

Parks and Recreation Goals

2040 Update Note: The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee recommends forwarding these existing goals and strategies as a beginning point for community dialogue. These goals and strategies represent a positive body of work prepared by the community in 2008, and still generally serve as an appropriate foundation with relevant updates.

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