>
Basketball court	2400-3000 square feet	Full court 46x84 with 5 feet unobstructed on all sides Half court min 40x40	Full court 1 per 5000 Half court 1 per 3000	¼ to ½ mile	Half court typical in neighborhood park	7 full 12 half	5 full 10 half
Hockey	22000 square feet	85x200 (min 85x 185)	1 per 30000 (indoor) 1 per 20000 (outdoor)	10 to 15 minute travel time	Typically lighted facilities, typically include a free skating area	1 indoor 2 outdoor	1 indoor 7 outdoor
Free skating	20000 square feet			¾ to one mile	Typically lighted		10 rinks
Tennis court	7200 square feet (one court)	36x72 feet, 12 feet clear, 21 feet clear for adjacent courts	1/2000	½ mile	Often lighted, typically provided in batteries of two courts or more in community parks or two courts in neighborhood parks	17	17
Volleyball (sand)	2000 square feet	20x60 feet, 6 feet clear all sides	1/7500	1 mile	Provide similar to basketball	5	5
Football	1.5 acres	160x360, 6 feet clear all sides	10 to 15 minutes travel time	1/20000	In sports complex in community park	2	2
Baseball (official)	3 to 3.85 acres	Foul lines 320 feet Center field 400 feet	1/city plus 1 per 5000 Lighted 1 per 15000	10 to 15 minute travel time	Lighted fields in a sports complex	8 2 lighted	1



<b>Component</b>	<b>Space requirements</b>	<b>Recommended size and dimensions</b>	<b>Minimum quantity per population</b>	<b>Minimum service radius</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Quantity required by LOS standard (rounded up at .2)</b>	<b>Quantity available in system</b>
Baseball (Little League)	1.2 acres	Foul lines 200 feet, center field 200-250 feet	1/5000	¼ to ½ mile	Lighted fields in a sports complex	7	10
Softball	1.5 to 2.0 acres	Rad from home plate 225 feet (fast pitch), 275 to 320 feet (mens slow pitch), 265 to 275 feet (womens slow pitch)	1/5000 Youth 1/2500	1 to 2 miles Youth ¼ to ½ mile		7 14 youth	10
Soccer	1.7 to 2.1 acres	Full size: 195' to 225' x 300' to 360' with a 10' min. clearance on all sides, plus age appropriate size fields	Official 1/7500 Youth 1/4000	1 to 2 miles		5 9 youth	5 adult 12 youth
Indoor gymnasium	10000 square feet	80x120	1/20000	10 to 15 minute travel time	Usually in school or community center	2	4 school gyms
Swimming pool	0.5 to 2.0 acres	Teaching 25x45 minimum Competitive 25mx16m Aquatic varies with zero depth entry and splash/spray area	1/20000 with ability to accommodate 3 to 5 percent of population at one time	15 to 30 minute travel time	Typically in a community park or a stand-alone facility	2	1 wading pool





**Legend**

- Planning Districts
- Athletic Park
- Conservation Park
- Play Lot
- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- Urban Park
- Trail Park
- Regional (County) Park
- Golf
- Other
- 1/4 mile play lot buffer, no major road crossings
- 1/2 mile neighborhood park buffer, no highway crossings
- 1 mile community park buffer

*A diagram of park service within the city limits reveals that parks and recreation opportunities are lacking in the southwest part of Roseville. It also shows that:*

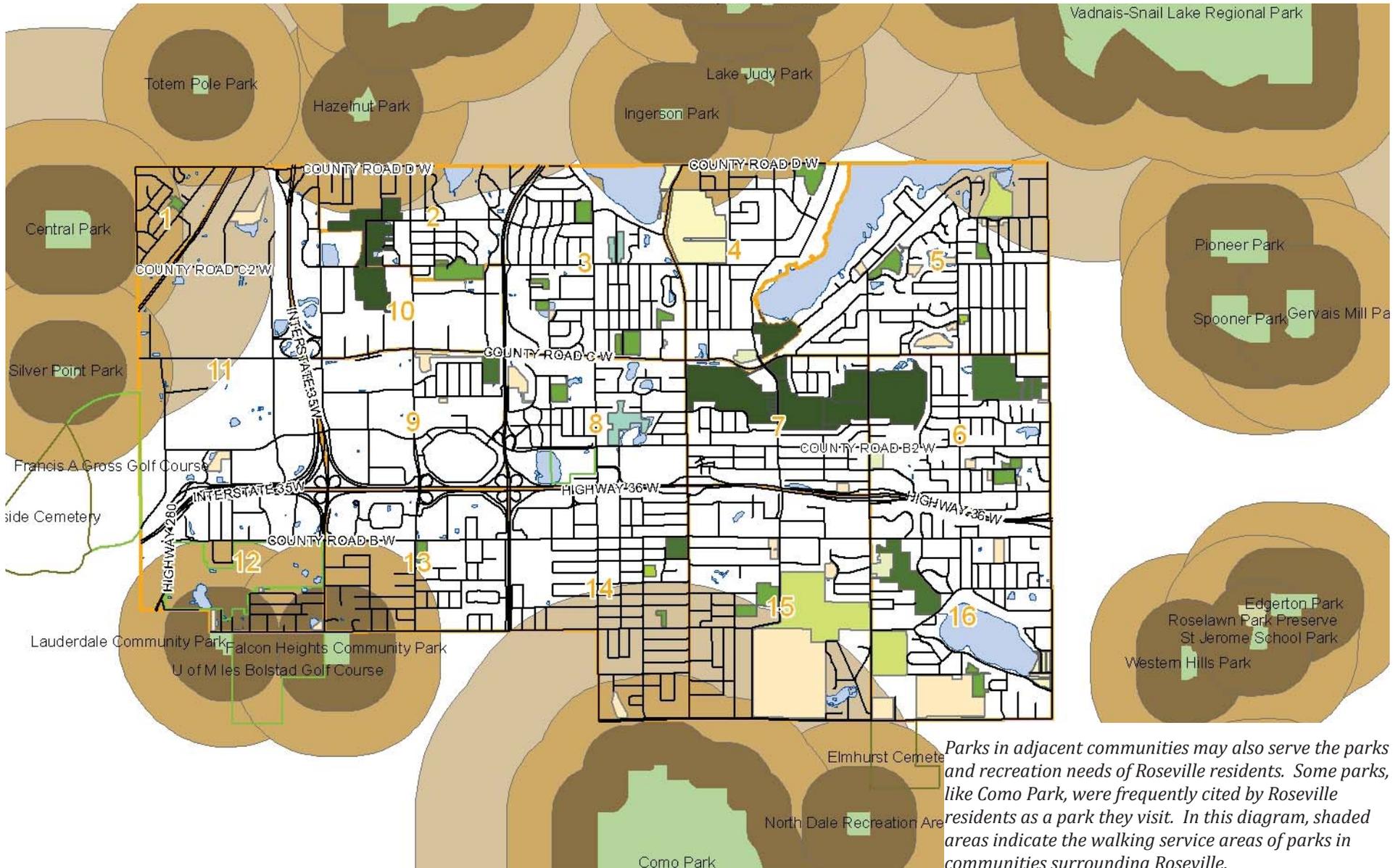
- 57% of Roseville's population lives within a playlot service area;*
- 94% of Roseville's population lives within a neighborhood park service area; and*
- 93% of Roseville's population lives within a community park service area.*

**Findings**

While the first parks plan laid a sound foundation for Roseville's parks, there are parts of Roseville that are underserved. Many residents of southwest Roseville have suggested that Fairview Community Center is their neighborhood park, although they clearly recognize that it not a city park, and that it does not have the components that many of the city's parks offer other neighborhoods. Many residents take advantage of Falcon Heights Community Park and Lauderdale Community Park, both of which have components typical of a neighborhood park. Residents have also noted that they use the University of Minnesota test plot fields for walking, a practice permitted by the University. Even with those opportunities, the southwest part of Roseville is not well-served by parks.

In areas of the community with a work-day population, recreation opportunities are also lacking. Representatives of the business community suggested that employees would like to take advantage of walking trails or other park features during lunch hours or breaks, and that for portions of Roseville with a higher concentration of workers, few, if any, parks exist. Several businesses (those that focused on working with homeowners, it seems) chose to conduct business with potential customers in parks. In most of these parts of Roseville, parks do not exist; however, through cooperation with other entities, improvements similar to Applewood Overlook might be created to serve this part of Roseville's population.





*Parks in adjacent communities may also serve the parks and recreation needs of Roseville residents. Some parks, like Como Park, were frequently cited by Roseville residents as a park they visit. In this diagram, shaded areas indicate the walking service areas of parks in communities surrounding Roseville.*





*The working population of Roseville does not have parks and recreation resources proximate to their workplaces. Often, trails and small gathering areas are the kinds of facilities they desire most.*

# Input shaping a master plan

A hallmark of this master planning process was the input shared by a broad range of residents, stakeholders, and others interested in the future of Roseville’s parks and recreation system. The insights offered by these groups and individual marked key directions and resulted in concepts that will guide the evolution of Roseville’s parks, programs, and facilities for decades.

## Community input

Input from residents and parks stakeholders was obtained through a variety of means, each of which was structured for qualitative responses. The various venues for engaging people in this process brought residents together to share in a common dialogue about parks, programs and facilities, as well as to seek residents where they are—in parks, in their neighborhoods, and as groups sharing common interests. It’s important to note that the input is not based on a statistical method of defining directions; rather, the process of gathering input focused on understanding needs and desires through value-based questions. This method allows us to better understand the input expressed during meetings. Still, because of the range of input methods, we are confident that the views offered are representative of residents and stakeholders who have an interest in Roseville’s park and recreation system.

## Questionnaire

### Visiting Roseville’s parks...

6. How often do you visit a park or facility in Roseville? (circle the letter)

PARK (playground, ballfield, picnic area, etc.)	FACILITY (golf course, ice center, nature center, etc.)
a. daily	a. daily
b. 4-6 times/week	b. 4-6 times/week
c. 2-3 times/week	c. 2-3 times/week
d. once a week	d. once a week
e. 2 times/month	e. 2 times/month
f. once a month	f. once a month
g. 4 times/year	g. 4 times/year
h. once a year	h. once a year

7. List the **three activities** you do **or programs** in which you participate most frequently in Roseville’s parks and facilities:

8. Which **features** (play equipment, picnic tables, ball fields, trails, buildings, etc.) or **facilities** (golf course, ice center, nature center, etc.) do you use most frequently when you visit Roseville’s parks?

### Roseville’s parks in the future...

9. List the **three most needed or desirable changes** you would like to see in Roseville’s parks and facilities:

10. What additional features do you think would improve Roseville’s Park System? These may be examples you have seen in another community’s park system or ones you simply feel are missing from Roseville’s Park System.

11. Looking ahead 15 years, how do you think you will be using Roseville’s parks and facilities?

### About you...

12. How long have you lived in Roseville? (circle the letter)

- a. less than 2 years
- b. 2-5 years
- c. 5-10 years
- d. 15-40 years
- e. all my life
- f. I do not live in Roseville

13. How many people are a part of your household? (fill in the appropriate box)

Ages	a.<5	b.5-12	c.13-17	d.18-24	e.25-36	f.37-54	g.55-69	h.>70
Adults	X	X	X					
Kids				X	X	X	X	X

14. What organizations do you belong to that use Roseville’s parks and facilities?

If you would like to receive updates about the Master Plan Update, please provide your name and mailing address or email address.

Name

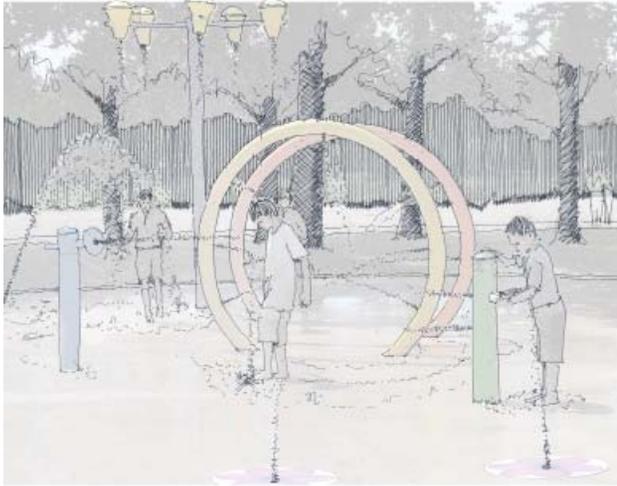
Mailing address

Email address

**Thank you!**

*More than 1000 responses were received for a questionnaire focused on parks and recreation needs and desires in Roseville. Overwhelmingly, responses showed a desire for trails, a community center, and an aquatics center.*





*Vision ideas, which were largely generated as a response to the questionnaire, focus group meetings, and meetings in a box, were posed to the community in a workshop. Participants were asked to indicate their support for the ideas posed.*

Quantitative input came from a questionnaire that asked about desired park components and facilities. Responses from 1016 questionnaires cited desired or needed components including:

- Trails and connectivity 311
- Community center 180
- Aquatics facility 128
- Ice rink 89
- Sports fields 87
- Maintain existing parks and facilities 63

Other responses included restrooms, natural areas and boardwalks, dog park, gymnasium, lighted fields, tennis courts, drinking fountains, and signage. There were also responses indicating a desire for educational classes and art in parks.

When asked about activities they would be doing in parks in ten years, responses focused on walking and bicycling. Frequently cited responses include:

- Trails and connectivity 484
- More of what I am already doing 116
- Kids and children activity 94
- Same activities as today 87
- Events and concerts 58
- Community center 45
- Golf 43
- Sports 41
- Nature and nature activities 33

Other responses included art and education classes, more picnicking, and use of dog parks.

The components respondents indicated would improve Roseville’s parks and recreation system largely mirrored the responses related to desired improvements:

- Trails and connectivity 120
- Aquatics facility 120
- Community center 99
- Indoor facilities 41
- Ice rink 40
- Art in the park 25
- Nature and nature activities 25
- Play fields 22
- Dog park 17
- Gymnasium 16
- Benches 14
- Education classes 12
- Signs and wayfinding 11
- Maintain existing parks and facilities 11
- Restrooms 11
- Fountains 10
- Lighted fields 8
- Dance facilities 8
- Tennis courts 7
- Boardwalk 6

Simple analysis of the questionnaire responses is a relatively direct task for those components most frequently identified. They include:

- community connectivity through pedestrian and bicycle facilities;
- community center;
- aquatics center;



- participation in activities for children;
- continuing to do the same activities as occur today; and
- events and concerts.

Community meetings sought input from the community that was more descriptive in nature. Meetings were organized so that most of each session was directed toward interactions among meeting participants, and each meeting included a reporting time where participants could share their findings. Meetings focused on a range of parks and recreation system topics, including:

- things to be changed or retained in Roseville’s parks, programs, and facilities;
- ideas for change in the parks and recreation system;
- visions for the future of the parks and recreation system;
- parks and recreation policies; and
- review of the draft plan for the parks and recreation system.

During Community Meeting Two, participants gauged their support for ideas shared as a part of the vision. While the evaluation was limited to those who participated in the meeting, responses generally parallel other input. Favor was expressed for connectivity and trails, a community center, community gardens, and informal play areas in parks. Responses to some ideas contrasted with input, with water play being an idea that seemed more popular in other methods of input.

Workshop response to Vision ideas				
Project idea	Favorable response	Unfavorable response	Not sure	Total responses
Community parkway	17	0	4	21
Signage and kiosks	4	0	7	11
Water play	4	13	4	21
Art in the parks	12	4	8	24
Adventure course	4	3	8	15
Artificial turf fields	2	15	8	25
Community gardens	9	1	4	14
Themed parks	1	13	6	20
Interactive technology play	2	9	10	21
Community center	23	2	7	32
Off-road bike trails	8	7	9	24
Urban park	2	3	1	6
Informal play area	22	1	2	25
Canoe and kayak trail	8	6	5	19
Archery range	1	20	10	31

### *Input from other jurisdictions*

During the master planning process, the Parks and Recreation Department engaged other city departments as well as several agencies outside of the city. Each expressed an interest in working with the Parks and Recreation Department to enhance the opportunities Roseville residents have in their parks, programs, and facilities. Most important, these groups have worked with the city in the past

*Results of the questionnaire were tested in meetings of the CAT and workshop sessions with the community. While some questionnaire responses were not validated, the community engagement process sought to balance input using a variety of engagement methods.*





*Partnerships benefit Roseville's parks and recreation system and their partners, and especially Roseville residents. An especially effective partnership resulted in the creation of the Gymnastics Center and cooperative programming for several community gymnasiums.*

to create unique facilities and programs, and would like to build upon those successes.

Through a partnership with Roseville Area Schools, the city created the Gymnastics Center and shares program time with several gymnasiums. Representatives from both school districts welcomed the opportunity to explore possibilities, recognizing the unique responsibilities each holds for providing services to the community.

The watershed districts noted their mission to improve water quality in Roseville. They also noted that many of the city's parks include surface water features, and their efforts extend to improving water quality in those basins and streams. While improved water quality benefits parks users, the kind of park-related improvements the watersheds consider when working in a water basin are of particular interest for the parks and recreation system. Cooperative efforts between the watersheds and the Parks and Recreation Department would be welcomed by all parties.

Within Roseville, opportunities for collaboration may result from the need for new facilities and from the possibilities related to new development in the community. The city has benefitted from a joint powers agreement with Ramsey County and the Saint Paul Regional Water Services Department to bring Reservoir Woods into the parks and recreation system. The Fire Department has started to evaluate the need for new fire stations in the community, and a specific mention was

made regarding the possibility of co-locating a new fire station with a community center, should a community center be explored. The Community Development Department recognized the role of public spaces in the Twin Lakes redevelopment area, where a parkway offers an organizing public feature for new development, and where connections to Langton Lake Park will enhance the character of new development. Other areas of the city may undergo similar transformations, causing the need to assess the kinds of park spaces needed to serve that population—even to the point of creating a new kind of park to serve that population.

### *Programmed facility needs*

A key piece of the input process was the direct engagement of groups affiliated with programs and facilities of the parks and recreation system. These groups, which included sports groups, arts and culture groups, and individuals related to Roseville's businesses, expressed desires for expansion of facilities supporting their interest areas.

Sports groups noted their programs were experiencing increased participation, resulting in limited field, court, or rink times. They noted the desire for coordination between parks and schools, and a desire, in some cases, for more enduring facilities (such as artificial turf fields for soccer) or would allow for an extended season of play (which may include artificial turf, or a dome or fieldhouse). Arts and culture groups included representatives

of the Harriet Alexander Nature Center, community bands, theater groups, and other arts and culture programs and events. Here, each group had requests specific to their area of interest, such as the boardwalk at the Nature Center, or the need to continue their special events.

The volunteer spirit is strong in these groups, and they will continue their programs without new or expanded facilities. However, nearly all the groups noted other communities' high quality facilities that they would like to have in Roseville.

While these parks and recreation groups have an idea of how popular their programs are and the demand their programs have on fields and facilities, parks and recreation staff have direct insight into facility needs. As a part of the master planning process, staff noted the potential need for a wide range of facilities to support current programs in the parks and recreation system:

- replacement of the Victoria softball fields with at least four tournament quality lighted fields, with two additional fields for day use
- adult soccer fields;
- more durable surfaces at fields;
- improved shelters at parks for satellite programs, especially those related to preschool activities, arts and culture programs, and youth recreation;
- additional community garden space;
- improvements to parks and facilities to promote efficient maintenance (maintenance

- strips at fences, returning lawn areas in strategic locations to native plantings, improvements to trash removal system, additions to and renovation of irrigation systems, plantings at park sign, maintaining or replacing lighting equipment);
- expanded opportunities for water play;
- shade structures;
- additional gymnasium space (two gyms);
- second sheet of ice, possibly as part of a community center;
- dance studio; and
- community center.

Staff restated the community's interest in expanded programming with special interest in these areas:

- preschool activities;
- arts experiences;
- youth sports;
- urban outdoor experiences; and
- fitness and wellness activities.

Though the community and staff have specific improvements that would enhance parks and programs, there was consensus that attention needs to be directed to existing facilities, and new additions must consider maintenance implications as they are planned. Comments offered by staff suggest great interest in maintaining or enhancing the natural features of the parks and recreation system, particularly through natural resource management activities.



*In meetings with groups affiliated with sports programs, a frequently cited need included more ballfields, and better quality facilities. Ballfields are used by a wide range of ages and player abilities, including a large number of senior citizens.*



*Trails and sidewalks offering connectivity between residents homes and walking or bicycling destinations is an important element of the community's vision.*



*The parks and recreation system benefits from thousands of volunteers including coaches and gardeners, to name a few.*



*Roseville’s “Adopt-a-Park” program creates ways for volunteers to help care for parks in the system, as well as helping to build a stronger sense of community by directly involving neighbors.*

A clear request from the community, and one supported by “active living” advocates, is increased connectivity via trails, sidewalks, and paths. Residents are interested in more opportunities to move about the community on foot or on bicycle, including links to transit, community destinations, and parks. The Pathway Master Plan reinforces the need and desire for these kinds of facilities in Roseville, and from a parks master planning perspective, the addition of more walkable and bikeable connections enhances park use and aligns with goals for creating a healthier community articulated in this plan, in *Imagine Roseville 2025*, and in the recently updated Comprehensive Plan.

### *Maintenance and operations*

The Parks and Recreation Department’s maintenance staff support more than 1,000 program opportunities, 65 special events, 10 community facilities. They also care for Roseville’s 30 parks and 679 acres of parkland and 67 miles of pathways/trails. The Park Superintendent coordinates the efforts of six park keepers and ten seasonal park keepers. He oversees parks and recreation development and rehabilitation, and supervises one seasonal forestry technician and two seasonal horticulture professionals. In addition, the Parks Superintendent oversees the design and planning of parks and facilities improvements, and coordinates efforts with program staff to ensure parks and facilities are maintained appropriately for the activities intended.

### *Staffing*

Parks and recreations services are administered through the Parks and Recreation Department. Staff is organized under a director and assistant director, with responsibilities for delivering parks and recreations services divided into three areas:

- programming: Delivery of programs and services, including organizing and training volunteers, and lending support to “friends” groups with missions aligning with the mission of parks and recreation;
- special facilities: Unique facilities offering specialized recreation opportunities; special facilities include the Roseville Skating Center and Cedarholm Golf Course; and
- maintenance, operations, and physical planning: Maintain parks and recreation facilities, assist programs and events with maintenance and operations support, physical planning of changes in the city’s parks and facilities, and oversight of implementation of improvements.

A benchmark for staffing is difficult to define. Staff said they are short personnel to do the job they would like to perform, but they also are committed to make the right things happen for the system. A comparison could be made to the Parks and Recreation Department organizational chart, which defines the department’s structure, but also notes the roles of various staff. As the master plan considers additional parks, programs,



or facilities, consideration needs to be directed to the impact maintenance and operations will have on staff, including requirements for planning and development of programs.

The parks and recreation system benefits from tremendous volunteerism. Every year, hundreds of parks stakeholders contribute time to assist in parks programs or support events facilitated by the Parks and Recreation Department. They also contribute labor to assist in park clean-up efforts, as well as playing a key role in planting and maintaining display gardens at various parks in the community.

The master planning process noted the potential for more directly coordinating volunteer activities as the potential for additional staff resources is limited. However, residents have noted the need to balance park volunteers and paid professional staff. With additions of parks, new programs, or improvements to parks and facilities, additional staff will be needed. New play equipment or revitalized fields may spur interest in programs, resulting in the need for more staff organization or supervision. The addition of a major new facility, such as a community center or an athletic field complex, would result in the need for additional staff to support programs and perform maintenance. The application of a new method of delivering parks and recreation services tied more directly to neighborhoods may result in efficiencies among program staff, or it may suggest the need to expand staff to better serve the community at a neighborhood level.

There are facilities in Roseville that require specialized staffing for maintenance. For example, the Muriel Sahlin Arboretum requires personnel with horticultural experience, and Skating Center requires personnel with knowledge of mechanical systems. Staff charged with caring for parks need a working knowledge of park keeping requirements, but may also require specialized skills related to structural, mechanical, and electrical systems for buildings and parks.

The master plan anticipates implementation of features and facilities which may relieve pressures on parks maintenance staff. Staff will likely be expected to maintain new facilities to higher standards than facilities being replaced. A new park shelter, for instance, may not need roof repairs, but increased use or expectations for maintenance may mean that staff is needed to support the shelter in other ways. Having new facilities and components that replace older, obsolete versions may mean less maintenance is required, and time could be directed to other items needing attention.

As new facilities are anticipated, a significant consideration for staffing might be to make certain parks are well used. The intention of this master plan is to create a robust and relevant parks and recreation system, where all portions of the system are used to their greatest capacity and are managed to maintain recreation assets for the benefit of the community. To implement improvements that are left idle serves no parks and recreation purpose.

## ***Adopt-a-Park***

Roseville's Parks and Recreation Department offers a way for residents, neighborhood groups, scouts troops, corporations, and other civic-minded groups to assist in the care of parks in the parks and recreation system. About 85% of Roseville's parks have been adopted. Volunteers perform monthly walk-throughs of the park, although this often occurs more frequently, and coordinate intensive care activities such as a spring clean-up. These efforts add great value to the community's parks, and builds the spirit of community envisioned as a primary outcome of the parks and recreation system.





*Parks in Roseville serve many purposes, but perhaps none is more important than the sense of community parks offer to residents of Roseville.*

## A vision for Roseville’s parks, facilities, and programs

*Our vision shares what we believe we can achieve, with support for the vision coming in the form of guiding principles. These ideas are fundamental to our parks and recreation system. They suggest outcomes, and frame ways of delivering parks and recreation services to the community through a concept referred to as “constellations and sectors.”*

### A vision

Parks as places for play, embracing both age and culture in recreation opportunities, where games can happen simply for the sake of amusement, where we learn through play how to act and interact, where we compete as our proficiencies grow, and where we gain skills that bring about life-long physical and mental health and create a state of well-being from activity and interaction...

Parks are places for programs that engage our citizens, young and old, with activities and adventures they might not otherwise engage in, with services directed to critical needs in our community, with programs that connect people of similar interests while yielding a greater sense of community, and with events that allow us to celebrate traditions and create new ones...

We see parks as an obligation to care for our wild places and creatures, where we have been

entrusted with a resource that must be managed and cared for so future generations can benefit from the spirit of nature, its function, and its regenerative qualities, and where nature is extended to every resident’s park experience...

We envision our parks that ensure the continuity and quality of service, where we maintain well what we have already created, and where we carefully plan new additions so that they become integral, well-cared for components of our parks and recreation system...

We envision parks that define and bind us as a community, where we connect to nature and to each other—both essential elements of our place, where we celebrate our common cultures, where we form friendships, practice citizenship, and where we have the chance to create an emotional commitment to our community...

We envision our park and recreation system as a feature of Roseville that we frame for ourselves, that we invite others who share our passion for parks and community to help us create, that we continue to mold as Roseville continues to change, and that we embrace and protect as a defining and essential quality of community.

It’s in this spirit of planning the future of our parks and recreation that we find resonance with the ideas others have carried forward in Roseville. Through dialogue and the exchange of ideas, an understanding of changing contexts and new



*Caring for special facilities and unique landscapes in the Roseville community is a part of the vision residents have for their parks and recreation system.*

challenges, we understand that our parks are world-renowned because we have created the means to make and keep them our own, because we recognize the need to perpetuate their presence as an essential part of the community, and because we know that as we secure a future for parks for our personal reasons, we secure them for the more universal purposes of our community.

### *Principles to guide the evolution of parks and recreation*

Our vision does not stand alone. We have chosen to create a series of principles to further guide our efforts, and to offer additional insight about the kind of park and recreation system we are choosing for ourselves. It is important that we understand these principles; they are not rules, as they cannot be change or relaxed without diminishing our intentions. They are more of a filter, allowing us to use these statements with our vision to better understand if a proposal for change actually fits

our purpose and our goals. These principles, like our vision, offer us a common language to speak about our parks and recreation, and the ways we are shaping them to guide an evolution of our community.

Roseville’s parks, facilities, and programs should:

- offer intergenerational and intercultural opportunities;
- retain “nature” or reestablish a sense of nature as a part of the park experience.
- be better connected to neighborhoods, to community destinations, and to each other.
- expand parkland that results in better service to residents and more unique park and recreation opportunities for residents.
- create mutually beneficial partnerships with other entities to better serve the park and recreation needs of residents.



*Integrating arts into the parks and recreation system is one of the principles for the evolution of Roseville’s parks and facilities.*

- balance programmed activities with time and space for non-programmed activities.
- employ both traditional and innovative methods to serve the community.
- enhance the visual appeal of parks and recreation facilities.
- have a reliable revenue stream in order to maintain the high level of service and facilities experienced by residents today.
- implement a community center with a focus on recreation, cultural, and social activities, and as a place where community happens.
- strive to expand its park and facility offerings to better serve its residents.
- Integrate arts, whether in public art pieces in parks and facilities, arts programming, or special events, offers opportunities for a greater diversity of experiences in Roseville’s parks and recreation system, and fosters a greater sense of community identify that relates strongly to neighborhoods and neighborhood parks.

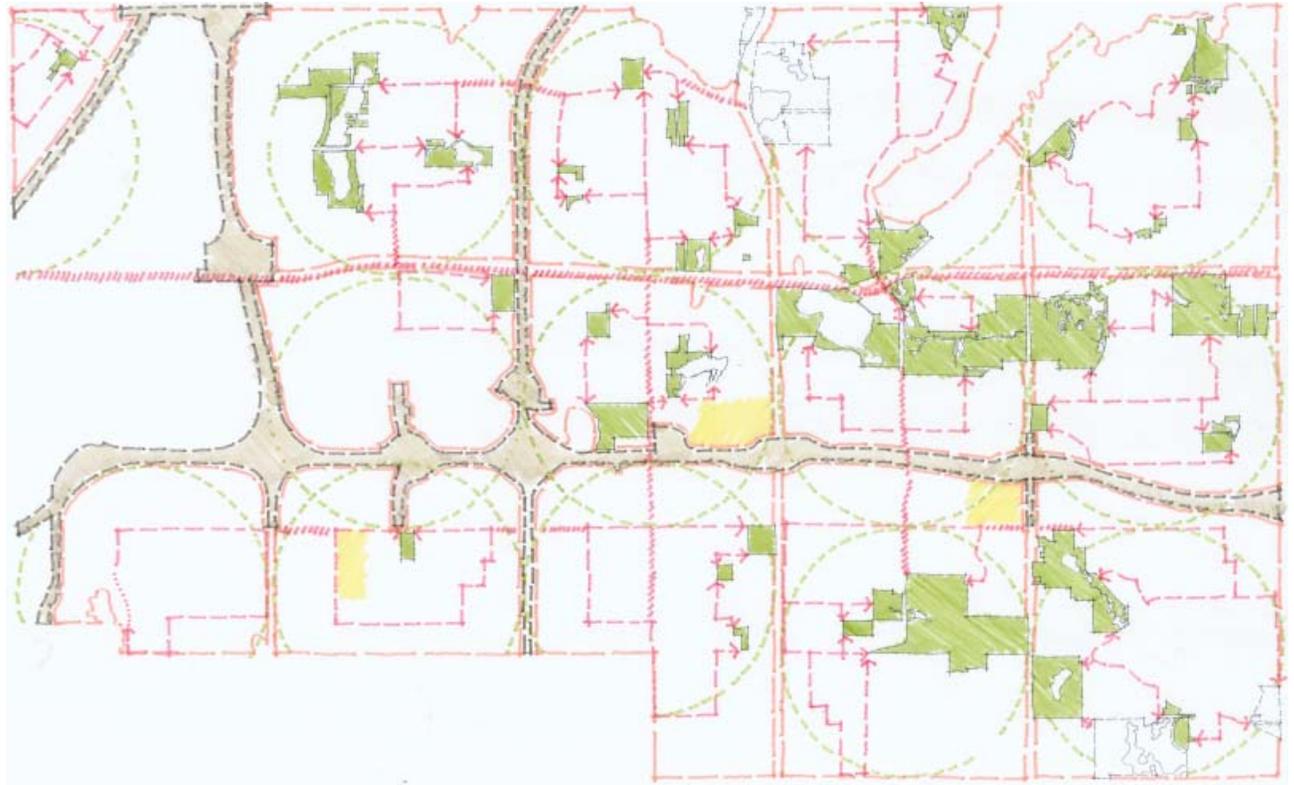
### *Long-term views and fundamental ideas*

This master plan addresses the essential nature of the parks and recreation system, using broad strokes to define how it needs to be organized to best serve the Roseville community. In this sense, it will require time to be fully realized, and adherence to several fundamental ideas to maintain a commitment over time.

**Parks and Recreation is an Essential Service.** Police protection, fire prevention, emergency medical services, and public works (water, sewer, storm water management, and roads) have traditionally been regarded as essential services because they address life safety issues in our community. Parks and recreation services are essential because they establish and maintain the quality of life in a community, ensure the health and well-being of families and youth, and contribute to the economic and environmental well-being of our community.

**Organizational Structure.** In previous years, Roseville approached the location of parks, acquisition of land for parks, park development and maintenance, and recreation programs and services on the basis of the sixteen planning districts depicted in Comprehensive Plan. The focus of that approach was to create a park to serve each neighborhood that was being developed.

As a natural evolution from the 1960 Plan, and through the process of developing this Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, we see that a new organizational structure can be created to better serve the parks and recreation needs and desires of the Roseville community. A sector and constellation concept organizes Roseville into four sectors (formed by Snelling Avenue, a major north-south arterial road, and Highway 36, a State highway which runs east-west). The four sectors are organized into a total of 15 constellations formed by a combination of factors, primarily significant roads and the ½ mile walking radius



around existing parks. This sector and constellation structure being enhanced by green park-like connections that emphasize pedestrian and biking amenities between parks in each constellation, with links to other constellations and sectors.

While there are certain park components that are best delivered on a community-wide basis, others are better delivered to smaller segments of the community. Through sectors and constellations, each part of Roseville and every neighborhood

*Initial ideas for organizing Roseville's parks and recreation system were driven by the desire to deliver services more directly to neighborhoods. Recognizing the ways that major roadways and other features divide the community, an idea was conceived to group parks into constellations, and provide a broader range of activities within those parks without overly duplicating services or components.*



*The lessons learned from participating in parks and recreation activities allow children to gain skills and experiences they carry with them throughout their lives.*

will be afforded the kinds of parks and recreation opportunities it needs, with each park playing a role in the system that balances the needs of the immediate neighborhood and the needs of the broader community.

This revised organizational structure will serve as a much more responsive basis for park and facilities location and development, maintenance, and recreation program and service delivery.

**Playing and Learning Life Skills.** We envision parks as a place where play happens, embracing both age and culture in recreation opportunities, where games can happen simply for the sake of amusement, where we learn how to act and interact, and where we compete and collaborate successfully as our proficiencies grow.

**Active Living All the Time.** We envision parks and recreation activities where everyone gains lifestyle skills that bring about life-long physical and mental health and create a state of well-being from activity and interaction throughout the year in all seasons.

**Citizen Engagement.** We envision parks as a place for programs that engage our citizens, young and old, with activities and adventures they might not otherwise engage in, with services directed to critical needs in our community, with programs that connect people of similar interests while yielding a greater sense of community, and with events that celebrate traditions and create new customs.

**Environmental Stewardship.** We envision parks as opportunities to care for our wild places and creatures, where we have been entrusted with a resource that must be managed and cared for so that future generations will benefit from the spirit of nature, its function, and its regenerative qualities, and where nature is extended to the experience of every park visitor.

**High Quality and Maintenance.** We believe that maintenance, repair, and timely replacement of our parks and recreation facilities are of utmost importance. We envision our parks being administered to ensure continuity and quality of service, where we maintain what we have already created, and where we plan new additions so that they, too, become integral, well-cared for components of our parks and recreation system.

**Community Connections.** We envision parks linked by connections, as a way of connecting immediate neighborhoods and the community, where we connect to nature and to each other,, where we celebrate our common cultures, where we form friendships, practice citizenship, and where we have the chance to create an emotional commitment to our community.

**Community Character and Identity.** We envision our park and recreation system as a feature of Roseville that we frame for ourselves, that we invite others who share our passion for parks and community to help us create, that we continue to mold as Roseville continues to change, and that we

embrace and protect as a defining and essential quality of our community character and identity.

It's in this spirit of planning the future of our parks and recreation that we find resonance with the ideas others have carried forward in Roseville. Through dialogue and the exchange of ideas, an understanding of changing contexts and new challenges, we have come to understand that our parks are world-renowned. Because we have created the means to make and keep them our own, we recognize the need to perpetuate their presence as a vital and essential part of the Roseville community. We know that as we secure a future for parks for our individual reasons, we secure them for the more universal purposes of our common life as a community.

## *Goals and policies*

To be implemented consistently over time, the master plan is more than mere guidance. In fact, the parks and recreation system as a whole is directed by the city's Comprehensive Plan. Further policy guidance for Roseville's parks and recreation system is offered through specific statements of intended directions. More detail supporting each of the following goals can be found in Section C: Master Plan.

### ***Goal 1: Parks and recreation system management***

Maintain ongoing parks and recreation planning, maintenance, and asset management process that involves citizen engagement, adheres to professional standards, and utilizes prudent professional practices. Ensure timely guidance for protecting the community's investment in parks, open space, and recreation programs and facilities to enhance their long-term and sustained viability.

### ***Goal 2: Parks Development, Redevelopment, and Rehabilitation***

Provide a high-quality, financially sound system of parks, open spaces, trails, and waterways meeting the recreation needs of all residents, offers a visual/physical diversion from the hard surfacing of urban development, enhances our quality of life, and forms an essential part of our community's identity and character.



*The process of creating enhancements to parks, like the well-known annual beds at Central Park, are as important as the flowers. Each year, dozens of volunteers come together to plant thousands of flowers in a single weekend.*

**Goal 3 : Parks and Open Space Acquisition**

Add new parks and recreation facilities to achieve equitable access in all neighborhoods, accommodate the needs of Roseville’s redeveloping areas, and meet residents’ desires for a broad range of recreation opportunities serving all age groups and cultures.

**Goal 4: Trails, Pathways, and Community Connections**

Create a well-connected and easily accessible system of parks, open spaces, trails, pathways, community connections, and facilities that links neighborhoods within the community and provides opportunities for residents and others to gather and interact.

**Goal 5: Recreation Programs and Services**

Provide Roseville residents with opportunities to participate in a variety of recreation, athletic, wellness, art, social, learning, and environmental education activities and programs through well-designed, cost effective, and relevant services.

**Goal 6: Community Facilities**

Locate, design, construct, and manage community facilities to meet the needs of current and future residents.

**Goal 7: Natural Resources Management**

Preserve significant natural resources, lakes, ponds, wetlands, open spaces, wooded areas, wildlife habitats, and trees as integral aspects of the parks system. Outcomes



*Goals supporting the parks and recreation system recognize a wide range of activities that engage the Roseville community, including sports and active recreation. However, those functions that bring the community together around special events are also a significant feature of the parks and recreation system.*

## Outcomes

During the master planning process, the discussion at one of the CAT meetings was directed to defining outcomes for the parks and recreation system. While it might have been conceived originally as a way of establishing a quantifiable relationship between the parks and recreation systems and the budget directed to the system, the CAT articulated a clear idea about the role parks, programs, and facilities play in the community. It was not as clearly measurable as a budget, but could be measured using other outcomes.

As stewards of the natural environment and our parks, programs, and facilities, we are dedicated to outcomes that guide our efforts and offer insights about the kind of parks and recreation system we choose for ourselves. These outcomes are our expectations; they cannot be relaxed without diminishing our intentions. They offer a common language to speak about our parks and recreation, and the ways we are shaping them to guide an evolution of our community.

- Preserve natural assets and areas with significant environmental features and provide spaces for active recreation in our community.
- Foster environmental awareness and promote and manage the presence of wildlife and wild places.
- Create life-long experiences, and intergenerational and intercultural

opportunities, by providing activities and options for play throughout residents' lives which generate friendships and memories that extend beyond park bounds.

- Improve physical and emotional community public health and provide residents with opportunities for active living as part of a vibrant community.
- Stem potential public safety issues by keeping people active and engaged and by populating the city's public spaces.
- Provide valuable life education for all aspects of life and to facilitate learning how to act, interact, and collaborate.
- Encourage healthy and active lifestyles for people that live and work in Roseville.
- Enhance property values, especially for properties near city parks.
- Maintain park and program accessibility and affordability for every resident and offer a sense of inclusion and connection to the community.
- Develop a sense of civic responsibility, creating a sense of obligation to maintain and enhance the legacy handed to the current generation of residents and to convey something equally profound to succeeding generations of residents.
- Harness parks and recreation's potential to attract and retain residents by understanding the choices of prospective residents when buying or renting a home and knowing that parks and recreation play a role in existing residents' decisions to remain in Roseville.



*Preservation of natural resources through the parks and recreation system is a highly desired outcome, and one that reflects positively on the character of the Roseville community.*



*Parks and recreation offers residents opportunities to live healthy and active lifestyles, whether from participation in organized activities or daily routines.*

- Encourage volunteerism as a connection to community service and community-building, as well as developing leadership skills and life training.
- Support parks, programs, and facilities with funding from a variety of methods, including mutually-beneficial partnerships with other public entities, the private sector, and non-profits.

In choosing outcomes as a tool for guiding decisions, we understand their true purpose and value. They are not intended as a way of eliminating functions, facilities, or services, but rather to direct limited resources to areas that will help achieve a desired outcome. In this way, outcomes are more balanced than a simple financial comparison, and result in a more holistic idea about the purpose and nature of Roseville’s parks and recreation system.



*Volunteer activity is a key indicator of the vibrancy of Roseville’s parks and recreation system. Without volunteers to coach, plant flowers, participate in clean up days, organize special events, and assist in unique programs, the parks and recreation system would be missing out on a significant part of its ability to serve the community.*

## *Benchmarks*

Benchmarks aid in assessing progress toward desired outcomes. Benchmarks are a critical complement to the outcomes described above. As a way of comparing, benchmarks need to be set against a baseline, and once established, they will be useful as a true gauge of the effectiveness of the parks and recreation system mission in Roseville.

- acres of natural areas/environmental features under an approved management plan
- acres of additional natural areas or environmental features included as a part of the parks and recreation system
- education opportunities focused on environmental awareness, and participation in those opportunities
- number of species of wildlife identified in parks habitat
- number of species of flora identified in parks habitats
- measurable water quality improvements for water bodies in parks
- trail, overlook, and educational signage improvement projects related to water quality improvements in parks
- number of programs and events involving intergenerational or intercultural opportunities
- number of programs and events encouraging active living principles
- counts of walkers and bicyclists using major trails or pathways

- number of recreation occasions system-wide
- attendance at community and special events
- number of people participating in parks and recreation activities, particularly those present in parks
- number of people present in parks, regardless of their participation in a defined program
- number of police calls to parks or park facilities related to vandalism or crimes
- square feet of space in parks and park facilities directed to civic engagement or neighborhood gathering spaces
- property values in the community
- property values for parcels adjacent to parks
- property values for all parcels within a ten minute walk of a park
- amount of fund available for scholarships for parks programs
- disbursement of scholarship funds to those seeking to participate in parks program
- number of volunteers participating as coaches or leaders of other parks programs
- number of volunteer hours directed to parks clean up, planting, or maintenance activities
- amount of funds donated to support parks, programs, and facilities
- membership in “friends” groups supporting parks, programs, and facilities
- number of residents participating in parks

- and recreation system planning activities
- number of attendees at Parks and Recreation Commission meeting (not including commissioners)
- number of residents changing residences within Roseville
- number of new residents who identify parks as a supporting or determining factor in their choice to move to Roseville
- number of real estate professionals annually receiving information regarding Roseville’s parks and recreation system
- number of partnerships supporting parks and recreation system goals established between the Parks and Recreation Department and other public entities, private sector organizations, and non-profits
- maintenance benchmarks [work with staff to define]—these could include measurements related to annual average irrigation use, use of chemicals in landscape maintenance, number of trees planted
- rental receipts for facilities



*Benchmarks, a way of measuring progress toward desired outcomes, include a quantification of natural areas, environmental features, wildlife and habitat, and improvements oriented to educating Roseville residents about their environment.*



*Participation in parks programs and special events is another way of gauging progress toward the desired parks and recreation outcomes.*



## *Constellations and sectors*

As an evolution from the 1960 Parks and Recreation Plan, and through the process of developing this Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, we see that a new organizational structure can be created to better serve the parks and recreation needs and desires of a nearly full developed community. A sector and constellation concept will organize Roseville into four sectors and 15 constellations. Sectors and constellations are enhanced by green park-like connections that emphasize pedestrian and biking links between parks within a constellation, with extensions to other constellations and sectors.

Constellations and sectors are a foundation of the master plan. Imagine a constellation in the night sky, with a series of stars linked by imaginary lines, and where singular stars—still known by their names—become a part of a larger picture. In Roseville, constellations are formed by a circle encompassing a ½ mile radius—about a ten minute walk, and are separated by roadways or natural features. In most cases, constellations are parks in a neighborhood, and the key is that the individual parks, while retaining their individual identities, form a network of opportunities intended to serve the immediate parks and recreation needs of the surrounding neighborhood.

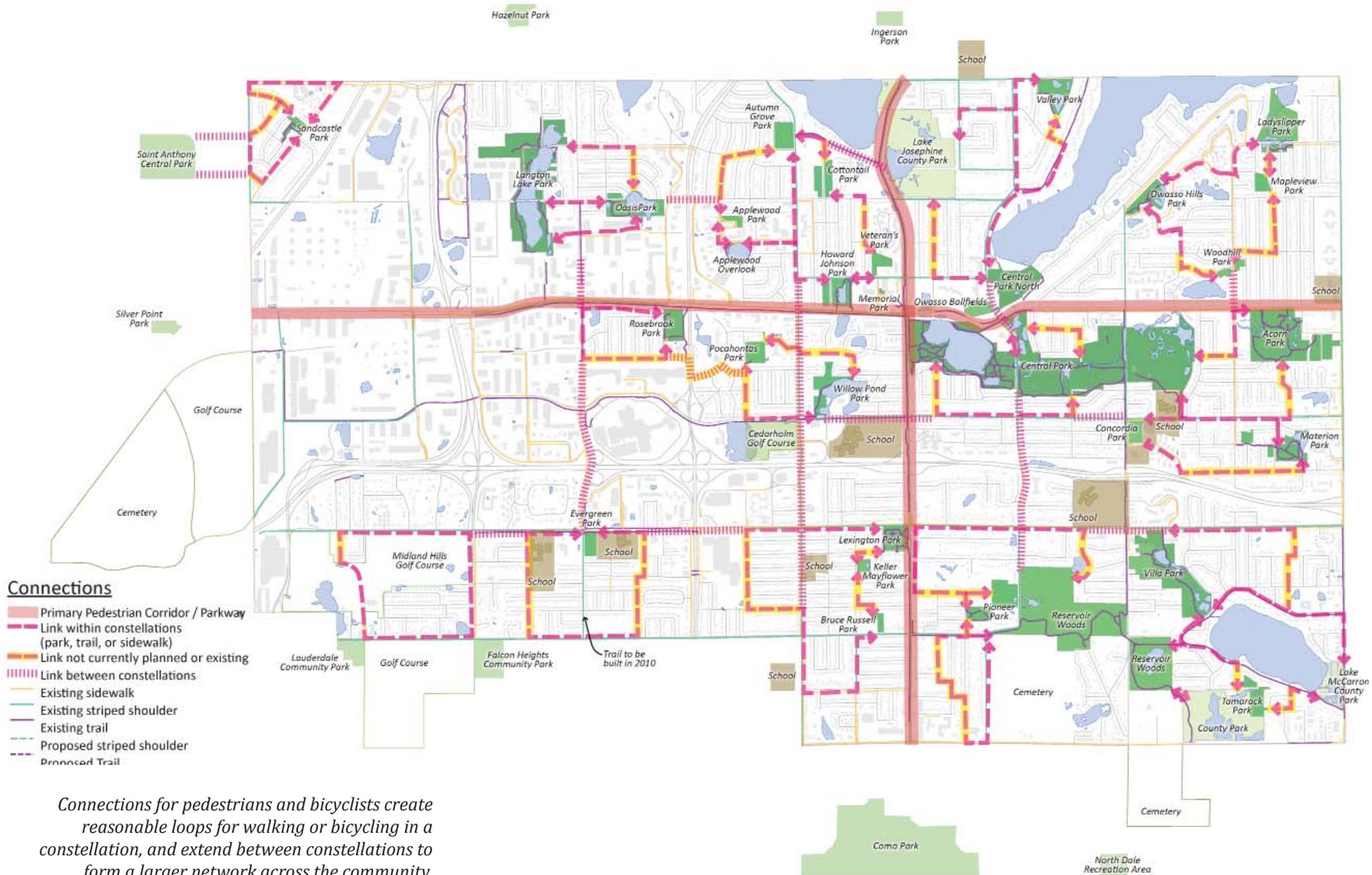
Within a constellation, parks are linked by some level of a trail, sidewalk, or other non-motorized connection. Greater connectivity for pedestrians

and bicyclists is a clear desire of the community, and while connections across the community might be a long-term goal, the process of creating a connected community begins locally—by linking neighbors to their parks, and parks to other parks within a constellation.

Across Roseville, the master plan envisions a total of 15 constellations, most of which serve residential areas, with one constellation directed to a commercial-industrial area along I-35W.

Eventually, residents will find that a component of the parks and recreation system is not available within their constellation. Constellations are intended to be linked to other constellations, forming sectors that provide another level of parks and recreation services to residents—this time with facilities that serve larger components of the community than constellations (or neighborhoods). In the master plan, Roseville is divided into four sectors—divided according to the more significant barriers formed by Highway 36 and Snelling Avenue. While the sectors are not equal in area, they offer the next layer in the delivery of parks and recreation services to the community.

Links are proposed across some constellation boundaries. These links would most likely occur at locations where safe crossings can be achieved—at signalized intersections or other locations where the crossings are more controlled. Importantly, the parks and recreation system master plan does not intend to dictate the type of connection (a



*Connections for pedestrians and bicyclists create reasonable loops for walking or bicycling in a constellation, and extend between constellations to form a larger network across the community.*



sidewalk, trail, or striped shoulder, for instance), as responsibility to implementing a pedestrian or bicycle facility outside of a park falls to the Public Works Department. However, the links posed in the constellation and sector diagrams aim for alignment with the city's existing Pathway Master Plan, with a final location for the link being coordinated with Public Works and the Pathway Master Plan.

Finally, there are features of the parks and recreation system intended for the community as a whole. Larger scale facilities, or parks and recreation system components where only one will exist in the entire community, will be community-centered, but importantly, these facilities will still be located in a park (there may be exceptions, but for the most part, the goal is location in a city-controlled park or facility). Inherent in the location of these facilities is the method of accessing them, with the presumption that many users will choose to access them via their cars, while non-motorized access will still be encouraged by the choice of location and the design of the site or facility.

While some park components or services are best delivered on a community-wide basis, others are better delivered to smaller segments of the community. Through sectors and constellations, each part of Roseville and every neighborhood will be afforded the parks and recreation opportunities it needs, with each park playing a role in the system that balances immediate neighborhood needs with the needs of the broader community. In this approach, parks within walking distance of a

neighborhood are organized to serve a majority of the neighborhood's park and recreation needs.

As parks are organized into constellations and sectors, each must serve its constellation. Each park might also serve a community role—based on the park's ability to support a community-wide activity. Using this structure, the master plan envisions that nearly every park will have these components:

- unprogrammed, open play area
- play structure accommodating up to 20 children
- small wild area
- pavilion or shade structure
- small gathering area
- trails or pathways within the park
- signs or information kiosks

Each constellation will have these components:

- open area programmable for one field activity
- tennis courts and court games area
- play structure accommodating at least 50 children, with a unique feature
- larger wild area
- picnic area and pavilion
- recreation and maintenance storage areas

Each sector will have these types of components:

- field area programmable for more than one use
- major play structure and climbing element



*The master plan envisions gathering spaces in every park as a way of building community through parks and recreation.*



*The master plan maintains an orientation to activity in parks, with a focus on components that can be programmed as well as spaces and components that allow play to happen.*



*While the most common or frequently used facilities will be available in nearly every park in the parks and recreation system, some of the more unique facilities will be available on a sector or community-wide basis.*

- general skating area and hockey rink
- splash pad or other water play feature
- significant wild area
- community garden or display garden
- shelter with meeting rooms that can be programmed or reserved

Community-wide components will include:

- community center
- aquatics facility
- aggregated athletic fields
- other unique recreation facilities

An assessment was conducted of every park in the system for its abilities to fill roles in the constellation and sector concept. Worksheets were prepared to guide this effort, with the most common recreation components identified for their service orientation in the constellation and sector concept, and the components—as either existing or planned facilities—were highlighted for each park. The worksheets, while not definitive about the finite improvements planned for each park, are intended as a tool to assess the ways in which parks and recreation services can be delivered to the community, particularly at the constellation and sector levels.

### *Parks as a place for civic engagement*

Much attention is directed to the physical changes envisioned for our parks and recreation system, but a higher goal must also be realized. During the master planning process, the CAT discussed the need for parks to be a community building tool. In fact, using parks as a way of enhancing the sense of community became an overarching outcome. While other outcomes were articulated, none took on as much significance.

Getting to the point where community happens is important, and it requires a physical space. Participants in Imagine Roseville 2025 imagined civic gathering spaces, and those spaces can find a home in the parks and recreation system. With those spaces in a park and the interactions that result, neighbors may take a greater interest in the enhancement and maintenance of a park. Neighborhoods might take greater ownership and responsibility for their park, gaining a sense of pride and identity from their association with their park. This function of parks cannot be underestimated. As plans for parks are created, including spaces and programs for civic engagement should be a priority. Spaces in some parks might support neighborhood or community events, while in others these spaces might be smaller garden or courtyard spaces. Programs supporting neighborhood-building goals include Night to Unite or neighborhood-focused celebrations, and the Discover Your Park events currently conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department.

## Parks classifications

In the constellation and sector concept, parks take on a role beyond their traditional classifications. This is an evolution in the ways that parks and recreation services are delivered to the community, so maintaining consistency with the existing classifications is important. In the chart that follows, the “existing definition” is the currently applied definition for the various classifications of parks in Roseville. It is followed by a definition that relates the roles of each park classification to the constellation and sector concept. Both definitions apply and are important as parks change to meet the needs of the community.

Park classifications		
<i>Classification</i>	<i>Existing definition</i>	<i>Definition related to constellation and sector</i>
Play lot	Small parks intended for informal recreation, play, and relaxation	Provides active and passive recreation opportunities at the smallest level of active parks in the community; play lots, or the components of a play lot, are available in every constellation in the system
Neighborhood Park	Parks near residential areas that offer opportunities for a variety of recreational activities, both organized and informal	Provides active and passive recreation opportunities addressing the needs of a constellation, and providing, in some cases, components that deliver recreation opportunities on a system wide basis; neighborhood parks are available in every constellation
Community Park	Larger and offer diverse environmental features, including unique natural open space; offer many opportunities for recreation; includes activity center land	Provides active and passive recreation opportunities to the constellation and surrounding constellations, most often with recreation opportunities that are of interest to the entire community and may be limited in distribution to a few locations within the system, with a target of having at least one community park in every sector
Urban Park	Parks that offer varied natural and developed features and include a range of recreational activities and programs	Provides recreation opportunities in a location that serves a more densely populated, walkable, and more intensely developed district, likely serving most directly that population of the population of a constellation; urban parks provide unique environments or programming that attract users from across the system
Trail Park	Offer opportunities for recreational travel, such as hiking or biking, through areas of natural beauty	Serves entire community and offers relief from development but does not provide active recreation opportunities; trail parks are not targeted to constellations or sectors, but are intended to provide unique walking or bicycling connections that offer convenience for users and a diverse recreational experience



*Spaces directed to active, programmed sports typically occur in parks classified as “Athletic Field” in the parks and recreation system’s park classification.*



*Cedarholm Golf Course is classified under the “Golf”, a designation reserved solely for this activity.*

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Existing definition</b>	<b>Definition related to constellation and sector</b>
Athletic field	Park areas that are entirely designed for organized athletic play	Provides spaces for organized athletic play in limited locations in the system; distribution is not determined by constellation or sector, but rather by capacity of a park to support the activities; locations near primary community trails is preferred
Conservancy Park	Intended for the protection and preservation of the natural environment and offer passive recreational opportunities	Provides spaces for interactions with the natural environment in limited locations in the system; distribution is not determined by constellation or sector, but rather by capacity of a park to support the activities; locations near primary community trails is preferred
Facility	Building or other specialty site that supports specific programs or community functions	Provides spaces for specific programs or activities in limited locations in the system; distribution is not determined by constellation or sector, but rather by capacity of a facility to support the activities, programs, or use, along with the necessary supporting functions of the facility (which includes adequate parking); locations near primary community trails is preferred
Golf	Golf course	Provides spaces for golf activities in limited locations in the system; distribution is not determined by constellation or sector, but rather by capacity of a facility to support golf use, along with the necessary supporting functions of the facility (which includes adequate parking)

**Key**

Existing definition: a hierarchy of park types, based on size and diversity of experiences, offering general passive and active recreation which is often targeted to a constellation or sector level of park and program service delivery

Constellation and sector definition: specialty parks and facilities that serve the entire community but might not provide general recreation opportunities for a constellation or sector

## Parks, facilities, and programs

*Already, variety of parks and facilities exist to accommodate the recreation needs and program opportunities in Roseville’s parks and recreation system. Still, we might see changes as the system strives to accommodate new uses and users. Ultimately, a variety of facilities and wide range of programs will be needed to serve the community.*

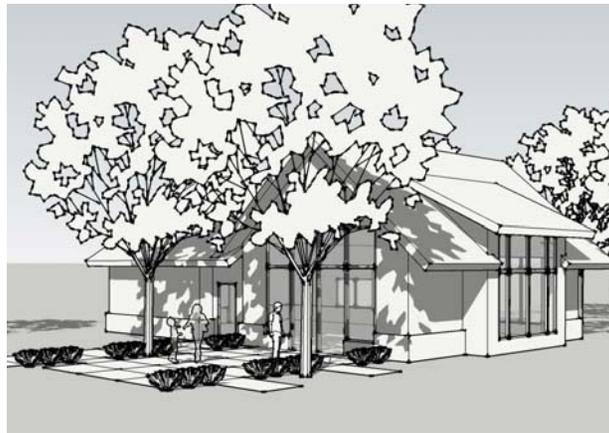
### Park shelters

A visit to a park with a shelter reveals a disparity in the quality of the parks and recreation system, with several parks having shelters that date to the early 1970s. A few parks (Evergreen Park and Acorn Park) have newer shelters, which are designed as something of a hybrid between an enclosed shelter and an open-sided pavilion. The older structures are simply out of date; they require significant investment to bring them up to date, but as important, they have been described by residents as too much like a bunker. Also important, they were implemented with a “one size fits all” approach, where every park with a shelter was assumed to have the same needs for the shelter. For these reasons, a new approach is recommended by the master plan.

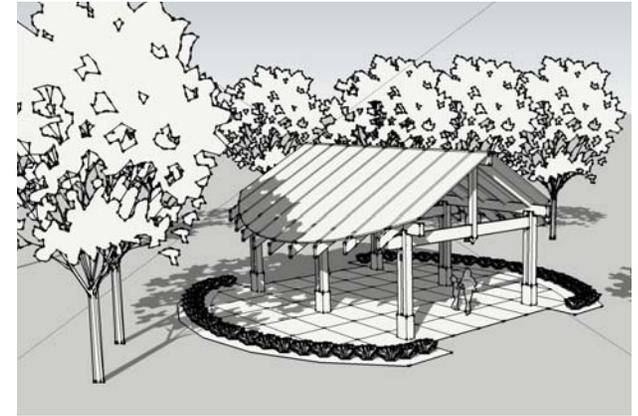
Residents have expressed a desire for a variety of park buildings and shelters, and it seems that no single design will satisfy the varying needs across the system. Many residents stated a need for park

shelters that would serve a meeting room function, an activity which would not be well-accommodated in the current shelters (new or old). Others have stated that an enclosed building is not needed so much as simple overhead cover—more of a pavilion. Discussions with the community reveal clearly that a range of structure types is desired, and that parks may have widely varying needs for any kind of structure.

In the master plan, several structure types are proposed to accommodate the range of use that might be anticipated in Roseville’s parks. Without suggesting a design or style, a baseline program is described in the “Park Structure Types.”



*One of the key elements of a basic shelter is an exterior space that enhances opportunities for neighborhood gathering and interaction. Shelters might include a large common space, restrooms, a small office, and storage areas.*



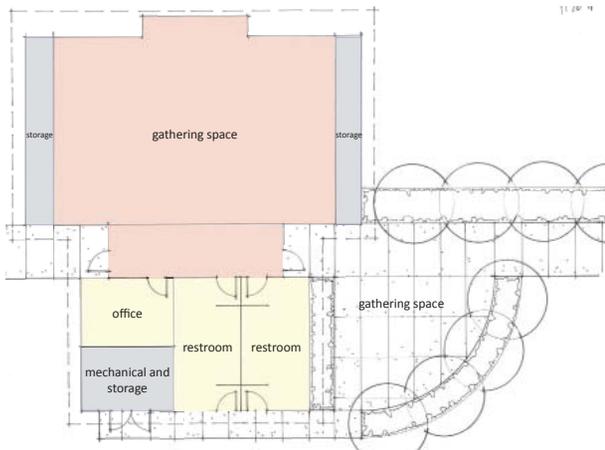
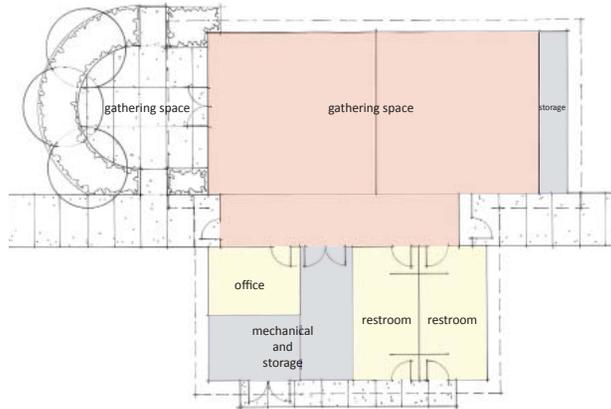
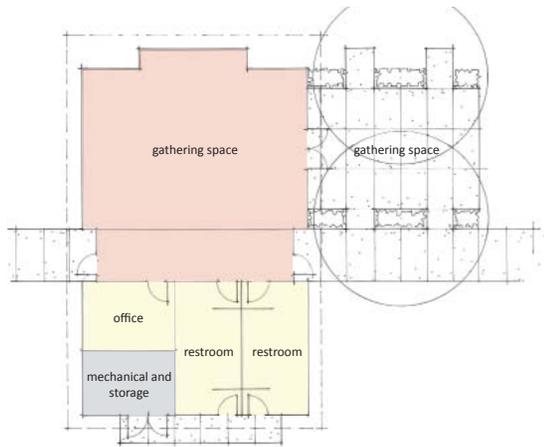
*A basic pavilion offers space for smaller events and rental to groups. Enhancements include the addition of a kitchen and restrooms.*



*Enhancements to a basic shelter include a meeting room, which was requested frequently by residents during the master plan process. Other enhancements might include a more accommodations for gathering, perhaps with the addition of a pavilion and fireplace.*

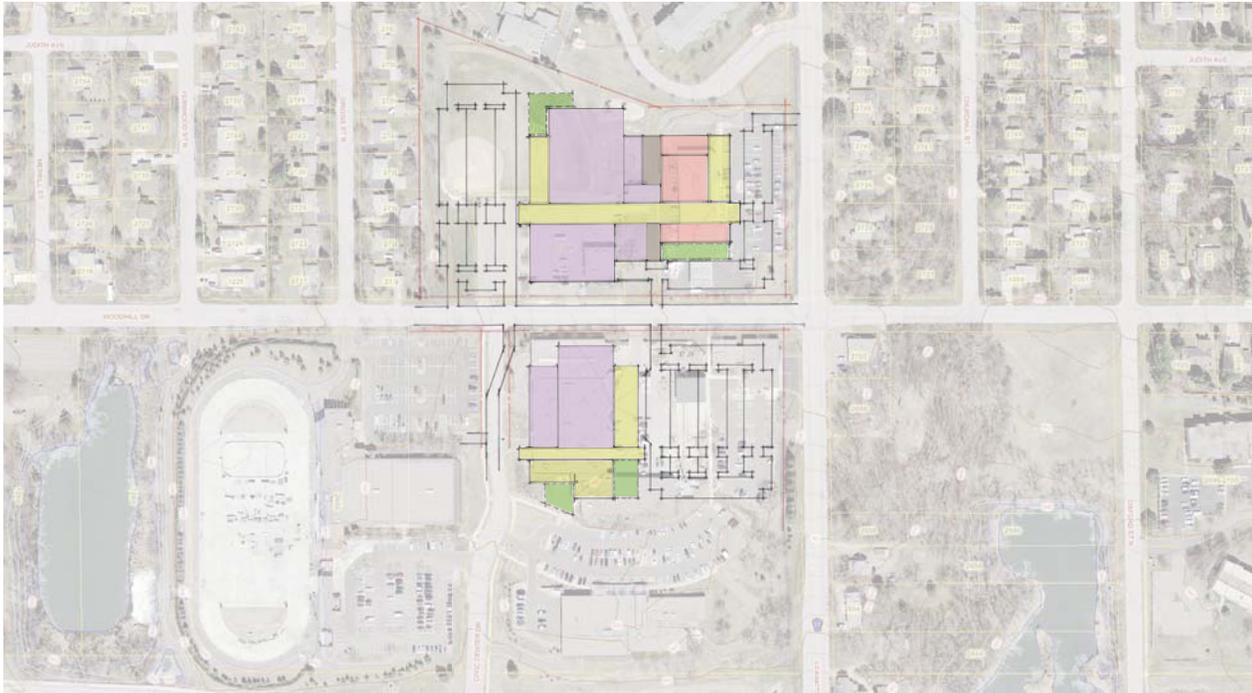
<b>Park structure types</b>		
<b>Structure type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Location considerations</b>
Shade structure	Overhead structure (24 feet or smaller in each direction and no greater than 384 square feet) providing shade or filtered shade over sitting area or bleachers	Located in every park with an active use area
Pavilion	Large overhead structure (greater than 24 feet in at least one direction and greater than 384 square feet) providing shade over a large gathering area or picnic area; this may be a rental facility; may have a fireplace	Located in parks with large playgrounds and multiple playfields
Pavilion with kitchen and restrooms	Addition of limited kitchen facilities to a pavilion, including sinks, refrigerator, oven/stove, preparation space, and serving space; kitchen facilities are enclosed and securable, with a total square footage of approximately 360 square feet; equipment and materials shall be designed to meet Minnesota Department of Health Standards; parking should be proximate to this facility	Located at large gathering areas, large play structures, and multiple playfields; eventually, this facility would replace all current rental pavilions
Pavilion with storage	Addition of storage area to a pavilion, intended for the use by Parks and Recreation Department; storage may be used for parks programming or maintenance and operations, each with separate and secured storage area	Located at parks where a community focus requires on-site storage for programming
Shelter	Enclosed and conditioned building providing space for parks and recreation programs, as well as use by residents or groups on a reservation basis; shelters typically include a single large gathering space (approximately 1200 square feet, or about the size of a large elementary school classroom), office space, restrooms accessible from within the shelter and from outside of the shelter, building mechanical space, and storage; often, this structure serves as a warming shelter for ice rinks in winter, and offers space for other recreation programs at other times of the year	One per sector (minimum); locations at higher use parks and parks with a community focus program; locations with ice rinks
Shelter with pavilion	Addition of a overhead structure to a portion of a shelter which offers expanded programming space or is a part of a larger exterior gathering area	Based on specific demand/community preference
Shelter with kitchen	Addition of kitchen facilities as described for a pavilion with kitchen	Based on specific demand/community preference
Shelter with meeting room	Addition of a small meeting room (approximately 800 square feet, or a capacity of about 25 persons) to a shelter to provide a smaller and separated space for meetings	Based on specific demand/community preference
Shelter with special purpose room	Addition of space for special activities requiring unique program elements (such as an art room, which may require larger sinks, storage cabinets, or more display walls, or a preschool room, which may require different colors/finishes or restroom equipment)	Based on specific demand/community preference





The master plan envisions a range of shelter types, each designed to reflect the program needs and the desires of residents in a sector. Shelter types might include:

- a basic shelter that includes a gathering space, restrooms, and a small program office (top left);
- a shelter with an expanded gathering space (bottom left);
- a shelter with an even larger gathering space that might be divided into separate rooms (top right); and
- a shelter with a meeting room and kitchen (bottom right).



*A concept for the community center was tested on a site that includes Veterans Park, and linking to the existing Civic Center campus. Much work remains, and significant evolution of the program and the concept layout should be expected. Maintaining a process similar to the one used in this master plan is viewed as an essential part of the next steps in defining a community center that serves the Roseville community.*

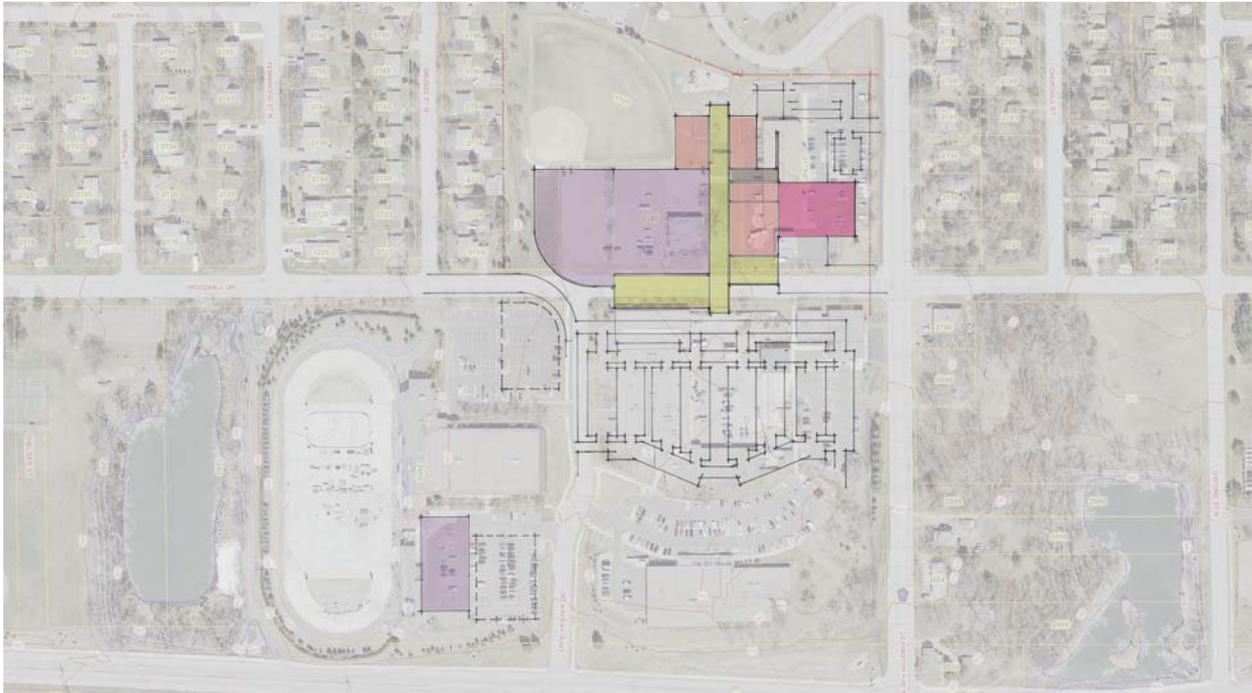
## Community center

Many parks users and residents noted their interest in a community center is not new—that it has been a topic of discussion for more than 25 years. The parks and recreation system master planning process confirmed the level of interest in this kind of facility and directed efforts toward:

- articulation of the kind of facility desired;
- definition of a desired program;
- identification of site location parameters and a preferred site; and
- generation of a preliminary site “fit” for the community center on the preferred site.

The Citizens Advisory Team devoted an entire meeting to the community center, and followed up with a review of initial directions. They do not see this as solely a recreation center or field house, and were interested in blending arts and cultural activities and meeting rooms with active recreation spaces. They see this facility as a place of gathering that engenders a greater spirit of community, not simply a place to swim or play basketball. Ultimately, the CAT focused on a concept of an all ages social and recreation center, with a strong orientation to families.

The CAT highlighted a rather expansive list of activities that might be included. While they did not wish to preclude program components, it was understood that site constraints and budget limitations, neither of which were dealt with during



*A more aggressive program for the community center was also explored. No conclusions were reached on the design or the program elements during the master plan, but it was clear that residents who were engaged in this process were interested in pursuing the community center as a part of their parks and recreation system.*

their discussions, would be a factor in refinement of the program. Program elements identified include:

***Interior components***

- recreation pool (zero-depth entry, water slide);
- competition pool and diving well;
- youth gymnasium;
- three to five court gymnasium;
- interior ice sheet and training center;
- fitness center;
- climbing wall;
- indoor play structure;
- performing arts center;

- arts center;
- teen center;
- senior center;
- meeting rooms;
- license center;
- coffee shop; and
- fire station.

***Exterior components***

- recreation pool (zero-depth entry, lazy river, youth pool);
- informal play area;
- large outdoor natural area; and
- parking.

*Early vision ideas suggested a community center that would include a range of activities oriented to all ages and, especially, to children.*



Some components, such as including a Fire Station or a License Center, look to the potential of co-locating city facilities with other functions of the community center. No conclusions were reached by the CAT about whether these uses aligned with the overall idea of the community center, but importantly, the CAT believed they should remain a part of the development program and that, if they could be accommodated, they would not interfere with the goals for the community center.

Discussions with the CAT also were directed to considerations about the location, both within the

city and relative to the parks and recreation system. Desired locations would meet these parameters:

- centrally-located within Roseville;
- located on or very near a major community street;
- parcel no less than ten acres;
- visually prominent from a primary street;
- accessible from current or planned trail or sidewalk;
- capacity to accommodate other community functions, depending on the selected site;
- capacity to support other goals of the city,

- including economic development goals; and
- not adjacent to single family residential, or capable of supporting sufficient transition to adjacent single family residential.

Applying these parameters to a map of Roseville led to the conclusion that a community center on the Civic Campus site would be preferred. Several “test fit” sketches were prepared to demonstrate possible configurations, and the test revealed that accommodation of the full program of activities identified during this master planning process the need to relocate the city’s maintenance facility became apparent. While each alternative impacted the Civic Campus site in different ways (for instance, causing the relocation of existing facilities or the need to acquire additional land), these preliminary studies confirmed for the CAT that a community center on the Civic Campus site is possible. It should be noted that these studies were directed to an assessment of what might fit, not at a definitive design. Adjustments to the desired program were necessary in each alternative considered, and as further planning occurs, it should be expected that program refinements are a necessary piece of the design and exploration process.

This master plan concludes that a community center would be a desirable component in Roseville. Input confirmed that it is desired by residents—in fact, after trails and connectivity, a community center is the facility most often cited as a desired addition. No estimates were generated for the cost of the facility, and other than stated preferences

for program and location, the community center remains an idea requiring further study.

The master plan advocates for a process that takes certain steps to carry the community center idea forward. Key tasks might be rolled into a “preliminary design” process, and might include:

- refining the program of desired components;
- preparing a concept level design for the facility and the site;
- estimating the costs of construction AND operating the facility;
- identifying potential sources of funding for construction; and
- framing a schedule for implementation.



*The CAT expressed interest in an evolution of the former Unisys site for an athletic field complex. The site would reasonably accommodate the desired program, and, interestingly, would rejuvenate active sports on this site. While Unisys occupied the site, the Parks and Recreation Department assisted with the company's softball leagues that played on fields at this site.*

*One feature that might be considered in an athletic field complex is the use of artificial turf. This would enhance the play experience and offer longer seasons of use—and accommodate more players interested in participating in parks and recreation programs for that sport.*

### *Aggregated athletic fields*

A second major facility was considered as a part of the master plan process. Aggregated athletic fields were discussed as a way of providing a high quality play experience to accommodate more intensive use for soccer and softball. It's

significant that there is no site in the system that can accommodate the addition of a number of ball fields or soccer fields, and that short of a new facility, only incremental improvements could be made—and then, those improvements would impact other recreation opportunities as they are displaced by new fields.



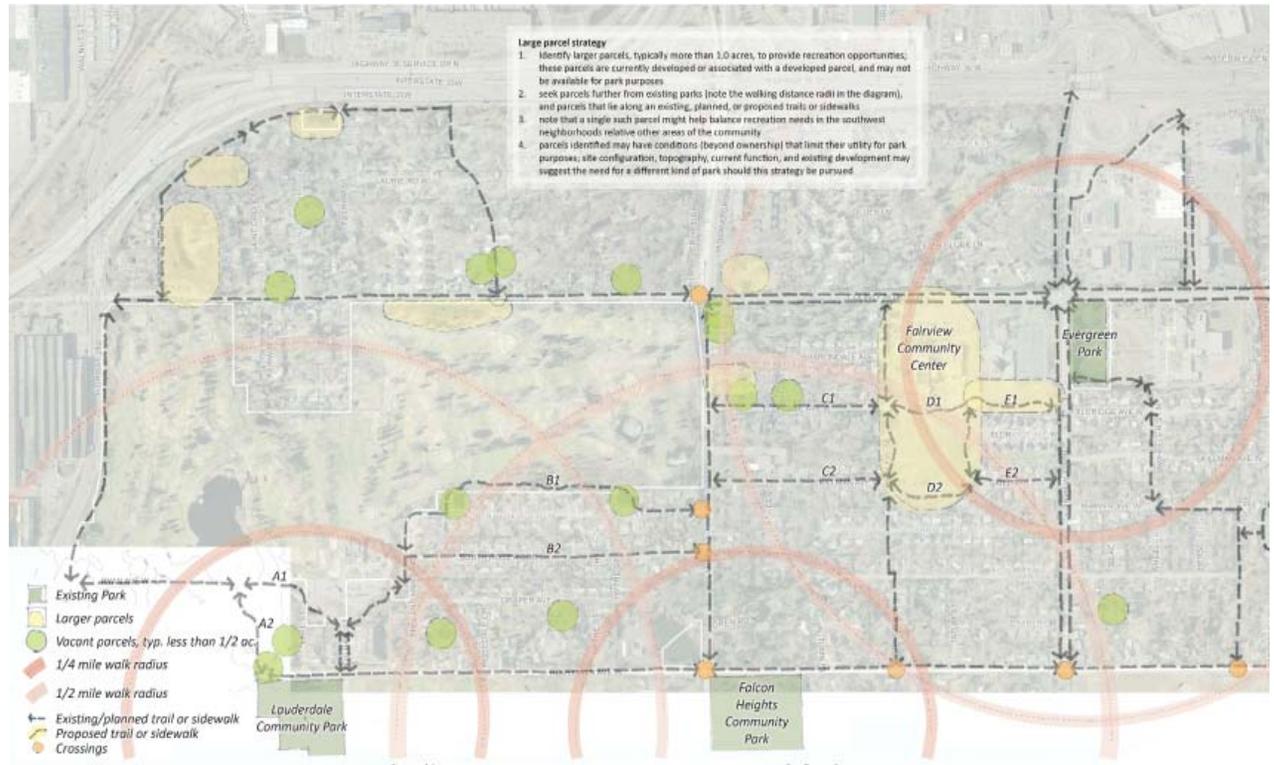
While a site may be difficult to identify or secure in a nearly fully developed community, finding a new site for the athletic fields may have the advantage of allowing some existing fields to be re-purposed for other parks and recreation uses. It would create fields of a higher quality than possible given the soil conditions found in some existing parks, extending play-ability and safety for players.

The CAT discussed the possibility of a complex accommodating the following program of activities:

- softball fields, with lights on all fields, including a minimum of four “tournament quality” fields;
- artificial turf soccer field, with lights on all fields, including a minimum of two fields and capable of supporting a dome in the future;
- concessions and restroom building;
- picnic area and picnic pavilion;
- playground;
- maintenance building and storage; and
- parking.

Location parameters were also discussed, with the following identified as key considerations:

- parcel of at least to fifteen acres
- accessible from a major thoroughfare
- not adjacent to single family residential, or capable of being screened (including lights) from single family residential
- accessible from current or planned trail or sidewalk



*Accommodating parks and recreation services in Southwest Roseville will rely on a combination of strategies that include creating better connections to existing parks, seeking small parcels for small park spaces, and finding a large parcel where a more significant park might be created.*

A general overview of the community expectedly revealed no undeveloped sites where this kind of facility could be built. However, the former Unisys property on the extreme west side of the city is of sufficient size that the program could be accommodated, perhaps with space remaining for other city functions.

*Parks need to serve a variety of purposes in the constellations and sectors pattern; some parks will serve the active recreation needs of the community with fields that accommodate sports programs.*



## Southwest Roseville

It's not only through the master planning process that a lack of parks serving the southwest Roseville has been noted. The recent Comprehensive Plan update noted the need for a park in this part of the community, although a possible site was not identified. The master plan recognizes the need to actively pursue a location for a park, even if a large park cannot be achieved. Several strategies were conceived to lead to opportunities that would satisfy the needs of southwest Roseville :

### Connectivity strategy

- use existing Roseville parks and parks and open spaces in neighboring communities by extending trails or sidewalks to better link residents to recreation opportunities;
- enhance street crossings to ease pedestrian movement;
- explore options to define beneficial (not expeditious) connections;
- create a connection at the west end of Midland Hills Country Club in the narrow conditions along the noise barrier; and
- cooperate with neighboring communities to expand program opportunities and recreation facilities to serve all residents.

### Small parcel strategy

- identify small “vacant” parcels, typically less than 0.5 acre, to provide recreation

- opportunities; “vacant” parcels are currently in private ownership (typically owned by an adjacent property owner); as such, some or all of these parcels may not be available;
- seek parcels further from existing parks (note the walking distance radii in the diagram), and parcels that lie along existing, planned, or proposed trails or sidewalks; and
- many parcels will be required to serve southwest Roseville’s recreation needs.

### Large parcel strategy

- identify larger parcels, typically more than 1.0 acre, to provide recreation opportunities; in southwest Roseville, these parcels are currently developed or associated with a developed parcel, and may not be available;
- explore opportunities to create a park in combination with public parcels, notably the Fairview Community Center;
- seek parcels further from existing parks, and parcels that lie along existing, planned, or proposed trails or sidewalks;
- a single parcel might help balance recreation needs relative to other areas Roseville; and
- parcels may have conditions (beyond ownership) that limit their use for park purposes; site configuration, topography, current function, and existing development (on and adjacent to the parcel) may suggest the need for a different kind of park.

## Programs

The constellations and sectors pattern suggests that some parks will be oriented to community-supporting uses, while others will focus on its constellation. An orientation of programs to the constellation and sector concept suggests that parks will have a similar hierarchy for certain programs. As a result, certain parks might already be forming an orientation to support community-wide activities (without losing their ability to serve the constellation with more neighborhood-centered activities).

In the constellation and sector concept, parks and programs might be aligned with programs as described in the “Parks and programs” chart.



*While most people think of sports as a part of a parks and recreation, the range of activities and programs associated with the Parks and Recreation Department is expansive, and includes arts and culture, nature and the environment, and service opportunities—in addition to a wide array of active team and individual sports.*

<b>Parks and programs</b>		
<b>Park</b>	<b>Program focus</b>	<b>Features</b>
Rosebrook Park	Pre-school program at a shelter accommodating pre-school needs, such as a larger open area and restrooms, in addition to other programs/functions Adult soccer	Pre-school programs would continue at other parks, but the focus (or base of operations) would be at this park Two full-size adult fields could accommodate youth soccer
Autumn Grove Park	Youth soccer  “Sports of all sorts”	Fields serve as an open play area when not programmed; practices may be directed to other parks Court games that are unique in the system would be located here
Oasis Park	Community gardens  Art programming with a shelter accommodating art activities in addition to other programs and functions	Community gardens at a limited scale might occur in parks where they serve an adjacent or nearby multi-family use Arts programming might occur here; public art would occur at parks and facilities throughout the system
Harriet Alexander Nature Center	Nature programming and education	Other parks would be designed, where feasible and appropriate, to include “wild places”
Lexington Park	Play area with a shelter accommodating teen programs/activities in addition to other shelter programs/functions	
Evergreen Park	Youth baseball	Practices may be directed to other parks
Central Park Victoria	Softball	Practices may be directed to other parks
Central Park Dale West	Youth football	Practices youth football may be directed to other parks
Concordia Park	Youth baseball	Practices for youth baseball may be directed to other parks
Acorn Park	Youth baseball	Practices for youth baseball may be directed to other parks
Owasso Fields	Youth baseball	Practices for youth baseball may be directed to other parks
Veterans Park	Softball	Practices for softball may be directed to other parks



## Park plans

*To guide the evolution of parks within Roseville's parks and recreation system, guidance beyond the constellations and sectors concept is needed. Still, each park and component of the parks and recreation system will adhere to the broad directions found in the description of constellations and sectors, with more definitive directions provided by a range of more focused planning and design activities.*

### Park master plans

While the parks and recreation system master plan offers guidance for the evolution of the system as a whole, guidance is also needed for individual parks and facilities that comprise the system. In this case, the system master plan offers guidance; following the constellation and sector concept, parks will be guided toward activities that better deliver parks and recreation services to the community. In some cases, parks will be clearly oriented to the surrounding neighborhoods, but in others, components may be included that serve a broader sector or community-wide need. Roseville's existing parks have the capacity to accommodate both in ways that well serve the community.

When considering an individual park, the process of making change follows a planning and design process that includes:

- **concept planning:** where the broad patterns of the park and a program for activities that will occur in the park are defined;
- **design:** where more definitive work is performed for the park, including refinement of the concept plan to define specific layout of components, circulation systems, locations of special features and plantings, materials to be used, and any details that will guide construction; a cost estimate will also be framed at this stage of the process;
- **implementation:** where designed improvements are constructed; in some cases, improvements may occur in stages.

Each stage involves engagement of the community and parks stakeholders, much like the process used in shaping this master plan.

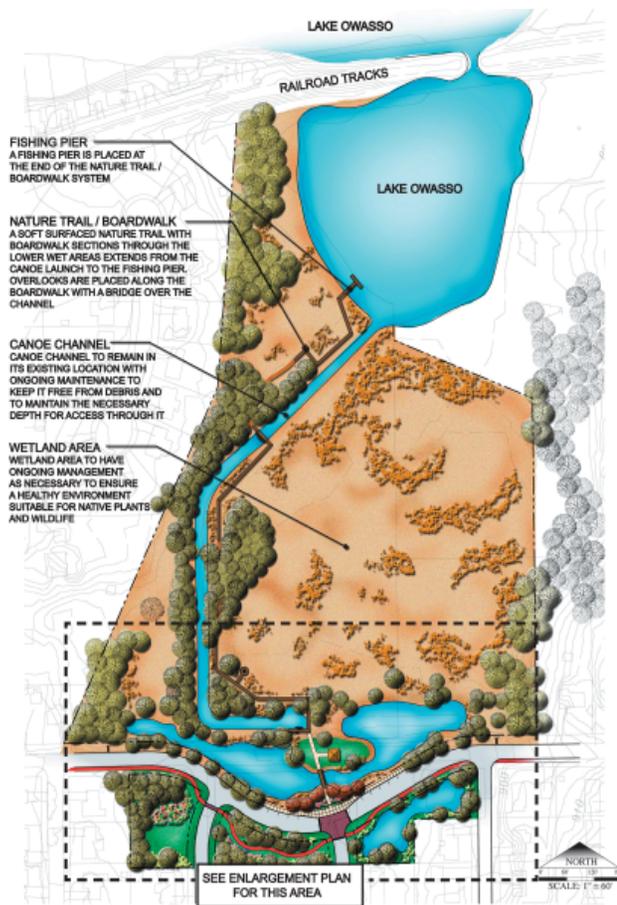
Initial guidance for some parks, especially large parks, is created through park master plans. Over time, the master plans may be revisited to ensure they are consistent with system needs and goals.

### Existing park master plans

Several parks are currently guided by park master plans that were created prior to this master plan, and for the most part, those plans remain in effect. However, they have been evaluated to ensure the needs of a constellation and sector are being addressed. In many cases, parks with master plans in place are already in some stage of evolution, with improvements identified in their master plan be



*A neighborhood orientation for Pocahontas Park would organize spaces to serve the more immediately surrounding neighborhood. This kind of park concept plan was created for a number of Roseville's parks during the master plan process.*



*Even before this master plan process began, the Parks and Recreation Department has been using master plans to guide the creation or enhancement of parks in the parks and recreation system. This example is the master plan that was created for Ladyslipper Park (Brauer and Associates, Ltd., February 2005).*

implemented (in many cases incrementally). Parks served by master plans include:

- Central Park Lexington
- Central Park Dale West
- Lexington Park
- Langton Lake Park
- Muriel Sahlin Arboretum
- Memorial Park

Several parks have improvements already made according to the master plan, including:

- Applewood Park
- Applewood Overlook
- Bruce Russell Park
- Ladyslipper Park
- Off-leash dog park
- Owasso Hills Park
- Pioneer Park
- Reservoir Woods
- Acorn Park
- Evergreen Park

One of the important aspects of a park master plan is the level of definition. As a more refined and detailed design effort, the park master plan is used to frame implementation costs, especially as the plan moves from a concept to a explicit demonstration of the intended improvements. At the master plan stage, key elements are defined to the point where materials and construction methods can be reasonably assumed—as stage of refinement not possible in a concept plan.

## Concept plans

During the parks and recreation system master plan process, several parks were selected for concept planning. Parks were selected on the basis of needed major improvements (in many cases, this was focused on a park shelter), geographic distribution in the community, the capacity for the park to accommodate sector or community-wide activities, and the ability for the concept plan to be used as a model for other similarly situated parks.

The concept planning stage of a park improvement project is the first real attempt to define how a park will evolve. It necessarily accommodates the input of neighbors and results in a plan that highlights patterns of use and activities—most often in a “bubble diagram.” Even at this stage of planning, however, park stakeholders gain a sense of the possible changes and the influences that those changes might have on their use of the park.

Concept plans prepared as a part of this master plan provide direction for parks related to the constellation and sector concept. These concept plans require additional neighborhood input and refinement, which would typically occur as capital investments are made. However, these concept plans provide a great start for the discussions required to make improvements in a park. Concept plans were prepared for the following parks as a part of the master plan process:



not the community  
5. trails extended along south edge of pond, with new link to Lakes Parkway using potentially acquired parcel at south park



3. shelter and playground anchor ends of a "neighborhood commons"  
4. open play areas accommodate activity, but not programming  
5. woods play area takes advantage of a wooded hillside near west pond  
6. parking integrated into the park (parking on neighborhood is quite limited)

*The concept for Oasis Park explored patterns that would support a community orientation (left) as well as those focused on serving the needs of the surrounding neighborhood (right).*

- Autumn Grove Park
- Oasis Park
- Villa Park
- Sandcastle Park
- Rosebrook Park
- Pocahontas Park
- Harriet Alexander Nature Center

### *Non-plan parks*

Eventually, every park will move through some level of the park planning process. The parks and recreation system master plan is the first step, and several parks will have this master plan as their primary guidance until a more intensive planning and design effort occurs. Guidance for these parks, and the ways in which they serve the constellation and sector concept, is reflected in a series of park planning worksheets prepared during the system master plan process. Each park—even those with an existing park master plan—was reviewed and key changes were noted. While it’s not sufficient to implement any changes, the guidance offered through these worksheets will help residents understand ways in which a park might change.

Eventually, all parks will have some level of planning performed, especially as improvements are planned for that park. A park planning worksheet was prepared for every park to highlight existing components and to relate its role in its constellation and sector. These worksheets are not definitive, but are a tool to be used as a park moves through a process of concept planning and design.

To date, the following parks have no planning guidance in place other than the park planning worksheets:

- B-Dale Fields
- Central Park North
- Central Park Victoria West
- Central Park Victoria Ballfields
- Concordia Park
- Cottontail Park
- Howard Johnson Park
- Keller Mayflower Park
- Mapleview Park
- Materion Park
- Owasso Ballfields
- Tamarack Park
- Valley Park
- Veterans Park
- Willow Pond Park
- Woodhill Park

### *Facility plans*



### Roseville Skating Center

When the Guidant John Rose MN OVAL was built in 1993, it was part of a three phase plan for expansion of the Roseville Skating Center. The original OVAL construction included a vision for locker room and meeting space (phase two) and additional community rooms and a possible senior center along the north end of the existing OVAL (phase three).

The Skating Center is also the foundation of a campus-wide geothermal heating and cooling system. The geothermal refrigeration system installed in the indoor arena in 2008 was designed for future expansion to include the Guidant John Rose MN OVAL, city hall, maintenance garage and fire station on the civic center campus.

### Harriet Alexander Nature Center

The master plan envisioned a major addition to HANC with the creation of an environmental center as a complement to the existing nature center focus. This facility would offer opportunities for education programming and events in a facility designed as an environmentally-friendly building, one that might, in fact, be developed “off pipes” and “off grid.” Site features might include organic demonstration gardens, rain gardens, and other sustainably-designed features.

The existing nature center building would remain focused on education programs dealing with the

natural environment. Improvements would be directed to accessing the building from the parking lot, increasing visibility from Dale Street, and site enhancements related to its mission as a nature center. Upgrades to the building would focus on mechanical systems and the building envelope.

### Community gymnasiums and the Gymnastics Center

Future improvements to community gymnasiums or the Gymnastics Center will be coordinated through Roseville Area Schools.



*Not every park has a concept plan or master plan—yet. As improvements are considered for parks, the Parks and Recreation Department will follow a process very much like this master planning process to frame a plan for the park being considered.*



*Parks with master plans still serve the community, and have for a long time. Howard Johnson Park was last improved with the guidance of a master plan, and while some components may need replacement, the general pattern of activity in the park is still largely appropriate.*

### **Cedarholm Golf Course**

While plans have not been developed for the golf course, Parks and Recreation Department staff anticipate the need to replace the clubhouse and expand the maintenance building. The golf course is an enterprise facility, with a part of its revenues derived from rental of the clubhouse for events. A new clubhouse is a way of expanding the potential to attract revenues in non-golf peak seasons.

Upgrades to the maintenance building at the golf course would result in a facility more suited to the contemporary maintenance requirements and equipment for the golf course.

### **Muriel Sahlin Arboretum**

Recent additions to the Arboretum resulted in a new restroom facility and the Kiwanis pergola. Anticipated future additions include an Asian theme garden and improvements to the parking lot and pathways. These features are identified in a master plan developed in 2004 to guide improvements at the Arboretum.

### **Gymnastics Center**

The Parks and Recreation Department forged a partnership with Roseville Schools to create the Roseville Gymnastics Center, which operates as a part of the school during the day and as a training and instructional facility for gymnastics at other times.

### **Park/school concepts**

Residents in Roseville often do not distinguish between recreation opportunities in parks and those available at local schools—especially for those components included in elementary school sites. The ability to more closely collaborate in efforts to create and maintain play areas and court games areas in school yards could be explored, and might demonstrate that the combination of resources could yield positive results—much like other partnerships that have been formed between Roseville’s parks and schools.



## Guiding the evolution of Roseville's parks and recreation system



*The master plan process, which was guided by a 28-member Citizen Advisory Team, engaged thousands of Roseville residents through community meetings and workshops, listening sessions, questionnaires, and more than 100 "meetings in a box." Through this process, a set of ideas and recommendations emerged. As residents and stakeholders shared their concerns and ideas, several clear desires stood out:*

- *a well-cared for system, with a focus on maintaining well what already exists;*
- *more connected community, created through pathways and sidewalks;*
- *all-ages social and recreation center;*
- *aquatics facility, without preference for an indoor or outdoor facility; and*
- *open play areas in parks.*

### *Recommendations and strategies*

Several recommendations are offered as a result of the process of engaging the community and shaping the directions of the master plan:

- review capital and operating expenditures for parks and facilities maintenance, and confirm items requiring immediate attention;

- pursue constellations and sectors as a means of delivering recreation components and services to Roseville's neighborhoods and quadrants;
- establish benchmarks for parks and recreation programs, services, and events tied to outcomes;
- coordinate creation of pathways and sidewalks linking parks within constellations and between constellations to create a more connected community;
- improve parks and recreation opportunities for residents in southwest Roseville and for the population of workers in the commercial and industrial area of the community;
- investigate methods of funding that result in consistent funding for the parks and recreation system;
- explore the creation of additional sport fields offering high quality play experiences and extended play through lighting and enduring play surfaces;
- acquire parcels that offer the ability to enhance the viability, utility, and flexibility of existing parks, focusing on underutilized adjacent lands;
- improve shelters at parks that enhance use within the park and offer opportunities for gathering at the constellation or sector level, and create spaces that encourage neighborhood gathering at every park;
- establish a process to study the feasibility of implementing a community center;
- use the park concept plans created during

*It was clear that caring for the parks that already exists is a priority for implementation. Without attention, the improvements that were last made will deteriorate, and significantly diminish the quality of the parks and recreation system in Roseville.*

the master plan process to initiate discussions with neighborhoods regarding changes to those parks; and

- add unique components and play opportunities according to the constellation and sector structure.

As implementation measures are contemplated, several strategies might be considered to organize the ways in which projects are integrated into the parks and recreation system.

### *Phased implementation*

The master plan is intended as a guide for the parks and recreation system for the next 20 years, and a way of setting directions for the next 50 years. But the validity of a master plan depends on its ability to be implemented, and it is clear that a phased approach to implementation is warranted.

During the master plan process, the CAT determined that defining a path toward implementation would only be partially framed by this master plan. Continuation of the CAT is viewed as a critical step in framing the implementation process.

<b>Implementation strategies</b>		
<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Projects</b>
Managing our existing resources to create maximum value	Repurposing parks or components of parks to create better use or alignment with other park goals, and structuring administration and operations to make best use of limited resources	Add projects from phase one list
Investing in our key assets	Making improvements to parks, programs, and facilities that are essential to the parks and recreation system or those aspects of the system that are signature elements	
Building and acquiring new assets	Adding lands to existing parks to create greater flexibility or viability of a park, or to protect existing resources found in existing parks	
Investing with our partners	Aligning projects and programs to bring greater value to parks users by coordinating efforts with others with an interest in parks, programs, and facilities (in public, private, and non-profit realms)	



A part of the master plan focused on estimating the costs of fully implementing the improvements. Costs will likely vary based on the refinements to park and facilities plans. Estimates of the costs of improvements are included in the appendix. The costs are viewed as a gross estimate that addresses anticipated improvements; the staging of the improvements—essentially what needs to happen first, will be the focus of the CAT as they study implementation directions.

## Funding

The initiatives framed in this master plan are part of a long term vision, but there is no question that implementation though the existing general fund will not produce sufficient funds. In fact, many of the immediate needs identified in this master plan reflect efforts that are currently not sufficiently funded. As the community looks to implement this master plan, funding options need to be more directly tied to the kinds of improvements anticipated—that is, some kinds of improvements are best funded with certain kinds of funding or initiatives. Funding for improvements might be funded through several methods, some commonly used, while others less frequently used. It is expected that a wide range of funding methods will be required.

The most commonly used funding strategy for parks improvements, particularly those that would involve major acquisitions or system-wide improvements, is through a referendum. Funds for parks improvements are generated by the sale of general obligation bonds which are repaid through a levy on properties in the community. Like a community's general tax levy, a significant portion is supported by a community's commercial and industrial properties, but the levy also affects residential properties. An important consideration for this funding strategy is the need for voter approval, so educating the community and gaining support prior to the referendum date becomes a critical task.



*While much might be made of partnerships, grants, or other methods of generating funds for park improvements, the value of volunteers cannot be underestimated as a part of implementation.*

In Minnesota, public improvements are often funded through the provisions of Minnesota Statute Chapter 429 (Local Improvements, Special Assessments). This statute gives municipalities the ability to fund improvement projects by assessing benefitting properties for a portion of the costs of the project in relation to the benefit they receive. The statute allows a municipality “to acquire, improve and equip parks, open space areas, playgrounds, and recreational facilities within or without the corporate limits.” Clearly, parks and recreation facilities benefit a community, and there is ample evidence that a well-conceived and maintained park increases property values for those properties in proximity to the park. It would seem that this method of funding park improvements is supportable, and may be best directed to portions of the community desiring a more aggressive implementation sequence.

In some cities, an entity with direct taxing authority has been created to fund and operate a parks and recreation system. In this case, it is typical for the authority to have an independent and elected board. The most obvious advantage of such a park district is the creation of a consistent source of revenue derived from the ability of the district to levy taxes. In Minnesota, regulations regarding parks districts are found in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 398 (Park Districts). In this case, the funds are typically applied across an entire parks system, much like a portion of a city’s general fund is directed to parks and recreation uses.

For special projects, some cities have leveraged Minnesota Statute 297A (General Sales and Use Taxes) which allows a municipality, with consent of the Legislature, to impose a tax of sales of goods within their jurisdiction. Few Minnesota cities have taken advantage of a local option sales tax, while others have used this tax to support major projects which otherwise could not be achieved. Many communities have seen this as a benefit because it generates funds from sales, some of which might be derived from consumers living outside of their municipality. However, retail businesses are sometimes reluctant to support this tax, as consumers have sufficient mobility to shop in places where a local option sales tax does not exist. This is particularly troublesome for retailers of larger dollar goods (appliances and automobile dealers are often cited).



*Existing partnerships continue to serve the Roseville community well. Through common efforts, the city and Roseville Schools provide recreation facilities in gyms and the Gymnastics Center.*

## Development review

While Roseville is mostly developed, some areas are likely to change as development pressures mount. New parks and facilities may be needed to serve these redevelopment areas. In this case, the city may use park dedication fees to create new parks or facilities, or it may partner with a developer to effect park or facility improvements targeted to the likely population of the redevelopment area. These actions typically occur on a case-by-case basis, as there is no formula for redevelopment. The Parks and Recreation Department will remain active in development review processes to ensure the community's parks and recreation needs are met as the community changes.



*Lexington Park resulted from a land swap as part of a proposed development. The city provided land to better accommodate the development, and it received a parcel where more significant park development could occur. While it may not happen frequently, the potential for improvements through redevelopment must be considered.*

## Grants

The city should actively pursue grants for parks and facilities improvements. Numerous examples of grant programs exist—from fishing pier grants from the Department of Natural Resources to grants for benches, as mentioned by Active Living Ramsey Communities during the master plan process. Grant programs change often, and will be best suited for capital improvements.

Often, grants require a local match. In some cases, in-kind contributions can be used for the match. This could include volunteer labor used to accomplish a part of a project. In other cases, the match may be real dollars. Most important, however, is the recognition that grant programs are aimed at a specific intention of the granting organization; ensuring alignment of goals is a worthwhile first step in assessing the potential for a grant for the parks and recreation system.



*Local businesses may be interested in supporting parks and recreation through sponsorship of events—and even participating in some kinds of community events.*

## Partnerships

The Roseville community benefits from the cooperation and collaboration of the Parks and Recreation Department with other entities outside of the city. Partnerships with the schools resulted in unique recreation facilities and programs being implemented in school buildings, with spaces that are used as a part of the school during school hours and by the community for recreation programs during non-school hours. Outdoor play areas have been cooperatively programmed for the benefit of the community. As the Parks and Recreation Department looks to the future of the city's parks, an expansion of the partnership with the schools in Roseville should certainly be explored.

The goal is providing quality recreation facilities and programs to the residents of Roseville and the students in Roseville's schools. While a likely direction may be expanded facilities to better accommodate growing programs, any activity that enhances the recreation experience of a park user (or a student) might be possible.

The Parks and Recreation Department might explore expanded partnerships with the three watershed districts in Roseville. Each expressed an interest in working with Roseville to effect improvements in water quality basins in parks, to expand and enhance recreation experiences in existing parks, and to extend park-like features to parcels oriented to water quality management to serve underserved populations in Roseville.



*Some water bodies in Roseville parks are a part of a system of stormwater management basins. Watershed districts interested in water quality improvement are desirable partners, as they share many common goals with Roseville's parks and recreation system.*



Partnerships are also common with local businesses, mostly involving sponsorship of events that help defray their costs. In other cases, the sponsorship may be significant, like the assistance provided by Guidant in refurbishing the Skating Center and OVAL. During the course of master planning, meetings with local businesses revealed a level of interest and commitment to parks and facilities in Roseville that suggests the potential for partnerships. Like grants, partnerships are best formed through an understanding of mutual interests. Unlike grants, however, partnerships might support capital improvements and provide support for special events and programs.

One of the real keys to the success of Roseville’s parks and recreation system are partnerships that have been formed with local parks-supporting entities, including:

- The Central Park Foundation offers assistance in developing Central Park, the “crown jewel” of the parks and recreation system;
- FORPARKS (Friends of Roseville Parks) directs its activities to enhancements to all of the city’s parks;
- FORHANC (Friends of Roseville’s Harriet Alexander Nature Center) directs its activities to supporting the Nature Center; and
- The Friends of the OVAL Foundation was formed to build and support the Guidant John Rose MN OVAL.

*The Guidant John Rose OVAL resulted in a sponsorship of the facility when a major capital improvement was required. While the funds for this project were significant, other projects may require smaller amounts or even contributions of labor or services, and have a good opportunity for partnerships or sponsorships.*

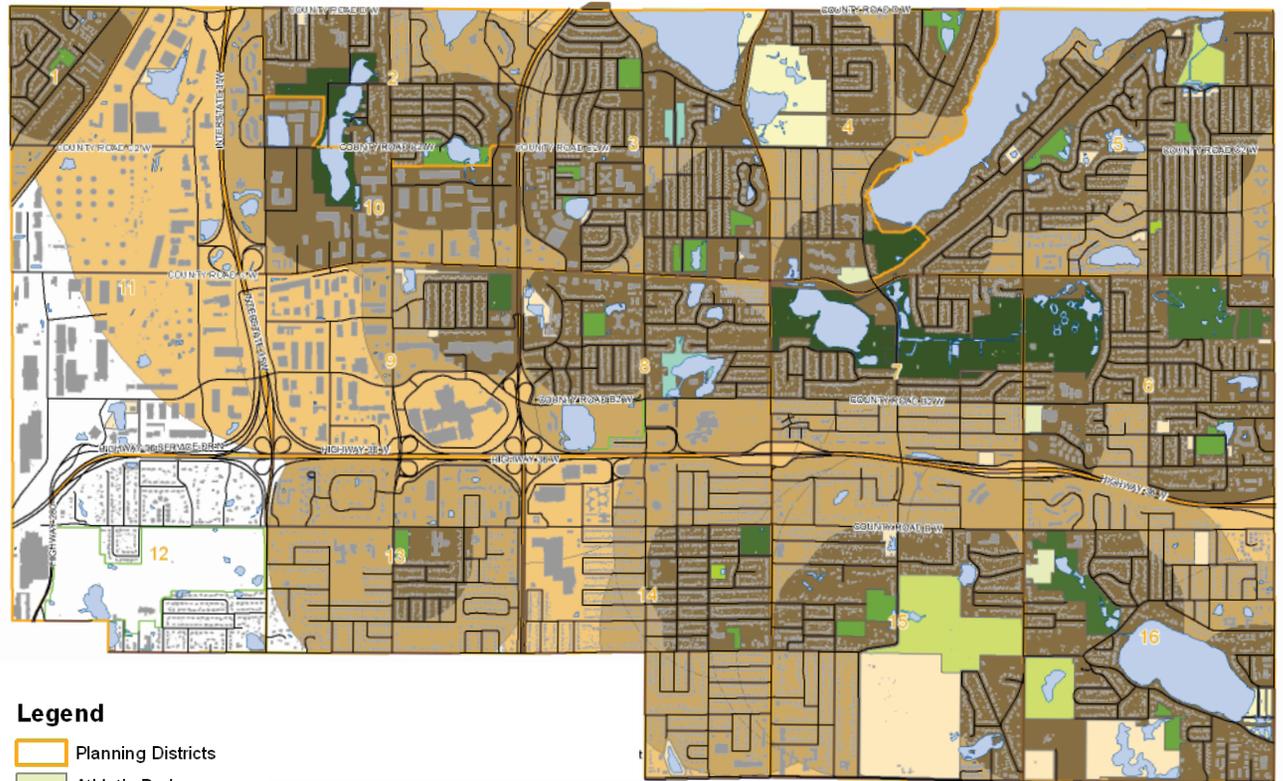


Parks and Recreation System

# Master Plan

## Part C | **Assessment and Evaluation**





**Legend**

- Planning Districts
- Athletic Park
- Conservation Park
- Play Lot
- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- Urban Park
- Trail Park
- Regional (County) Park
- Golf
- Other
- 1/4 mile play lot buffer, no major road crossings
- 1/2 mile neighborhood park buffer, no highway crossings
- 1 mile community park buffer

*One of the clear points of the assessment of the existing parks and recreation system resulted from an investigation of park service areas. It confirmed findings of earlier studies that the southwest part of Roseville is not well-served by Roseville parks.*



## Roseville's parks and recreation planning context

*It's important that the master plan recognizes where Roseville's parks and recreation system has been. An overview of the beginnings of Roseville's park and recreation system reveals forethought about the community and its parks and recreation system. Recent planning activities considered parks and recreation an integral part of a larger community-wide process that offers additional depth of context. Roseville's larger regional setting was discussed, recognizing that the community does not exist in isolation and that Roseville residents not only take advantage of parks and recreation opportunities in their own community, they often seek opportunities in nearby locations.*

### Roseville's parks and recreation system history

Roseville's parks and recreation system has established a respected and exciting history. In addition to the creation of a master plan in 1960 that guided parks and recreation decision making for a period of almost 50 years, the system is recognized because of its orientation to Roseville residents and the need to provide a rich and varied system of parks, facilities, and programs.

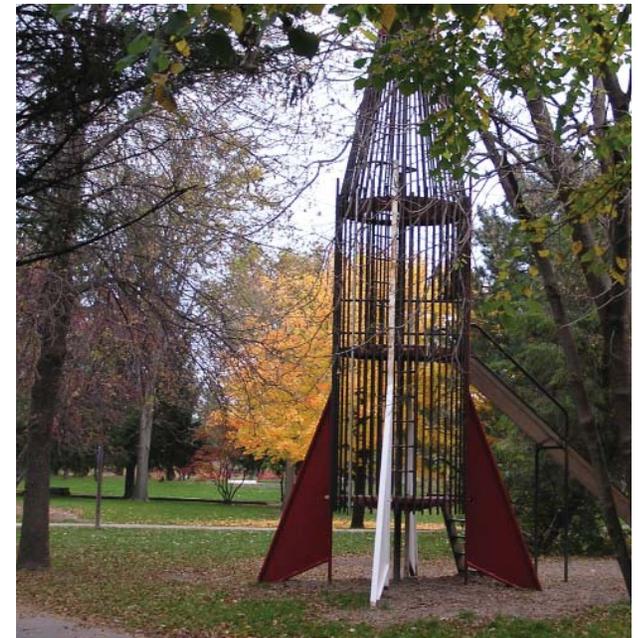
- Roseville's parks and recreation system goes beyond merely delivering services; we strive

to educate, inform and involve residents in the operations of and the opportunities within the City.

- Roseville is a community concerned with its environment – providing ample open space, preserving its wooded areas and protecting its shorelines.
- Roseville Parks and Recreation offers residents a wide array of services.
- Roseville is a community that equally embraces the arts and athletics – allowing opportunities to support and participate in a range of leisure endeavors.



*The history of Roseville's parks and recreation system includes the community's input to Imagine Roseville 2025, a community visioning process completed in 2006, where directions suggest the desire for a world-class parks and recreation system.*



*Roseville's first park, Mayflower Park, continues to serve the community and the neighbors surrounding it, and other features have become iconic in the parks and recreation system even as contemporary components have been added to parks throughout the community.*

Roseville Parks and Recreation programs, events and amenities are recognized among an elite group of local, regional and national agencies for the level of department operations and the delivery of recreation-based services. In over 40 years of existence, RPR has been acknowledged:

- *Locally* on fifteen separate occasions with the Minnesota Recreation and Park Association Award of Excellence;
- *Regionally* as an industry leader in recreation management and operations;
- *Nationally* with the NRPA Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Recreation Operations and Management and the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies as a pilot agency and five and ten year re-accreditation status; and
- *Internationally* as host of first class sporting events.



*Multi-generational programs are a critical part of Roseville’s parks and recreation system, and a goal for the system that finds support in Imagine Roseville 2025.*

### *Community planning and Roseville’s parks and recreation system*

Planning for the parks and recreation system is of interest to the entire community. In the past few years, planning efforts have suggested directions for the parks and recreation system, beginning with a process to define a vision shared by the community. In 2006, the community created Imagine Roseville 2025, a thoughtful look at Roseville’s future and a process that was steeped in engagement of the community. Imagine Roseville 2025 was adopted by the City Council in early 2007. There are many threads of a vision that relate strongly to parks and recreation, but there are two goals aimed directly at our purpose in this master plan:

***Goal: Roseville has world-renowned parks, open space, and multigenerational recreation programs and facilities***

- Strategy A: Expand and maintain year-round, creative programs and facilities for all ages, abilities, and interests
- 1) Remain aware of and responsive to changes in recreational needs and trends
  - 2) Keep a reasonable balance between open spaces and parks
  - 3) Increase use of parks and recreation facilities
  - 4) Maintain and improve trails, wetlands, and nature center(s)
  - 5) Actively promote parks, recreation, open space, and trail opportunities

- 6) Protect parks and recreation assets and assure user safety

Strategy B: Provide high quality and well-maintained facilities, parks, and trails

- 1) Maintain and manage parks, recreation facilities, forests, and open spaces to the highest standards using best practices; implement a plan to retain green and open space
- 2) Leverage resources by partnering with other communities, agencies, and school districts to optimize open space, fitness and recreation programming, and facility options
- 3) Connect the park system to the community via paths and trails



*Imagine Roseville 2025 encourages programs and facilities that promote health and wellness in the community for all ages, with a specific strategy related to the creation of high-amenity trails.*

- 4) Make the entire park system, including lakes and ponds, accessible to people with disabilities
- 5) Support volunteerism to encourage people to actively support parks and open spaces

**Goal: Roseville supports the health and wellness of community members**

Strategy A: Promote and encourage active and healthy lifestyles for all

- 1) Enhance recreational opportunities and encourage more active lifestyles to improve health
- 2) Support health education initiatives
- 3) Develop infrastructure that supports improved physical and mental health, such as high-amenity walking and biking paths within and between neighborhoods

Strategy B: Support initiatives and partnerships to improve health care quality, affordability, and access

Like Imagine Roseville 2025, Roseville’s recent comprehensive plan update offers guidance about the future of the community and its parks and recreation system. The comprehensive plan springs from Imagine Roseville 2025—using it as the guiding vision for the plan and the community, and lays out a series of goals and policies from which this master plan can build:

**Goal 1: Provide a high-quality, financially sound system of parks, open spaces, trails, and multi-**

**generational recreation facilities that meets the recreation needs of all city residents and enhances the quality of life in Roseville.**

Policy 1.1: Evaluate and refurbish parks, as needed, to reflect needs related to changes in population, age of nearby residents, recreational activities preferred, amount of leisure time available, and contemporary park designs and technologies.

Policy 1.2: Evaluate the maintenance implications of potential park land acquisitions and capital improvements.

Policy 1.3: Research, develop, and recommend funding programs in order to carry out the proposed park and recreation system needed within Roseville.



*Goals of the parks and recreation system master plan emphasize the need for wild areas in the community’s parks, as well as educational programs that help residents understand their environment.*

Policy 1.4: Partner with adjacent communities, agencies, and school districts to leverage resources available to optimize open space, fitness and recreation programming, and facility options.

Policy 1.5: Develop park and recreation facilities that minimize the maintenance demands on the City by emphasizing the development of well-planned parks, high-quality materials and labor-saving maintenance devices and practices.

Policy 1.6: Promote and support volunteerism to encourage people to actively support the City’s parks and open spaces.

**Goal 2: Maintain an ongoing parks and recreation planning process that provides timely guidance for maintaining the long-term, sustained viability of the City’s parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities system.**

Policy 2.1: Re-evaluate, update, and adopt a Park and Recreation System Plan at least every five years to reflect new and current trends, changing demographics, new development criteria, unanticipated population densities, and any other pertinent factors that affect park and recreation goals, policies, and future directions of the system.

Policy 2.2: Develop and implement park master plans.

Policy 2.3: Support involvement of the Park and Recreation Commission in the parks and recreation planning process.



Policy 2.4: Monitor progress on the Parks and Recreation System Plan on an annual basis to ensure that it provides actionable steps for maintaining, improving and expanding the system.

Policy 2.5: Annually recommend the adoption of a ten-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) for Parks and Recreation.

Policy 2.6: Involve a diverse group of participants in the parks and recreation planning process.



*The preservation of natural areas in the community and, in particular, in Roseville's park is seen as an integral part of the parks and recreation system.*

**Goal 3: Add new park and recreation facilities to achieve equitable access in all neighborhoods, accommodate the needs of the City's redeveloping areas, and meet residents' desires for a broad range of recreation opportunities serving all age groups.**

Policy 3.1: Determine potential locations and acquire additional park land in neighborhoods that are lacking adequate parks and recreation facilities.

Policy 3.2: Determine potential locations for new park facilities in redevelopment areas as part of the redevelopment process and use the park dedication process to acquire the appropriate land.

Policy 3.3: Make continued effective use of the Park Dedication Ordinance. Park land dedication will be required when land is developed or redeveloped for residential, commercial, and industrial purposes. The City will annually review its park dedication requirements in order to assure that dedication regulations meet statutory requirements and the needs of Roseville.

**Goal 4: Create a well-connected and accessible system of parks, open spaces, trails, and recreation facilities linking neighborhoods and providing opportunities for gathering and interacting.**

Policy 4.1: Connect the park system to the neighborhoods and community destinations via paths and trails.

Policy 4.2: Make the park system accessible to people with physical disabilities.

Policy 4.3: Align development and expansion of the non-motorized pathways system with the need to provide connections to and within the parks, open spaces and recreation system.

**Goal 5: Preserve significant natural resources, lakes, ponds, wetlands, open spaces, wooded areas, and wildlife habitats as integral aspects of the parks system.**

Policy 5.1: Encourage dedication of parks, open spaces, and trails in new development and redevelopment area that also preserve significant natural resources on and/ or adjacent to the subject site.



*Programs related to community theater demonstrate the parks and recreation system's focus on the arts, and it's orientation to serving the community.*

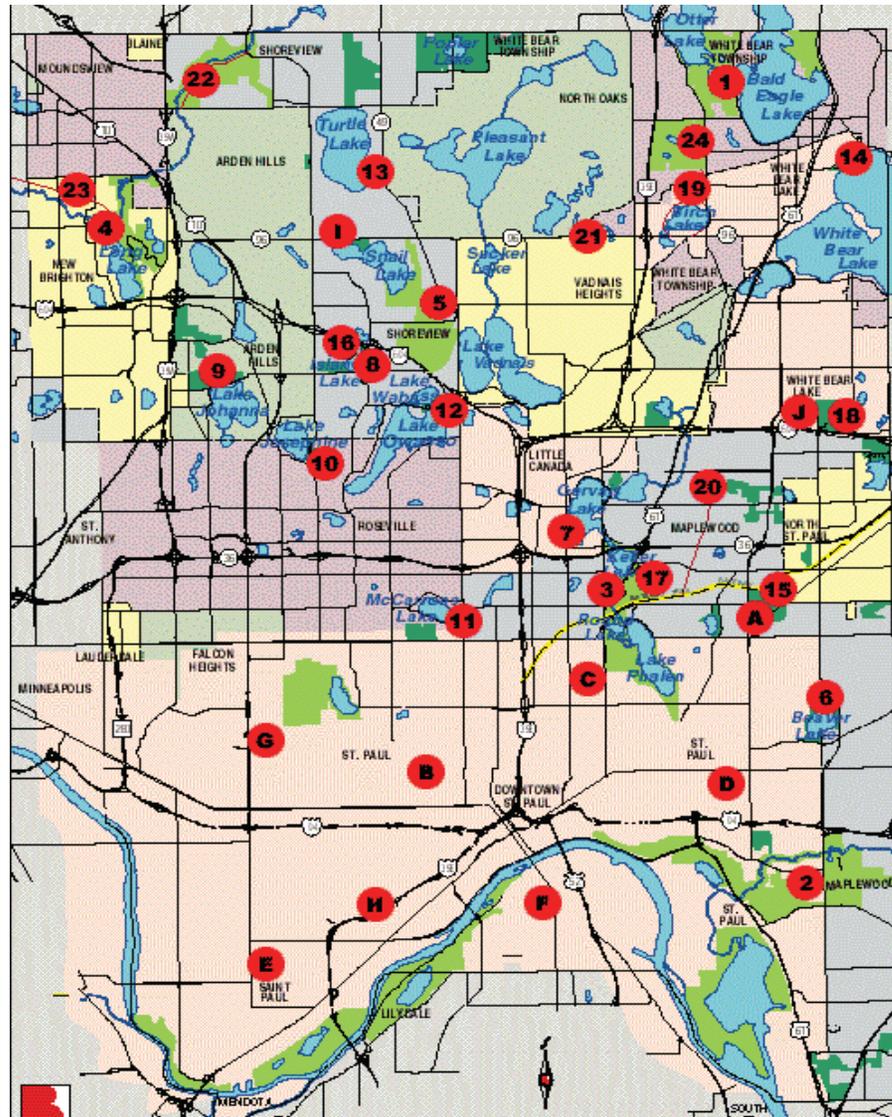
Policy 5.2: Utilize adopted Natural Resources Management Plans to manage and restore the significant natural resources in the park system.  
 Policy 5.3: Seek ways to effectively preserve wooded areas and to appropriately add trees to parks, open spaces, boulevards, and other City property.

Importantly, the comprehensive plan reserves the details for the parks and recreation systems for this master plan, suggesting that it will be the “primary tool for guiding the operation and maintenance of Roseville’s parks and recreation system.” It also notes the necessary connection between a Parks and Recreation System Master Plan and Roseville’s Pathways Master Plan and Transportation Plan, and reinforces the vital relationship between the master plan and land use in the city, which is guided by the land use component of the comprehensive plan.

### Regional setting

Roseville is one of 19 municipalities in Ramsey County. Ramsey County’s role as a county parks and recreation department is to provide natural resource-based outdoor recreation facilities and certain specialized recreation areas. From a regional perspective, Roseville benefits from Ramsey County parks within the city’s borders along with other parks located within adjacent cities.

In Roseville, Lake Josephine County Park and Lake McCarrons County Park offer significant recreation



#### Regional Parks

1. Bald Eagle/Otter Lake
2. Battle Creek
3. Keller
4. Long Lake
9. Tony Schmidt
5. Vadnais-Snail Lakes

#### County Parks

6. Beaver
7. Gervais
8. Island
10. Josephine
11. McCarrons
12. Owasso
13. Turtle
14. White Bear

#### Golf Courses

15. Goodrich
16. Island
17. Keller
18. Manitou Ridge
2. The Ponds at Battle Creek

#### Regional Trail Corridors

19. Birch Lake
20. Bruce Vento
21. Highway 96
22. Rice Creek North
23. Rice Creek West

#### Special Use Facilities

24. Tamarack Nature Center
2. WATERWORKS outdoor Waterpark

Ramsey County has two parks in Roseville (Lake Josephine County Park and Macarrons Lake County Park), as well as number of other parks and facilities in the vicinity of Roseville.



opportunities on two of Roseville’s major water bodies. Both parks include boating, picnicking, play areas, and swimming.

Ramsey County has trails along several county roads and along road supported by County-State Aid funding. Roseville residents are likely familiar with the trails along County Road C, which offers a significant east-west corridor for non-motorized movement. In the master plan, this corridor is discussed as a community parkway—a street that is not only oriented to transportation, but offers a strong identity element for the community.

Ramsey County provides six regional trail corridors for a total of 23 miles of trails that provide safe and enjoyable routes and support facilities primarily for recreational travel that pass through or provide access and connections to local parks and trail systems.



*Many residents of Southwest Roseville commented on the value of the University of Minnesota fields—just across the city’s border in Falcon Heights, and how frequently they use the fields for walking.*

Ramsey County also operates the Woodview Open Space (adjacent to Reservoir Woods) as an off-leash dog area. This is the only dog park in Roseville.

Nearby cities also offer Roseville residents recreation opportunities. Many residents noted that Como Park is a frequent destination, but on a frequent basis residents use parks immediately beyond the city limits in Falcon Heights and Lauderdale. In fact, Roseville offers recreation programming in concert with the City of Lauderdale in Lauderdale Community Park.

Neighboring communities also have recreation opportunities sought by Roseville residents. For many years, Roseville residents have seen community centers built in Shoreview and Maplewood, and while many have used those facilities, they would prefer to have a similar facility in their own community.

Several residents noted other recreation opportunities that might not be typically recognized in a parks and recreation system, notable the research fields at the University of Minnesota. The fields lie just south of Roselawn Avenue in Falcon Heights, and offer a passive recreation experience. Agricultural research has been conducted in these fields for decades, a practice that continues today and is likely to continue well into the future. The University of Minnesota allows people access to the fields for walking. While the fields are not a park, many Roseville residents have shared their interest in keeping it a part of their recreation experience.



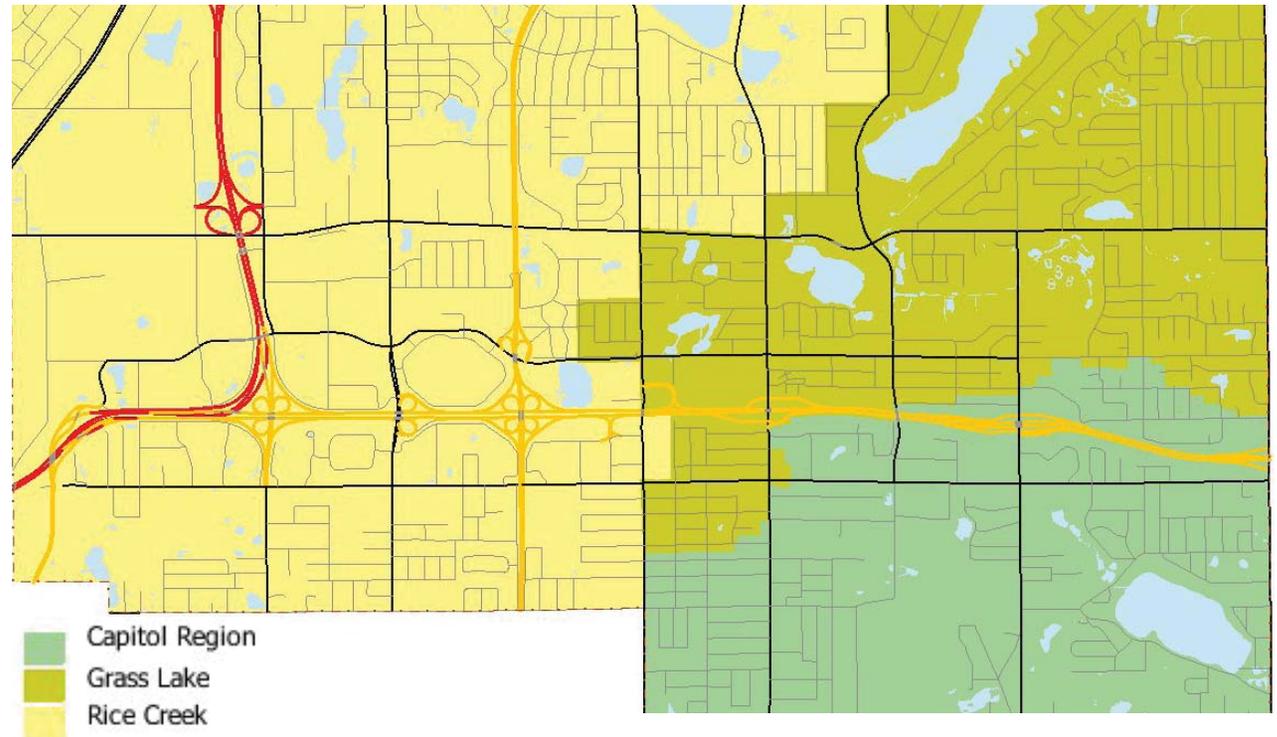
*Accessing the University of Minnesota fields might be improved with better connections in Roseville and crossings of Roselawn Avenue and Fairview Avenue.*

In combination with the city’s parks, county parks and parks in nearby communities bolster the recreation opportunities available to residents and offer greater diversity of recreation experiences. While the city does not control these parks, this master plan must address the ways in which Roseville residents access these resources.

During the master planning process, the Parks and Recreation Department met with the three watershed districts that have jurisdiction over various parts of Roseville. Each has a strong interest in working with the city to improve

water quality. Water quality improvements in parks have been effected in the city’s parks in the past, and even as this plan was being assembled, water quality improvements were planned and implemented in Villa Park and Oasis park. As these kinds of improvements are planned, there is a great opportunity for expanding the experience people can have in parks by integrating water quality improvements with trail improvements, creating overlooks near the water features, and offering educational programs that highlight the need for attention in our watersheds.

The watershed districts may make improvements in locations outside of parks. Recently, improvements related to a development project resulted in the creation of Applewood Overlook, a small gathering area that takes advantage of a remnant portion of a site dedicated to managing stormwater. It’s possible, as water quality improvements are targeted to other stormwater basins in Roseville, that similar kinds of park-like improvements— simple improvements like seating areas and trails— might be implemented. For areas near the city’s commercial and industrial areas, these kinds of improvements might be especially beneficial.



*Three watershed districts have jurisdiction over parts of Roseville, and each is interested in working with the Parks and Recreation Department to create water quality improvements that integrate opportunities for education and passive recreation experiences.*

## Existing parks and recreation system

*This section describes the full range of Roseville’s parks, trails, paths, recreation facilities and programs, and summarizes the range of services and events. Also, the current organizational and financial structure for operations, maintenance, repair, and replacement is presented.*

### Roseville’s parks

In Roseville’s existing parks and recreation system, parks are organized into classifications based largely on use and activities within each park. While these classifications define the primary function of the park, many parks serve multiple purposes—for instance, a neighborhood park accommodates the intended uses of a play lot.



*Parks fall across a range of park classification, including neighborhood parks, both of which focus on surrounding neighborhoods.*

Park classifications			
Classification	Description	Parks	Size (acres)
Play lot	<i>Play lots are small parks intended for informal recreation, play and relaxation. There are two play lots in the existing park system.</i>	Keller Mayflower Park	2.26
		Woodhill Park	2.60
Neighborhood park	<i>Neighborhood parks offer opportunities for a variety of recreational activities, both organized and informal. There are 16 neighborhood parks in the existing park system.</i>	Applewood Overlook	2.42
		Applewood Park	2.09
		Autumn Grove Park	6.54
		Bruce Russell Park	1.95
		Howard Johnson Park	9.56
		Lexington Park	8.18
		Mapleview Park	3.28
		Memorial Park (Civic Center Campus)	
		Oasis Park	15.37
		Owasso Hills Park	8.53
		Pioneer Park	13.52
		Pocahontas Park	5.67
		Sandcastle Park	3.43
Tamarack Park	6.93		
Valley Park	10.58		
Veterans Park	3.59		

Community park	<i>Community parks are larger and offer diverse environmental features, including unique natural open space. They offer many opportunities for recreation. There are three community parks in the existing park system.</i>	Acorn Park	44.60
		Rosebrook Park	8.28
		Villa Park	33.10
Urban park	<i>Urban parks offer varied natural features and include a wide range of recreational opportunities. There are two urban parks in the existing park system.</i>	Central Park	139.25
		Langton Lake Park	62.72
Trail park	<i>Trail parks offer opportunities for recreational travel, such as hiking or biking through areas of natural beauty. There are four trail parks in the existing park system.</i>	Central Park North	17.47
		Cottontail Park	6.48
		Materion Park	8.51
		Willow Pond Park	14.88
Athletic field	<i>Athletic fields are park areas that are entirely designed for organized athletic play. There are three athletic fields in the existing park system.</i>	Concordia Park	4.77
		Evergreen Park	3.94
		Owasso Fields	4.40
Conservancy park	<i>Conservancy parks are intended for the protection and preservation of the natural environment, and offer recreational opportunities. There are three conservancy parks in the existing park system.</i>	Central Park Harriet	52.28
		Alexander Nature Center	
		Ladyslipper Park	17.48



*Some parks offer simple recreation opportunities. Play lots might include smaller play structures and open areas for unprogrammed play.*



*Athletic fields offer space for programmed activities like baseball, softball, or soccer.*



*Trail parks are locations for trails, with amenities directed to facilities that support walking or bicycling (such as benches and trash receptacles).*

Regional facility

*Regional facilities provide unique recreational facilities that are used by people throughout the region. There is one regional facility in the existing system.*

Roseville Skating Center

Specialized facility

*Specialized facilities represent elements of the park system that should be identified for their special use and purpose. There are six specialized facilities in the existing system, and one (Woodview Open Space) that is operated in concert with Ramsey County as an off-leash dog area.*

Cedarholm Golf Course

Harriet Alexander Nature Center

Muriel Sahlin Arboretum

Central Park Community Gymnasium

Brimhall Community Gymnasium

Roseville Gymnastics Center

Woodview Open Space

### City trail and paths

The City of Roseville plans its trails, sidewalks, and pathways according to a Pathway Master Plan. Trails in the city’s parks are well used, and several city parks are classified as trail parks. These parks function primarily as a trail, most often with few other planned recreation components.

The Pathway Master Plan offers guidelines for developing a network of walking and bicycling opportunities in Roseville. A map associated with the Pathway Master Plan shows existing pathway facilities as well as proposed expansions to the network. Guidelines for pathway policies



*Central Park is one of Roseville’s urban parks, and offers experiences that are not found in the city’s other parks. More elaborate plantings and unique structures are common this park type.*



*Even in winter, Roseville’s trails are well-used. Trails offer residents connections to parks, schools, transit and other community destinations, and aid in the goals of creating a healthy and active community.*



*Pathways within Central Park offer a significant recreation opportunity, and when coupled with other city trails and sidewalks, the foundation of a reasonable alternative transportation network is laid.*



and standards are used by the city as expansions are planned and designed, constructed, and maintained. Importantly, the Pathway Master Plan also defines regulations for pathways and means of promoting their use.

The Pathway Master Plan is part of the city's Comprehensive Plan, and serves to assist the City Council on decisions regarding pathways. Responsibility for the Pathway Master Plan and maintaining trails outside of parks falls to the Public Works Department. The Pathway Master Plan identifies approximately 100 miles of on- and off-road pathways

### *Other public parks and recreation opportunities*

While this master plan concentrates on parks and recreation opportunities within the City of Roseville, it recognizes that residents take advantage of parks and recreations opportunities offered by other entities. While some of those opportunities are directed toward experiences similar to those found in Roseville parks, others are unique regional attractions that cannot be replicated as a part of Roseville's parks and recreation system.

Many Roseville residents view areas surrounding schools as a part of their parks and recreation system, which points out the idea that parks users view jurisdiction as irrelevant when they



*Roseville's trails and natural areas intersect often, adding an even greater diversity of experiences for residents and other trail users.*



*Facilities supporting walking and bicycling in Roseville include benches and trash receptacles. Integrated with landscape improvements, they become a signature of the community's trail and sidewalk network.*

## City trails and pathways

<b>Trail or pathway</b>	<b>Description</b>
Central Park Pathways	The pathway system in Central Park has always been popular because of its proximity to attractive and diverse natural amenities, its connection to numerous recreational areas and its size, which provides multiple access points and lengthy paved paths. The Central Park paths are heavily used and provide a very good trail experience for recreational users and a good thoroughfare for utilitarian users.
County Road C Pathway	The pathway in the County Road C corridor was constructed in 1995 with funding assistance from ISTEA. This path provides an essential central spine through the City, connecting users to a number of City amenities like commercial/retail centers, Central Park, Acorn Park, City Hall and the Lexington Avenue pathway.
County Road B2 Pathway	This off-road trail provides access from the Lexington Avenue trail through the Rosedale Mall shopping area. It was expanded, using federal funds, in 2005 to extend from Rosedale to the west city boundary where it connects up to the Minneapolis Diagonal Trail. This corridor is a major connector for students within the walking area for Roseville Area Schools, providing connections to Roseville High School, Parkview Elementary, and Roseville Middle School.
County Road B Pathway	This corridor consists mainly of off-road concrete sidewalks providing access to and from residential areas, Har Mar shopping area and Lexington Avenue pathway. This sidewalk, from Rice Street all the way to Cleveland Avenue, provides an east/west pedestrian corridor.
Dale Street Pathway	This corridor is mainly an off-road bituminous pathway connecting County Road C to Larpenteur Avenue. This pathway briefly merges with the Roselawn/ Reservoir Woods Trail at Roselawn. The pathway was identified in the 1997 plan and constructed in 2000 using Federal funds. The segment of Dale Street from Roselawn to Larpenteur does not have an off-road pathway. The connection to Larpenteur Avenue is achieved through Reservoir Woods Park.
Larpenteur Avenue Sidewalk	Three segments of this sidewalk have been constructed along Larpenteur Avenue since the development of the 1997 plan. The segments are Hamline to Oxford (2000), Galtier to Rice Street (2001) and Oxford to Reservoir Woods (2003). The segment of Larpenteur between Reservoir Woods Park and Galtier still does not have an off-road facility.
Lexington Avenue Pathway	This is the main north/south spine of the City. The corridor consists of both bituminous path and concrete sidewalk running from Larpenteur Avenue north through Roseville and into Shoreview. Shoreview's development of this pathway corridor provides a wonderful opportunity to create a regional north/south link.
Roselawn/Reservoir Woods/McCarrons Pathway	This off-road trail was identified in the 1997 plan and constructed in 2000 using Federal funds. It follows Roselawn from Lexington Avenue through Reservoir Woods Park under Dale Street to McCarrons Blvd. This pathway then continues along both North and South McCarrons Blvd to connect to Rice Street.
Rice Street Path	This is an important north/south link from Roseville to St. Paul. The corridor has a bituminous path of varying width and condition. This is a critical feeder to the Trout Brook County Trail at McCarrons Park. The Trout Brook Trail connects to the Gateway State Trail.

Source: *City of Roseville Pathway Master Plan, 2008*

seek opportunities for recreation. Residents in southwest Roseville, where few City of Roseville parks exist, have suggested that Fairview Community Center is their neighborhood park. Fairview Community Center—like other school “parks”—is not a city park, even though many school yards are accessible to the community. A few school yards are operated jointly between



*Roseville’s facilities include an indoor ice arena—a part of the Roseville Skating Center—that offers opportunities for general skating, figure skating, hockey and lessons.*

*The Roseville Gymnastics Center was created through a partnership with the Roseville Schools, and offers space for school functions during the day and a gymnastics focus at other times.*



Facilities	
Facility	Description
Roseville Skating Center	<p>The Roseville Skating Center is composed of three specializations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The Guidant John Rose MN Oval, the largest sheet of refrigerated ice in North America which accommodates recreational skating and hockey, but also provides a venue for unique ice sports such as speed skating and bandy.</li> <li>· An indoor ice arena providing year round ice for general skating, figure skating, hockey, and skating lessons. In-line skating and a skate park in the OVAL during summer months.</li> <li>· A Banquet Center accommodating groups ranging up to 300 people for wedding receptions, corporate meetings, reunions, and other community events.</li> </ul>
Harriet Alexander Nature Center	<p>The Nature Center is a part of Central Park and offers more than 50 acres of wetland, woodland, and prairie environments. A building provides exhibit space and facilities for education programs and smaller events.</p>
Cedarholm Golf Course	<p>The golf course is a par three, nine-hole course providing a golf experience for golfers of all ages and abilities in leagues and for walk-ons.. As a recreation opportunity, the golf course offers the ability to play nine holes in about two hours. The golf course also offers a club house that is available for rental.</p>
Muriel Sahlin Arboretum	<p>Located on about eight acres in Central Park, the Arboretum offers themed gardens, manicured grounds, extensive paved walkways, and an ornamental fountain. The Shirly Klaus Pavilion and the arboretum grounds are available for rentals and can accommodate up to 300 people.</p>
Gymnastics Center	<p>Located in the Roseville Area High School, the Gymnastics Center is a facility that was jointly developed with the Roseville School District. It functions as a part of the school during the school day, and a part of the parks and recreation system at other times, providing space for gymnastics programs, training, and events.</p>
Brimhall Community Gymnasium	<p>Gymnasium space for indoor sports and recreation activities that is operated in concert with Brimhall Elementary School.</p>

Central Park Community Gymnasium	Gymnasium space for indoor sports and recreation activities that is operated in concert with Central Park Elementary School.
Frank Rog Amphitheater	Outdoor amphitheater with covered stage and Bennett Lake as a backdrop; the amphitheater is used for performances and occasional weddings.
Rosebrook Pool	Wading pool located at Rosebrook Park.

Independent School District 623 and the City of Roseville, offering residents and students a more well-rounded recreation experience. These facilities include:

- Evergreen Park
- Owasso Fields
- Parkview School Fields
- Fairview School Fields and Community Center
- Brimhall School Community Gymnasium
- Central Park School Community Gymnasium
- Other school yard/city parks



*Cedarholm Golf Course provides golf experiences for players with a range of abilities, allowing younger golfers to learn the game and offering skilled golfers a chance to play a round in a limited amount of time.*



*The Wild Rice Festival celebrates the fall harvest. The Harriet Alexander Nature Center is the venue for this event, as well as other nature-centered activities.*



*The Roseville Skating Center provides outdoor ice for hockey and bandy, and is one of just a few rinks designed for speed skating,*



*The only outdoor pool in the Roseville parks and recreation system is a wading pool at Rosebrook Park. It can experience heavy use during summer months.*

**Other parks and recreation opportunities**

<i><b>Park</b></i>	<i><b>Jurisdiction</b></i>	<i><b>Description</b></i>
Lake Josephine County Park	Ramsey County Parks	A 74 acre park including a lake-front recreation area west of Lexington Avenue and a natural area including a 40 acre deep marsh east of Lexington Avenue.
Lake McCarrons County Park	Ramsey County Parks	A 15 acre park on the east shore of McCarrons Lake that is developed primarily for recreational use with a more urban character derived from its open qualities.
Community Park	City of Falcon Heights	<p>Located at the intersection of Roselawn Avenue and Cleveland Avenue, just south of the Roseville city limits, Community Park offers a range of recreation components that is typical of many of Roseville’s community parks. Components include:</p> <p>Enclosed park shelter- with bathrooms, kitchen and multipurpose room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Playground Equipment</li> <li>· 2 Tennis Courts</li> <li>· Basketball Courts</li> <li>· Softball Field</li> <li>· Soccer Field</li> <li>· Prairie with walking trail</li> <li>· Exercise stations</li> <li>· Picnic Tables</li> <li>· BBQ grills</li> <li>· Pleasure and Hockey Rink- Seasonal</li> <li>· Park Benches</li> <li>· 2 additional picnic area with pavilion type roofs</li> <li>· Off Street Parking</li> </ul>
Community Park	City of Lauderdale	Lauderdale Community Park is located at the southwest corner of Roselawn Avenue and Fulham Street, not far from Falcon Heights Community Park and, similarly, just south of the Roseville city limits. The park offers recreation opportunities similar to many of Roseville’s community parks, including tennis and basketball courts, a play structure, baseball field, a lighted hockey rink and open skating area, and a sledding hill. The park also includes a dog park, and archery range, and a picnic shelter.



Como Park

City of Saint Paul

As one of the region's most well-known park destinations, Como Park offers unique features like the Como Zoo and Conservatory and surrounding gardens, as well as park facilities surrounding Lake Como, a golf course, a lakeside pavilion, an amusement park, and a carousel. In addition, the park offers more traditional park components like ball fields and tennis courts. Its primary attraction is likely the unique mix of facilities, as well as its history as a gathering place and destination for the entire Twin Cities area.



*Falcon Heights Community Park includes a number of recreation components and a community building.*



*Lake Josephine County Park includes a beach area, one of the recreation opportunities mentioned during master plan workshops with the community.*



*Many Roseville residents indicated that Como Park was a park they visited often. It includes facilities that are not replicated in Roseville, like the Conservatory.*

Implementing park improvements in Roseville may not be limited to existing parklands. Areas like Applewood Overlook, created from remnant lands near a stormwater management basin, could provide passive recreation spaces near stormwater ponds. By working cooperatively with the three watershed districts Roseville, improvements like Applewood Overlook might occur in a variety of Roseville locations.

### *Recreation programs and services*

During a typical year, more than 630,000 people participate in programs, attend events, or take advantage of services offered by Roseville's Parks and Recreation Department. The department offers more than 1,850 programs each year that are aimed at all ages of parks and recreation participants. The range of offerings continues to grow, engaging an ever more diverse range of participants in an ever wider range of programs.

Roseville's Parks and Recreation Department has formed partnerships to provide recreation services to the community. In Roseville, the city and the Parks and Recreation Department collaborate with Roseville Area Schools in ventures like the Gymnastics Center and several ballfield areas at schools in the community. The Parks and Recreation Department also assists the City of Lauderdale with recreation programming at Lauderdale Community Park.

The number of programs and services offered through the Parks and Recreation Department is quite varied, and is directed to a wide range park and recreation users. A sample includes:

### **Community Services**

- Coordinate Van Usage by Community Groups
- Manage Field Usage by Athletic Associations
- Contracted Educational Programs at HANC
  - Central Park Elementary School – Grades K-6, up to 6 sessions/classroom
  - Kids’ U Summer Programs
- Coordinate/Manage Volunteers for events, park projects and operational support
  - Adopt-a-Park
  - Scout Projects
- Coordinate/Manage Facility Rentals
  - Picnic and Park Shelters
  - HANC
  - Gymnasiums
  - City Hall Meeting Rooms
  - Skating Center Banquet Facilities
  - Arboretum
  - Fields and Rinks
  - Gymnasiums



*Performance events occur frequently at the Frank Rog Amphitheater, and are an excellent demonstration of the ways in which parks and recreation builds community.*

- Coordinate/Manage Equipment Rentals
  - Cross Country Skis
  - Snow Shoes
  - PicNic Play Kits
- Support Affiliated Groups
  - Sell event tickets
  - Provide Mail Station
  - Access to copier
  - Provide Voice Mail Box
  - Access to Online Promotions
  - Print Communications Opportunities
  - Provide Meeting and Registration Facilities
- Coordinate/Manage Community Garden Plot Rentals
- Coordinate/Manage Block Party Permits
- Support AARP Tax Preparation Program

### **Events**

- Events hosted by Community Organizations and Supported by Parks and Recreation Services
  - Central Park Octoberfest
  - FORPARKS Spring Membership Meeting
  - FORPARKS Fall Membership Meeting
  - FORPARKS Holiday Rose Home Tour
  - FORPARKS Summer Membership Picnic
  - FORHANC Wild Rice Festival
  - Friends of the OVAL Chill Gala
  - Rotary Taste of Rosefest
  - Home and Garden Fair
  - Roseville Area High School Hockey Games
  - Local, Regional, National and International Long Track Speed Skating

### **Competitions**

- Local, Regional, National and International Bandy Competitions
- Local and Regional Club Gymnastics Competitions
- Roseville Area Arts Council Pottery in the Garden
- Rosetown Playhouse Summer Production
- Community Band Spring Concert
- Events hosted by Parks and Recreation
  - HANC Annual Open House
  - Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
  - Spring Celebration
  - Earth Day
  - Everything’s Coming up Roses annual ice show
  - Arts@theOVAL Fine Arts Festival
  - Discover Your Parks – 7 per year
  - Lexington Avenue Blooming Boulevard Planting



*The “Puppet Wagon” offers performances focused on neighborhood parks. These shows occur throughout the summer in parks throughout the community.*

- Youth Tennis Carnival
- Annual Dance Recital
- Summer Entertainment Series – 30 shows per summer
- Movies in the Park and/or Roll in Movie
- City-wide Garage Sale
- Figure Skating School Competition
- Rosefest
  - Run for the Roses
  - Roll for the Roses
  - Tour de Roses
  - Rose Parade
  - Golden Rose Medallion Hunt
  - Rosefest Golf Tournament
  - Other timely community events – can change from year to year
- July 4th Party in the Park
- Mosquito Bluegrass Jam



*Volunteer planting activities are coordinated through the Parks and Recreation Department, and are a great opportunity for community building.*

- Battle of the Bands
- Arboretum Fall Plant Sale
- Halloween Spooktacular
- RAYHA Thanksgiving Hockey Tournament
- Schwan’s Cup High School Hockey Tournament
- HANC Holiday Craft Fair
- New Years Eve Celebration on Ice

### **Preschool**

- Activities
  - Music Classes
  - Abrakadoodle Art Classes
  - Puppet Wagon Presentations – 12 parks locations, 36 shows per week throughout summer
  - Themed Parties
  - Princess Parties
  - Wiggles & Giggles
  - Sprouts Nature Programs
  - First Time Nature Programs
  - Little Folks Camps
- Sports
  - Sports of All Sorts
  - RPR Summer Sports
  - School Year Sports Introduction and Instruction
  - Preschool Play Pals
  - Learn-To Programs
    - Figure Skating School
    - Gymnastics
    - Dance
- Other



*The Parks and Recreation Department hosts or sponsors a range of events in Roseville, including the Healthy Hangout.*

### **Youth**

- Activities
  - Fall Recess Camps
    - Nature
    - Recreation
  - Extreme Legos Contracted Programs
  - Rocking Climbing Instruction
  - Spring Break Camps
    - Nature
    - Recreation
  - Summer Mini Nature Camps
  - Summer Nature Day Camps
  - Roseville School of Dance
  - Music Lessons
  - Arts Instruction
  - Passport to Play
  - Drama Camps
    - Summer
    - School Year



*Discover Your Parks events encourage neighbors to be active in their parks, and expose residents to the wide range of activities available in the parks and recreation system.*

- Taste of Roseville Cooking Classes
- Friday Adventures
- Sports
  - Sports Unlimited Summer Camps (Contracted Services)
    - Lacrosse
    - Flag Football
    - Cheerleading
    - Outdoor Ball Hockey
    - Ultimate Frisbee
  - Gymnastics
    - Instructional
    - Competitive Team
  - Karate/Safety Awareness
  - Learn to Unicycle
  - Tennis Instruction

- Youth Tennis Leagues
- Blizzard Ski & Snowboard Program
- Kick & Slugger Summer Sports Programs
- Track
- Coaches Camps
  - Football
  - Basketball
  - Soccer
  - Tennis
  - Volleyball
  - Track & Field
- After School Sports
  - Tennis
  - Football
  - Lacrosse
  - Soccer
  - Volleyball
  - Near Ball
  - Sampler
- Fall Soccer League
- Slow Pitch Softball Leagues
- Lacrosse – Spring & Summer
- Bandy
- Learn to Speedskate
- Other
  - Birthday Parties
    - Nature
    - Recreation
    - Skating
  - Summer Spectacular – School Age Child Care
  - Friday Field Trips
  - Puppet Wagon

### **Teens to Young Adults**

- Activities
  - Battle of the Bands
  - Leaders in Training
  - Teen Trips
  - Drama Camps
- Sports
  - Dance
  - Figure Skating
  - Gymnastics
  - Bandy
  - Speedskating
  - Skateboard Camp
  - High School Speedskating League
- Other
  - Volunteer Service
    - Eagle Scout Projects
  - DNR Firearms Safety Program

### **Adults**

- Activities
  - Family Open Gym
  - Birding Excursions
  - Wellness Programs
    - Tai Chi Chi
    - Over 50 & Fit
    - Stretch & Strengthen
  - Dance
  - Day Trips
  - Pickle Ball
- Sports
  - Adult Open Volleyball
  - Adult Open basketball
  - Adult Tennis Leagues

- Men's
- Women's
- Cross Country Ski Class
- Volleyball Leagues
  - Men's
  - Women's
  - Co-Rec
- Men's Basketball League
- Summer Softball
  - Men's
  - Co-Rec
- Fall Softball
  - Men's
  - Co-Rec

- Broomball
- Sand Volleyball
- Soccer
- Golf Leagues
  - Women's
  - Men's
  - Co-Ed
- Bocce League
- Golf Instruction
- Other
  - Singles
  - Roseville Big Band
  - Roseville Community Band
  - CPR Instruction

**Older Adults**

- Activities
  - Senior Club 5
  - AARP 55 Alive Driving Classes
  - Wellness Programs
    - Tai Chi Chi
    - Over 50 & Fit
    - Stretch & Strengthen
- Sports
  - Bowling
  - Tap for Older Adults
- Other



*Sports like disc golf are offered to children to expose them to the activity; this is also a popular parks and recreation activity for a range of ages and abilities.*



*Drama camps oriented to teens and young adults continue to be a popular program in the parks and recreations system.*



*Adult dance classes are offered through the Parks and Recreation Department.*

## ***Parks and recreation department***

The Roseville Parks and Recreation Department administers the parks, programs, and facilities of the parks and recreation system. It is guided by a mission and promise to the community.

### ***Parks and Recreation Mission Statement***

Roseville Parks and Recreation exists to provide diverse programs and facilities, sustain park lands and preserve natural resources for today's citizens and future generations.

### ***Promise to the Community***

As citizens and customers you deserve the best possible service, programs and facilities! We, the Roseville Parks and Recreation department, promise to do everything possible to cheerfully and respectfully serve you by providing clean, safe facilities; enjoyable, safe programs; and timely and effective services, which includes, listening and responding to your suggestions and concerns.

Roseville's parks and recreation system, while administered by a professional staff, is guided by a ten member Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, which includes a youth representative. This group is responsible for making recommendations related to the community's parks, programs, and facilities to the Director of Parks and Recreation, the City Manager, and the City Council. They are also responsible for

- providing a method for citizens' input concerning the city's parks and recreation facilities, programs, needs and concerns;
- identifying areas that may require action and/or change to promote a harmonious, safe, and responsive parks and recreation program; and
- serving as the city's Tree Board.

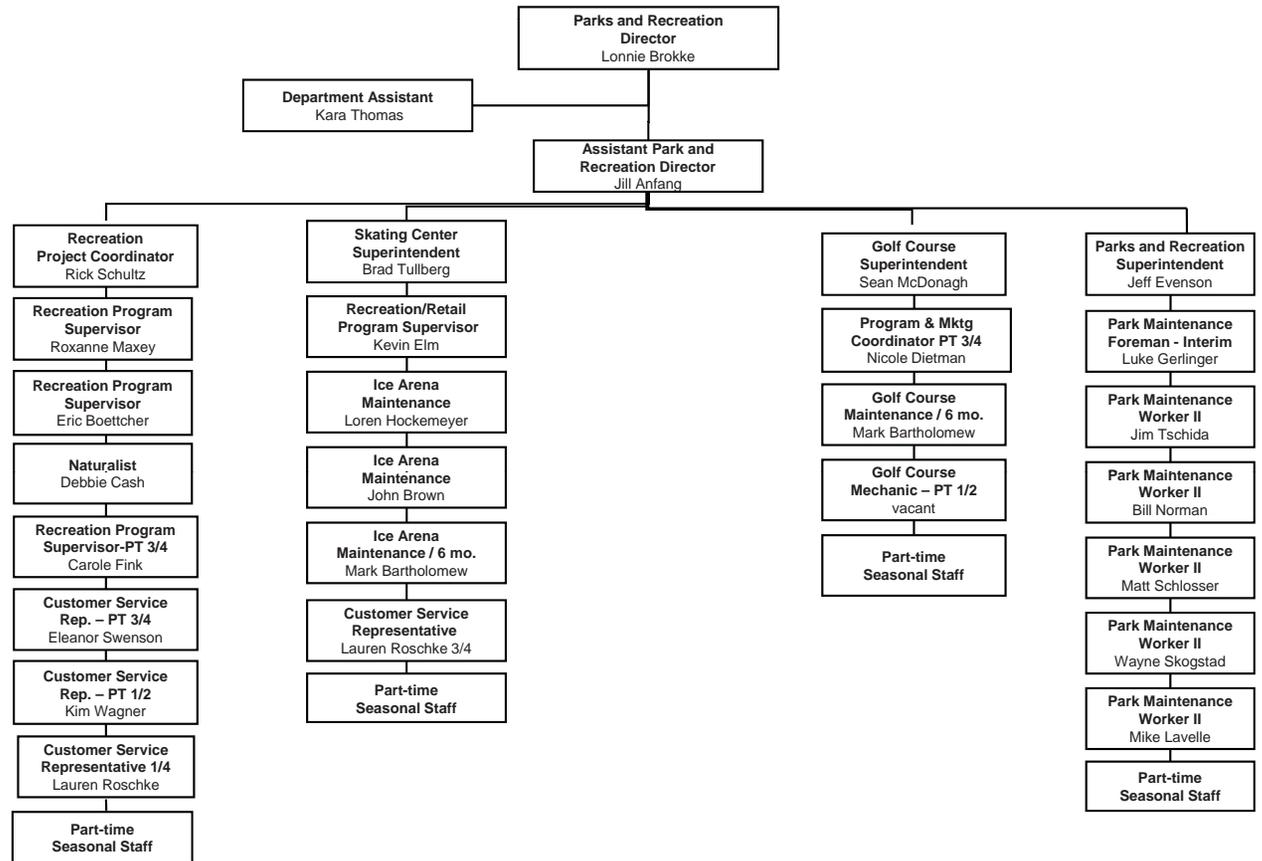
During the course of a typical year, Parks and Recreation Department staff interact with thousands of residents, customers and guests. In

2009, the department fielded more than 120,000 calls and the website had more than 500,000 hits (including nearly 75,000 unique visitors).

The Parks and Recreation Department also awards scholarships to Roseville residents to allow greater participation in parks and recreation programs. In 2009, more than 100 residents received scholarships, which was an increase of 34 percent when compared to scholarships awarded in 2008.

The Parks and Recreation Department's Annual Report provides a general overview of department's revenue and expenses. It indicates revenue of nearly \$2,140,000 and expenses of more than \$4,150,000. Revenues were generated from Cedarholm Golf Course and fees for recreation programs and services.

The department operates with 28 full-time staff, including a Director and Assistant Director (with responsibility for recreation programs), and Superintendents responsible for the Roseville Skating Center, Cedarholm Golf Course, and parks maintenance. The department also has part-time employees that assist with recreation programs, supervise facilities, and maintain the parks and recreation system. Nearly 300 part-time positions are required to staff the Roseville Skating Center, Cedarholm Golf Course and the Nature Center, supervise recreation facilities and lead recreation programs, coach and referee sports programs, and assist in maintaining parks and facilities throughout the parks and recreation system.



*Roseville's Parks and Recreation Department is organized in four broad areas: Recreation, focusing on programs, events, and coordination of activities and volunteers; The Skating Center, administering the Roseville Skating Center, lessons and activities, and rentals; Cedarholm Golf Course, runs the golf course and its programs; and Maintenance and operations, addressing system maintenance and daily operations, as well as coordinating the implementation of improvements to the parks and recreation system.*

*Staff are organized under coordinators for each of these areas, with supervision and direction provided by a Director and Assistant Director.*



## Comparing Roseville's parks and recreation system

There are a number of ways to assess Roseville's parks and recreation system, including making comparisons to other similarly situated communities. This kind of comparison will not reveal much of substance relative to the ways a parks and recreation system serves its community. For many communities, Roseville included, parks are more than a venue for recreation; they offer a sense of identity and they are a significant factor in attracting and retaining residents.

Still, direct comparisons help establish benchmarks for assessing the investments in a parks and recreation system and the ways a system serves its community in relation to other communities and their parks. While many communities have strong parks and recreation systems, a comparison to communities that are similarly situated in terms of development patterns and demographics form the most reasonable comparisons. Ultimately, four communities were chosen for comparison purposes.

Comparison to peer communities					
Category	Roseville	Edina	Richfield	Saint Louis Park	Maplewood
Population (2000 Census)	33,690	47,425	34,439	44,126	34,947
City area in square miles	13.24	15.75	6.90	10.70	17.32
City area in acres					
Number of parks	30	40	22	51	59
Number of community parks	3	12	5	13	7
Number of neighborhood parks	16	12	12	30	31
Number of tot lot parks	2	12	4	0	0
Number of other parks	9	4	1	23	18
Total area of city parks	679	1,566	461	937	780
Acres of active city parks		1,214	203	443	372
Acres of non-active city parks		352	258	493	408
Acres of non-city parks and open space	133	0	0	0	1,178
Total parks, open space, recreation area in city, acres	812	1,566	461	937	1,958
Total parks, open space, recreation area in city, as a percentage of city area	9.6%	15.5%	10.4%	13.7%	17.7%
Total parks, open space, recreation area in city, per 1000 population	24.1	33.0	13.4	21.2	56.0
City park area, per 1000 population	20.2	33.0	13.4	21.2	22.3

## Goals and policies

*This section describes a series of statements of intended directions for Roseville's parks and recreation system. These goals and policies are used by parks and recreation department staff, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and the City Council as they make regular and long-term decisions about the elements of the parks and recreation system. Goals are established for:*

- *Park and recreation systems management*
- *Parks development, redevelopment, and rehabilitation*
- *Park and open space acquisition*
- *Trails, pathways, and community connections*
- *Recreation programs and services*
- *Community facilities*
- *Natural resources management*

### **Goal 1** ***Parks and Recreation Systems Management***

Maintain ongoing parks and recreation planning, maintenance, and asset management process that involves citizen engagement, adheres to professional standards, and utilizes prudent professional practices. Ensure timely guidance for protecting the community's investment in parks, open space, and recreation programs and facilities to enhance their long-term and sustained viability.

Policy 1.1: Re-evaluate, update, and adopt a Park and Recreation System Master Plan at least every five years to reflect new and current trends, changing demographics, new development criteria, unanticipated population densities, and any other factors that affect park and recreation goals, policies, and future direction of the system.

Policy 1.2: Monitor progress on the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan annually to ensure that it provides actionable steps for maintaining, improving, and expanding the system.

Policy 1.3: Maintain and operate parks, open space, and recreation facilities in a safe, clean, and sustainable manner that protects natural resources and systems, preserves high quality active and passive recreation opportunities and experiences, and is cost-effective.

Policy 1.4: Consider staffing and resource needs in

the evaluation of proposals for additions to parks, programs, and facilities.

Policy 1.5: Use the Sector and Constellation organization structure as the basis for park, recreation program, and facility locations, development, and service delivery.

Policy 1.6: Enhance neighborhood and community identity in the design of parks, programs, and facilities through public art, special events, and stewardship of natural features.

Policy 1.7: Establish a service standard of having a neighborhood park or active play space in every park service constellation.

Policy 1.8: Preserve parks and school open space areas as part of the citywide systems plan for structured recreation space and unstructured preserved natural areas.

Policy 1.9: Include Ramsey County park land and open space in planning and providing recreation services to Roseville residents.

Policy 1.10: Seek partnership to provide the community with a greater diversity or number of parks and facilities, and to offer a more expansive catalog of programs and events.

Policy 1.11: Seek sponsorships and scholarships and other revenue streams to facilitate program fee reductions.

Policy 1.12: Continue to coordinate, cooperate, and collaborate with adjacent communities, school districts, and governmental jurisdictions to leverage resources regarding the use of parks on common municipal boundaries and on joint programming where appropriate for mutual benefit to optimize open space, fitness, and recreation programming and facility options.

Policy 1.13: Complete park concept plans for all parks.

Policy 1.14: Evaluate the maintenance implications of potential park land acquisitions and capital improvements.

Policy 1.15: Annually recommend the adoption of a ten-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Parks and Recreation.

Policy 1.16: Use the procurement methods that deliver the best value for the community.

Policy 1.17: Research, develop, and recommend to the City Council and citizens periodic bond referendums, park and trail dedication fees, urban forest management fees, special assessments, or other funding programs to reinvest in parks and recreation facilities needed within Roseville.

Policy 1.18: Explore the potential for implementing a park service district as a means of creating a sustainable, independent source of local funding for the parks and recreation system.

Policy 1.19: Supplement the development and maintenance of parks and recreation lands and facilities with the use of non-property tax funds.

Policy 1.20: Pursue local option sales tax or State bond funds to support Roseville facilities of regional or State-wide significance.

Policy 1.21: Discourage commercial uses in parks, programs, or facilities and/or parks and recreation facilities. However, commercial uses could be permitted in situations in which the proposed use complements the park or recreation function, is benign, or where it does not conflict with the purpose of the park, recreation facility, or the overall intent of the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan. In no case should a commercial use be permitted in designated conservation or natural use areas.

Policy 1.22: Involve the Parks and Recreation Commission in the parks and recreation planning process. Support the Commission in its role as liaison between citizens and Roseville's elected officials and appointed staff to interpret citizen needs and interests and to recommend programs, facilities, and services that serve them. Stimulate additional volunteer involvement in the delivery and support of the parks and recreation system.

Policy 1.23: Involve a diverse and representative group of participants in the parks and recreation planning process. Conduct active and continuous interaction within the community

with neighborhoods, special interest groups, and individuals of all ages to achieve effective recreational programming and facility development.

Policy 1.24: Parks and recreation staff should play the key role in the delivery of parks, programs, and facility services. Community volunteers should be used whenever and wherever possible and appropriate to enrich the experience for the participant and volunteer.

Policy 1.25: Develop and implement an ongoing public information and marketing program to inform the public of their investments, opportunities, and benefits of a quality parks and recreation system.

Policy 1.26: Assign names, or change names, of City-owned parks or recreation facilities, in consultation with the Parks and Recreation Commission, based on natural habitat, geographic location, and appropriate non-descript terminology. Only under certain and exceptional circumstances will consideration be given to names of individuals and/or organized groups, associations, or businesses.

## *Goal 2 Parks Development, Redevelopment, and Rehabilitation*

Provide a high-quality, financially sound system of parks, open spaces, trails, and waterways that meets the recreation needs of all city residents, offers a visual/physical diversion from the hard surfacing of urban development, enhances our quality of life, and forms an essential part of our community's identity and character.

Policy 2.1: Evaluate and refurbish parks, as needed, to reflect changes in population, age, and diversity of residents, recreational activities preferred, amount of leisure time available, and best practice designs and technologies, and asset management strategies.

Policy 2.2: Orient parks and programs equally to youth activities that focus on community building activities teaching them life-long skills, and exposing them to a variety of recreation experiences, and to adult activities which accommodate adults' needs for wellness and provide a range of social interaction opportunities.

Policy 2.3: Focus parks on passive and active recreational activities and activities that take advantage of the unique natural features. Pursue opportunities for incorporating art and cultural programs, which enrich citizens' mental and emotional well-being, as a complement to primary

physical focus of parks and recreation programs. Policy 2.4: Organize all parks and facilities so that a component is provided for informal, non-programmed activities—those open to anyone in the community, at any time.

Policy 2.5: Maintain parks and open space according to the standards outlined in the Park Maintenance Manual which recognizes that levels of service must be provided based on the intensity of use and purpose of the site.

Policy 2.6: Use innovative methods for park and facility improvements that offer lower lifecycle costs, even if the initial cost is higher. Develop park and recreation facilities that minimize the maintenance demands on the City by emphasizing the development of well-planned parks, high-quality materials and labor-saving maintenance devices and practices.

Policy 2.7: Promote and support volunteerism to encourage people to actively support Roseville's parks and open spaces.

Policy 2.8: Encourage the preservation of features in parks considered to be of historic or cultural value, especially those features that do not conflict with other park uses and activities. Consider the potential of historic landscapes in parks, including agricultural landscapes or features. Work to perpetuate those landscapes and other features of historic or cultural significance when they are identified through recognized investigations.

## *Goal 3 Parks and Open Space Acquisition*

Add new parks and facilities to achieve equitable access in all neighborhoods, accommodate the needs of redeveloping areas, and meet residents' desires for a range of recreation opportunities serving all ages, abilities, and cultures.

Policy 3.1: Ensure that no net loss of parkland or open space occurs during alterations or displacement of existing parkland and open space. If adverse impacts to parkland or open space take place, ensure that mitigation measures include the acquisition of replacement parkland of equal or greater size and value.

Policy 3.2: As areas of Roseville evolve, and properties undergo a change of use and/or density, land should be dedicated to the community for park purposes to ensure adequate park facilities for those new uses.

Policy 3.3: Determine potential locations and acquire additional park land in neighborhoods and constellations that are lacking adequate parks and recreation facilities.

Policy 3.4: Determine locations for new park and recreation facilities in redevelopment areas as part of the redevelopment process and use the park dedication process to acquire appropriate land.

Policy 3.5: Make continued effective use of the Park Dedication Ordinance. Park land dedication will be required when land is developed or redeveloped for residential, commercial, or industrial purposes. Review annually park dedication requirements in order to ensure that dedication regulations meet statutory requirements and the needs of Roseville.

Policy 3.6: Use park dedication funds to acquire and develop new land in addition to other funding sources.

Policy 3.7: Acquire properties necessary to implement adopted park concept plans and in Roseville's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and consider other additions based on needs identified in the sector or constellation concept. Acquire land on a "willing seller" basis unless otherwise determined by the City Council.

#### ***Goal 4 Trails, Pathways, and Community Connections***

Create a well-connected and easily accessible system of parks, open spaces, trails, pathways, community connections, and facilities that links neighborhoods and provides opportunities for residents and others to gather and interact.

Policy 4.1: Develop, adopt, and implement a comprehensive and integrated trails, pathways, and community connections system plan for recreation and transportation uses, including separate facilities for pedestrians, and bicyclists (including off-road unpaved trails for bikers and hikers that offer new challenges while protecting resources).

Policy 4.2: Develop, adopt, and implement a Trails Management Program (TMP).

Policy 4.3: Advocate the implementation of community parkways on the County Road C and Lexington Avenue corridors to accommodate pedestrian and bicyclist movement and inclusion of community character and identity features.

Policy 4.4: Maintain the trail and pathway system through all seasons.

Policy 4.5: Make the park system accessible to people of all abilities.

Policy 4.6: Align development and expansion of non-motorized trails, pathways, community parkways, and other routes with the need to provide connections to and within parks, to open spaces, recreation facilities, and key destinations, as well as between neighborhoods, constellations, and sectors.

Policy 4.7: Educate the public on the advantages and safe use of non-motorized trails, pathways, and community parkway connections.

Policy 4.8: Develop clear and communicative signage and kiosks for wayfinding.

## *Goal 5 Recreation Programs and Services*

Provide Roseville residents with opportunities to participate in a variety of recreation, athletic, wellness, art, social, learning, and environmental education activities and programs through well-designed, cost effective, and relevant services.

Policy 5.1: Provide recreation programs and services that address the recreational desires of people of all abilities and all segments of the community including children, teens, adults, and older adults.

Policy 5.2: Organize a variety of community special events that stimulate interest in recreation participation, promote community identity and pride, encourage volunteerism, and bring together all segments of the community.

Policy 5.3: Celebrate Roseville’s heritage and cultural potential by acquiring and exhibiting quality works of art, providing access to a variety of performance arts, and by offering a diverse mixture of community events.

Policy 5.4: Administer all programs and services equitably to ensure that all individuals and groups receive adequate representation.

Policy 5.5: Monitor new trends, patterns, and activities in recreation and leisure service programs and incorporate revisions to Roseville’s programs to reflect these changes at a broader level.

Policy 5.6: Establish ongoing communication, information, and marketing programs that broaden recreational interests and encourage participation in Roseville’s recreation programs.

Policy 5.7: Coordinate and cooperate with school districts, community, county, and state agencies, private businesses, and surrounding municipalities to provide diverse and extensive programs and services that are affordable to all participants.

Policy 5.8: Facilitate community recreation groups by providing technical support, equipment storage, promotional assistance, mailboxes, and meeting space.

Policy 5.9: Act as liaison to recognized community groups providing recreation programs and services.

Policy 5.10: Evaluate all programs and services quarterly and annually for quality, participant satisfaction, financial feasibility, and community desirability.

Policy 5.11: Develop and maintain a system of program fees and charges that assess direct costs to the participants, while remaining affordable to the community.

Policy 5.12: Provide residents with community activities and events using subsidies or fee waivers through scholarships, sponsorships, or other methods of fee assistance.

## *Goal 6 Community Facilities*

Locate, design, construct, and manage community facilities to meet the needs of current and future residents.

Policy 6.1: Provide community facilities that include desired community amenities for recreation and social interaction at an appropriate level within sectors and constellations.

Policy 6.2: Assess community needs and desires for the use of existing community facilities and the need for additional space, renovated space, and improved space.

Policy 6.3: Facilitate a system of community and recreation spaces in conjunction with the school districts that provides for both structured and unstructured times as managed and scheduled by the City.

Policy 6.4: Identify a site, confirm a program, and define a strategy for implementing a community center.

Policy 6.5: Manage and maintain facilities using best practices and cost-effective methods to provide desired recreation services.

Policy 6.6: Leverage private involvement in the form of sponsorships, joint ventures, and contract for services to support facilities.

## *Goal 7 Natural Resources Management*

Preserve significant natural resources, lakes, ponds, wetlands, open spaces, wooded areas, wildlife habitats, and trees as integral aspects of the parks system.

Policy 7.1: Encourage dedication of parks, open spaces, and trails in new development and redevelopment areas, especially those that preserve significant natural resources and/or adjacent to the subject site.

Policy 7.2: Create, adopt, and use Natural Resources Management Plans to preserve, restore, and manage the significant natural resources in the park system.

Policy 7.3: Preserve wooded areas and implement an aggressive reforestation and forestry management program to ensure that Roseville has a substantial aesthetically pleasing and environmentally critical tree population in its parks, open spaces, boulevards, and other City property.

Policy 7.4: Provide community environmental education programs to increase the community's awareness, understanding, and appreciation of natural areas, including the need for trees, proper tree care and plantings procedures.

Policy 7.5: Cooperate with the three watershed districts with jurisdiction over parks in Roseville

to effect water quality improvement projects within parks, and to create landscapes that are sensitive to stormwater management goals for park lands. Work with the watershed districts to add features to parks that help park users appreciate the water quality improvements, focusing on features such as overlooks or seating areas that take advantage of view to surface water features, with educational and interpretive signage aimed at creating a better understanding of the need for attending to water quality in our parks and in the community. Work with the watershed districts to create park-like environments surrounding water quality improvement projects and stormwater management basins in non-park areas that are accessible to Roseville residents and the community's working population.

Policy 7.6: Create landscape improvements and design parks to enhance opportunities for wildlife, where those improvements and facilities are not in conflict with other park uses or activities. Direct particular attention to the creation of wildlife habitat in parks, where wildlife would not be compromised by the presence of park activities.

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Parks and Recreation System

# Master Plan

Part D | **Appendices**

*Under Seperate Cover*

