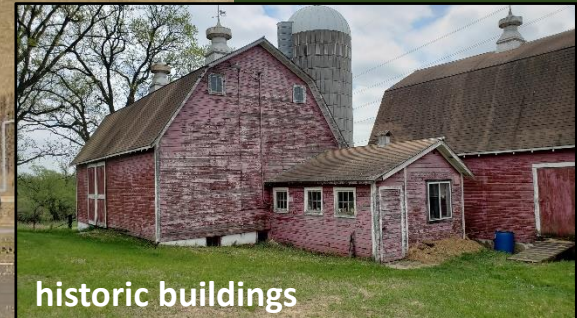




'HERITAGE FARM' park



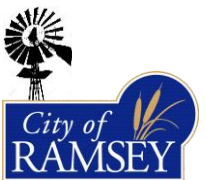
The City of Ramsey has projected the need for a future Community Park #6 in this area, north of Trott Brook for decades, and more recently as part of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. A Community Park is generally defined as a large park space with a variety of attractions, often with unique aspects and a park that serves multiple neighborhoods and that is also a destination. The proposed Trott Brook Crossing subdivision would include a 23 acre park with 13 acres of upland area with space for two flex fields, and the existing farmstead. The park would serve the park and recreation needs for this new neighborhood, North Brook Meadows (the development to the north)—and connection via a boardwalk over the brook would also serve the needs of the existing neighborhood to the south—as well providing improved trail access to the larger city-wide trail system in this north-central area of Ramsey.



historic buildings



Brookside Elementary School



# HERITAGE FARM\* – context + opportunities

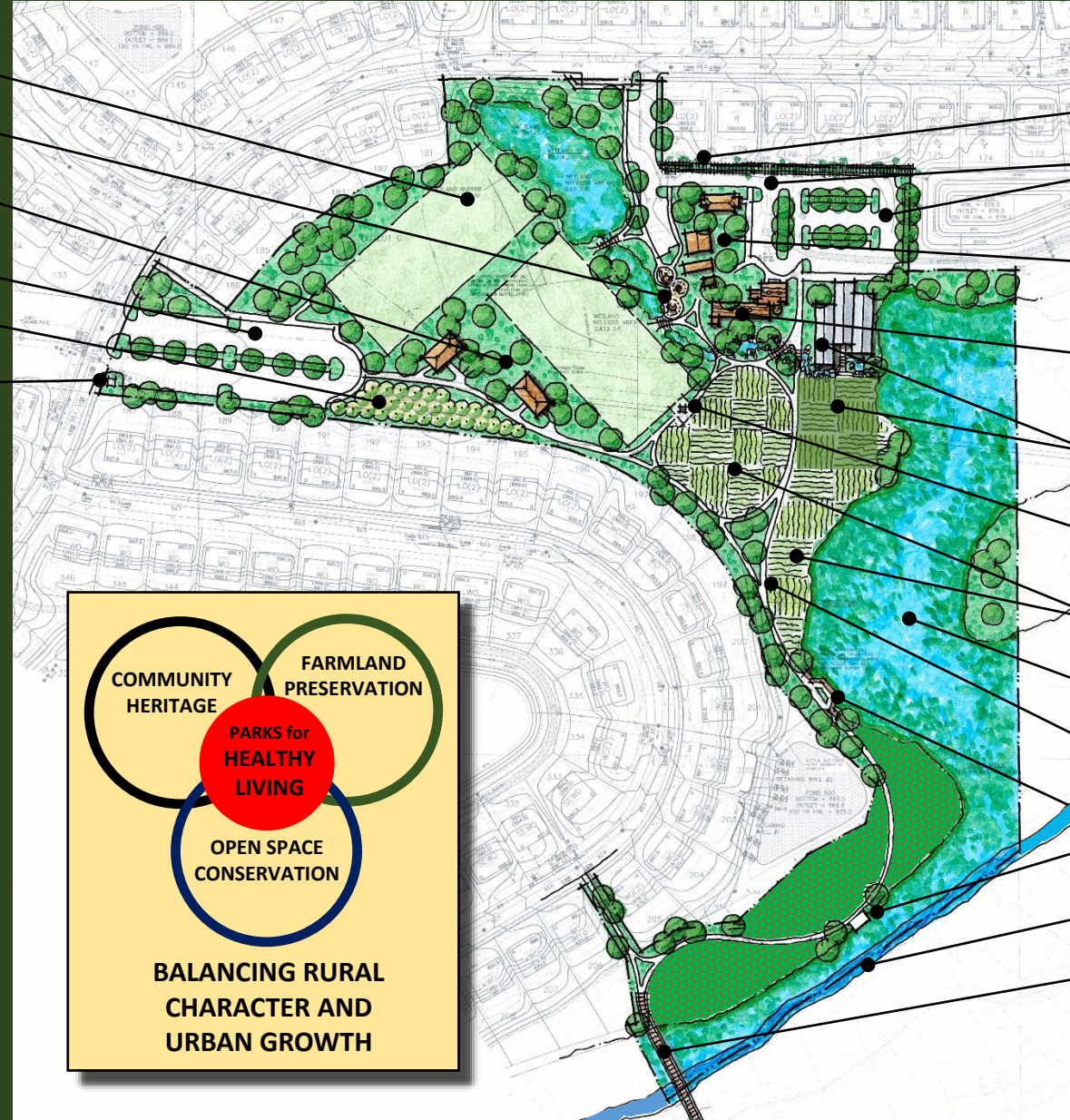
\*(working name for this proposed community park)

Parks and Recreation Commission Findings – October 14, 2021

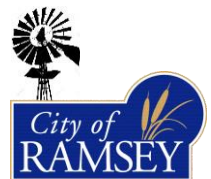
The aforementioned prediction for the need for a 6th community park in this area of north/central Ramsey had much to do with serving the anticipated *numbers* of new residents and their need for recreation space in this area, north and near Trott Brook. The proposed park with various amenities like the athletic fields, trails, playground, shelter, restroom etc, will fulfill that need.

Also over the same decade(s) of envisioning the need for a 6th community park to support more residential growth, many long-time Ramsey residents have expressed a lament that the community is losing its rural character. The opportunity to 'save' the existing farmstead instead of demolishing the century-old structures represents a symbolic preservation of Ramsey's past culture or heritage. However, more valuable yet, will be the adaptive reuse of these same wood buildings and barn for public use\*\*. The opportunities are many, and align with the community's top refrain (from the 2040 Comprehensive Plan) to 'balance urban growth while preserving our rural character'. The farmstead park may include community gardens, a cooperative style CSA (community supported agriculture), a charming backdrop for photos, and certainly many opportunities for future public use of the buildings like the existing farm house for rentals.

- FLEX PLAY FIELDS
- PLAYGROUND
- PICNIC AREA + PICNIC SHELTERS
- PARKING LOT
- ORCHARD
- IRRIGATION PUMP STATION



- VINEYARD + GRAPE ARBOR
- ENTRY DRIVE + PARKING LOT
- EXISTING FARMSTEAD
- BARN + EVENTS CENTER
- GREENHOUSES + COMMUNITY GARDENS
- APIARY
- PRODUCTION FIELDS
- WETLANDS
- LOOP TRAILS
- WILDLIFE VIEWING
- TROTT BROOK
- BOARDWALK + FLOATING BRIDGE



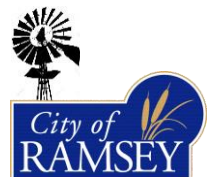
## HERITAGE FARM – concept diagram + program description

**\*\*As a point of reference, Elmcrest Park's building in one month this summer generated \$2,400 in rental revenue. The farmstead park, with a renovated barn for large receptions and gatherings would easily quadruple that amount. The farmstead would also lend itself well as the site for a Fall Heritage type festival in addition to weekly Farmer's Market. (For all of the above reasons, staff is proposing using the working name of 'Heritage Farm' as a descriptive, working title for the proposed park.)**



**BEFORE**

**AFTER**



**HERITAGE FARM – recreation + education + events + economic activity**

## What is a CSA ?

For over 25 years, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) has become a popular way for consumers to buy local, seasonal food directly from a farmer.

Here are the basics: a farmer offers a certain number of "shares" to the public. Typically the share consists of a box of vegetables, but other farm products may be included. Interested consumers purchase a share (aka a "membership" or a "subscription") and in return receive a box (bag, basket) of seasonal produce each week throughout the farming season.

### Advantages for farmers:

- Market the food early in the year;
- Receive payment early in the season;
- Get to know the people who eat the food.

### Advantages for consumers:

- Eat ultra-fresh food;
- New vegetables and new ways of cooking;
- Get to visit the farm at least once a season;
- Develop a relationship with the farmer.

BOUNDLESS GUIDE

## WHY JOIN A CSA?

### ULTRA FRESH & NUTRIENT DENSE



Your food is picked hours before you take it home (not days or weeks like conventional grocery stores). Making it super fresh and chock full of vitamins and beneficial enzymes.

### KNOW YOUR FARMER KNOW YOUR FOOD

We invite you out to the farm to see our practices in action and see the land your food comes from. We get to see you every week to talk varieties and recipes!



### HELP YOUR PERSONAL AND LOCAL ECONOMY

CSAs help provide the farmer with income before the growing season begins, while saving you 20 to 30% on farmers market fresh vegetables.

### GO GREEN

Our market style pick up decreases the use of plastic bags, our central pick up decreases drive time, and our practices renew the earth, not degrade it.

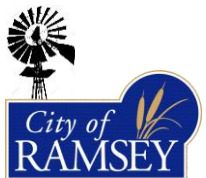


### BUILD COMMUNITY

We strive to grow community as much as veggies. We invite our CSA members to monthly potlucks, love chatting recipes at our weekly pick ups, and hosting farm events to celebrate each other and the season.

### FOOD BECOMES EXCITING

CSAs can be an adventure. We will introduce you to new colors and varieties. You will have opportunities to cook with vegetables you don't normally buy and you will get the chance for foodie talk with fellow members and your farmers. There are no food "ruts" with CSAs!



HERITAGE FARM – creating the CSA