

City of Ramsey
Agenda
Park and Recreation Commission
Thursday, August 10, 2017
Lake Itasca Trailhead, 15700 Okapi Street NW, Ramsey
(North Armstrong Blvd/West Alpine Dr/North Marmoset St/left 156th Ln to Okapi St)
IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, MEETING WILL MOVE TO CITY HALL

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Citizen Input**
- 3. Approve Agenda**
- 4. Approve Minutes**
 1. Approve Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
- 5. Commission Business**
 - 1. Follow-up on Visioning Exercise and Discuss Objectives—Parks Master Plan**
 2. Approve Parks and Recreation Master Plan Survey
 3. Discuss Parks' Precedent Plan Comparisons
 4. Review Concept Plan for 175 Unit Market Rate Apartment in The COR; Case of Inland Group
 5. Recommend 2017 Parks Capital Improvement Project(s)—Priority Trail Connections
- 6. Commission/Staff Input**
 1. Commission/Staff Input
- 7. Adjournment**

Park and Recreation Commission

4. 1.

Meeting Date: 08/10/2017

Submitted For: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

By: MaryJo Warner, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Approve Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Purpose/Background:

To review and approve Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes dated June 8, 2017.

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

n/a

Recommendation:

Action:

Motion to approve Park and Recreation Commission meeting minutes dated June 8, 2017.

Attachments

Minutes

Form Review

Inbox

Grant Riemer

Form Started By: MaryJo Warner

Final Approval Date: 08/04/2017

Reviewed By

MaryJo Warner

Date

08/04/2017 08:46 AM

Started On: 08/01/2017 02:40 PM

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey Park and Recreation Commission conducted a regular meeting on June 8, 2017 at Elmcrest Park, 16303 Quicksilver Street NW.

Commission Members Present: Chair Shane Bennett
 Commissioner Russell Bayer
 Commissioner Andrew Fyten
 Commissioner Jennifer Leistico
 Commissioner Brandon Sis
 Commissioner Charles Tchuinkwa
 Commissioner Jon Trappen

Commission Members Absent: None

Also Present: Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood
 Heather Lorch, Capstone Homes
 Bruce Jacobsen, Consultant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bennett called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

No one was present to address the Commission.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Sis, seconded by Commissioner Bayer, to approve the Park and Recreation Commission meeting agenda as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett, Commissioners Sis, Bayer, Fyten, Leistico, Tchuinkwa, and Trappen. Voting No: None. Absent:

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Trappen, seconded by Commissioner Leistico, to approve the following Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes:

1) Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes dated May 11, 2017.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett, Commissioners Trappen, Leistico, Bayer, Fyten, Sis, and Tchuinkwa. Voting No: None. Absent:

5. COMMISSION BUSINESS

5.01 Recommend Park Dedication Components of the Development Agreement; Riverstone Subdivision

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood provided a summary of the purpose and background of this case noting for the last several months, the specifics of Park Dedication (land, cash or improvements for the proposed mini-park) for the proposed Riverstone Subdivision has been discussed between Capstone Homes and the City. There continues to be strong consensus on providing credit for the land needed for the greenway trail and the associated improvements. In contrast, there had not been clear consensus on aspects of Capstone's proposed mini-park, commonly known as Outlot C.

Since there was no agreement on the matter of Outlot C, Staff brought the matter to the City Council Work Session on April 25, 2017 in light of the long-standing policy "...to favor larger, accessible neighborhood and community public parks with quality amenities and improvements, and provide trail connections between them, over smaller, pocket parks with few to no 'destination' improvements". This discussion was intended to address whether the City should consider full, partial, or no Park Dedication credit for Outlot C proposed by the Developer. The outcome of the work session topic was to address the policy itself. This occurred as part of a joint meeting between council and the Park and Recreation Commission meeting on May 9, 2017.

Following the joint meeting, Staff prepared alternatives for Park Dedication relating to Outlot C which was the subject of considerable discussion at the last Park and Recreation Commission meeting (May 11, 2017). Following that meeting, three alternatives were developed relating to Outlot C and on May 23, 2017 City Council selected "Alternative 2" for the basis of the Park Dedication for the Riverstone Subdivision. The three alternatives developed were:

Alternative 1 – Outlot C – Not Credit Eligible.

Alternative 2 – Outlot C – Primarily Credit Eligible.

Alternative C – Outlot C – Full Park Dedication credit consistent with Capstone's April Park Dedication memo.

Mr. Riverblood reviewed the details of Alternative 2 – Outlot C – Primarily Credit Eligible, which was the Council selected Park Dedication scenario, and directs that the mini-park development be "unique" (nature-based play) and ancillary to greenway trail (either contiguous, or effective and safe pedestrian crossing of adjoining street). No land credit for the mini-park area is calculated under this alternative, as the Developer is requesting the mini-park and deviation from the Park plan and Park Development Policy. The land dedication for the mini-park (approximately one acre), is thoroughly consistent with the requirements of the PUD, which is the land use mechanism under which the Riverstone Subdivision is to be developed.

Outlot C “park”

Park Dedication Credit

Nature Based Playground	\$100,000
Landscaping irrigation (with H2O feature for play area)	\$100,000
Pavilion	\$50,000
Parking (parallel to street)	\$4,620
On-street pedestrian safety treatments (50% park ded, 50% developer)	\$5,000
Benches (4)	\$7,680
Drinking fountain and mister with pet attachment	\$8,000
Water and sewer services/stubs (Developer expense)	
Sidewalk(s) parallel to street (Developer expense)	
Total not to exceed Park Dedication credit amount	\$275,300

Max Credit - \$275,300 (if other improvements are desired by the developer e.g. monument/sign, these shall be at the developers expense).

The Development Agreement (DA) shall specify that the park shall be developed as a Stage 1 improvement and be substantially complete by August 1, 2018. All improvements and specifications shall be pre-approved by the City, with the Developer bearing all costs of bidding, administration, permitting (if any) as well as construction administration. The park construction agreement will be a reimbursable project, with the developer paying all cash Park Dedication owed, with the City issuing associated payment for each improvement as they are completed and accepted – for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$275,300.

Provided for Commission review were the following:

- Outlot C location map.
- Draft City Council May 23, 2017 Meeting Minutes.
- May 11, Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
- Draft City Council Work Session/Joint Meeting with Park and Recreation Commission.
- Area Parks Plan (synopsis).
- Capstone proposal April 2017.
- Example Development Agreement.
- Example of Nature Based Play Area.

Mr. Riverblood also provided two exhibits provided by Capstone Homes. One element of considerable discussion in May was the width of the greenway – and a concern that it was too narrow and not conducive for the movement of wildlife. On the drawings, the thick black easement line was traced with a red dashed line. These lines represent the area that would be subject to Park Dedication credit (the 10’ foot bituminous trail, plus the 2’ clear zone on either side). The dimensions are indicated in white on the drawing. Another element relating to the greenway corridor’s use/value for wildlife, would be appropriate plantings/landscape.

Staff is recommending the Park and Recreation Commission recommend the City Council approve the Preliminary Play for the Riverstone Subdivision with the detail above included within the Development Agreement to fulfill Park Dedication and Trail Fees, with Cash payment calculated per lot after credit is applied for completed park and trail improvements, as well as areas of trail easement.

A drawing of the concept was provided for Commission review. Ms. Heather Lorch representing Capstone was present at the meeting.

Ms. Lorch provided examples. She stated she has spent countless hours working on these concepts to meet the needs of Ramsey residents. The lots are smaller and at a lower price point. She stated a park element would be a good addition to the project. She has been working with the architect and have looked at different communities to view as examples. The architect's designs are providing elements that are within the budget while creating the best project they can. The trail was designed as 10 feet wide with 2 feet easements on either side. The trail was inserted after the first revision when the lots had already been determined. This is the reason the trail is somewhat winding through the project. One area she pointed out on the map is rather tight due to some drainage issues and a retaining wall will be created along with natural plantings. Within the cost limits they will make every effort to naturalize the area with the use of pollinators and prairie grasses.

Mr. Riverblood stated the trail will be "off center" due to a wetland area. Ms. Lorch distributed to the Commission another drawing which detailed further the trail location. Mr. Riverblood stated the developer and staff are in agreement with what the Council has requested. This will come before Council in the form of a resolution.

Ms. Lorch stated one of the conditions is they will work closely with Mr. Riverblood and staff and the project results will be a collaboration.

Chair Bennett stated the work that has been done is good and it fits the needs of the subdivision.

Commissioner Sis asked if there is any divider between the townhomes and the trail and Ms. Lorch said at this point there is no intention to have a divider.

Commissioner Leistico left the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Trappen, seconded by Commissioner Tchuinkwa to recommend City Council approve the Preliminary Play for the Riverstone Subdivision with the detail above included within the Development Agreement to fulfill Park Dedication and Trail Fees, with Cash payment calculated per lot after credit is applied for completed park and trail improvements, as well as areas of trail easement.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett, Commissioners Trappen, Tchuinkwa, Bayer, and Fyten. Voting No: Commissioner Sis. Absent: Commissioner Leistico

5.02: Review Update on The COR Interim Development Plan

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reviewed the Commission is requested to review a preliminary draft of The COR Interim Development Plan, which essentially puts into motion a more formal amendment to the master plan. Details of the recommendations prepared by the Planning Commission were provided for Commission review. Mr. Riverblood noted direction from the April 25, 2017 Joint Work Session was to review this draft with advisory boards and commissions. The draft was reviewed by the Economic Development Authority on May 25, 2017. The Park and Recreation Commission and Environmental Policy Board will review the draft at their June 2017 meetings. Staff will be seeking authorization for public comment on the draft in July 2017. There were some revisions to the plan in 2011. At one point there appeared to be conflicting goals for The COR's development plan—one being to sell the land, and get the city out of the business of being a developer, the other to 'hold the vision'. A market panel was held which brought a lot of clarity to questions of market forces and the potentiality for big box retail etc. This evening is the second opportunity for the Park and Recreation Commission to weigh in.

Mr. Riverblood reviewed the Interim Development Plan. The porch element is something that will be held fast. The apartments are necessary to provide businesses 'rooftops' to attract the restaurants and other businesses in the community.

Commissioner Leistico returned to the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Mr. Riverblood showed the Commission The COR Development Concept indicating the various sections of the plan. The Planning Commission has recommended higher density for the residential area. There has been a shift in focus for large retailers to smaller retail businesses. The other major policy change would be regarding the office areas, where the office area would be retained until fully developed by office businesses.

Commissioner Sis asked for the location of Bunker Lake and Mr. Riverblood indicated it on a map. Mr. Riverblood indicated the Greenway area on a map. Mr. Riverblood reviewed the revisioning steps. The budget will be used to hire multiple consultants to assist in road planning, grading, stormwater, and sign plan. The retailers will help pay for some of the signage. Even during the recession, The Draw was being constructed and developers viewed that as the City's commitment to developing The COR. Mr. Riverblood drew for the Commission the parking lot plan with future expansion to a parking ramp.

5.03: Review Goals and Strategies within Ramsey's Chapter 10 of the Comprehensive Plan

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood reviewed the purpose of this case is to review the Goals and Strategies within the City's existing Comprehensive Plan, relating to parks, trails and open space. This discussion was tabled in May. This review will be useful in the context of the update to the Comprehensive Plan (underway now) and also as the Park and Recreation Commission begins the Master Park Plan endeavor. Mr. Riverblood provided a status report on each of the Goals and Strategies. The Commission is asked to identify which Goals and

Strategies remain germane for the Comp Plan update – and other Goals and Strategies as may be envisioned.

- a) A comprehensive, balanced park and trail system consisting of large and small scale parks, active and passive parks, natural preserves, and recreational facilities.

STRATEGIES:

1. Incorporate planned parks and trails into all new development where appropriate.
Update - Master Park and Trail Plan.
2. Design for connectivity with local and regional parks
Update – Again, and Priority Trails
3. Improve coordination of park and trail planning within City and adjacent communities.
Update – Essence of Comp Plan, Joint Meetings
4. Establish a regional trail along the Mississippi River
Update – Done
5. Develop a Trott Brook Trail Corridor
Update – Significant land acquisition, trail in place, boardwalk grant app. (hear any day).
¾ of trail is in.
6. Explore providing pedestrian access from the Mississippi River to the north side of Highway 10
Update – Mississippi Skyway, grants, preliminary design, final plans and specs in process, \$300K shaved off the project.
7. Design trails with a variety of surfaces appropriate for different uses.
Update – Uncertainty
8. Seek out alliances and partnerships with non-profit and governmental agencies to assist in securing funding and other resources that will assist in implementing the park, and trail plan.
Update – Rec programming – low hanging fruit – develop partnerships.
9. Improve quality of existing parks, through careful planning, continued maintenance and adequate funding.
Update – Maint/replacement/fixes assets – Master Park Plan
10. Explore options for an additional community park
Update – 6th Community Park/purchase of Lk Itasca – Northern Tier of Ramsey
11. Where appropriate, consolidate existing parks to improve quality and provide more efficient service.

Update – Tried this – did not go well

12. Explore options for a revenue source for permanent protections of parks, trails and open space.

Update – Aspect/outcome of the Master Park plan – Future bonding discussions possible.

- b) A system of safe parks and trails

STRATEGIES

1. Locate trails where appropriate in greenway corridors and natural areas.

Update – More work on greenways needed (Master Parks Plan).

2. Promote Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design CPTED and other techniques

Update – SOP – City does that – neighborhood parks.

3. Where appropriate, use existing power/utility easements for the trail system

Update – Mr. Riverblood provided the Alpine example.

4. Provide adequate signage and pavement markings to warn automobile traffic of park and trail traffic

Update – Crosswalk inventory needed – (do not sign trails) – not feasible to put signs on 50 miles of trails.

5. Explore use of pedestrian-activated signals, continuous flashing signage, and mid-block crossings where safe and appropriate to further increase park and trail safety

Update – Case Study – Toole Group exercise re – Riverstone. Working with School District and County.

6. Minimize at-grade crossings of trails and roads and other interactions between trail users and automobiles, with underpasses or overpasses.

Update – Expensive – No engineering costs included.

- c) A variety of park facilities and programs that meet the life cycle needs of residents.

Demographics – Recreation/program planning. Large segment of population in 50-60 age group. Need to plan for them (arts, pickle ball, etc).

STRATEGIES

1. Work with the schools and community organizations to plan for athletic fields and facilities that will accommodate the growing community.

Update – New elementary school potentially at Nowthen Blvd.

2. Explore options for a revenue source for recreational facilities and programming.

Update – Council will tackle. Recreation Intern position will become full time Specialist – general fund.

3. Study the need for a Community Center that offers a variety of recreational uses for all age groups.

Update – RCP – Study of other community centers.

Chair Bennett stated the goals and strategies are consistent with the Parks and Recreation Commission discussions over the past few years.

5.04: Commission Work Session on Master Parks Plan – Visioning Exercise

Mr. Riverblood reviewed the purpose of this case is to conduct an informal work session for a visioning exercise relative to the long-range plan for the future of Ramsey’s park and trail system.

Mr. Bruce Jacobson, landscape architect, was present at the meeting. Mr. Riverblood and Mr. Jacobson have worked together for many years. Mr. Jacobson facilitated the Visioning Exercise. Mr. Jacobson noted the work done in Ramsey is very promising. “I See” was the first exercise to write down the vision of the future of Ramsey’s trail and park system. Each Commissioner read their statement. The second exercise was “We See”. The next exercise was to determine one word that each Commissioner is most interested in.

Chair Bennett thanked Mr. Jacobson for his help this evening.

6. COMMISSION/STAFF INPUT

Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent Riverblood provided updates on the following:

Review May/June projects and events – Mr. Riverblood suggested the Commissioners sign up for the weekly update.

Next Comp Plan Workshop June 12, 2017 – Natural Resources and Economic Development.

Motion by Commissioner Sis, seconded by Commissioner Bayer to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chair Bennett, Commissioners Sis, Bayer, Fyten, Leistico, Tchuinkwa, and Trappen. Voting No: None. Absent:

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Riverblood
Parks & Assistant Public Works Superintendent

Drafted by Debbie Wolfe
TimeSaver off Site Secretarial, Inc.

Park and Recreation Commission

5. 1.

Meeting Date: 08/10/2017

By: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Follow-up on Visioning Exercise and Discuss Objectives—Parks Master Plan

Purpose/Background:

At the regular June 8, 2017 Park and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission reviewed Goals and Strategies from the previous Comprehensive Plan (Chapter 10 attached), and also participated in a Visioning exercise. The summary and synthesis of that activity is attached, with the 'key words' portion refined into Objective Statements.

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

Funding for the Parks System Master Plan is included within the 2017 General Fund budget.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends a thorough discussion on this topic of Vision and Objectives, as it will place into context the Commission's next work on the Parks Master Plan.

Action:

Based upon discussion.

Attachments

Chapter 10 Comp Plan

Visioning Exercise

Form Review

Inbox

Grant Riemer

Form Started By: Mark Riverblood

Final Approval Date: 08/04/2017

Reviewed By

MaryJo Warner

Date

08/04/2017 12:44 PM

Started On: 08/03/2017 02:22 PM

10. PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE

A. Existing Park and Recreation Facilities

Parks and natural open space are vital to the quality of life in Ramsey and in many ways define the community. Ramsey is fortunate to have retained many natural resources within its boundaries. One such example is Trott Brook with its associated wetlands and uplands, creating a natural greenway spanning the northern 1/3rd of the city. Another is Elmcrest Park with the future potential of trails along Ditch #66, crossing the center of Ramsey, connecting Central Park, the Lake Itasca Trail, and neighborhoods along the way.

Ramsey by area is more than 17% wetlands of varying types and classes. Of the many wetland complexes, some have valuable oak and other forested areas in association providing residents opportunities to live and recreate in these natural settings. These patches of habitat are valuable vestiges for the wildlife that residents value.

Mississippi River and Rum River are significant water resources, and both part of the State's Wild and Scenic Rivers system and literally define the community. These two rivers are also state designated canoe routes, or recreational water trails. It is Ramsey's bituminous trail and sidewalk system that can be said to be the recreational fabric that knits all of these parks and resources together, while providing a recreational resource unto itself.

The City of Ramsey is also unique in that it has two county parks within its boundaries that are a part of the Metropolitan Council's regional system. Mississippi West Park includes bluffs, wooded areas and two islands on the Mississippi River. The 273 acre park is proposed to be developed within the next several years. The concept plan suggests a sustainable design center in addition to the usual county park facilities. One important feature will be a small boat landing and fishing pier, which will provide additional access to this most prominent river in the nation.

Rum River Central Park is 434 acres, 304 acres of which are in the City of Ramsey (the remaining is in the City of Oak Grove) and occupies the northeast corner of the city. The park has received over two million dollars in investments in recent years, including miles of bituminous and equestrian trails as well as a large pavilion, and canoe and small boat landing.

In addition the county facilities, Ramsey also benefits from the Mn/DOT Wayside Rest between Highway 10 and the Mississippi River in western Ramsey that has visitor contact building with restrooms, canoe access and picnic facilities. This site may also serve as a trailhead for the future Mississippi River Trail that will traverse from the Headwaters in Minnesota, through 10 states to New Orleans.

Several community and neighborhood parks ranging in size from less than one acre to over 100 acres are to be found throughout the City. These parks were typically deeded to the City as part of the subdivision park dedication requirements. Neighborhood parks include play structures, play fields and trail connections, while many non-urbanized public land remains undeveloped or is recognized as open space. Emerald Pond Park is unique in terms of a pergola and faux stream and like many neighborhood parks, popular for day care providers. Two notable community parks include the 45-acre Central Park (primarily an athletic complex), and also River's Bend Park with a mix athletic facilities, natural resources, and access to fishing.

In terms of significant outdoor recreation available from the private sector, Ramsey has two 18-hole golf courses open to the public; the Links at Northfork located in northwest of Lake Itasca and Rum River Hills

Golf Course to the east, adjacent to the river at the 167th Avenue alignment. An additional outdoor recreation facility that is privately owned and operated but open to the public is the 160 acre Boy Scouts of America site along the Rum River. This is used for recreational camping and outdoor activities for scouts, as well as the city's Safety Camp.

The total amount of acreage devoted to the park and open space system is over 1,800 acres or approximately 10% of the of the City's 28 square miles. Table 10-1 includes a basic park inventory for the City of Ramsey.

Table 10-1 Park, Recreation and Open Space Inventory

PARK NAME	ACRES	TYPE	BUILDING	RESTROOMS	PAVILLION	PARKING	WARMING HOUSE	SKATING	HOCKEY	TENNIS COURT	SOFTBALL FIELD	BASEBALL FIELD	SOCCER/ FOOTBALL FIELD	BASKETBALL COURT	VOLLEYBALL COURT	PLAY AREA	PICNIC AREA GRILLS	SWIMMING BEACH	TRAILS	FISHING	OTHER
AUTUMN HEIGHTS	56.9	NEIGHBORHOOD				X					1					X					
BEAR		NEIGHBORHOOD									X										
BEAUDRY'S	5.6	OPEN SPACE																			X**
BROOKVIEW PARK NORTH	1.7	SPECIAL USE															X			X	
BROOKVIEW PARK SOUTH	1.5	OPEN SPACE																			
CAROLINE ACRES PARK	2.3	OPEN SPACE																			
CENTRAL PARK	41.3	COMMUNITY	2	X	X	X	X	X	2L		6	1	X	X		X					

PARK NAME	ACRES	TYPE	BUILDING	RESTROOMS	PAVILLION	PARKING	WARMING HOUSE	SKATING	HOCKEY	TENNIS COURT	SOFTBALL FIELD	BASEBALL FIELD	SOCCER/ FOOTBALL FIELD	BASKETBALL COURT	VOLLEYBALL COURT	PLAY AREA	PICNIC AREA GRILLS	SWIMMING BEACH	TRAILS	FISHING	OTHER	
CLOQUET ISLAND		COUNTY																				
COTTONWOOD		NEIGHBORHOOD																	X			
DEERWOOD	10.9	OPEN SPACE																				
EMERALD POND	11.2	NEIGHBORHOOD			X	X					X		X	X		X	X					
FLINTWOOD TERRACE	15.9	NEIGHBORHOOD									X					X	X		X			X ***
FORD BROOK	3.8	MINI-PARK														X	X					
FOREST HIDEAWAY		OPEN SPACE																				
FOSTER CEMETERY		CEMETERY																				
FOXPARK	22.4	NEIGHBORHOOD								X						X			X			X ***

PARK NAME	ACRES	TYPE	BUILDING	RESTROOMS	PAVILLION	PARKING	WARMING HOUSE	SKATING	HOCKEY	TENNIS COURT	SOFTBALL FIELD	BASEBALL FIELD	SOCCER/ FOOTBALL FIELD	BASKETBALL COURT	VOLLEYBALL COURT	PLAY AREA	PICNIC AREA GRILLS	SWIMMING BEACH	TRAILS	FISHING	OTHER
GORHAM SANDY ACRES		OPEN SPACE																			
GREENLAND HILLS EAST	14.9	OPEN SPACE																			X**
GREENLAND HILLS WEST	8.5	OPEN SPACE																			X**
HUNTER'S HILL	3.7	MINI-PARK														X	X				
LAKE ITASCA	28.5	COMMUNITY																			
ITASCA TRAIL		TRAIL																	X		
MISSISSIPPI WEST	204.2	REGIONAL/ COUNTY																			
OAKRIDGE	32.2	OPEN SPACE																			
PELTZER PARK	32.9	NEIGHBORHOOD						X								X	X				

PARK NAME	ACRES	TYPE	BUILDING	RESTROOMS	PAVILLION	PARKING	WARMING HOUSE	SKATING	HOCKEY	TENNIS COURT	SOFTBALL FIELD	BASEBALL FIELD	SOCCER/ FOOTBALL FIELD	BASKETBALL COURT	VOLLEYBALL COURT	PLAY AREA	PICNIC AREA GRILLS	SWIMMING BEACH	TRAILS	FISHING	OTHER
RABBIT PARK		NEIGHBORHOOD									X					X					
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	53.3	COMMUNITY				X	X	X	2		2										
REILLEY EAST	3.3	MINI-PARK																			
REILLEY WEST	2	MINI-PARK																			
RIVERDALE	2.7	TRAIL CORRIDOR								X	X			X		X				X	
RIVERS BEND	47.3	COMMUNITY				X				4	X		X			X			X	X	
RIVERWOOD HILLS NORTH	1.4	MINI-PARK																			
RIVERWOOD HILLS SOUTH		NEIGHBORHOOD																			
BOY SCOUT CAMP		PRIVATE PARK																			

PARK NAME	ACRES	TYPE	BUILDING	RESTROOMS	PAVILLION	PARKING	WARMING HOUSE	SKATING	HOCKEY	TENNIS COURT	SOFTBALL FIELD	BASEBALL FIELD	SOCCER/ FOOTBALL FIELD	BASKETBALL COURT	VOLLEYBALL COURT	PLAY AREA	PICNIC AREA GRILLS	SWIMMING BEACH	TRAILS	FISHING	OTHER
RUM RIVER CENTRAL	308.8	REGIONAL/ COUNTY		X	X	X													X	X	
SHAWN ACRES	4.4	MINI-PARK														X	X				
SOLSTICE	1.6	MINI-PARK			X											X			X		
SPORTS HAVEN NORTH	23.4	OPEN SPACE SPECIAL USE																			
SPORTS HAVEN SOUTH	1.7	OPEN SPACE SPECIAL USE																			
STANHOPE RIVER HILLS		OPEN SPACE																			
TITTERUD	6.8	NEIGHBORHOOD								2L	X		X			X	X				
TRAPROCK COMMONS	3.8	OPEN SPACE				X															
TROTT BROOK CORRIDOR	6	TRAIL CORRIDOR																			

PARK NAME	ACRES	TYPE	BUILDING	RESTROOMS	PAVILLION	PARKING	WARMING HOUSE	SKATING	HOCKEY	TENNIS COURT	SOFTBALL FIELD	BASEBALL FIELD	SOCCER/ FOOTBALL FIELD	BASKETBALL COURT	VOLLEYBALL COURT	PLAY AREA	PICNIC AREA GRILLS	SWIMMING BEACH	TRAILS	FISHING	OTHER	
WAYSIDE REST	18	REGIONAL/STATE	X	X	X	X														X	X *	
WHISPERING PINES NORTH		OPEN SPACE																				
WHISPERING PINES SOUTH		OPEN SPACE																				
WOODLAND GREEN PARK	4.7	MINI-PARK			X											X	X		X			
<p>X * = INTERPRETATION X ** = WETLAND X *** = BOARDWALK</p>																						

B. The Parks and Recreation Plan

In addition to the inventory, the Ramsey Park system is also divided into 17 Recreation Districts. These districts are delineated by major roadways or other barriers and provide a means for more effective planning in determining future park needs at the larger neighborhood level. A broad overview of the existing park system in Ramsey reveals a number of small underutilized neighborhood parks scattered throughout rural areas of the community that have developed at very low densities. This low-density development (or large lot development) does not support high use of a neighborhood park system and thus can lead to inefficiencies. A larger scale community park, which would provide park and recreation opportunities not available within private yards of large lots, would prove a more effective and efficient use of a park and recreation system to serve the rural areas of Ramsey. It is this opportunity, as well as the need for additional spaces for the growing youth athletic program that call for a sixth Community Park in the north central part of the city. The remaining major emphasis in the rural area of Ramsey should be in providing trail connections to get people to larger park facilities such as Central Park, Elmcrest and Rum River Central Regional Park as well as in preserving open space corridors consistent with more rural land use.

This same focus does not apply to the more urban areas of the city. Higher density development demands more parks that are within walking distances and provide a greater variety of activities. It would be wise to start planning for the provisions of neighborhood parks in future urban areas as well as looking to fill gaps in existing urban developed areas. Also as traffic patterns become denser within the urban areas, more neighborhood barriers exist increasing the need for more neighborhood park facilities. Trail development is a significant element of future park planning as a means to connect residents, and place to work, shop and recreate. Therefore, the City should continue installing paved trails or sidewalks along all collector streets concurrent with their construction.

The Mississippi River Regional Trail (Anoka County Segment) is an existing trail east of the Rum River in the city of Anoka. The trail is proposed to be extended to the west to connect to Mississippi West Regional Park and on to Sherburne County. Anoka County will work with the City of Ramsey and others on the completion of a master plan for this part of the trail. The Central Anoka County Regional Trail is an existing trail east of the City of Anoka. This trail is also proposed to be extended to the west to connect to Mississippi West Regional Park and Anoka County will work with the City of Ramsey and others on the completion of this trail in the future. A future segment of the Rum River trail is also being proposed, connecting to Rum River Central Regional Park. General alignment of these three trails are shown on Figure 10-2.

As an implementing agency for Metropolitan Council's Regional parks and Open space system, Anoka County essentially functions as the lead coordinator for regional trails. Planning is often performed in a macro sense with the individual jurisdictions, who are more likely to develop detailed plans and provide for specific routing of trails within these municipalities like Ramsey.

In reviewing future park and recreation needs to serve future and existing Ramsey residents, the following, generalized park type definitions will be used:

1. Park Type Definitions:

Mini-Parks: These are very small parks, often less than 1 acre in size, and are used to address limited or isolated recreational needs. These parks typically serve residents less than ¼ mile from the site.

Neighborhood Parks: Neighborhood parks are usually centrally located within neighborhoods and are designed primarily for use by neighborhood residents within easy walking and biking distances.

The Neighborhood Park should be a positive focal point of pride for the neighborhood. They are intended for both passive and active activities with facilities such as play equipment, court games, and picnicking. They are generally not intended to accommodate organized athletic activities. Neighborhood parks should be a minimum of 5 acres. These parks typically serve residents ¼ to ½ mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads or other physical barriers or have connecting trails with safe street crossings.

School Parks: Combining parks with school sites can be an efficient use of facilities. Care should be taken to not over use these facilities beyond what the landscape and scheduled maintenance can keep up with.

Community Parks and Athletic Complexes: Community Parks serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. The focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. A high priority for these parks should be connecting them through a trail system which then serves residents within ½ to a 3 mile distance, for those not traveling by auto.

The sports components of these facilities are often heavily programmed athletic fields. In Ramsey a strategy for Community Parks has been to ensure the park has a diversity of facilities, yet congregate like sports fields together.

Open Space: Land set aside for preservation of significant natural resources. Usually lacks any developed facilities.

Special Use: These parks consist of recreational facilities that are orientated toward a single-use.

Greenways: A greenway is a continuous corridor of natural vegetation that provides for critical habitat and the movement of wildlife and humans. They often follow natural waterways or land features.

2. Trail Types:

Off Road (Urban): Paved surface for non-motorized use, and paved or non-paved surface for users, both trails removed from roadway. These facilities should be developed in corridors a minimum of 35' feet in width.

On Road : Paved, striped and signed shoulder on roadway.

On Road Separated: Paved trail parallel to roadways, separated by a ditch, curb or other buffer.

Multi-Purpose: Paved surface and separate non-paved skiing or equestrian trail, both removed from roadways. These facilities should be developed in corridors a minimum of 75' feet in width.

Table 10-2 represents standards for park facilities needed to serve a community like Ramsey with the focus of the park development occurring within existing and future urban areas. These standards provide a basis for determining if the existing park system adequately serves today's population and if it will be able to handle the expected growth to the year 2020. These standards should only be used as a guide or rule of thumb.

Table 10-2 National Recreation and Park Association Standards

Facility Type	Acres/1000 Population	Desirable Size (Acres)	Population Served	Service Radius	Preferred Location	Typical Facilities
Playgrounds	.25 to .5	1 or less	500 to 1000	¼ mile or 5 minute walk	Within urban neighborhoods, close to multi-family residential	Play structure, small court games, turf area, picnic tables
Neighborhood Parks	2.0	6 to 8	1000 to 2000	½ mile or 10 minute walk	Within urban area, centrally located	Court games, field games, playgrounds
Community Parks	5 to 8	20 to 35	Community	1 to 4 miles	Centrally located and easily accessible to entire community	Ball fields, tennis courts, picnic facilities, active recreation facilities
Regional Parks	5 to 10	200 +	Regional Population	1 hour drive	Natural features, usually associated with water	Activities of community park, nature observation areas, cultural and historic learning facilities
Trails	-	-	-	-	Connecting important community features	-
Special Facilities	-	-	-	-	Varies, convenient access, central to community	Ice arena, community center, golf course, gun club

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In terms of Ramsey's park land area per resident, Ramsey may be adequately served by park and recreation opportunities. However, as future residential development occurs and new areas are developed, land must be dedicated and funds must be committed to meet the recreation needs of the community. Through subdivision ordinance, the City currently requires parkland dedication at a rate indexed to residential densities for new development to fulfill the need for park facilities.

Ramsey is fortunate to have many natural resources within its boundaries. Many of these resources are preserved and made accessible through existing large community parks and tracts of protected open space. The Future Mississippi West Regional Park has the great potential of strengthening Ramsey's connection and identity with the Mississippi River. Continued cooperation with regional partners like the National Park Service through the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area on the Regional Trail through Ramsey will be important as Ramsey works to improve its image along Highway 10. Presently, Anoka County provides regional trail organization relative to the MNRRA corridor. Cities like Ramsey are full players with respect to the Trails and Open Space Partnership (TOSP), which is a group that meets quarterly to guide and refine trails within the MNRRA corridor from Ramsey, south 72 miles to Hastings. Pedestrian connections across Highway 10 will likewise be critical in making this new park accessible and contributing to a vibrant Town Center.

With these great recreational facilities existing and planned, an important focus will be on making these larger systems of parks accessible to all Ramsey residents. Acquiring and constructing additional links to the Trail system are critical to the success of the future Parks and Recreation Plan

Smaller neighborhood parks remain appropriate in higher density areas where they serve more residents and are designed to be focal points of gathering for the neighborhood. Every attempt should be made to develop sidewalk and trail connections to these neighborhood resources. Similarly, future underpasses and elevated crossings should be carefully mapped, so as to identify funding and schedules, so as to time them with other infrastructure improvements.

3. Parks and Recreation Goals

The following goals and strategies came from the community meetings held in 2007 and 2008 under the Ramsey3 effort.

a) A comprehensive, balanced park and trail system consisting of large and small scale parks, active and passive parks, natural preserves, and recreational facilities.

STRATEGIES:

1. Incorporate planned parks and trails into all new development where appropriate
2. Design for connectivity with local and regional parks
3. Improve coordination of park and trail planning within City and adjacent communities
4. Establish a regional trail along the Mississippi River
5. Develop a Trott Brook Trail Corridor
6. Explore providing pedestrian access from the Mississippi River to the north side of Highway 10
7. Design trails with a variety of surfaces appropriate for different uses

8. Seek out alliances and partnerships with non-profit and governmental agencies to assist in securing funding and other resources that will assist in implementing the park and trail plan
9. Improve quality of existing parks, through careful planning, continued maintenance and adequate funding
10. Explore options for an additional community park
11. Where appropriate, consolidate existing parks to improve quality and provide more efficient service
12. Explore options for a revenue source for permanent protections of parks, trails and open space

b) A system of safe parks and trails

STRATEGIES:

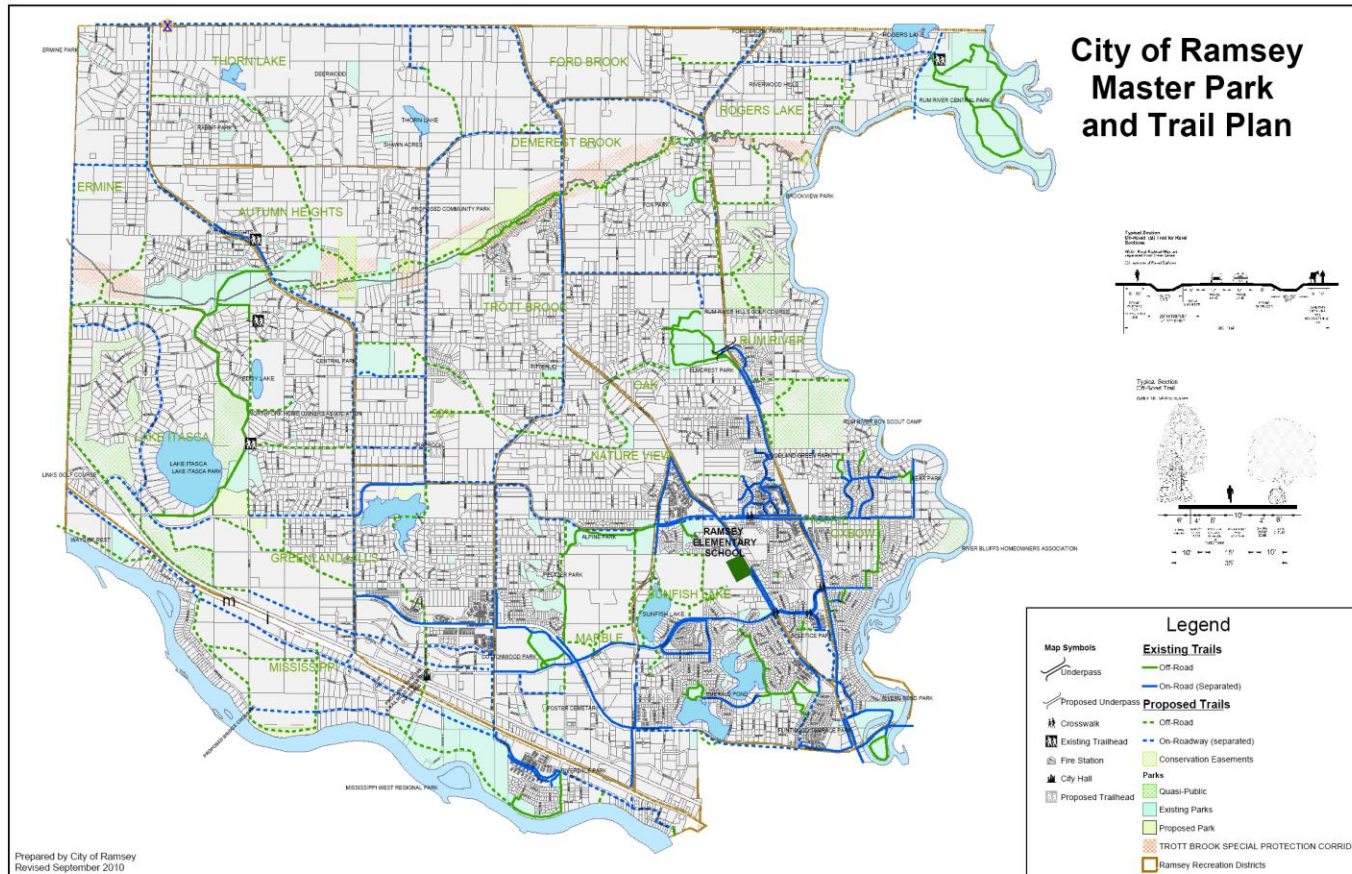
1. Locate trails where appropriate in greenway corridors and natural areas
2. Promote Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design CPTED and other techniques
3. Where appropriate, use existing power/utility easements for the trail system
4. Provide adequate signage and pavement markings to warn automobile traffic of park and trail traffic
5. Explore use of pedestrian-activated signals, continuous flashing signage, and mid-block crossings where safe and appropriate, to further increase park and trail safety
6. Minimize at-grade crossings of trails and roads and other interactions between trail users and automobiles, with underpasses or overpasses

e) A variety of park facilities and programs that meet the life cycle needs of residents.

STRATEGIES:

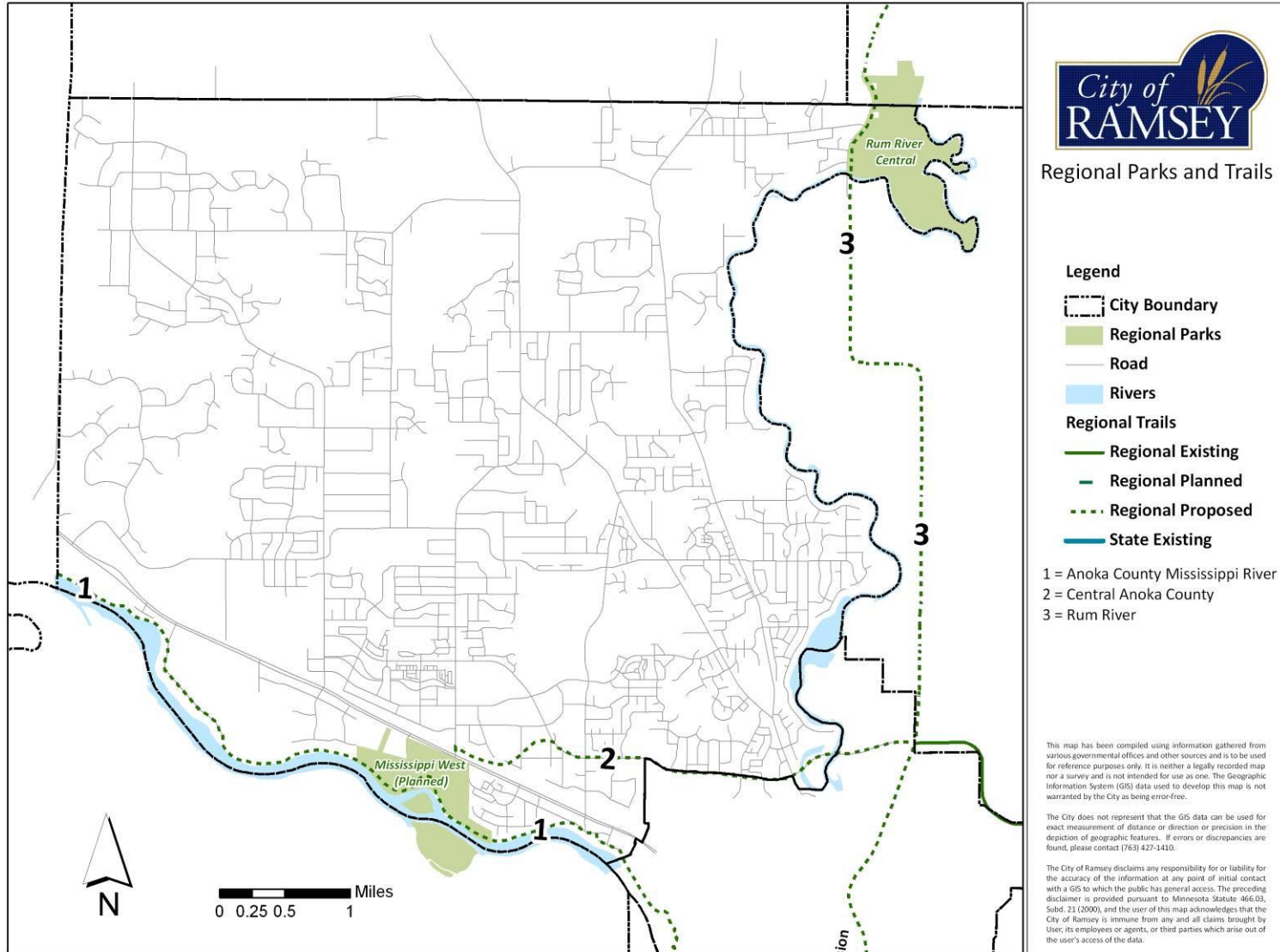
1. Work with the schools and community organizations to plan for athletic fields and facilities that will accommodate the growing community
2. Explore options for a revenue source for recreational facilities and programming
3. Study the need for a Community Center that offers a variety of recreational uses for all age groups

Figure 10-1 Park, Trail and Recreation Plan



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Figure 10.2: Regional Parks and Trails



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Item 1 – Vision + Objectives

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

June 8, 2017; Elmcrest Park; 6:30pm

Exercise #1 – I SEE / WE SEE

WE SEE (original) . . .

A recognized, beautiful, well-connected park and trail system that highlights our character and natural assets, that are the foundation of the city, and that provide activities and events that create a destination for all.

WE SEE (refined) . . .

A beautiful, city-focused, but regionally recognized, well-connected park and trail system that promotes our rural character, natural resource assets and attractive public amenities as the backdrop for social, recreational and special event activities that benefit Ramsey citizens and create a popular destination for everyone.

(for further discussion and refinement)

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

June 8, 2017; Elmcrest Park; 6:30pm

Exercise #2 – Key Words (primary objectives)

(original)

SAFETY

INSPIRATIONAL

DIVERSITY

FULLFILLING

PLAYFULL

FUNDED(ABLE)

BEAUTIFUL

CONNECTED

BELOVED

UTILIZED

FLOURISHING

REFRESHING

ACCESSIBLE

EXCITING

ATTRACTS(IVE)

NATURE-FULL

(refined)

SAFE

CONNECTED

SUSTAINABLE (flourishing)

BEAUTIFUL

NATURAL (nature-full)

COST EFFECTIVE (funded)

DIVERSE

PLAYFUL

ACCESSIBLE

USED (utilized, inspirational, attractive, beloved, fulfilling, refreshing)

(for further discussion and refinement)

Key Words translated into 'Objective' Statements

- 1 SAFE** – provide **safe** places for people
- 2 CONNECTED** – **connect** local assets with regional systems
- 3 SUSTAINABLE** – explore innovative approaches with **sustainable** outcomes
- 4 BEAUTIFUL** – promote **beauty** to showcase unique amenities and attractions
- 5 NATURAL** – protect, integrate, interpret **natural** resources wherever possible
- 6 COST EFFECTIVE** – match budget and benefit through **cost effective** design
- 7 DIVERSE** – provide a **diverse** mix of play/recreation activities for all ages and demographics
- 8 PLAYFUL** – add mystery, wonder, **playfulness** . . . and just plain FUN
- 9 ACCESSIBLE** – ensure universal **access** for everyone
- 10 USED** – update programming (refresh, inspire, fulfill) to ensure public places are **used!**

(for further discussion and refinement)

Park and Recreation Commission

5. 2.

Meeting Date: 08/10/2017

By: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Approve Parks and Recreation Master Plan Survey

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this case is to approve a Parks and Recreation Master Plan Survey. (Link below) Upon approval or amendments, the survey will be disseminated broadly to engage as many residents and park patrons as possible over the next couple months.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RamseyParkMasterPlan>

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

Funding for the Parks System Master Plan (and survey) is included within the 2017 General Fund budget.

Recommendation:

Staff requests feedback on the draft survey.

Action:

Based upon discussion, motion to approve the Parks Master Plan Survey.

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Form Review

Inbox

Grant Riemer

Form Started By: Mark Riverblood

Final Approval Date: 08/04/2017

Reviewed By

MaryJo Warner

Date

08/04/2017 12:44 PM

Started On: 08/03/2017 02:25 PM

Park and Recreation Commission

5. 3.

Meeting Date: 08/10/2017

By: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Discuss Parks' Precedent Plan Comparisons

Purpose/Background:

Early in July 2017, correspondence was issued to the Commission requesting input on Community Engagement on the Park System Master Plan. Additionally, six other city's park master plans were provided to consult for consideration, as Ramsey begins to format its first master parks plan document.

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Community Engagement (questions to organize the discussion)

- Who should we try to engage in this process? Consider both demographic groups that we might want to focus on, as well as organizations with whom we should meet.
- What do we want to learn from the people we engage? Are we primarily interested in how they perceive the existing system, what they hope to see in the future, or other issues and considerations you've thought about or already heard from the community?
- What events are taking place this fall where we could either inform the community about our planning process and/or ask for their input?

Similarly, are there particular places (like Happy Days) or methods (like publications or social media) we should use to get the word out? Attached for your information is an Intercept Board that may be used at venues like Happy Days or The Draw Event Series (potentially August 17th).

Park System Master Plan Precedents (identify consensus on best aspects of these various documents will help to inform Ramsey's plan)

- Irvine, CA: <http://www.cityofirvine.org/community-development/parks-master-plan>
- Oak Brook, IL: http://www.obparks.org/general_information/planning.asp (the "2016 Strategic Plan")
- Apple Valley, CA <http://www.applevalley.org/services/parks-recreation/parks-recreation-master-plan>
- Forest Grove, OR: <http://www.forestgrove-or.gov/parks-and-recreation>
- Roseville, MN: <http://www.cityofroseville.com/1990/2010-System-Master-Plan>
- Minneapolis, MN Downtown Service Area Master Plan: https://www.minneapolisiparks.org/park_care_improvements/park_projects/current_projects/downtown_service_area_master_plan/

Funding Source:

Funding for the Parks Master Plan is included within the 2017 General Fund budget.

Recommendation:

The Commission was asked to populate the attached Precedent Plans Comparisons form, so as for Staff to bring the findings to the meeting.

Action:

Based upon discussion.

Attachments

[Precedent Comparison Form](#)

[Intercept Boards](#)

Form Review

Inbox

Grant Riemer
Form Started By: Mark Riverblood
Final Approval Date: 08/04/2017

Reviewed By

MaryJo Warner

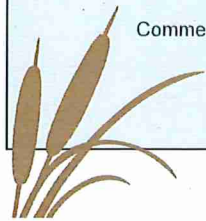
Date

08/04/2017 12:44 PM
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PRECEDENT PLAN COMPARISON

Please rate each of these documents based on the following criteria:

	Document Organization					Overall Content/Thoroughness					Layout and Design					Readability					Length									
	← Unsuccessful		→ Very Successful			← Unsuccessful		→ Very Successful			← Unsuccessful		→ Very Successful			← Unsuccessful		→ Very Successful			← Unsuccessful		→ Very Successful							
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5					
City of Irvine Parks Master Plan, Irvine, CA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Oak Brook Park District Strategic Plan, Oak Brook, IL	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Apple Valley Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Apple Valley, CA	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, Forest Grove, OR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parks and Recreation Master Plan, Roseville, MN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
MPRB Downtown Service Area Master Plan, Minneapolis, MN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Comments																														



What activity/activities would you like to see added to the City of Ramsey's parks and public spaces?

Place a sticker on the two (2) that are most important to you:



Don't see what you're looking for? Write your answers on a post-it note:

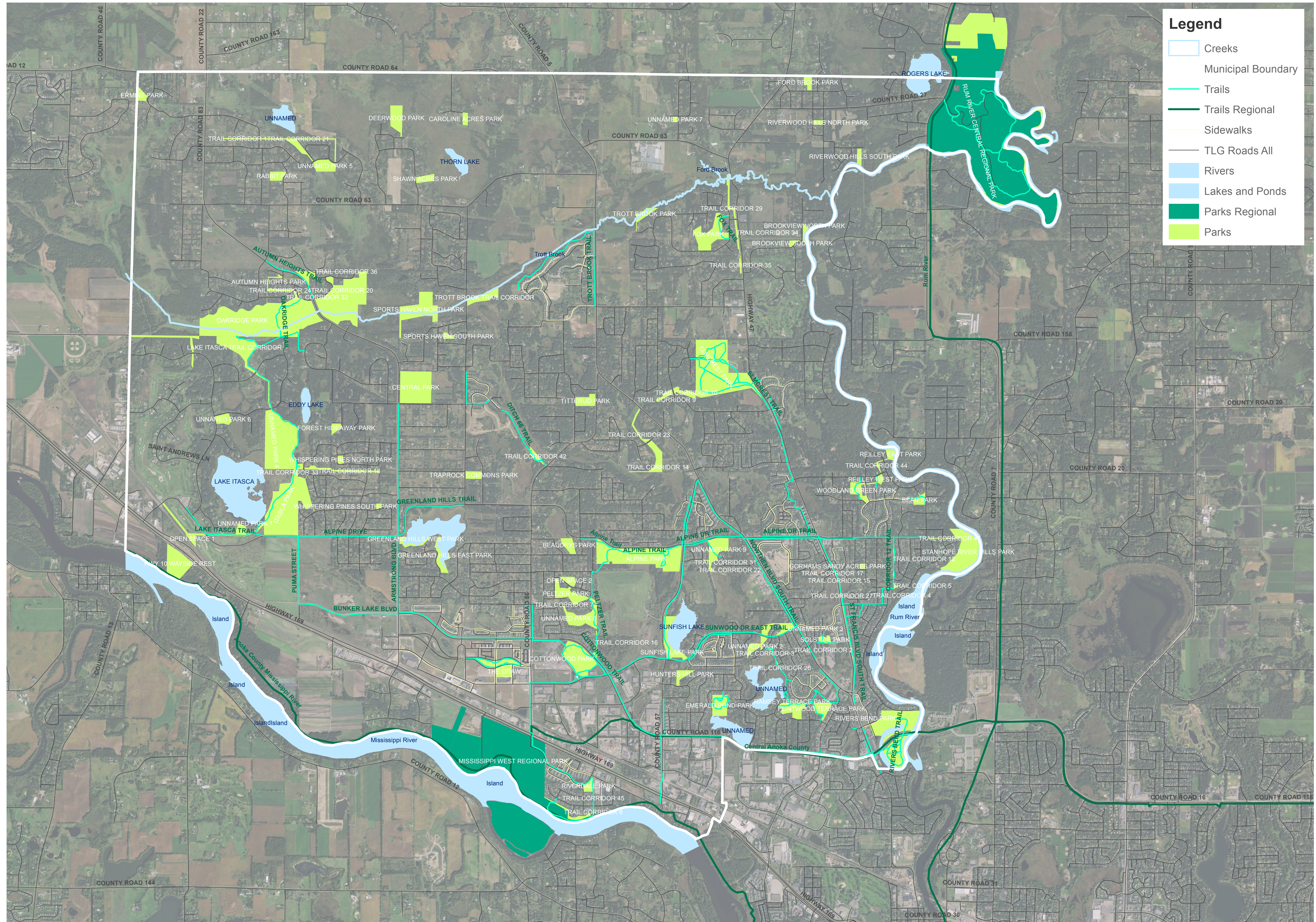
Place your answers here!



Mapping Exercise

Please use the colorful dots to tell us:

- Which parks and public spaces do you like to go to/visit most often?
- Which parks and public spaces do you *not* like to go to?
- Where do you live?



Please use a Post-It to tell us why you like or don't like to go certain places in the Ramsey Park System.



Meeting Date: 08/10/2017

By: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Review Concept Plan for 175 Unit Market Rate Apartment in The COR; Case of Inland Group

Purpose/Background:

The City has been approached by Inland Development Group about a potential market-rate apartment building in Ramsey (purchasing city-owned land).

In order to set up an orderly review process, the City has prepared Concept/Context Maps and included Architectural Renderings with this case in advance of the Purchase Agreement phase. The purpose of this case is to introduce the topic and see what questions and opportunities exist as Inland Group continues to discuss the proposed concept with City Staff. The concepts attached to the case are just concepts to frame the discussion. The ultimate site plan is likely to look different by the time of construction.

Staff believes that this generally meets the spirit and intent of The COR Interim Development Plan. Staff would identify any deficiencies in these concepts in future reviews with the Planning Commission and Park and Recreation Commission. As indicated, at this time the discussion is intended to be a high level review and introduction. Staff will come with a more formal recommendation on preferred alternatives at future steps.

Notification:

Notification is not required at this time.

Observations/Alternatives:

Staff is posing the following high-level policy questions for the Commission, relating to the relationships to the proposed park spaces in The COR. This is not a specific site plan review, but an opportunity to better guide site selection.

1. Are there any of the concepts that are simply non-starters and should be taken off the table now?
2. Are there specific questions the Commission wants the Developer to speak to at future meetings? (As the project is simply seeking potential sites in Ramsey at this time, there will be several opportunities for the city's Boards and Commissions and Developer to interact in the future.)

Comments or consensus of the Commission may be very general, like Staff's bullet points below, (or specific). Staff's initial thoughts on the relationship to future park development finds that Concept C has distinct benefits:

~ retains the preferred park configuration

~ retains the woonerf

~ the surface parking at the northwest of the proposed 4.2 acre site has the potential for some shared parking between the apartment and the water-centric park

Notes on Residential/Retail Balance

A number of Ramsey Residents have expressed a concern about the amount of housing being built in Ramsey recently, without seeing a corresponding amount of retail development as of yet. Staff offers the following talking points to aid in that discussion. (This is not an exhaustive list of talking points on this topic, but a concise mention

of the broader goal in the context of land use review.)

1. The City does have a plan for approximately 100 acres of retail development and aggressively attempts to recruit retailers that will add value to the community for many years to come.
2. The City is also planning for nearly 100 acres of new industrial growth. 120,000 square feet of new industrial space is being reviewed. Although the City cannot guarantee this development will ultimately develop, there are positive signs for commercial/industrial growth.
3. While additional residential growth is planned for within The COR, the planned housing is nearly 60% complete.
4. When recruiting retailers to the community, many share the need for additional housing units in Ramsey to provide the necessary demographics/population to shop in their stores. The City attempts to find that balance of land use planning through its Comprehensive Plan.
5. As the City grows its employment base, it aims to provide adequate housing to support the workers that work in our existing and future industrial parks.
6. Residential housing in The COR both drive the need to develop the proposed Municipal Plaza and the water-centric park (a.k.a. slash pad or 'Lake Ramsey')—and provide Park Dedication for the capital costs.
7. Housing concentrated in strategic locations is part of a broader growth management strategy that allows the community to balance and retain its defined rural character.

Funding Source:

This case is being handles as part of normal Staff duties. The project is being proposed on City-owned property.

Recommendation:

Staff does not have a recommendation at this time other than a request to provide thoughts on the concepts presented.

Action:

No specific action is being requested. Staff is seeking general consensus on high-level policy direction.

Attachments

Site Concepts

Municipal Plaza concepts

Architectural Example

Form Review

Inbox

Tim Gladhill

Form Started By: Mark Riverblood

Final Approval Date: 08/04/2017

Reviewed By

MaryJo Warner

Date

08/04/2017 08:47 AM

Started On: 08/03/2017 09:08 AM



COR AREA
DEVELOPMENT
OPTIONS

RAMSEY, MN



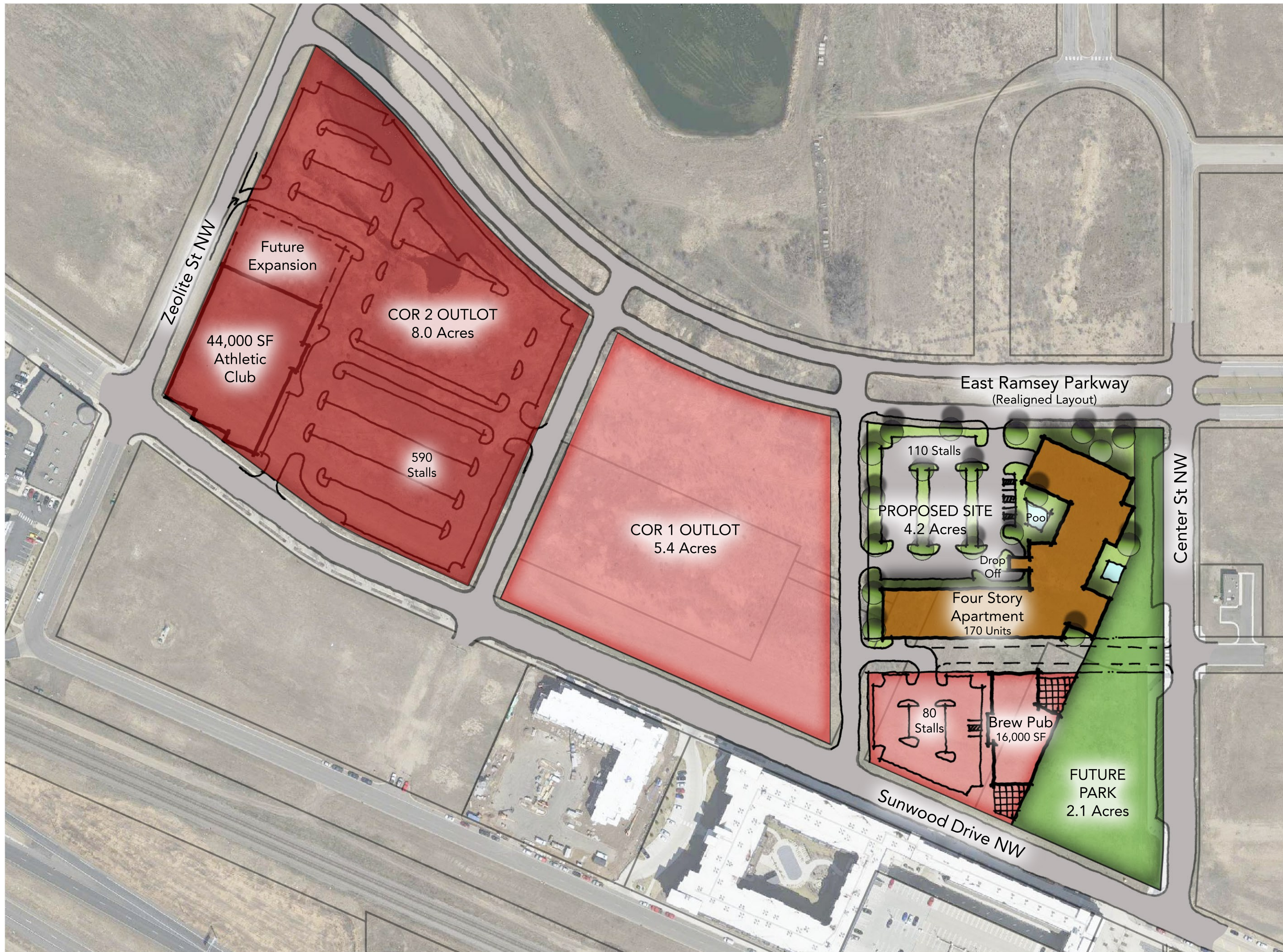
COR AREA
DEVELOPMENT
OPTIONS

RAMSEY, MN



COR AREA
DEVELOPMENT
OPTIONS

RAMSEY, MN



COR AREA
DEVELOPMENT
OPTIONS

RAMSEY, MN





COR AREA
DEVELOPMENT
OPTIONS

RAMSEY, MN



MUNICIPAL PARK

Ultimate purpose of a city in our life time is to provide a **creative environment for people to live in.**

A city has a **great diversity** and thus allows for **freedom of choice;**

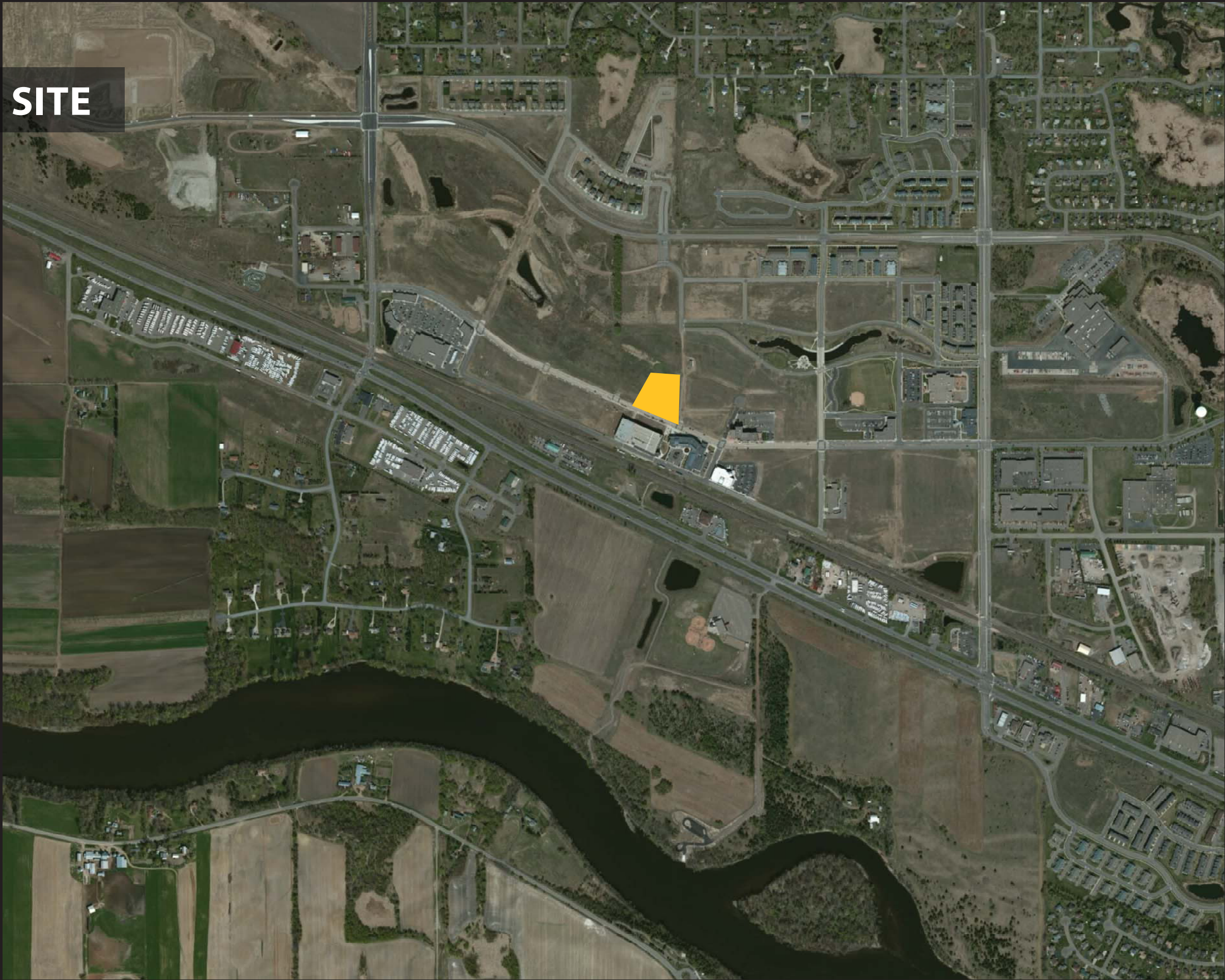
one which generates the **maximum of interaction** between people and their urban surroundings”

by L. Halprin

Concepts



SITE



MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3

CURRENT MASTER PLAN



MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3

CONCEPT 1



CONCEPT 2



CONCEPT 3



MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3



MUNICIPAL PARK

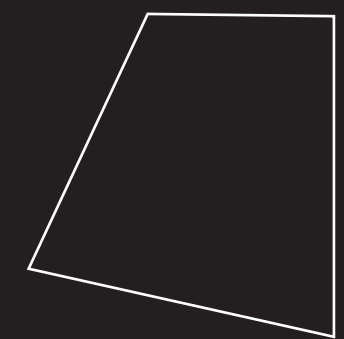
Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3



MUNICIPAL PARK

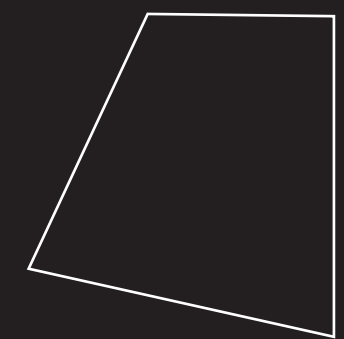
Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3



Flexible sitting area / Temporary market



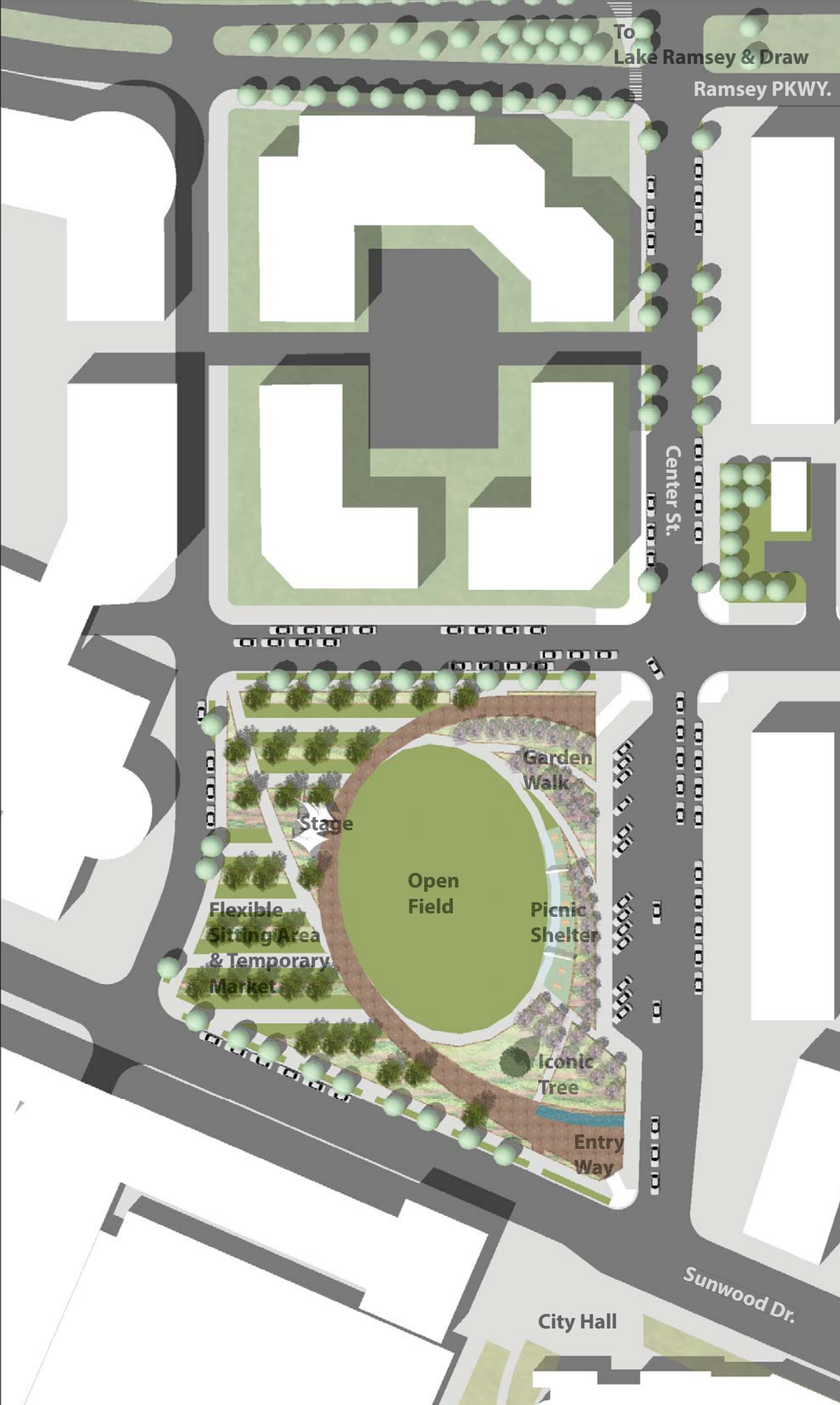
Stage

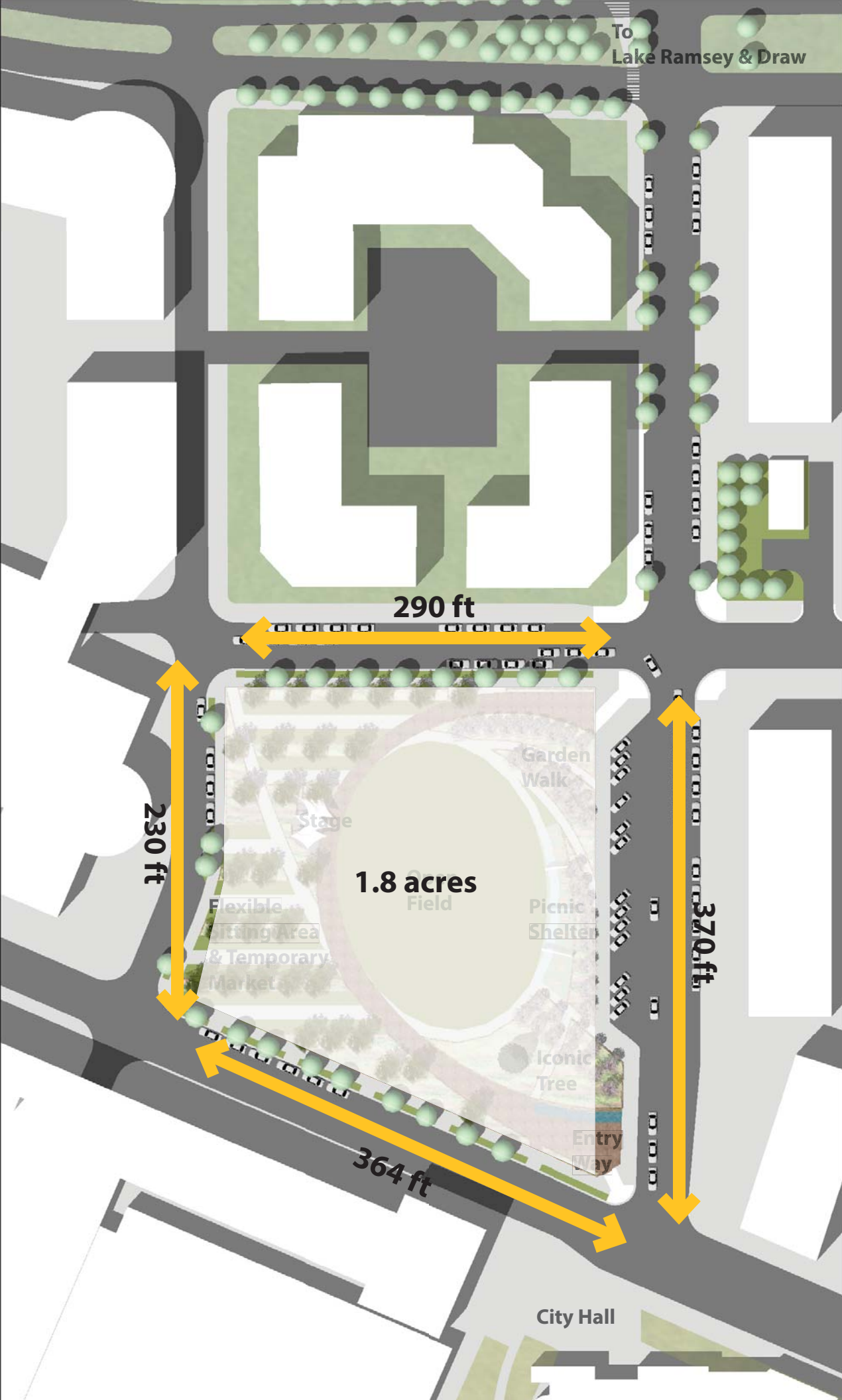


Picnic area with garden edge



Entryway





Park area: 79,688 sqft
Development: 101,500 sqft
Frontage: 1,254 ft

MUNICIPAL PARK

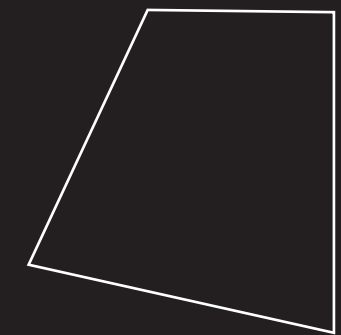
Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3





MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3



MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts



Stage



Promenade



Forest walk



Entryway



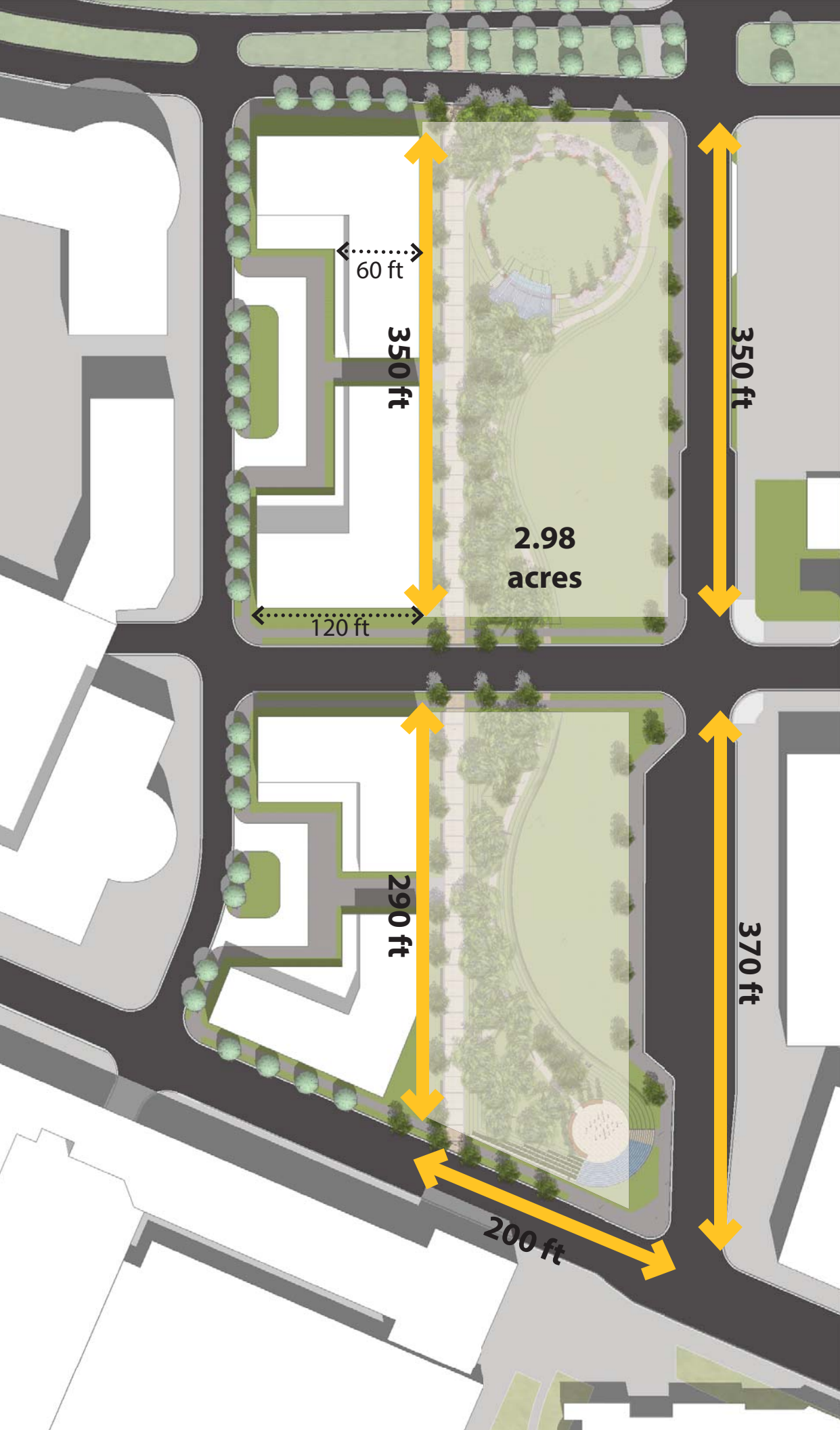
Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3





Park area: 107,456 sqft
 Development: 74,782 sqft
 Frontage: 1,565 ft

MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts



Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3





MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3





Forest walk, connection to lake Ramsey



Woonerf, & commercial edge



Fountain, iconic tree, & Open field



Entryway



MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts

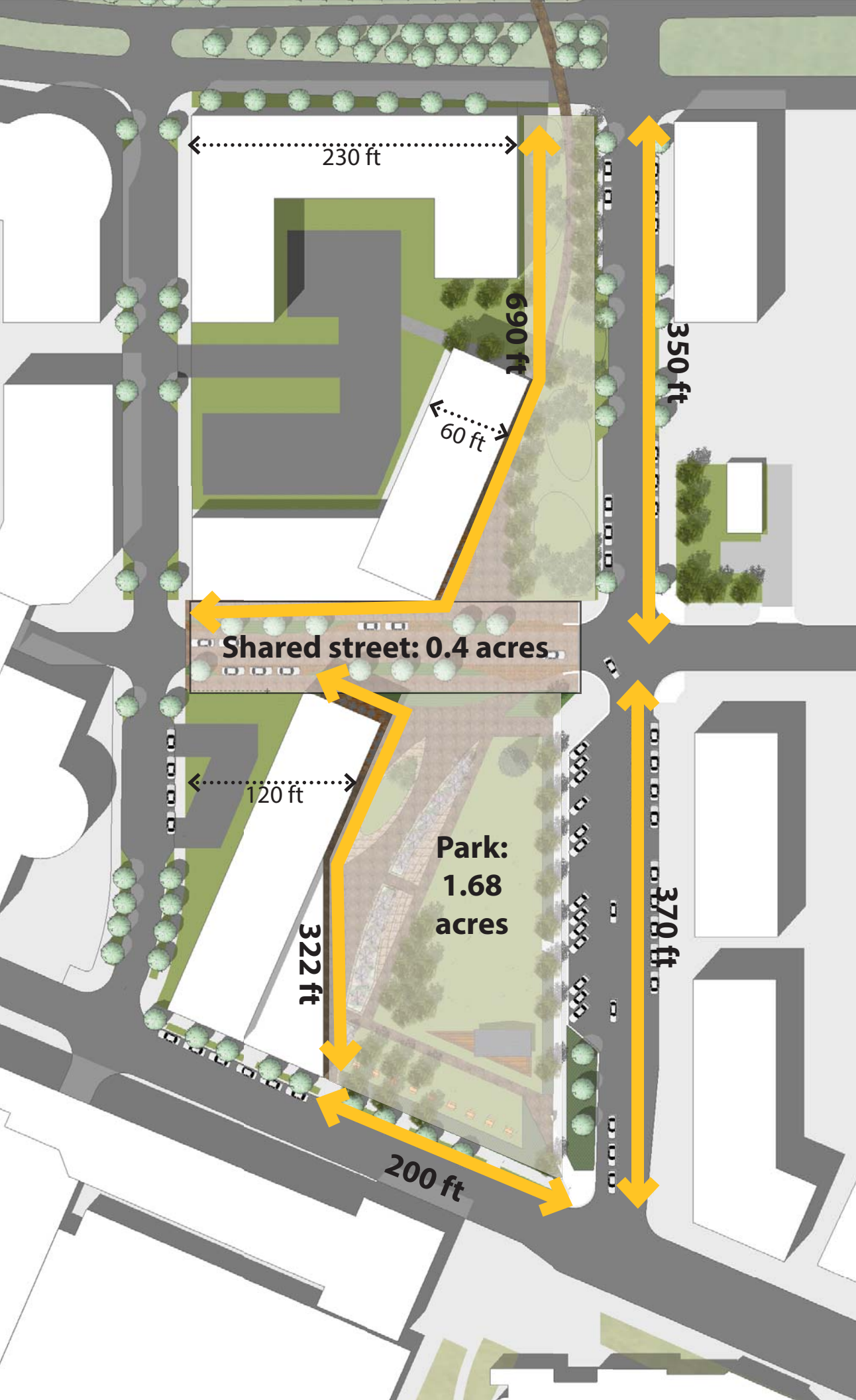
Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3





Park area: 71,550 sqft
 Shared Street: 19,122 sqft
 Development: 110,688 sqft

Frontage: 1,932 ft

MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3



MUNICIPAL PARK

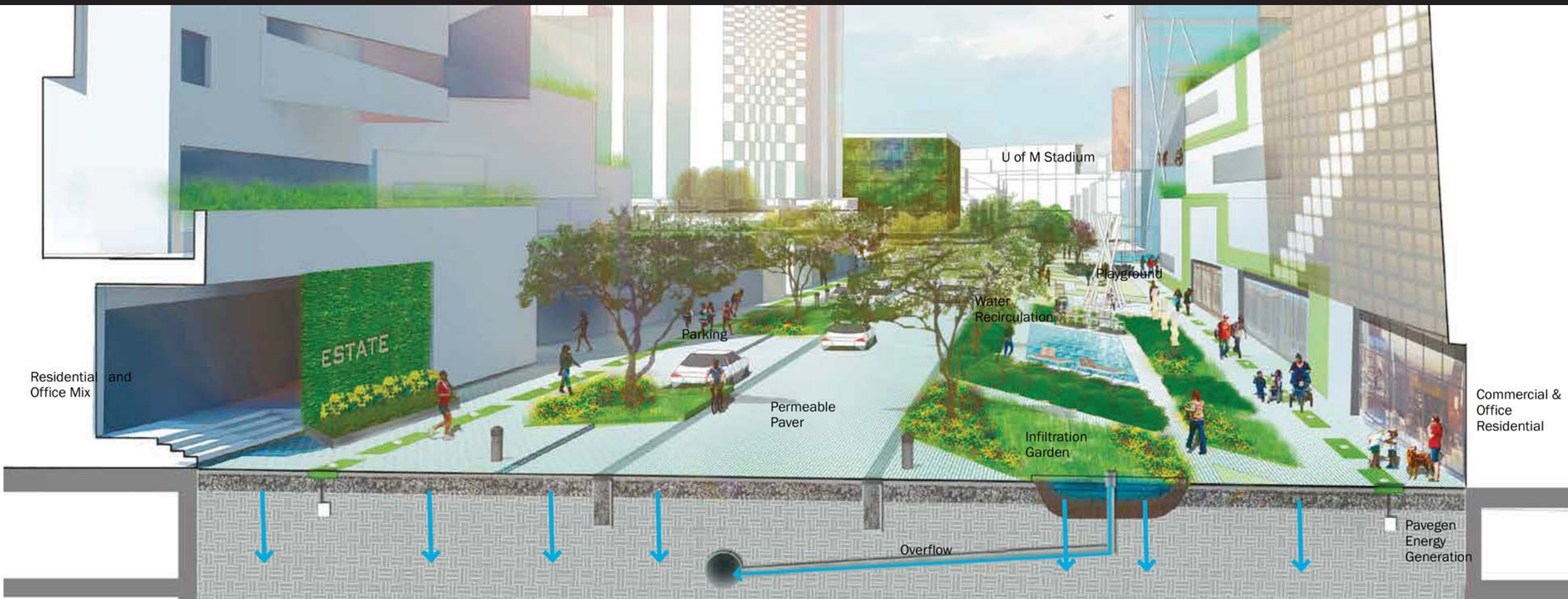
Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3



MUNICIPAL PARK

Concepts

Context

Concept 1

Concept 2

Concept 3

Other elements





01 BUILDING ELEVATION
 SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"



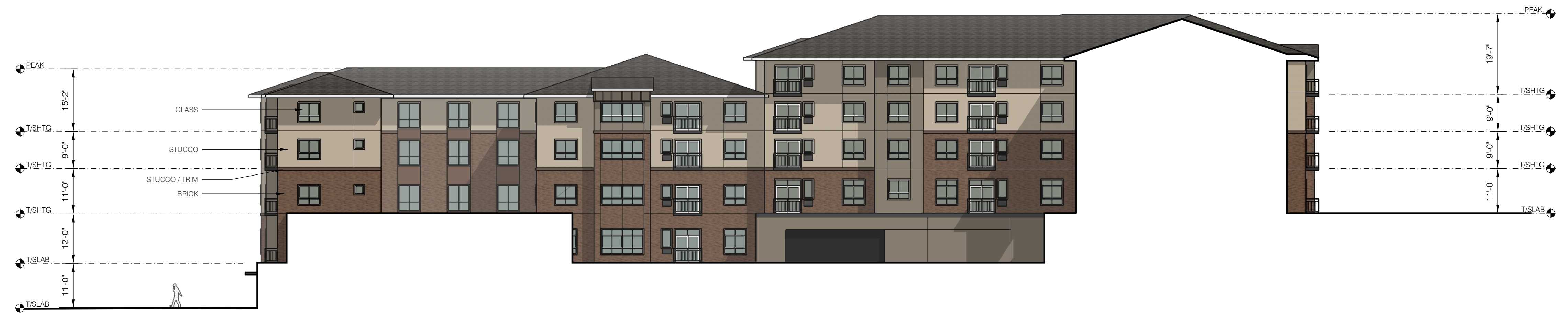
02 BUILDING ELEVATION
 SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"

MATERIAL LEGEND

25%	GLASS
35%	BRICK
30%	STUCCO
10%	STUCCO / TRIM



01 BUILDING ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"



02 BUILDING ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"

MATERIAL LEGEND

25%	GLASS
35%	BRICK
30%	STUCCO
10%	STUCCO / TRIM



01 BUILDING ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"



02 BUILDING ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"

MATERIAL LEGEND

25%	GLASS
35%	BRICK
30%	STUCCO
10%	STUCCO / TRIM



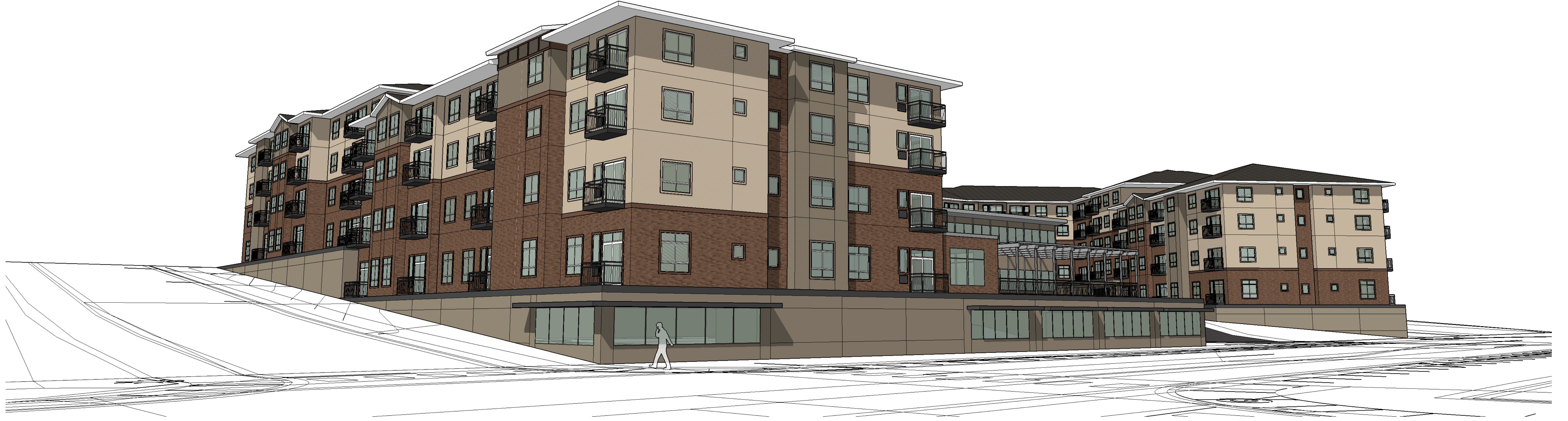
01 BUILDING ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"



02 BUILDING ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"

MATERIAL LEGEND

- 25% GLASS
- 35% BRICK
- 30% STUCCO
- 10% STUCCO / TRIM





Meeting Date: 08/10/2017

By: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Recommend 2017 Parks Capital Improvement Project(s)—Priority Trail Connections

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this case is to advance two trail projects referenced by the 2017-2026 Capital Improvement Program (page 176).

The primary trail (specifically identified within the CIP) would be to connect the existing Trott Brook Trail by boardwalk west to Variolite Street. This proposed link was the subject of two different grant applications to the MN DNR. The City of Ramsey did not score high enough for funding in this highly competitive program, due to not being part of, or facilitating a regional trail connection. Thus, Staff is recommending that the city proceed with development, utilizing Park Trust Fund monies from the Brookfield subdivision (various phases). The attached DNR Trail Grant Application has considerable detail on this project, including location exhibits, budget etc,

The other trail project proposed would be a short trail segment, linking an existing neighborhood to The COR west of North Commons. A location map is attached.

Notification:

A Public Hearing has been conducted on the 2017-2026 Capital Improvement Program.

Observations/Alternatives:

Relative to the Trott Brook Trail, the intention would be to advance this trail for City Council funding consideration in a not to exceed amount of \$300,000. The construction period may be over the winter period of 2017-18.

The short trail link project, connecting the two neighborhoods near North Commons would advance for Council consideration in terms of a mailer for public notification. The project scope is not fully developed at this time. However, it is estimated that the cost may be less than \$30,000 for the bituminous trail, ADA pedestrian ramps, and trees with a naturalized pollinator landscape.

Funding Source:

Both trail projects would be funded from the Park Trust Fund, however, only the Trott Brook Trail is being considered fully for funding at this time.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends proceeding as indicated in the sample motions below.

Action:

Motion to recommend to City Council that the Trott Brook Trail project proceed for construction, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$300,000 from the Park Trust Fund.

~ and ~

Motion to recommend/not recommend that City Council direct Staff to issue notification on the proposed

neighborhood trail connection, and develop the project scope based upon public feedback.

Attachments

CIP worksheet

Trott Brook Trail Grant

DNR letter on grant app

Proposed neighborhood link

Form Review

Inbox

Grant Riemer

Form Started By: Mark Riverblood

Final Approval Date: 08/04/2017

Reviewed By

MaryJo Warner

Date

08/04/2017 12:44 PM

Started On: 08/03/2017 02:37 PM

TROTT BROOK GREENWAY TRAIL AND BOARDWALK



“Out of the clouds I hear a faint bark, as of a faraway dog. It is strange how the world cocks its ear to that sound, wondering. Soon it is louder: the honk of geese, invisible, but coming on.

The flock emerges from the low clouds, a tattered banner of birds, dipping and rising, blown up and blown down, blown together and blown apart, but advancing, the wind wrestling lovingly with each winnowing wing. When the flock is a blur in the far sky I hear the last honk, sounding taps for summer.

It is warm behind the driftwood now, for the wind has gone with the geese. So would I -- if I were the wind.”

— Aldo Leopold

Project #	
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LOCAL TRAIL CONNECTIONS PROGRAM 2017 Grant Application

1) GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Grant Applicant (Unit of Government Required):	City of Ramsey
Contact Person:	Mark Riverblood
Contact Title:	Parks & Asst. Public Works Superintendent
Mailing Address:	7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Phone:	763 433 9853
E-mail address:	mriverblood@ci.ramsey.mn.us
<i>If the project has a trail club, organization, or project partner, please include below:</i>	
Organization/Club Name:	
Contact Person:	
Contact Title:	
Mailing Address:	
Phone:	
E-mail address:	

2) GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Name:	Trott Brook Greenway Trail and Boardwalk
Project Summary (30 words or less):	The Trott Brook Greenway is the largest, most ecologically intact natural expanse in the city of Ramsey. This boardwalk will facilitate access and appreciation of this resource, while connecting people and parks.
Project Completion Date:	Winter of 2017-18, to Spring of 2018

3) FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Grant Request:	\$150,000	Source of Cash Match (describe below in the box next to \$ amount):	Are these match funds secured? (Check below):	
			YES	NO
Non-State Cash Matching Funds (25% cash match required):	\$			
	\$116,756	Park Trust Fund, (fees collected from the Brookfield Addition)	✓	
	\$			
Total Project Cost:	\$266,756	(Grant Request + Matching Funds must = Total Project Cost)		
If this project has received federal funding through the Enhancements Program or MnDOT's Transportation Alternatives Program, please indicate which year the project is programmed for construction?			FFY:	N/A

4) PROJECT LOCATION:

County Project is Located:	Anoka
State Legislative (House) District:	35A
State Senate District:	35
State House Representative:	Abigail Whelan
State Senator:	Jim Abeler
Congressional District:	6

5) MEASURABLE TARGETS/OUTCOMES:

It is required that measurable targets and outcomes be collected for your project. Complete the boxes below on the right with exactly how many miles of trail that will be acquired, newly developed or existing trail miles improved, along with the number of trailhead facilities, bridges, and/or culverts that will be developed or restored as part of the project. After the project is complete the measurable outcome will be compared with the target included.

Trail Miles to be Acquired:	0
New Trail Miles to be Developed/Created:	Approx. third of one mile
Existing Trail Miles to be Restored or Improved:	0
Number of Trailhead Facilities to be Developed or Restored:	New, ADA trailhead access
Number of Trail Bridges/Culverts to be Developed or Restored:	0

6) RECREATIONAL USES FOR PROJECT:

6A) Below, indicate which primary and secondary recreation uses will directly benefit from the proposed project:

Primary Use	Secondary Use	
X		Walking/Hiking (Jogging/running)
X		Bicycling
	X	Mountain Bicycling
		Horseback Riding
		Cross-Country Skiing
	X	In-Line Skating
		Snowmobiling
		ATV Riding
		Off-Highway Motorcycling
		Off-Road Vehicles (4x4, Jeep, etc.)
X		Other (specify): Bird watching/naturalist study

6B) Describe/Justify how each of the above identified primary and/or secondary trail user groups will benefit from the project. Response required for each identified use above.

Due to the outstanding scenic views and unique combination of natural resources along the relatively broad valley associated with Trott Brook; existing sections of trail near the stream receive significant use from both near-by residents, and persons who drive to access the trail. Trail users are about evenly represented by leisurely walkers and bikers, and those who use the trail for fitness and exercise, and by nature aficionados.

The proposed boardwalk will benefit the above trail users by completing the Trott Brook Trail between two significant arterial roadways in the city with paved bike lanes, as well as improved

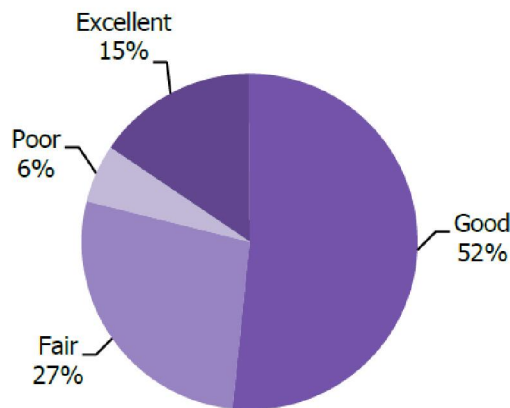
access and visibility to the trail itself at Variolite Street. Additionally, the appropriately sized trailhead proposed on Variolite St. will encourage and enable use of the trail - as **no other parking facility exists near Trott Brook in this central portion of the city.**

6C) Will this project provide year round trail use? If it is planned to provide year round use, outline which users indicated above will benefit and how the facility will be maintained for those uses.

The City of Ramsey maintains its trail system, for year-round usage by walkers, runners/joggers, bicyclists, inline skaters, dog-walkers – and those who use trails as a transportation route (often youth, who do not drive). During the spring, summer and fall, various maintenance activities are performed, including trimming of the clear zone, as well as inspections to ensure safety. In the winter, trails are plowed to allow users a suitable surface for their chosen mode of trail travel. Depending on weather conditions, plowing of trails usually begins as soon as practicable after plowing of streets is completed.

It may be mentioned here, that the trail and boardwalk will be maintained in excess of 20-years – foreseeably for perpetuity. As trails are so highly valued in the community, city leaders sought impartial feed-back to ensure maintenance was indeed adequate, and that the annual trail maintenance budget was appropriately resourced. In 2014, utilizing the International City/County Management Association’s National Citizen Survey™, the following information was gleaned from 430 randomly selected residents:

Figure 5: Trail Maintenance
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Ramsey: Trail maintenance



7) PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Provide a description sufficient enough to understand the project. Indicate prominently whether this is primarily a new trail or facility development request, an enhancement to an existing trail or facility, or an acquisition. Make sure to include the design specifics of the project, such as the trail width (paved multi-use bicycle/pedestrian trails must be at least 10 feet wide). Include how this project will be immediately available for use by the general public. If this project is a phase of a larger project, very briefly describe how it fits into the larger plan, however, focus specifically on how the grant funds will be used for this project. Also, briefly explain why it is important for this project to be funded. Use the box below.



(This April image of an existing boardwalk in Ramsey, may evoke warm memories of Spring sunshine, and the first glorious sounds of Spring Peepers and the 'snoring' of Leopard Frogs longing for love.)

The new section of trail (approximately 1/3 mile), will connect the existing 9/10 mile of 10' foot wide bituminous trail along Trott Brook via a boardwalk to the west, to the bike lanes at Variolite Street – where the trailhead access is proposed. Thus, the 'new facility' will complete the middle portion of the Trott Brook Trail, and also be an enhancement to the larger, 50+ mile trail system in the city.

The proposed Trott Brook boardwalk shall be constructed in a manner proven under local conditions to withstand the high use the trail will receive. The boardwalk will be comprised of 8' x 8' sections of 2 x 8's with galvanized joist hangers, through-bolted together, and decked with 2 x 6's secured by 3-inch Guard Dog coated screws. Square, 4 x 4 ACQ posts will support and level the approximate 1,720' foot structure with galvanized brackets and pans, placed upon the wetland's surface. (The boardwalk will be constructed at 10' foot in width if required.)

A 2 x 4 'curb' structure on both edges reduces chances of lateral slipping of trail users when the surface may be wet. Additionally, the curb, elevated by regularly spaced blocks functions as a truss, tying each boardwalk section together as a solid unit.

Two short sections of 10' foot bituminous will be paved on either end of the boardwalk. At the juncture of the blacktop trail and boardwalk, a 2' foot wide concrete footing shall be poured, which keeps the two trail surfaces vertically aligned through freeze/thaw cycles (another proven design element).

This project also proposes an ADA compliant and signed trailhead (parking area) along Variolite Street described within **13)** below. This expands access, and visibility of the trail—increasing overall utility by making it available to many more people.

It is important to fund this project to improve trail opportunities within the community, provide connectivity to the west, from neighborhoods near Nowthen Boulevard—and for the reasons cited within **15)**, **Natural Resource Impact**, summarized as encouraging a 'new ethic for the governance and advocacy for the conservation of natural areas'.

8) PROJECT COST BREAKDOWN:

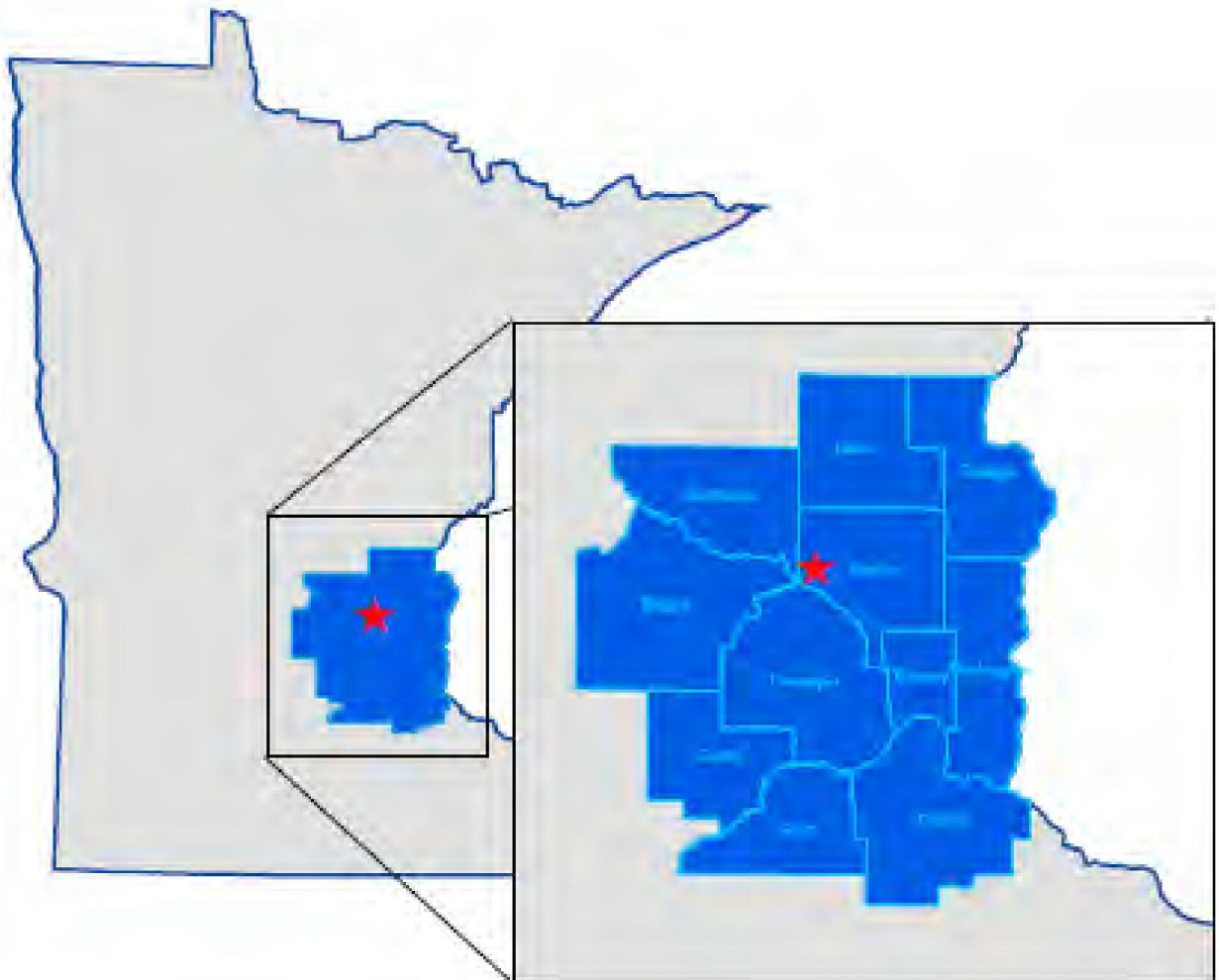
Identify each recreational trail/facility being proposed for funding. Provide a short quantitative description of the facility (linear feet, dimension of structures, number of components, etc.), the total estimated cost and the expected completion date for each, for just this grant request. Include materials, landscaping, design/engineering services, contract service, etc. Add or delete rows in the text boxes below as appropriate. For acquisition projects, fill out the acquisition table.

Trail/Facility	Description	Estimated Cost	Expected Completion Date
150' x 10' Parking	7 vehicle parallel parking with ADA space	\$4,978	2017
ADA striping for parking	Pavement striping adjacent to trail entrance	\$200	2017
ADA sign	Sign, post and installation	\$185	2017
Truncated Domes	4 (four) 2' x 2' steel truncated dome panels in 3' x 10' concrete panel	\$1,298	2017
10' trail segments	Bituminous trail connectors – on either end of boardwalk/parking	\$2,410	2017
215, 8' x 8' boardwalk sections	Boardwalk panels, 2 X 6 decking, 4 x 4's, galvanized hardware	\$121,680	2018
432 galvanized brackets and pans	Standard boardwalk pans and upper brackets with galvanized hardware	\$25,946	2018
Curbing for boardwalk	2 x 4's and blocks with hardware	\$6,209	2018
Delivery	4 truckloads lumber and hardware	\$1,000	2017
Labor	All labor associated with actual boardwalk construction (contracted)	\$102,850	2017-2018
	(Local administration costs are not included or accounted for anywhere in this application.)		
Total		\$266,756	2018

ACQUISITION (if applicable):			
Description of Parcel	Acres or Miles of Trail	Reasonable Market Value Estimate	Expected Acquisition Date
N/A			
Total		\$	

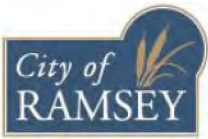
9) PROJECT LOCATION MAP:

It is important for reviewers to have an idea of where in the state and/or your region the project being proposed is located. This map must be 8 ½" X 11" in size ONLY, should be in color, and be able to show where the project is generally located within the state or region. So typically the scale of this map is very large. Insert the map here.



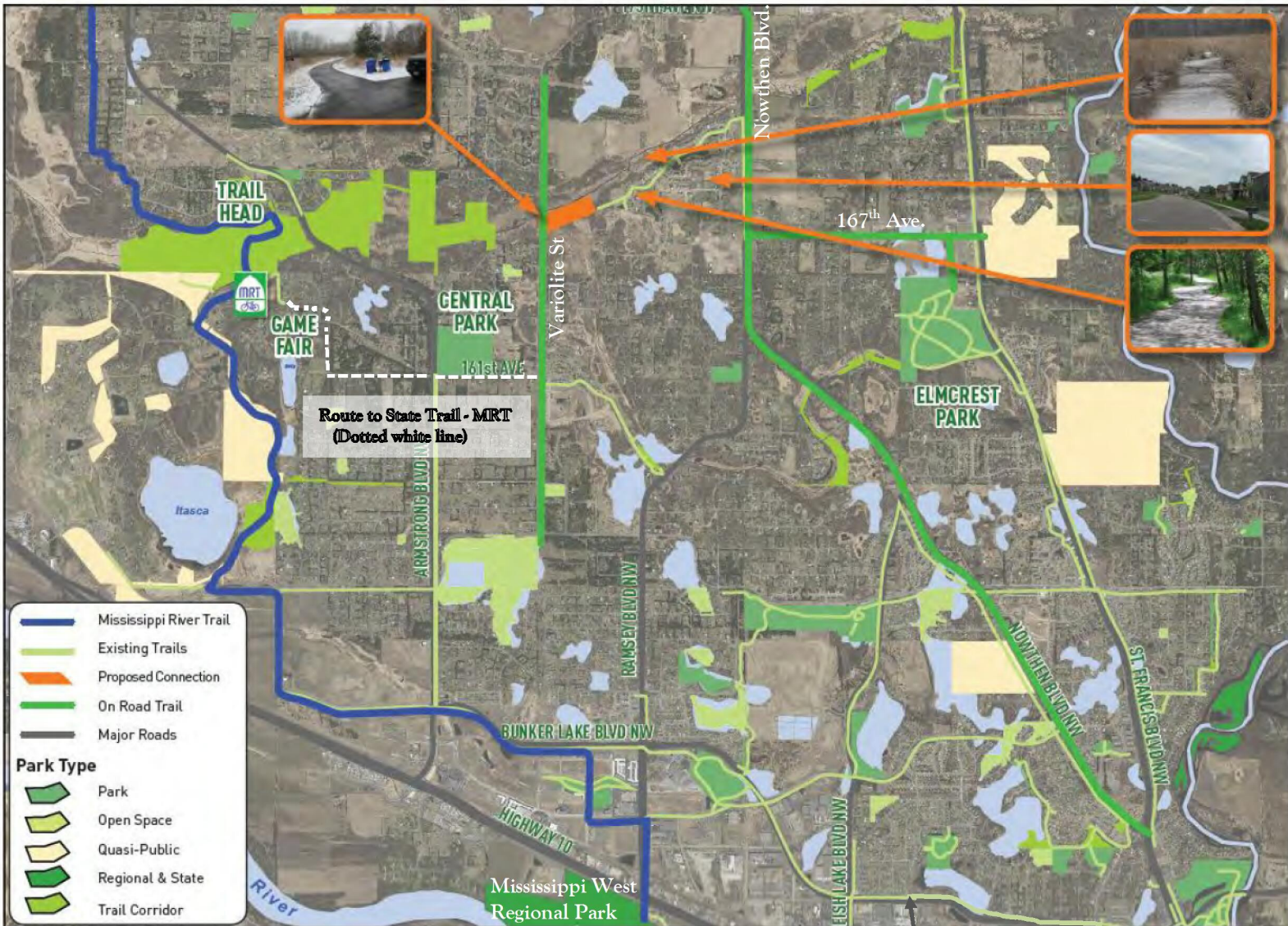
10) PROJECT SITE LEVEL MAP:

It is also important for the reviewers to be able to see where the project is located within the context of a city, county, park, etc. This map must be 8 1/2" X 11" in size ONLY, should be in color, and should be very effective at showing how the project fits within its specific context. The map must show existing trails/facilities, proposed trails/facilities as directly proposed as part of the project, and future trail/facility development/acquisition plans. Make sure to include a key to the map. A clear and high quality map is very important in explaining the project. The scale of this map is usually small. Insert the map here.



Trott Brook Greenway Trail and Boardwalk

Local Context



Bunker Lk/Central Anoka Co Regional Trail

10) PROJECT SITE LEVEL MAP (continued):



- Existing Trails
- Proposed Connection
- On Road Trail

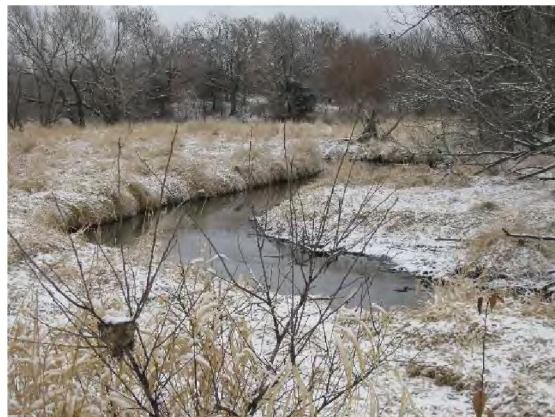
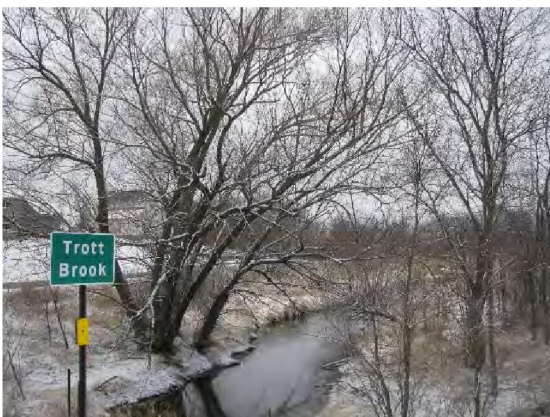
11) SITE AND PROJECT QUALITY:

What considerations have been given to the needs of the intended trail user groups and are they appropriate for the location? What attractive features exist on site or within view of the proposed project that may bring in potential user groups to this project location? What other facilities (if any) are on site or within the trail corridor that enhances this project? Describe what attractive features exist on the site or within view. Use the box below.

Trail users include people who pedal and walk, and who use the trail for exercise, as well as happy birders and their breed. Trail use consists of individuals, and often pairs of people, and sometimes larger family groups. The 10' bituminous and 8' boardwalk will easily accommodate these people biking, walking and courteously passing one-another.

Another regular trail 'group' are students of the Anoka-Ramsey Community College and the Minnesota Master Naturalist Program. The city of Ramsey has a close relationship with biology faculty at the college; and existing trail access to the Trott Brook Greenway is a resource for learners in Field Biology, Ecology—as well as the Master Naturalist program, with service-learning often a component of these studies (a requirement of the latter). The DNR trail grant, if awarded, will expand sustainable access to the natural resources associated with the brook and adjoining ecosystem, and at the same time potentially educate and develop more stewards of the State's environment over the long-term.

Below are close-ups of attractive features of the site. Below that are March conditions, stream-side.



12) PROJECT READINESS:

What is the current status of the project? Can the project begin immediately? What major activities must still be accomplished before the project can begin? Will the project be completed within the appropriation timelines? At a minimum, please reference land acquisition requirements, status of engineering/design, and relevant permits and approvals that have/have not been obtained for the project. Is there urgency to move ahead with this project now, and what consequences are looming if it is not funded? Use the box below.

Upon grant award the project would immediately move forward for City Council approval for the final allocation of funds the Resolution warrants for construction. No engineering or permitting is required. The bituminous parking area and 10' foot trail segments will be paved in the late summer of 2017. The boardwalk construction would commence thereafter, or no later than early winter (2017) after the wetland surface freezes. All work would be complete before the spring thaw of 2018, and consistent with Program Manual and the DNR's Trail Planning, Design, and Development Guidelines.

As for 'urgency', residents are eager to be able to move beyond their neighborhood via the trail the Local Trail Connections Program will facilitate. Absent this funding, the boardwalk and resultant connection will not be built. The parkland (wetland on the south side of the brook where the boardwalk is proposed) was acquired in the 1990's and is owned by the city—there are no conceivable impediments for construction of this project whatsoever.

13) ACCESSIBILITY (ADA):

All facilities that are developed, or portions thereof, using these funds must be accessible for persons with disabilities or be eligible for an exemption. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has developed guidelines for outdoor developed areas, buildings and facilities and is available at www.access-board.gov. Will the project facilitate and/or improve ADA access to existing trails or trail related facilities? Describe how the trail or facility is designed for use by persons of all abilities and takes into consideration ADA design standards. Do not just state the trail will be ADA compliant. If your project will not be ADA accessible, list the specific exemption permitted in ADA guidelines. Use the box below.

The proposed parallel parking facility along Variolite Street (trailhead) will facilitate access to the trail for persons with physical disabilities. While the existing 9/10 mile of trail between Trott Brook and the Brookfield Addition is built to ADA standards, there is no public parking facility anywhere near the trail. The new trailhead will provide a signed ADA stall, and improve accessibility and visibility to both the existing trail and the new, connecting boardwalk. Additionally, if required, the trailhead will have an informational sign, indicating the length of trail, surface types with typical and minimum widths, together with maximum running and cross slopes. Truncated domes will be placed at the juncture of the trail and parking area for persons with sight impairments. No protruding objects (E.g. signs) shall exist anywhere within the project.

No portions of the trail will be greater than 1:20 in slope, and the boardwalk will be essentially flat. All cross slopes shall be less than 1:48. No vertical alignments or openings in the boardwalk/trail shall exceed ½ inch.

Depicted below is a trailhead parking area in Ramsey, of a similar size and scope as proposed herein (but absent the signed handicap parking stall, and truncated domes—that the new, Local Trail Connections Program funded project **will have** upon construction).



Existing parking/trailhead providing access to a city trail – and also a part of the state-wide Mississippi River Trail or MRT, (along Trott Brook, location identified as ‘Trail Head’ on the Local Context map).

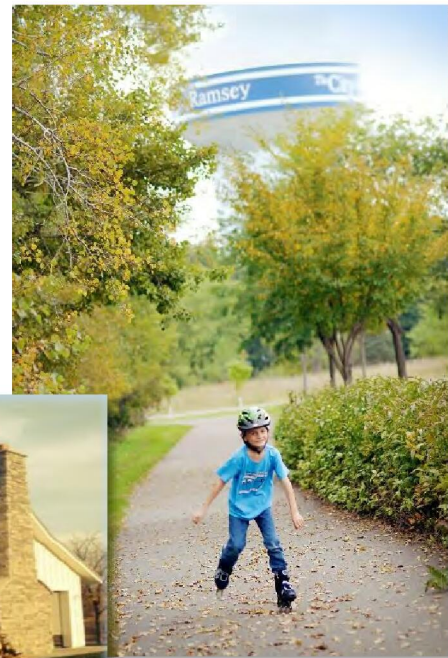
14) CONNECTIVITY:

14A) Describe how the trail project will connect multiple destinations and/or communities. Use the box below.

The Trott Brook Greenway Trail and Boardwalk is precisely in the north center of Ramsey, and accordingly will serve as a route connecting many destinations in the community. The proposed project is equal-distance between the city’s two largest community parks, Central and Elmcrest – with Variolite Street having a wide, paved on-street bike lane on each side, leading south to 161st Avenue, a low traffic local street where the 45-acre Central Park abuts it. From the existing portion of the Trott Brook Trail, a trail parallels Nowthen Boulevard, south to 167th Ave, where another local street provides a paved bike route affording direct access to the entrance of the 100-acre Elmcrest Park at Quicksilver Street. *Both community parks have drinking fountains and full-service restrooms open every day, which are important to trail users as they traverse the community.*



One of many community facilities at Central Park ↑



Elmcrest Park Community Building

16303 Quicksilver Street NW, Ramsey MN 55303

Of course, the Trott Brook Greenway is a destination in itself, and will be more accessible by virtue of the proposed parking area – and upon completion of the boardwalk, the hundreds of families in and near the Brookfield Addition will have a safe and scenic route west, to other destinations like the two-week Game Fair (attendance 50,000), west of Central Park, held in August of each year (location noted on Local Context map).

Below are two images of the Brookfield Addition, the subdivision immediately south of the Greenway and existing trail. The first, (upper right) depicts the homes within the first phases of development, many of which are requesting the trail extension to Variolite Street.

The second photo is of the 4th phase with a new home under construction. At the horizon, one may see the Red Oaks that are within the conservation and trail easement at the south edge of the Trott Brook Greenway, at the north edge of the larger plat.



14B) Does the trail project connect directly to an existing state or regional trail? Check all that apply to the right and describe in the box below if applicable.

Connects to Designated and Existing State Trail:

✓ *?

Connects to Designated and Existing Regional Trail:

✓ **?

Via the bike lanes associated with the two north/south arterial routes of Variolite Street and Nowthen Boulevard mentioned above, there is connection to both a state-wide trail and a regional trail. Ramsey's approximately 50 miles of trail provide multiple connections to the **Mississippi River Trail*** (MRT) a trail continuously mapped and signed from the Iowa border to Lake Itasca State Park. (The proposed trail project may or may not be viewed as '*directly*' connected however?) Additionally, Metropolitan Council's **Central Anoka County Regional Trail**** along Bunker Lake Boulevard, from Ramsey, east 9 miles to Bunker Hills Regional Park, is connected and accessible from a combination of bike lanes and separated trails.

*Existing State Trail: From the vicinity of Central Park, a trail user may travel west along 161st Avenue, then north approximately ½ mile to another boardwalk link to the MRT (please see dotted white line on the Project Level Site Map).

**Designated and Existing Regional Trail: From the Trott Brook Trail discussed herein, one may again pedal or walk to Central Park, and then cross Armstrong Boulevard at the crosswalk signal, and then south to Bunker Lake Boulevard (to the Central Anoka Co Regional Trail) on the very trail funded in 2012 by the Local Trail Connections Program.

14C) Does the trail project connect directly to an existing state park, state recreation area, regional park, high quality natural resource, local recreation area, or local park? Check all that apply to the right and describe in the box below if applicable.	Connects Directly to a State Park or State Recreation Area:	
	Connects Directly to a Regional Park or Regional Recreation Area:	
	Connects Directly to a Local Park or Recreation Area:	✓
	Connects Directly to a High Quality Natural Resource (not included above):	✓

~ The Trott Brook Greenway is a High Quality Natural Resource in-and-of-itself. In fact, the LCCMR contributed \$500,000 for conservation and trail easements to protect this quality resource in 2004. One of these easements (purchased from willing landowners), now has the 9/10ths of trail upon it, along the entire north side of the Brookfield Addition—which this proposed boardwalk will directly connect to.

~ The brook at Variolite Street (adjacent to the proposed parking area and boardwalk) is a popular fishing spot for children at the culvert. Trott Brook has stretches that are considered both a warm-water and cold-water stream; and is being studied as potential trout fishery to expand and provide a new recreational site and activity in this part of the state. This would also add another ‘layer’ of value to the existing and proposed trails associated with the greenway, while potentially providing access for fishing.

The 22- page “*Assessing the Ability to Bring Trout Fishing to the MN North Metro Area through Stream Quality Assessments and the Summarization of the Economic Impact of Anglers*” along with other data is available upon request. (An excerpt of this feasibility study is shown below.)

Habitat Parameter	Score
Epifaunal Substrate/Available Cover	18
Pool Substrate Characterization	12
Pool Variability	17
Sediment Deposition	18
Channel Flow Status	18
Channel Alteration	18
Channel Sinuosity	14
Bank Stability	17
Vegetative Protection	20
Riparian Vegetative Zone Width	19
Total Score	171 out of 200



DNR electro-fishing at Trott Brook to survey existing fish populations

Table 4. Each parameter had a possible score of 20. The scores were given based on visual indicators of stream health shown in the *Rapid Bioassessment Protocols for Use in Streams and Wadeable Rivers* from the EPA. Trott Brook scored 171 out of a possible 200.

~ And, the proposed Trott Brook Trail expansion makes available more local park connections to people east and west of the project, most notably, Central Park—Ramsey’s flagship community park.

14D) Describe how the trail project contributes to the overall connectivity of the trail system in the area. Specifically, how well does the project connect existing trail networks or fill critical gaps within the trail system? How well does the project help promote connectivity among trail networks statewide? Use the box below.

While the city has more than 50 miles of trail (+ paved bike lanes), there are many more needed and proposed. To focus limited financial resources for new trails that will provide maximum benefit, the city has developed a prioritized loop system with connections to larger community parks depicted below. This proposed project (shown in the red dotted oval) is a part of this large trail 'loop'. Other statewide connections are accommodated by trails leading in and out of the community, including those mentioned in *14B*).

Clearly in the context of Ramsey's Priority Trails, this project would close a critical 'gap'. The project will also make entirely 'whole', the Trott Brook Trail between two arterial north/south roadways and bike lanes in the city elaborated upon elsewhere in this proposal.

The proposed Trott Brook Trail expansion also provides the connective route to the statewide MRT from the Brookfield Addition and other neighborhoods (highlighted in *14A* and *14B*).

Trail system connectivity—proposed project area shown in the red dotted oval)



15) NATURAL RESOURCE IMPACT:

Describe the potential impact to natural resources by the project and efforts to avoid or mitigate adverse effects. This includes considerations for trail design and construction practices, noise, odors, dust control measures, surface erosion, fish and wildlife populations, damage to wetlands or other ecologically sensitive natural resources, landscaping that includes native planting, and historical/archaeological sites. Also, demonstrate the compatibility of the proposed project with existing adjoining land uses. To the extent possible, all landscaping or plantings that are done in the project area must be native to Minnesota and preferably of the local ecotype, and describe below how this project will comply with this requirement.

~ A conversation on conservation - considerations for trails in natural areas ~

“All conversation of wildness is self-defeating, for to cherish we must see and fondle, and when enough have seen and fondled, there is no wilderness left to cherish.”

– Aldo Leopold

*“Perhaps, if you indeed mean conversation purely, and too much or insensitive access. However, we understand public **preservation** values may be achieved and enhanced by introducing people to wild-places, so they then, may ‘fondle’ and come to cherish our natural world, and thus become stewards and advocates for **conservation**.”*

– Mark Riverblood

AL: [Ahh, a 21st century land ethic then...So,] *“The hope of the future lies not in curbing the influence of human occupancy – it is already too late for that – but in creating a better understanding of the extent of that influence and a new ethic for its governance.”*

MR: *“Yes! And so lets discuss the boardwalk and trail in the context of minimizing any adverse natural resource impacts:”*

The boardwalk proposed is the only environmentally responsible manner to connect the existing trail to the bike lane and proposed trailhead at Variolite Street. Construction impacts will be minimal and not interfere with nesting and breeding seasons. The boardwalk will be elevated above the wetland surface so as to not impede water flow, and to provide slightly improved views by humans. More importantly, the elevation of the boardwalk allows the passage underneath by amphibians and reptiles and other wetland fauna. Larger mammals are known to leap or clamber over the boardwalk’s deck. Minimal grading or vegetation will be impacted—to the degree any reseeding is needed, an appropriate, native grass and forb mix will be used.

Note: Earlier proposals to plan for future acquisition of land for a local street connection south of the Trott Brook Greenway were vociferously opposed and rejected by residents as part of community mapping and planning in two different decades. As a result, all proposals for neighborhood street connections in this area have been rescinded, and homes have been built in the former, proposed roadway route. This boardwalk proposal is the only viable, realistic, bicyclist and pedestrian connection opportunity south, and in the vicinity of the greenway—in the central portion of Ramsey. Further, area residents *regularly* call for the proposed trail connection in this area, affirming that it is a compatible land use in the area, and within the park land acquired for the boardwalk, this proposal discusses.

MR: *“So, any final thoughts on the proverbial trail with DNR, on connecting our constituents’ to a 21st century land ethic?”*

AL: *“Perhaps the most serious obstacle impeding the evolution of a land ethic is the fact that our educational and economic system is headed away from, rather than toward, an intense consciousness of land. Your true modern is separated from the land by many middlemen, and innumerable physical gadgets*. He has no vital relation to it; to him it is the space between cities...Turn him loose for a day on the land, and if the spot does not happen to be a golf links...he is bored stiff...In short, land is something he has “outgrown.”*

– Aldo Leopold
(1887 - 1948)

MR: *“Aldo! Your sentiment from seven decades ago is not exactly a voice of optimism...*yet it is prescient. Perchance, together way we can change this. Improved **connections** between people and the land really can be both meaningful and viable – we shall persevere and persist, trail by trail, person by person...this year, with the Trott Brook Greenway Trail and Boardwalk”*

– Mark Riverblood
(1961 -)

ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST


REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS (All attachments MUST be 8 ½ by 11 ONLY)	
✓	<p>Attachment A – Required Certifications</p> <p>The first signature block is to be signed by the proper authority for the grant applicant. The specific manager of the facility that is being rehabilitated, enhanced or developed should sign the second section. If the proposed project will utilize public land that is not under the jurisdiction of the grant applicant, the proper authority must sign the final section in order to assure that they are both aware and supportive of the project.</p>
✓	<p>Attachment B – Resolution Supporting Application</p> <p>The application must be accompanied by either a copy of a resolution, council minutes or some other official documentation that demonstrates that the local unit of government supports the proposed project and the consequent application. The resolution does not need to have a specific form or specific language, as long as it satisfies what was outlined in the previous sentence. A sample resolution has been included. The sample resolution is a combination type resolution example. It shows support of the grant application (as required above), and if the project is awarded, it includes language to support accepting the grant award, names the fiscal agent, and states that the facility or trail will be maintained for no less than twenty years. This combination resolution helps eliminate the need for an additional resolution for this project in the future, if awarded a grant.</p>
ADDITIONAL ATTACHMENTS (if applicable)	
✓	<p>Attachment C – Letters of Support</p> <p>Letters of support are an important factor for reviewers when selecting projects. There should be an effort to solicit letters from specific groups that will derive a direct benefit from the project. The applicant is also welcome to provide letters of support from all other sources as well.</p>
	<p>Attachment D – Transportation Funding Award Letter</p> <p>If this project is scheduled to receive Federal Transportation funds, then your local MnDOT district should have notified you in some manner. Please attach this notification and fill in the year in which you are scheduled to receive the funding under question 3.</p>

Attachment A – REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS

Complete the Required Certifications form below with original signatures.


For Grant Applicants:

“I hereby certify that all of the information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I recognize that in the event of the proposed project being funded, this document will be used as an addendum to the agreement between the sponsoring unit of government and the state to guide project scope and reimbursement. I also acknowledge that all work must be completed by **June 30, 2019**, and no reimbursement will be sought for an in-house labor services and/or to meet existing payroll. I also preliminarily agree with plans to develop the proposed trail related project on land administered by my agency.”

Name:	Mark Riverblood	Title:	Parks & Asst. Public Works Superintendent
Unit of Government:	City of Ramsey		
Signature:		Date:	March 30 th , 2017

For Trail and Park Administrators:

“I substantially agree that the proposed trail related project will be mutually beneficial to the local community, as well as to the goals and purposes for which this recreation unit was established. I will cooperate in its provision if the project proposal should be funded.”

Name:	Mark Riverblood	Title:	Parks & Asst. Public Works Superintendent
Unit of Government:	City of Ramsey		
Signature:		Date:	March 30 th , 2017

For All Administrators of Public Lands Crossed/Utilized in the Proposed Linkage

(Required only if the proposed project will utilize public land that is not under the jurisdiction of the grant applicant):

“I preliminarily agree with plans to develop the proposed trail related project on land administered by my agency, and I will cooperate in seeking more formal authorization in the event the project proposal is authorized for reimbursement.”

Name:		Title:	
Unit of Government:			
Signature:		Date:	

Attachment B – RESOLUTION SUPPORTING APPLICATION

Councilmember Johns introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #17-03-059

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A TRAIL GRANT APPLICATION FOR A TRAIL AND BOARDWALK PROJECT COMPLETING THE TROTT BROOK TRAIL BETWEEN NOWTHEN BOULEVARD AND VARIOLITE STREET

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey supports the grant application made to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the Local Trail Connections Program. The application is to construct approximately one-third mile of trail along the south side of Trott Brook, consisting of 10' foot bituminous and 8' foot boardwalk thus connecting existing trails and neighborhoods to Ramsey's park and trail system – and two arterial north/south roadways, both of which with paved bike lanes.

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey recognizes the cost match requirement for the Local Trail Connections Program, and has accordingly reserved the matching funds within the 2018 Capital Improvement Program, and is secured and approved by this Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

- 1) If the City of Ramsey is awarded a grant by the Minnesota Department of Natural resources, the City of Ramsey agrees to accept the grant award and will enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project. The City of Ramsey will comply with all applicable laws, environmental requirements and regulations as stated in the grant agreement.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Shryock and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

Councilmember Johns
Councilmember Shryock
Councilmember Kuzma
Councilmember LeTourneau
Councilmember Riley
Councilmember Williams

and the following voted against the same:

None

and the following abstained:

Mayor Strommen

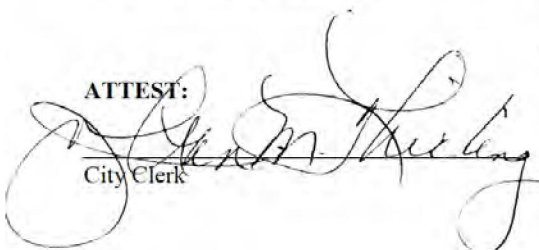
and the following were absent:

None

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the Ramsey City Council this the 28th day of March 2017.

ATTEST:

City Clerk


Mayor

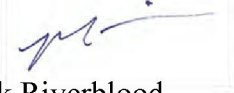
Attachment C – Letters of Support

Note from applicant:

The existing trails in association with the Trott Brook Greenway are highly valued by residents (and visitors from outside the community) for the scenic vistas and outstanding wildlife viewing, as well as all the other intrinsic values of trails for their own sake. As a public servant for this community for more than three decades I can make the following assertions with some authority. People love trails, and especially in natural areas. And, the best way, we as land managers can promulgate more environmental stewardship, is to introduce and entice people away from their devices (especially children), providing them more and regular contact with the land's natural treasures.

On behalf of Ramsey residents, we thank you, Department of Natural Resources administrators for the Local Trail Connections Program, for the opportunity this grant proposal represents.

Yours in Public Service,



Mark Riverblood



Mr. Mark Riverblood
Parks Superintendent
7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Subj: Trail west to Variolite Street and Central Park

Dear Mark,

Please include this letter of support with your trail grant application to the DNR for the boardwalk and trail proposed to connect with our Brookfield neighborhood.

Capstone Homes is proud to be a renowned home builder in the Minneapolis area providing residents with quality homes at an affordable price. A significant part of our success is choosing locations with desired amenities, (quoted from our web site): *"You'll find our homes are built in communities that celebrate the natural surroundings, giving the feeling of being in a remote, secluded location without sacrificing proximity to school, work, and play."* Together with a reference to areas that the boardwalk will facilitate access to including the: *"...brook along with a rolling topography, trails, and ponds for residents to enjoy a relaxing walk with family and take in all the sights and sounds of nature while connecting with neighbors."*

As you are well aware, Capstone deeded land for a connection to the existing trail, and platted Brookfield 4th Addition understanding that the associated Park Dedication dollars paid, would hopefully provide the required cash match for the proposed trail, boardwalk and parking area to the west, that the DNR trail grant may help fund.

Please call on me if I may be of further assistance in the delivery of this much-anticipated trail to our part of Ramsey, with all the connections to trails and parks it will make possible.

Sincerely,



Stephen A. Bona

Vice President

Land Development

Capstone Homes, Inc.

<http://www.capstonehomes-mn.com>

651-271-4951 Direct

BC637318



March 21th, 2016

Ms. Traci Vibo
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Trails
500 Lafayette Road, Box 39
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Subj: Proposed Trott Brook Boardwalk and Trail

Dear Ms. Vibo,

The purpose of this letter is to advocate for funding the proposed parking area, boardwalk and trail connecting the Brookfield subdivision to Variolite Street, paralleling Trott Brook in the City of Ramsey.

I offer this letter of support from several perspectives, both as a trail user and Ramsey resident; and also as Senior Civil Engineering Technician, I have reviewed the proposed boardwalk's construction design—and find it most appropriate for public use, and for persons like myself who are physically challenged.

Furthermore, I would like to use this occasion to point out a sometimes less known recreational opportunity associated with trails and boardwalks in natural areas, and that is hunting for turkey and whitetail deer. The City of Ramsey permits bow hunting in public areas (parks) that are appropriate—and hard surfaced trails are usually the only way to access these areas for persons with disabilities. While this proposed portion of the Trott Brook Trail may not be appropriate for hunting, many of us use these same trails for physical exercise and wildlife viewing. Additionally, as an active member of Capable Partners, we regularly work with the legislature, Minnesota DNR and the US Fish and Wildlife Service to advocate for disabled issues and **improved access to the outdoors**. The following is an excerpt from our mission and goals:

“Create accessible outdoor opportunities with more participants, locations, and events.”

The proposed Trott Brook Greenway Trail and Boardwalk is consistent with this goal, and our motto: *CAPABLE PARTNERS Making The Outdoors Accessible For Over 30 Years* www.capablepartners.org

For all of the above reasons, I urge you to support Ramsey's request for funding.

Sincerely,

Karl Anderson,



cc Jeff Katers, Police Chief
Mark Riverblood, Parks Superintendent



22 March 2016

Ms. Traci Vibo
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Trails
500 Lafayette Road, Box 39
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Subj: Advocacy for the proposed Trott Brook Boardwalk and Trail

Dear Ms. Vibo,

The purpose of this correspondence is to offer our enthusiastic support for the requested grant funding for the boardwalk and trail connecting a residential subdivision to Variolite Street, alongside Trott Brook, in the City of Ramsey.

Access to natural areas is critically important in the education of Field Biology, and Trott Brook is one of the resources in Ramsey regularly used by Anoka Ramsey Community College faculty. We have used it for both water quality and fish sampling studies. ARCC has an especially diverse demographic, which includes persons with physical disabilities and restrictions—a consideration that must be factored into planning field trips and when approving locations. Having a boardwalk that will be ADA compliant will provide an ideal location for access to wetland-related studies and teaching for persons with all abilities. Additionally, a parking area along Variolite Street will provide a safer and easier access for our outdoor studies.

We hope you will fund Ramsey's trail project, as Trott Brook is a high quality natural area in the Northwest Metro, and convenient for our college. The proposed trail and parking at this outstanding resource will broaden our ability to use the brook and associated wetland environment, even when our students may have mobility limitations.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joan McKearnan'.

Dr. Joan McKearnan

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jennifer Braido'.

Professor Jennifer Braido

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Margaret Guiney'.

Dr. Margaret Guiney

CAMBRIDGE CAMPUS
300 Spirit River Dr S, Cambridge, MN 55008
763-433-1100 • 763-433-1841 FAX

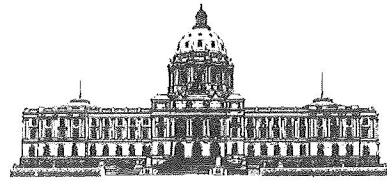
COON RAPIDS CAMPUS
11200 Mississippi Blvd NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433
763-433-1100 • 763-433-1521 FAX

WWW.ANOKARAMSEY.EDU

Senator Jim Abeler

Senate District 35

Anoka • Ramsey
Andover • Coon Rapids



Senate

State of Minnesota

March 22, 2016

Ms. Traci Vibo
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Trails
500 Lafayette Road, Box 39
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Trott Brook Boardwalk and Trail grant application

Dear Ms. Vibo,

I write in enthusiastic support of the City of Ramsey's grant application as part of Minnesota DNR's Local Trail Connections program.

The program's purpose of providing "*grants to local units of government to promote relatively short trail connections between where people live and desirable locations,*" is clearly in alignment with the City of Ramsey's proposal. Also, as a career health care professional, and long-time member of the Health and Human Services Finance Committee I know how vitally important active living can be to individual family's well-being and quality of life. Promoting active living through the DNR's grant program is good policy and also relates to the State's well-being and bottom-line by facilitating connected, walkable neighborhoods, which helps Minnesotan's remain healthy.

The City has an excellent reputation on project management and grant administration, and would immediately commence action on construction, once an agreement is established between the DNR and the City.

I urge the awarding of this grant.

Sincerely,

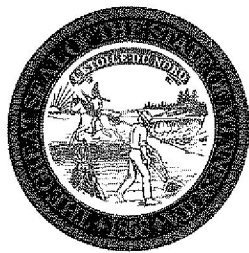
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Abeler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Senator Jim Abeler

127 State Office Building
100 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
651-296-4847
sen.jim.abeler@senate.mn

District Contact:
600 East Main Street
Anoka, MN 55303
612-245-3764

Abigail Whelan
State Representative
District 35A



Minnesota House of Representatives

March 30, 2016

Ms. Traci Vibo
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources,
Parks and Trails Division
500 Lafayette Road, Box 39
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Subj: Trott Brook Boardwalk and Trail proposal – City of Ramsey

Dear Ms. Vibo,

With this letter I am enthusiastically requesting your support for the City of Ramsey's grant application as part of Minnesota DNR's Local Trail Connections program.

As Minnesota State Representative for District 35A (Anoka & Ramsey) one of my goals is to make this state a better place today, and a better place for the generations to follow. There are a number of strategies for achieving this, and foremost among them is recognizing that; "Family is the foundation of our society"—and, the only way to have a healthy community is to have healthy families. Trails for exercise, fitness and access to community parks are an important component of this, and are valued by my constituents accordingly.

The City of Ramsey is known for its high quality of life, and multi-use trails are a key element of this suburban community's outdoor landscape. Funding Ramsey's project will meet the aims of the Local Trail Connections program as well as my objectives for serving Anoka and Ramsey.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abigail Whelan".

Representative Abigail Whelan



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks and Trails
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4039

June 15, 2017

Mark Riverblood, Parks & Asst. Public Works Superintendent
City of Ramsey
7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

RE: 2017 Local Trail Connection Grant Program

Dear: Mark Riverblood

Thank you for submitting an application for funding to the 2017 Local Trail Connection Grant Program. We received 31 applications for trail projects with requests totaling over \$4.31 million with only a little over \$830,000 to allocate. It was challenging to select among all of the great trail projects, including yours, but unfortunately your project was not selected for funding this year. If you applied for funding through more than one program, you will receive notification from each program.

In January 2018, we will be soliciting applications for next year's funding. At that time, new applications will be available online. I encourage you to consider applying again. There are also funding opportunities through the other trail grant programs offered by the department such as the Local Trail Connection Grant Program or the Federal Recreational Trail Grant Program. The Parks and Trails Legacy Grant Program is no longer available through the DNR. Funding recommendations for parks and trails of regional significance outside the seven county metropolitan area through the parks and trails fund will now be solicited through the Greater MN Regional Parks and Trails Commission at <http://www.gmrptcommission.org/>. Please see the recreation grants page on the DNR website for more information.

If you have any questions about the process and/or the ranking of your project, please feel free to contact me. Thank you again for supporting trails in your local community and good luck in your future endeavors!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Golner', is written above the typed name.

Daniel Golner, Recreation Program Coordinator
Division of Parks and Trails
(651) 259-55599
daniel.golner@state.mn.us



Proposed Trail Between 149th Lane and 149th Avenue Within Zeolite Street Right-of-Way

Park and Recreation Commission

6. 1.

Meeting Date: 08/10/2017

Submitted For: Mark Riverblood, Engineering/Public Works

By: MaryJo Warner, Engineering/Public Works

Information

Title:

Commission/Staff Input

Purpose/Background:

- Mayors for Monarchs
- Happy Days Schedule
- Update on Ballfield Improvements #3 & #4

Notification:

Observations/Alternatives:

Funding Source:

n/a

Recommendation:

Action:

Attachments

Mayors for Monarchs

Happy Days Schedule

Form Review

Inbox

Grant Riemer

Form Started By: MaryJo Warner

Final Approval Date: 08/09/2017

Reviewed By

MaryJo Warner

Date

08/09/2017 08:56 AM

Started On: 08/09/2017 08:51 AM

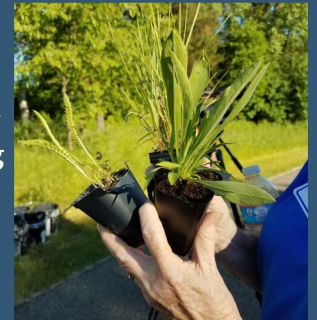
Mayors for Monarchs

Many people may not realize that Monarch butterflies play an important role in pollinating various plants, including many of our food crops. But their population has declined by more than 90% in the last two decades. That is why it is important to create special habitats for these pollinators in our yards and gardens. Recently, the City of Ramsey adopted a resolution to support pollinator initiatives throughout our community.



Ramsey Mayor, Sarah Strommen, launched the initiative by signing the Mayors for Monarchs Pledge to support Monarch butterflies in our community by implementing efforts to create, restore, and protect pollinator habitat and encouraging our citizens to do the same in their own backyards. The Mayors for Monarchs Pledge Signing event took place on June 6, 2017 at the Lake Itasca Trailhead in Ramsey.

At the pledge signing event Mayor Strommen designated a new “Monarch Trail” along the Lake Itasca Trail corridor. Together with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the City of Ramsey will be restoring six and a half acres of land along this trail to a natural habitat designed to support Monarch butterflies and other important pollinators.

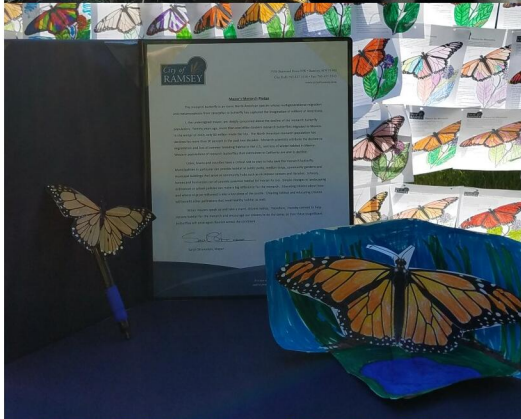


Students from Youth First Community of Promise were there to jump-start the project by planting a small section of native plant plugs at this event, which was representative of the larger-scale planting that will happen this fall.

Fourth grade students from Ramsey Elementary also contributed to the event by creating 150 colorful butterflies, which served as the backdrop for this event and will also be on display in the Ramsey City Hall in honor of National Pollinator Week, June 19 - 25, 2017.

If you are interested in learning more about the Monarch butterfly, be sure to check out Ramsey Parks & Recreation’s Monarch Lab on July 25. Visit www.cityoframsey.com/ParkEvents for more information on how to register.

City of RAMSEY



HAPPY DAYS FESTIVAL

19th ANNUAL CITY OF RAMSEY

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MINNESOTA

The Catholic Church of
St. Katharine
Drexel

THURSDAY, SEPT. 7th

Taste of Happy Days Start 5:30 pm Finish 8:00 pm
THE FOUNTAINS OF RAMSEY: FOOD, WINE & BEER VENDORS
HOSTED BY THE RAMSEY ROTARY

FRIDAY, SEPT. 8th

Deuces Wild: Dueling Pianos Start 5:00 pm Finish 11:00 pm
THE FOUNTAINS OF RAMSEY, HOSTED BY SHERBURNE COUNTY AREA UNITED WAY

Movie in the Park, ELMCREST PARK Start 8:30 pm Finish 10:30 pm
(RAIN OUT DATE IS FRIDAY, SEPT. 15)

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9th

Pancake Breakfast, RAMSEY CITY HALL Start 8:30 am Finish 11:30 am
HOSTED BY THE RAMSEY FOUNDATION

5K Run & Youth Fun Run, USATF CERT. Start 9:00 am Finish 11:15 am
START/FINISH: VA CLINIC PARKING LOT

Family Bike Tour Start 11:00 am Finish 12:30 pm
START/FINISH: RAMSEY FIRE STATION #1

Wellness Van Start 11:00 am Finish 2:30 pm
BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK, CHOLESTEROL, EYES, ETC.

Car Show Start 11:30 am Finish 2:30 pm

Bean Bag Tournament Start 11:30 am Finish 3:00 pm

Kids Fun & Activities Start 11:30 am Finish 7:00 pm
MULTIPLE INFLATABLES, POWER BUNGEE, GIANT SLIDE, OBSTACLE COURSE

Food Vendors, 7 DIFFERENT SPECIALTIES Start 11:30 am Finish 11:00 pm

Lions' Beer Trailer Start 11:30 am Finish 11:00 pm

Talent Show, EVENT TENT Start 12:00 pm Finish 3:00 pm

Happy Days Expos Start 12:00 pm Finish 7:00 pm
BUSINESS, CRAFT/MERCHANT, POLITICAL

Happy Days Parade, SUNWOOD DRIVE Start 3:00 pm Finish 4:30 pm

Dance Caravan Start 4:30 pm Finish 5:30 pm
RENAISSANCE DANCE, NEAR CITY HALL PLAZA

Lizzy the Dream Girl, EVENT TENT Start 4:30 pm Finish 5:30 pm
HYPNOSIS/COMEDY

Ramsey Fire Dept. Chili Cook-off Start 4:30 pm Finish 5:30 pm

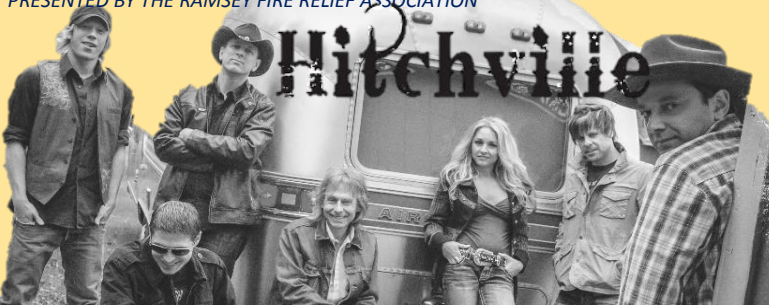
Bingo, EVENT TENT Start 6:00 pm Finish 10:30 pm
HOSTED BY ANOKA WOMEN OF TODAY

Hitchville, MAIN STAGE Start 8:30 pm Finish 11:00 pm
COUNTRY BAND

Fireworks Start 9:00 pm Finish 9:20 pm

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10th

9/11 Memorial Golf Tournament Start 1:00 pm Finish 7:00 pm
THE LINKS AT NORTHFORK GOLF COURSE
PRESENTED BY THE RAMSEY FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION



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BELIEVE IN GHOSTS



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BNP PARIBAS GROUP

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Altron, Inc.

Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce

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Hakanson Anderson

Hope Fellowship

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NAU Country Insurance

Northern Starz Children's Theatre

Parkplace Studio

PSD, LLC | QCTV

R and D Transportation

Sharp & Associates

Village Bank | Wendell's

Zero Zone, Inc.

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All Seasons Garage Door

The Bank of Elk River

Boilermakers Local 647

Casey's General Store

Countryside Printing

Doctor Freedom

Pearson Farm

•• This schedule is subject to change. Please visit our website for the most up-to-date flyer. ••

LOCATION 7550 Sunwood Drive NW – Ramsey, MN 55303 – Within The COR, Ramsey's Downtown

INFORMATION SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, SIGN UP FOR AN EVENT, GETTING INVOLVED/VOLUNTEER, ETC.

CONTACT cityoframsey.com/happy-days • nwenberg@cityoframsey.com • 763-433-9831

PRICING & CHARGES:

Most events are free, including:
kids activities, live music and
fireworks, thanks to our sponsors