

City of Lowell

Kent County, Michigan

2008 RECREATION PLAN



ADOPTED
JULY 7, 2008

Williams & Works

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INTRODUCTION

A modern definition of recreation is “refreshment of strength and spirits after work”. Governmental bodies, at all levels have recognized the importance of recreation to the quality of life and the physical and mental health of their citizens. This recognition has been manifested in the development of National, State and local park systems, public trails, preservation of wild areas and opening of Government-owned lands to public recreation.

According to the National Recreation and Park Association¹, parks and recreation:

- ◆ Enhance the human potential through the provision of facilities, services and programs that meet human emotional, social and physical needs.
- ◆ Articulate environmental values through ecologically responsible management and environmental education programs.
- ◆ Promotes individual and community wellness to enhance the quality of life for all citizens.

Recreation planning is an exercise engaged in by local and state governments to anticipate change, promote needed change, and to control or direct recreational development in such a way as to benefit the entire community. It has the aim of harmonizing the available recreational resources and activities with the social, environmental, aesthetic, cultural, political, and economic requirements of the jurisdiction.

The purpose of the City of Lowell Recreation Plan is to provide a policy and decision making guide regarding future recreational development within City. Key planning issues are identified, a clear set of goals and policies are outlined, and specific implementation projects are identified.

The contents of this plan were developed based on guidance from the City of Lowell Parks Commission, and an inventory of the existing resources in the area. In addition, information was utilized from the Kent County Recreation Plan, and the City of Lowell Master Plan.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, this Plan is the result of a cooperative joint planning exercise which included the City of Lowell, Vergennes Township, and Lowell Charter Township and in an attempt to evaluate the recreational needs of the entire Lowell

¹ <http://www.nrpa.org>

community on a multi-jurisdictional basis. This joint planning effort is more fully described below under Planning Process.

The plan which results from these various inputs is presented below, and is intended to be used as a living instrument of guidance for the recreational future of the City of Lowell.

PLANNING PROCESS

This plan was developed with the benefit of collaborative planning involving Lowell Charter Township, Vergennes Township, the City of Lowell and the Lowell Area Public Schools. The plan update was part of a joint effort undertaken by the three jurisdictions to consider recreation on a regional basis while simultaneously updating all three local recreation plans. The resulting Recreation Master Plans benefit from greater coordination than ever before and, through the use of the same consulting team completing each plan and a concurrent planning activity, the jurisdictions also achieve economies of scale in planning that would not otherwise be possible.

More importantly, the joint effort to update all three plans also included an evaluation of the area's broader recreational needs. Thus, this plan and that of the other two jurisdictions include comparable facility inventories, more in keeping with the realities of how recreation facilities are used. In addition, the joint planning effort also included the development of an initial feasibility analysis pertaining to the potential use of an area of land that might be donated to the community for recreational purposes. That feasibility process included three important public input events:



On October 25, 2007, more than seventy area residents attended a recreation visioning meeting

October 25, 2007, more than seventy area residents attended a recreation visioning meeting at Lowell Charter Township Hall. The purpose was to evaluate existing recreation facilities and programming in a public discussion and to gain a better and broader understanding of the available resources, varying perspectives and possible approaches to maximize public and private resources to advance broad recreation goals.

November 2 and 3, 2007, the communities, working with their consulting team, sponsored a two-day charrette design process to evaluate feasible alternative approaches to the potential land donation. Residents attending the charrette provided input and guidance to the design of alternatives. It concluded with a public presentation of a range of alternatives which ultimately would be

considered by a joint steering committee made up of representatives of all three jurisdictions and the larger community.

On December 20, 2007, the final recommendations of the joint feasibility study were presented to the joint steering committee.

This plan was reviewed during several public meetings held by the City of Lowell Parks & recreation Commission and was formally approved by that Board at their June 21, 2008 meeting along with a recommendation to the City Council for final adoption of the plan. The work to update the City of Lowell Recreation Plan concluded with a public hearing held before the City Council on July 7, 2008 at which time the plan was adopted by the City Council.

Input

The City of Lowell's Parks & Recreation Commission served as the vehicle for coordinating the overall planning process. The City Parks & Recreation Commission meets every third Saturday and receives input from the community on a regular basis regarding the existing recreation facilities. In addition, early stages of the plan involved one-on-one interviews conducted by Williams & Works staff and a cross-section of key individuals who are active participants in some segment of parks and recreation within the community. Among the interests represented in these interviews were:

- Parks & Recreation Commission
- Lowell YMCA
- Lowell Xtreme Softball
- Lowell School District
- City Administration
- Citizen Activists
- Senior Citizen Representative

MDNR Requirements

The Recreation Plan for the City of Lowell was last revised in 1995. This updated plan addresses the existing and future recreation needs of the community and the meets the requirements of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The plan is intended to be frequently consulted. It will be in effect for five years, through 2013. Under the Department of Natural Resources requirements, the plan will need to be updated at that time.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

In order for the City of Lowell to have a parks and recreation program that operates smoothly, a chain of command needs to exist. The residents elect a City Council, which provides the direction the City will take and represents the City's residents. The City's day-to-day operations are performed by a full team including the City Manger, Clerk, Treasurer, Department of Public Works Director and a full support staff of City employees. Police and fire services are provided through the City of Lowell.

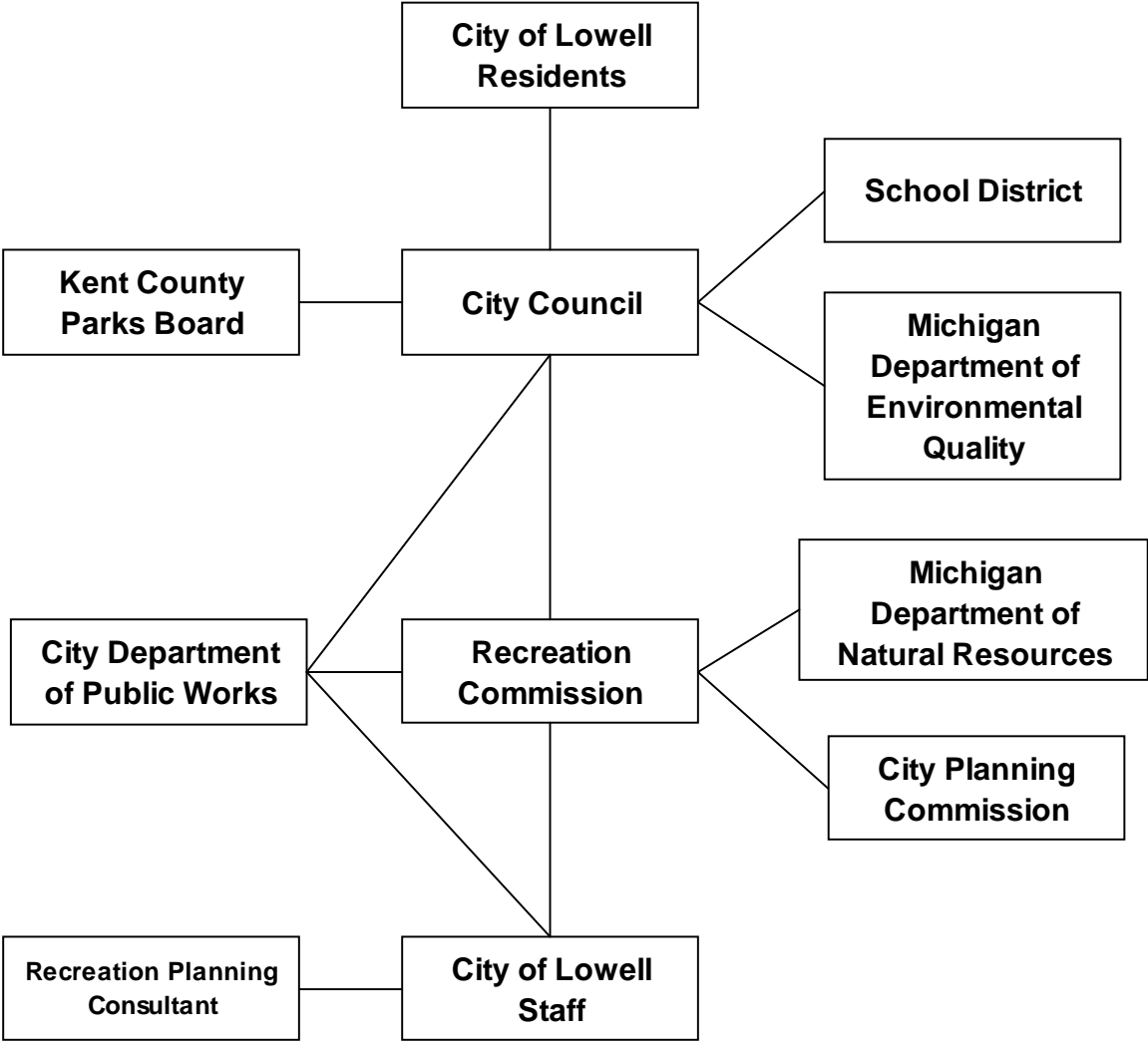
The City has a volunteer Parks Commission comprised of five members, appointed by the City Council. The Commission is responsible for providing planning and direction of the City's parks and reports directly to the City Council. Day to day operation and maintenance of the City parks lies with the Department of Public Works staff that is also responsible for the City streets, sidewalks, water and sanitary sewer systems and upkeep of the City cemetery.

The organization chart on the following page graphically represents the relationship between the various groups involved in recreation.

The City Council receives recommendations from the Recreation Commission. This Commission works with the City Planning Commission to ensure that the goals of both groups are related and to determine where recreation activities should occur. The Committee also works with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to help create meaningful plans and to fund improvements. The Recreation Commission works closely with City staff and a recreation planning consultant as needed.

For 2008 - 2009, a total of \$157,497 has been budgeted for City parks. The primary source of this fund is the City's general fund, and some local sports organizations through the contribution of user fees.

CITY OF LOWELL PARKS PLANNING ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE



**POPULATION HISTORY 1960-2006
SELECTED COMMUNITIES**

COMMUNITY	1960	1970	1980	1990	2006*	1960-2006 Average Change per Decade
LOWELL	2,545	3,068	3,707	3,983	4,141	11.20%
Boston Township	2,310	2,751	3,681	4,313	5,118	21.71%
Keene Township	810	947	1,085	1,376	1,817	22.20%
Lowell Township	1,567	2,160	3,972	4,774	6,733	58.87%
Vergennes Township	945	1,400	1,819	2,492	4,171	60.96%
Ionia County	43,132	45,848	51,815	57,024	64,821	8.98%
Kent County	363,187	411,044	444,506	500,631	599,524	11.62%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *2006 estimates

Age

Consistent with national trends, Lowell's population continues to advance in age. The median age rises with each new census. In 2000, the median age in the City reached 34.6, almost 9 years older than the median age in 1970. This is slightly higher than the median age across all of Kent County (34.2 years).

**HISTORICAL COMPARISON - AGE
CITY OF LOWELL, 1960 - 2000**

AGE CATEGORY	PERCENT OF TOTAL POPULATION				
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Under 5 years	11	10	9	9	7
65 years and over	13	11	14	13	15
Median Age		25.7	27.9	31	34.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

A full 41% of the City's population is between the ages of 25 and 54, and more than half of the City's population (53.1%) is between the ages of 20 and 60 years old. Of the remaining population, 30.1% are 19 years old or younger, and 16.8% are 65 and older.

**AGE BREAKDOWN
CITY OF LOWELL - 2000**

AGE GROUP	NUMBER	% TOTAL
Under 5	273	7.1
5-19	645	23.2
20-24	264	6.9
25 -44	1,165	30.2
45-59	617	16
60-74	328	8.5
75 and over	315	8.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Race

Lowell is not a racially diverse community. Of the 4,013 persons living in the City in 2000, 3,861 (96.2 %) were white. Of the total population, 86 persons (2.1 %) were of Hispanic origin. The following table depicts the racial composition of the community.

**RACIAL COMPOSITION
CITY OF LOWELL - 2000**

RACE	NUMBER	PERCENT
White	3,861	96.2
Black or African American	23	.6
American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut	25	.6
Asian	17	.4
Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	5	.1
Hispanic or Latino	86	2.1
Other	29	.7
TOTAL	4,013	100.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Household Size

As a central city with an aging housing stock and relatively high median age, Lowell's low household size is not surprising. With an average household population of 2.55 persons, Lowell is lower than the townships surrounding it and Kent and Ionia County. These communities with larger household sizes are experiencing new growth, typically with young families moving into the area and building new homes. A comparison of the household sizes, along with other housing characteristics, is provided in the following table.

HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS SELECTED COMMUNITIES - 2000

	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	NUMBER	MEDIAN HOUSING VALUE
LOWELL	1,471	2.55	\$98,500
Boston Township	1,877	2.60	\$113,500
Keene Township	537	3.23	\$116,500
Lowell Township	1,717	2.94	\$119,600
Vergennes Township	1,171	3.17	\$79,300
Ionia County	20,606	2.70	\$94,400
Kent County	212,890	2.63	\$115,100

Persons with Disabilities

According to the 2000 Census, approximately 8.4% of Lowell's population has some type of mobility or self-care limitation. This compares with 14.8 % for Kent County and 14.5 % for Ionia County. In response to the special needs of this population, many improvements in the coming years will focus on making the facilities more accessible.

Income

Like many other socio-economic characteristics reviewed in this document, income reflects Lowell's "central city" status. The 2000 Census reported the per capita income for Lowell was \$17,843, relatively on par with Ionia County (\$17,451) but less than Kent County's (\$21,629). A comparison with neighboring communities, Lowell Township (\$22,560) and Vergennes Township (\$21,339) shows that the City of Lowell has room for improvement by attracting some higher income residents to off-set the aging population trend.

Despite this, the number of persons with incomes below poverty is relatively low. Only 4.4 % of Lowell's residents are below poverty level, compared with 11.3 % in Ionia County and 9.2 % in Kent County.

Employment

Lowell's employment characteristics have not changed significantly over the last several years. While the total labor force has increased proportionate to the population increase of the past decade, the composition of the labor force has changed from 1990 to 2000, and is expected to show further shifts within the market by 2010. The majority of the City's workers were at one time employed in blue-collar occupations such as manufacturing and wholesale/retail trade. As the United States economy, Michigan in particular, continues to shift from a labor market based in manufacturing and production to a labor market based in service, knowledge and technology, the local job market will continue to shift in this direction as well. In 2000, 25% of employed residents worked in the manufacturing industry, while 15.6% worked in the education and health care sectors and 11.8% percent worked in the retail/trade sector.

The number of people employed in Lowell, according to the 2000 Census, was the highest it has been in the past four censuses. With a total labor force of 2,027 people, 1,938 are employed. The following table provides a comparison of employment and unemployment figures with previous years.

**EMPLOYMENT STATUS
CITY OF LOWELL - 1960-2000**

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
Total Labor Force ¹	964	1,182	1,746	1,939	2,027
Employed	908	1,109	1,621	1,865	1,938
Unemployed	56	73	125	74	89
Unemployment Rate	5.8	6.2	7.2	3.8	4.39
Employment Rate	94.2	93.8	92.8	96.2	95.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The City of Lowell is an older city, having been incorporated some 140 years ago. However, its character and its functions have changed during that span of time. While the City originated as a trading post at the confluence of the Flat and Grand Rivers, Lowell has grown outward from its original marketplace. The oldest structures in the City are located adjacent to the downtown business district, east and west of the Flat River.

LAND USE

Residential. Generally, housing is in good condition throughout the City, although a few homes require attention to bring them closer to an acceptable standard of condition. The homes in Lowell tend to be older than those found in the developing townships of Lowell and Vergennes, as well as Kent County as a whole.

The age of housing is a concern, since nearly a third of the City's housing was constructed before 1940. These older homes will require higher levels of maintenance. In some instances, the required upkeep may be beyond the means of the owners. As a result, the homes may tend to deteriorate at a faster rate.

The larger homes in the City are generally situated on the east and west ends of town, where larger lots are found. One manufactured home park is located south of M-21 between Valley Vista and Ridgeview. The park is well screened from view along M-21.

Multi-family housing comprises about one-quarter of the City's total housing stock. The largest concentrations are located west of Valley Vista, north of West Main Street; east and west of Center Street, north of Sibley; south of Bowes Street, near the water treatment plant; and north of Hunt Street, east of the railroad tracks. About 40% of these units are located in duplex and four family buildings.

Commercial. Commercial development is primarily concentrated along Main Street (M-21), creating a linear strip effect through the City. Offices are located in the Main Street commercial corridor, as well. The City's downtown business district, found on both sides of the Flat River, is a node within this strip.

Industrial. Industry is generally located in three areas ~ along the railroad right-of-way adjacent to the downtown; in the northwest quadrant of the City on Foreman Road; and at the end of Monroe Street, east of the Flat River. Some of the industrial areas are located in close proximity to residential neighborhoods, which causes some incompatibility due to truck movement, noise, and hours of operation. For the most part, these industries have adapted to their surroundings, but some conflicts continue to exist.

Public/Quasi-Public. These land uses (governmental buildings, churches, schools, parks, etc.) are located throughout the City. Those public uses that are located in the neighborhoods are generally related to the residences around them. Schools, churches, and parks are closely related to the activities of the neighborhoods. As a result, they normally do not present significant land use conflicts.

Other public land uses include the water and wastewater treatment facilities located along the Grand River near the southern City limits. The Department of Public Works and fire station are also located in this area. Oakwood Cemetery is located at the northern City limits by Washington Street.

School properties take up a significant percentage of land area within the City. Some movement of facilities has occurred since a new high school was opened in the Township. However, the existing schools and their associated recreational facilities have been maintained.

TOPOGRAPHY

The City of Lowell is located in a geographical area which was greatly influenced by both moranic glacial deposits and outwash plains. Two sites within the City are the direct result of moraines. One site is located on the east side of the Flat River, designated by the steep sloping land near McMahon Park. The second site is the steep sloping land on the western side of the Flat River, outlined by Gee Drive.

These linear hills were formed by deposits of sand and gravel debris at the margins of the glacier, when the rate of ice advance equaled the amount of melting at the periphery. As a result of these ice borders melting, streams carried sediment away from the glacier, resulting in outwash plains and glacial channels, typical of the remaining landscape in Lowell. Here the land is flat to undulating, with soils mostly of sand, silt, and loam.

Soils

Because of Lowell's glacial influence, several different soil types exist. The soils can be divided into five general groups: sand, sandy loam, silt, silt loam, and organic.

Sandy soil covers the bulk of the City of Lowell. Generally, these soils are well drained with rapid permeability and low available moisture and natural fertility. As a result, they are better suited for residential development.

The sandy loam group is similar to the sandy soils. However, this soil type is more suitable for agricultural purposes since it has a

higher natural fertility. In addition, the sandy loam frequently contains deposits of gravel.

Silt soil is a group which also covers a large portion of the City's land area. These soils are generally found along the Grand River basin and are very responsive to agricultural uses because of their low permeability.

Silt loam is not a predominant soil type in the Lowell area. However, some areas do exist, primarily along the Grand River. This soil type is well suited for agricultural uses because of its high natural fertility and available moisture. These soils are also well drained.

Finally, the Lowell area has some muck which is considered an organic soil. Only a very small portion of this soil is found in the City, located northwest of the City's center. This soil is very poorly drained and low in natural fertility.

Water Resources

Two major water features influence the City of Lowell ~ the Grand River at the southern border and the Flat River cutting through the heart of Lowell and joining the Grand. These water systems are also a direct result of the last glacial period.

The Flat and Grand Rivers cut through the landscape of Lowell and are confined to the old drainage channels. These rivers function as major channels for the regional watershed. Each of the systems experiences periodic flooding, consequently development along their banks is regulated.

More than one-half mile wide in some places, the floodplain limits the possibility of new development in many areas. A dam on the Flat River (at the Main Street Bridge) has created an impoundment within the City limits, affording potentially pleasant views to the public along the length of Riverside Drive. In addition, the Flat River contains numerous scattered islands within the City limits. Many of these low-lying islands are subject to flooding and remain undeveloped.

The Grand River floodplain is extensive and periodic inundation of flood waters inhibits even some recreational uses, such as campgrounds.

Vegetation

The soil characteristics of an area will determine, to a large extent, the tree species found there. Because of the heavy concentration of sandy soils in the area, few prime woodlands exist. Those areas which have grown up are sparsely developed. Most woodlands are hardwoods, containing ash, elm, maple, and willow in the lowland, and beech and oak in the higher areas.

The extent of urban development has also preempted much of the land formally occupied by woodlands. The greatest concentrations of tree stands are currently found along segments of the Flat and Grand Rivers and as isolated pockets throughout the City.

Climate

Lowell is under the climatic influence of Lake Michigan. In spring, the cooling effect of the lake serves to retard the growth of vegetation until the danger of frost is past. The warming effect in the fall holds off frost until most crops have matured.

The average growing season extends 170 days. The annual mean temperature is 48.5 degrees. Mean precipitation is 33 inches of rain and 80 inches of snowfall. Prevailing winds are from the southwest at 10.2 miles per hour.

RECREATION INVENTORY

Recreational facilities and programs in the City of Lowell are provided by public, quasi-public, and private entities. Available opportunities consist primarily of City parks, school properties, and private commercial establishments. See the table in the Appendix for a listing of these facilities and the opportunities they offer.



PROGRAMMING

Responsibility for overseeing Lowell's parks and recreation program is the responsibility of the City Parks and Recreation Commission: with ultimate authority resting with the City Council.

A variety of programs are provided through the combined efforts of the City of Lowell, YMCA, Lowell schools, and several quasi-public organizations. City, school, and some privately owned facilities are utilized for these many programs.

The City represents the center of activity for a large region in Kent County. The local school system, based in Lowell, has students residing in ten townships, as well as the City. Adjacent Vergennes and Lowell Townships do not provide recreational programs for their residents. Consequently, those programs offered by the YMCA and Lowell Schools serve a much larger population than just Lowell residents.

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Lowell's park system is maintained by the City's Public Works Department. Seasonal help is added during the summer months specifically for the parks. Grounds maintenance, equipment repair, care of the athletic fields, and similar activities are all performed by the City.

CITY PARKS & RECREATIONAL PROPERTIES

The City operates five active parks and owns other undeveloped property that may, some day, serve the community's recreational needs. As part of this Plan, a field survey was conducted to inventory the existing resources, amenities, problems, and opportunities within each of Lowell's parks. The findings of this inventory are described below for each of the facilities.

Recreation Park

This park is located at the northwest corner of the intersection of the Flat River and the Grand River at the south entrance to the City on Hudson Street. Its facilities include the following:

- *Football Field with lights*
- *Baseball/Softball Field with lights*
- *4 T-ball fields*
- *Camping (rustic)*
- *Boat Launch on Grand River*
- *Storage for Crew Team*

The football field (Burch Field) is used currently used primarily by the Lowell Youth Football League, Rugby Club and Lacrosse Club. Prior to 1994, this served as the high school field and includes bleachers, lights and a scoreboard and is located directly adjacent to the Flat River.

The softball field is located at the north end of the park and directly abuts the Michigan Wire Manufacturing facility. It is the only softball facility with lights in the community and used primarily by adult leagues. It includes dugouts and covered bleachers.

There is a restroom that serves the football and softball areas as well as a small concession stand.

The City owns two buildings on the site that are currently not being used as recreational facilities. The King Memorial Building was once the location of a pool and is currently leased to the Kent County Youth Fair. The Foreman Building is currently used as a storage facility for the City's Department of Public Works.

The City of Lowell leases a large portion of the Recreation Park area to the Kent County Youth fair which is a major attraction. The fair organization owns several exhibit and livestock buildings on the property which also includes a horse arena. The heaviest use of the fairgrounds occurs in July each year when the Kent County Youth fair is held here for a week. In addition to the fair, there are other numerous, yet smaller events that take place at the fair grounds throughout the spring and summer including horse shows, rodeos, and music concerts.

Considering the variety of facilities available at this park, parking facilities are sometimes inadequate. A portion of the areas for parking are paved, but the majority occurs in grassed areas.

Recreation Park contains a substantial amount of open space along the Grand and Flat Rivers. Some of this area is devoted to rally-type, travel-trailer camping during the youth fair and other events. There are no defined camp sites and limited facilities are available for this activity. Much discussion has occurred regarding the development of a modern campground in the park. However, the park's location in the floodplain may make such a project difficult due to the flooding conditions in the area. There has been recent interest expressed in developing an RV park on the east side of the Flat River that would connect to Recreation Park via a pedestrian bridge. (See discussion below for Moose/Rogers properties).



Creekside Park

Several improvements over the past 15 years have made this facility a versatile and well used park. Located on the west side of the City on Gee Drive, it is accessible from both Foreman Street and Alden Nash Rd. The park includes three little league baseball fields, a softball field, one large and two small soccer fields, a beach volleyball court and two horseshoe pits. There is adequate parking in two paved lots.

The centerpiece for the park is a large wooden play structure that was built with volunteer labor from throughout the community in 1994. In addition the park features a large picnic shelter, restrooms and a concession stand. A paved and lit pathway connects the park to Cherry Creek Elementary and the Valley Vista subdivision.

This park serves as a community-wide facility used for organized soccer, baseball and softball programs, as well as for many other family leisure pursuits.

Richards Park

Richards Park occupies an entire block in an older residential neighborhood between Elm and Spring Streets off north Hudson. The park is 1.6 acres in size and is mainly a pedestrian-oriented neighborhood facility. Mainly a passive-use park and play lot, Richards Park contains a playground, half basketball court, benches, and walkways. A new concrete foundation will be flooded in the winter for ice skating and will provide a smooth surface for summer roller skating. Some parking is available on the adjacent streets.

McMahon Park

Located in the northeast quadrant, this park appears on a map to be ideally suited to serving this area of Lowell. However, the site is located in a very hilly and barely accessible portion of the City and much of its five acres is occupied by the City's water reservoir. The site offers scenic views and a serene environment. Its facilities are limited to two benches and a picnic table.

Stoney Lakeside Park

This park is the newest addition to the Lowell park system. It is located along the Grand River south of Bowes Street. A former gravel pit, the site contains a 27 acre lake that affords opportunities for swimming, fishing, and boating.

Current facilities include a beach, restrooms, playground, parking lot, picnic tables and two horseshoe pits. The park is also home to a recently completed 31,000 sq. ft. totally fenced-in dog park. The

City intends to add other facilities to this location to accommodate families and group gatherings and to take advantage of its riverfront location.

Upper Bridge Park – This is a piece of vacant land owned by the City on the south side of the Grand River just, east of the bridge over the river. There are no current plans for this piece of property, donated to the City for park purposes.



Moose and Rogers Properties

These two parcels comprise a total of about 33 acres. Located on the east side of the Flat River, both properties are wooded, and lie within the floodplain.

These properties, owned by the City, are not formally designated as parks at this time. There are no definite plans for either parcel in the short-term future. However, there have been recent discussions regarding the potential for the development of a recreational vehicle (RV) park that would be connected to the fairgrounds (Recreation Park) via a pedestrian bridge. The vision for this facility would include electric, water and sanitary waste connections, paved paths for accessibility, and a playground.

North Washington Property

The City of Lowell owns 27 acres at the north end of Washington Street next to the Flat River. This primarily wooded property includes a open hill area that has been used for many years for sliding in the winter. The property has also served as a meeting place for local Boy Scout troops who conduct many indoor and outdoor activities there and is the location for the “Boy Scout Cabin” constructed in the 1950’s.

Riverwalk/Showboat Area

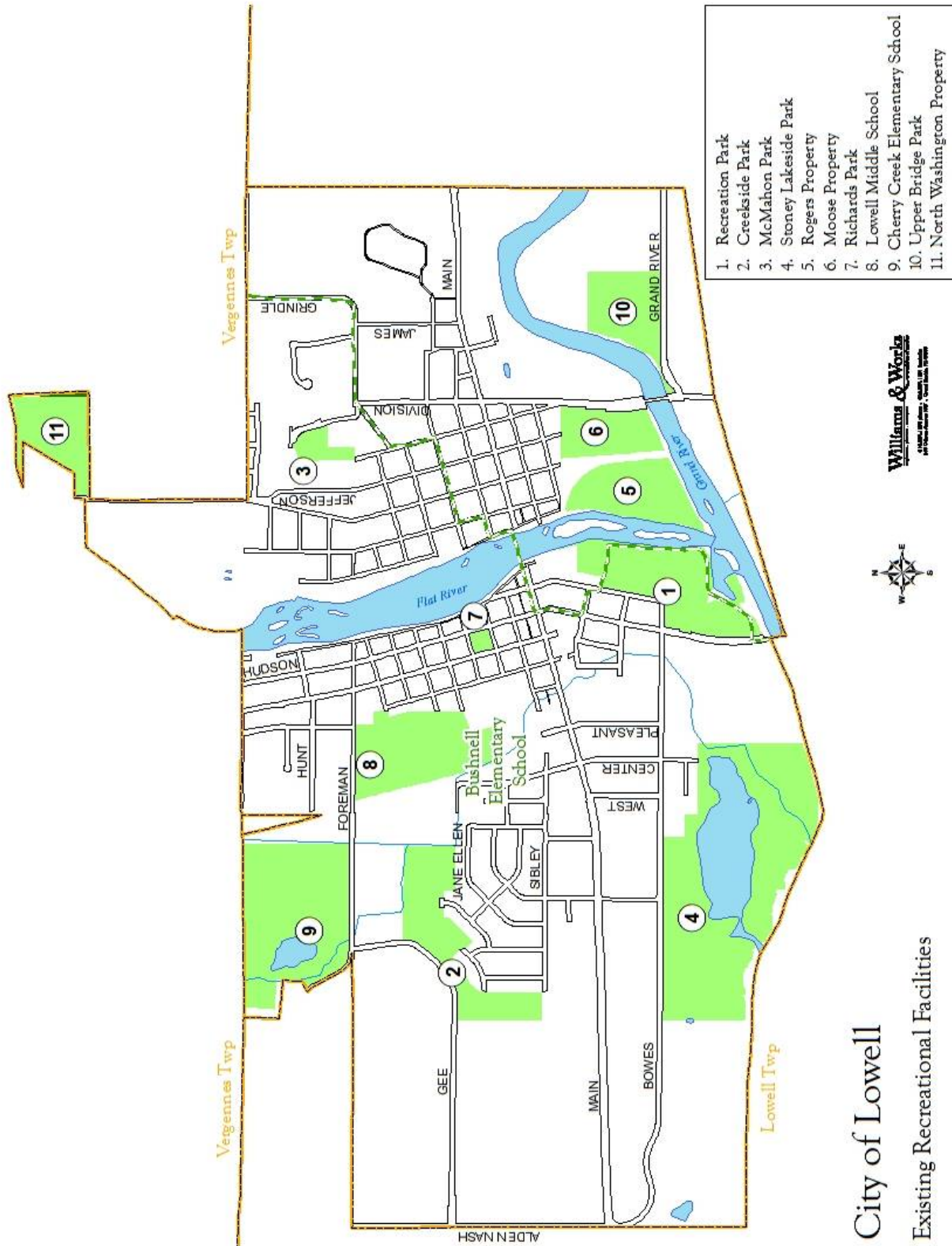
Over the past 15 years, the City has made several improvements to what is now known as the “Riverwalk”, an area on the east side of the Flat River, north of Main Street. This walkway is the home of the Lowell Showboat, a paddle wheel steamer replica that is the City’s centerpiece. In the past for many years, the Showboat was a regional attraction, hosting national acts for one week each summer, attracting hundreds of visitors. While the last Showboat Festival was held over 15 years ago. Improvements to the Riverwalk area has resulted in increased use in recent years. A summer concert series has been popular drawing several hundred people each Thursday night. Historic buildings adjacent to the area have been renovated with new businesses that add to the ambiance of the historic downtown setting.



On the north side of this area is the former Showboat amphitheater seating which is currently not in use. There has been some casual discussion about demolishing this structure and extending the

riverwalk, but no formal planning has been adopted.

While not a formal City park, the area does have a boat launch to access the Flat River, benches and picnic tables and a riverfront lawn area adjacent to the Englehart Library.



City of Lowell

Existing Recreational Facilities

OTHER PUBLIC/QUASI-PUBLIC FACILITIES

Lowell Area Recreation Authority

In 2004, the Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA) volunteer group was formed to research ways to better the recreation opportunities for residents in the Lowell Area. The LARA, through a grant provided by the Lowell Area Community Fund of the Grand Rapids Foundation, proceeded by hiring the Lansing-based firm of Landscape Architects & Planners, Inc. (LAP) to help guide the LARA in the development of an area-wide trailway master plan.

A board was established that consists of one elected official from the Lowell Township Board, Vergennes Township Board and the Lowell City Council as well as a citizen appointed from each municipality and one at-large member that is chosen by the LARA Board. This multilateral cooperative effort is intended to give the majority of the concerned entities in the Lowell area an equal voice in the LARA recreation planning efforts.



Lowell Area Trailway

Through meetings conducted by the Lowell Area Community Fund of the Grand Rapids Foundation, it became apparent of the Lowell area public's desire for a non-motorized trailway(s) that would provide connectivity between the City of Lowell, Vergennes Township, and Lowell Township.

The LARA identified these connections as important goals in the trailway plan and realized the potential for increasing community support for the trailway plan by working cooperatively between the various communities represented within the LARA. A Masterplan was completed in 2006 and preliminary planning for the first phase of the trail connecting Cherry Creek Elementary School with the High School is underway.

Grand River Riverfront Park – Lowell Township

Lowell Charter Township currently has one developed recreation area designed to serve the Township's residents. The **Grand River Riverfront Park** is an 80-acre parcel adjacent to the Grand River purchased in 1997. Located on the south bank of the Grand River essentially opposite the City's Stoney Lakeside Park, the facility provide a broad range of field sports and natural area amenities for organized and casual use.

The park is handicapped accessible and offers the following facilities:

- ◆ 207 parking spaces
- ◆ 1 playground
- ◆ 1 unlighted baseball field
- ◆ 6 unlighted soccer fields
- ◆ Hiking trails
- ◆ 4 benches
- ◆ Frontage along the Grand River
- ◆ Concession area
- ◆ Picnic areas
- ◆ 2 Pavilions
- ◆ Storage building
- ◆ 4 restrooms
- ◆ 1 play area
- ◆ 1 unlighted softball field
- ◆ 1 Lacrosse field
- ◆ Paved walkways
- ◆ Natural areas
- ◆ Canoe/Kayak launch
- ◆ Fishing area/dock
- ◆ Wetland education area
- ◆ Gazebo

Fallasburg Park

This Kent County Park is a 458 acre facility located about 4 miles north of Lowell on the Flat River. Facilities include picnic areas, a large picnic shelter for up to 200 people, softball diamonds, Frisbee golf, and playground equipment. The park is also the site of one of the State's few remaining covered bridges. Hiking and cross-country ski trails are found throughout the park.



Lowell State Game Area

This is an 1,800 acre preserve located northeast of Lowell in Kent and Ionia Counties.

North Country National Scenic Trail

The North Country National Scenic Trail is a premier footpath that stretches for about 4,600 miles linking communities, forests, and prairies across seven northern states. The North Country Trail passes through the City and the Lowell State Game Area and offers additional opportunities for hiking on rustic trails. The national headquarters for this trail is located in the City of Lowell, near the geographic center of the trail.

Ionia Recreation Area

The Ionia Recreation Area is the nearest State Park. This park offers fishing, camping, swimming, equestrian, and other recreational opportunities. It is approximately 8 miles east of the City of Lowell.

Senior Neighbors Center

Located on the west side of Hudson Street, across from Recreation Park, this facility is a converted home which serves as the activity center for the Senior Neighbors organization. It can accommodate

up to about 40 persons for events. Activities within the center include lectures, arts & crafts programs, daily meals, and other group programs. Large events like dances or special programs such as exercise classes are held elsewhere. The Center also sponsors regular outings and similar activities for the senior population of Lowell and the surrounding communities.

Churches

St. Mary's Church, one block west of Richards Park, and First United Methodist Church, at Avery and Jackson, contain small areas with playground equipment used for church programs and generally available to the neighborhood. Wesleyan Church contains a half basketball court, play equipment, and picnic tables with shelter.

Flat River Banks and Islands

These lands are in public ownership but remain undeveloped. Access limitations, flooding, and extensive poison ivy are some of the challenges that would need to be addressed before assigning a specific recreational activity. Their open space value, however, is an asset to the community. The islands have the potential of providing access between Recreation Park and the Rogers property via future pedestrian or vehicular bridges

Kent County Bike Routes

Although there are no designated bicycle routes or lanes within the City of Lowell, several Kent County trails are located on roads outside the City limits. A complete bicycle trail runs between the City of Lowell and Fallasburg Park up Lincoln Lake Avenue. There is also a designated 7 ½ mile widened shoulder along Grand River Avenue in Lowell Township from Alden Nash to Buttrick Avenue.



LOWELL AREA SCHOOL RECREATION FACILITIES

Lowell High School

Completed in 1994, this school lies outside the City limits but provides both indoor and outdoor facilities available to Lowell residents for a fee. Classrooms are used for adult education programs and the gymnasium is available for recreational basketball and volleyball. A large football stadium and track, 3 softball fields, and a soccer field are restricted to school use, but have relieved pressures on City facilities previously used by the school athletic program. The facilities also include 8 tennis courts.

Lowell Middle School



This facility, located on Foreman Road, shares its 7.3 acres with Bushnell Elementary School. The site has six outdoor tennis courts, one baseball diamond, one softball diamond, 6 outdoor basketball half-courts and parking facilities. Indoor facilities include a large gymnasium, multi-purpose room, auditorium, and, of course, classrooms.

Cherry Creek Elementary School

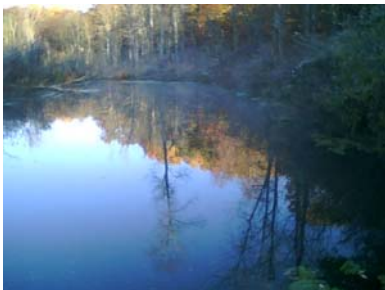
This large elementary school occupies the former middle school facilities. Outdoor facilities include six half-court basketball courts, a softball field, and a high school baseball field. A 1200 seat gym, multi-purpose room, and classrooms are available for community use.

Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center

This former elementary school is located on High Street, east of the Flat River and houses several pre-school programs for the Lowell school system. Its outdoor facilities include an open grassy play area, and modern play equipment. Several benches are located around the grounds. A multi-purpose room is located within the building.

Unity High School

A former elementary school, this building on the north end of the City's riverwalk currently houses Unity High School alternative education program. The building includes a gymnasium that is used for after school adult education activities.



Bushnell Elementary School

Located adjacent to the middle school site, the elementary school offers basketball, play equipment, an open play area, and a softball field. Some benches and picnic tables are scattered around the grounds. There is also a multi-purpose room.

Wege/Wittenbach Agri-science and Environmental Center

The 80-acre Wittenbach Center adjoins the Wege Foundation Natural Area for the study of ecology - 61 acres of woodland managed by the Land Conservancy of West Michigan. Trails link the two, and many programs are conducted in the Wege Natural Area. The Wege Natural Area and Wittenbach trail system is open to the public during daylight hours for foot traffic only.

PRIVATE RECREATION FACILITIES

Lowell Lanes

Located one mile west of the City limits on M-21, this commercial recreation facility offers 24 bowling lanes, and pool tables.

Roll Away

This is an indoor facility located on East Main Street. It contains eight bowling lanes, a roller skating rink and adjacent outdoor miniature golf course open to the public.

Riverbend Campground

A primitive campground, this facility is located about three miles east of the City limits on the Blue Water Highway.

Valley Vista Mobile Home Park

A broad array of recreational opportunities is provided to residents of this residential development. These include shuffleboard courts, tennis courts, basketball court, play equipment, sauna, swimming pool, and clubhouse.

Deer Run Golf Course

This public course is located about five miles south of Lowell on Cascade Road. It offers 18 holes, a clubhouse, and banquet facilities.

Arrowhead Golf Course

Located five miles north of the City on Alden Nash, this course offers 18 holes and a clubhouse.

RECREATION PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Programming is provided by several different organizations in Lowell. The YMCA is the organization primarily responsible for programming. Working in cooperation with the City and the school district, the "Y" schedules league play and organized team use of the many fields, except Burch Field, and schedules activities at the school facilities for youth basketball, open use of the gyms, adult leagues, gymnastics, and similar programs. Child care is also provided by the YMCA.

The Senior Neighbors is another active organization responsible for programming events for the senior population of the area. A variety of leisure and support programs are available through this effort.



Lowell's school district provides an adult education program in its facilities. It also makes the facilities available to the public on a fee basis for a variety of leisure recreation activities.

A summer concert series has been popular drawing several hundred people each Thursday night to the downtown Riverwalk area, home of the historic Showboat. This unique feature is discussed in more detail on page 18.

NEEDS ANALYSIS

The City of Lowell's parks and recreation program is the result of a combined effort of many organizations throughout the community. While the City owns the parks and provides maintenance of the facilities, they are generally not responsible for the day to day programming of activities. The City staff does work with the local YMCA and other independent sports organization such as Little League, Xtreme Softball, Lowell Area Select Soccer Organization and Lowell Youth Football for the scheduling of City parks for various uses. The Lowell School District serves other specific recreational needs of the community. Even the community-at-large has been active in improving recreation opportunities.

Like many areas, Lowell's parks are oriented toward the active needs of the community. Sports fields are found in several locations, along with picnic facilities, and play areas. Within a short drive of the Lowell City limits are extensive State and County facilities, which offer a full range of passive opportunities.

The following pages provide an evaluation of needs from several perspectives which in turn provide the framework for the Action Program.

CITY OF LOWELL RECREATIONAL NEEDS

Population Segments

The variety of age groups and interests in the City needs to be considered relative to the opportunities available. Current facilities are geared primarily towards active recreational pursuits ~ play areas, athletic fields, a swimming beach, and similar activities. While some picnic facilities are available, there is a need for more of these along with other passive facilities such as walkways, trails, sitting areas, and fishing areas. Senior citizen needs, in particular, appear to be overlooked by the existing facilities.

In addition, while there are numerous facilities available to organized youth recreation programs, there is a general lack of facilities available to youth interested in more informal recreation activities such as skateboarding, extreme skating, and BMX bike riding.

Finally, there appears to be strong interest within the community for a Community Center and recreational facility with indoor activities. This may include a swimming pool, indoor recreational facilities senior center, gathering space and other similar facilities.

Standards

One method of evaluating need is to compare the City's facilities with those of other communities using some standardized measure. This approach was used as a first step to identify any "glaring" recreational deficiencies that may exist in the City of Lowell. The following table illustrates the results of this comparison.

RECREATION STANDARDS² AND CURRENT FACILITIES

RECREATION OPPORTUNITY	STANDARD	NEED	EXISTING	DIFFERENCE
Total Park Acreage	10 ac. /1 ,000	40 ac.	167 ac.	+ 127 ac.
Basketball Courts (out)*	1/5,000	1	1/2	-1/2
Tennis Courts (outdoor)*	1/4,000	1	0	-1
Playground *	1/3,000	1	4	+3
Baseball Fields *	1/5,000	1	1	0
Softball Fields *	1/5,000	1	4	+3
Football Field *	1/20,000	0	1	+1
Track	1/20,000	0	0	0
Soccer Fields*	1/20,000	0	2	+2
Golf Course	1/50,000	0	2	+2
Bike Path (miles)	1/40,000	0	0	0
Picnic Tables	1/200	20	27	+7
Natural Area	1/50,000	0	3	+3
Ice Skating (outdoor)	1/20,000	0	1	+1
Swimming Beach	1/25,000	0	1	+1
Volleyball	1/5,000	1	1	0
Water Frontage (feet)	1/1	4,000	±6,400	2,400

* Does not include facilities on school grounds.

This comparison indicates, for the most part, the quantity of facilities is adequate. Total park acreage and water frontage; in particular, are well in excess of the suggested standard. Other facilities such as play areas, softball fields, and picnic tables are comfortably above the standard. Only two facilities appear to be

² MDNR, 1986. Building Michigan's Recreation Future, Appendix B, pages 100-101; and

Roger E. Lancaster, Ed. 1983, Recreation. Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, Alexandria, Virginia; National Recreation and Park Association. Pages 60-61.

deficient in terms of this measurement ~ basketball courts and tennis courts. However, the deficiency is negligible and is off-set by facilities available at the schools which were not included in the calculation. In addition, a review of the existing facilities suggests that they are not used sufficiently now to warrant the addition of any more.

Geographic Distribution

Even though the total amount of land may be adequate, the distribution of the parks must be considered. The recreation opportunities should be distributed throughout the community to provide convenient access to all residents.

The existing facilities map (page 20) shows the location of City parks and school facilities. While a cursory look at the map suggests that parks and/or schools are well distributed throughout the community, not all the facilities provide equal opportunities.

The City is divided by the Flat River which runs from north to south through the community. Recreational facilities in the community are situated as follows:

Geographical Distribution of Recreational Facilities within the City of Lowell

- | West of Flat River | East of Flat River |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creekside Park• Recreation Park• Stoney Lakeside Park• Richards Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• McMahon Park• Moose & Rogers Properties• North Washington Property• Roll Away Roller Rink & Bowling Alley |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bushnell Elementary School• Cherry Creek Elementary School• St. Mary's Church• Lowell Lanes Bowling Alley• YMCA | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Runciman School• Church Playground• Showboat/Riverwalk• United Methodist Church |

Lowell's most fully developed and heavily used parks are Creekside, Recreation, and Stoney Lakeside Parks which are all located on the west side of the river. School facilities, like the major parks, tend to be more dominant on the west side than the east side of the river. One elementary school is located in the City's northeast quadrant, and includes a modern playground for younger children.

The most significant recreation opportunities therefore, are found

on the west side of the Flat River. Lowell is not that large of a community that residents are precluded from enjoying any of the parks due to a lengthy drive from their homes. However, in terms of convenience and ready access, the residents east of the Flat River do not enjoy the same proximity to recreational opportunities as the rest of the community.

LOWELL AREA RECREATIONAL NEEDS

Looking at recreation needs and facilities from an area-wide perspective, it is clear that many typical recreation needs are adequately met by one or more of the three major providers today, based on National Recreation and Parks Association guidelines. One exception to this is the lack of a competitive swimming pool facility. The table on the following page compares the available recreational facilities with the combined population of Vergennes Township, Lowell Charter Township and the City of Lowell.

However, by comparing the combined recreational needs of the three communities with the facilities available and the location of those facilities, it is clear that better consolidation of some facilities and improvements to amenities and maintenance could enhance services for the entire community. The following is an unranked list of those deficiencies that have been locally identified, according to local input, and other established criteria:

1. Safe areas for walking and biking, particularly for children and senior citizens, including linkages between local and regional facilities, such as schools and parks.
2. Minimal access somewhere along the Flat River, for low or no-wake craft, such as canoes, etc.
3. A competitive swimming pool
4. A warm water pool for aerobics and therapeutic use
5. The pursuit of joint use and support of athletic and other public facilities now supported by Lowell Public Schools.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

In consideration of the recreation needs and deficiencies presented above, the Recreation Commission and the City Council have developed specific goals and objectives. These goals and objectives are intended to be the official policy of the City of Lowell on recreation matters. Goals and objectives help to provide direction in order to identify appropriate projects and programs.

Goal 1 - To develop a recreation system that will be responsive to, and effective in, meeting the present and future needs of residents.

Objectives:

- A. Develop an on-going planning process with a built-in procedure for receiving public input and evaluation of recreation opportunities.
- B. Update the recreation plan as needed and entirely review the plan every five years.
- C. Enhance recreation opportunities for persons of all ages.

Goal 2 - To coordinate facilities and programs with those of other agencies and groups.

Objectives:

- A. Provide facilities that complement those of Kent County, neighboring Townships, Lowell Area YMCA and other groups.
- B. Cooperate with and contribute to community wide/regional recreation projects.
- C. Seek active participation in the planning of recreation facilities and/or opportunities that affect City of Lowell residents.

Goal 3 - To upgrade and enhance existing recreational facilities within the City of Lowell.

Objectives:

- A. Provide encouragement and guidance for development of new skateboard park.

- B. Enhance existing parks with irrigation, lighting, picnic shelters, play equipment, parking, restrooms as needed.

Goal 4 - To continue to seek opportunities for new defined recreational uses of existing City park properties.

- A. Provide encouragement and guidance for development of RV Park.
- B. Seek public input for potential uses of Moose and Rogers properties and the Upper Bridge Park area.

ACTION PROGRAM

Lowell residents have, for many years, enjoyed a wide range of recreation opportunities provided by the City. The Parks & Recreation Commission is committed to maintaining a high quality program for the community and is continually striving to improve the facilities and programs available.

This recent area wide effort to review recreation opportunities for the Lowell communities has been of great benefit in formulating the Action Program. For a community of its size, the Lowell area contains substantial park land and some uncommon recreational assets. The Action Program focuses on refinements to the City's parks and recreation system based on the needs and interests of its residents.

SHORT TERM IMPROVEMENTS

The following table identifies the action plan the City of Lowell expects to pursue over the next five years to address its community recreation needs.

CITY OF LOWELL RECREATION PLAN SHORT TERM IMPROVEMENTS (0-5 yrs) (sorted by park)		
IMPROVEMENTS	PARK	Budget
Expand irrigation	Creekside	\$ 20,000
Realign & Re-skirt West Field	Creekside	\$ 10,000
Improve Boat Launch	Recreation	\$ 25,000
Improve restrooms & concession stand	Recreation	\$120,000
Install irrigation	Richards	\$15,000
Install new playground equipment	Richards	\$40,000
New picnic shelter & light relocation	Richards	\$15,000
Construct walkways/trails	Stoney Lakeside	\$10,000
Pave Clarke Street Parking Area	Stoney Lakeside	\$30,000
Construct Skateboard Park	Stoney Lakeside	\$100,000
Construct additional picnic shelter	Stoney Lakeside	\$ 7,500

LONG-RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

Other projects have been identified as needed or desirable but are not likely prospects to be completed within the 5 year improvement program represented by this Plan. These projects are listed in the following table.

CITY OF LOWELL RECREATION PLAN LONG RANGE IMPROVEMENTS (5 - 10 yrs) (sorted by park)	
IMPROVEMENT	PARK
Construct dugouts for ball fields	Creekside
New multi-sport storage facility	Creekside
Recreational Vehicle (RV) Park	Moose & Rogers properties
Continue to pave parking lot (Foreman Building by Football Field)	Recreation
Construct dock on Grand River	Stoney Lakeside
Plan for & Develop park use including dock/boat launch	Upper Bridge Park
Provide support for local and regional trailway efforts that connect to City of Lowell	Undetermined
Community Swimming Pool	Undetermined
Community Center	Undetermined

While the action plan establishes a number of intended improvements, the schedule should remain flexible as funding opportunities may not match an identified timeline.

APPENDICES

- Plan Adoption Resolutions
- Area Wide Recreational Facilities Inventory Matrix
 - Aerial Maps of Existing Recreation Areas

PLAN ADOPTION

The City of Lowell Parks and Recreation Plan was originally adopted by the Parks & Recreation Commission on April 22, 1995 and submitted to the City Council which also approved the Plan on May 15, 1995. This plan was updated and adopted by the Parks & Recreation Commission on June 21, 2008 and submitted to the City Council which also approved the Plan on July 7, 2008. Copies have been transmitted to the Lowell City Planning Commission, Lowell School District, Kent County Road and Parks Commissions, and the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission. Copies of the Resolutions of Adoption are included on the following pages.

RESOLUTION

**ADOPTION OF THE CITY OF LOWELL
PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan requires all municipalities to have on file an approved, up-to-date community recreation plan to be eligible for Recreation Grants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lowell has, in the past, been the recipient of Recreation Grants and has hopes of future Grants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lowell has the desire to improve, expand, and maintain its recreation system; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Lowell has studied the recreation opportunities available to the community, has solicited input from the community-at-large regarding needed facilities and improvements, and has prepared a Parks and Recreation Plan for the next five years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS by the Lowell Parks and Recreation Commission that it adopts the City of Lowell Parks and Recreation Plan.

YEAS: Commissioners Green, Pfaller, Pomper and Chair Beachum.


NAYS: Commissioners none.

ABSTAIN: Commissioners none.

ABSENT: Commissioners Hall.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Dated: June 21, 2008



David M. Pasquale, Secretary
Parks and Recreation Commission

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned duly qualified and Clerk of the City of Lowell, Kent County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Parks and Recreation Commission at a regular meeting held on June 21, 2008, the original of which is on file in my office and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed my official signature the 23rd day of June, 2008.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Betty R. Morlock", written over a horizontal line.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF LOWELL
KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

RESOLUTION NO. 19 - 08

**RESOLUTION ADOPTION OF THE
CITY OF LOWELL
PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN**

Councilmember Pfaller, supported by Councilmember Ellison, moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan requires all municipalities to have on file an approved, up-to-date community recreation plan to be eligible for Recreation Grants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lowell has, in the past, been the recipient of Recreation Grants and has hopes of future Grants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lowell has the desire to improve, expand, and maintain its recreation system; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lowell, through its Parks and Recreation Commission and with the assistance of its planning consultant and widespread community participation, has completed a five year Parks and Recreation Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS by the Lowell City Council that it adopts the City of Lowell Parks and Recreation Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of the City of Lowell Parks and Recreation Plan and this resolution be sent to the Kent County Parks and Recreation Commission and the West Michigan Regional Planning Commission.

YEAS: Councilmembers Altoft, Ellison, Hodges, Pfaller and Mayor Shores.


NAYS: Councilmembers none.

ABSTAIN: Councilmembers none.

ABSENT: Councilmembers none.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.


Dated: July 7, 2008


Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned duly qualified and acting Clerk of the City of Lowell, Kent County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on July 7, 2008, the original of which is on file in my office and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended.

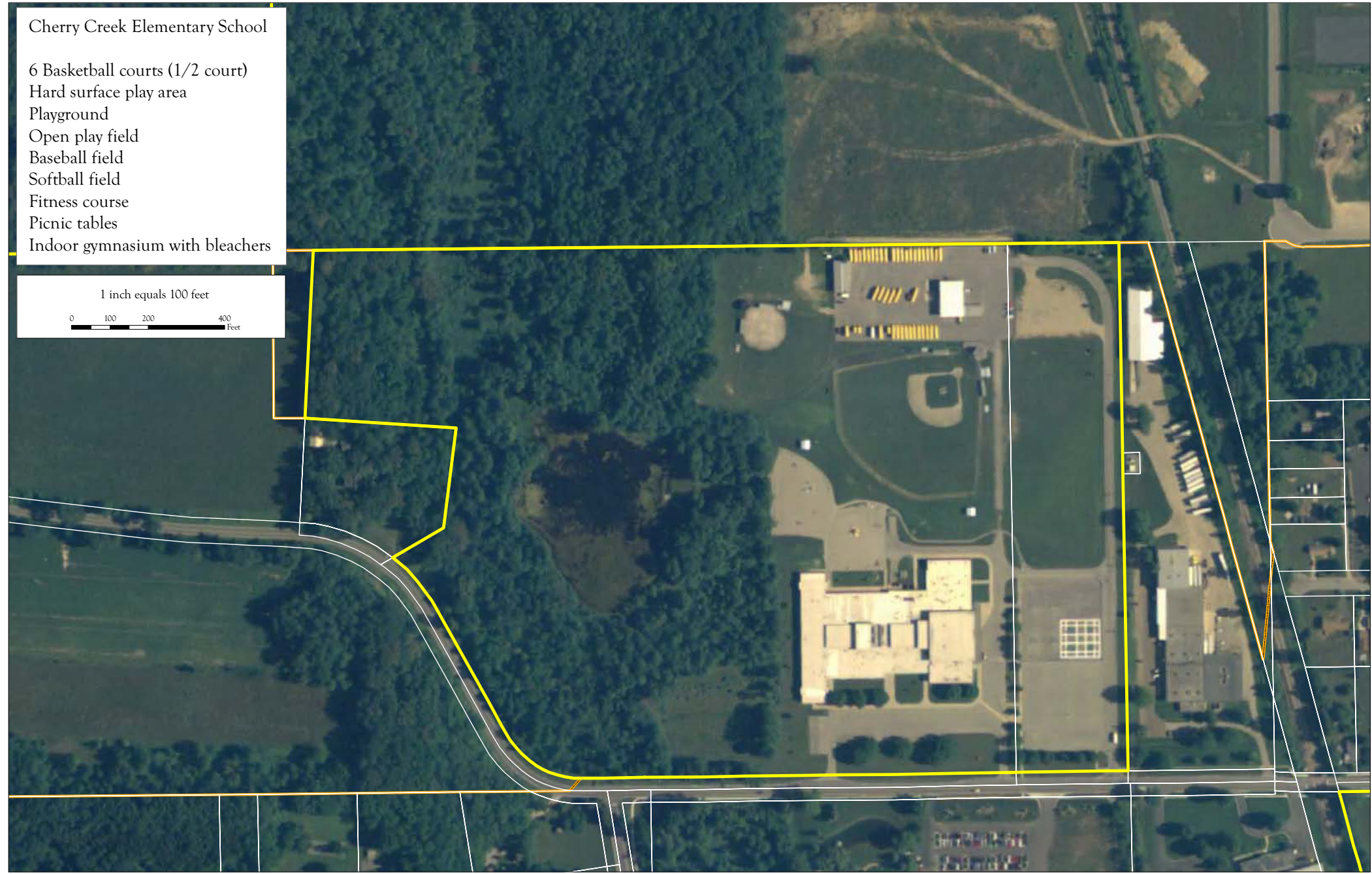
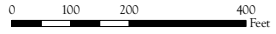
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed my official signature the 7th day of July, 2008.


Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk

Cherry Creek Elementary School

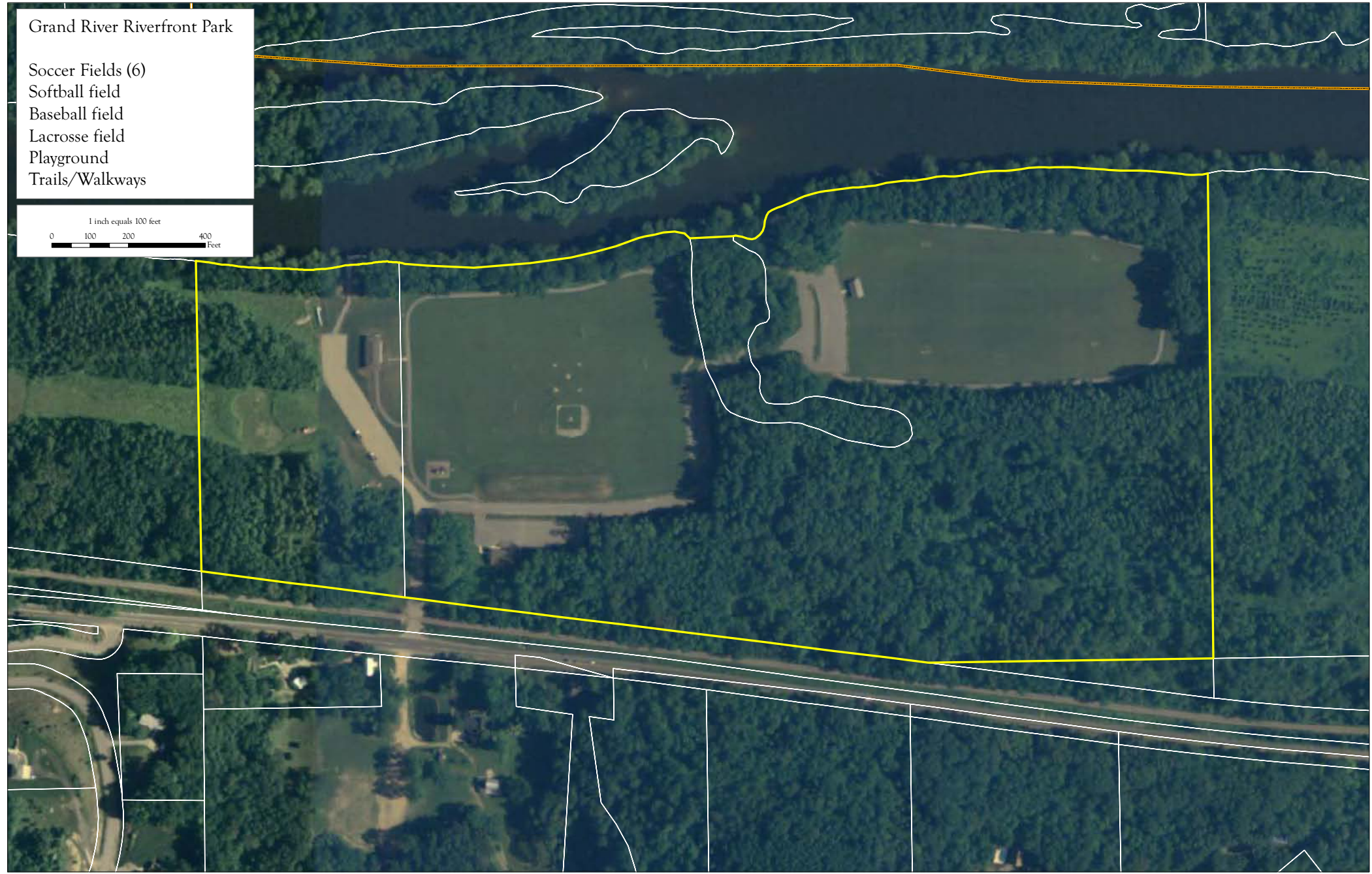
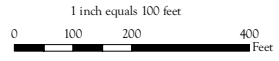
- 6 Basketball courts (1/2 court)
- Hard surface play area
- Playground
- Open play field
- Baseball field
- Softball field
- Fitness course
- Picnic tables
- Indoor gymnasium with bleachers

1 inch equals 100 feet



Grand River Riverfront Park

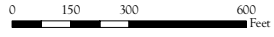
- Soccer Fields (6)
- Softball field
- Baseball field
- Lacrosse field
- Playground
- Trails/Walkways



Lowell High School

- 8 Tennis courts
- Open play field
- 1 Baseball field
- 1 Softball field
- 3 football/soccer practice fields
- 1 Stadium with concessions, lighting
- Track
- 2 Soccer fields
- Gymnasium
- Weightroom
- Walking/hiking trails

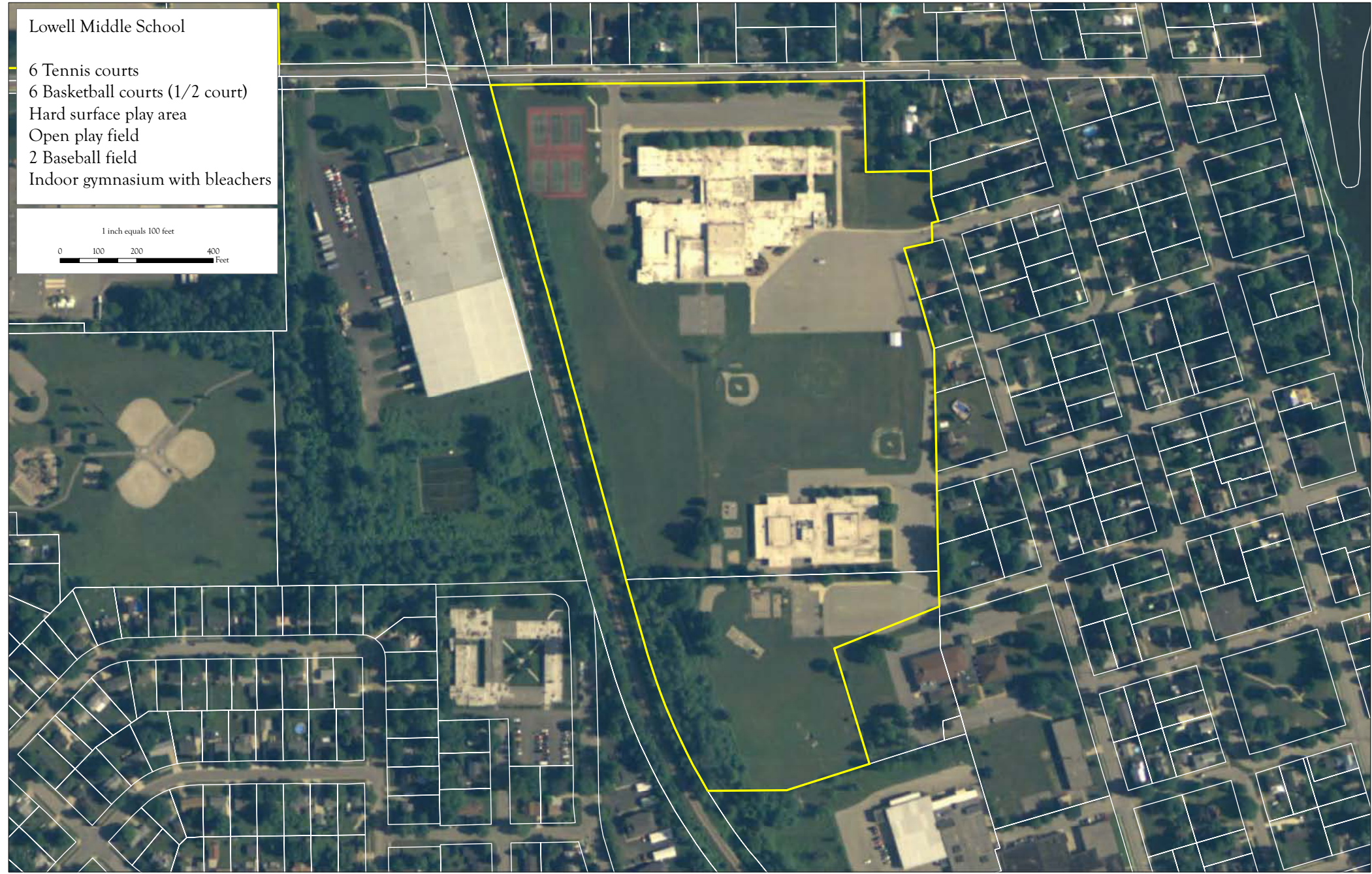
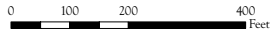
1 inch equals 150 feet



Lowell Middle School

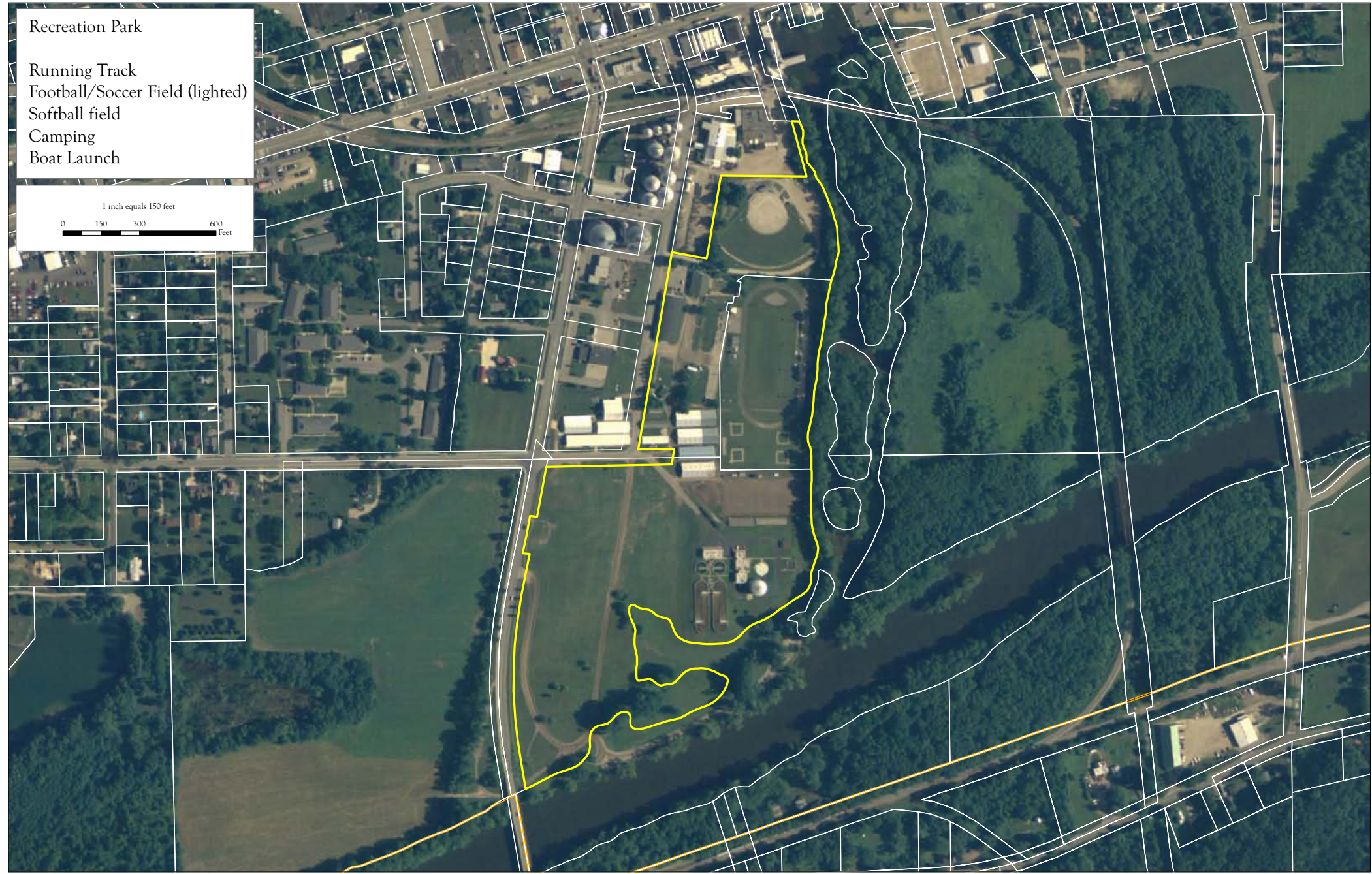
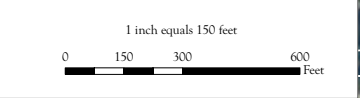
- 6 Tennis courts
- 6 Basketball courts (1/2 court)
- Hard surface play area
- Open play field
- 2 Baseball field
- Indoor gymnasium with bleachers

1 inch equals 100 feet



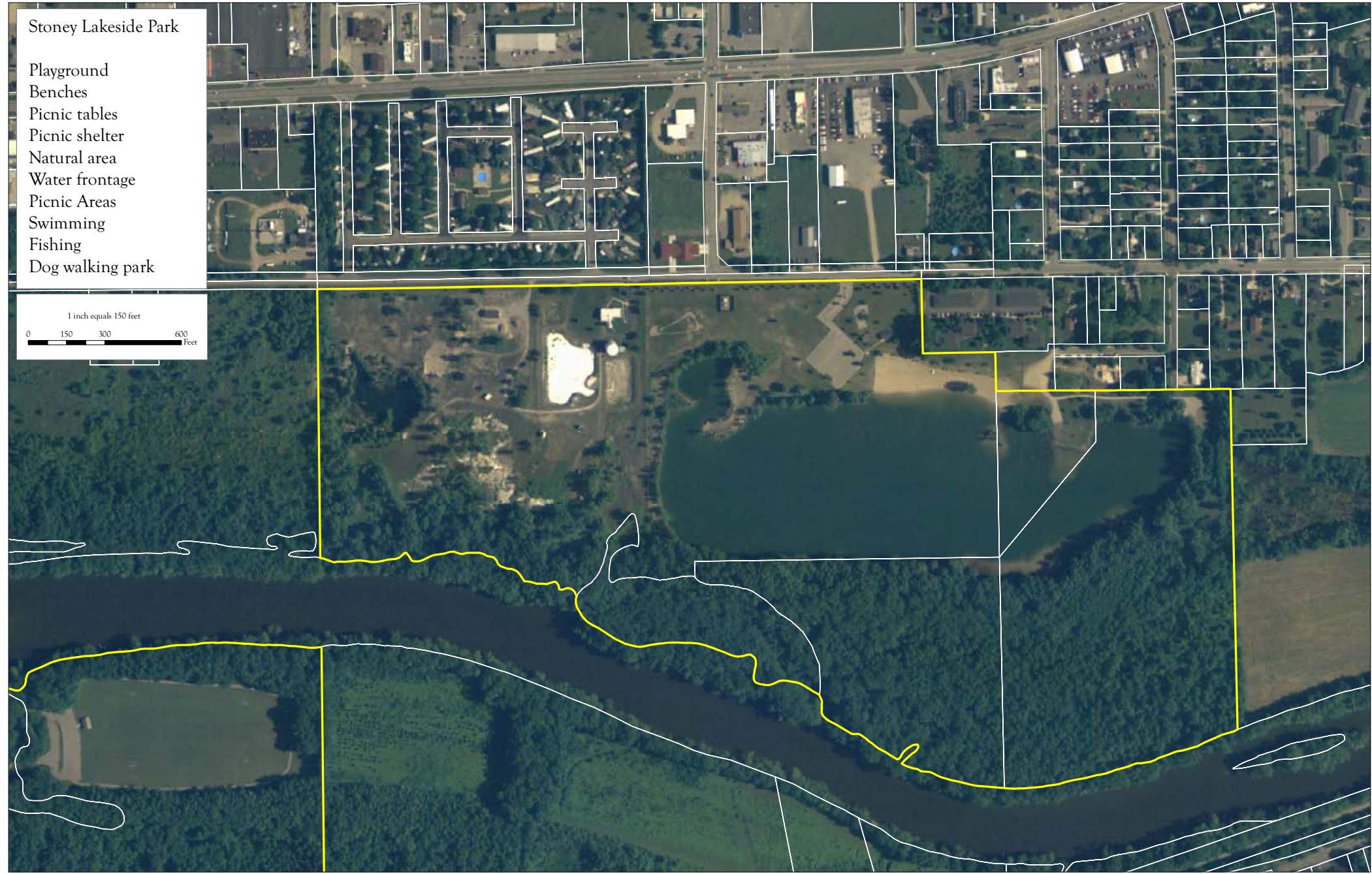
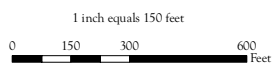
Recreation Park

- Running Track
- Football/Soccer Field (lighted)
- Softball field
- Camping
- Boat Launch



Stoney Lakeside Park

- Playground
- Benches
- Picnic tables
- Picnic shelter
- Natural area
- Water frontage
- Picnic Areas
- Swimming
- Fishing
- Dog walking park



Creekside Park

- Playground
- 3 Baseball field
- 3 Soccer fields
- 1 Softball fields
- 1 Volleyball court
- Paved walkway
- Benches
- Picnic tables
- Grills
- Picnic shelter
- Natural area
- Bleachers
- Concession area

1 inch equals 100 feet

