City of Platteville
Parks and Recreation
Master Plan

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## APPENDICES

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## Acknowledgments

Parks, Forestry and Recreation Committee:

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Melissa Gormley  
Maynard Harrison  
Brian Laufenburg  
Jes Reyerson  
Adam Stanley
INTRODUCTION

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requires that communities have an adopted five-year outdoor recreation plan on record with their agency to be eligible for cost-sharing grants available through the Federal LAWCON program and the State's Stewardship Fund program. This five-year plan will meet that requirement for the period from 2013 to 2017.

The primary objectives of this plan are to inventory the city's current supply of outdoor recreation lands and open space, to identify deficiencies or needs within the system, and to list improvement recommendations to meet those deficiencies. While it is not realistic to believe that each recommendation will be carried out within the next five years, the plan becomes valuable in terms of highlighting the importance of planning for the future and working towards improvements that will continue to make Platteville a better place to live.

The City of Platteville currently maintains a total of sixteen (16) park and recreation facilities within its boundaries. These facilities have a combined area of 117.3 acres. The Platteville School District oversees 49 acres of land and athletic facilities classified as being available to the public and its students. The University of Wisconsin-Platteville maintains 63.9 acres of open space, recreation/physical education lands and athletic facilities, which receive some use by the general public. In addition, St. Mary's parish provides play areas available for public use. The Platteville Community Arboretum, Inc. oversees various properties within the city as well, totaling 16 acres. They maintain Keystone Park and the recreational trails. Together, this land and facilities provide the City of Platteville residents with 246.2 acres of outdoor recreation space.

The City of Platteville has included a Capital Improvement Plan as part of this document in an effort to outline particular park development projects the City will consider in the future.

The Director of Public Works and the Recreation Coordinator drafted the Platteville Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the City and the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Committee (2012).

PROGRAM GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

Among the most important of local government roles is its responsibility to provide open space, park and recreation facilities and programs intended for public use. The City of Platteville obviously takes pride in this role by virtue of its excellent park system. This portion of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is intended to provide city officials general policies to follow in guiding the future growth and development of Platteville's park system and outdoor recreation facilities. The overall
program goal below and the objectives that follow are vital to the city’s efforts in providing this important service.

**Goal:**

To develop, maintain, and if necessary, acquire land for a creative, efficient and responsive park system and to provide outdoor recreation opportunities available to all citizens of Platteville - composed of a variety of park areas, safe and accessible recreation facilities and program services that contribute to the well-being of individuals and families, the attractiveness of neighborhoods and the social and economic health of the community.

The ten basic objectives formulated below are important policies, or steps towards attaining the City of Platteville’s park program goal. The action oriented steps or strategies for meeting these objectives are included under the list of recommendations and priorities for each of the city's parks, as well as the general recommendations that seek to address other citywide park and outdoor recreation needs.

**Objectives:**

- Provide outdoor recreational opportunities to meet the needs of all ages and all segments of the city’s population.
- Provide adequate outdoor recreation facilities and equipment that are barrier free and accessible, taking into consideration the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Continue to plan for, and set aside sufficient parkland to reflect the recreation needs of neighborhood areas and the community at large.
- Continue to preserve and enhance the values of places and objects having historic and cultural importance to the community. Every effort should be made to integrate these features into the city's park system.
- Because of their importance to tourism, city parks and outdoor recreation facilities should also be developed with the visitor in mind.
- To consider the provision of bikeways and accessible walking paths when developing parks, open space, shore lands and private subdivision projects, especially those that serve both transportation and recreational uses.
- The city should continue to work with the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and the Platteville School District on making University and school district recreation facilities as available as possible to the general public. Joint
efforts by all three jurisdictions should be encouraged in order to maximize the recreational resource potential while minimizing duplication.

- The city park and recreation staff should continue to seek state and federal grants (such as State Stewardship and LAWCON funds) and other forms of assistance for park and recreation expansion and development.

- Solicit and encourage public input and participation through citizen committees, public meetings, user surveys or other means to assess and ultimately address the specific outdoor recreation needs of all segments of the population.

- Continue to work with public agencies (e.g., Wisconsin DNR) and local civic organizations (e.g., Platteville Jaycees) whenever possible to make full use of available human and capital resources for future park system improvements.

**Sports Facilities:**

- Provide ample, diverse, safe, affordable and accessible sports facilities to meet the current and future needs of the City of Platteville’s various ages and interest groups.

- Provide a facility for residents to swim.

- Maintain existing sports facilities to maximize their use, extend their life, and avoid injuries to users.

- Maximize the utilization of sports fields and indoor sports facilities such as the Armory.

- Secure enough land, or effectively manage current land to provide for future recreation needs (10 year projections).

- Improve the function and user enjoyment of the City’s sports fields.

- Increase the diversity of active recreation activities.

**Park Facilities:**

- Maximize utilization of park facilities.

- Improve the function and user enjoyment of the City’s parks.

- Maintain existing park facilities to maximize their use, extend their life, and avoid injuries to users.
• Provide convenient and barrier-free access to parks and recreation programs and facilities.

• Secure enough land, or effectively manage current land to provide for future park needs (10 year projections).

**Greenways, Bikeways, Linkages:**

• Recognize and manage the City’s pathways and trails as a recreation asset.

• Identify and develop locations to provide a safe and functional network of parks and greenbelts and to expand the use of biking/hiking paths throughout the City.

**Recreation Programs:**

• Provide more balance and diversity in programs and pursue innovative approaches to delivering new programs.

• Maintain and expand the City’s recreational programs and address changing recreational needs of the community by adapting facilities and programs as the population changes.

• Promote cooperation among private agencies, organizations and businesses to expand program offerings.

**Operations and Maintenance:**

• Develop and follow maintenance policies and practices to ensure that facilities remain attractive, safe, and easy to maintain.

• Involve individuals and citizen groups in the planning, design and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities/programs.

**Park and Recreation Administration and Staffing:**

• Emphasize joint planning and cooperation among public agencies to promote quality recreation for residents.

• Improve the Parks and Recreation Department’s ability to implement major, long-range projects.

• Use systematic comprehensive planning to guide Parks and Recreation operations and resource allocation.
Funding Strategies:

- Seek a variety of funding options for Parks and Recreation programs to minimize the cost impact to the taxpayers.
- Minimize costs to the taxpayer by developing creative/alternative ways to fund Parks and Recreation facilities.

POPULATION TRENDS

Platteville is Grant County’s largest and most diverse community. It serves as a center for commerce and industry and also accommodates the county’s leading cultural and educational institution—the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

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<td>9,998</td>
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*This is based on a 12% growth, the same percentage from 2000-2010.

The population Trends in Table 1 include a sizable percentage of college students who are counted as part of the city population. It is noted that this phenomenon will skew the City’s needs for parkland in relation to population as recommended by the DNR and Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in the following section.
STANDARDS FOR PARK AND RECREATION LANDS PLANNING

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has endorsed a park and open space classification system, which will serve as a guide throughout much of this plan. These standards pertain only to parks, recreation lands, and other open spaces discussed in this plan. Standards are a good starting point or reference when determining a community's outdoor recreation land and facility needs. However, each community's needs are different based on such factors as a community's demographic profile and the types of facilities and outdoor recreation priorities the citizenry deem important.

Resident input in the form of surveys and/or public hearings are also important when recreation and park planners look at future development and/or preservation of public lands. Based on recommendations from the DNR and Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, the standard of 12 acres of developed park lands/open space per 1,000 population is used throughout this plan. This figure is viewed as a target number when recreation and park planners analyze a community's park, recreation land, and open space composition.

NRPA's standards have been modified to more accurately define park, recreation land, and open spaces within the City of Platteville. For example, NRPA recommends that a Neighborhood Park/Playground have a desirable size of 15+ acres. In Platteville, most parks of this nature are in the 1 to 10 acre range. This has been noted in the definition section below. All parks, recreation lands, and open space under the jurisdiction of either the City of Platteville, the Platteville School District, and selected UW-Platteville recreation, education or physical education properties have been assigned one primary classification or code using the following titles and abbreviations: (M-P) Mini-Park (a.k.a. Tot Lot); (NP/P) Neighborhood Park/Playground; (C/CP) City/Community Park; (G/C) Greenway/Conservancy; (SU) Special Use Area; (L-P) Linear Park. It should be noted that a particular site might contain one or more characteristics or components of another site. A definition of each type of park, recreation land and open space used in this plan is listed below:

**Mini-Park (a.k.a. Tot Lot) (M-P)**

Desirable/Typical Size: 1 acre or less

Service Area: One-eighth to one-fourth mile

Acres per 1,000 Population: 0.5 to 1.0 acre

Use: Specialized facilities that serve a concentration of limited population or groups such as senior citizens or tots.

Site Characteristics: Within neighborhoods and in close proximity to concentrations of family housing or housing for the elderly (e.g., Jenor Tower Park).
**Neighborhood Park/Playground (NP/P)**

Desirable/Typical Size: 1 to 10 acres

Service Area: One-fourth to one-half mile radius

Acres per 1,000 Population: 2 to 3 acres

Use: Area for intense recreational activities such as field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus area, ice skating, picnicking, volleyball, etc.

Site Characteristics: Suited for intense development; easily accessible to neighborhood population; geographically centered with safe walking and bike access. May be developed as a joint school/park facility (e.g., Harrison Park).

**City/Community Park (C/CP)**

Desirable/Typical Size: 10 to 25+ acres

Service Area: One to two miles

Acres per 1,000 Population: 6 to 8 acres

Use: Area of diverse environmental quality. May include acres suited for intense recreational facilities such as athletic complexes or large swimming pools. May be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation such as walking, viewing, sitting and picnicking. May be any combination of the above depending upon site suitability and community need.

Site Characteristics: May include natural features, such as water bodies and areas suited for intense development. Easy access by all modes of transportation (e.g., Smith Park).

**Special Use Area (SU)**

Desirable/Typical Size: Variable depending on type of facility

Service Area: Entire community

Acres per 1,000 Population: Variable

Use: Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities such as golf courses, nature centers, marinas, zoos, conservancies, arboreta, display gardens, arenas, outdoor theaters, gun ranges and downhill ski areas. Also plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards or parkways (e.g., R.E. Davis Pioneer Stadium).

Site Characteristics: Located within the community.
Linear Park (LP)

Desirable/Typical Size: Sufficient width to protect resource and provide maximum use
Service Area: No applicable standard
Acres per 1,000 Population: Variable
Use: Area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel or activity such as hiking, biking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, fitness trails/cross-country skiing and canoeing. May include active play areas.
Characteristics: Built or natural corridors such as utility or railroad right-of-way, bluff lines, vegetation patterns and roads that link other components of the recreation system or community facilities such as school, libraries, commercial areas and other park areas (e.g., University Parcourse).

Greenway/Conservancy Zone (G/C)

Desirable/Typical Size: Sufficient to protect the resource
Service Area: No applicable standard
Acres per 1,000 Protection: Variable

Use: Protection and management of the natural/cultural environment with recreation use as a secondary objective.
Characteristics: Variable, depending on the resource being protected (e.g., University Greenbelt Area).

In summary, NRPA standards recommend the following acreages be used as guidelines when a community is trying to determine how much land should be allocated for the various types of parks:

- **Mini-Parks (a.k.a. Tot Lots)**: 0.5 - 1.0 acres per 1,000 population
- **Neighborhood Parks/Playgrounds**: 2.0 - 3.0 acres per 1,000 population
- **City/Community Parks**: 6.0 - 8.0 acres per 1,000 population
The following inventory and evaluation of existing parks is the basis for determining 2013 to 2017 needs and action proposals that will be made to satisfy these needs. The purpose of the inventory is to determine the adequacy of Platteville’s present recreation acquisition and development program and to identify the deficiencies expected to prevail by 2017.

City of Platteville Facilities:

**Indian Park (0.8 acre)** - located between North Court and Fourth streets (north of downtown). This park is one of the city’s earliest recreation areas. In 1848, the land was deeded from John H. Rountree to the trustees of the Presbyterian Church for use as a public burial ground. The area known as Indian Park was later given to the City in 1917. Three picnic tables and a grill are the only developed features of this park. It is tree and grass covered and serves primarily as a passive recreation site and to enhance city beautification. **CODE: M-P**

**Jenor Tower Park (0.2 acre)** - located on the corner of Oak and East Mineral streets. This attractive mini-park was fully developed in 1983 as part of a Department of Community Development Block Grant. The park is located close to downtown, and receives a considerable amount of use by senior citizen residents living in nearby Jenor Tower, a federally subsidized senior citizen apartment complex. The park includes a 20' x 28' open-air shelter, a small gazebo, picnic tables, four benches and two grills. There is also a drinking fountain and terraced wall which is filled with flowers and other greenery. **CODE: M-P**

**Sherman Park (0.1 acre)** - located between South Court and Bayley Avenue. This small, triangular piece of land is a memorial park and contains two picnic tables, one grill, and a small military artillery piece. The park is an island surrounded by three streets and serves primarily for community beautification and receives only modest local and visitor use. **CODE: M-P**

**City Park (1.6 acres)** - located west of the Platteville Municipal Building. This park was originally laid out as a public square nearly 160 years ago. As a green space to Platteville’s central business district, it is a showcase facility for the city and offers visitors, nearby business employees, and elderly residents with a centralized location for picnics, passive recreation, entertainment opportunities, such as the summer band series, and simple relaxation. The annual summer arts festival is also held here. The park has many shade trees and is attractively landscaped. It also contains a recently constructed covered bandstand, four park benches, three Victorian-type benches, four picnic tables, a drinking fountain and a small war memorial. The park has a Grant County Sheriff Memorial Plaque and a historical marker commemorating Platteville’s Commercial District entry on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1991, the City of Platteville in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin—
Extension completed a downtown revitalization study that called for the redevelopment of the City Park. The most recent additions to the park include a water fountain in the center of the park purchased by Building Platteville from the funds collected for brick purchases in the park. There have also been new benches and trash receptacles placed throughout the park. In 2012, a Veterans Honor Roll Memorial was constructed on the north side of the park in conjunction with the war memorial in the center of the park. **CODE: NP**

**Highland Park (1.2 acres)** - located between Water and Lutheran streets with access from Stevens Avenue. The land for this park was bought by the city in 1965 and 1966. It is located in the heart of a long-established residential area. Much of the park slopes in a westerly direction into a drainage ditch and is almost completely surrounded by residential homes. The park offers some play equipment, a small shelter with picnic tables and one grill. **CODE: NP/P**

**Harrison Park (3.9 acres)** - located between Straw Avenue and South Court Street south of downtown. The area was purchased in 1968. This site has a large amount of potential for offering additional recreation opportunities. Over the years, a large amount of fill has been placed into a ravine that ran the entire north/south length of the park. The park provides sledding and contains accessible playground apparatus (1992), twelve picnic tables and three grills. The park includes a shelter building with restrooms and fountain, and a very attractive identification sign provided by the local Jaycees. The most recent additions to the park include two sand volleyball courts constructed and paid for by the Platteville Jaycees, a bocce court was constructed and paid for by a local Eagle Scout. **CODE: NP/P**

**Valley View Park (2.3 acres)** - located off Hickory Street, southwest of downtown and close to Pioneer Stadium. The area of Valley View Park was first donated to Platteville in 1908. The area was expanded in 1939 and 1940 with the last acquisitions occurring in 1963. This park contains a short basketball court, numerous pieces of playground equipment recently installed in 2005, shade trees, a small ball diamond with backstop used for T-Ball, a 15' x 20' rectangle open shelter, a separate restroom/storage building, twelve picnic tables, three grills, a wooden identification sign and a (perennial) flower garden. The park receives extensive use by neighborhood residents, tourists and other visitors because of its close proximity to the UWP football stadium. **CODE: NP/P**

**Westview Park (5.9 acres)** - located off Camp Street northwest of downtown, Westview Park and Westview Grade School (6.8 acres) abut each other for a total of 12.7 acres. This park was created when the City of Platteville traded the former Cunningham Park to the school district to build the high school. The city received the 5.9-acre parcel next to Westview Elementary School in exchange. The city's portion of the facility features four lighted tennis courts, four picnic tables (one covered), a
drinking fountain, one grill and a large sloping grass area with few shade trees. The fourth tennis court was added and all courts were resurfaced and lighted in 2011 with the help of a 50 percent cost-sharing grant obtained through the United State Tennis Association (USTA). The park is currently used for Recreation golf classes in the summer. In 2008 a 9-hole disc golf course was added to this park. CODE: NP/P

Pool Park (PFAC)(3.9 acres) - located off Sylvia Street north of downtown. In 1934, the City of Platteville bought the land now known as Pool Park for the price of one dollar from Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Cunningham. The reason for the Cunningham’s generous offer was to utilize the land for the public swimming pool and other recreational purposes. Today, the Platteville Family Aquatic Center is a zero depth entry pool with a 40-foot slide along with an eight-lane competitive pool area and one diving board. The original pool facility was constructed in 1934 and was completely renovated in 1996. The pool site also contains a modern bathhouse facility and concession stand that was built in 1996. Located on the west end of the site is a paved parking lot (1990). The park also contains a maintenance shop and 2-storage equipment buildings. In 2009 a sand play area was added to this facility where the old tot pool was located. In addition, more water features were added to zero-depth entry area. CODE: C/CP

Knollwood Park (11.87 acres) - located off Knoll Wood Way and U.S. Hwy 80 & 81. This park is a remnant of an Oak Savanna and is currently a large green space. CODE: G/C

Smith Park (10.4 acres) - located off Camp Street north of downtown and adjacent to Pool Park. John H. Rountree originally owned the land for Smith Park--Platteville’s first developed park. The land was sold by his heirs in 1891 to the Methodist Episcopal Church, which in turn sold a portion of the property to the city in 1894. The entire parcel became city land in 1943. Smith Park is a good example of a site, which contains characteristics of a Mini-Park (tot-lot) and a Neighborhood Park. However, people throughout the city heavily use the facility, which warrants its classification as a City/Community Park. This well shaded park (new and older shade trees) contains two basketball courts with lighting, and sand volleyball court, a large playground area, a rustic stone hexagon shelter with restrooms, a new shelter building with restrooms and storage. In addition, the site has 75 picnic tables, 9 grills and a drinking fountain. The wood shelter facility is linked to a nearby city street by an accessible walkway. Other accessible facilities, include the elevated sandbox, wheelchair swings, slide and tic-tac-toe play device provided by the local Lions Club. Park identification signs were added courtesy of the local Eagle Scouts. In 2009, a path was added around the perimeter of the park. CODE: C/CP

Legion Park (27.8 acres) - located off Pitt Street northeast of downtown. Originally known as the "Big Badger Fair Grounds," the city purchased this area from the Platteville Fair Association in 1959 exclusively for public, recreational or educational
purposes. This is a very intensely developed park of citywide significance. It contains a wide variety of recreational facilities used by young and old alike. Facilities include four ball diamonds of various sizes, which are now lighted for night games. They include a youth field lighted in 2009, a softball/youth baseball diamond, and two softball field/ hardball fields appropriate for high school and semi-pro use. At the hub of the complex is a concession/storage building complete with restroom facilities and an open-air shelter. Also included in this park are eight lighted horseshoe courts, three youth soccer fields, a 40' x 48' open air shelter which is attached to a large enclosed building referred to as the Art Hall. A small open shelter stands next to an extensive play equipment area. The site also has a warming shelter and restroom facility, which is located next to the large open shelter. There are two sand volleyball courts with lights that are used for league play. The park hosts many special events such as festivals and large picnics. It has two parking lots with capacities of approximately 130 and 30 cars each. The facility contains 55 picnic tables, 4 grills and 3 drinking fountains. In 2012, coin operated batting cages were added by the Platteville Youth Baseball, Inc. to the park for public use. CODE: C/CP

**Mound View Park (25.8 acres)** - located off County Trunk B, and Mitchell Hollow Road on the far northeast side of the city. The land originally came into the city's possession during a period from 1964-1967. The park offers unlimited recreation potential because of its variety of features. A 10-unit trailer camping area is the main feature of this park. Other camping amenities include electrical and water hookups, along with a small restroom and shower building. The camping area receives heavy use during the summer months. Although portions have recently been landscaped, approximately half of the park area still consists of natural vegetation and woodland that is infrequently used by the public but serves an attractive greenway for the city. However, scouting groups and school groups regularly use the site. A former mining area and human-made pond are located within its boundaries. The park also has an identification sign, a flower garden, and a small open shelter with fireplace and playground equipment. The site has 8 picnic tables, 4 grills and a drinking fountain. A new restroom/shower facility was built in this park in 2007. In 2012, a pedestrian/bike trail was build in conjunction with a sanitary sewer interceptor line that connects this park to the Pecatonica State Trail and the park area in Prairie View Subdivision. CODE: C/CP

**Swiss Valley Park (5.18 acres) Dog Park** - This land was donated to the city in 2004 for the purpose of utilizing it for aesthetic purposes along the Rountree Branch trail and waterway. In 2007, the Platteville Community Arboretum, Inc. (PCA) raised funds to build a Dog Park in this location. It currently has a fenced in area with a space for small dogs. Next to the fences area is a trail for use by pedestrians/bikes as a part of the PCA trail system that connects to the Pecatonica State Trail. In 2011, water service was added for use by dogs, and a shelter was built in 2012. CODE: G/C
**Skatepark (.13 acres)** - This park was planned and developed through fundraising with a group of local students and designed by senior engineer design students from the UWP. Local skateboard enthusiasts raised funds and these were used for the excavation and construction of the concrete surface along with several ramps. Recently local skateboarders constructed several new ramps for the park. **CODE: SU**

**Morrow Fields (UW-P)** – These two playing fields and restroom facility were built in 1997 with funding from a LAWCON grant and stewardship funds. The facilities are co-owned and maintained by the City of Platteville and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. In 2007, the University converted one of the Softball Fields into a Baseball Field and added lighting to the other Softball field. **CODE: SU**

**Parkland in Prairie View Subdivision (15.9 acres)** – Part of this land was donated in 2006/2007 as a result of the Prairie View Subdivision Plat. Additional acres were purchased in 2008-2010 to expand the park to its current size. This area is presently used for storm water management and bike/pedestrian trails. The land is reserved for future development for soccer fields or other uses.

**EXISTING PARKS RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following section includes recommendations for improving the various park and recreational facilities in Platteville. All future park improvements listed below are based upon the city’s policy to meet and/or exceed requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by removing or modifying all physical barriers that hinder accessibility to outdoor facilities and equipment. Attached as an addendum to this plan are excerpts from the City of Platteville’s ADA compliance plan and assessment of outdoor recreation public facility accessibility needs. In addition to providing recommendations for city and school-owned facilities, this section also includes planned improvements at University of Wisconsin-Platteville recreational facilities. Parks are listed in order of priority for recommendations and further prioritized for improvements within the parks.

1. **Mound View Park**

   **Considerations:** This Park is a very well used park for both picnics, camping and special events such as the Historic Encampment.

   **Priorities:**
   1. The pond should be maintained as a natural wetland feature
   2. Replace aging playground equipment
   3. Maintain asphalt walking path and entry road
   4. Add a Splash Pad
5. Replace the badly cracked concrete floor and replace rotted support posts at the same time.
6. Replace torn out boards in gable. Replace rotted boards in gable end opposite the fireplace
7. Rehabilitate fishing pond
8. Provide safe trail connection from Platteville High School to the park across County Hwy. B, from the back of the school

2. **Legion Park**

**Considerations:** Legion Park has long been a center for athletic and family recreational activities for the entire community. As valuable a facility as it is, there still are a number of improvements and maintenance projects that need to be accomplished.

**Priorities:**

1. Additional Softball/Baseball Field space
2. Place all soccer fields into one area. Add more space
3. Replace bleachers
4. Pave the main parking lot; create marked stalls
5. Continue to upgrade the dugouts with block material
6. Remodel the Art Hall, redesign current floor plan to include kitchen facilities, meeting room(s) and storage; complete interior painting; change lighting fixtures and add more plexiglass windows
7. Replace aging playground equipment
8. Repair and replace blacktop, especially near the Pitt Street entrance.

3. **Westview Park**

**Considerations:** Tennis is the major activity of this park and steps should be taken to maintain the tennis facility. A 9 hole Disc Golf course was added. Junior Golf instruction is conducted in this park, as well.

**Priorities:**

1. Maintain court condition; fill cracks in surface every 3 - 5 years (rebuild or build new)
2. Windbreak plantings or synthetic windscreen (north, south, and west sides)
3. A small restroom and storage/park maintenance building
4. **Platteville Family Aquatic Center**

**Considerations:** The pool was renovated in 1996 and should have a long life expectancy if properly maintained.

**Priorities:**
1. Upgrade chemical feeders as new equipment becomes available and include new chemical feed building for safety
2. Paint pool every five years at a minimum
3. Replace aging landscaping inside the pool
4. Purchase additional sunshades
5. Replace boilers
6. Investigate cracks in pool floor/foundation and prioritize repairs

5. **Smith Park**

**Considerations:** This facility receives heavy use from people of all ages throughout the city. Much of this use comes from groups using the park for large picnic and family gatherings. A large shelter/restroom facility was added on the park's north side. The bathrooms and electrical sites have been updated recently.

**Priorities:**
1. Continue placing soft matting material under all play equipment and add edging to hold this material whenever possible
2. Ensure facilities meet the ADA requirements
3. Repave path through the park and reduce the present width. This encourages greater use by walkers, bikers, as well as providing good handicapped accessibility to the park
4. Add new pieces of play equipment near Ridge Avenue to accommodate families using the wood shelter
5. Add exercise equipment stations along perimeter of the path

6. **Valley View Park**

**Considerations:** This Park has recently had many improvements with the addition of new playground equipment and a t-ball field.

**Priorities:**
1. Upgrade the basketball court surfacing
2. Remove old tennis court surfacing and replace with grass
3. Install sidewalk along the west side of Gridley Ave. to provide sidewalk access to the park

7. **Harrison Park**

   **Considerations:** A new shelter and restroom facility is now the main feature of this park. The addition of fill has enhanced winter sledding opportunities on this site. However, additional earthen facilities are needed to develop the park so that it can reach its fullest recreation potential.

   **Priorities:**
   1. Remove outdated play equipment; continue to add new pieces to the centralized play area; add matting material underneath new equipment
   2. Remove unused community garden
   3. Install lighting for volleyball courts and additional courts (future parking needs will be taken into consideration).
   4. Basketball court (small full court).
   5. Security lighting
   6. Walking/bike path through park with bench swings for resting
   7. Additional landscape plantings
   8. Selected tree plantings after development/construction (ongoing)
   9. Construct accessible pathway from nearest City Street to new shelter facility

8. **Highland Park**

   **Considerations:** Almost a forgotten facility, this park is in the heart of a long-established neighborhood and requires extensive development to bring it closer to its full potential.

   **Priorities:**
   1. Pave parking area
   2. Landscape entrance to the park
   3. Additional playground equipment and matting materials
   4. Maintain creek bed as needed
   5. Add restroom facility

9. **City Park**

   **Considerations:** Add public restroom facilities.
Priorities:  
1. Replace or add more benches for seating at concerts  
2. Update lighting 

10. **Morrow Fields** 

**Considerations:** Maintain in current condition, possibly add permanent concession stand area.

11. **Jenor Tower Park** 

**Considerations:** This Park is fully developed and needs only to be maintained at its current level.

**Priorities:**  
1. Remove waterfall and pond due to maintenance issues  
2. Update lighting 

12. **Indian Park** 

**Considerations:** Modest development could attract more nearby residents to this small park. Large shade trees make this a good picnic spot.

**Priorities:**  
1. Lighting  
2. New grills  
3. Plant additional shade trees as needed  
4. Tot play area 

13. **Skatepark** 

**Considerations:** This Park was added in 2002. There should be a plan to add a restroom facility and picnic area on the land owned by the DNR. Improvements are needed and efforts are being made to find funding through grant money.

**Priorities:**  
1. Add restroom facility, parking and picnic area 

14. **Sherman Park**
Considerations: This Park is fully developed and needs only to be maintained at its current level.

Priorities: None at this time

15. **Knollwood Park**

Considerations: This Park space should revert to oak savanna.

Priorities: 1. Reduce maintenance with low-grow plantings

16. **Swiss Valley (Dog) Park**

Considerations: This Park is being used more and more every day and it should accommodate the needs of the users.

Priorities: 1. Pave trail, and parking lot

17. **Prairie View Park**

Considerations: This Park needs to remain maintained for when the demand for more space becomes apparent.

Priorities: 1. Pave trail  
2. Prepare for new fields when demand shows need

**OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**  
These all came from the previous plan completed by Southwest Regional Planning.

a. Audit all play equipment using Consumer Product Safety Commission (C.P.S.C.) guidelines for municipal parks. Add soft base material meeting ADA requirements on a regular basis.

b. Whenever possible, the city should carefully weigh the benefits of acquiring additional park lands, particularly on the city’s south, west and northeast sides. Residents south of Main Street have poor access to many northside parks. Further development and improvement of Harrison, Valley View and Mound View parks will help this situation. However, mini-parks and/or neighborhood parks will be needed as new subdivisions are developed (see Land Dedication Ordinance recommendation).
c. The city might consider the concept of building a combined recreation/community center facility that could house basketball courts, library, or other departments in the future. A combined facility would provide a variety of recreational opportunities to help meet the city's long-range demands for leisure activity.

d. The city should actively encourage and support the completion and development of the State of Wisconsin recreation trail between Platteville and Belmont. The recreational and economic benefits of a completed trail facility are significant to the City of Platteville, the largest community in the southwest corner of the state. The city is also home to the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. In addition to its large resident population of outdoor enthusiasts, the trail would receive extensive use by University students. Already an important regional tourist destination, the proposed recreational facility would definitely enhance Platteville's tourist industry. Completion of the Pecatonica Trail from Belmont to Platteville is expected in 2014 from Department of Natural Resources and Department Of Transportation grants. The City should continue to support and push to pave Platteville Community Arboretum, Inc trails that connect with this trail for ADA and maintenance purposes.

e. Because of a growing emphasis upon alternatives to automobile travel, Platteville should consider developing a citywide bicycle route system the Smart Growth Plan shows some suggested city street bike routes and paths. In general, bicycle plans can call for local policies, plat reviews, site design review processes, and subdivision ordinances that require that new development have the proper connections to neighborhood and community circulation systems. Bicycle and (pedestrian) cross connections can be made between adjoining subdivisions and connect cul-de-sacs or commercial areas without the need for bicyclists to take a more circuitous route along arterials. A bicycle plan for Platteville might identify key street connections to the city's schools, major parks, and the downtown area and to the University campus (more on that below). Given the city's location on the Pecatonica Trail right-of-way, it is logical for Platteville to consider developing bike routes and walking paths that might also tie into this facility. A general recommendation and preliminary step in the development of a potential bike route is to provide for extra travel width or shoulders (according to AASHTO design criteria) at such time when city arterials and collector streets serving existing or planned areas are scheduled for construction or reconstruction.

f. As stated to above, the proposed bikeway system should logically interconnect with the UW-Platteville campus and greenbelt areas. A key aspect should be to identify a route or series of routes through the Platteville community that would connect the University's greenbelt with the Pecatonica State Trail (see UW-Platteville recommendations). Several
alternatives will have to be explored to find the safest and most convenient bicycle route for connecting these facilities.

g. The City of Platteville should make it a general policy to acquire properties (if available for purchase) that would link existing parks or connect with potential park areas for the purpose of increasing the quantity of contiguous open space.

h. Despite the city’s substantial amount of parkland, there is a need for creating a fairly expansive open space area suitable for holding large public events. The city should identify such an area outside of, but contiguous to the corporate limits to serve as a possible alternative to the heavily used Legion Park. See Official City Map.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH:

The following developments are currently in place or have been discussed by the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Committee when developing this plan.

Subdivisions:

Keystone Subdivision: Land was dedicated to the PCA, Inc. in lieu of the City. A developers agreement includes development of a trail between Wal-Mart and Menards, to be constructed in the near future.

Prairie View Subdivision: 1.85 acres were accepted as parkland with the intent of using the land for soccer fields and playground area adjacent to the Platteville High School fields. The City then purchased additional land to equal a total of 15.9 acres.

Fox Ridge Estates: This subdivision will be responsible for payment of impact fees upon development.

Linkage:

It was determined by the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Committee that in the future all sub-divisions have some type of connectivity to the community by walking or bicycling. Recommend the enforcement of the ordinance that outlines this as a responsibility of the developers in new subdivisions.

New parkland:
In the future, developers will be required to recommend parkland dedication in accordance with the needs of the community. Developers should submit a map with contours to the board and allow an additional meeting to accept or deny land recommendation.

**Future Needs and Facilities:**

It was determined through the planning process that the following facilities will be needed in the next 5-10 years for the purpose of recreation.

- Expansion of Baseball/Softball Fields with lighting at Legion Park.
- Additional Soccer Fields (approximately 1-2 acres).
- Connection of Sub-divisions by trail or pathway for walking or cycling (see map).
- Indoor Facilities for Basketball and Volleyball (4 multi-purpose courts approximately 29,120 square feet).
- Renovated or new enclosed shelter for rental purposes.
- Upgrade/renovate all current shelters ADA accessible.
APPENDIX A
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Time Frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Park Facilities</td>
<td>Maximize utilization of park facilities.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Consider restroom facilities at Westview and Highland Parks.</td>
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<td>• Consider additional shelters for rental in larger parks.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Improve the function and user enjoyment of the Cities parks.</td>
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<td>• Upgrade playground equipment, restore old structures and remove outdated and unsafe playground structures and items.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maintain existing park facilities to maximize their use, extend their life, and avoid injuries to users.</td>
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<td>• Update current shelter facilities.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Provide convenient and barrier-free access to parks and recreation programs and facilities.</td>
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<td>• Work on establishing accessibility for all park facilities.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Secure enough land to provide for future park needs (10 year projections).</td>
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<td>• Work with developers to provide the type of park facilities and/or access to facilities needed in their area.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Develop a plan for the overall needs of the community with regard to the smart-growth plan.</td>
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<td>Category</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenways, Bikeways, Linkages</td>
<td>Recognize and manage the city's pathways and trails as a recreation asset.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Work with PCA and the Community Safe Routes Committee on a master plan for all trails and pathways to get to the current and future subdivisions.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Identify current and future subdivisions that should be linked to the current PCA trail and the UW-P trail.</td>
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<td>• Support the linkage of the Platteville trail system to the Belmont trail.</td>
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<td>• Develop a trailhead with parking and restroom facilities on DNR property next to the current skate park.</td>
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<td>Category</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreation Programs</td>
<td>Provide more balance and diversity in programs and pursue innovative approaches to delivering new programs.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Investigate bringing a private non-profit organization to Platteville to serve the need for indoor recreation opportunities such as a Boys and Girls Club. Possibly a partnership with this organization.</td>
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<td>• Work with the UW-P and Platteville School District on identifying facility needs for recreational purposes and school athletic programs.</td>
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<td>• Re-evaluate programs based on program evaluations and citizen surveys and continually assess participation levels.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maintain and expand the city’s recreational programs and address changing recreational needs of the community by adapting facilities and programs as the population changes.</td>
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<td>• Work with the UW-P and local businesses to sponsor special events or programs that benefit both city residents and the University/local businesses.</td>
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<td>• Continue close dialogue &amp; working relationships with clubs and organizations that provide recreational opportunities to residents (i.e. Club Basketball, PYBL, Platteville Youth Football, and Club Soccer).</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Promote cooperation among private agencies, organizations and businesses to expand program offerings.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Work with the UW-P and Platteville School District on identifying facility needs for recreational purposes and school athletic programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Re-evaluate programs based on program evaluations and citizen surveys and continually assess participation levels.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Increase the diversity of active recreation activities.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Work with the UW-P and local businesses to sponsor special events or programs that benefit both city residents and the University/local businesses.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Continue close dialogue &amp; working relationships with clubs and organizations that provide recreational opportunities to residents (i.e. Club Basketball, PYBL, Platteville Youth Football, and Club Soccer).</td>
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<td>• Continue to provide diverse programs when possible such as arts, theatre, and music programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category</td>
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<td>Time Frame</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Sports Facilities | Provide ample, diverse, safe, affordable and accessible sports facilities to meet the current and future needs of the City of Platteville’s various ages and interest groups. |          | • Replace or repair tennis courts.  
• Work with the School District to determine the need for expansion of softball/baseball facilities.  
• Acquire land and construct new soccer facility.  
• Discuss future of Morrow Fields with UW-Platteville.  
• Project needs for indoor facilities for adult programs. |            |
|                   | Provide facilities to promote lifetime activities such as aquatics, tennis, disc golf, walking, biking etc. |          | • Evaluate the current aquatics facility to ensure all maintenance issues are addressed.  
• Evaluate the implementation of leasing the concession stand at the aquatics facility.  
• Offer support to the Safe Routes to School committee as needed. |            |
|                   | Maintain existing sports facilities to maximize their use, extend their life, and avoid injuries to users. |          | • Investigate the renovation and expansion of Hill Field and Abing Field.  
• Investigate moving sand volleyball courts to Harrison Park and lighting them.  
• Continue renovation of dugouts, score boxes, and bleachers at Legion Field.  
• Investigate the renovation of the Art Hall and surrounding areas of the park to accommodate more activities that are more diversified. |            |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Time Frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Sports Facilities | Maximize the utilization of sports fields and indoor sports facilities such as the Armory. |          | • Upgrade and replace deteriorated and or obsolete sports equipment (fencing, benches, batting cages, etc.).  
• Investigate additional facilities for indoor activities. |            |
|                   | Secure enough land to provide for future recreation needs (10 year projections). |          | • Identify parcels of land that have appropriate physiographic and location characteristics for the development of future parks and sports fields. |            |
|                   | Improve the function and user enjoyment of the city’s sports fields.        |          | • Work on upgrading facilities and materials used to maintain facilities. |            |
| Category                  | Objective                                                                 | Priority | Action                                                                                                                                                                      | Time Frame |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------................................................................|------------|
| Operations and Maintenance | Develop maintenance policies and practices to ensure that facilities remain attractive, safe, and easy to maintain. |          | • Update facilities and equipment inventories.  
• Analyze personnel requirements.  
• Prepare an operation and maintenance program guide that will ensure optimal quality of parks and recreation facilities – manual.  
• Ensure there is a certified playground inspector on staff. |            |
|                          | Involve individuals and citizen groups in the planning, design and maintenance of parks and recreation facilities/programs. |          | • Continue to utilize student groups to assist in maintaining parks along with community service organizations. |            |
|                          | Maintain the city’s parks and recreation facilities in top-notch condition. |          | • Upgrade and replace the worn-out and/or obsolete park furnishings in all parks (i.e. picnic tables, rash cans, benches).  
• Provide better trash receptacles in all parks.  
• Provide clean, handicapped accessible and well-maintained toilet facilities and shelter buildings in parks. |            |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Time Frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding Strategies</td>
<td>Seek a variety of funding options for Parks and Recreation programs to minimize the cost impact to the taxpayers.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Apply for CDBG funding and Stewardship funding for large facilities and park projects.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Solicit funding from local service organizations for projects.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimize costs to the taxpayer by finding creative/alternative ways to fund Parks and Recreation facilities.</td>
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<td>• Use Impact fees for the specified projects</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Apply for grant funding whenever possible</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX B
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boiler for Aquatic Center</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming Pool Inspection</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawn Mower(s)</td>
<td>$22,000</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bike Trail Bridge Replacement (1/2 PCA)</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion Park Parking Lot</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moundview Playground Equipment</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harrison Park Sand Volleyball Courts</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lights at Jenor Tower Park</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercise Stations at Smith Park</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>City Pool Repairs</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion Park Soccer Field</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bleachers</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lights at City Park</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benches, Grills &amp; Picnic Tables</td>
<td>$11,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highland Park Playground Equipment</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renovation of Art Hall and Shelter</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion Park Playground Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawn Mower(s)</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2013 - 2017 Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$147,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$335,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$76,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>$275,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$53,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX C
*A meeting was not held to discuss these items for the 2012-2016 master plan due to the repetition of comments.

**Notes from the public meeting held March 27, 2006:**

**Agenda:**

- Introduction of Participants
- Overview of Planning
- Questions to the Group
  1. If money were no object, what types of facilities or improvements would you like to see in Platteville?
  2. More specifically or realistically, what are the needs of your specific organization?
  3. What needs improvement?

**Wrap-up**

The meeting began at 6:15 p.m. and ended at approximately 7:45 p.m. There were approximately 20 people who attended to include Park Board members, employees, interested citizens and members of local organizations (stakeholders).

During the discussion or questions asked of the groups, we had the following answers to the questions listed above.

1. If money were no object, what types of facilities or improvements would you like to see in Platteville?

Indoor facility with the following amenities:
- Basketball Courts
- Soccer Fields
- Fitness Center/Weight Room
- Meeting Rooms w/area for copying etc.
- Indoor Olympic size lap pool, indoor 10-meter diving board
- Indoor track
- Racquetball
- Ice Rink
- Batting Cages
- Horseshoes
- Roller rink
- Mini Golf and driving range
- Indoor/outdoor archery
- Manmade Lake
- Dome over baseball fields
2. More specifically or realistically, what are the needs of your specific organization?

Sports Facilities:

**New or improved:**
- Baseball Field with grass infield and lights
- Smaller field for J.V.
- Batting Cages
- Indoor play area
- Rock Climbing wall
- More tennis courts
- Lighting for Harrison Park Sand volleyball courts
- Soccer complex

**Current Facilities:**
- More hours at the pool (longer season)
- Infant swings
- More outdoor basketball courts
- Updated shelter at Legion (Art Hall)
- Accessibility for restrooms and shelters in parks
- More Park and Rec Soccer fields
- More storage shed areas
- More bleachers
- Pre-school programs
- More full-time maintenance personnel
- More maintenance equipment
- Landscaping in downtown
- Outdoor Ice Rink
- Individual sports clubs for adults
- Aerobics for men
- Yoga class
- Improve Armory add bleachers
- Webmaster for stakeholders
- Utilize UWP facilities such as new baseball field and miners field
- Parking and restroom facility at the skatepark
- Utilize or coop with parks and arboretum using volunteers
- Electricity to horseshoe club shed
- Press box and storage shed for all fields
- Indoor basketball courts
- Facility for city staff
- Diet/Nutrition education
Farmers Market Healthy choices

**Park Facilities:**
- Bathroom/showers at Moundview Park
- Outdoor Dog pond
- BMX Park
- Restroom at City Park
- Amphitheatre
- Lighting along the FORB trail
- Manmade lake
- Connecting trail to the Hospital
- New Parking lot at Legion Field
- New borders for all playgrounds
- Sound equipment for outdoor theatre in City Park
APPENDIX D