



VILLAGE OF
MOUNT HOREB

MOUNT HOREB COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN 2020 - 2025

DRAFT: September 24, 2020



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Executive Summary

- The 2020 Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) is an update of the 2015 CORP and was prepared in accordance with the guidelines that will make it certifiable by the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and qualify the Village of Mount Horeb for matching grant funds.
- The Village of Mount Horeb owns and maintains 113 acres of parkland in 16 Neighborhood and Community Park, and 4 Special Use Parks. Additionally, there are multiple state and county parks and trails in and around the community, making Mount Horeb a recreational oasis in western Dane County.
- The Village has grown over the past decade and in 2018 had a population of 7,421. By 2030, it is projected Mount Horeb will have a population of 8,462 and by 2040 a population of 9,329.
- Multiple forms of public participation were utilized in this planning process including Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission meetings, an online survey, and a virtual public review of Draft #2. In total, nearly 750 people participated in the development and adoption of this Plan. Some of the most prominent feedback centered around:
 - The development of a new dog park, indoor recreational facility, indoor pool, and pickleball courts
 - The need for additional playfields, natural areas, hiking/walking/running/nature trails, and restrooms
 - Village residents highly prioritized future investment in the new construction of the community pool
 - There was also a strong desire to increase the level of communication between residents and the Village's park and recreational offerings and opportunities through social media and email lists
- The overarching goals of the 2020 Plan are to ensure sufficient parks, recreation facilities and open space in the future, in addition to the preservation of the Village's natural resources.
- In comparison to other similar sized communities in southern Wisconsin, Mount Horeb has a large number of park locations, but has fallen behind in the total acreage of developed parkland in comparison.
- The Village's existing established standards of 10 acres of developed parkland per 1,000 residents was retained in this Plan from previous iterations of the Village's CORP.
- To meet the future population demand for developed parks in the future, it is projected that the Village will need to acquire 32 new unconstrained acres by 2030 and 41 new unconstrained acres by 2040.
- A host of recommended new park locations were identified as part of this planning process (Map 3) and a number of recommended improvements to existing facilities were also determined in Chapter 7.
- Based on projections and calculations documented throughout this Plan, it was identified that the Village's new Park Impact Fees is recommended to be \$2,668 per new dwelling unit. It was also determined that utilizing these new Park Impact Fees will not adversely impact affordable housing in the community.
- A combination of the capital improvements program, seeking grant funding, community coordination, and planning were determined to be the best methods for implementing this Plan.



1 EXISTING CONDITIONS



Chapter 1: Existing Conditions

Introduction

The Village of Mount Horeb's park and recreation system is one of the Village's many outstanding amenities. The expansive, well-maintained system is excellent for a Village of its size. The existing system of parks and open space in and around the Village contributes immensely to the local quality of life, however, there are opportunities for expansion and improvement. This is necessary to serve the Village's growing population, protect and maintain its high-quality natural resources, and embrace opportunities for open space preservation and recreation.

Parks and open space provide a number of key functions including meeting human needs for recreation and aesthetics, promoting public health, protecting and enhancing the natural environment, and shaping the extent and patterns of development in a community. The park and open space system of every community should be planned and designed to meet the diverse needs of persons living in the community. Proper recreation-based planning requires a focus on both the types of facilities needed to meet the needs of the community as well as the geographic distribution of those facilities relative to those who will use them.

This Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) reviews and updates information on the physical facilities and lands that make up the existing Village park and open space system, in addition to providing guidance for future improvement and expansion of the system. This CORP serves as an important element of Mount Horeb's overall community comprehensive planning program. As such, the CORP addresses the long-range park and open space needs of the community over the next 20 years but focuses more directly on park and recreation needs over the next 5-year period (2020-2025).

This CORP is intended to incorporate and refine the previous findings and recommendations presented in the Village's 2015 Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan and the Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Plan, adopted May 2, 2012 and amendment most recently in 2020.

This CORP has been prepared in accordance with guidelines that will make it certifiable by the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR) and qualify the Village of Mount Horeb for matching grant funds through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the Federal Recreation Trails Act (RTA), and the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Grant Programs (State of Wisconsin). The CORP must be updated every five years to ensure that it reflects the current needs of the community and retains its WisDNR certification. The plan has also been prepared in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes 61.35, 236.29 and 66.0617. Furthermore, it will be incorporated as a detailed component of the Village's "Smart Growth" Comprehensive Plan under Wisconsin Statutes 66.1001.

Mount Horeb's public parks and open spaces are operated and maintained by the Public Services Department and the Recreation Department. This CORP was prepared under the direction of Village staff, the Park, Recreation, and Forestry Commission, Plan Commission, and Village Board.

Background Information

General Regional Context

The Village of Mount Horeb is located along USH 151 that connects Dubuque, Iowa with Madison, Wisconsin. It is in the west-central portion of Dane County at start of the rolling hills of the Driftless region, approximately 25 miles west of Madison and 10 miles west of Verona. The western two-thirds of Mount Horeb is bordered by the Town of Blue Mounds, and the eastern one-third is bordered by the Town of Springdale. The Towns of Cross Plains and Vermont are to the north of the Towns of Blue Mounds and Springdale. Each of these towns is partially within Mount Horeb's 1.5-mile extraterritorial planning jurisdiction.



Natural Resources

The relationship between the Village of Mount Horeb and its natural features provides a valuable point of reference for park and open space planning. It sets up a framework for analysis, suggests possible locational advantages for certain land uses, highlights key resources that the park and recreation system might feature, and hints at the relationship between the Village and the rest of the region.

Landscape and Topography

The Village and surrounding area are dominated by steep to rolling hills. Steep slopes (over 12 percent slope) occur relatively frequently in the area. The steep slopes present the Village not only with topographical development constraints in siting utilities and roads, but also can result in challenges to addressing drainage. The Village's location in the unglaciated area of Dane County known as the Driftless region, has helped create a reputation for the rolling terrain and eye-catching steep slopes that visually define the landscape around the Village. The Village's topography results in a stunning backdrop for its parks system and can be particularly exhibited in the parks focused on passive, nature-based recreation.

General Soils Information

Soil suitability is a key factor in determining the best and most cost-effective locations for new development. Problems that limit development on certain soils include slumping, poor drainage, erosion, steep slopes and high-water tables. As defined by the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service, the soils in the Village of Mount Horeb are of three major soil series. The Edmund Series is most dominant in the area. This soil is a well-drained silt loam. The other two series present in the area include the Dunbarton silt loam and the Sogn Series – both are present primarily on the moderate to steep slopes surrounding the central part of the Village.

Consideration of steep slopes and depth to bedrock are important when reviewing development proposals in and around the Village. Areas less suitable for intensive development may be appropriate for parks and recreational spaces.

Depth to bedrock impacts the costs of development, potential for excavation, and groundwater. Shallow depth to bedrock has been identified as a serious constraint to development throughout the study area. Soil survey data and on-the-ground investigation have somewhat inconsistent results in terms of depth to bedrock. Soil survey data has suggested that there is hard bedrock within 12-60 inches of the soil. However, more recent investigations detected a 1 – 3-foot layer of most highly weathered dolostone over the fractured limestone, suggesting less of a challenge for excavation than soil survey data alone would indicate.

Steep slopes require erosion control efforts. The Village's Stormwater Management Plan prepared in 2000 calculated potential soil loss for the Village, as a function of slope and soil type. This study suggested that of the undeveloped soils in the Village, probable soil loss is:

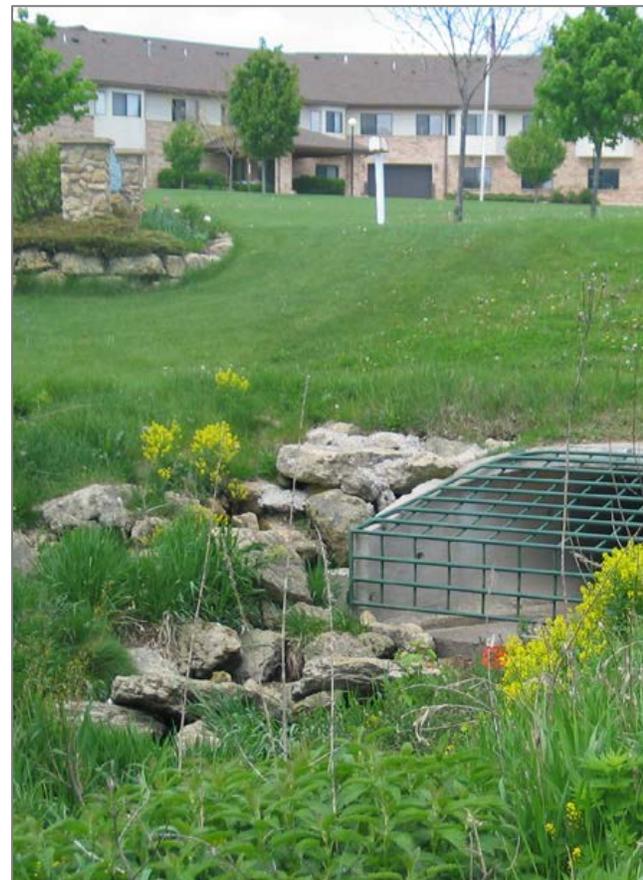
- Low or very low for 5 percent
- Medium for 66 percent
- High for 29 percent. Many of these are located in the northwestern part of the Village.

More specific information about soils in the Village can be found in the Soil Survey of Dane County (1978), conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service.

Drainage Basin

The Village of Mount Horeb is located in two major river basins. The northwestern portion of the Village drains into the Lower Wisconsin River Basin. The remaining area of the Village drains into the Grant-Platte-Sugar-Pecatonica River Basin. Within the Grant-Platte-Sugar-Pecatonica Basin, there are several smaller watersheds.

In the Mount Horeb area, water flowing to the northeast drains into the Upper Sugar River Watershed. This watershed extends through southwest Dane County from Madison to Mount Horeb, and south to Belleville – draining about 170 square miles, and 115 stream miles. Schlappbach Creek flows into the Upper Sugar River, which is an Exceptional Resource Water under NR102.



The southern half of the Village drains into the West Branch of the Sugar River Watershed to the Southeast. Fryes Feeder and Deer Creek are both Exceptional Resource Waters and trout streams that flow into Mt. Vernon Creek, an Outstanding Resource Water and highly renowned trout stream.

Mount Horeb's location at or near the headwaters of several high-quality streams within these watersheds highlights the importance of stormwater management, erosion control, and other sound development principles in the Village and surrounding area to maintain their outstanding quality.

Rivers, Streams, and Lakes

The Village is uniquely situated at the divide of two major basins, and several smaller sub watersheds. As a result, there are no significant surface water features within the Village, but Mount Horeb and the surrounding area serve as the headwaters for several excellent cold-water streams. These surface water features can provide a pleasing focus to the Village's recreational resources – guiding the siting of parks and trails to spotlight these outstanding waterways. Deer Creek, Elvers Creek, Fryes Feeder, Big Spring Creek, Schlapbach Creek, and the Sugar River are all listed as Exceptional Resource Waters by WisDNR.

- Stewart Lake is an important regional resource located in the Blue Mounds Creek Watershed in the Lower Wisconsin Basin. It is surrounded by Dane County's Stewart Park. In the 1990, it was recognized that there was too much sedimentation in the lake. Mount Horeb's sloping streets directly conveyed stormwater into the lake, which contributed to compromised water quality and high levels of sedimentation. In 2000, the Village adopted a stormwater management plan to attempt to curb these impacts. The plan and the installation of other best management practices have helped reduce sedimentation over time, however in the 2014 Dane County Water Quality Plan, the lake still suffers from sedimentation as a result of nonpoint pollution. The lake features a carry-in canoe launch at Moen Creek.
- West Branch of the Sugar River rises from the southwest limits of the Village and is classified as a Class II trout stream. In 2012, the river was re-listed on the 303d list of impaired waters due to total phosphorus data exceeding criteria for fish and aquatic life use. The entire Sugar River corridor is a high priority area for the WisDNR and was listed as a priority site for protection in the WisDNR's Land Legacy Study, which identified areas which the public agreed are the most important for conservation and recreation over the next 50 years. The Dane County Land Conservation Department has designated this watershed a potential priority watershed.
- Schlapbach Creek flows from the northeast side of the Village. It has very good water quality and is designated an Exceptional Resource Water by WisDNR. The stormwater from the Village impacts the volume of flow in the creek.
- Fryes Feeder Creek, located southeast of the Village, is considered a trout stream and is classified as an Exceptional Resource Water. Stream and habitat restoration projects have recently been completed on the creek with funding from the state's Targeted Runoff Management program. It is the only stream in Dane County where rosyface shiners are found.
- Deer Creek rises on the southeast side of Mount Horeb and flows southeast to join Fryes Feeder, then to become Mount Vernon Creek. Deer Creek is an Exceptional Resource Water and reddsides dace, a rare aquatic species, has been found in the creek. The Creek supports a Class II fishery, as brook trout are readily abundant.
- The German Valley Branch flows from southwest of the Village to join Big Spring Creek (also known as Blue Mounds Branch) to form Gordon Creek. German Valley Branch was on the state's 303d list of impaired water bodies; however, it was removed in 2012 because monitoring indicated that the stream could now support a cold-water fish community including abundant mottled sculpin, numerous brown trout that migrate upstream from Gordon Creek and American brook lamprey.
- Mill, Blue Mounds, Elvers, Bohn, and Moen Creeks are partially in or near the Village and provide residents with additional recreational opportunities.

Environmental Corridors

Environmental corridors are composites of the best elements of a natural resource base occurring in a linear pattern on the landscape. In Dane County, environmental corridors are part of a countywide system of continuous open space. These corridors are essential to the maintenance of ecological balance and diversity and the preservation of natural beauty. Because environmental corridors are located in urban and urbanizing areas, it is important to preserve and protect them as natural open space. Doing so serves the dual purpose of protecting environmentally sensitive lands and natural resources from disturbance and development and/or reserving lands needed for open space and recreational uses.

Environmental corridors generally lie along the major stream valleys, around major lakes, and in the moraine areas of southeastern Wisconsin. Environmental corridor features include:

- Surface waters and their undeveloped shorelands and floodlands
- Wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife habitats
- Rugged terrain and high relief topography

- Parks
- Unique vegetation or geology
- Problem soils

Almost all of Dane County’s remaining high-value wetlands, woodlands, wildlife habitat areas, major bodies of surface water, delineated shorelands, and floodlands are contained within these corridors. They also provide recreational, scenic, and historic value through existing and potential recreation sites, historic, archaeological, and other cultural sites, scenic areas and vistas, and scientifically significant areas.

Environmental corridors are the most important individual elements of a natural resource base and have immeasurable environmental, ecological, and recreational value. Because of this, protection of environmental corridors from additional intrusion by incompatible land uses, and thereby from degradation and destruction, is an essential objective of this Plan. In addition, while inappropriate for development, environmental corridors can be ideal locations for passive recreational opportunities like trails, nature-oriented parks, and other low impact recreational uses. Map 1 shows the location of these environmental corridors in and near the Village, except where they are within a mapped park.

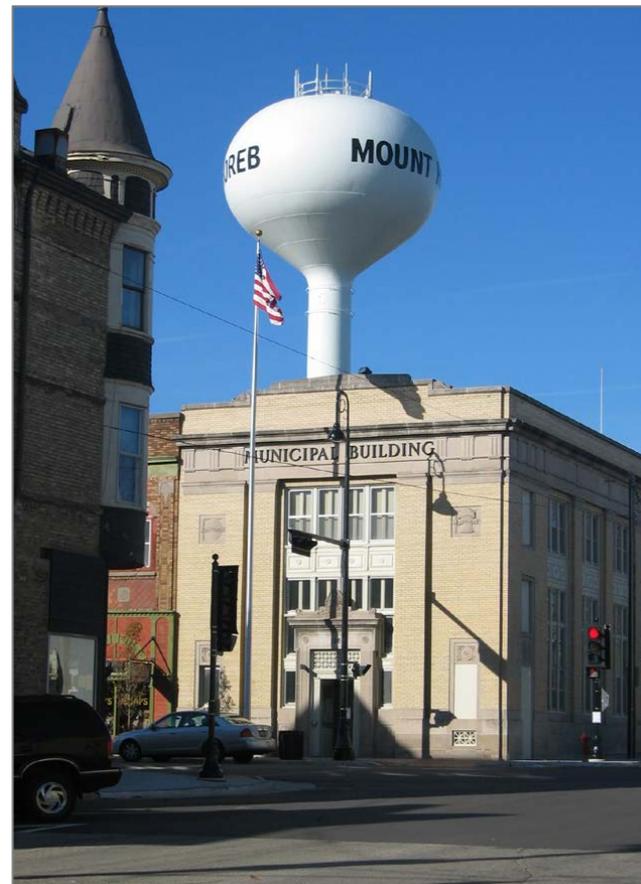
Outside of the Village, certain lands are protected by the Resource Protection Corridor Overlay established by the Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan (2012). The Resource Protection Corridor Overlay protects environmentally sensitive lands and critical natural resources located outside of urban service areas. Such locations include wetlands, shoreland setbacks and wetland buffers, regional floodplains, and other areas natural resource protection areas identified in the Dane County Comprehensive Plan and Dane County Water Quality Plan. Several areas surrounding the Village Mount Horeb and throughout southwestern Dane County are included in the Resource Protection Corridor Overlay. In general, these areas are protected from development and are maintained in their existing agricultural, conservation, or open space use.

Natural Heritage Inventory

WisDNR’s Natural Heritage Inventory program maintains data on the general location and status of rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species. This data is obtained through field inventory. According to the inventory, as of 2019, there are over ninety insects and animals and over sixty plants in Dane County identified. A complete list can be found on the WisDNR website.

Southwest Wisconsin Grassland and Stream Conservation Area (SWGSCA)

The former Military Ridge Prairie Heritage Area has now been expanded as part of the Southwest Wisconsin Grassland and Stream Conservation Area (SWGSCA) through partnerships between local, state, federal, nonprofit organizations, landowners and individual citizens toward the common goal of sustaining functional grasslands, savannas, and stream habitats. This area includes grassland, prairie remnants, pastures, and includes lands within Mount Horeb’s extraterritorial jurisdiction on the southwest side of the Village. This area of southwest Wisconsin contains some of the best historic native prairies, wildlife diversity, and compatible land-use practices in the state. It also harbors regionally important populations of grassland birds, which have been declining in numbers in recent decades. The SWGSCA partners seek to help those landowners that wish to improve their grasslands and savannas, and can provide technical, as well as possible financial assistance, to landowners looking to take on conservation projects. They also aim to create bonds and networking within the local communities, as an exchange for ideas and information about various land-use practices. The SWGSCA has a goal of establishing natural areas that encourage public use and engagement.



Upper Sugar River Watershed Association

The Upper Sugar River Watershed Association’s mission is to provide leadership for continuous resource improvement through strategic partnerships that benefit the watershed’s land, water, and people. The grassroots, self-sustaining, 501c3 non-profit conservation organization serves all of those who live, work or play in the watershed. The Association has a board of directors and a fee for membership and is able to complete many beneficial conservation projects with its own funds. It is considered to be a hands-on, project group that continues to rely on the dedication of its volunteers.

Climate

Climate is an important consideration for determining the range of recreational activities that should be provided for in the Village. The Mount Horeb area has a continental climate characterized by significant changes in weather. Winters are cloudy, cold and snowy. Lakes and rivers usually begin to freeze over in December and remain ice covered until March. During the spring, periods of warm weather alternate with cold spells. By the end of March, nearly all precipitation is in the form of rain. Summers are warm and at times hot and humid. Cool periods are also common during the summer months. Fall is generally mild during the day with cool clear nights. The change from fall to winter is often abrupt, as is the change from summer to fall.

Data Inventory and Analysis

Population Trends and Forecasts

The need for parks and recreational space is driven by the growing population of the Village. Predicting how the population might grow in the future provides important information about the amount of new parkland and recreational facilities that will be needed to serve the Village. The Village of Mount Horeb experienced significant growth in population between 1980 and 2018, with the population doubling in size. More recently, the Village saw a profound increase in population between 2000-2010, and steady growth since. Comparatively, many of the surrounding communities and Dane County overall have experienced similar trends. This is not uncommon due to the significant development that took place pre-Recession (2000-2008) and much smaller increases post-Recession (2008-2018). However, Dane County and much of its greater metro area are exceptions to the rest of the state. Much of the state was hit much harder by the Great Recession in 2008 and have experienced no growth or even population decline since.



FIGURE 1.1: POPULATION TRENDS

Population	1980	1990	2000	2010	2018*	2000-2018	2010-2018
Village of Mt. Horeb	3,251	4,182	5,860	7,009	7,421	21%	6%
Village of Blue Mounds	387	446	708	855	1,002	29%	15%
City of Verona	3,336	5,374	7,052	10,619	12,743	45%	17%
Town of Blue Mounds	637	667	842	968	846	0%	-14%
Town of Cross Plains	1,003	1,206	1,419	1,507	1,459	3%	-3%
Town of Vermont	634	678	839	819	842	0%	3%
Town of Springdale	1,279	1,258	1,530	1,904	2,087	27%	9%
Dane County	323,545	367,085	426,526	488,073	542,364	21%	10%
Wisconsin	4,705,767	4,891,769	5,363,675	5,686,986	5,813,568	8%	2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1980-2010 Census.

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Predicting future population growth is challenging and somewhat inexact. It should be noted that Mount Horeb’s actual future population will depend on social and economic trends, market conditions, attitudes toward growth, and development regulations. Figure 1.2 below depicts seven population projection methods. This set of projections were prepared specifically for this Plan and by the Wisconsin Department of Administration because the Village’s Comprehensive Plan is approaching 10 years old. All are projected through 2040. These forecasts provide the basis for determining future need for parks and open spaces.

FIGURE 1.2: VILLAGE OF MT. HOREB POPULATION PROJECTIONS, 2018 – 2040

	2010	2018	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Compounded Growth 1990-2018 (2)	7,009	7,421	7,837	8,983	10,296	11,801	13,526
Compounded Growth 2000-2018 (2)	7,009	7,421	7,642	8,225	8,852	9,526	10,252
Compounded Growth 2010-2018 (2)	7,009	7,421	7,530	7,811	8,102	8,405	8,718
Linear Growth 1990-2018 (1)	7,009	7,421	7,652	8,231	8,809	9,388	9,966
Linear Growth 2000-2018 (1)	7,009	7,421	7,594	8,028	8,462	8,895	9,329
Linear Growth 2010-2018 (1)	7,009	7,421	7,524	7,782	8,039	8,297	8,554
WisDOA Population Projection	7,009	-	7,625	8,040	8,415	8,700	8,945

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990-2010 Census.

**Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration, 2013 population estimate.

1. Extrapolated based on the average annual population change over the given years.

2. Extrapolated based on the average annual percent change over the given years.

These projections were derived using the following methodologies:

- **Wisconsin Department of Administration (WisDOA) Projection:** In 2013, the State Department of Administration forecasted population change for all communities in Wisconsin based on 2010 U.S. Census data. While the data used is somewhat dated, the projections are still relevant because of the Village’s less dramatic population change over the past decade.
- **Linear Growth Rate (1990-2018, 2000-2018, 2010-2018):** These projections were calculated using the average annual population change over the time period and projecting that rate forward to 2040. The average annual population change for the various time periods ranged from 51 to 116 new people per year.
- **Annual Compounded Percentage Growth Rate:** These estimations are determined utilizing the annual average percentage change over the time period and extrapolating that rate forward to 2040. The average annual percentage change for the three time periods ranged from 0.7% to 2.8% growth.

For the purposes of this CORP, the Village will utilize the Linear Growth projection between 2010-2018 scenario as a reasonable, conservative estimate that would result in a total population of 8,462 residents by 2030 and 9,329 by 2040. The selected population projection forecast will be used to project future parkland and park impact fees needed in the Village.



Age and Gender Distribution

Figure 1.3 shows the age distribution of the Village of Mount Horeb’s population in 2018, and provides comparisons to surrounding communities, the county, and the state. General trends in age distribution are an important factor when considering the future demand for park and recreational facilities.

In 2018, the Village’s median age was 38, less than the statewide figure (40), and higher than the median age in Dane County (35). The percentage of the Village’s population aged 18 and under was 31 percent. That percentage was higher than both the statewide (22) and countywide (20) totals. Ten percent of the Village’s population was aged 65 and older – comparable to surrounding incorporated communities, though less than many of the surrounding towns, Dane County, and the state. The relatively high percentage of residents under 18 should be considered when planning for future community needs. Additionally, while the percentage of residents over 65 has decreased slightly since 2000, the median age in the Village has increased. It is important to keep in mind that there may be a larger percentage of residents over the age of 65 in the next decade (see Figure 1.4) and park and recreation facilities need to provide for this age demographic as well.

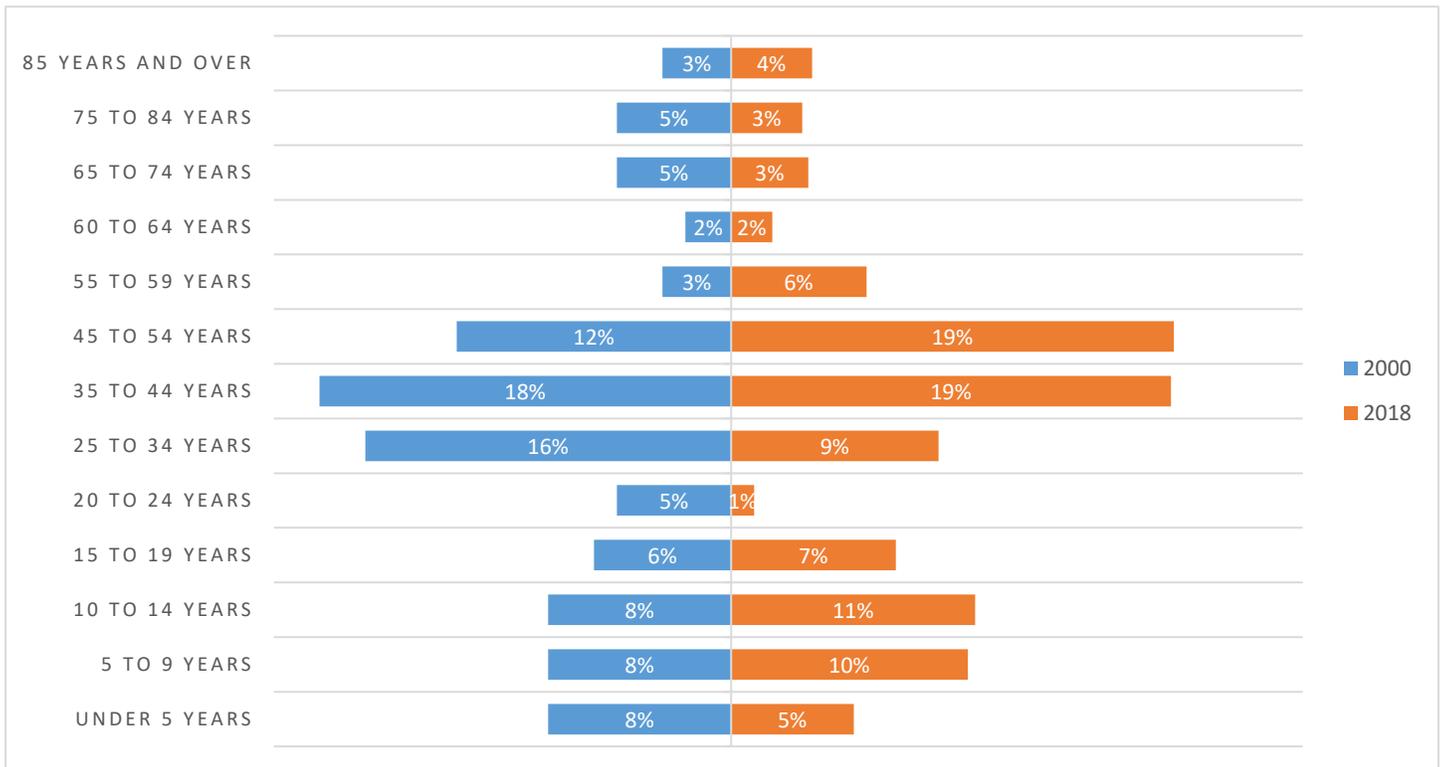
FIGURE 1.3: AGE DISTRIBUTION

	Median Age			Percentage Under 18			Percentage Over 65		
	2000	2010	2018*	2000	2010	2018*	2000	2010	2018*
Village of Mount Horeb	34	36	38	29%	30%	31%	13%	12%	10%
Village of Blue Mounds	35	39	39	29%	29%	30%	8%	9%	10%
City of Verona	37	37	38	31%	28%	30%	10%	10%	10%
Town of Blue Mounds	39	39	51	31%	17%	18%	10%	8%	23%
Town of Cross Plains	39	46	53	29%	16%	18%	12%	15%	21%
Town of Vermont	40	48	49	27%	21%	19%	10%	12%	18%
Town of Springdale	40	43	48	27%	25%	22%	10%	10%	17%
Dane County	33	34	35	23%	22%	20%	9%	10%	14%
State of Wisconsin	36	38	40	26%	24%	22%	13%	13%	17%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000-2010 Census.

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

FIGURE 1.4: MT. HOREB POPULATION PYRAMID



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000-2010 Census.

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Mount Horeb is characterized by a predominately “White” population. This data depicts a relatively homogeneous population, however there have been small increases in the number of people who are two or more races or who identify as being of Hispanic or Latino origin.

FIGURE 1.5: MT. HOREB RACE AND ETHNICITY

	2000	2010	2018*
White	98%	96%	96%
African American	0%	2%	1%
American Indian	0%	0%	0%
Asian	0%	0%	0%
Two or More	1%	2%	3%
Other	0%	0%	0%
Hispanic and Latino	1%	2%	2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000-2010 Census.

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Household Trends

Figure 1.6 compares selected household characteristics for the Village of Mount Horeb as they were in 2018 with surrounding communities, Dane County, and the state.

FIGURE 1.6: HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTIC COMPARISONS

	Total Housing Units			Percent Owner-Occupied Housing Units			Average Household Size		
	2000	2010	2018*	2000	2010	2018*	2000	2010	2018*
Village of Mount Horeb	2,305	2,868	2,926	63%	66%	63%	2.6	2.5	2.7
Village of Blue Mounds	297	305	388	86%	92%	81%	2.5	2.4	2.7
City of Verona	2,664	4,122	5,212	73%	74%	68%	2.7	2.5	2.5
Town of Blue Mounds	300	449	345	91%	71%	94%	2.9	2.7	2.6
Town of Cross Plains	525	592	613	87%	93%	88%	2.8	2.8	2.5
Town of Vermont	312	332	362	89%	91%	86%	2.8	2.6	2.4
Town of Springdale	585	715	847	87%	90%	92%	2.7	2.8	2.6
Dane County	180,398	213,160	236,932	58%	62%	58%	2.4	2.4	2.4
State of Wisconsin	2,321,144	2,593,073	2,710,718	68%	70%	67%	2.5	2.4	2.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000-2010 Census.

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

The Village’s average household size remained stable between 2000-2010 at 2.7 persons per household. For comparison, the average household size in 2018 in Dane County was 2.4. Additionally, the percentage of owner-occupied housing units has remained the same in the Village and Dane County since 2000, but this percentage is lower than all neighboring communities and the state.

Utilizing the population projections and methodology in Figure 1.2, the projected number of households were also calculated. The Linear Growth Projection between 2000-2018 was also selected to forecast future households. In 2030, it is projected that the Village will add 704 new households, and by 2040 1,119 new total households. Additionally, according to WisDOA, the average household size is projected to shrink between 2018 and 2040 (2.49-2.40). This is primarily caused by the maturing age composition of the population in the coming years. The projected increase in number of households between 2018 and 2040 will be used to forecast the amount of parkland fees needed per household in the future.

FIGURE 1.7: PROJECTED HOUSEHOLDS AND NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD 2018-2040

	2010	2018	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2018-2030	2018-2040
Compounded Growth 1990-2018 (2)	2,698	2,763	3,152	3,648	4,219	4,882	5,629	1,456	2,866
Compounded Growth 2000-2018 (2)	2,698	2,763	3,074	3,340	3,627	3,941	4,267	864	1,504
Compounded Growth 2010-2018 (2)	2,698	2,763	3,029	3,172	3,320	3,477	3,628	557	865
Linear Growth 1990-2018 (1)	2,698	2,763	3,078	3,343	3,610	3,884	4,148	847	1,385
Linear Growth 2000-2018 (1)	2,698	2,763	3,055	3,260	3,467	3,680	3,882	704	1,119
Linear Growth 2010-2018 (1)	2,698	2,763	3,026	3,160	3,294	3,432	3,560	531	797
WisDOA Household Size	2.56	-	2.49	2.46	2.44	2.42	2.40		

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990-2010 Census.

**Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration, 2013 population estimate.

1. Extrapolated based on the average annual population change over the given years.

2. Extrapolated based on the average annual percent change over the given years.

Parks and recreation are directly related to the community’s overall public health by providing opportunities to participate in physical activities and improve health education. The following are key public health indicators for Dane, Rock, Green, Waukesha, and Milwaukee Counties, in addition to the state overall. This information is important to assessing how healthy Mount Horeb is today and areas of focus for the future.

FIGURE 1.8 PUBLIC HEALTH CONTEXT

	Overall Health Outcome Ranking*	Percentage of Adult Obesity
Dane County	12 out of 72	13%
Rock County	59 out of 72	36%
Green County	10 out of 72	35%
Waukesha County	4 out of 72	26%
Milwaukee County	71 out of 72	34%
Wisconsin	N/A	31%

*2019 Health outcomes rankings are a combination of factors including length of life, quality of life, health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and physical environment.

Source: 2019 County Health Rankings, University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

FIGURE 1.9 PUBLIC HEALTH CONTEXT

	Diagnosed with Diabetes*	Leading Cause of Death**	Life Expectancy***
Dane County	6%	Cancer (144 per 100,000)	81.2
Rock County	10%	Cancer (208 per 100,000)	78.2
Green County	6%	Cancer (239 per 100,000)	79.8
Waukesha County	8%	Cancer (190 per 100,000)	81.5
Milwaukee County	10%	Heart Disease (199 per 100,000)	77.6
Wisconsin	9%	Heart Disease (199 per 100,000)	79.6

*Source: CDC, 2016.

**Source: 2017 Wisconsin Public Health Profiles. Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

***Source: Life Expectancy in Wisconsin 2010-2014. Wisconsin Department of Health Services, 2016.

Review of Existing Plans and Reports

Another critical step in the park planning process is an examination of past planning efforts that relate to the Village. A comprehensive understanding of how the Village has evolved over time and how it has been planning for the future establishes guidelines for the recommendations and implementation action items. Moreover, a review of existing plans helps identify ways this Plan should be adapted so that it is consistent with the Village's ongoing goals, and to ensure it is coordinated with regional planning efforts.

Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2015-2020

This comprehensive recreation plan took an inventory of Mount Horeb's park and recreation facilities and highlighted opportunities for growth and improvement.

2015 Recommendations:

- Continue to develop Summer Frolic Sunrise Park
- Update pool facilities at Boeck's Park
- Continue improvements at Hofstetter Conservation Park
- Maintain, update, and renovate existing park and trail facilities
- Mini-Park: no new recommended Mini-Parks
- Neighborhood Parks: five new possible locations identified, prioritized on the northeast side and on the west side of the Village.
- Community Parks: Key new facility prioritized in the northeast growth area adjacent to the Military Ridge Trail with connections to Waltz and Liberty Parks. Others that were prioritized include the area north of Hofstetter Conservation Park and a possible joint School District and Village indoor recreational facility.
- Off-Street Trails: new paths in the Sugar River E-Way, connecting Hofstetter Conservation Park to nearby residential neighborhoods, to include new trails in the planned growth areas, and to further coordinate with other entities on the existing multi-use trails in and around the Village.
- On-Street Bicycle Facilities: create connections throughout the Village in the existing right-of-way.
- Large-Scale Future Facilities: several large-scale facilities were prioritized including a new indoor pool or recreation center, dog park, and splash pad.

In several instances, the 2015 CORP and the 2006 CORP reflect some of the key recommendations as described in this Plan. Overall, this Plan is reflective of the 2015 CORP with strategic updates to key areas.

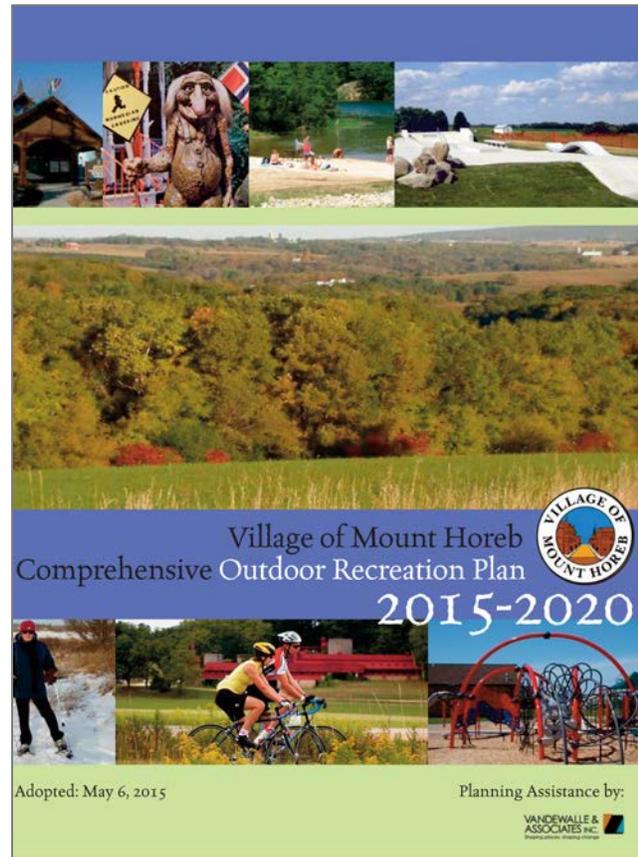
Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Plan (Adopted May 2012)

The Village of Mount Horeb updated its Comprehensive Plan in 2012, and most recently, Future Land Use Map changes were amended in 2019 and 2020. The most important recent amendment was to the property on the west side of South Blue Mounds Street that was changed to Planned Industrial and resulted in the loss of a flat playfield area.

In fact, the 2006-2011 CORP was adopted as a detailed component of the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan designates areas for new residential and non-residential development to accommodate Village growth over the next 20-25 years.

The Comprehensive Plan made the following recommendations:

- Implement the recommendations of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan:
 - In keeping with several of the recommendations of previous CORP's, the Comprehensive Plan calls for the development of an east-side community park, a Conservation park, new neighborhood parks, and a new northeast community park.
- Implement Bicycle and Pedestrian trail system:
 - A bike and pedestrian trail system would link the Village's central area to surrounding neighborhoods, parks, schools and the existing Military Ridge State Trail.
- Plan Greenway Corridor:
 - This recommendation calls for the planning and official mapping of greenway corridors along key drainageways.



- Diversify Recreational Opportunities:
 - The Village should explore the provision of outdoor recreation facilities for all seasons. Additionally, it is recommended that recreation opportunities be provided for seniors living in the community.
- Additional recommendations include:
 - Preserve valued natural features
 - Protect water quality
 - Build on natural resource-based tourism opportunities
 - Accommodate active and passive recreation areas
 - Create neighborhood amenities and connections
 - Enhance natural stormwater management
 - Protect archeological resources

While the last Comprehensive Plan reflected the 2006 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, many of the recommendations remain consistent in 2020 and are reflected throughout this Plan. It is also recommended that when the Village completes a full update of the Comprehensive Plan over the next 5 years, that this Plan be reflected to further advance and prioritize future park and recreation planning, development, and upgrades.

Bicycle Transportation Plan (2015)

The Madison Area Transportation Planning Board (MPO) prepared and adopted the Bicycle Transportation Plan for the Madison Metropolitan Area and Dane County in 2015. This plan outlines the benefits and needs of bicycling, provides a vision, goals, and strategies, details facility best practices, and identifies desirable bicycle and pedestrian facility routes throughout the Madison metropolitan area and Dane County. This Plan makes multiple recommendations for bicycle trails and facilities in the Mount Horeb area. These include repaving of the Military Ridge Trail between Old PB and Epic and a new path from Paoli to Verona to connect the Badger State Trail at CTH A to the Military Ridge Trail.

Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan 2018-2023

The 2018-2023 plan details an inventory of the existing parks and facilities in Dane County, facility specific recommendations, preservation and protection initiatives, and ongoing projects and programs.

Overall goals of the plan are as follows:

1. Provide sufficient park land and recreation facilities to meet the demand of Dane County residents without adversely affecting existing natural and cultural resources.
2. Preserve for posterity the characteristics and diversity of the natural, cultural, and historical resources of Dane County.
3. Preserve large tracts of natural and agricultural rural landscapes at urban fringe areas that will provide regional resource protection and recreation benefits.
4. Provide volunteer opportunities and stewardship education to all county residents.
5. Protect lakes, rivers and streams, including shorelines, wetlands, high infiltration areas and associated vegetative buffers to maintain high water quality, manage water quantity, and sustain water-related recreation throughout Dane County.
6. Provide an inclusive parks system for all Dane County residents, regardless of age, race, gender or gender identity, national origin, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, political affiliation, place of residence, veteran status, physical ability, cognitive capacity, or family, marital, or economic status.

Recommendations impacting the Village of Mount Horeb included:

- Develop a new dog exercise area near the Villages of Mount Horeb, Cottage Grove, Cross Plains, Oregon, Windsor, and Deerfield
- Develop a shared-use path along the Sugar River that would connect Donald Park to the southern end of Mount Horeb and eventually to the Falk Wells Sugar River Wildlife Area south of Verona.
- Recommendations for Donald Park:
 - Continue to implement the recommendations of the park's 2005 Master Plan.
 - Continue planning for future park access site at the Hitchcock residence.
- Recommendations Stewart County Park:
 - Construct accessible beach access and a beach changing room area.
 - Acquire buffer lands east of the park and lands to the west to provide connection to STH 78. Consider acquisition of conservation easements on adjacent lands to maintain rural viewsheds of surrounding hillsides from within the park.
 - Explore creation of additional parking across CTH JG if needed. Fort Blue Mounds Historical/Cultural Site
 - Partner with non-profit organizations on acquisition of additional lands surrounding the site that would enhance access and connectivity to adjacent existing grassland restoration projects.

- Recommendations for Brigham County Park:
 - Improve signage throughout the park.
 - Work with Capitol Off Road Pathfinders (CORP) and Wisconsin DNR on planning and development of mountain bike trail system with connections to Blue Mound State Park.
 - Investigate provision of snowshoe trails.
 - Consider expanding park boundaries, including a continuous corridor south and east to Military Ridge State Trail and west to Blue Mound State Park.
 - Work with Village/DNR to plan and develop a shared use trail connector from the park to Blue Mound State Park.

Military Ridge Prairie Heritage Area spans 2,500 acres in the Town of Blue Mounds. This area is comprised of high-quality prairie remnants and open grassland landscapes, providing habitat for many rare and declining bird species and game birds. The WisDNR, the Nature Conservancy, and others are involved in protecting this landscape – with an overall goal of retaining the best remaining prairie and oak savanna areas. The role of Dane County in these efforts is to assist government and non-profit conservation organizations with matching funds through the Conservation Fund grant application program for land in Dane County.

Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan (2012)

The purpose of the Dane County Farmland Preservation Plan is to set a standard for farmland preservation. This plan provides a vision and guidelines for growth, development, and land preservation in Dane County. The plan is intended to function as the primary policy document setting forth goals and objectives and a vision of how Dane County should grow. A fundamental goal of the plan is to guide and manage Dane County growth and development in a manner that will preserve the rural character, agricultural base, and natural resources of the countryside and contribute to the high quality of life and prosperity of the communities and local farmers.

Wisconsin State Park System Strategic Directions (2015-2020) and Wisconsin Trail Network Plan (2003)

The State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR) has developed these two plans for its entire systems of state parks and trails. In the Mount Horeb Area, these recommendations relate to the Military Ridge State Trail and the snowmobile trail.

The Wisconsin State Park System Strategic Plan set forth five strategic directions:

- Provide quality outdoor recreation opportunities and settings
- Conserve, manage, and interpret natural, cultural, and scenic resources
- Actively promote excellence in our workforce
- Strengthen the Wisconsin State Park System financial condition
- Build and strengthen outreach and partnerships

The Wisconsin State Trails Network Plan provides a vision for establishing trail network connectivity statewide; and focuses on abandoned rail, road, utility line, natural features and resources, interstate, and public lands. The plan recognizes the important role that trails developed by local units of governments serve as critical links. Under the plan, WisDNR staff will continue to work with local governments and encourage them to connect trails onto this network as they update local plans.

The 2019-2023 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

The Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) serves as a blueprint for state and local outdoor recreation planning through support of national initiatives, sets the course for recreation within the state by describing current recreation supply and trends, and provides a framework for future recreation development and focus. Key overarching goals for outdoor recreation include:

- Boost participation in outdoor recreation
- Grow partnerships
- Provide high-quality experiences
- Improve data to enhance visitor experiences
- Enhance funding and financial stability



Wisconsin Land Legacy Report (2006)

In the Wisconsin Land Legacy Report, the DNR identified those key places around the state that are critical to meeting Wisconsin's conservation and outdoor recreation needs over the next 50 years. The Report identifies several sites in Dane County, including Blue Mound State Park, located west of Mount Horeb and in the Southwest Savanna ecological landscape. It contains some oak woodland and grassland areas that are a gradation between the grassland/savanna landscape to the south and the more heavily wooded oak woodlands to the north. Opportunities exist to expand the park to the north to include high a quality oak forest representative of the area, as well as mesic maple-basswood forest that is rare in this ecological landscape. Expansion of protected lands to the south would provide a gradation from high quality grassland communities to oak woodlands, which is not readily found elsewhere in the state. As a result of proximity to Madison, this property is heavily used for hiking, biking, cross country skiing, picnicking, camping, and nature study. The park's easy access to Madison also results in significant development pressure around the park.

Connections 2030 Statewide Long-Range Multimodal Transportation Plan (2009)

Connections 2030 links statewide transportation policy to implementation, planning, programming and other Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) activities. The plan calls for improved system integration for passengers and freight, as well as modernization to correct outdated infrastructure design and combine technological advancements with more traditional transportation infrastructure designs.

The Plan sets policy directions for the state trunk highway system, public transit, intercity travel, freight movement, bicycle and pedestrian travel, and funding, project scheduling and prioritization decisions. As part of the Connections 2030 planning process, WisDOT identified 37 System-level Priority Corridors. The corridor maps identify specific projects; however, the Plan does not guarantee that all potential projects will be implemented. The Village of Mount Horeb is located in the Cornish Heritage Corridor – Dubuque, IA to Madison. Recommendations in the Mount Horeb area include: a corridor plan for US 18/151, rural bicycle and pedestrian accommodations along US 151, an intercity bus stop in Mount Horeb, and a Park & Ride at US 151 and County Road ID. Some of these recommendations may have implications for future bike and pedestrian planning by the Village.

Sport and Fitness Industry Association Sports, Fitness, and Leisure activities Topline Participation Report, 2019

The Sport and Fitness Industry Association conducted a national survey in 2018 of a random sample of over 20,000 Americans. The findings help to provide large trends related to inactivity, demographics, and participation. A few data points that are important for the Village to consider over the next five years are:

- 27% of the US population is inactive, meaning that they do not participate in any level of calorie burning activities in an average week, which is an increase since 2013.
- Class-based (yoga, karate, etc.), fitness (cardio, lifting, swimming, etc.), and outdoor activities (hiking, trail running, etc.) have all increased in overall participation since 2013.
- The most popular activities by age group:
 - Baby Boomers focus on low-impact activities
 - Gen Xers participate most in team sports
 - Millennials prefer to participate in the most diverse set of activities across many different types
 - Gen Zers focus on high-calorie burning/more intensive activities

Wisconsin Healthy Communities (2019-2021)

Neither Dane County nor Mount Horeb is currently designated as a Wisconsin Healthy Community by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The purpose of the designation is to recognize and encourage local efforts that improve the overall community's health and well-being. It also aims to promote collaboration centered around health improvement. The Village of Oregon is the closest community to Mount Horeb that has obtained this designation. Oregon is currently designated as a Silver-level Wisconsin Health Community.

The local and regional park and trail system plays a large component in the promotion and sustainability of improving public health. Many of the overarching goals of the Wisconsin Healthy Community Designation program are reflective of the community's overarching goals in this Plan.

2

EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES



Chapter 2: Existing Park and Open Space Facilities

The Village of Mount Horeb's park and open space system consists of 113 total acres of parkland in 16 Neighborhood and Community Parks and 4 Special Use Parks. Additionally, the Mount Horeb School District provides another four facilities that offer some park, recreation, and open space amenities.

Blue Mound State Park, Military Ridge State Trail, Brigham County Park, Donald County Park and Stewart Lake County Park (125.5 acres of which is within Mount Horeb) are owned and managed by the State of Wisconsin or Dane County and are vital components of the Village's park and recreation network.

The Village's park system includes a full range of developed facilities including Neighborhood Parks, Community Parks, and Special Uses Parks located throughout the community. The Village generally has a good supply of well-established parks in the older parts of the community and has successfully acquired new park areas where residential growth has occurred.

Description of Existing Public Park and Recreation Facilities

Neighborhood Parks

- **Garfield Park** is 0.72-acres and is located in the south-central section of the Village and consists of an open play area, soccer field, and ice-skating rink with warming house.
- **Grandma Foster Park** is 0.26-acres containing an open shelter, picnic tables, benches, a water fountain, and playground equipment.
- **Hickory Hills Park** is 0.71-acres and contains benches, an open shelter, basketball courts play equipment and picnic tables.
- **Ibinger Ridge Park** is 1.74-acres and contains an open shelter, picnic tables, benches, basketball courts, an open play area, and playground equipment.
- **Jaycee Park** is a 0.98-acre park is located in the north-central section of the Village. Facilities include an open play area, playground equipment, a basketball court, an open shelter, and picnic tables.
- **Lions Park** is situated in the southeast section of the Village. The 1.02-acre park contains a basketball court, an open shelter, playground equipment, drinking fountain, benches, and picnic tables.
- **Nesheim Park** is a 1.19-acre park is located on the west-central section of the Village. This park contains an open play area, playground equipment, benches, a basketball court and a sledding area.
- **Sutter Farm Park** is 0.5-acre park is located near the southeastern edge of the Village and contains playground equipment, benches, an open shelter, a basketball court and picnic tables.
- **Valley View Park** is 1.11-acres and contains playground equipment, benches, an open shelter, a basketball court and picnic tables.
- **Howard Himsel Park** is a 3.3-acre park in the southeast section of the Village. This neighborhood park has open play area, playground equipment, a basketball court, community garden, and a sledding hill.

Community Parks

- **Boeck's Park** is a 4.74-acre park is located on Park Street in the north-central portion of the Village and features the Mount Horeb Family Aquatic Center, a shelter, playground equipment, a sledding area, picnic tables, and rest rooms. The Aquatic Center offers a wide variety of programs, from open swim, to classes and lap swimming.
- **Grundahl Park** is a 12.13-acre park and is located at the southeast corner of Blue Mounds Street and Parkway Drive. The park offers a variety of recreational features, including picnic shelters, an enclosed shelter, playground equipment, basketball court, softball field, open play areas, horseshoes, sledding area, a water fountain, and restrooms.
- **Liberty Park** is a 5.42-acre park located in the east-central part of the Village, south of Cox Drive. Currently, this community park has a soccer field, a shelter, playground equipment, a sledding area, picnic tables, a concession area, and restrooms.
- **Summer Frolic Sunrise Park** is a 9.66-acre park facility containing a water fountain, benches, restrooms, open shelter with concession area, paved walking path, outdoor exercise equipment, playground equipment, open play area, two baseball/softball fields, soccer field, picnic tables, and a skate park.
- **Viking Park** is a 4.53-acre park featuring basketball courts, tennis courts and a baseball/softball diamond. It is a shared facility between the Village and the Mount Horeb School District.
- **Waltz Park** is a 4.46-acre community park situated in the northeast section of the Village, between Brian Street and Vicki Lane south of Johns Street. The park has a softball/soccer field, play equipment, a basketball court, an open shelter, picnic tables, water fountains, a sand volleyball court, a sledding area, access to the Military Ridge Trail, and restrooms.

Special Use Parks and Facilities

- **Hofstetter Conservation Park** is a 27.12-acre natural resource conservation area that includes 5 acres dedicated to stormwater management. The remaining 21 acres contains passive recreation areas and trails for hiking and cross-country skiing.
- **The Sugar River E-Way** is an environmental corridor that is owned and maintained by the Village (1.88-acres). It is a linear park, approximately .25 miles long, that parallels a drainage channel flowing south from the Village to the West Branch of the Sugar River. The E-Way includes lands on both sides of the drainageway, with developed trails on the east side.
- **The Mount Horeb Station** is a 1-acre area owned and maintained by the Village of Mount Horeb in support of the Military Ridge State Trail. It includes an open shelter with restrooms open year-round, picnic tables, drinking fountain and parking.
- **Norsk Golf Course** (52.24 acre) is located in the center of Mount Horeb and provides a 9-hole golf course, golf lessons, bowling, horseshoes, pro shop, and a club house with dining. It was recently acquired by the Village following a referendum.

Public School Facilities

The Mount Horeb Area School District contains approximately 30 acres containing recreational and open space areas at the High School, Middle School/Intermediate School campus, and the Primary/Early Learning Center campus. Five of the 30-acres in Viking Park is a shared facility between the school district and the Village (see description of Viking Park under Community Parks).

Dane County Parks

Dane County parks located near Mount Horeb provide an important part of the recreational infrastructure in the Village.

- **Brigham Park** is 112-acres and is located just northeast of the Village on County Highway F. This park provides a panoramic view of the Wisconsin River Valley and includes a campground, two shelters, a picnic area, play equipment and a self-guided nature trail through maple woods.
- **Donald Park** is 408-acres located southeast of Mount Horeb off STH 92. It contains oak woods, rock outcroppings, scenic vistas, trout streams and equestrian and hiking trail.
- **Stewart Park** is a County park containing 125.5-acres within the Village limits and 191 acres total. The park is located on the northwestern corner of the Village and features a scenic and quiet setting, with hiking trails, picnic area, playground equipment, cross-country ski trails, and an impounded spring-fed lake with a beach and a fishing pier.



State of Wisconsin Parks and Trails

- **Blue Mound State Park** is a 1,153-acre open space and recreational facility located west of the Village.
- **The Military Ridge State Trail** travels through Mount Horeb. This is a 40-mile regional bike trail connecting Dodgeville in Iowa County to Madison, via several communities including Mount Horeb. The trail is owned by WisDNR, showcasing some of the state's finest woodlands, wetlands, prairies, agricultural land, and small villages. The trail is crushed stone through the Village of Mount Horeb.

To note, the Village's existing parks were recategorized from previous iterations of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan because most of the previously classified Mini-Parks function as Neighborhood Parks in Mount Horeb. This has little impact on other calculations throughout the Plan because Mini-Parks and Neighborhood Parks were previously combined. Figure 2.1, on the next page summarizes the Village's park facilities and the amenities offered at each. The Figure also includes Special Use Areas, School District facilities, and county and state parks and trails.

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FIGURE 2.1: PARK FACILITY MATRIX

Parks and Facilities Serving Mount Horeb (with Map numbers where applicable)	Acres	Drinking Water	Furniture/Bench(es)	Rest Rooms	Enclosed Shelter	Open Shelter	Swimming	Play Equipment	Open Play Area	Basketball Courts	Horseshoes	Tennis	Volleyball	Baseball/Softball	Soccer	Football Field/Track	Golf	Skate Park	Picnic Tables/Grills	Sledding Area	Ice Skating	Natural Resource/Passive Area	Camping	Boating (non-motorized)/Canoeing	Fishing	Hiking/Trails	Cross-Country Skiing	Tail/Bike Route Access	Parking	
Village Parks	133.73																												X	
Neighborhood Parks	11.53																													
Garfield Park (3)	0.72				X				X						X						X									
Grandma Foster Park (2)	0.26	X	X			X		X												X										
Hickory Hills Park (16)	0.71		X			X		X		X										X										
Ibinger Ridge Park (17)	1.74		X			X		X	X	X										X										
Jaycee Children's Park (6)	0.98					X		X	X	X										X										
Lion's Park (7)	1.02		X			X		X		X										X										
Nesheim Park (8)	1.19		X					X	X	X											X									
Sutter Farm Park (18)	0.50		X			X		X		X										X										
Valley View-Western Addition (19)	1.11		X			X		X		X										X										
Howard Himsel Park (5)	3.30							X	X	X										X	X									
Community Parks	40.95																													
Boeck's Park (1)	4.74	X	X	X		X	X	X	X											X	X									X
Grundahl Park (4)	12.13	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X						X	X									X
Waltz Park (9)	4.46	X	X	X		X		X	X	X			X	X	X					X	X								X	
Liberty Park (12)	5.42	X	X	X		X		X	X						X					X	X								X	
Summer Frolic Sunrise Park (15)	9.66	X	X	X		X		X	X					X	X				X	X										X
Viking Park (20)	4.53									X		X		X																X
Special Use Areas	81.25																													
Hofstetter Conservation Park (11)	27.12																					X				X	X			
Mount Horeb Station (14)	1	X	X	X		X														X								X	X	
Norsk Golf Club* (21)	52.24	X	X	X	X	X					X						X		X								X		X	
Sugar River E-Way (13)	1.88		X																			X								

Parks and Facilities Serving Mount Horeb (with Map numbers where applicable)	Acres	Drinking Water	Furniture/Bench(es)	Rest Rooms	Enclosed Shelter	Open Shelter	Swimming	Play Equipment	Open Play Area	Basketball Courts	Horseshoes	Tennis	Volleyball	Baseball/Softball	Soccer	Football Field/Track	Golf	Skate Park	Picnic Tables/Grills	Sledding Area	Ice Skating	Natural Resource/Passive Area	Camping	Boating (non-motorized)/Canoeing	Fishing	Hiking/Trails	Cross-Country Skiing	Tail/Bike Route Access	Parking
Public Schools	27																												
Mount Horeb High School (22)	20								X					X	X	X										X			X
Mount Horeb Middle School (23)	2									X		X		X															X
Mount Horeb Intermediate School** (24)	2							X	X					X															X
Mount Horeb Early Learning and Primary Centers (26)	3							X	X	X				X															X
Dane County Parks	783																												
Brigham Park (not on Maps)	112	X	X	X		X		X	X										X			X	X			X			X
Donald Park (not on Maps)***	480	X	X	X		X													X			X		X	X				X
Stewart Lake County Park (10)	191	X	X	X		X	X	X											X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X
State Parks and Trails	1,153+																												
Blue Mound State Park	1,153	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X										X			X	X			X	X	X	X
Military Ridge Bike Trail	NA	X	X	X		X													X										X

*This facility requires usage fees and is not counted toward the acreage total in meeting public recreation standards. Also contains bowling, horseshoes and dining facilities.

**These amenities are duplicated under Viking Park because it is a shared School District/Village facility.

***Also contains equestrian trails

Village of Mount Horeb 2020 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

DRAFT
VILLAGE OF
MOUNT HOREB

Map 1: Existing Park
and Open Space Facilities

Mount Horeb Parks and Schools

- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- Regional Park
- Special Use Facility
- Multi-use Trail
- School

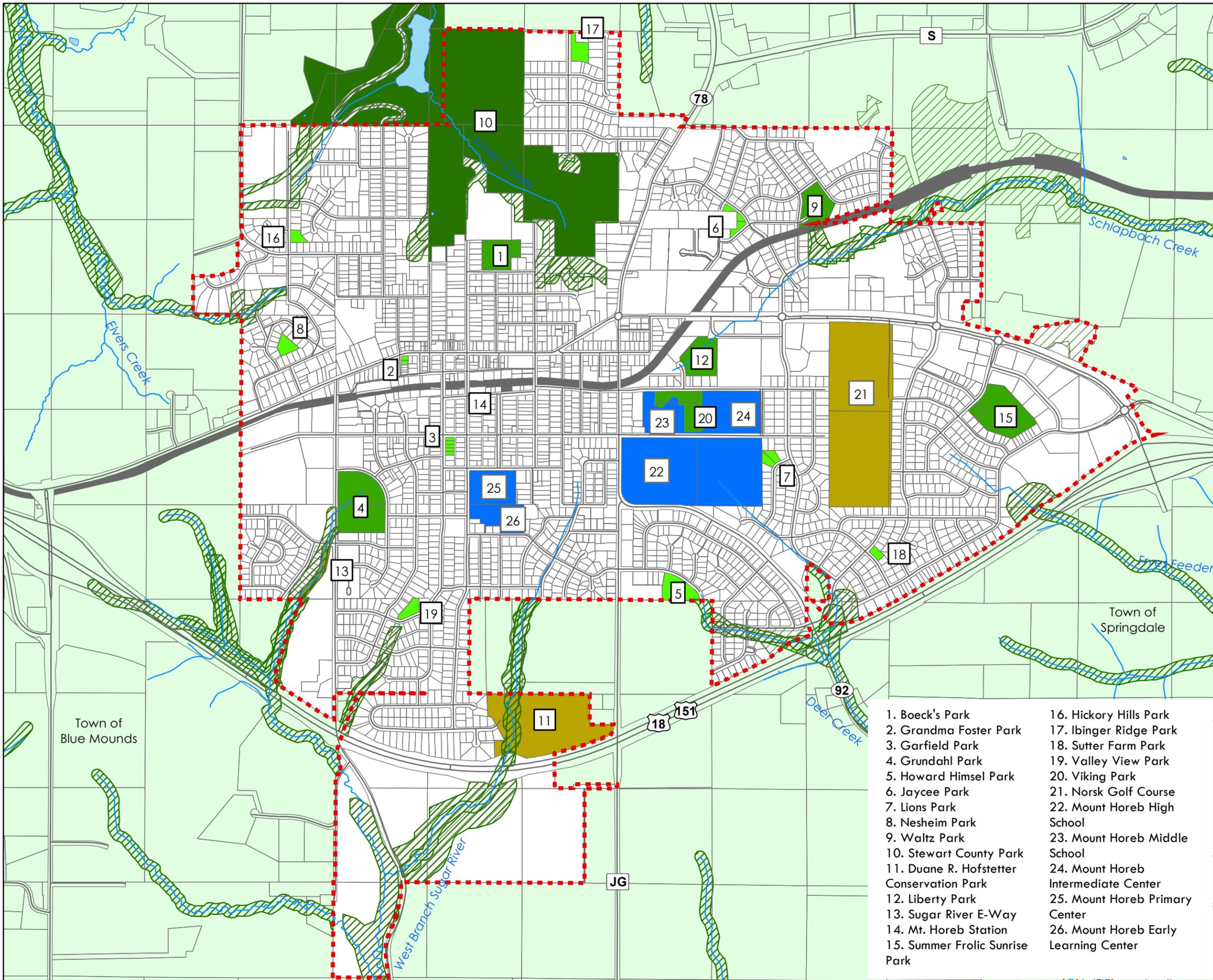
- Village of Mount Horeb
- Towns
- Roads
- Parcels
- Lakes and Ponds
- Rivers and Streams
- Environmental Corridor

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Boeck's Park | 16. Hickory Hills Park |
| 2. Grandma Foster Park | 17. Ibinger Ridge Park |
| 3. Garfield Park | 18. Sutter Farm Park |
| 4. Grundahl Park | 19. Valley View Park |
| 5. Howard Himsel Park | 20. Viking Park |
| 6. Jaycee Park | 21. Norsk Golf Course |
| 7. Lions Park | 22. Mount Horeb High School |
| 8. Nesheim Park | 23. Mount Horeb Middle School |
| 9. Waltz Park | 24. Mount Horeb Intermediate Center |
| 10. Stewart County Park | 25. Mount Horeb Primary Center |
| 11. Duane R. Hofstetter Conservation Park | 26. Mount Horeb Early Learning Center |

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Date: 4/22/20
Source: CARPC, Dane County LIO, WI DNR

VANDEWALLE & ASSOCIATES INC.
Shaping places, shaping change



3

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



Chapter 3: Public Participation

Public Survey

The Village of Mount Horeb conducted an online via Survey Monkey from April 10, 2020 to May 8, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only online surveys were provided and collected. In total, 694 people responded. The 2020 survey mirrored the survey used in the 2015 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan to provide perspective on how opinions might have changed over the past 5 years. The 2020 survey had over two and half times as many responses compared to the 2015 survey.

Overall, the survey focused on obtaining public opinion and feedback on the current conditions and future needs of the Mount Horeb park and recreation system. A high-level survey summary appears below. The full survey summary and results can be found in Appendix A.

Of the nearly 700 responses, 83% were Village residents and the rest were mainly from neighboring towns and cities. Additionally, nearly 70% of respondents were between the ages of 35-54. However, there were a larger number of respondents over the age of 55 and under the age of 34 that participated in the 2020 survey compared to 2015, meaning that a more wide-ranging age demographic participated in the 2020 survey.

Survey respondents were asked what type of large-scale, small-scale, and specialized park and recreational facilities are needed to serve Village residents, and if they were a High, Medium, or Low priority. The top three responses for each of the High, Medium, and Low priority categories are listed below (respondents were asked to check all that apply):

FIGURE 3.1: TOP THREE NEEDS IDENTIFIED AS HIGH, MEDIUM, AND LOW PRIORITIES

Priority	Percentage
Top Three Large-Scale Needs Identified as the Highest Priority	
Other (Dog Park, Indoor Recreational Facility, and Indoor Pool)	62%
Active Community Parks	51%
Natural Areas	43%
Top Three Small-Scale Needs Identified as the Highest Priority	
Hiking/Walking/Running Trails	57%
Nature Trails	51%
Restrooms	32%
Top Three Specialized Needs Identified as the Highest Priority	
Campground	64%
Golf Course	62%
Disc Golf and Indoor Ice Rink	58%

Overall, these results are very similar to those gathered in 2015. The most significant change was in the highest priority new large-scale facility being a dog park, indoor recreational facility, or indoor pool. Additionally, in 2020, respondents favored new natural areas and hiking trails more than in 2015. The lowest priority new facility was on-street bicycle facilities, which was a similar result to the previous survey. In relation to specialized facilities, respondents favored campgrounds, golf courses, disc golf courses, and an indoor ice rink as the top priorities for the future. This was a shift from the 2015 survey, in which indoor swimming pool, dog park, and splash pad was the highest priority.

Two new questions were added to the 2020 survey that did not appear in the 2015 version related to the existing outdoor swimming pool in the Village. Respondents were asked if they'd like to see a new swimming pool over the next 5-10 years and, if so, how it should be paid for. 47% of respondents expressed that they thought it was very important to invest in a new pool over the next 5-10 years and 71% thought that the best way to pay for the new pool would be through a combination of both public and private investment.

Respondents were also asked about the level of importance in preserving natural recreation areas. Overwhelmingly, the top three priorities were preserving more open/green space to encourage water to infiltrate into the ground rather than running into the creeks and streams, protecting steep slopes, wetlands, floodplains, and woodlands, and acquiring more property for parkland from willing sellers. Along the same lines, respondents were asked about which particular natural resources that are the highest priority to preserve in the future. Over 96% said that water quality was the most important. Generally, these results are similar to those collected in 2015.

Another important question was how well the Village is maintaining its existing park and recreation facilities. Overall, most respondents expressed that the Village is doing well in this area, especially related to park cleanliness, safety, and mowing. However, improvements were needed in some of the park bathrooms and the use of chemicals in the parks. Again, this was the general sentiment in the 2015 survey as well.

A majority of the survey focused on how familiar respondents were with the existing parks, if they used the parks, and what additional facility upgrades might be needed in the parks. This question was asked in relation to Village-owned Community Parks, Neighborhood Parks, and Specialized Parks. Overall, most respondents were familiar with most of the Village's parks (over 90% for all parks). Additionally, a high number of respondents stated that they actively used the various Village Parks, especially Grundahl, Summer Frolic Sunrise, Garfield, Valley View, and the Norsk Golf Course. Some of the top needs in the Village's existing parks included:

- Increasing the amount of shade trees, benches, picnic tables, lighting, water fountains, and improving the drainage on playfields.
- Expanding on the number of basketball courts, playfields, volleyball courts, swings, playground upgrades, lighted fields, community gardens, dog waste containers, trails, and signage.
- New splash pad, mountain bike trails, shelters, bandshell, indoor pool, and cross-country skiing trails.

For a complete list of each Village-owned park, see Appendix A. Additionally, for all responses related to awareness, use, and new facilities needed in the School District recreational facilities, County-owned parks, and State-owned parks and trails, see Appendix A.

Another new question in the 2020 survey was related to the best way for residents to stay up to date with the Village's recreation opportunities. Over 67% of respondents stated that Facebook was the best method, with email lists being the second most favored option (62%). Related to this question, respondents were asked to provide their email address if they wished to continue to receive notifications about the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan process and future Village recreational options. 278 email addresses were received.



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Open House

As part of the planning process, the Village hosted a virtual Idea Board from August-September that allowed residents to review the Draft Plan and provide comments. Additionally, on September 10, 2020, a virtual Question and Answer Session was held to provide residents the opportunity to provide comments and ask questions on the Draft Plan. In total, over 35 comments were received, and 8 people attended the Question and Answer Session. Much of the feedback reflected areas already addressed throughout the Plan, however a few needed changes were also identified. These included the need for more pickleball courts, additional parking at the most utilized park locations, improving the marketing of the Village's parks and open space, prioritizing connections of trails to the community and within it, and the need to implement the Plan.

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission

Throughout the entire Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan process, the Village of Mount Horeb Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission was actively involved. In May 2020, the Commission provided ideas and priorities to address in the update of the Plan, in addition to a review of the survey responses. In July 2020, the Commission reviewed and provided changes to the first draft of the Plan prior to the Public Open House. Finally, in September 2020, the Commission recommended the 2020 Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan to the Plan Commission and Village Board for Adoption.

Plan Commission and Village Board Adoption

On October 28, 2020, the Village of Mount Horeb Plan Commission held a Public Hearing to review and hear public comments on the 2020 Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. The Plan Commission adopted the Plan following the Public Hearing. Subsequently, on November 4, 2020, the Village Board adopted the Plan.

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4

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES



Chapter 4: Goals, Objectives, and Policies

In order to conduct a thorough and accurate planning process, it is important to establish a set of goals, objectives, and policies that will serve as the basis for the recommendations in this Plan.

Goals are broad statements that express general public priorities. Goals are formulated based on the identification of key issues, opportunities and problems that affect the park system

Objectives are more specific than goals and are usually attainable through strategic planning and implementation activities. Implementation of an objective contributes to the fulfillment of a goal.

Policies are rules and courses of action used to ensure plan implementation. Policies often accomplish a number of objectives.

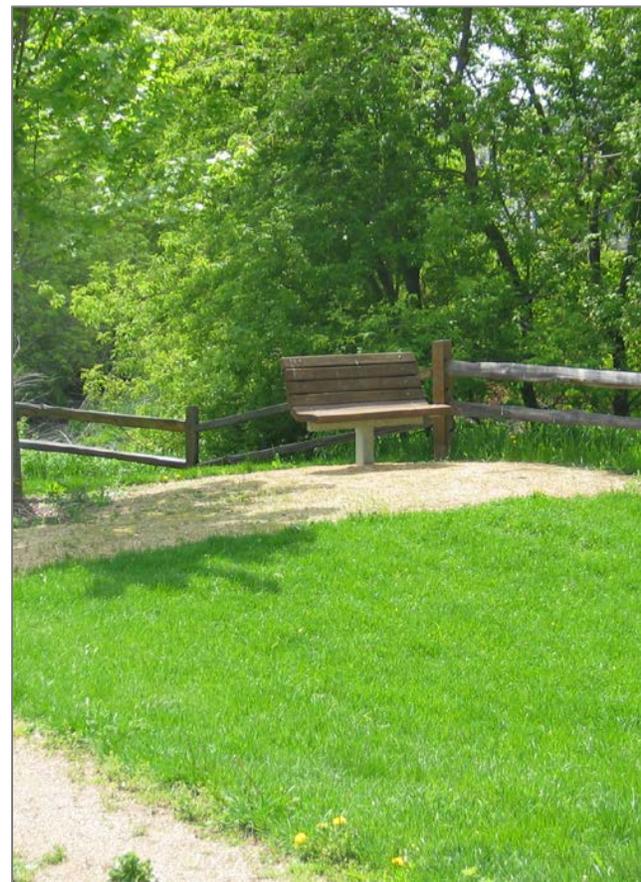
The following list of goals, objectives, and policies are based on the information that has been presented in the previous chapters of this Plan including public input and discussion amongst Village Staff and Park, Recreation, and Forestry Commission members.

Goals

1. Ensure provision and protection of sufficient parks, recreation facilities, and open space areas to enhance the health and welfare of Village residents and visitors. Such facilities should be diverse in accommodating to many different groups such as the elderly, the handicapped, adults, and young families.
2. Preserve the Village's natural resources and amenities for the benefit of current and future residents.

Objectives

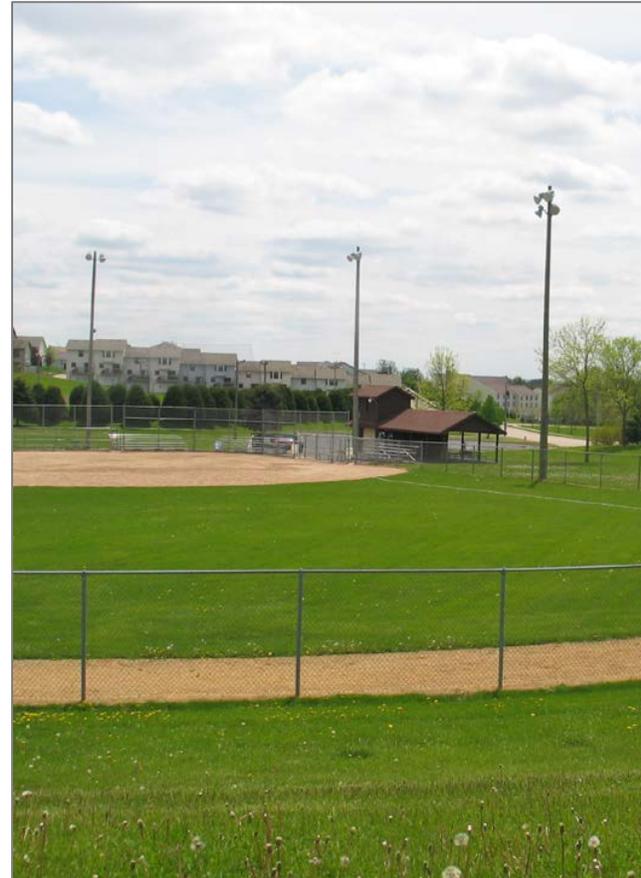
1. Provide quality recreation and adequate open space lands and facilities for each neighborhood of the community.
2. Provide coordination of public park and open space lands with other uses of land, in order that each may enhance the other and make possible the realization of the highest type of urban environment for people who live in the Mount Horeb community.
3. Provide diverse and equitably situated recreational opportunities so that residents of all ages have an equal opportunity to enjoy the park and open space system.
4. Cooperate with other units of government, including Dane County, WisDNR, and the Mount Horeb Area School District, on park and recreation system planning.
5. Plan and implement a comprehensive network of sidewalks, pedestrian paths, and bicycle routes in the Village that serve neighborhoods, schools, parks, playgrounds, and activity centers.
6. Ensure that at least one park and recreational facility is within a safe and comfortable walking distance of all Village residents, generally 1/4 – 1/2 mile.
7. Leverage public-private partnerships, local associations and foundations, and other creative funding sources to help improve and meet the long-term park and recreational needs of the community.



Policies

1. Neighborhood parks should be sited and designed to enhance neighborhood cohesion and provide a common neighborhood-gathering place. All parks should have multiple access points from surrounding neighborhoods. All new residential development should be within 1/4 mile of a park.
2. Park development should be planned to avoid creating nuisance situations between neighbors and park users.
3. Park facilities should be scaled and located to the future needs of the area and population served, both present and future. Parcels of land, which would be suitable for park and recreation development should be acquired as circumstances permit.
4. Establish bicycle paths and routes on local streets throughout the community to connect neighborhoods with schools, parks, trails, and other destinations.

5. Work with neighboring jurisdictions, Dane County, and the state to coordinate bicycle and pedestrian planning, and planning for potential future alternative transportation corridors and transit modes.
6. All multi-family complexes with more than 1 building should provide an on-site tot lot or work with the Village to develop a Neighborhood Park within close proximity. This private facility shall be on the property of the developer, shall be maintained by the developer, and is in addition to park improvement fees.
7. Acquisition of park and open space lands should occur in coordination with development to provide for reasonable acquisition costs and help facilitate site planning for development. Active parklands in undeveloped areas should be acquired through land developer dedications, where feasible.
8. Alternative means of reserving lands required for open space use should be fully explored to ensure that lands are obtained at the lowest cost to the public. Mandatory dedication of lands for public use as parklands and/or cash donations should be continued as provided by Village ordinances.
9. Particular attention should be given to coordinating the land acquisition, land use control and planning programs of all federal, state, county and local agencies concerned with parks and conservation.
10. Master plans should be considered for all future parkland development. These plans should indicate the future use of the facilities, equipment, and park grounds.
11. As opportunities become available, the Village should consider purchasing properties adjacent to existing park properties to allow for the expansion of existing parks. The Village will need to evaluate each opportunity to determine which properties will sufficiently meet the future needs of the park system.
12. Consider combining Village park and recreational facilities with school facilities, where appropriate and feasible.
13. Preservation of environmental corridors in their natural state should receive special attention to ensure the maintenance of wildlife and fish habitats, natural drainage areas, areas for passive recreation and outdoor recreation, steep slopes, woodlands, and reservoirs for sediment, where appropriate.
14. Investigate all regulatory and acquisition tools available to preserve conservancy lands or other open space. Conservancy lands that can be adequately and appropriately protected without public expenditure should be preserved. Consider using public funds to acquire conservancy lands that cannot be protected through other means, or where public access is a high priority.
15. Utilize management practices that protect and enhance the natural features of all of its parks. This includes efforts to establish and maintain buffers for sensitive environmental areas, minimize fertilizer and pesticide use, and implement native species plantings and landscape initiative, to the extent possible.
16. Continue to provide recreation facilities that are designed for the safety and convenience of the age groups that use them, the effectiveness of supervision, and the quality of the recreation experience.
17. Continue to market the park system's facilities and programs to the community. This effort could include utilizing social media, email lists, the bi-annual recreational guide, signage, and developing new informational publications. A map identifying park facilities should be included in these materials.
18. Encourage the creation of a "Friends of the Mount Horeb Parks" volunteer program to lead private fundraising efforts, assist with park maintenance, and raise awareness about the Village's park facilities.
19. Continue to cooperate and collaborate with the state and county on improvements to the Military Ridge Trail.
20. Cooperate and coordinate with Dane County on opportunities to expand Stewart Lake County Park.
21. Work with the Upper Sugar River Watershed Association and consider measures to promote land preservation and water quality in the Village and surrounding area.
22. Modernize facilities and equipment in older parks and provide new facilities and equipment in undeveloped or partially developed parks.
23. All new residential development should meet the park and open space standards and recommendations as outlined in this Plan.



24. The provision of safe and convenient bike connections between park and open space facilities should be emphasized in on-going Village planning an acquisition efforts and should follow State and ASSHTO standards.
25. The Village should take measures to ensure that existing park facilities are upgraded to comply with ADA design guidelines. Future parks should be designed so that they are barrier-free and accessible to persons with disabilities.
26. Participate in the Dane County update of the Bicycle Transportation Plan and the Parks and Open Space Plan.
27. Develop a Village-wide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan to future prioritize active transportation facilities, connections, and utilization. Prioritize the connection of the Military Ridge Trail to the park system.
28. Adopt a Complete Streets Policy that requires multi-modal elements as part of every roadway infrastructure project. Integrate United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, National Association of City Transportation Officials, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, and Wisconsin Department of Transportation guidelines, best practices, and performance measures into the policy to facilitate true complete streets.
29. Consider developing and adopting a “Health in All Policies” initiative so that public health is integrated in all decision-making process Village-wide.
30. Utilize the Village’s 5-year Capital Improvements Plan to pursue and implement the recommendations of this Plan.
31. Pursue becoming a designated Wisconsin Healthy Community.
32. Develop, host, or partner with the School District, Police Department, or other local organizations on bicycle and pedestrian education programs and other trainings to increase safety and utilization of trails, paths, sidewalks, and streets.



5 PARK AND OPEN SPACE STANDARDS



Chapter 5: Park and Open Space Standards

In order to guide the park planning process, it is important to establish a set of minimum standards for park and recreational facilities. Such standards enable a community to quantitatively measure how well its existing facilities are meeting the needs of residents and to plan for future facilities based on projected population growth. As such, park and recreation standards are commonly developed using a ratio of the number of minimum acres recommended per 1,000 residents.

The following section details the local standards for park and recreational facilities. These standards are a combination of National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) guidelines and previously established local standards based on the 2015 Village Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans. A calculation of community-specific standards is more likely to identify those park system deficiencies that would not otherwise be captured by universal or national standards. Furthermore, a locally derived standard does a better job of considering the quality of the park system as well as the quantity of park and recreational facilities provided.

Within each park category description below, it is recommended that the Village use the local standards per 1,000 residents as its park acreage goal over the life of this Plan. For a full description of each park type in the Village see Chapter 2.

National Standards and Comparable Community's Standards

To understand the role that Village's Park and Trail System should play in providing park and recreation services, it is useful to understand the role of a municipal park system. It is also important to understand how municipal park services are different from national, state, or county services.

- **National Parks** are scattered throughout the United States with massive tracts of land that serve as vacation destinations or wilderness areas. They are run by the Department of Interior of the United States government. There are no National Parks in Dane County.
- **State Parks** exist as conservation areas, scenic drives, or as weekend getaways, typically away from population centers. State Parks are often designed to encourage tourism, but their primary purpose is to serve residents of their respective states. Nearby State Parks include Blue Mounds State Park. Additionally, there are multiple State-owned Natural Areas scattered throughout the County.
- **County Parks** function to fill in the gaps that municipal and state governments do not serve. The gaps can include serving a municipal function in portions of a county with municipalities too small to have enough resources to provide parks, conserving large areas of open space that municipalities cannot, or as a tourist venue for people from outside the county. Overall, Stewart Lake Park is a County-owned park that is partially in the Village of Mount Horeb. There are many other examples of additional county parks throughout Dane County.
- **Municipal parks** exist to serve residents of municipalities, sometimes on an hourly basis, as hosts for active athletic or recreation programs. The two most common types of municipal parks are Neighborhood and Community. Neighborhood parks are usually 5-10 acres in size and have a 1/3-mile service radius. Community parks are larger (30-50 acres) and typically serve larger portions of the community with a 1/2-mile service radius.

On an annual basis, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) compiles data from around the U.S. on park and recreational departments and services provided. In 2020, the NRPA released its latest version of the Park and Recreation Agency Performance Benchmarks. It is important to compare the services that Mount Horeb provides to the national averages as a benchmark for analysis. A few of the most applicable metrics include:

- On average, 9.9 acres of park land is provided per 1,000 residents in a jurisdiction.
- On a per park basis, there are an average of 2,281 residents per park.
- Per 10,000 residents, an equivalent 8.1 full-time employees on average are employed in each parks and recreation department.

Another method in evaluating the existing Mount Horeb Parks System is comparing it to other similar municipalities throughout southern Wisconsin. In Figure 5.1, six other municipalities were selected that ranged in size between 4,106 - 10,215 in total population. Generally, Mount Horeb has more total developed parks than all other comparable communities, outside of the Village of Oregon. Mount Horeb also compares favorably with other municipalities in terms of the total number of residents per park. However, the Village falls short related to the total number of acres of parkland comparatively. It has the lowest total acres per 1,000 residents of all comparable communities. To note, many communities have considerable amounts of their existing total park acres that are constrained by environmental factors such as rivers, streams, steep slopes, natural areas, floodplain, and wetlands. The total number of unconstrained acres was not chosen for this analysis of comparable communities because some communities do not account for that factor in their park planning, thus total acres was the uniform metric all communities had available.

FIGURE 5.1. COMPARABLE COMMUNITY ANALYSIS

Municipality	2018 Population	Number of Parks (Mini, Neighborhood, or Community)	Residents Per Park	Total Acres (includes constrained acres)*	Acres Per 1,000 Residents
Village of Oregon	10,215	18	567.5	196.7	19.3
City of Delavan	8,338	11	758.0	148.8	17.8
City of Jefferson	7,964	8	995.5	86.2	10.8
Village of Mount Horeb	7,421	16	463.8	52.5	7.1
Village of Cottage Grove	6,904	9	767.1	83.6	12.1
City of Lake Mills	5,850	12	487.5	74.5	12.7
Village of Cross Plains	4,106	12	342.2	61.2	14.9
Average of Comparable Communities	7256.9	12.3	625.9	100.5	13.5

*Some communities listed in this analysis have a significant number of constrained acres that make up the total parkland acres documented in their respective Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. Not all communities listed distinguish constrained from unconstrained acres, so both were considered in this analysis to provide a consistent data point for all communities.

Source: V&A and Village of Cross Plains, Village of Cottage Grove, Village of Oregon, City of Jefferson, City of Lake Mills, and City of Delavan.

While it is important to evaluate Mount Horeb based on both national averages and similar-sized Wisconsin municipalities, it is difficult to do a one-to-one comparison between parks departments. This is because of the variability in department structure, amenities, distribution of county and state parks, and the amount of natural resources in the area. Since there are so many variables, this plan will use customized local standards previously established in past Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans to determine its existing service gaps and future needs.

Customized Mount Horeb Park Standards

Overall, the Village has consistently maintained the standard of approximately 10 park acres per 1,000 residents for several iterations of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. This figure has decreased slightly from the 2015 Plan because of an increase in population since that time. Because of the projected future increase in the population over the next 10-20 years, the acres per resident standard is expected to decrease over the planning period. If the Village wishes to maintain the standard, additional park land will need to be acquired. Below, in Figure 5.2, is the breakdown of each park category's acres per 1,000 resident's standards using Mount Horeb's 2018 total population.

FIGURE 5.2 VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB PARK STANDARDS

Park Type	2020 Total Acres	2020 Total Acres Per 1,000 Residents	2020 Standards Per 1,000 Residents**	Total Acres Needed to Meet 2020 Standards	Additional Acres Needed to Meet 2020 Standards
Neighborhood*	11.53	1.55	2	14.84	3.31
Community*	40.95	5.52	8	59.37	18.42
Total	52.48	7.07	10	74.21	21.73
Special Use	81.25	10.95			
Total	133.73	18.02			

*It was determined that none of the existing Neighborhood or Community Parks contained any constrained acres. While steep slopes are present in a few locations, they are being utilized for recreational activities and are not considered constrained in this Plan.

**Village Standards were retained from the 2015 Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Source: V&A and Village of Mount Horeb

The existing Village facilities provide approximately 7 acres per 1,000 residents, which does not meet the 2020 standards (10 acres per 1,000 residents). In order to meet the standards in 2020, the Village would need an additional 22 acres of unconstrained Neighborhood or Community parkland. 10 parkland acres per 1,000 residents reflects both the National average, NRPA's recommended total, and the previously established standards in the 2015 Plan. While the standards indicate a shortage for both Community and Neighborhood Parks, the difference needed to meet the 2020 standards is obtainable with the addition of approximately one new park.

Recommended Recreational Facilities and Characteristics

Neighborhood Park

General Description:

- These parks are designed specifically to accommodate residents living within the service area. They are often characterized by active recreational facilities such as a playground or baseball and soccer fields but can also incorporate passive recreational areas for picnicking and nature-study.

Basic Facilities & Activities:

- Active recreation facilities such as playground equipment, playfields (softball, soccer, football, etc.), tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts, shuffleboard areas, horseshoe courts, and ice-skating rinks.
- Passive recreation facilities such as internal trails (with connections to larger regional system), picnic/sitting areas, general open space, and nature study area.
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, restrooms
- Landscaped areas which provide buffering and shade
- Lighting for security at night. Lighting must be designed to be direct cut-off and not spill into adjacent properties.
- Adequate on-street and off-street parking spaces

Desirable Site Characteristics:

- Suited for intense development
- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Geographically centered with safe walking and biking access.
- May be developed as a shared school-park facility

Community Park

General Description:

- Community parks are intermediate in size and are able to accommodate visitors from the surrounding community and multiple neighborhoods. These sites focus on both the developed aspects of the park, such as playfields and tennis courts, as well as the natural-resource amenities.

Basic Facilities & Activities:

- Active recreation facilities such as playground equipment, playfields (softball, soccer, football, etc.), tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts, shuffleboard areas, horseshoe courts, ice skating areas, swimming pools, swimming beaches, archery ranges, disc golf areas
- Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and nature study areas, individual and group picnic/sitting areas, general open space and unique landscapes/features, natural study areas, and ornamental gardens.
- Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays and concerts in the park.
- Community Center building with multi-use rooms for crafts, theater, restrooms, social activities, and senior adult use
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, restrooms
- Landscaped areas which provide buffering and shade
- Lighting for security at night. Lighting must be designed to be direct cut-off and not spill into adjacent properties.
- Adequate off-street parking spaces

Desirable Site Characteristics:

- Suited for intense development
- May include natural areas, such as water bodies or wooded areas
- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Easily accessible for walking and biking

General Description:

- Areas of open space that cannot be measured by a quantifiable standard because of their unique and diverse contributions to the community. Special Use Parks and Facilities enhance an overall park and open space system by maintaining and improving the community's natural resource base, accommodating special activities that aren't included in other parks, and providing interconnections between isolated parks and recreation areas.
- Examples of Special Use Parks and Facilities are varied but can include those lands that accommodate passive or special recreational activities, such as golf courses, sledding/skiing hills, marinas, beaches, display gardens, arboreta, and outdoor amphitheatres, as well as lands that have been protected for their environmental significance or sensitivity and provide limited opportunity for recreational use. Examples of the latter may include water bodies, floodplains, wetlands, shorelands and shoreland setback areas, drainageways, stormwater management basins, conveyance routes, environmental corridors, wildlife habitats, areas of rare or endangered plant or animal species, prairie remnants, and restoration areas.

Basic Facilities & Activities:

- Active recreational facilities such as areas for swimming and boating, skiing hills, biking/walking/skiing trails, skating rinks, and golf courses
- Passive recreational facilities such as walking trails, picnic/sitting areas, and natural study areas
- Service buildings for shelter, equipment storage/rental, concessions, and restrooms
- Signage, trail markers, trash receptacles, information booths
- Lighting for security at night
- Off-street parking spaces if appropriate to the area
- Historic/Cultural/Social – historic downtown areas, performing arts parks, arboretums, ornamental gardens, performing arts facilities, indoor theaters, public buildings, zoo, and amphitheatres

Desirable Site Characteristics:

- Variable, depending on use

Conservancy Areas

General Description:

- Permanently protected areas of environmental significance or sensitivity, generally with limited opportunities for recreational use. Acquisition of conservancy areas often has secondary benefits such as flood control or enhancement of adjacent private property values. May include water bodies, floodplains, wetlands, shorelines and shoreland setback areas, drainageways, stormwater management basins, environmental corridors, wildlife habitat, areas of endangered plant or animal species, prairie remnants or restoration areas, scenic vistas, or environmentally constrained lands or open spaces as recommended in other adopted components of the Village's Comprehensive Plan. May also be appropriate for utilities and secondary recreational uses, such as trails.

Basic Facilities & Activities:

- Passive, nature-based, low impact recreational facilities

Desirable Site Characteristics:

- Variable, depending on resource being protected.



General Description:

- School parks have many of the same characteristics as neighborhood or community parks, depending on their size. As such, school parks primarily serve as locations for active recreational facilities associated with school functions; however, these sites can and do benefit the surrounding community during off-school hours. These parks may be owned and maintained by the Village or the school district but are open to all neighborhood residents.

Basic Facilities & Activities:

- Active recreational facilities such as playfields, tennis courts, basketball courts, playgrounds, and ice-skating rinks
- Passive recreational facilities such as picnic/sitting areas and nature study areas
- Service buildings for shelter, storage, and restrooms
- Lighting for security at night
- Adequate on-street and off-street parking spaces

Desirable Site Characteristics:

- Easily accessible to the neighborhood population
- Accessible by walking or biking

Recreation Trails

General Description:

- Recreation trails accommodate various outdoor activities, such as biking, hiking, walking, jogging, horseback riding, nature study, and cross-country skiing. A well-designed park system provides connections between parks and open space areas and effectively integrates urban and suburban areas with the surrounding natural environment by linking off-street trail segments with on-street bike routes. Recreation trails can be designed to serve different functions and to accommodate various, and sometimes conflicting, activities. Therefore, this section provides descriptions of the different types of recreation trails that this Plan will address and how recommendations will be formulated for each type of trail.

On-Street Bicycle Facilities

General Description:

- There are a wide variety of on-street bicycle facilities including bike routes, bike lanes, cycle tracks, sharrows, bike boxes, and paved shoulders. Bicycle routes, bike boulevards, and sharrows are the pre-identified and preferred streets for bicycle travel within an urban area. Many times, they are marked by signage on or along the road. Bicycle lanes are areas of the road striped off for exclusive use by bicyclists. They are the preferred bicycle facility for urban arterial and higher volume collector streets (generally more than 2,000 vehicles per day). Striping bicycle lanes establishes designated traffic channels that promote an orderly flow by both bicyclists and motorists. Typically, bicycle lanes are established on roadways that are 32 feet or wider. Depending on the size of the roadway and traffic volumes, bike lanes are typically buffered with striping, bollards, or on-street vehicle parking. An even greater level of separation is in the form of a dedicate on-street two-way separated path, referred to as a cycle track. This is usually used for one-way streets in areas that are the most heavily traveled by bicyclists, such as a downtown. Used in conjunction with other on-street facilities are bike boxes. These are dedicated painted areas for bicyclists to stop ahead of vehicles at potentially dangerous or heavily traveled intersections.
- Paved shoulders are not a bicycle facility per se, but rather a roadway condition that improves bicycle travel and bicyclist safety. They function much like a bicycle lane by separating the motor vehicle travel from bikes. Paved shoulders are ideal for higher volume streets or highways (more than 1,000 vehicles per day) with rural cross sections (i.e. no curb and gutter)



Desirable Design Criteria for Bicycle Lanes:

- Shared bicycle and vehicle lanes can be used on any lane width but should follow the AASHTO standards for marking and signage.
- Minimum width should be 5 feet.
- When used alongside a parking lane (minimum 7 feet), bike lanes should be at least 5 feet wide and located to the traffic side of the parking lane.
- Where shared bike lanes and parallel on-street parking are used, minimum combined width should be 12 feet
- Any lane markings or signage should meet the AASHTO standards.
- Street signs should be used to identify bicycle lanes.

Desirable Design Criteria for Paved Shoulders:

- Minimum width should be 4 feet on uncurbed roadways, or 5 feet on curbed roadways or where traffic speeds exceed 50 miles per hour.
- A stripe separating shoulder from roadway is recommended.
- These are generally not marked as an exclusive bike facility.

Off-Street Recreation Trails

General Description:

There are two primary types of off-street recreation trails: multi-use paths and rural walking/hiking trails.

- Multi-use paths are designed to accommodate bicyclists, walkers, runners, and in-line skaters. Such facilities are often located along railroad and street rights-of-way, rivers and lakeshores, and through parks and environmental corridors.
- Rural trails provide connections between urbanized areas, and access to parks and open space areas. Walkways may be restricted to pedestrian use because of environmental conditions. In certain locations, they may also be suitable for equestrian and/or bicycle use. Rural walkways are often sited along creeks, streams, rivers, field boundaries, and other natural linear systems.

Desirable Design Criteria for Multi-Use Paths:

- In urban areas, paths should be a minimum of 10 feet to accommodate two-way bicycle traffic. Paved surfacing is recommended to facilitate bike, walking, running, and skating. AASHTO standards should be applied to all design, markings, and signage.
- In rural areas, the path should be a minimum of 10 feet wide but could be reduced to 8 feet for a short distance because of physical constraints. They are typically surfaced with limestone screenings or similar material.
- Avoid placement alongside roadways where multiple cross-streets and driveways are or will be present.
- Minimum 20 mph design speed.

Desirable Design Criteria for Rural Walking/Hiking Trails:

- Because these trail facilities often travel through sensitive environmental areas, they are generally not paved. Rather, they are surfaced with crushed limestone, wood chips, hard packed earth, or mowed grass.

Trailheads

Trailheads can provide visible access points to major off-street paths in the community's system and help connect off-street and on-street facilities. They generally provide a parking area, locational and directional maps or other information about the trail system. Some might contain restroom facilities, picnic tables, or benches for snacks or breaks. Such facilities should be sited with easy and direct access to the trail system.



Service Areas

Map 2 depicts the service areas of Neighborhood and Community Parks based on the location of them within the community. This analysis is utilized to determine the existing service coverage of the Village Park System, in addition to forming the basis of the recommended new park locations as discussed in Chapter 7.

Park service areas were divided into two different distances based on the size, number of amenities, and ability to serve multiple recreational functions:

- 1/4 Mile Service Area – Neighborhood Parks
- 1/3 Mile Service Area – Community Parks

In most municipalities, service areas range between 1/4 – 1/3 mile because of the need to accommodate all modes of transportation access, especially people who may not own or be able to operate a vehicle (children, handicapped individuals, the elderly, etc.). 1/4 – 1/3 mile is seen as representative distance of mobility or how far most individuals can walk comfortably depending on age, health, and other factors.

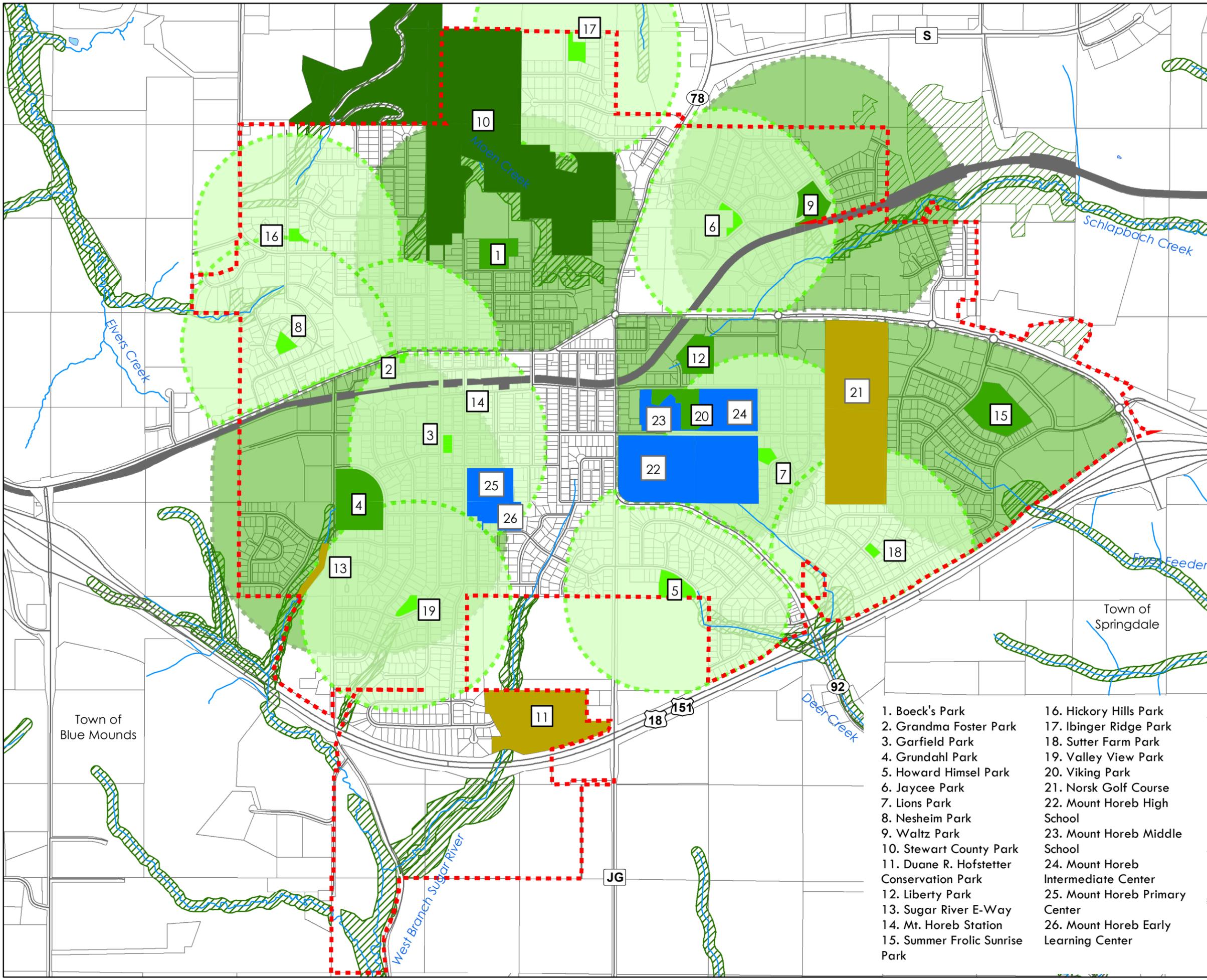
An additional consideration in the service areas provided by each Neighborhood and Community Park are access barriers (large roadways, natural features, bridges, etc.) Mount Horeb's service areas were modified to reflect the limited access for an individual walking or biking due to high-traffic volume streets. Those roadways included: US 18/151, STH 92, STH 78, Springdale Street, and West Main Street.

Using these service areas, Map 2 identifies a few small service gaps and one prominent gap. These include the central portion of the Village south of West Main Street, west of 8th Street, east of 4th Street, and north of South Road. To note, in relation to the most prominent existing service gap in the Village, this neighborhood's proximity to several of the School District's existing facilities (that are not included in this analysis) is most likely serving those residents. In total, the existing park locations are fairly well distributed throughout the community and provide service to most residents within a 1/4 – 1/3 mile.

Village of Mount Horeb
2020 Comprehensive Outdoor
Recreation Plan

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MOUNT HOREB

Map 2: Park Service Areas



Park Service Areas

- Neighborhood Park-1/4 Mile Area
- Community Park-1/3 Mile Area

Mount Horeb Parks and Schools

- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- Regional Park
- Special Use Facility
- Multi-use Trail
- School

- Village of Mount Horeb
- Roads
- Parcels
- Lakes and Ponds
- Rivers and Streams
- Environmental Corridor



Date: 4/22/20
Source: CARPC, Dane County LIO, WI DNR

VANDEWALLE & ASSOCIATES INC.
Shaping places, shaping change



- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Boeck's Park | 16. Hickory Hills Park |
| 2. Grandma Foster Park | 17. Ibinger Ridge Park |
| 3. Garfield Park | 18. Sutter Farm Park |
| 4. Grundahl Park | 19. Valley View Park |
| 5. Howard Himsel Park | 20. Viking Park |
| 6. Jaycee Park | 21. Norsk Golf Course |
| 7. Lions Park | 22. Mount Horeb High School |
| 8. Nesheim Park | 23. Mount Horeb Middle School |
| 9. Waltz Park | 24. Mount Horeb Intermediate Center |
| 10. Stewart County Park | 25. Mount Horeb Primary Center |
| 11. Duane R. Hofstetter Conservation Park | 26. Mount Horeb Early Learning Center |

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6

ANALYSIS OF THE EXISTING PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM



Chapter 6: Analysis of the Existing Park and Open Space System

This Chapter presents an analysis of how well the Village of Mount Horeb’s existing park and recreational facilities satisfy current needs in the community. The adequacy of the Village’s existing park and recreation system will be evaluated in the following ways:

- An application of established local and national park and recreational facility service standards to reliable population projections for the Village (Chapter 5)
- A qualitative analysis of the Village’s park system based on both an understanding of the Village’s goals and objectives and an evaluation of the local demand for parkland and recreational facilities
- An analysis of the geographic distribution and accessibility of park open space areas
- A consideration of public input regarding the future of the Village’s park and open space system
- A review of the Wisconsin’s State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

The results of this analysis will serve as the basis for the recommendations presented in Chapter 7.

Quantitative Analysis

Existing Facilities

As analyzed in Chapter 5, the Village’s existing park acres do not currently meet the established local standard for a total of 10 acres per 1,000 residents. The Village currently provides 7 developed parkland acres per 1,000 residents (Figure 6.1). Additionally, the Village provides a variety of different recreational facilities within each individual park (Figure 6.2). For a complete list of each facility provided in all Village, School District, County, and State Parks, see Chapter 2.

FIGURE 6.1: TOTAL PARKLAND BY TYPE

Park Type	2020 Total Acres	2020 Total Acres Per 1,000 Residents
Neighborhood*	11.53	1.55
Community*	40.95	5.52
Total	52.48	7.07
Special Use	81.25	10.95
Total	133.73	18.02

*It was determined that none of the existing Neighborhood or Community Parks contained any constrained acres. While steep slopes are present in a few locations, they are being utilized for recreational activities and are not considered constrained in this Plan.

Source: V&A and Village of Mount Horeb

Constrained areas are defined as a combination of WisDNR wetlands and floodplains, steep slopes (greater than 12%), drainageways (75’ buffer around perennial streams or 50’ buffer around intermittent channels), and woodlands (combined 80% cover area). The unconstrained areas are all of the parkland that does not fall within an unconstrained area. To calculate the amount of existing parkland per resident, only the unconstrained acres were used. Again, it was determined that none of the existing Neighborhood or Community Parks in the Village contained constrained acres.

FIGURE 6.2: EXISTING RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, 2020

Facility	Number of Existing Facilities in the Village*
Baseball/Softball	8
Basketball	13
Soccer Fields	7
Ice Skating	1
Football/Track	1
Tennis Courts	4
Playfields	14
Swimming Areas	1
Playgrounds	18
Picnic Areas	14
Volleyball	1
Horseshoes	1
Skate Park	1

*Includes public school facilities, but not private facilities

Future Park System Needs

The overall future recreation needs of the Village are determined by applying the recommended minimum acreage standards to a reasonable population projection for the Village in future years. This type of future needs assessment is a critical component of this Plan. It is included in part, to satisfy Wisconsin Statutes 66.0617 and 236.29 regarding the collection of fees, and also to assist the Village with planning and budgeting for the development of future parks.

The Village's future standards remain 10 acres per 1,000 residents, to be comprised of 2 acres of neighborhood parks per 1,000 residents, and 8 acres of community parks per 1,000 residents. Based upon the analyses provided in this Chapter and in Chapter 5, and to provide consistency with the future acreage standards that were set forth in the 2015 Plan, the Village chose to maintain the same future local standard for total active and passive park acreage. Based on these well-established local standards, Figures 6.3 and 6.4 show the minimum additional park acreage that will be needed to accommodate the Village's projected population in 2030 and 2040.

Figure 6.3 presents the 2030 park acreage needs projection which is a ten-year timeframe for collection and expenditure of impact fees. The 2030 projection will be used to estimate future costs in Chapter 8, and to determine parkland acquisition and improvement recommendations based on what the Village can reasonably expect to accomplish in the ten-year timeframe. Based upon the analysis presented below, the Village will need approximately 5 additional acres of neighborhood parks and about 27 more acres of community parks, for a total of 32 additional acres of parkland by 2030 to accommodate the future population and maintain the intended level of service.

FIGURE 6.3: PARK ACREAGE NEEDS, 2030

	2020 Total Acres	2020 Acres Per 1,000 Residents	Mount Horeb Standard Park Acres Per 1,000 Residents	2030 Total Acres Based on Mount Horeb Standards*	2030 Acres Needed to Meet Standards*
Neighborhood	11.53	1.55	2.0	16.92	5.39
Community	40.95	5.52	8.0	67.70	26.75
Total	52.48	7.07	10.0	84.62	32.14

Source: V&A

*Population projection in 2030: 8,462

Figure 6.4 shows that, based on the population projections in Chapter 1 and local standards, the Village will need to add approximately 7 acres of neighborhood parkland, and approximately 34 acres of community parkland (approximately 41 acres total) to the current park system by 2040.

FIGURE 6.4: PARK ACREAGE NEEDS, 2040

	2020 Total Acres	2020 Acres Per 1,000 Residents	Mount Horeb Standard Park Acres Per 1,000 Residents	2040 Total Acres Based on Mount Horeb Standards*	2040 Acres Needed to Meet Standards*
Neighborhood	11.53	1.55	2.0	18.66	7.12
Community	40.95	5.52	8.0	74.63	33.69
Total	52.48	7.07	10.0	93.29	40.81

*Population Projection in 2040: 9,329

Source: V&A

Qualitative Analysis

Although quantitative standards provide a good basis for formulating the recommendations, a thorough assessment of the Village's existing facilities must include a more subjective analysis that takes into consideration those characteristics that make Mount Horeb unique from other communities.

Furthermore, the qualitative analysis will do the following:

- Identify those park system deficiencies and strengths that are not captured by universal standards
- Ensure that future parks and recreational facilities are tailored to meet the needs of Village residents
- Allow for the establishment of a more reasonable and specialized level-of-service standard by which the Village can plan its future park system.

Important factors to consider include the following:

- The quantitative analysis presented earlier in this Chapter does not consider school open space areas because the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources does not consider these areas in the calculation of total parkland within a community. Additionally, they are prioritized for school district-based activities and can be closed to the public on occasion. While they do offer additional recreational facilities in many neighborhoods throughout the community and accommodate some of the local demand, they are not considered parkland or open space in this Plan. To note, in the case of Viking Park, the Village and School District share the facility. Viking Park is considered parkland in this analysis.
- Mount Horeb is fortunate to have several very high-quality state- and county-owned natural resource and recreation facilities that serve the entire region within a very short distance. Stewart Lake Park (191 acres), Brigham Park (112 acres), Donald Park (480 acres) and Blue Mound State Park (1,153 acres) are all within six miles of the Village and provide many outstanding active and passive recreation opportunities for Village residents. The Village should work with the state and Dane County to provide safe and efficient connections to trail systems that provide access to nearby state and county park facilities.
- Village residents have access to many recreational facilities, however, the survey results (see Appendix A) indicated there is a need for some additional facilities and amenities such as:
 - Indoor or outdoor swimming pool
 - Hiking, walking, or running trails
 - Dog park
 - Splash park
 - Indoor sports facility
 - Nature trails
 - Playfields

Geographic Analysis

The location and distribution of the park and open space facilities in relation to a community's residents is also an important indicator of how well existing facilities meet the needs of the community. Map 2 illustrates how effectively the Village of Mount Horeb's parklands serve the various areas of the Village. These service areas are based on the local standards identified in Chapter 5.

The area served by a park is influenced by several factors. These include the size of the park, location, transportation access, and natural or manmade barriers. Displaying park service areas based on these factors suggests locations where additional park facilities might be necessary to serve residents.

The Village is well-covered with community and neighborhood parks. In the central portion of the Village, school facilities help fill in some of the gaps in park accessibility. Existing developed areas lacking adequate park facilities include small areas in the far southern extend of the Village near Glen View Road and on the northeast side near Brookwood Drive. If the community continues to growth in both of these areas, there may be opportunities to fill these existing gaps with the addition of new parkland.

Overall, it will be necessary to acquire additional parklands so future residents have equitable access to all types of parklands and open space.

Review of the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2019-2023 (SCORP)

The last component of this needs assessment involves a review of the State of Wisconsin's 2019-2023 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Some of the key issues, concerns, and factors influencing the future of outdoor recreation include:

- Demographic shifts in age, urbanization, and diversification
- The declining overall maintenance of infrastructure, especially recreational facilities
- Technology advances effecting the way we travel, use parks, and distribute information
- Equitable distribution of public lands
- Declining habitat quality and invasive species maintenance
- Increasing extreme weather events and weather pattern shifts
- Funding opportunities and increasing costs

7 RECOMMENDED PARK AND OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS



Chapter 7: Recommended Park and Open Space Improvements

This chapter provides detailed recommendations to expand and improve Mount Horeb’s existing park and open space system based on current deficiencies identified in the preceding chapters of this Plan, and new park and facilities needs as indicated by future population growth. These recommendations are also guided by the goals, objectives, and policies outlined earlier in this report.

Based on the Village’s projected population in 2030 (8,462 residents) and 2040 (9,329), and its local standard of 10 acres per 1,000 residents, Mount Horeb will need to provide approximately 32 additional acres of active parkland by 2030, and 41 new acres of parkland by 2040. In addition to active recreation areas, it was also prioritized through this Plan’s public participation events, that more passive, “nature-based”, and trail recreation opportunities were also desired. This Plan recommends that additional acreage in passive, nature-oriented parks is developed in addition to active park development acreage. This recommendation assumes that Mount Horeb will continue to grow at a moderate rate, and that park and open space planning will be oriented toward serving a steadily growing population. The timing of park acquisitions and development should coincide with the actual demand for recreational facilities in the Village’s developed and newly developed areas.

Through this planning process, it was identified that there is a need to evaluate a proposed subdivision plat to determine if there is proposed to be enough parkland, the proposed parkland is the right type of land, and is there other land that may be better suited for park and open space in the area. An evaluation tool was created to help score and compare proposed parkland when it is presented to the Village during the plat review process. The tool utilized nine different criteria to evaluate proposed parkland. See Appendix D for the evaluation tool, criteria, and scorecard. It is recommended that the evaluation criteria be used in all future discussions and reviews of subdivision plats and potential parkland acquisition.

Recommended Improvements to Existing Parks

Existing Neighborhood Parks

Garfield Park

- Upgrade fireplace and warming house

Grandma Foster Park

- Upgrade playground equipment
- Consider doing a Park Master Plan to reimagine the recreational opportunities for this park

Hickory Hills Park

- No recommended improvements at this time

Ibinger Ridge Park

- No recommended improvements at this time

Jaycees Park

- No recommended improvements at this time

Lion’s Park

- Upgrade playground equipment and shelter

Nesheim Park

- Upgrade playground equipment
- Add picnic tables

Sutter Farm Park

- No recommended improvements at this time

Valley View Park

- No recommended improvements at this time

Howard Himsel Park

- Add water fountains and community garden space
- Add restrooms, if additional parkland is acquired



Existing Community Parks

Boeck's Park

- Continue to make planned equipment upgrades to the pool based on the recommendations of the Mount Horeb Aquatic Center Implementation Plan.
- Begin budgeting for pool improvements and exploring public/private partnerships that could be used to help fund the pool replacement. Utilize the Swimming Pool, Wading, and Slide Plunge Pool Evaluation to guide the level of investment needed.

Grundahl Park

- Upgrade shelter next to the ball diamond and add an electricity connection
- New bandshell or outdoor theater area
- New volleyball courts
- Add pickleball courts

Liberty Park

- Upgrade playground equipment
- Add additional parking, if additional parkland is acquired

Summer Frolic Sunrise Park

- New lighting on the fields

Viking Park

- Continue to work collaboratively with the School District on future development of this park
- Add lighting to the playfields
- Develop a paved walking path

Waltz Park

- Upgrade playground equipment
- Upgrade dugouts



Existing Special Use Parks

Hofstetter Conservation Park

- Work with local volunteer groups, regional preservation groups, and WisDNR on continued site planning, developing and maintenance
- Acquire the rectangular parcel to the north of the park fronting CTH JG.
- Provide access to JG
- Provide a parking area at the entrance off of JG
- Develop new trails and signage

Sugar River E-Way

- Continue to upgrade the existing trails

Mount Horeb Station

- Consider repurposing the parking area for a Farmer's Market, concession stand, or open green space, if alternative trail parking were acquired per WisDNR requirements

Norsk Golf Course

- Consider upgrading the clubhouse to include a banquet hall facility
- Develop an outdoor music venue space and walking trails throughout the course
- Create cross country ski trails through the course

Overarching Existing Park Improvement Recommendations

The Village should continue to assess needed updates and renovations in existing parks and trails over the course of the planning period on an annual basis. In addition to the recommendations applicable to individual parks as listed above, the following overarching enhancements can be applied to many, if not all existing facilities.

- Adding more garbage, recycling, and dog waste containers at each park
- Connecting sidewalks to parks wherever possible and implementing the Village-wide Sidewalk Plan to help prioritize connections and upgrades
- Continuing to establish community gardens in underutilized and shade-free areas of the parks
- Adding shade trees outside of playfield or other developed areas

Recommended New Parks

Future development on all four sides of the Village will likely result in the need for Neighborhood and Community Parks. In response to this identified need, Map 3 shows alternative locations for seven Neighborhood Parks and two Community Parks in the Village's growth areas. Specific park facility boundaries in these general locations will be determined when the lands are platted or acquired. The following is a description of these general park recommendations.

Mini-Parks

Mini-parks tend to be maintenance intensive and receive minimal use. The development or acquisition of mini-parks is not recommended, with the following exceptions:

- Mini-Parks should be platted as part of new multi-family developments, primarily to serve young children residing in the development. This type of mini-park would be privately owned and maintained by the developer.
- High need is defined within an existing neighborhood or multi-family complex which is not served by a neighborhood park, and open space is not sufficient for a neighborhood park. This type of park would serve a concentrated or limited population such as pre-school age children or senior citizens. These parks should be easily accessible to the surrounding neighborhood and should be less than 2 acres in size.

Neighborhood Parks

To accommodate the Village's projected population increases, additional neighborhood parkland acquisitions of 5 acres by 2030 and 7 acres by 2040 are recommended. The Village should add new neighborhood parks as the Village grows to the northeast, north, and west to serve the Village's future residential growth areas and those neighborhoods currently underserved by park facilities. Recommended general locations for seven future neighborhood parks are identified on Map 3, however, the timing and precise boundaries of these sites may not be decided until development occurs, or land is acquired or platted. To note, due to the environmental constraints of the Village, especially in terms of steep slopes, future Neighborhood Park locations are planned for areas that do not overlap with any existing environmental constraints.

- N1 – East side to serve the Village's future growth area
- N2 – Southwest side near or connected to the Sugar River E-Way
- N3 – Northwest side to serve the Village's future growth area
- N4 – Southwest side near or connected to the Sugar River E-Way
- N5 – North side to serve the Village's future growth area
- N6 – North side to service an existing gap in the Village's service area
- N7 – Northeast side to serve the Village's future growth area

Community Parks

To accommodate the Village's projected population increases, additional community parkland acquisitions of 27 acres by 2030 and 34 acres by 2040 are recommended. The Village should add new community parks as the Village grows to the northeast and south to serve the Village's future residential growth areas and those neighborhoods currently underserved by park facilities. Recommended general locations for two future community parks are identified on Map 3, however, the timing and precise boundaries of these sites may not be decided until development occurs, or land is acquired or platted. To note, due to the environmental constraints of the Village, especially in terms of steep slopes, future Community Park locations are planned for areas that do not overlap with any existing environmental constraints.

- C1 – Northeast side to serve the Village's future growth area. This park should be connected via multi-use trails to the Military Ridge Trail, which could provide connections to Waltz Park and Liberty Park.
- C2 – South side to serve the existing neighborhoods in this area and the Village's future growth area. This park should be connected via multi-use trails to Hofstetter Conservation Park.

Other Community Park Recommendations:

- Develop a detailed master plan for both community parks, ideally next to a future school site. Once established, this master plan will form the basis for developing a capital improvements program.
- The Village should consider partnering with the School District to develop future park and recreational facilities. Combining a school and park site provides the opportunity for educational programs, such as ecology studies, to be built around natural areas in the park. One of the most immediate benefits of this type of arrangement is consolidating the total amount of land that is needed for a school and park. For example, instead of the Village developing one 10-acre park and the School District developing another 10-acre park (for a total of 20 acres), they could consolidate to develop one 15-acre park that serves both the school and the Village.
- Where needed, require cut-off lighting structures that avoid spill-over into neighboring properties.
- In any future Community Park, new playfields should be included and be developed to adequately drain.
- Explore opportunities for a joint School District and Village community park that could contain an indoor recreation center or indoor pool facility.

Natural & Open Space Areas Recommendations

Mount Horeb residents expressed the need for more natural recreation areas in 2006, 2014, and again in 2020. The Village should consider accepting any quality land donations for conservancy or natural and open space uses; however, these lands will not count toward the land dedication requirements in Chapter 8.

Special Use Parks and Facilities Recommendations

Existing Special Use facilities should be upgraded and expanded as population and demand increases. The Village should also explore new Special Use facilities (as suggested below) in the future as residents' recreation needs change.

Indoor Pool/Recreation Center

The Village of Mount Horeb Comprehensive Plan recommends conducting a feasibility study for a new community pool/recreation center. Confirming the relevance of this recommendation, survey respondents indicated an indoor recreational facility and pool as the most prioritized future facility needs in the community.

In the early 2010s, a subcommittee of Village and School District representatives was formed to discuss the economic feasibility of developing an indoor recreation center and pool. Broad plans were developed through the committee, but due to the significant cost associated with the facility, the pursuit of the project was not recommended to move forward at that time. It is recommended that the Village and School District continue to work together to explore potential options in the future, if alternative funding can be acquired.

Dog Park

The 2015 and 2020 survey revealed that many community members would like the option to use a dog park. In response to this high interest, the Village and Dane County have been exploring the development of a dog park. A potential site was identified in 2018 on existing Village utility owned land off of CTH JG, south of USH 18/151. However, there were significant challenges related to access of the site from a small connecting parcel to the east and private ownership of land blocking the optimal site access location. Additionally, potential issues exist between the potential dog park location and other nearby uses adjacent to the site. It was determined that the only way to make the identified site work was to continue to work with the private landowners to negotiate alternative access points. As of 2020, the Village was actively working with Dane County and the private landowners in the area to work out these issues in hopes of developing this area into a Village-owned dog park in the next 5 years.



It is recommended that the Village continue these efforts and work collaboratively with Dane County to come to a possible solution. If the issues are resolved, it is recommended that a new dog park be developed on this site with the features identified below.

What Makes a Great Dog Park?

Many communities all over the country have tackled the question of how to develop a dog park that best fits the needs of the population. While it is unlikely that it will be feasible to include every one of the following amenities in any given dog park, it is recommended that each of these attributes be considered in the development of any new dog park in the community.

- 20 acres in size
- Water source for both humans and dogs
- On-site parking
- Relatively flat land with some naturally shaded areas (or shade structure)
- Clearly posted guidelines and rules for the park users
- Designated walking path in addition to an open space area
- Separate small and large dog areas
- Benches, waste containers, and bag holders are dispersed throughout the park
- Perimeter fencing and double-gated entryway
- On-site restrooms
- Partnership with the Humane Society, nonprofit, private entity, or volunteer organization to help operate, maintain, and sustain the park long-term

Splash Park

Splash parks are becoming popular alternatives to community swimming pools because they are far less expensive to build and maintain, and because they are safer and do not require constant lifeguard supervision. Splash parks also function as interesting features of community civic spaces. The Village should consider adding a splash park to an existing or future Neighborhood or Community Park.

Other Unique Recreational Opportunities

Through the planning process, many unique additional recreational opportunities were identified. In the future development and upgrades of existing and new parks, it is recommended that the Village consider the following unique opportunities and partnerships:

- **Pickleball** is an increasingly popular recreational trend throughout the country. It is especially popular with older residents who are becoming a larger segment of the Village's population. There are many pickleball facilities, leagues, and groups already developed and established throughout Dane County. If an opportunity is presented to add this type of facility in an existing or future park, it is recommended that the Village strongly consider this facility. One way to accommodate new pickleball courts in the Village at a low cost would be to work with the School District to potentially provide access to existing tennis courts and paint pickleball lines on those courts.
- **Mountain bike trails** are another recreational trend that has emerged over the past 5-years. These types of trails usually take a large amount of land and a significant upfront investment to create, however the long-term maintenance is much lower. An example of an established mountain bike trail is in Middleton along the Black Earth Creek and Pleasant View Golf Course. While it may not make financial sense for the Village to develop this amenity within its boundaries, there are opportunities to partner with Dane County, the State, or nearby private companies to develop mountain bike trails in an existing nearby park or private land. In fact, Tyrol Basin, just north of the Village is considering developing mountain bike trails in the coming years. This could be an opportunity for the Village to explore a partnership in the future
- **Campgrounds** are available to Village residents nearby in both Brigham Park (Dane County-owned) and Blue Mound State Park (State-owned). While neither of these parks are located in Mount Horeb, they do offer this recreational amenity nearby. However, throughout the survey, it was identified that some Village residents would like the opportunity to camp in Village-owned parks. In the future, the Village could incorporate a campground in an existing or future park, or work with Dane County and the WisDNR to include programming or other opportunities at existing campgrounds in the area.

- **Beer gardens** have become very popular in many communities as a seasonal amenity that can be used to generate new revenue for the community. They do not take up a large amount of space and can utilize an existing shelter, parking lot, or open space area. Examples of beer gardens that have been successfully implemented in existing parks include a traveling beer garden throughout Milwaukee County and the annual beer garden at Olbrich Park in Madison.
- **Rock-climbing walls** are becoming more popular throughout Dane County. In recent years, a few privately operated indoor rock climbing walls have opened in the Madison area. Due to the unique terrain of Mount Horeb, and as part of a new park development, the Village could explore the opportunity to include an outdoor rock-climbing wall in the future.
- Providing more **winter activities** are always a challenge in Wisconsin because many recreational facilities function only during the summer months. However, due to Mount Horeb's location just south of Tyrol Basin, there are possible partnership opportunities to increase winter programming (snowboarding, skiing, and sledding) offered by the Village.

Proposed Paths and Trails

This Plan recommends several off-street paths and trail segments (both multi-use trails and rural paths) within the urban service area. These trails and paths are essential to linking existing and future neighborhoods to on-street bicycle routes, parks and environmental corridors, existing and future school sites, and the Military Ridge Trail.

Narrower "rural" trails with natural or gravel surfaces are appropriate for some sites within the Village. This type of trail is most appropriate for natural resource areas such as the Sugar River E-Way and other stream side environmental corridors. The Sugar River E-Way trail is planned for expansion to the southern boundary of the Village at the bypass. In addition, two trails similar to the Sugar River E-Way are planned to parallel the environmental corridors shown on Map 3.

Consistent with the Village's Comprehensive Plan, this Plan recommends a trail network connecting Hofstetter Conservation Park to the residential areas to the north, and to the Howard Himsel Park expansion area. In the northeastern portion of the Village, an off-street path is recommended within planned growth areas to link new residential developments with each other, the and the recommended new community and neighborhood parks.

Proposed On-Street Bicycle Routes

This Plan also recommends continuing to develop an on-street bike route system along existing and proposed Village streets, which reflects the objective of providing a system of marked bike routes within a two-minute ride of all Village residences. All proposed on-street bike routes should be signed and properly maintained. Maintaining on-street bike routes is relatively inexpensive and can be accomplished primarily by eliminating basic hazards to bike travel. These hazards include parallel drainage grates, rough at-grade railroad crossings, rumble strips, potholes, pavement seams, and gravel and debris along the curbside. Planning for on-street bicycle routes in the Village can be challenging given the steep topography. In addition to bike routes designated by signs, the Village should encourage designated bicycle lanes on major street corridors (with sufficient rights-of-way) with scheduled improvements, and on major travel routes in new development areas. On street bike routes are designated to provide connections between off-street bike routes, parks, schools, downtown, and existing and planned neighborhoods within the Village.



Additional Bike and Pedestrian Facility Recommendations

Generally, proposed trails and routes complement the existing bike route system and will help further connect the existing recreational facilities within the Village to new facilities outside the Village. The following recommendations provide opportunities that can help increase the interconnectedness of the bicycle and pedestrian facilities in Mount Horeb:

- Develop a Village-wide Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan to help guide the long-term expansion of facilities within the Village and region.
- Develop new bike routes and trails as depicted on Map 3.

- Develop online bike route and destination maps, as well as route pavement markings and directional signage throughout the Village.
- Increase maintenance and grooming of all bike trails and provide drinking water and restrooms where appropriate.
- Work with the State of Wisconsin on the development of future bicycle facilities along Highway 18/151.
- Work with Dane County to develop trails or routes to Stewart Lake Park, Bingham County Park, and Donald County Park.
- Work with Dane County to develop a multi-use trail that connects Stewart Lake Park to Boeck's Park.
- Explore existing easements and potential property acquisitions that have the potential to enhance the trail system.
- Explore a regional coalition of communities to develop a bike system to connect destinations throughout western Dane County and tap into recreation and tourism funding sources to support a regional system.
- Explore and extend "Safe Routes to School" opportunities to adjoin schools to each other, to neighborhoods, and to community parks.
- Provide pedestrian and bike routes or trails to connect parks to each other and to the Military Ridge State Trail.
- Connect the Village bike system by identifying missing links, long-term right of way extensions, property acquisitions, or development/redevelopment coordination.
- Identify and expand opportunities for bicycle parking within the downtown area.
- Identify opportunities for bicycle rental or bike-share in support of recreational or tourist cycling.
- Explore logical locations for future trailheads, with parking, that provide accessibility to local and regional trail systems.

Ensure Intergovernmental Cooperation in Planning for New, Expanded, or Improved Facilities

The Village has several opportunities to cooperate with other units of government in planning for park and outdoor recreation facilities over the planning period. These opportunities include the following:

- Work with the WisDNR on ongoing maintenance, safety, and improvements to the Military Ridge Trail Corridor. This could include additional surfacing, lighting, connections, buffering, acquisition of land adjacent to the corridor, etc.
- Work with the WisDNR on coordinating park, open space and environmental corridor protection and use activities.
- Work with the WisDNR on methods to protect water quality.
- Work with Dane County on ongoing maintenance of Stewart Lake County Park, cross-country ski trails, and any potential park expansion areas.
- Work with the Mount Horeb School District to determine ways to work together to provide needed park and recreational facilities.
- Continue to participate in regional park, open space and regional trail and bike route planning efforts, particularly when Dane County updates its Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan or the when the MPO updates its Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

Other Recommendations for the Overall Park and Open Space System

In addition to the recommendations above for the development and/or acquisition of new park sites in the Village, the following are recommendations for enhancing and maintaining the existing park and open space system:

- Along with school officials responsible for providing recreational space in Mount Horeb, place a continued emphasis on the provision of areas and facilities that support recreational activities for all ages and abilities, rather than facilities geared only toward team sports or certain age groups.
- Continue to support volunteer groups and donated materials to the greatest extent possible to develop and maintain the park and open space system. Utilization of volunteer labor is generally most successful where a single tangible project is involved, such as tree planting, construction of a facility, or a one-day clean up and beautification project.
- Promote formation of a "Friends of Mount Horeb Parks" group to provide volunteer labor and park maintenance. Encourage facility-specific sub-groups where needed and appropriate.
- Work with private residential developers to ensure the timely installation of any recreational facilities agreed upon between the developer and the Village.
- Work with the Tourism Committee and Community Development Authority (CDA) to better inform residents and tourist of the park and recreation facilities in the community, in addition to connecting the Village's tourism initiatives, especially downtown, with the many park and recreation opportunities Mount Horeb has to offer.

Village of Mount Horeb 2020 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

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MOUNT HOREB

Map 3: Future Park Facilities

-  Planned Community Park
-  Planned Neighborhood Park
-  Existing On-Street Bike Routes
-  Future On-Street Bike Routes
-  Future Off-Road Trail
-  Potential New Park or Open Space
-  Future Village Growth Areas
-  Proposed Future Roads

Mount Horeb Parks and Schools

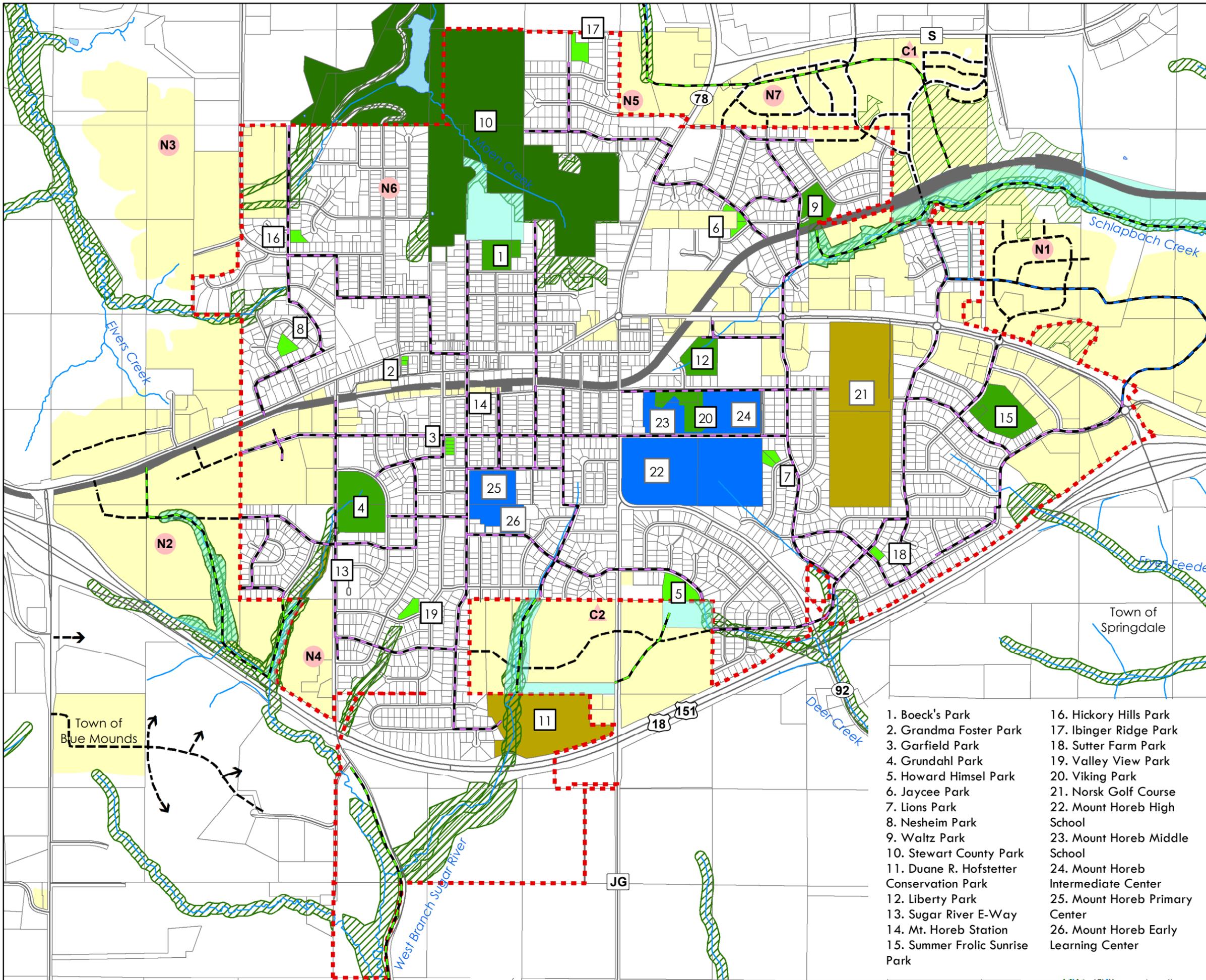
-  Neighborhood Park
-  Community Park
-  Regional Park
-  Special Use Facility
-  Multi-use Trail
-  School

-  Village of Mount Horeb
-  Roads
-  Parcels
-  Lakes and Ponds
-  Rivers and Streams
-  Environmental Corridor

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Date: 4/22/20
Source: CARPC, Dane County LIO, WI DNR
Precise locations of future parks will be determined through detailed planning at the time these areas are developed.

VANDEWALLE & ASSOCIATES INC.
Shaping places. shaping change.



- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Boeck's Park | 16. Hickory Hills Park |
| 2. Grandma Foster Park | 17. Ibinger Ridge Park |
| 3. Garfield Park | 18. Sutter Farm Park |
| 4. Grundahl Park | 19. Valley View Park |
| 5. Howard Himsel Park | 20. Viking Park |
| 6. Jaycee Park | 21. Norsk Golf Course |
| 7. Lions Park | 22. Mount Horeb High School |
| 8. Nesheim Park | 23. Mount Horeb Middle School |
| 9. Waltz Park | 24. Mount Horeb Intermediate Center |
| 10. Stewart County Park | 25. Mount Horeb Primary Center |
| 11. Duane R. Hofstetter Conservation Park | 26. Mount Horeb Early Learning Center |

8

ESTIMATED COST PROJECTIONS FOR FUTURE FACILITIES



Chapter 8: Estimated Cost Projections for Future Facilities

This chapter contains detailed capital cost estimates for providing the new park and recreational facilities recommended in Chapter 7. It is intended to assist the Village with the budgeting and planning for future parks and to satisfy §66.0617 and 236.29 of the Wisconsin Statutes regarding fee collection. However, the adoption of this Plan does not commit the Village of Mount Horeb to collecting these fees through an impact fee ordinance.

Estimated Cost Projections for Future Park and Recreation Facilities

Based on a projected growth of 1,041 persons by the year 2030, applied to the Village standard of 10 acres of parkland per 1,000 persons (for neighborhood and community parks), the Village should plan to spend a minimum of \$343,530 in 2020 dollars for park land acquisition. Assuming the addition of 704 households, a fee-in-lieu of land dedication of \$488 per new household would meet this demand. The alternative dedication of 644 square feet per household would satisfy this requirement, if land dedication were preferred. However, land dedication per this provision must be suitable for the development of a neighborhood or community park. The Village will continue to accept conservancy areas as donations to the park system; but these lands will not count toward this land dedication requirement. The process for arriving at these calculations is described in detail below. To note, the total parkland acquisition figure increased comparatively to the 2015 Plan because of a larger population projection increase, while the fee-in-lieu figure decreased from previous plans because of the projected decrease in household size and increase in the total number of households projected.

FIGURE 8.1: PROJECTED PARKLAND DEDICATION AND FEE-IN-LIEU OF LAND DEDICATION

Calculation	Value	
A	Projected Population Growth in 2030	1,041 residents
B	Projected Household Growth in 2030	704 households
C	Additional Acres Needed per 1,000 Residents (Row A/1000*10)	10.4 acres
D	Land Dedication Requirement per HH (Row C/Row B)	0.0148
E	Land Cost Per Acre (average cost per acre listed)	\$30,000
F	Projected Cost of land acquisition (Row C + Row G)	\$312,300
G	Legal, Engineering, and Design Costs (Row F*10%)	\$31,230
H	Total land acquisition costs (Row F + Row G)	\$343,530
I	Fee-in-lieu of land dedication per household (Row H/Row B)	\$488
J	Land Dedication per Household (Row D*43,560)	644 square feet

Estimated Cost Projections for Future Playground Improvements

Each park type should have a minimum amount of playground equipment and opportunities available. The cost of certain playground equipment varies with the age range of the intended users and the park type. Equipment in neighborhood parks is intended for younger children and the equipment available in larger parks should accommodate a wider age range of children. However, state law currently restricts the type of park improvements for which a community may collect impact fees. Figure 8.2 outlines the collectable playground costs associated with each future park type in Mount Horeb.

FIGURE 8.2: PROJECTED IMPROVEMENTS BY PARK TYPE

	Neighborhood	Community
Total Cost of Play Equipment	\$578,000 (1)	\$2,587,000 (1)
Pavilion with Restrooms	-	\$500,000 (1)
Open Air Shelter	\$25,000 (1)	
Bike Trailhead Kiosk	\$5,000 (1)	\$5,000 (1)
Playground	\$75,000 (Small)	\$150,000 (Large)
Seating/Picnic/Rest Area	\$5,000 (Small)	\$15,000 (Large)
Basketball Court	\$60,000 (1)	\$120,000 (2)
Tennis Court		\$150,000 (2)
Pickleball Court	\$40,000 (1)	\$80,000 (2)
Little League Baseball Field		\$200,000 (1)
Full Sized Soccer/Play Field (without lights or nets)	\$100,000 (1)	\$400,000 (4)
Sidewalks and Bike/Walking Path	\$100,000 (1)	\$300,000 (1)
Signage	\$5,000 (1)	\$15,000 (1)
Miscellaneous Landscaping and Lighting	\$10,000 (1)	\$40,000 (1)
Turf Fields	\$60,000 (3)	\$240,000 (12)
Site Work	\$75,000 (5 facilities)	\$300,000 (20 facilities)
Parking Lot	\$18,000 (12 stalls)	\$72,000 (48 stalls)
Typical Park Size	5 acres	20 acres
Total Playground Costs per Acre	\$115,600	\$129,350
Adjacent Road and Utility Improvements Costs Per Acre	\$37,335	\$16,697
Average Improvement Cost Per Acre	\$152,935	\$146,047
Acres per 1,000 Residents	2.0	8.0
Percent of Total Acres per 1000 Residents	20%	80%
Average Improvement Cost Per Acre (weighted)		\$147,425

Figure 8.3 indicates that a cost of \$2,180 per household would be required to cover the costs associated with playground improvements. This figure doubled from the 2015 version of this Plan because more in-depth figures were used based on real park bids associated with park development in Dane County and the rapidly rising cost of steel, concrete, and asphalt.

FIGURE 8.3: PROJECTED RECREATION FACILITIES FEE

Calculation	Value
A Projected Additional Population in 2030 (individuals)	1,041
B Projected Additional Dwelling Units in 2030 (dwelling units)	704
C Calculated Additional Acres Needed ((Row A/1000)*10)	10.41
D Average Park Playground Improvement Cost per Acre Estimate (Row M from Figure 8.2)	\$147,425
E Projected Cost of Playground Improvements (Row C*Row D)	\$1,534,689
F Calculated Playground Improvement Cost per Dwelling Unit (Row E/Row B)	\$2,180

Total Impact Fee

In Mount Horeb, impact fees should be imposed on each new household unilaterally. By using the fees calculated in Figures 8.1, 8.2, and 8.3 above for park lands and playground improvements, the total park fee per household identified is \$2,668.

In instances where development has dedicated lands, it will only be necessary to collect the playground improvement costs and the collected fee will be \$2,180 per household. However, were land dedication does not take place, the total identified impact fee for the Village of Mount Horeb is \$2,668 per dwelling unit. In either instance, this requirement represents approximately one percent of the cost of a newly constructed dwelling unit in the Village.

In general, parks should provide both active and passive features in one area. Therefore, where possible, neighborhood parks with intense recreational activity should be located near environmental corridors (which ultimately may carry trail facilities). More care is required in the design of regional and community-wide facilities due to the need for parking lots, lit athletic fields, and courts. For such parks, extensive on-site landscaping and berming may be desired to mitigate adverse traffic, sound, and lighting impacts.

It is identified that the Village require parkland dedication requirements that would fully supply the recreation demands of the Village's growing population. In addition to a land dedication or fee-in-lieu amount, many communities are also now requiring the payment of a parkland improvement fee. The use of parkland dedication (or fees-in-lieu of dedication) and a parkland improvement fee, if used, should provide for the cost-effective expansion of the Village's park and recreation system as new growth requires new facilities.

FIGURE 8.4 TOTAL IDENTIFIED IMPACT FEES

	Traditional Residential Dwelling Unit
Identified Land Dedication	644 square feet
Identified Fee in Lieu of Land	\$488
Identified Improvement Fee	\$2,180
Identified Total Fee	\$2,668

9

IMPACT ON LOW-INCOME HOUSING



Chapter 9: Impact on Low-Income Housing

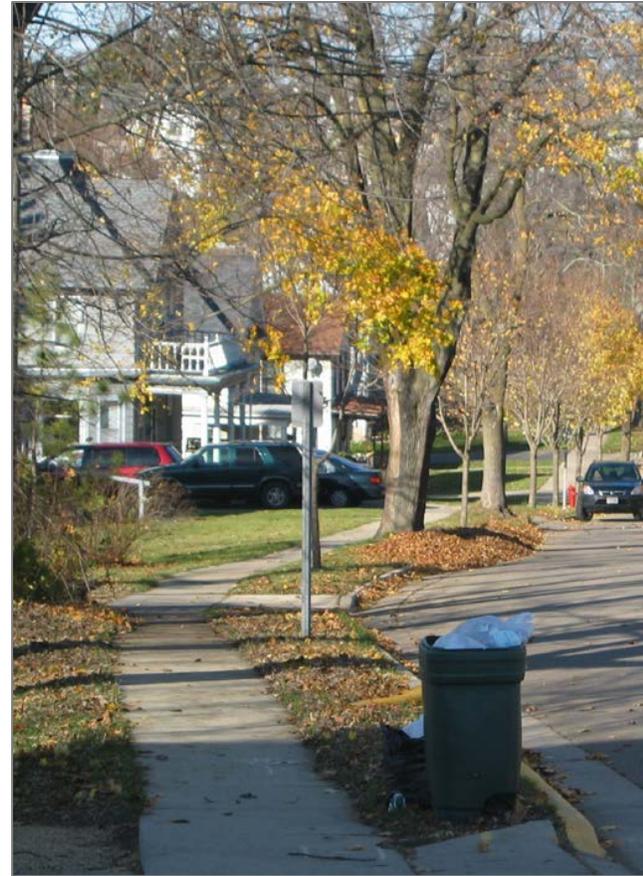
As part of the public facilities needs assessment, Wisconsin Statutes 66.0617(4)(a)(3) requires estimating the effect of imposing park impact fees on the availability of affordable housing within the municipality. For this type of analysis, it is first assumed that housing in the Village of Mount Horeb is affordable if:

- Costs of the monthly mortgage payment are no more than 30 percent of a household's adjusted gross income
- Homeowners borrow no more than 2½ times the Village of Mount Horeb's median household income for a home mortgage (which in 2018 was \$73,316,646 according to 2013-2018 American Community Survey data)
- Homeowners would make a minimum down payment of 5 percent of the total home cost

Based on these assumptions, if someone is spending 2½ times the Village population's median household income for a home mortgage (\$183,290), and making a 5 percent down payment, then an affordable house in the Village of Mount Horeb costs approximately \$192,455 (according to U.S. Census 2018 data, the median value of an owner-occupied housing unit in the Village of Mount Horeb is \$247,600.) Assuming a typical single-family detached housing price of \$192,455, a 5 percent down payment, a 30-year mortgage at an interest rate of 5 percent, and a mortgage amount of \$183,290, the typical monthly mortgage payment is \$983.94.

The Village's imposed fees for parkland acquisition and park improvements would be an integral part of the housing unit mortgage amount. When adding this Plan's identified park impact fee of \$2,668, the monthly mortgage amount for the typical single-family detached home would increase to \$185,958. Assuming the same 30-year mortgage at an interest rate of 5 percent, the monthly mortgage payment would increase to \$988.26 per month. This increase in monthly mortgage payments due to the imposition of the identified park impact fee is \$14.32 per month, or a 1.5 percent increase.

Therefore, using the assumptions for a typical single-family home in the Village of Mount Horeb, the recommended park impact fee will have a minimal effect on the provision of affordable housing in the Village of Mount Horeb.



10 IMPLEMENTATION



Chapter 10: Implementation

The recommended improvements to Mount Horeb’s park and open space system described in this Plan will be implemented over time. This phasing will be dictated, in part, by private landowner decisions to develop their property for residential use, by the funding available to the Village to make necessary acquisitions or improvements, or by the Village’s capacity to properly maintain the parks.

There are a number of potential funding sources available to help finance implementation, including state and federal grant programs. These funding sources are included in Appendix D. It should be noted that funds from many of these grant programs are subject to change due to fluctuations in federal, state, and local budgets.

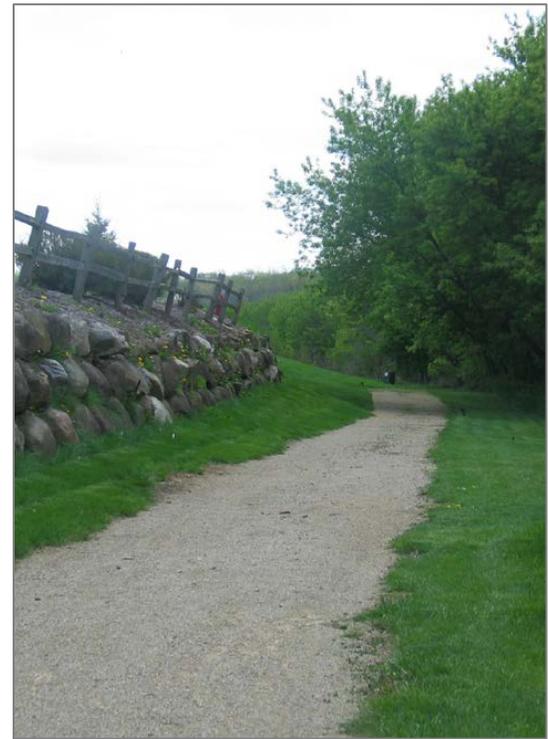
Funding/Financing Needs Assessment and Capital Improvements Programming

The park and open space improvements recommended in this Plan should continue to be incorporated into the Village’s capital improvement plan and programming. The Village has successfully maintained and improved its existing park and open space system and facilities by outlining the general schedule within which public improvements are proposed to be undertaken. The CIP has a proven track record in leveraging available resources through improved timing of projects and coordinating Village projects with those of other public or private entities. The capital cost associated with the recommendations of this Plan are found in Chapter 8. Overall, it is recommended that the Village review and evaluate this Plan during the annual CIP and budget cycle to proactively work towards planning for, developing, and implementing the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan’s recommendations over the next 5 years.

An additional funding resource the Village should continue to utilize is Park Impact Fees imposed on new residential development. Figure 8.4 outlines what the Village’s land dedication and improvement fees should be in order to provide adequate new parkland and amenities to serve the population of the Village as it continues to grow and evolve. Park Impact Fees should be reviewed and updated regularly.

Grant Funding

As stated above, this plan update was prepared in accordance with guidelines outlined by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to qualify the Village for grant funds through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON), the State Acquisition and Development of Local Parks Program (ADLP), and the State of Wisconsin Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. This Plan must be updated every five years to ensure that it reflects the current needs of Mount Horeb and retains WisDNR certification. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Grant Program is the best opportunity to apply for matching grant funds to develop new parks. The federal Recreational Trails Act program is the best opportunity to apply for matching grant funds to develop the proposed off-street paths and trails throughout the Village. Federal funds from programs such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund and Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) may also provide funding that is applicable to parks, however, funding is subject to change due to uncertainties with federal and state budgets. A listing of available grant programs funds is located in Appendix D.



Community Coordination

The Village should also coordinate efforts with other units of government (e.g., Towns of Springdale and Blue Mounds, Dane County), governmental departments and public agencies (e.g., Mount Horeb School District, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources) and private and non-profit organizations to help fund and implement the recommendations as listed in Chapter 8.

Planning

Additionally, the Village should review and update its Official Map regularly and Comprehensive Plan every 10-years to assure their appropriateness for acquiring and developing the recommended new park and open space facilities. The Official Map and Comprehensive Plan should identify existing and future parks and trails and ensure that as land in the community is designed for development in the platting process, these facilities are incorporated into the design of subdivisions and site plans. Generally, the Village should utilize its existing planning framework and regulations to implement this Plan.

A PPENDICES



- Appendix A: Mount Horeb Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Survey Results
- Appendix B: Park Improvement Fee Calculations
- Appendix C: Potential Funding Sources
- Appendix D: Parkland Evaluation Tool

Appendices

Appendix A: Mount Horeb Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Public Input Results

Appendix B: Park Improvement Fee Calculations

Appendix C: Potential Funding Sources

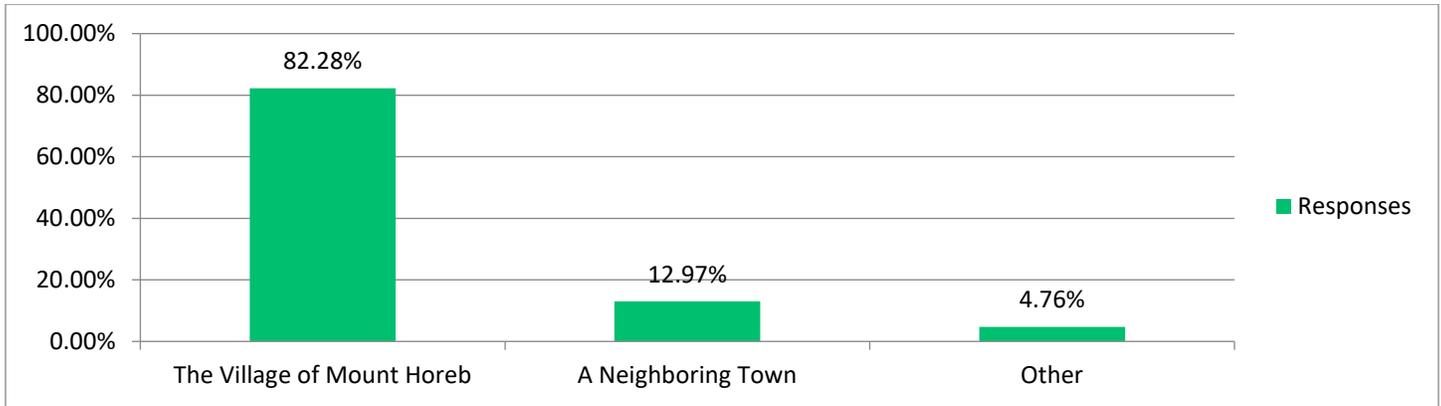
Appendix D: Parkland Evaluation Tool

Appendix A: Mount Horeb Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Public Input Results

The Village of Mount Horeb conducted an online survey via Survey Monkey from April 10, 2020 to May 8, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only online surveys were provided and collected. In total, 694 people responded. The 2020 survey mirrored the survey used in the 2015 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan to provide perspective on how opinions might have changed over the past 5 years. The 2020 survey had over two and a half times as many responses compared to the 2015 survey.

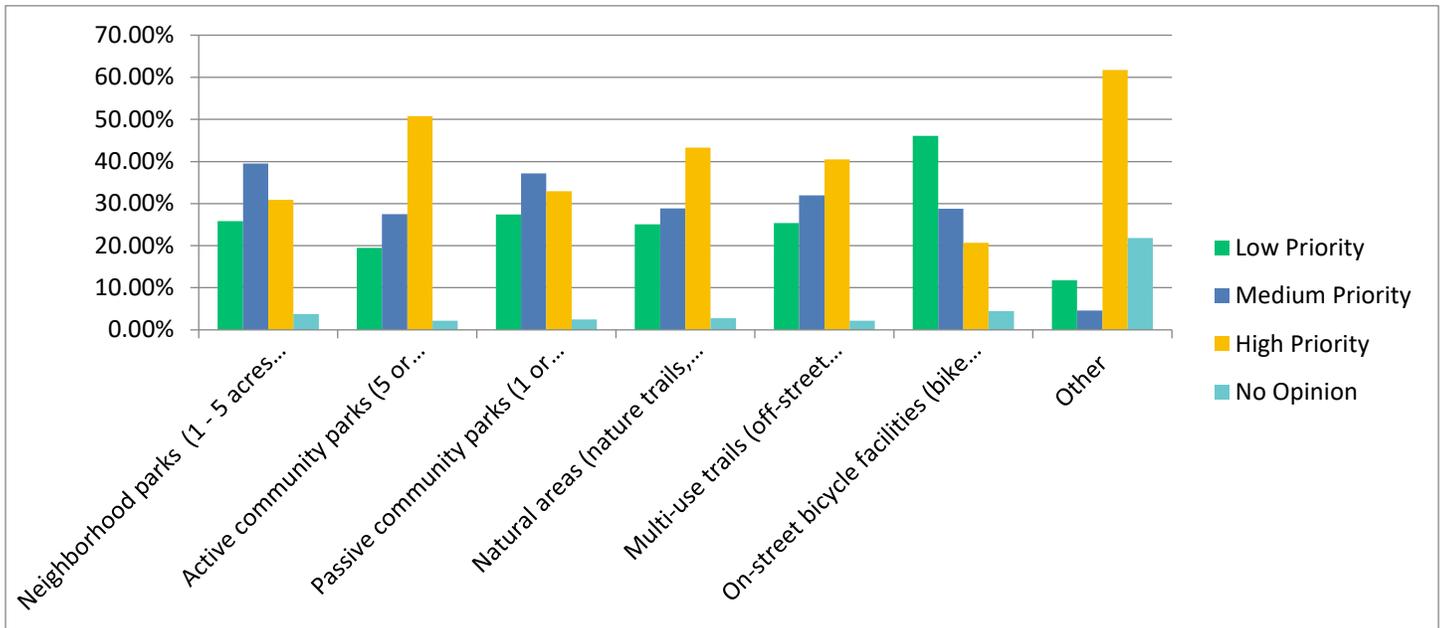
The results of the survey, along with the other public input generated during the process, were used to form the core recommendations of the Plan. The following is a summary of all responses received. In many cases, percentages total to more than 100 percent, as respondents were allowed to select more than one response. Additionally, comments written-in were summarized.

Question 1: Are you a resident of: (select the choice that best describes you)



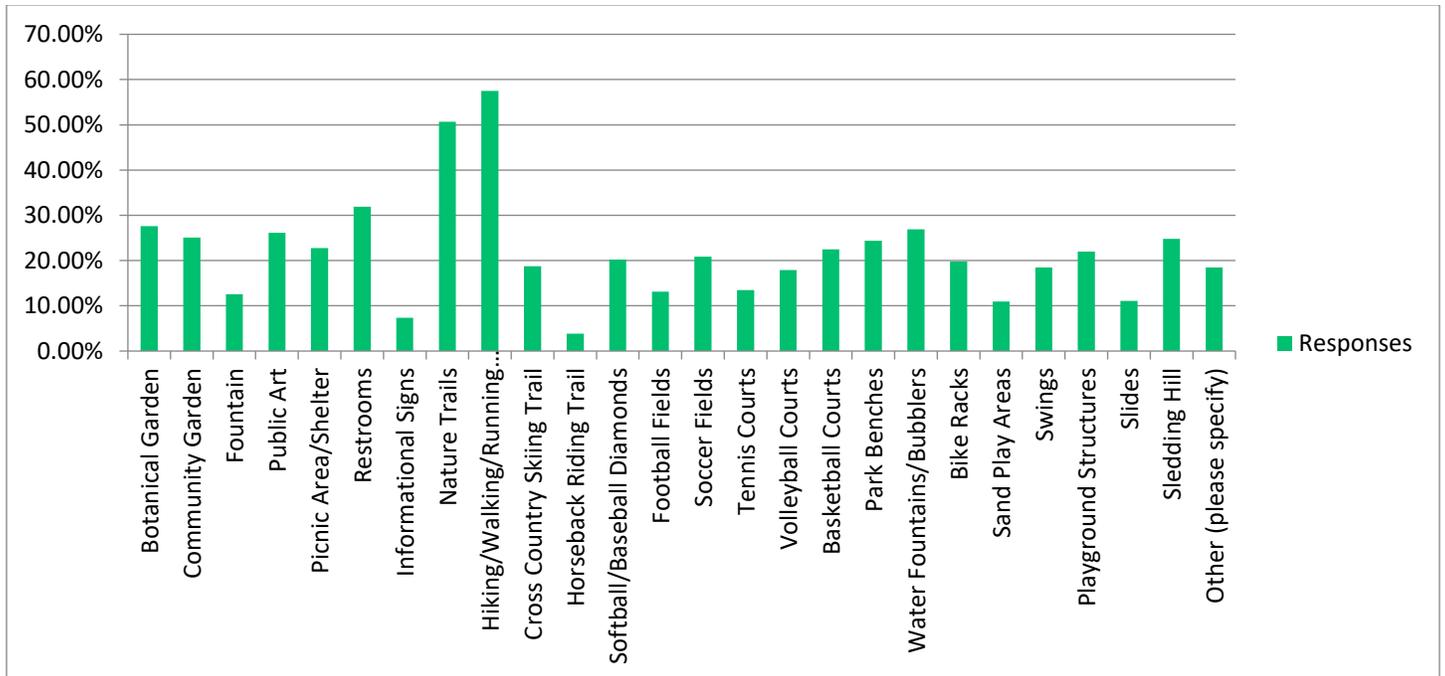
Others (113 comments): Mostly neighboring townships and cities.

Question 2: Which of the following types of large-scale park and recreational facilities would you like to see more of in the Village? For each category below, indicate the level of priority for new Village facilities.



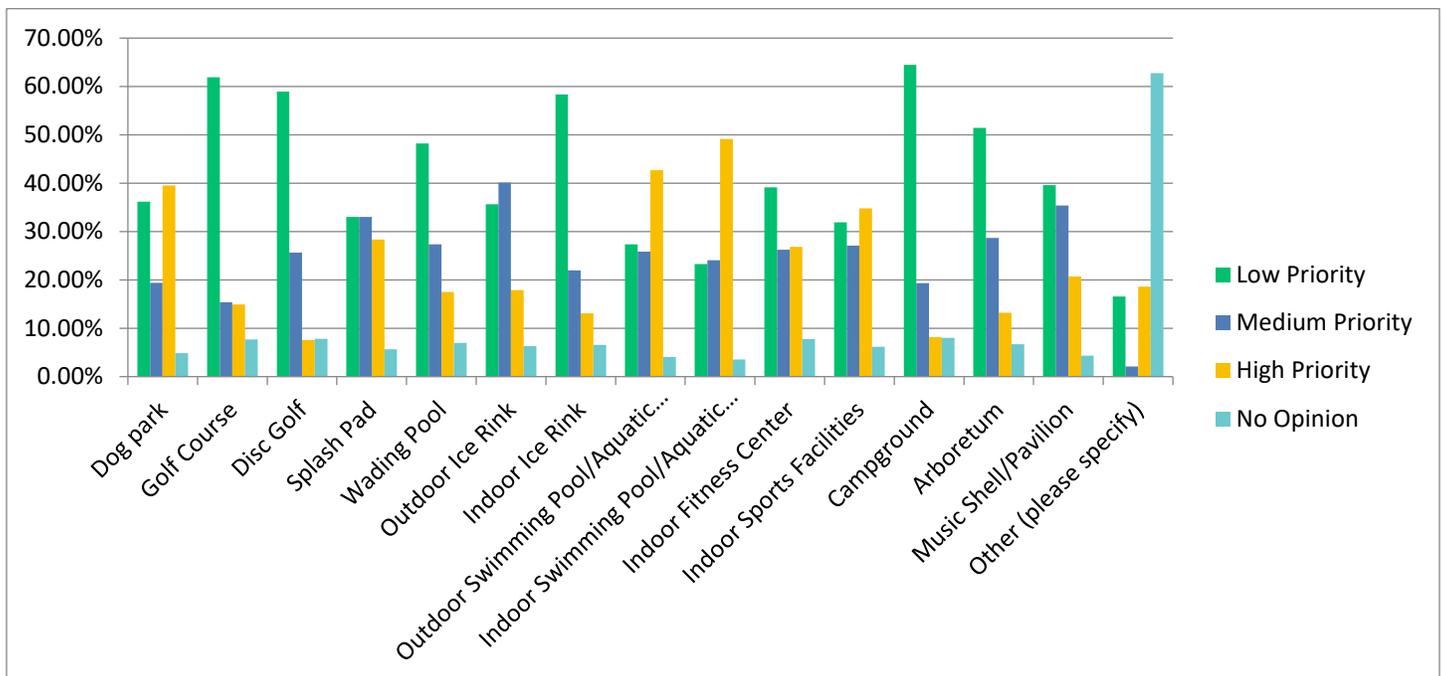
Others (182 comments): Over half of the responses were for a dog park (104) and the others were for indoor recreational facility, indoor/outdoor pool, and playfields

Question 3: Which of the following types of smaller-scale park and recreation facilities would you like to see more of in the Village? (Check all that apply)



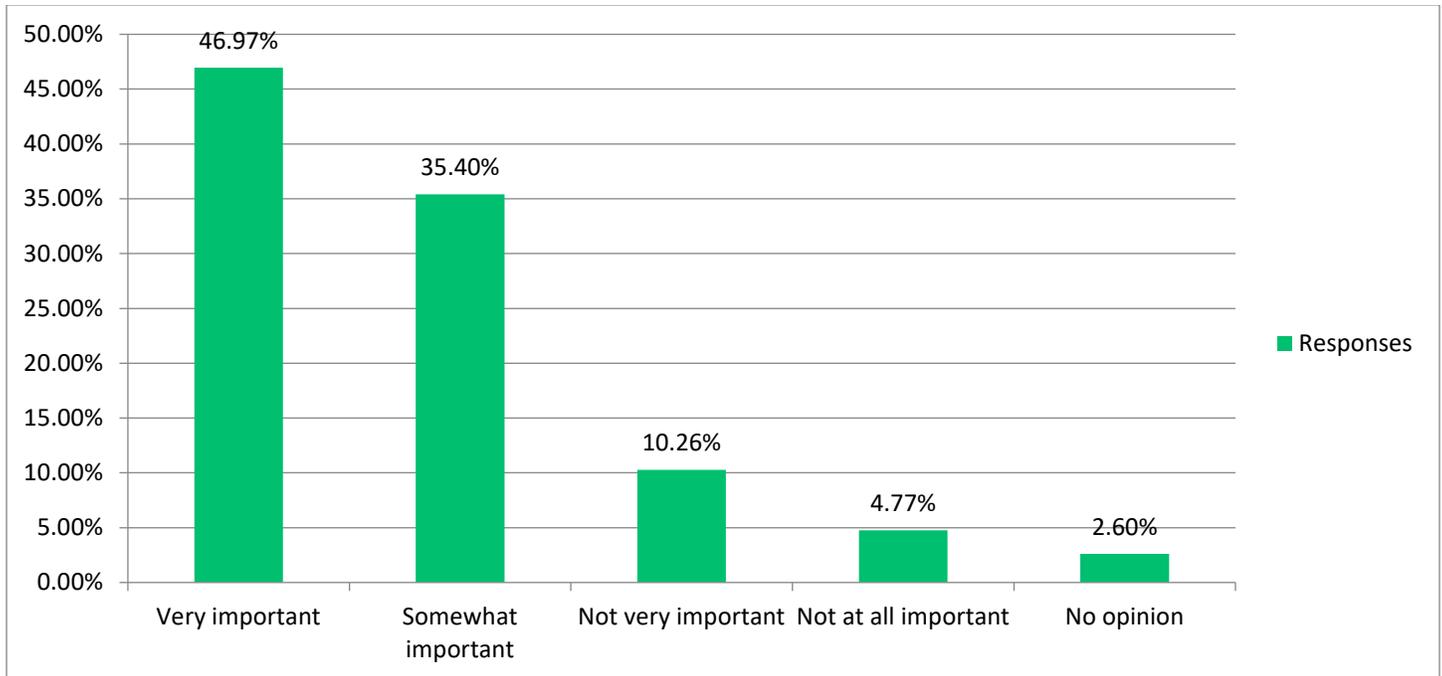
Others (125 comments): Nearly half wanted to see a new dog park and the others were for an indoor/outdoor pool, mountain bike trails, pickleball, and splashpads

Question 4: Which of the following types of specialized recreational facilities would you like to see more of in the Village? Please answer for all of the options listed below.

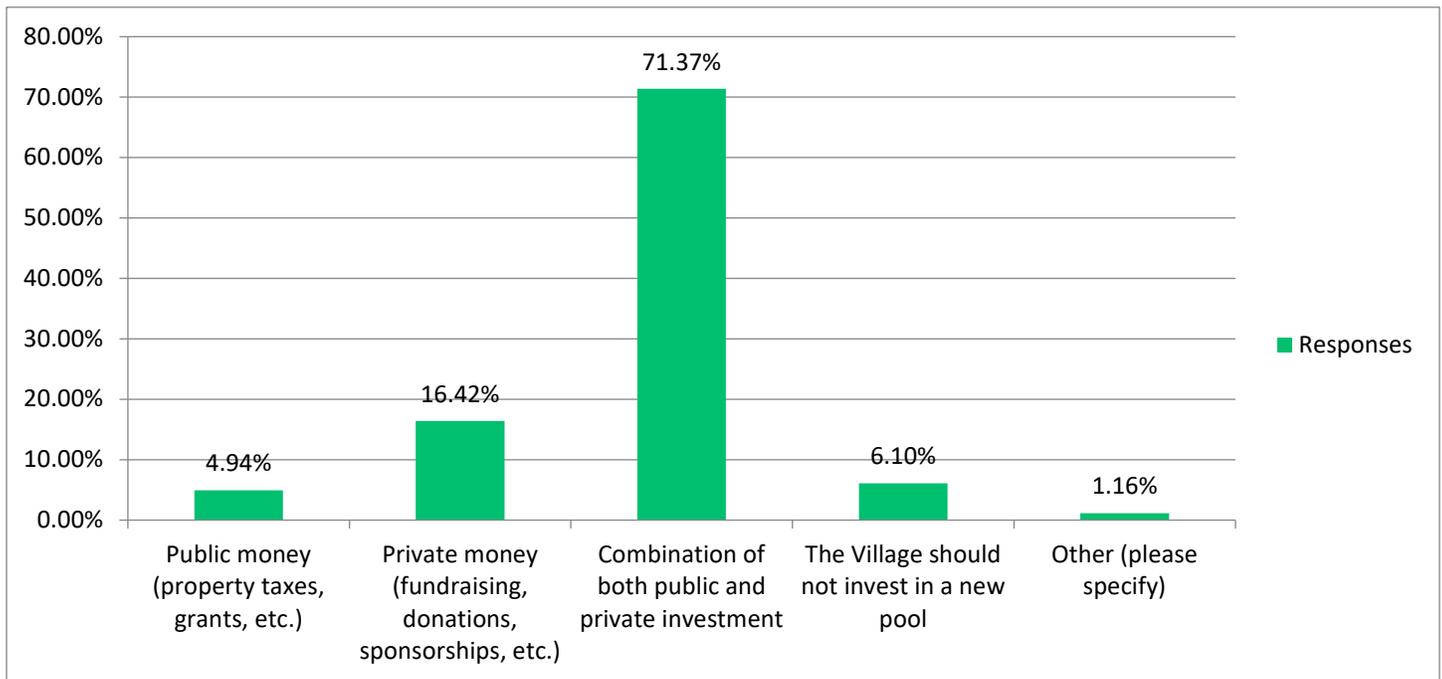


Others (43 comments): most were for mountain biking trails, indoor sports complex, and pickleball courts.

Question 5: How important is it for the Village to invest in a new main swimming pool at the Mount Horeb Family Aquatic Center over the next 5-10 years? The existing main pool is 64 years old.

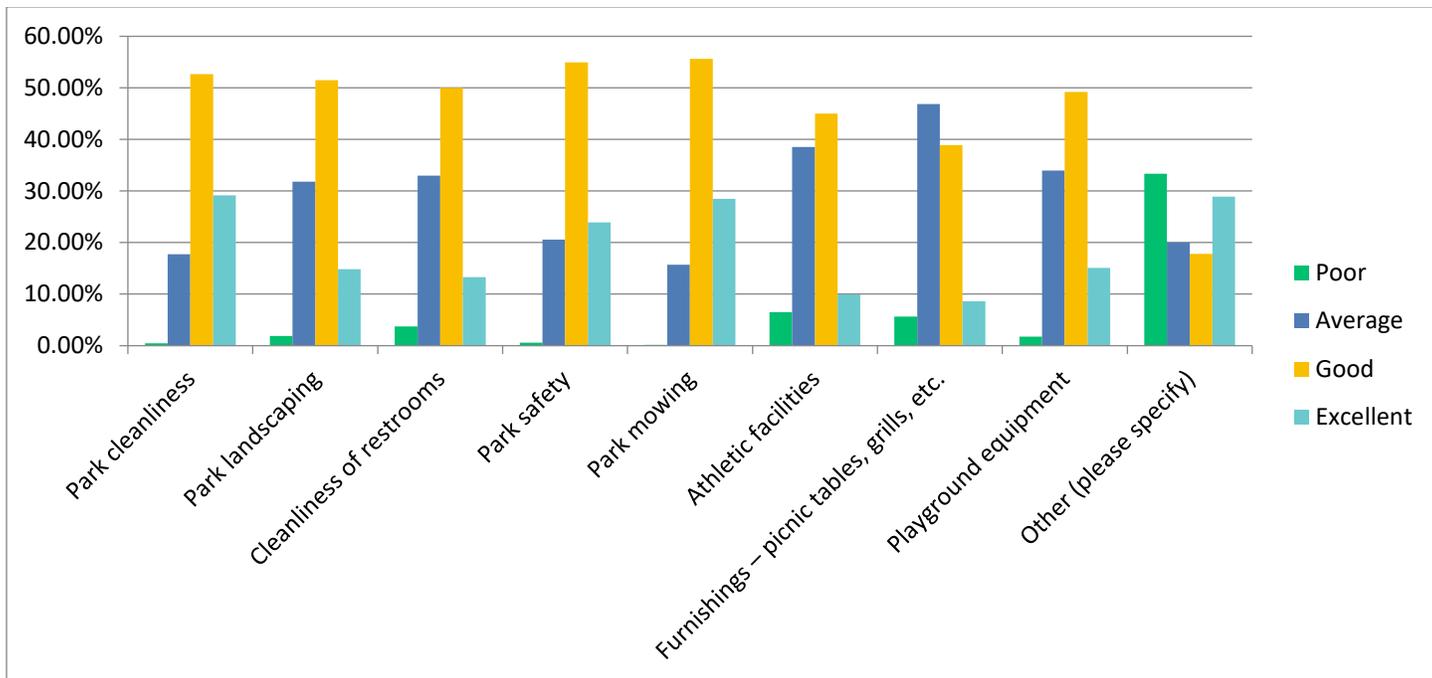


Question 6: If the Village chose to invest in a new main pool for the Mount Horeb Family Aquatic Center over the next 5-10 years, how should the Village fund the new pool?



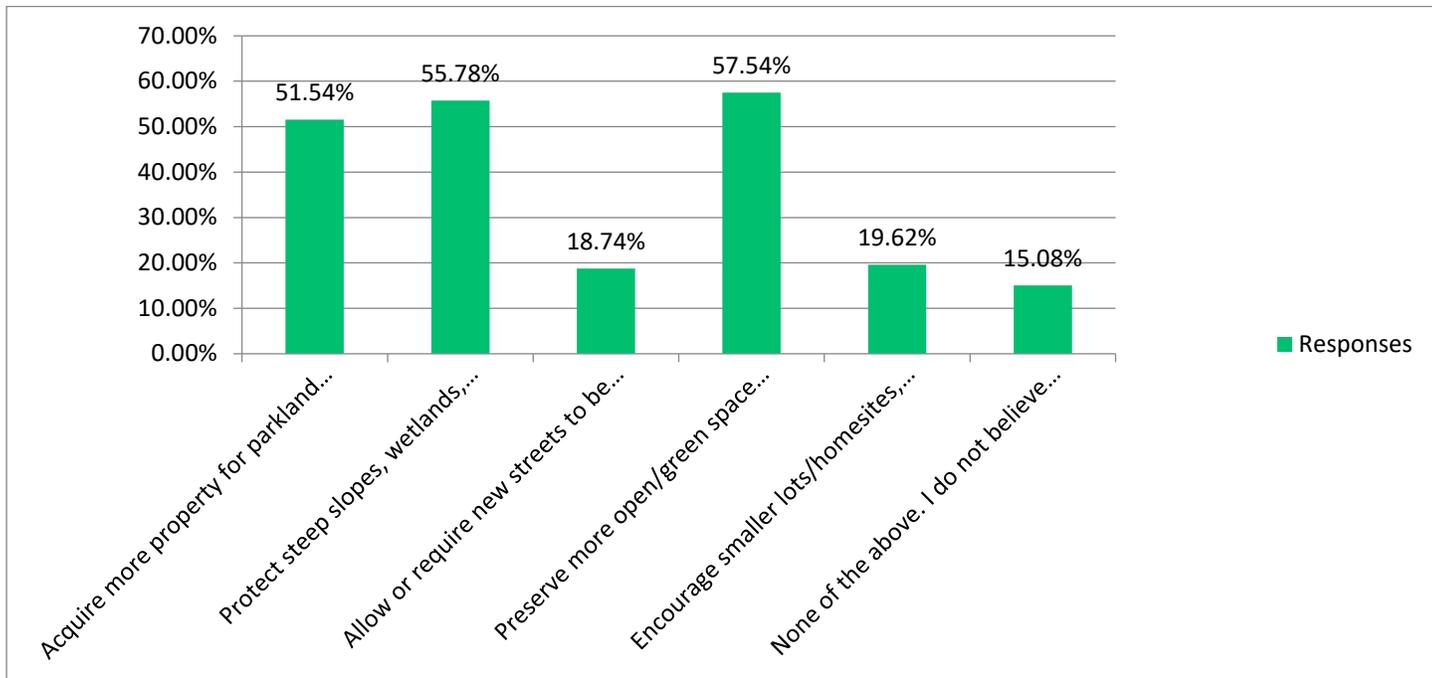
Others (8 comments): most focused on increasing the availability of use of the existing pool and if investing in a pool, it should be indoor

Question 7: How would you rate the following characteristics of the Village's park system? Please answer for each of the categories listed below.

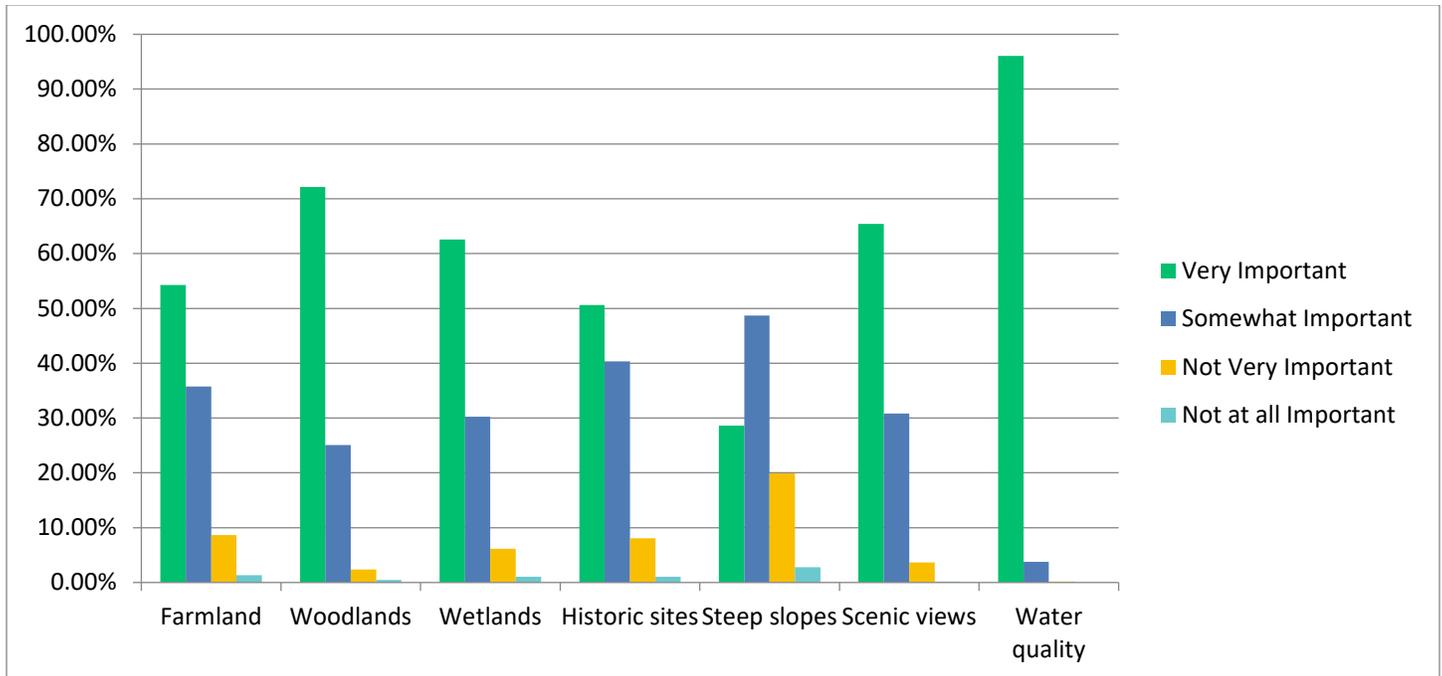


Others (32 comments): most focused on the Village doing a good job maintaining the parks, some bathroom upgrades needed, and didn't like the use of chemicals to maintain the parks

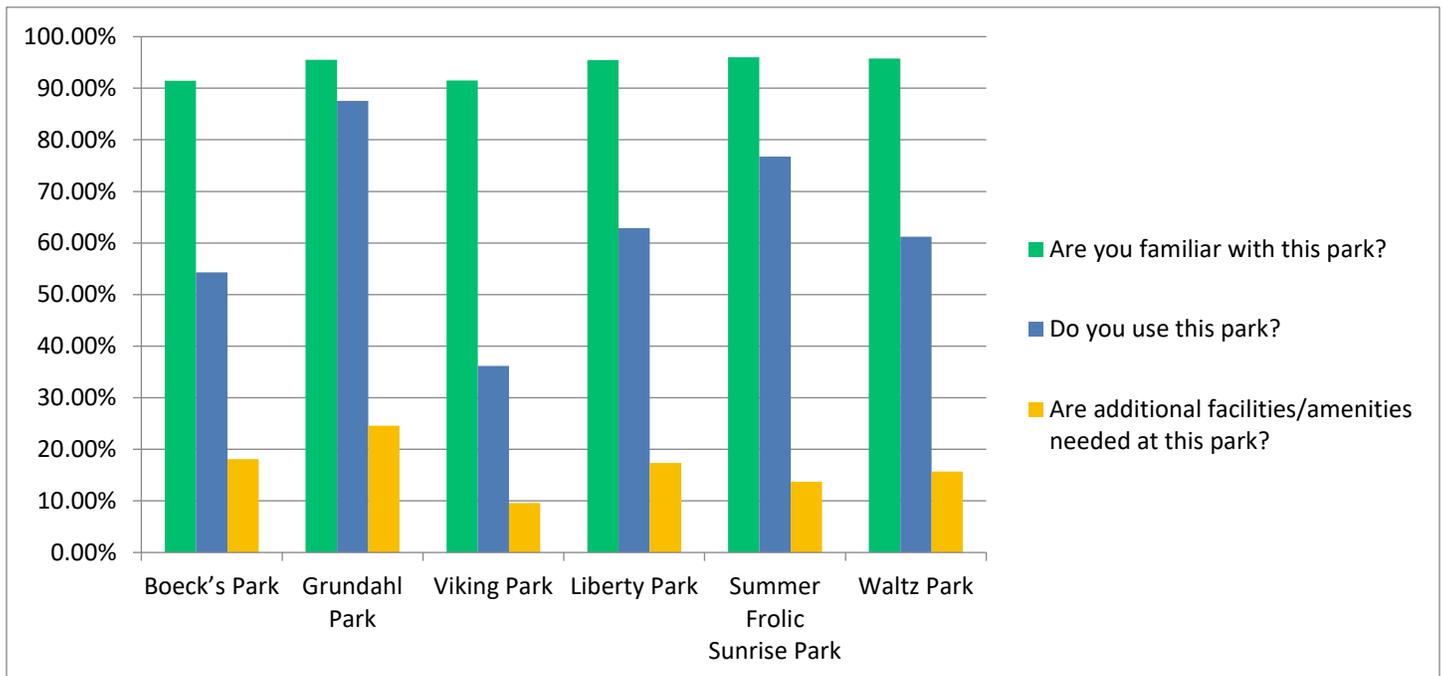
Question 8: The Village's natural and recreational resources and areas play a key role in defining community character. Of the following actions listed, which do you think the Village should consider to maintain or enhance its natural and recreational resources? (check all that apply)



Question 9: Please indicate how important the preservation of the following features is for the future of the Mount Horeb area, in your opinion.



Question 10: Please specify your familiarity and use of each of the Community Parks listed below. Check the box below the question if your answer is yes.

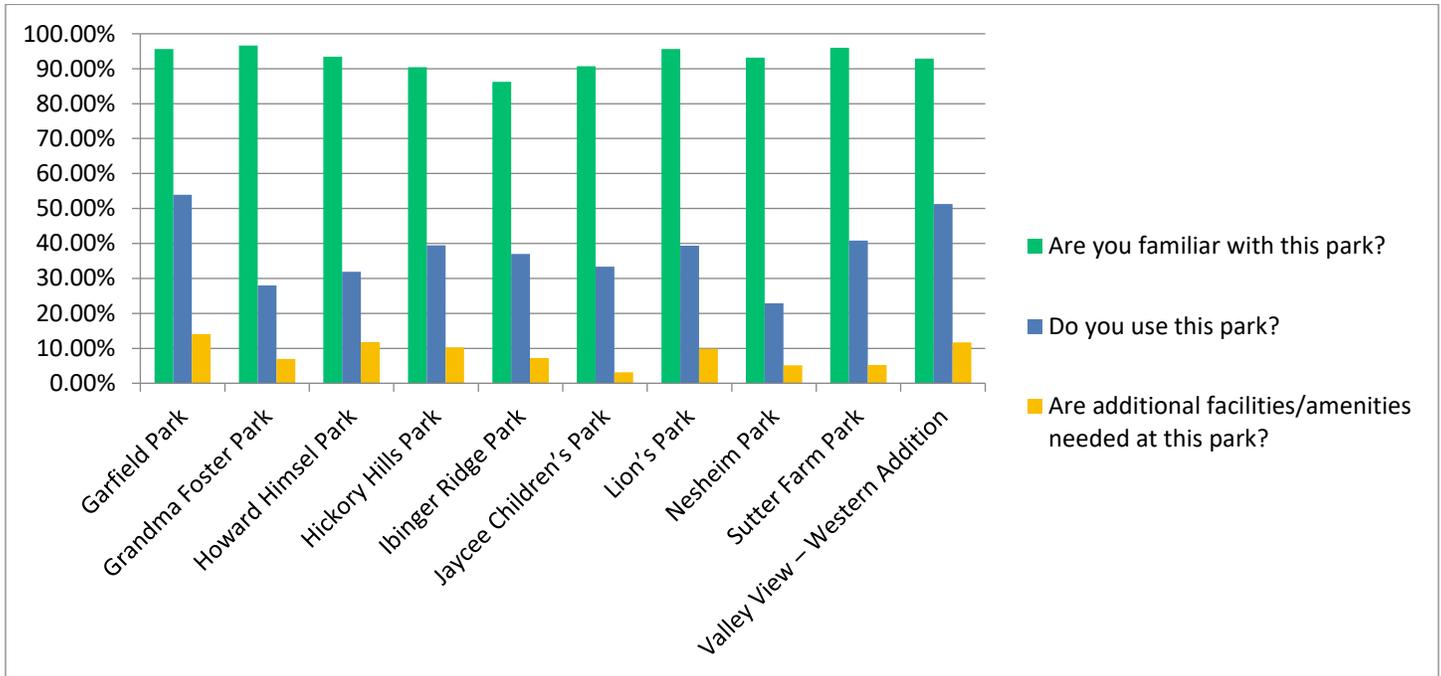


Additional Facilities Needed (159 total comments):

- **All parks/no park specified:** more trees/shade and benches, perimeter lights, basketball hoop/court, splashpad, playground improvements, natural prairie, walking/hiking trails, mountain bike trails, bandshell, batting cages, playfields, baseball fields, lighted fields, upgraded bathrooms (open year round), expand skatepark, need defibrillators, volleyball courts, community gardens, more garbage and recycling containers, more water fountains, pool upgrades or indoor pool, sidewalks
- **Boeck's Park:** swings, seating, pool improvements, infrastructure upgrades, campground, more parking

- **Grundahl Park:** bouldering wall, fire pits, concrete ping pong table, playfield, security/trash cleanup, concession stand, new bathrooms, amphitheater, power in shelter, upgrade shelter, volleyball courts, outdoor theater/bandshell, pickleball courts
- **Viking Park:** lighting, walkways
- **Liberty Park:** new playground equipment, garden, fix drainage issues, adult swing set, stadium seating, more parking, lighted fields, dog bag dispenser, formal sledding area, expand parkland,
- **Summer Frolic Sunrise Park:** beer garden, fix drainage issues, lighted fields, dog bad dispenser, frisbee golf, expand parkland
- **Waltz Park:** playfield, more parking, lights, dugouts, benches, upgrade equipment, shelter, restrooms, frisbee golf

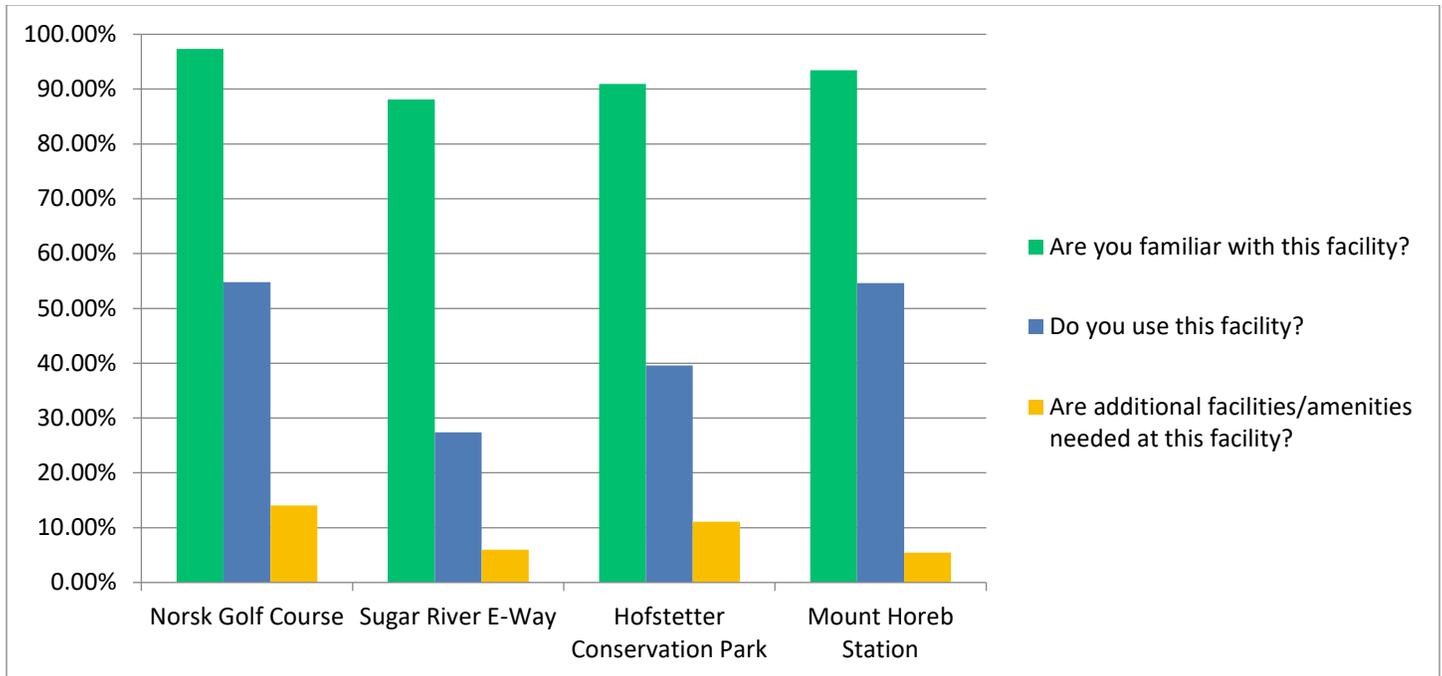
Question 11: Please specify your familiarity and use of each of the Neighborhood Parks/Facilities listed below. Check the box below the question if your answer is yes.



Additional Facilities Needed (90 total comments):

- **All parks/no park specified:** new amenities for all ages, bathrooms, water fountains, basketball hoops/courts, community gardens, playground equipment upgrades, emergency services, dog park and waste containers, grills, picnic areas, music stage, more playfields, trees/shade,
- **Garfield Park:** restroom, shelter, beginner bars for kids, benches, dog waste container, fireplace replacement, upgrade the warming house
- **Grandma Foster Park:** redevelop to get more users, shade, restroom, play equipment upgrades
- **Howard Himself Park:** water fountain, restroom, community garden
- **Hickory Hills Park:** swings for older kids, basketball hoop upgrades
- **Ibinger Ridge Park:** restroom, water fountain, adult fitness equipment, soccer goal
- **Jaycee Children's Park:** no specific comments
- **Lion's Park:** restroom, shelter with electricity, playground equipment, water fountain, basketball court
- **Nesheim Park:** playground equipment for older children, basketball court, dog park, bathrooms, picnic table
- **Sutter Farm Park:** swings
- **Valley View – Western Addition:** swings

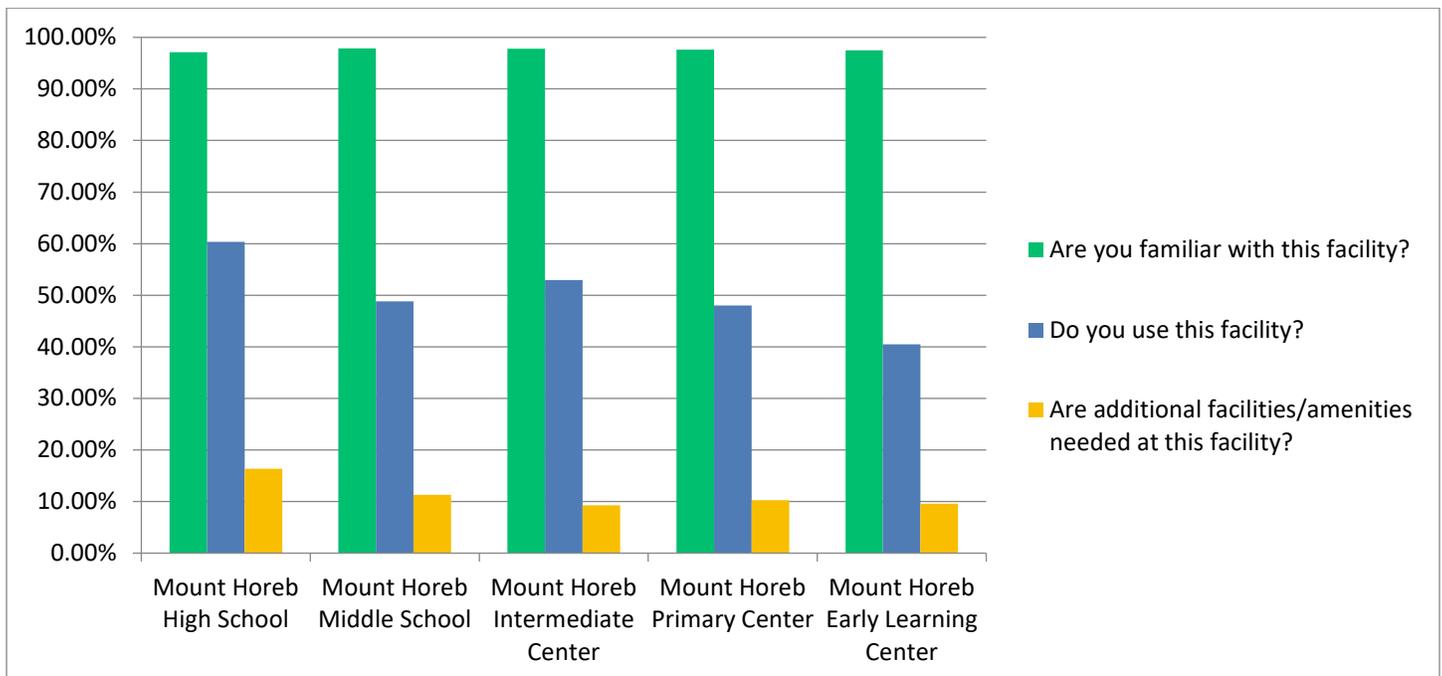
Question 12: Please specify your familiarity and use of each of the Special Use Areas listed below. Check the box below the question if your answer is yes.



Additional Facilities (58 total comments):

- **All parks/no park specified:** bandshell, more prairie, walking/hiking trails, mountain bike trails, renewable energy on park shelters, better groomed trails, cross country skiing trails, playgrounds, restrooms
- **Norsk Golf Course:** new clubhouse, banquet hall for events, outdoor music venue, trails, driving range, continue to maintain and upgrade course
- **Sugar River E-Way:** more trails, trail maintenance
- **Hofstetter Conservation Park:** expand parkland, more trails, access/signage, parking
- **Mount Horeb Station:** area for farmer’s market, concession stand, remove parking for green space

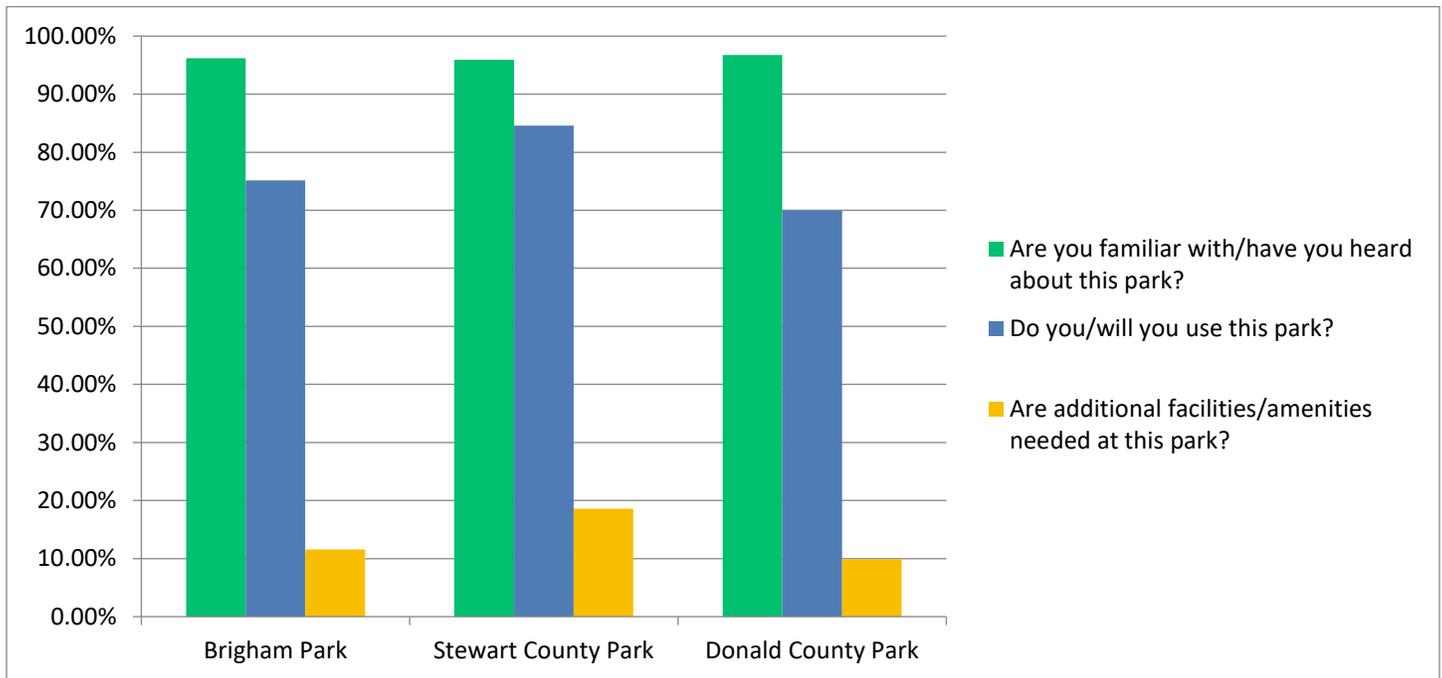
Question 13: Please specify your familiarity and use of each of the Public School Parks/Facilities listed below. Check the box below the question if your answer is yes.



Additional Facilities Needed (122 total comments):

- **All parks/no park specified:** shade trees and benches, upgrade outdoor basketball hoops, more indoor gym space, more prairie, playgrounds, drinking fountains, indoor pool needed, more playfields, more public art, pickleball courts, gymnastic facilities, open track, indoor ice rink, porta potties
- **High School:** restrooms accessibility, lights on softball field, bleachers, indoor swimming pool, fieldhouse
- **Middle School:** lighting, walkways, outdoor basketball courts, playground equipment,
- **Intermediate Center:** new basketball hoops, covered dugouts for softball fields, tennis court upgrades, swings, playground upgrades, swings,
- **Primary Center:** playground upgrades, ball diamond upgrades,
- **Learning Center:** no specific comments

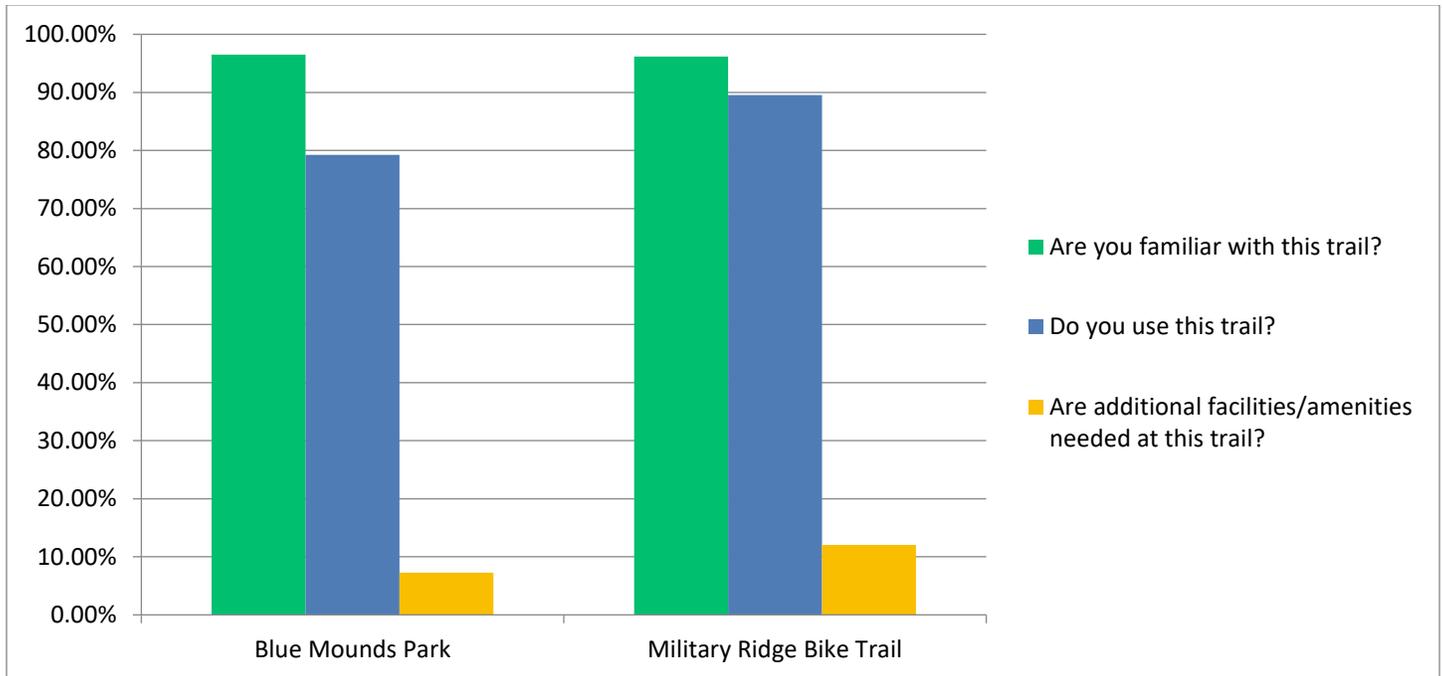
Question 14: Please specify your familiarity and use of each of the County Parks/Facilities listed below. Check the box below the question if your answer is yes.



Additional Facilities Needed (107 total comments):

- **All parks/no park specified:** flush toilets/bathroom upgrades, showers, electric campground hook up, mountain bike trails, dog park, more signage and maps, drinking fountains, emergency services, picnic tables, increased walking/hiking trails
- **Brigham Park:** flush toilets, playground upgrades, more hiking trails, more campground hook up sites, more activities, indoor concessions or rentable shelter
- **Stewart County Park:** more shade trees and benches at the beach, rent kayaks/paddleboards/canoes, more fire pits and grills, groomed cross country ski trails, security cameras/safety concerns, maintenance of trails, additional trail access points, trash cleanup, walking planks on muddy areas, increase beach maintenance, need a Park Master Plan done, water quality issues, connect to Boeck's Park with trail
- **Donald County Park:** bathroom, dog park, more parking

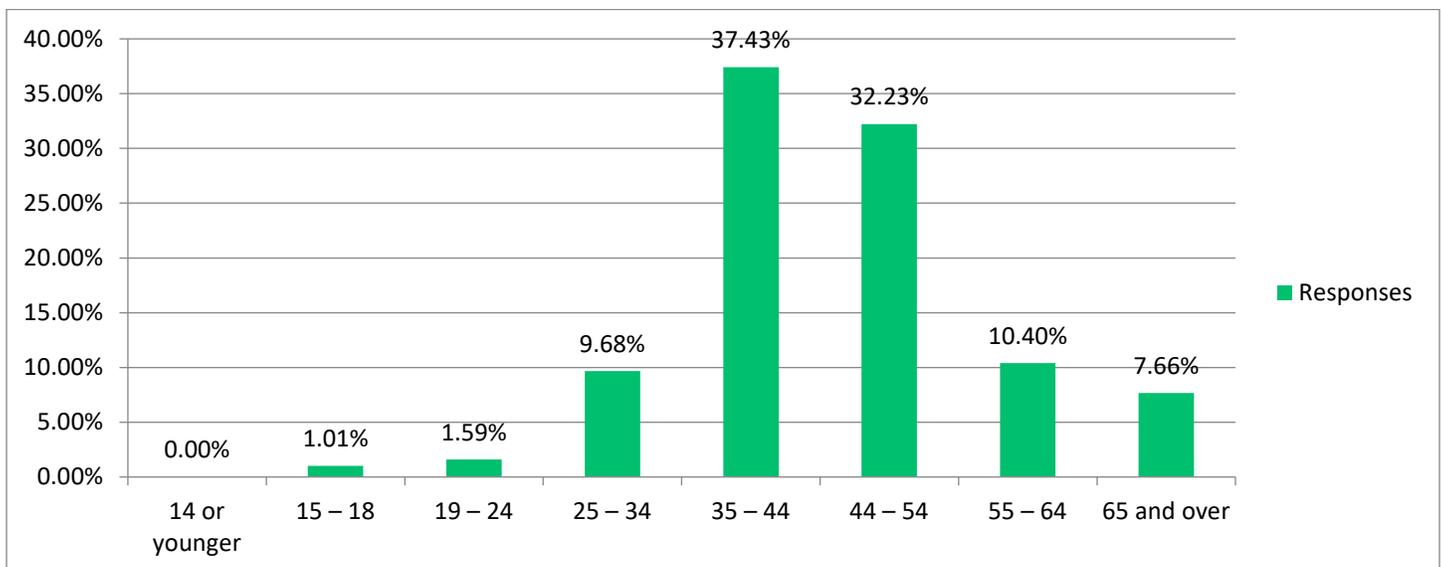
Question 15: Please specify your familiarity and use of each of the State Parks and Trails listed below. Check the box below the question if your answer is yes.



Additional Facilities Needed (83 total comments):

- **All parks/no park specified:** more trees and benches, more bathrooms and picnic tables, dog exercise areas, mountain bike trails, security/surveillance
- **Blue Mounds Park:** more gravel on the trails, playground upgrades, keep snowmobiles out of the park, flush toilets, update the towers
- **Military Ridge Bike Trail:** holes in the trail to be filled, don't use pesticides, trail lighting, wayfinding signage, improve crosswalks, lights in the tunnel, increase trail connections to other nearby amenities, pave the trail, bathrooms along the trail, dog bag stations, more trash cans and benches, water fountains, more parking locations

Question 16: What is your age range?

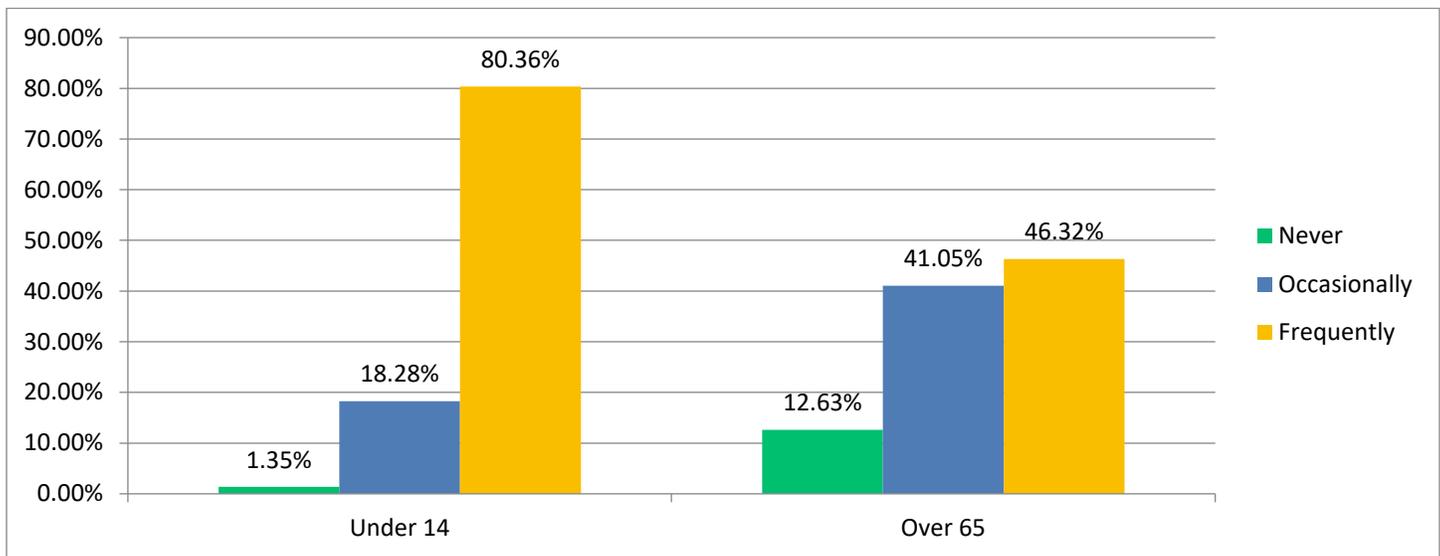


Question 17: Number of people in household Under 14 or Over 65.

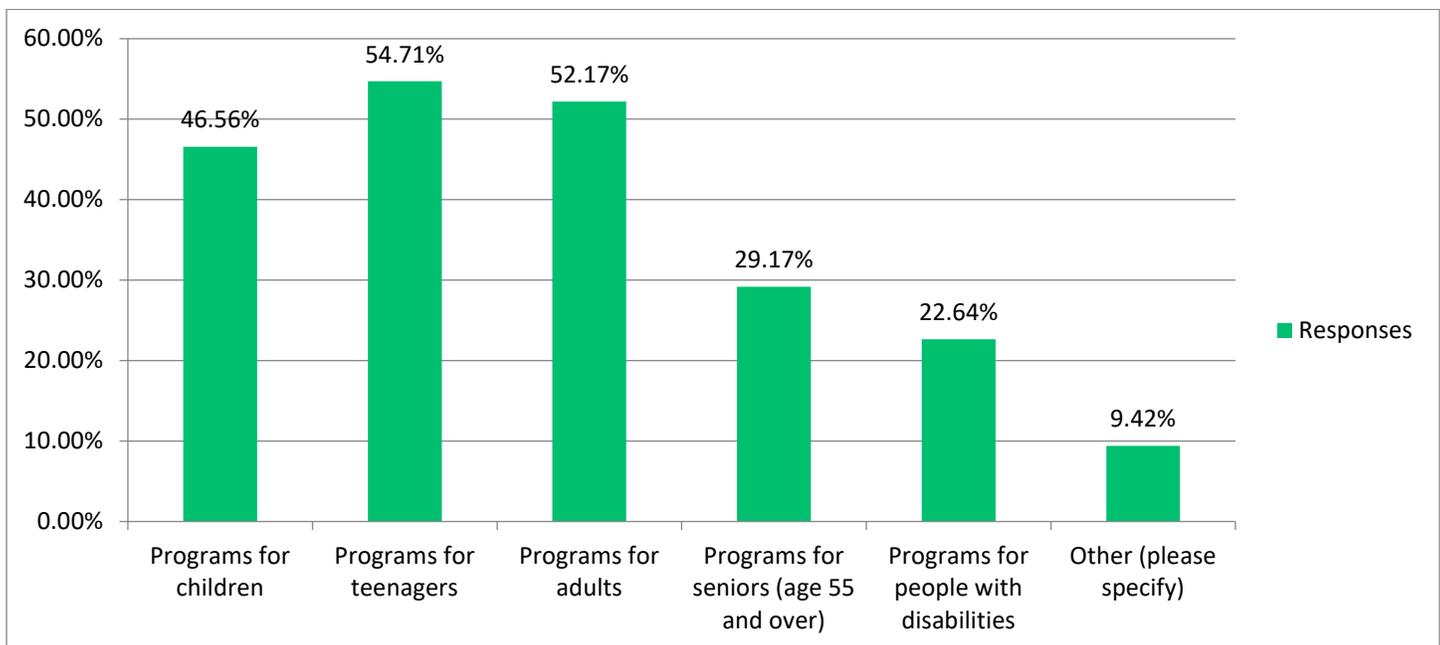
	Under 14*	Over 65*
None in Household	30.82%	79.65%
1	20.91%	7.52%
2	30.03%	11.50%
3	13.68%	0.88%
4	3.77%	0.22%
5	0.47%	0.22%
6	0.16%	0.00%
7	0.16%	0.00%

*Percentage out of 675 people who responded

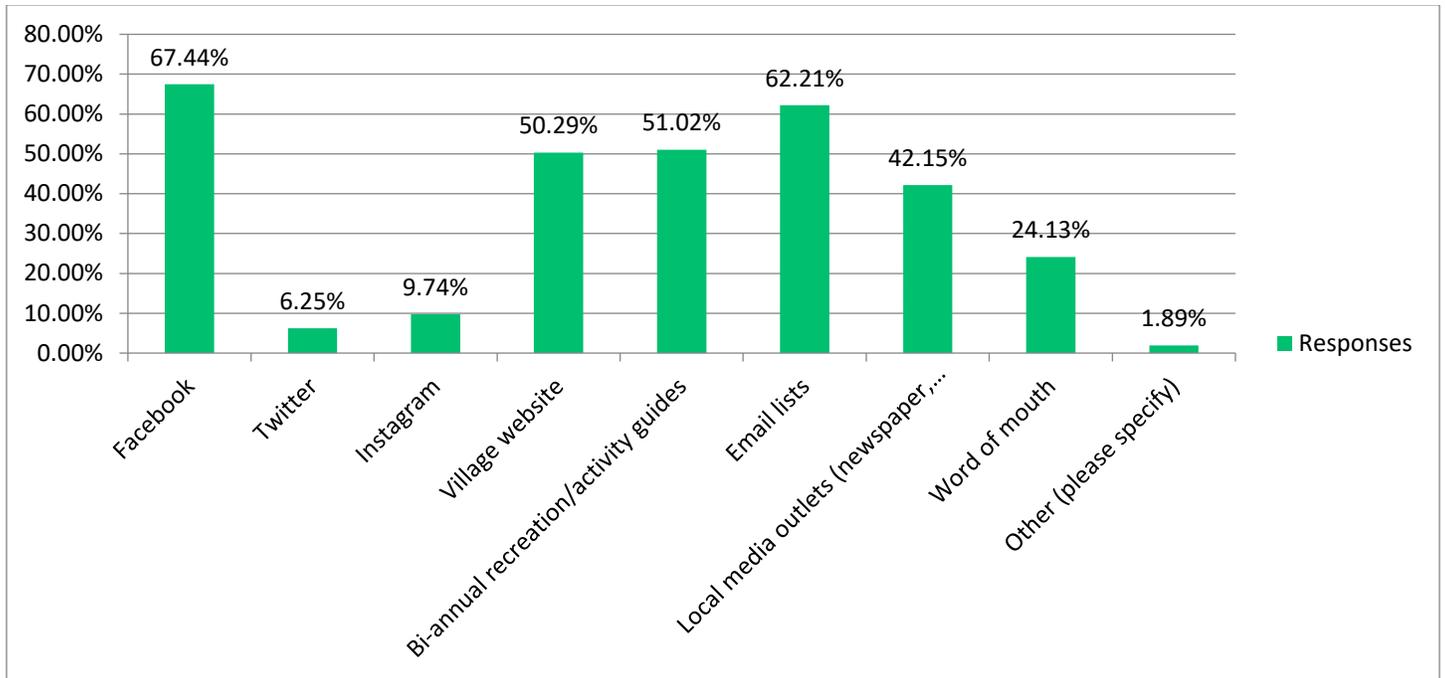
Question 18: Do they utilize the park system?



Question 19: What additional recreational programs would you like to see offered by the Village? (Check all that apply)



Question 20: What is the best way for you and your household to stay informed of the Village's recreational opportunities? (Check all that apply)



Question 21: If you wish to be kept informed on the planning process, please provide your contact information below (this information will not be associated with the rest of your survey responses).

278 email addresses were submitted through the survey.

The Village of Mount Horeb held a modified virtual opportunity for the public to review and provide feedback on the Draft Plan. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, only online options were available. From August 12, 2020 to September 10, 2020, the Village posted a video recording summary and the Draft Plan on the Village website. All survey respondents who provided email addresses in the Spring of 2020 were invited to view and read through the Draft Plan. A virtual Idea Board was also hosted by the Village to collect public responses.

On September 10, 2020, the Village hosted a public Question and Answer Session virtually to provide the public with another opportunity to learn about the Draft Plan and provide feedback.

All responses from the Idea Board are provided below, in addition to a brief summary of the Question and Answer Session.

What do you like about the Draft Plan?	Likes
Would like to see multi-age parks. Look at communities like DeForest that have adult fitness stations— these could be placed along Military Ridge Trail or are another Community Park (presently we have a small offering like this at Summer Frolic Park). Look at Fitchburg and Monona with the “dream parks” of cedar massive structure rather than traditional metal sets. Fitchburg and DeForest also have multiple splash pads which are a cheaper alternative to inground swimming pools/aquatic centers. DeForest also has Bocce courts, Horeshoe Pitches, Pickleball courts, and more. Look at neighboring communities for creative ideas!	8
Connecting trails and neighborhoods to trails. There are so many areas of Mount Horeb without sidewalks to safely get to parks and recreational areas. It would be nice to see expansion of sidewalks and trails for users of all ages to benefit from.	7
Recommendations for Hofstetter (parking/JG access, additional land) and Norsk special use parks (cross country ski trails)	7
The dog park!! I'm also excited about the new community park plan off of JG.	2
The recommendation to investigate joint park opportunities with the school district that will serve the community (indoor and outdoor rec!)	2
Bike and pedestrian plans for new trails and connections, including safe routes to school as well as coordination efforts with other units of government to improve existing trails and parks (Stewart lake water quality!)	3
I appreciated that village voices were heard in the survey and written in recommended plans for pickleball courts, a dog park and indoor rec	2
Recognition that the village needs to offer activities and rec. opportunities for active adults as well as our children.	4
Please consider putting in a disc golf course!	2
Please put in a disc golf course! Great activity that all can do!	1
The recommendation that the village and school district combine efforts and funds for both indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities.	8

What don't you like about the Draft Plan?	Likes
I do not like that there is no active plan for an indoor pool nor recreation center as a 23 year resident. Surrounding communities offer so much more.	16
The field counts are not fully accurate. Example: There are not 7 functional soccer fields in the Village	0
There needs to be more parking at Sunrise. I took a video one night when all fields were used and parking was overflowing.	0

What is missing or could be expanded upon in the Draft Plan?	Likes
<p>Much of Mount Horeb's draw, fame, and industry is tourism. A lot of the tourism is downtown focused and the fact that we are "bike-friendly." The only "bike friendly" that we are is the Military Ridge Trail. Improvements to our community being "bike-friendly" could help to actually support the claim, but also build on this tourism base and draw and bring more people to the community. Ways to improve the "bike-friendly" nature of the community could be have on-road bike routes clearly labeled, off road trails connecting parks to the military ridge trail, having businesses have entrances to the bike trail (I.e. Brix vs Skal or Firehouse). One additional way is to support local events that use Mount Horeb as a massive part of their event— I.e. Ironman. Ironman rides through 92 and 8th street, filling this road with dozens of bicyclists every Saturday and Sunday of the summer, yet the road is dismal quality and there is no signage to welcome these bicyclists and encourage their business in our community. This is a major loss for Mount Horeb, a "bike-friendly" community.</p>	16
<p>Treatment of water quality feeding into Stewart Lake. It was once a crystal-clear swimming hole but now regularly has algae blooms.</p>	6
<p>More Pickleball courts; use the extra courts at the Middle School. There more people playing Pickleball these days than tennis.</p>	5
<p>Dark Sky ordinances. Why Can't Duluth shut off lights at night. It is a waste of energy and assault on those who respect the night sky.</p>	4
<p>Some of the comparisons made are for communities that are "similar-size" perhaps, but are not good comparisons for local areas or for competing communities for relocating families and businesses. Further efforts for this plan should include comparison to local communities to mirror their park space improvements to continue to draw residential and business growth.</p>	11
<p>Use middle school tennis courts for more pickleball courts. Much less costly.</p>	4
<p>BIKE TRAIL: Grade the trails to create a slope for drainage and add the correct material to compact the path and eliminate washouts. Let's maintain this trail before adding more.</p>	1
<p>Consider dedicating & renovating half of current middle school tennis courts to pickleball. Should cost much less than \$40, 000-80,000.</p>	1
<p>Also looking for more pickleball courts. Would like to see more outdoor courts at Middle School and if possible some indoor courts.</p>	1
<p>Please add more pickleball courts in Mt. Horeb! We have a large group currently playing and are teaching new players each month.</p>	0
<p>More parking at Sunrise. It is not safe in the lot or on the road with that many people. Purchase the lot down below and make a ramp up.</p>	0
<p>Provide parking at Garfield Park skating rink/soccer field. There is sidewalks only on Garfield which get you to this park. South First St does NOT have sidewalks along the park and the road gets unsafely narrowed during peak times with little kids running between cars and parents trying to get to the practice or skate rink.</p>	10
<p>Publication or "marketing" of everything we have or will have available - I didn't know about everything mentioned in this plan and I bet others feel similar. Can we facilitate an investment in our village parks and rec by making sure everyone knows what is all out there? And what the benefits are?</p>	1
<p>Expand Pickleball at the Middle school tennis courts. Stripe the courts to add an additional 4 courts. Cost is minimal.</p>	0

Other General Feedback on the Draft Plan?	Likes
Looking at this plan compared to the last plan has made me really question what Mount Horeb has all done over the last 5 years based upon the previous plan. Please actually take action on this plan. Devote OUR tax payer dollars to implement this. EXPLORE grant and partnership opportunities to make these opportunities happen. Please don't develop another great plan like this and sit stagnant on the potential of it. Activate, implement, and innovate— forward progress is necessary in this community as our neighboring communities are far exceeding our recreational growth!	28
Consider evaluating options to connect massively with the Ice Age Trail System. We are close to the trail geographically (Cross Plains and Verona) that perhaps additional segments could connect to Mount Horeb and vice versa. This could tap into additional funding and volunteers to maintain that presently exist with the Ice Age Trail Alliance, but has the potential to bring more tourism money to our community.	8
Acreage guidelines per 1000 residents should be a minimum standard. Having an highly green and recreation-oriented village is good thing.	3
Would also like to see pickleball indoors in the winter if that could be an option also.	2
We NEED a competitive indoor pool for those kids on swim team as well as for swimming lessons, rehabilitation, recreation, etc. We also NEED to upgrade our outdoor pool instead of continuing to put bandages on our current one to keep it functioning.	20
A dog park is better suited for urban environments where there are few or no options for dogs to stretch their legs. Further, the proposed location on the periphery of the village will make it less convenient so that it will be lightly-used.	0

The September 10, 2020 virtual Question and Answer Session featured a summary presentation by Vandewalle & Associates on the need for a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the elements of the Plan, key changes made, and a summary of feedback received throughout the process. Following the presentation, attendees were provided an opportunity to give additional feedback, ask questions, and get information on the Plan and process from Village staff and Vandewalle & Associates. In total, 8 people attended the meeting. The feedback received consisted mainly of the need for additional pickleball courts, how the Village plans to implement the Plan, how the community can stay involved, and what the internal Village process looks like for assessing and determining projects each year.

Appendix B: Park Improvement Fee Calculations

The following is the calculation methodology for Figure 8.2, Row H.

FIGURE B.1: ROAD AND UTILITIES IMPROVEMENTS CALCULATION

Calculation		Neighborhood	Community
A.	Typical Park Size (based on NRPA standards) in Acres	5	25
B.	Typical Park Size in Square Feet (Row A * 43,560)	217,800	1,089,000
C.	Conceptual Road Frontage on Two Sides in Linear Feet ($\sqrt{\text{Row B} \times 2}$)	933	2,087
D.	Road and Utilities Improvement Cost per Linear Foot	\$400	\$400
E.	Parkland Portion (Half) of Road and Utilities Improvement Cost per Linear Foot	\$200	\$200
F.	Road and Utilities Improvement Cost for Typical Park (Row E * Row C)	\$186,676	\$417,421
G.	Road and Utilities Improvement Cost per Acre for Typical Park (Row F / Row A)	\$37,335	\$16,697

Appendix C: Potential Funding Sources

FIGURE C1: POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Administrative Agency	Contact
Wisconsin Stewardship Programs						
Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP)	To acquire or develop public, nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$4 million avail. per yr. 50% local match per project 	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required Priority for land acquisition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects must comply with ADA 	Wisconsin DNR	Cheryl Housley, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Urban Greenspace Program (UGS)	To acquire land to provide natural space within or near urban areas, or to protect scenic or ecological features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1.6 million avail. per yr. 50% local match per project 	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects must comply with ADA 	Wisconsin DNR	Cheryl Housley, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Acquisition of Development Rights	To acquire development rights for nature-based outdoor recreation areas and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1.6 million avail. per yr. 50% local match per project 	May 1	Funds available to acquire development rights in areas where restrictions on residential, industrial, or commercial developments are in place. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May include enhancements of outdoor recreation. 	Wisconsin DNR	Cheryl Housley, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP)	To acquire lands, or rights in lands, adjacent to urban rivers for the purpose of preserving or restoring them for economic revitalization or nature-based outdoor recreation activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$800,000 avail. per yr. 50% local match per project 	May 1	A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects must comply with ADA 	Wisconsin DNR	Cheryl Housley, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Federal Programs						
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)	To acquire or develop public outdoor recreation areas and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% local match per project Land acquisition Development of recreational facilities. 	May 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive outdoor recreation plan is required 	Wisconsin DNR with TEA-21 Funds	Cheryl Housley, South Central Region 608-275-3218

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Administrative Agency	Contact
Recreational Trails Act	To provide funds for maintenance, development, rehabilitation, and acquisition of land for motorized, non-motorized, and diversified trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% local match per project Maintenance and restoration of existing trails Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages. Construction of new trails (with certain restrictions on federal lands). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition of easement or property for trails purchase. 	May 1	<p>Funds may only be used on trails which have been identified in, or which further a specific goal of a local, county, or state trail plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funds may be used on trails that are referenced in a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan 	Wisconsin DNR with TEA-21 Funds	Cheryl Housley, South Central Region 608-275-3218
Statewide Multi-Modal Improvement Program (SMIP)						
Transportation Enhancements Program	Providing facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists. This program provides funding for rehabilitating and operating historic transportation buildings and structures, restoring railway depots, as well as streetscaping "Main Streets" and landscaping near transportation facilities.	<p>Funded through TEA-21 80%/20%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% required match (funds are not awarded upfront but are reimbursed). 	February	<p>Construction projects must be over \$100,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-construction projects must be over \$25,000 	WisDOT	Southwest Region 608-246-3800
Surface Discretionary Grant Program (STP-D)	Provides flexible funds, which can be spent on a wide variety of projects, including roadway projects through the Federal-aid highway system, bridges, transit facilities, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.	<p>Funded through TEA-21 80%/20%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% required match (funds are not awarded upfront but are reimbursed). 	February	<p>Any project that fosters alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips</p> <p>Facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists</p> <p>System-wide bicycle planning</p> <p>Construction projects must be over \$100,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-construction projects must be over \$25,000 	WisDOT	Southwest Region 608-246-3800
Federal Transit Administration Grants						
Section 5309 (old Section 3 discretionary funds)	Transit capital projects; includes intermodal facilities such as bicycle racks on buses and bicycle parking at transit stations; most funds are to be directed toward transit itself.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% local match per project 	Early Spring	<p>Funding for this program is allocated on a discretionary basis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congress/Administration can pick the projects; however, the authorization bill contains a list of specific criteria 	WisDOT Bureau of Transit	John Duffe (608) 264-8723

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Administrative Agency	Contact
Section 402-Highway Safety Funds						
Community Programs Empowerment Program Enforcement Program	For bicycle and pedestrian safety, education, and training projects, including helmet promotion and purchases, sponsorship of rodeos, classes, and development of brochures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% local match per project Bicycle and pedestrian education and enforcement projects Non-construction projects (e.g.: helmet purchase, brochure development) 	October – December	Engineering and maintenance work not eligible for funding Communities with higher than average pedestrian and/or bicycle may be contact WisDOT regarding the use of funds	WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety	Southwest Region 608-246-3800
Highway Safety Program (Section 403)	Available for bike/ped education. May also be used to develop safety classes for bike/ped offenders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20%-50% local match per project 	February	For communities that can document bicycle crashes related to motor vehicle violations Funds new enforcement programs up to \$1,000	WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety	Southwest Region 608-246-3800
Research Projects	Funds the research needed to substantiate unique local needs for additional safety funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% local match per project 	February	A study of transit needs on public lands to assess the feasibility of alternative transportation modes (Section 3039)	WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety	Southwest Region 608-246-3800
Other Programs						
Surface Transportation-Environment Cooperative Research Program	Evaluate transportation control measures. Improve understanding of transportation demand factors. Develop performance indicators that will facilitate the analysis of transportation alternatives	20% local match per project		<p>\$ 500,000 available for the development of national bicycle safety education curriculum</p> <p>\$ 500,000 available for grants to a national not-for-profit organization engages in promoting bicycle and pedestrian safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$ 200,000 available for a study of the safety issues attendant to the transportation of school children to and from school and school-related activities by various transportation modes 	FHWA	U.S. Dept. of Transportation 202-366-4000
Wisconsin Main Street Community Program	Comprehensive downtown revitalization program, which includes streetscape improvements		No Date	General downtown program May benefit trail enhancements through streetscaping	National Main Street Center	Wisconsin Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Downtown Development 608-266-7531

Program	Purpose	Funding Details	Deadline	Notes	Administrative Agency	Contact
Urban Forestry Grants	Assistance for tree maintenance, planting, and public awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1,000 to \$25,000 grants awarded with a 50% local match \$450,000 to \$500,000 available annually. Match may include in-kind services and donations. 	October 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding is prioritized for communities needing to develop an urban forestry plan, needing worker training, and needing to conduct a street tree inventory 	WDNR Urban Forestry	Dick Rideoyt (608) 267-0843
Hazard Elimination Program	Program designed to survey hazardous locations, or projects regarding any publicly owned bicycle or pedestrian pathway or trail and safety-related traffic calming measure, as well as improvements to railway-highway crossings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10% local match per project. 	June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities are encouraged to start working with the District Office. The project must exemplify that the benefits will outweigh the costs of accidents. 	WisDOT-Bureau of State Highway Programs funded by TEA-21	Southwest Region 608-246-3800
Private Donations	Local donations, fundraising and sponsorship opportunities by businesses and/or individuals					
Aquatic Restoration Programs						
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Control Grants	Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Control Grants	Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Control Grants	Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Control Grants	Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Control Grants	Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Control Grants	Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention and Control Grants
River Protection Grants	River Protection Grants	River Protection Grants	River Protection Grants	River Protection Grants	River Protection Grants	River Protection Grants

Appendix D: Parkland Evaluation Tool

A method is needed to evaluate a subdivision plat to determine if there is proposed to be enough parkland, if the proposed parkland is the right type of land, and if there's other land that may be better suited for park and open space. Staff and policy makers alike need a method of analyzing a site prior to making any formal determinations. Through the review of best practices, in addition to information provided by the Village staff, Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission members, Plan Commission, Village Board, and the public, the following Parkland Evaluation Tool was created. The tool utilizes nine different criteria to score a given site during the subdivision plat review process. It is recommended that this matrix be used in all future park or trail acquisition determinations at the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission level. It is also recommended that the table be reevaluated and adapted on an annual basis to most accurately reflect the needs of Mount Horeb. Figure D.1 presents each Evaluation Criteria and the Site Score associated with each attribute of the park or trail being proposed.

FIGURE D.1: PROPOSED PARKLAND EVALUATION TOOL

Evaluation Criteria		Scoring System
1	Identified on Map 3: Future Park Facilities and/or Chapter 7	0 = Parkland is not directly stated or inferred in Chapter 7 or on Map 3 10 = Parkland is not directly stated, but inferred in Chapter 7 or on Map 3 20 = Parkland is directly stated in Chapter 7 or on Map 3
2	Percentage of Constrained Lands (WisDNR wetlands and floodplains, steep slopes (greater than 12%), drainageways (75' buffer around perennial streams or 50' buffer around intermittent channels), and woodlands (combined 80% cover area))	0 = Parkland consists of between 50%-100% constrained lands 10 = Parkland consists of between 1%-49% constrained lands 20 = Parkland has no constrained lands
3	Stormwater Retention	0 = Parkland is made up of over 50% lands that will be used for on-site stormwater retention. 10 = Parkland is made up of between 1-49% lands that will be used for on-site stormwater retention. 20 = None of the parkland will be made up lands that will be used for on-site stormwater retention.
4	Accommodate Active Uses as Identified by Local User Groups	0 = Parkland could only function for an entirely passive recreational use in the future as identified by local user groups. 5 = Parkland could accommodate some active recreational uses as identified by local user groups, but not enough space for at least one full size playfield. 10 = Parkland could function for both an active and passive recreational use in the future and can accommodate at least one full size playfield as identified by local user groups.
5	Provides a Connection to an Existing State, County, or Municipal Park or Trail	0 = Parkland will not connect to any future or planned State, County, or Municipal park or trail 5 = Parkland is an opportunity for a future connection an existing or planned State, County, or Municipal park or trail 10 = Parkland is directly adjacent to or connected to an existing State, County, or Municipal park or trail
6	Meets a Service Area Gap (Map 2/Chapter 5)	0 = Parkland already covered by a service area in Map 2 5 = Parkland not covered by any service areas in Map 2
7	Addresses a Goal, Objective, or Policy (Chapter 4)	0 = Parkland or future uses are not directly stated Chapter 4 5 = Parkland or future uses are directly stated in Chapter 4
8	Protects a Valuable Natural Resource See Map 1 (environmental corridor.)	0 = Parkland includes no land within an environmental corridor 5 = Parkland is adjacent to or a portion of it resides in an environmental corridor
9	Provides an Amenity or Recreational Programming Opportunity Not Offered by the Village of Mount Horeb	0 = No, the parkland or future use is already an existing Village of Mount Horeb amenity or recreational program 5 = Yes, the parkland or future use is not an existing Village of Mount Horeb amenity or recreational program

The maximum score for a given site, if all 9 of the Evaluation Criteria were entirely satisfied would be 100. While it is highly unlikely any future potential parkland will score a perfect 100, it is recommended that a tier system to be utilized to categorize site scoring. Figure D.2 displays the 3 tiers in which a proposed parkland can fall within. It is recommended that any site score of 49 or under not be pursued at this time because it does not meet enough of the evaluation criteria as-is. It is recommended that any site score between 50-79 be pursued, however additional evaluation and determination based on the details of the situation may be necessary. Finally, it is highly recommended that any site score between 80-100 be pursued because it meets or exceeds nearly all evaluation criteria.

FIGURE D.2: PARKLAND EVALUATION SUMMARY

Site Score	Land Acquisition Approach
0-49	Does Not Meet Needs
50-79	Recommend (With Further Evaluation)
80-100	Highly Recommend

It should be noted, each individual situation presents unique circumstances that may fall outside of this evaluation. Figure D.1 and D.2 are recommended to be used as supporting information in the determination of any future proposed parkland, not the sole source of determination. A case by case approach is the most effective method to factor in all aspects of a particular situation (Figure D.3 is a sample Evaluation Scorecard).

FIGURE D.3: PARKLAND EVALUATION SCORECARD

Evaluation Criteria		Score		
1	Identified on Map 3: Future Park Facilities and/or Chapter 7	0	10	20
2	Percentage of Constrained Lands (WisDNR wetlands and floodplains, steep slopes (greater than 12%), drainageways (75' buffer around perennial streams or 50' buffer around intermittent channels), and woodlands (combined 80% cover area))	0	10	20
3	Stormwater Retention	0	10	20
4	Accommodate Active Uses	0	5	10
5	Provides a Connection to an Existing State, County, or Municipal Park or Trail	0	5	10
6	Meets a Service Area Gap (Map 2/Chapter 5)	0		5
7	Addresses a Goal, Objective, or Policy (Chapter 4)	0		5
8	Protects a Valuable Natural Resource See Map 1 (environmental corridor.)	0		5
9	Provides an Amenity Not Offered by the Village of Mount Horeb	0		5
Total for Each Column				
Total Evaluation Score		___ Out of 100		