

Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

DECEMBER 2008

City of
Maple Grove
Parks & Recreation Board

Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Maple Grove, Minnesota

Maple Grove Parks & Recreation Board

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Approval Process:

Parks and Recreation Board, October 18, 2007
Planning Commission, October 13, 2008
City Council, November 2008
Met Council, September 2009

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Introduction

The 2008 Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan represents the City of Maple Grove's continuing commitment to provide park and recreational facilities to a growing and evolving community. The first Park Plan was authored in 1980. Additional Comprehensive Park System Plans followed in 1987 and 1994. This document includes recommendations on future parks and trails in the remaining undeveloped portions of the City, as well as revisions and improvements in other well-established areas of the City. Within the planning timeframe covered in this document, approximately 10 years, public utilities and major road improvements will provide urbanization to the remaining undeveloped areas of the City. Once



the new park and trail sites identified in this Plan are acquired, the City will own the majority of the park sites needed for the foreseeable future. While a future community mandate to acquire additional parkland is possible, the basic municipal park system will be in place once this Plan is implemented.

Since the 1994 Plan, the City has had substantial growth

and change. Residential areas were developed in central, southwest and northwest Maple Grove (south of County Road 30). The population increased by approximately 15,000 residents. Seven new neighborhood park sites and four playfields have been acquired and developed. The once vacant gravel mining area in the core of Maple Grove has become the location of a landmark regional shopping destination and home to a civic campus with the Community Center and Government Center located nearby. In southern Maple Grove, a major public land acquisition occurred in the Elm Creek basin preserving a large wooded open space aptly called the Forest Preservation Area. The well-developed municipal trail system had tremendous growth with miles of new routes creating attractive loops. Many locations were improved by making safe and convenient trails that crossed creeks, roads and

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highways. With these improvements, Maple Grove became a very popular and desirable location to live and raise a family. The development of the municipal park and trail system has been an integral part of the successful growth of this community.

This Plan confirms the neighborhood park system overall. The neighborhood parks have always been considered to be the backbone of the Maple Grove park system; delivering facilities and open space on a neighborhood level. In addition to the neighborhood parks, this Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan reaffirms the location and quantity of future park sites - it suggests there may be additional special facilities that may need to be studied and located throughout the system to better serve the community.

This Park System Plan update does not consider the redevelopment of existing park sites. Some redevelopment may occur before the next Plan is written in another 10 years. In the meantime, the Board will address any redevelopment needs on a project basis as the issues arise. System wide redevelopment will be studied as part of upcoming Park System Plan updates.

Park System Inventory

Existing Facilities

Developed Park Land

Since 1994 Maple Grove has added five Neighborhood Park sites; Hidden Meadows, Nottingham, Grove West, South Elm Road and Maple Lakes.

All five sites have been developed to include the facilities appropriate to a Neighborhood Park. The 17 existing Neighborhood Park sites comprise approximately one-fifth of the municipal park lands. Since 1994, Community Playfield sites at Gleason Fields and Fernbrook School have also been acquired and developed or expanded (in the case of Fernbrook). There are 12 playfield sites that total approximately



one-third of the land in the municipal park system. In addition, the City has expanded its land and facilities in the Community Center area. Currently there are just over 1,175 acres of park land owned by the City and another 387 acres of land owned by the School District with shared City use through Joint and Cooperative Agreements.

Trails

The Maple Grove trail system has been a defining element of the municipal park system for more than twenty years. Trails have been planned and developed as non-right-of-way recreational trails in most new residential subdivisions since the early 1980's. Park trails occur occasionally in public rights-of-way to complete a link, but typically are on land specifically dedicated for trails. Around 1999, City ordinance required residential developers to include public sidewalks on both sides of every street. Park trails in independent corridors were challenged as redundant by developers, thus limiting their frequency in newer subdivisions. The local trail system included more than 23 miles of park trails maintained by the City in 1994. By 2008, the City maintained over 43 miles of park trail. Trails are common

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within park sites and occasionally “Linear Parks” are created as wide corridors of park land specifically acquired to include a trail type element within a park-like setting. Maple Grove currently has more than 280 acres of land in linear parks. The City also maintains over 98 miles of sidewalk and 55 miles of pathway within the street rights-of-way.

The municipal system is supplemented by Three Rivers Park District regional trails linking the park sites of the Three Rivers system. The regional trail



system adds a significant number of miles to the local network providing a wonderful central spine through the City. Currently there are approximately six miles of regional trail connecting Elm Creek Park Reserve to Fish Lake Regional Park. This trail is called the Medicine Lake Regional Trail. Plans call for the extension of the Medicine Lake Regional Trail to the Plymouth border, then south to French Regional Park adding another one mile

in Maple Grove. There are also plans to acquire and develop a regional trail from Elm Creek Park Reserve west to Crow Hassan Park Reserve, to be named Rush Creek Regional Trail. A portion of this trail will travel along Rush Creek, further contributing to the extensive trail system. A third regional trail linking the Crystal-Robbinsdale area to the Elm Creek Park Reserve is identified in the Met Council regional trail system plan. The regional parks and trails play a significant role in the recreational opportunities in Maple Grove. Both the City Council and the Park Board have been very supportive of these amenities.

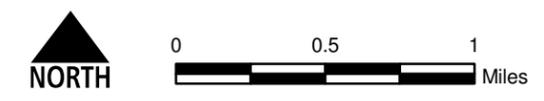
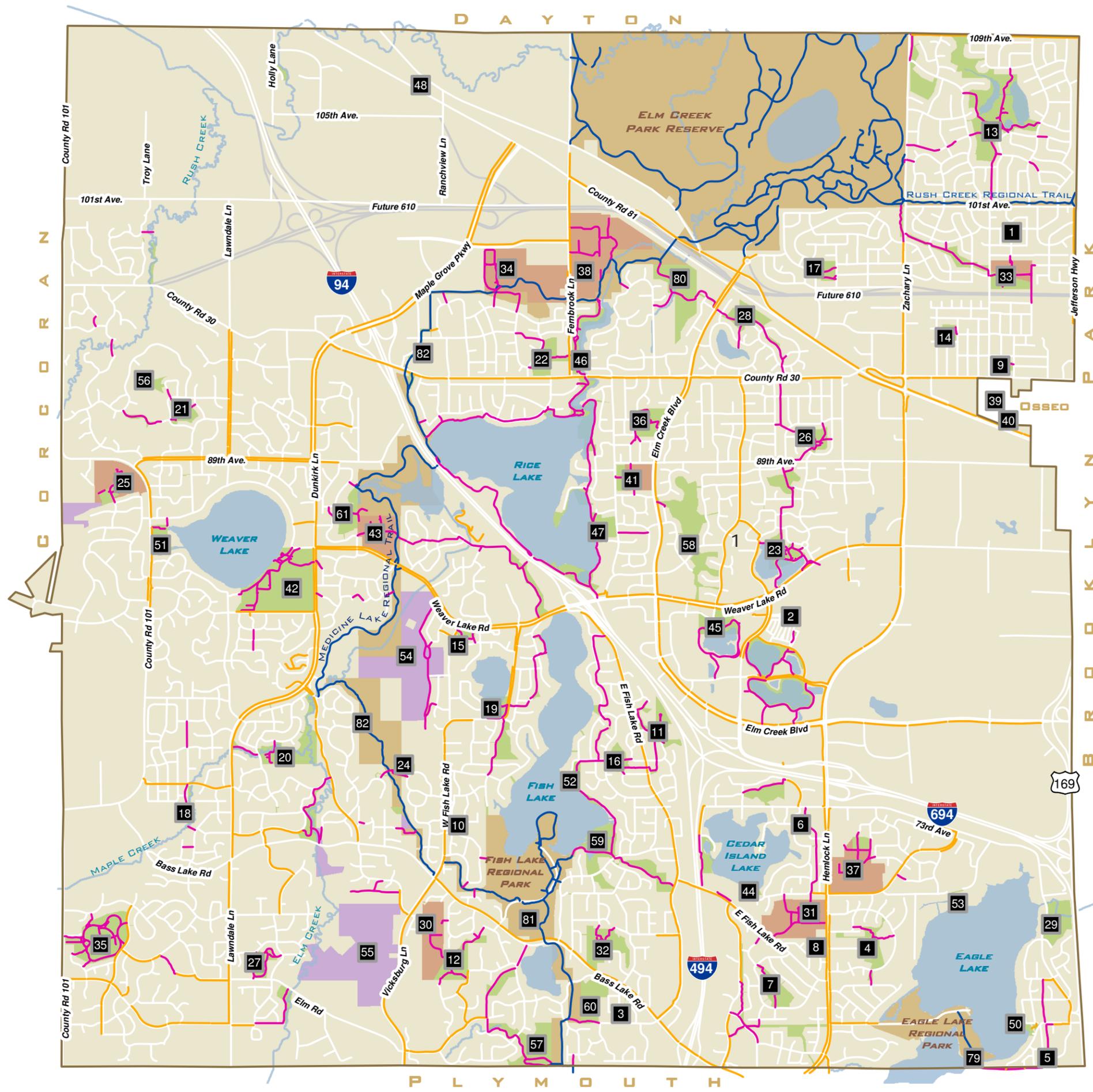
Undeveloped Park Land

Within the municipal park system, there is a substantial amount of land in a natural or limited maintenance condition. This land typically includes natural systems such as wetlands, ponds, lakes, creeks, woodlands or other natural areas. The City recognizes the value of natural open space as habitat for plant and animal communities and to provide diversity to the community landscape. The City has developed management practices to protect the valued resources by limited mowing, control of exotic species and the protection of water resources. Currently the local park system has over 50 percent of its land as non-programmed space. This refers to areas within a park that are undeveloped, restored as natural and receive limited maintenance. There are also more than 336 acres of municipal park land classified as "Conservancy". Conservancy Parks are those that were acquired for their natural resource qualities and are intended to incur little or no improvement.



EXISTING PARK AND TRAIL SYSTEM

-  City Park
-  School District Facility
-  Three River Park District Facility
-  City Forest Preservation Area
-  Park Trail
-  Three Rivers Park District Trail
-  City Pathway
-  00 Map Key
Refer to the Park Facilities Table on the following page for more park detail.



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Park Inventory

Map Key	Park Service Area	Total Acres	Acres Owned by City	Acres Owned by Others	Open Space Acres	Ballfield	Baseball Field	Basketball Court	Boat Launch	Building with Restrooms	Fishing Pier/Dock/Bridge	Football / Soccer Field	Hockey Rink	Horseshoe Pit	Parking Stall	Picnic Pavilion	Play Equipment	Skating Rink	Swimming Beach	Tennis Court	Trail	Volleyball Court	
MAPLE GROVE PARKS																							
PLAYLOTS																							
1	BAYLESS	12	1.17	1.17	0.00	0.00		1									1						
2	BRIDGES	23	1.16	1.16	0.00	0.00										1	1						
3	DONAHUE SOUTH	33	3.12	3.12	0.00	0.50	1																
4	EAGLE LAKE WOODS	25	12.73	12.73	0.00	9.60	1														1		
5	EAGLE NEST	36	0.32	0.32	0.00	0.00												1					
6	HEMLOCK PONDS	26	2.86	2.86	0.00	0.00		1										1			1		
7	MAPLE MEADOWS	35	14.10	14.10	0.00	10.80	1											1			1		
8	MAPLE TREE	26	0.84	0.84	0.00	0.00												1					
9	PILGRIM	12	1.97	1.97	0.00	0.00	1											1					
10	POLARIS	28	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.00												1					
11	WEDGEWOOD	27	2.36	2.36	0.00	1.20												1				1	
	SUBTOTAL		41.18	41.18	0.00	22.10	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	0	0	1	3	0	
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS																							
12	BASSWOOD	33	20.70	20.70	0.00	13.00	1	1							21		1				2	1	
13	BOUNDARY CREEK	1	90.31	90.31	0.00	73.00	3	1	1	1	1	1	1		90		2	1			2	1	
14	CHAREST	12	6.05	6.05	0.00	0.00	1	1		1					16		1	1				1	
15	CROSSWINDS	28	4.46	4.46	0.00	0.00	1	1							16		1					1	
16	FISH LAKE WOODS	27	8.90	8.90	0.00	0.00	1	1							16		1	1			2	1	
17	FORESTVIEW PONDS	11	7.49	7.49	0.00	1.50	1	1							16		1				2	1	
18	FUTURE PARK PSA 30	30	0.42	0.42	0.00	0.00																	
19	GOLDENROD MARSH	28	10.10	10.10	0.00	6.00	1	1			1						1	1			1	1	
20	GROVE WEST	29	31.00	31.00	0.00	22.70	1	1							30		1	1				1	
21	HIDDEN MEADOWS	18	9.15	9.15	0.00	0.00	1	1				1			30		1	1				1	
22	LAKEVIEW KNOLLS	9	15.41	15.41	0.00	0.00	2	1		1					30		1				2	1	
23	MAPLE LAKES	14	16.60	16.60	0.00	5.50	1	1				1			35		1	1				1	
24	NOTTINGHAM	29	5.27	5.27	0.00	1.20	1	1							30		1	1				1	
25	RUSH CREEK SCHOOL (ISD #279)	19	35.30	5.30	30.00	0.00	2	1				1			75		1				2	1	
26	SCOTT/JONQUIL MEADOWS	14	9.29	9.29	0.00	0.00	1	1							16		1				2	1	
27	SOUTH ELM ROAD	32	10.68	10.68	0.00	1.80	1	1							29		1	1				1	
28	TEAL LAKE	10	14.39	14.39	0.00	5.40	1	1							16		1				2	1	
29	WOODCREST	36	19.86	19.86	0.00	16.90	1	1							16		1				1	1	
	SUBTOTAL		315.38	285.38	30.00	147.00	21	0	17	0	3	2	4	1	0	482	0	18	9	0	18	17	1
COMMUNITY PLAYFIELDS																							
30	BASSWOOD SCHOOL (ISD #279)	33	34.10	0.00	34.10	0.00	1	1				1			75		1					1	
31	CEDAR ISLAND SCHOOL (ISD #279)	26	46.61	0.00	46.61	0.00	3	1	1	1		1	2		150		2	1			2	1	
32	DONAHUE NORTH	34	24.71	24.71	0.00	10.60	1	1		1	1	1	1		73		1	1			2	1	
33	ELM CREEK SCHOOL (ISD #279)	12	25.03	10.83	14.50	0.00	2	1	1	1	1	1	1		150		1	1			2	1	
34	FERNBROOK SCHOOL (ISD #279)	9	71.13	0.00	71.13	0.00	2	2	1			1			100		1					2	
35	GLEASON FIELDS	31	45.20	45.20	0.00	13.70	1	1	1	1		4	2		278		1	1			2	1	
36	KERBER	15	17.30	17.30	0.00	1.50	2	1	1	1		2			100		1	1			2	1	
37	MG JUNIOR HIGH (ISD #279)	25	50.76	5.67	45.09	0.00	5	1		1	2	2			300		1	1			4	1	
38	MG SENIOR HIGH (ISD #279)	10	86.57	0.00	86.57	0.00	4	2	2	2	3		8		700		1				8	1	
41	RICE LAKE SCHOOL (ISD #279)	15	19.92	4.76	15.15	0.00	1	1	1			1			100		1					1	
42	WEAVER LAKE COMMUNITY	19	79.10	79.10	0.00	51.30	3	1		1	1	1	2		300		1	4	1	1	4	1	
43	WEAVER LAKE SCHOOL (ISD #279)	17	28.60	0.00	28.60	0.00	1	1	1			1			75		1				1	1	
	SUBTOTAL		529.03	187.57	341.75	77.10	26	10	12	0	9	1	16	11	10	2401	1	16	7	1	26	12	7
SPECIAL USE PARKS																							
44	CEDAR ISLAND SHORES	26	2.35	2.35	0.00	2.30																1	
45	COMMUNITY CENTER	23	19.89	19.89	0.00	5.00									652		1	1				1	
46	ELM CREEK / ARBORETUM FREEDOM FIELD	10	19.13	19.13	0.00	13.10					2				56		1					1	
47	(EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH)	15	10.96	0.00	10.96	0.00	1															1	
48	HISTORICAL SITE	5	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.30																	
50	THORESEN	36	2.82	2.82	0.00	1.20	1			1					18		1	1				1	
51	WEAVER LAKE ACCESS	19	13.10	9.10	4.00	7.50			1						10								
52	WORDEN	27	8.63	8.63	0.00	3.00					1				10		1					1	
	SUBTOTAL		77.18	62.22	14.96	32.40	2	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	746	2	3	1	0	0	6	4	

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CONSERVANCY																							
53	EAGLE LAKE MARSH	25	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.55																	
54	FOREST PRESERVATION AREA A	29	88.14	88.14	0.00	88.14																	
55	FOREST PRESERVATION AREA B	32	102.55	102.55	0.00	102.55																	
56	HIDDEN MEADOWS	18	4.81	4.81	0.00	4.81					1												
57	HILLPOINTE HILLS	33	27.30	27.30	0.00	26.00															1		
58	RICE LAKE WOODS	14	43.62	43.62	0.00	43.62																	
59	TIMBERCREST FOREST	27/34	37.47	37.47	0.00	34.00															1		
60	ULSTER GREEN	33	20.79	20.79	0.00	20.79																	
61	WEAVER LAKE KNOLLS	17	10.96	10.96	0.00	10.96																	
SUBTOTAL			336.19	336.19	0.00	331.42	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	
LINEAR PARKS																							
62	ARBOR LAKE	23	55.40	55.40	0.00	15.00																1	
63	CEDAR ISLAND LAKE	26	18.70	18.70	0.00	16.10																1	
64	EAGLE LAKE	36	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00																	
65	ELM CREEK FOREST	29	2.05	2.05	0.00	2.00																	
66	ELM CREEK VALLEY	32	16.84	16.84	0.00	16.84																1	
67	FISH LAKE - EAST	27	3.93	3.93	0.00	3.40					1											1	
68	FISH LAKE - WEST	28	14.98	14.98	0.00	10.20																1	
69	HIGHPOINTE HILLS LINEAR	33	11.22	11.22	0.00	10.00					1											1	
70	MAPLE CREEK	30/31	1.32	1.32	0.00	1.32																	
71	MAPLE LAKES LINEAR	14	11.65	11.65	0.00	10.50					1											1	
72	MAPLE VALLEY	12	12.93	12.93	0.00	11.30																1	
73	RICE LAKE	39/15	49.30	49.30	0.00	41.43					4											1	
74	RUSH CREEK LINEAR	6	6.20	6.20	0.00	6.20					1												
75	SHADOW CREEK	17	11.28	11.28	0.00	10.20					1											1	
76	SYCAMORE	35	13.68	13.68	0.00	13.00																1	
77	TEAL LAKE LINEAR	10	38.13	38.13	0.00	36.00																1	
78	WEDGEWOOD LINEAR	27	11.69	11.69	0.00	11.00																1	
SUBTOTAL			281.30	281.30	0.00	214.49	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	
MAPLE GROVE TOTAL			1,580.26	1,193.84	386.71	824.51	53	10	31	1	13	16	20	12	10	3629	4	48	17	1	45	53	12
FACILITIES PROGRAMMED IN OTHER CITIES																							
NA	BASS LAKE (PLYMOUTH)	NA	18.81	0.00	18.81	0.00	1	1															
39	OSSEO JR. HIGH (ISD #279, Osseo)	NA	12.88	0.00	12.88	0.00	2																
40	OSSEO SR. HIGH (ISD #279, Osseo)	NA	30.26	0.00	30.26	0.00	3	2															
SUBTOTAL			61.95	0.00	61.95	0.00	6	3															
TOTAL FACILITIES PROGRAMMED							59	13															
THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT FACILITIES																							
79	EAGLE LAKE REGIONAL PARK		66.82	-	66.82																		
80	ELM CREEK PARK RESERVE		1,260.98	-	1,260.98																		
81	FISH LAKE REGIONAL PARK		149.38	-	149.38																		
82	MEDICINE LAKE REGIONAL TRAIL		330.24	-	330.24																		
83	RUSH CREEK REGIONAL TRAIL		18.24	-	18.24																		
PARK DISTRICT TOTAL			1,825.66	0.00	1,825.66																		
NOTES:																							
"Open Space" is land which is currently undeveloped, and where major future improvements are unlikely or not practical such as wetlands, forests, conservancies.																							
Linear Park acres do not include acres that are also part of other park classification.																							

Planning Strategies

Park and Trail Classification System

Maple Grove has a park classification system that has been used since 1976. Three general categories are utilized: local parks, park trails and regional facilities. All existing and proposed Maple Grove parks within the City generally fit into one of these three groups. The following classification system is a modified restatement of the Metropolitan Council's System, adjusted to suit Maple Grove's approach to parks and trails.

Local Parks

Playlots/Pocket Parks (PL): These sites usually have less than four acres of usable land and therefore; only allow for the possibility of play equipment, a small ballfield, trails and some site furniture. Playlots are designed for informal recreation due to their reduced size. They are developed in neighborhoods and are intended to fill voids where neighborhood parks do not exist and cannot be provided for the future.

Neighborhood Parks

(NP): These sites are usually four to fifteen acres of useable recreation area; ten acres is a better minimum standard. Typical NP amenities may include a small ballfield, a small soccer/football field, play equipment, basketball court, tennis court, trails, parking lot and pleasure skating rink. Typically, NPs are programmed for youth athletic practices and games with occasional adult practices. For the most part, the facility provides recreational space for the residents within the service area. Usually each Park Service Area will receive one neighborhood park. The neighborhood park is the most important and basic unit of the total park system and is expected to serve Maple Grove's residential developments.



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Community Playfields (CPF): These regionally located facilities are usually 25 to 50 acres intended for intensive recreational use. They are designed and programmed to serve more than the immediate neighborhood. As primarily an athletic complex, each CPF provides several regulation size athletic fields, parking lot, shelter building with restroom facilities, hockey and pleasure skating rinks, large play equipment, trails, basketball courts, tennis courts and playfield lighting as needed. Community Playfields have all the amenities of a NP and more. Occasionally a CPF will function as the Park Service Area's NP. Many of the City's CPFs are located at School District sites where fields and open space are shared under a Joint Powers Agreement.

Community Parks (CP): These sites are 25 to 100 acres or more of land that provide active and passive recreation and are typically oriented toward natural amenities such as lakes, rivers/creeks or woods. They are designed to provide appeal to the entire community population thus serving a large number of park users. Features unique to CPs might be a public beach, large rentable picnic shelters, large parking lots, significant open space, restroom facilities and larger play equipment. Community Parks, like CPFs, can also serve as Neighborhood Parks where neighborhood parks are insufficient to serve the population of the service area.

Special Use Parks (SU): These land holdings are of variable size and are acquired and developed for specific purposes such as an Arboretum, educational site, boat access, wayside rest areas, fishing dock, indoor pool, golf course or historic site. They are intended to serve on a large scale community-wide basis.

Conservancy Parks (C): Generally these land holdings are intended to preserve a unique natural resource in the community. Their size and shape vary significantly. These parks serve a special purpose in the system by providing visual interest and diversity to the community landscape. These parks are intended for passive recreation such as walking and bird and animal watching. High quality wetlands, woodlands or wildlife habitats are examples of sites categorized as conservancies.

- Forest and Open Space Preservation - The City acquired 260 acres of forest and open space land in 1995-96 from bond referendum funds. The purpose of acquiring the forest and open space land was to protect the special lands from future development and to preserve this land for enjoyment by future generations. In an effort to preserve this unique land, access is limited to foot traffic.

Park Trails

Park trails are intended to provide non-motorized recreational corridors that connect residents to the larger community whether that is a neighborhood park or a neighborhood store.

All park trails are designed to accommodate multiple uses and user types including bicycling, hiking/jogging/walking, in-line skating and where appropriate cross-country skiing.

Linear Parks: This type of park land provides a physical link between two or more areas. The corridor width is variable depending on the natural resources available for preservation, typically ranging between 30-100 feet wide. The width of a Linear Park is important because the amount of land included in the corridor is intended to reflect a park-like atmosphere.



Trailways: Trailways are for the specific purpose of obtaining access between platted properties and adjoining neighborhoods to adjacent parks and trails. Trailway corridors are typically 30 feet wide and the treadway dominates the corridor rather than open space, as in Linear Parks.

Transportation Trails (City):

Pathways - These paved trails are located within the street rights-of-way. They are generally 8-10 foot wide bituminous trails that serve a transportation purpose similar to the roadway system. A large network of these pathways has been integrated into the system.

Sidewalks - Concrete sidewalks have become a requirement of new subdivision development. The five foot wide concrete walkways are an integral part of moving residents throughout their neighborhood.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Regional Facilities

Three Rivers Park District is responsible for the planning, development and operation of “regional” park and recreation facilities in Maple Grove and throughout the park district. This regional outreach serves a large portion of the greater Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan region. The Maple Grove Park Board has always focused its planning and development effort so as to avoid unnecessary duplication of amenities and services. Five regional facilities exist or are planned in Maple Grove:

- Elm Creek Park Reserve - existing
- Fish Lake Regional Park - existing
- Eagle Lake/Pike Lake Regional Park - existing
- Rush Creek Regional Trail - partially complete
- Medicine Lake Regional Trail - partially complete
- Crystal Lake Regional Trail - partially complete

Regional Parks: Regional parks have maintained their philosophy of providing recreational opportunities in a natural resource type setting. The parks provide many of the amenities and special facilities that are not provided by the Maple Grove system.

Regional Trails: Regional trails provide a high quality trail experience typically through a broad corridor of diverse natural beauty. The regional trails are often designed to limit vehicle conflicts or interruptions which make them a very safe and attractive recreation amenity in the system. In Maple Grove the Medicine Lake Regional Trail will provide a central spine to the local trail network linking the City trail system to the larger regional context. Likewise, Rush Creek Regional Trail links Coon Rapids Dam to Elm Creek Park Reserve and is planned to continue west to Crow-Hassan Park Reserve.

Park Service Area Concept

The Park Service Area (PSA) concept has been an established framework of the Maple Grove park system for twenty years. As part of the 1987, Comprehensive Plan the Park Board established that each PSA would include a standard level of equitable park service and that generally these park amenities would be located as best possible, in a central Neighborhood Park. Since not every subdivision developed in the community could or should include a Neighborhood Park, planning criteria was created to determine an optimal number and location for a system of Neighborhood Parks. This system was termed the Park Service Area (PSA) Concept.

PSA Boundary Chronology

- 1987 - Park Service Area boundaries were established in the areas of the City where development was in the foreseeable future.
- 1994 - Park Service Area boundaries were refined for all areas except the Gravel Mining Area.
- 2006 - Park Service Area boundaries are cleaned up to reflect new development lines. Currently every parcel in the community is included in a service area.

The PSA system was structured to provide neighborhood park amenities in a balanced network so every resident would be within walking distance, approximately ½ mile of a park. The goal would be to have a Neighborhood Park (NP) for each square mile of residential land development with the intent on serving about 3,000 residents per PSA. These guidelines were based on early population projections and planned densities for the community.

Park Service Area Concept

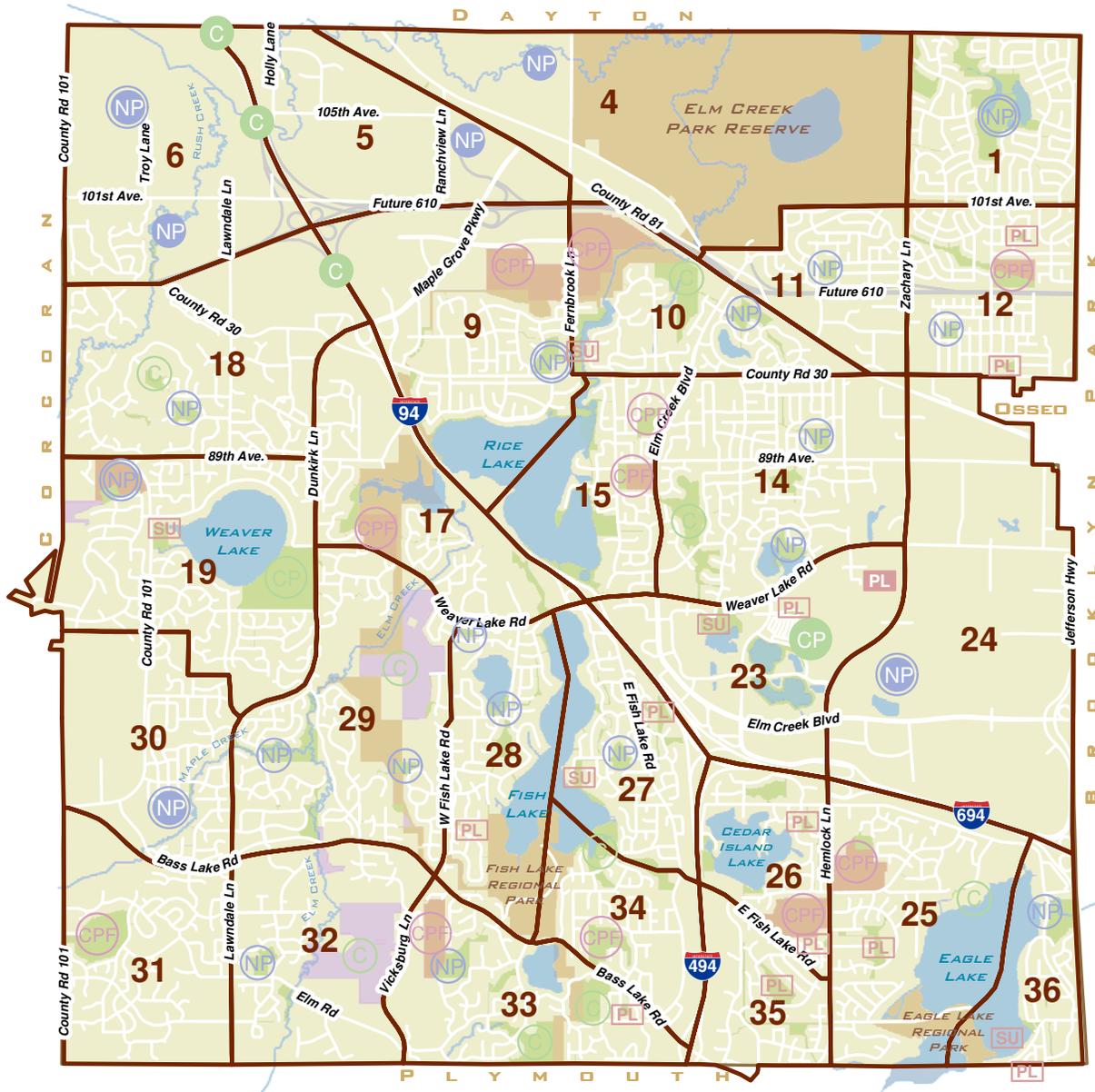
- About one square mile area
- Serves about 3000 residents
- Park centrally located in the PSA

Maple Grove has been divided into 29 Park Service Areas that cover its 36 square mile land area. The size and shape of a PSA are responsive to the physical patterns within the community created by commercial and industrial land uses, regional parks, lakes and wetlands, creeks and heavily traveled roads. Since these “barriers” don’t occur in a regular pattern, the PSAs have irregular shapes and the area may be more or less than one square mile.

Ideally each PSA serves approximately 3,000 residents. In reality, most of Maple Grove’s PSAs developed prior to the mid 1990’s are fairly close to that goal. Some of the more recent PSAs have developed with higher residential populations due mostly to the decrease in lot size and the encouragement of the Metropolitan Council to increase density in suburban development.

The Comprehensive Park System Plan will continue to use the Park Service Area Concept to guide the system planning. The Board may re-examine the system framework for possible inequalities between Park Service Areas in an effort to provide the best “level of service.”

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Park Service Areas

	Park Service Area Boundary		Community Playfield
	City Park		Neighborhood Park w/ Athletic Fields
	School District Facility		Neighborhood Park
	Three Rivers Park District Property		Community Park
	City Forest Preservation		Conservancy Park
			Playlot-Pocket Park
			Special Use Park

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

Recreational Facility Guidelines

The use of recreational facility guidelines has been a park planning tool in Maple Grove during the development of the previous park plans. These "facility guidelines" define a ratio between a specific recreational facility and desired number of users it will serve. As the City grew it was possible to measure when recreational facilities were needed to keep pace with public demand. For example, the recreational guiding principle for football and soccer fields in the previous Comprehensive Plan had been one field per 4,000 residents. Through most of Maple Grove's urbanization from the 1980's through approximately 2000, the recreational facility guidelines were a practical methodology for measuring level of service.

Over the years, Maple Grove and the Twin Cities metropolitan area in general, have seen some changes in the amount of recreational demand for various activities. In the last ten years adult softball and tennis have declined while soccer continues to increase in popularity. Outdoor skating, including hockey, has declined becoming more of an indoor activity. The City staff and Board have monitored the changing patterns in recreation and adapted to user demand. As part of the research for this document, staff obtained facility ratio data from peer communities in an effort to ensure Maple Grove's level of service is comparable. The new guidelines that will serve the community for the next ten years are outlined in the table found in the Appendix on page 83.

Guiding Principles

The Maple Grove Parks and Recreation Board has served the residents of the community since 1961 by having core value statements that guide staff in the planning and development, maintenance and operation and programming of park and recreation facilities. The guidelines are intended to demonstrate the commitment the Board and staff have in providing the residents of Maple Grove the best opportunity to engage in healthy active lifestyles.

General Principles

- A. Plan for, develop and operate park and recreation facilities; and identify and implement park and recreation programs which meet the community interests for enhancing the individual's leisure time including social, recreational, educational and physical opportunities.
- B. Implement park and recreation administration and operations based on Board and City Council established guidelines, procedures and ordinances.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

- C. Encourage public awareness and input on all aspects of program and facility development.
- D. Collaborate with neighboring communities, school districts, county, park district and state agencies to produce a wide range of programs and facilities without unnecessary duplication of services.
- E. Govern usage of all public parks and recreation facilities to ensure their proper use so all residents may enjoy them for leisure time activities.
- F. Provide reasonable accommodations for equal access to facilities and programs in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act.
- G. Foster stewardship for public lands through best management practices that preserve and enhance valuable natural resources.

Administration Principles

- A. JOINT USE AGREEMENTS
Pursue and develop joint use agreements between the City and other entities when appropriate.
- B. GIFTS AND DONATIONS
Accept gifts and donations within the best interest of the City in accordance with established guidelines.
- C. SPONSORSHIP
Consider sponsorship from private parties who wish to market to facility users and program participants as a supplemental revenue source within established guidelines.
- D. VOLUNTEERISM
Foster volunteerism to encourage community respect and pride, as well as provide cost effective delivery of services.

Identify projects for and utilize the talents and skills of residents to supplement staff in park and recreation services.
- E. CONSULTANT SERVICES
Utilize professional consultant services as needed to support staff in delivering the Board's and City Council's goal of high quality facilities, programs and services.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Financial Principles

Identify and utilize all appropriate methods of funding for Park and Recreation programs and facilities. Funding sources include, but are not limited to; Park Dedication, City General Fund, user fees and charges, grants and foundation awards, advertising and sponsorship in conjunction with approved advertising policies of the Parks and Recreation Board and cash donations.

A. PARK DEDICATION

Utilize funds obtained through the park dedication ordinance and MN statute to acquire land and develop and improve facilities.

Prepare and maintain annual budget for use and management of park dedication fees through established administrative practices in accordance with MN Statute.

Annually review and recommend to the City Council a park dedication fee schedule based on current Maple Grove land values provided by the City Assessor.

B. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

Prepare and annually maintain a long-range Capital Improvement Program and budget that addresses system needs outside the normal budget stream.

C. FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

Use financial mechanisms available to the City for park system acquisition, development, redevelopment and operations as authorized by the City Council.

D. GENERAL FUND

Endeavor to finance, in general, the administrative operations of Parks and Recreation through the City General Fund.

E. GRANT FUNDS

Seek county, state, federal and private grant funds for special projects and programs consistent with Board and City Council policies.

F. FEES AND CHARGES

a. Recreation Programs:

Establish and periodically review fees for program participation and when appropriate, collect fees and charges that will pay for expenses created and incurred as a result of the program offering.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

- b. Community Center:
Maximize revenues to offset and pay for the majority of the operating costs of the Maple Grove Community Center recognizing the need to provide additional funding over and above revenues received as a result of the amount and level of reduced fee or free services provided to the public in the Community Center.
- c. Non-resident Fee:
Assess a general administrative fee to all non-residents when appropriate for participation in Maple Grove recreation programs recognizing that its primary service area does include portions of other communities that reside in the Osseo Area School District and are not located in the City of Maple Grove. Individuals of these communities will be allowed to participate in programs and offerings and can be charged appropriate non-resident fees.
- d. Rental Fee:
Assess rental fees when appropriate to qualified groups who utilize community park facilities for exclusive leisure time activities.

Park Planning And Development Principles

A. LAND ACQUISITION

Review and submit recommendation to the Planning Commission and City Council on all parks and open space land acquisition matters relative to Maple Grove Subdivision Ordinance, Chapter 30:18, Provision of Land for Public Use with the goal of acquiring park land and open space where a specific park or recreational need is identified in keeping with the Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan.

B. NATURAL RESOURCES

Seek acquisition of high quality natural resources as a priority in the development of the park system such as lake frontage, hardwood forests, native prairie, creek corridors or other unique landscape community or topography.

C. PARK DEDICATION

Accept land and/or cash for park dedication pursuant to Maple Grove Subdivision Ordinance, Chapter 30:18, Provision of Land for Public Use. Utilize funds from park dedication requirements for acquisition, development and improvements with special emphasis on neighborhood parks and trails.

D. CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Consider conservation easements as a means to preserve natural resources where and when appropriate.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

E. PHILANTHROPY

Consider land donations that preserve natural resources and assist in the development of the park and trail system plan.

F. FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

Coordinate facility development with the recreational interests of community residents and those related services as provided by the Board, athletic associations, civic groups and organizations.

G. FACILITY CLASSIFICATION AND STANDARDS

Align park planning and development with the established park classifications and recognized industry guidelines for facility development.

H. TIMELY DEVELOPMENT

Budget, plan and develop new facilities with the pace of housing development when possible.

I. ADJACENT LAND USES

Be cognizant of existing and planned adjacent land uses when planning and developing park and trail facilities.

J. MASTER PLAN

Adopt park master plans prior to any major development.

K. PARK AND TRAIL ACCESSIBILITY

Maximize park accessibility by seeking to meet the guidelines established by the American with Disabilities Act in the design of the park and trail system when at all possible.

L. LONG TERM MAINTENANCE COST

Consider the long-term costs of maintenance and operations when planning and developing park and trail facilities.

Park Maintenance And Operation Principles

A. INDUSTRY STANDARDS

Research and follow the best practices identified in the industry of park maintenance and operation.

B. ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

Develop and maintain an asset management program for the inventory, maintenance and replacement of all park assets.

C. ENERGY REDUCTION

Strive to develop energy reducing practices in the daily maintenance and operations of the park and trail system.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

D. FACILITY MAINTENANCE

Maintain facilities to a generally accepted standard based on intensity of use, purpose of facility and within the fiscal and staffing resources available.

E. LIMITED MAINTENANCE AREAS

Evaluate areas not intended for active play for conversion to a limited maintenance plan restricting mowing and other routine maintenance.

F. PLAY APPARATUSES

Design, inspect and maintain playground apparatuses to comply with Consumer Product Safety Commission standards.

G. PRIVATE USE OF PARK LAND AND FACILITIES

Consider the private use of park land or facility through a permit process within the established procedures.

H. REGULATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

Develop and enforce park regulations and ordinances to preserve the built facilities, natural resources and general health and safety of park users.

Recreation Programming Guiding Principles

The guiding principles of recreational programming are to provide a comprehensive variety of activities, events and services to meet the recreational interests of all residents of the City of Maple Grove.

A. INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION

In providing recreational programming and services the Parks and Recreation Board will plan and coordinate with local school districts, local youth and adult organizations, county and state agencies and all appropriate entities to provide the highest level of service while avoiding and eliminating duplication of services and programs.

B. PARTNERSHIPS

The Board will seek to develop formal partnerships with appropriate public and private organizations/businesses to provide the maximum benefit from tax dollars spent on recreation services and programs. Examples of partnerships currently in place in 2008 include Lifetime Fitness, Osseo Area Schools District 279 and Three Rivers Park District and Maple Grove Evangelical Free Church.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

C. FACILITY PRIORITY AND USAGE

For independent associations and organizations, the following procedures will be utilized for assignment in determining facility priority and usage:

a. Parks and Recreation sponsored programs and activities will receive first priority.

b. Associations and organizations currently affiliated with the Parks and Recreation Board are eligible for facility assignment following all Parks and Recreation Board sponsored activities. These organizations may offer programming for activities only in their established areas of programming responsibility. These organizations should strive to avoid duplication of Parks and Recreation Board program activities and work to provide efficient delivery of services to the community. These organizations are required to operate in a non-profit generating environment and be open to all interested residents of the community.

c. Consideration of new associations and organizations for affiliation with the Parks and Recreation Board will be based on the need for the service and type of programming offered by the association or organization. Consideration of the addition of new affiliated organizations will be based on: (1) the avoidance of duplicating of existing services, (2) need and interest of the community for the activity being considered, (3) and availability of existing facilities for the activity/program offered.

D. HEALTH PROMOTION AND HEALTHY LIVING

It is a priority for the Parks and Recreation Board to educate and provide organized and self-directed opportunities that promote and encourage healthy life styles, fitness and physical well being for all residents of the community.

E. AGING POPULATION

In recognition of the changing demographics, programs strive for creative and active opportunities that address the interests of senior citizens.

F. ATHLETICS AND TEAM SPORTS

To enhance current styles of programming the Parks and Recreation Board provide active recreational opportunities for youth and adults that promote healthy living.

G. CULTURAL ARTS

In addition to traditional "active" recreation programming, the Parks and Recreation Board will strive to provide opportunities that promote the appreciation of the arts and provide cultural enrichment to all residents of the community.

Community Analysis

Demographic Profile

This community analysis section outlines pertinent information related to the changes in Maple Grove demographics and their potential effect on park and recreation planning. The major trend appears to be the aging population which is not isolated to Maple Grove but a national trend. This may impact how parks are designed in the future, but likely has a greater influence on the recreational programs offered.

Population Growth

Since 1990 the City population has grown an average of almost 1,500 persons per year; that's an increase of over 100% in twenty years. It is anticipated that this growth will slow slightly to about 1,200 persons per year over the next 15 years. Maple Grove's population has increased by a much greater percentage than Hennepin County's population as a whole during the same twenty years. This is a startling amount of growth which has significant repercussions on demand for parks and trails.

Year	Population
1990	38,736
1995	44,313
2000	50,365
2005	58,420
2008 - January	60,631
2010 - Projected	64,500
2020 - Projected	75,700
City Full Developed	84,000

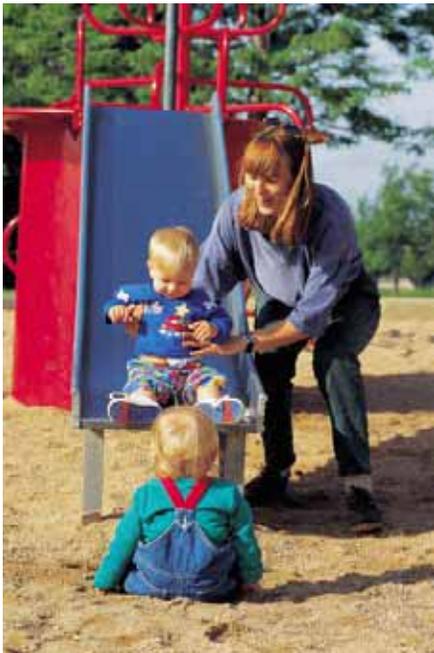
Existing Neighborhoods and Neighborhood Parks: The City Community Development Department expects populations in existing neighborhoods to decrease slightly, largely based on household size. By 2030, a 10% reduction in population is expected in most of the neighborhoods developed before 1994. Over time however, redevelopment is expected in existing neighborhoods and this development may likely incorporate higher housing densities than the current patterns.

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Since the 1994 Park Plan, Maple Lakes, Hidden Meadows, Rush Creek School, Fernbrook School, Grove West, Nottingham, Gleason and South Elm Road are NP sites developed in PSAs 14, 18, 19, 9, 29, 31 and 32 respectively. All these PSAs (except for 9) have projected populations of at least 3,500 residents. Maple



Lakes was a second neighborhood park located in PSA 14 which responded to a planned population of over 6,000 residents. Scott/Jonquil Meadows was the original neighborhood park site located in an older neighborhood in the north part of PSA 14. Similarly, since 1987, PSA 19 had a change in boundary and an increase in planned population (from 2,424 to 4,926) justifying a second joint use facility at Rush Creek Elementary School. PSA 9 had additional improvements at the Fernbrook Elementary School providing a more neighborhood oriented facility for the north half of that PSA. PSA 29 received two sites for geographic reasons (the PSA is split by Elm Creek).



Future Neighborhoods and

Neighborhood Parks: The City Community Development Department is anticipating that residential land use patterns may change in future neighborhoods. It is thought that medium and higher density residential areas will become more concentrated creating higher population nodes within certain PSAs. This may lead to unique demands on the system. Park Service Areas 4 and 5 are expected to have residential numbers less than the standard 3,000 residents, while 6, 23 and 24 are expected to have higher populations. PSA 6 has responded by providing two Neighborhood Parks. The other PSAs may need to be considered for expanded or reduced facilities to meet the needs of the anticipated population.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Projected Population by Park Service Area

PSA	Existing Facilities	1994 Pop. Projection	2006 Pop. Projection	2030 Pop. Projection	Percent Above/Below Guideline**
1	Boundary Creek NP	4585*	3158	3158	5%
4	Undeveloped NP	1750	1727	3236	8%
5	Undeveloped NP	2000	2420	2795	-7%
6	2 - Undeveloped NP	negligible*	5946	4489	-25%
9	Fernbrook School CPF Lakeview Knolls NP	1,500*	2642	2642	-56%
10	Maple Grove Senior High CPF Teal Lake NP Arboretum SU	854*	1738	1738	-42%
11	Forestview Pond NP	1757*	1415	1415	-53%
12	Elm Creek School CPF Charest NP Bayless PL Pilgrim PL	4294*	2840	2840	-53%
14	Maple Lakes NP Jonquil Meadows NP	5,331*	6366	6366	6%
15	Kerber CPF Rice Lake School CPF	2025*	1922	1922	-68%
17	Weaver Lake School CPF	2,622*	2,328	2,328	-22%
18	Hidden Meadows NP	3500	5317	5994	100%
19	Weaver Lake CPF Rush Creek School NP	2424*	4926	4926	-18%
23	Bridges PL Undeveloped CP and PL	Didn't Exist	4755	4755	-21%
24	Undeveloped NP	Didn't Exist	4127	4127	38%
25	Maple Grove Junior High CPF Eagle Lake PL	2623*	2510	2510	-16%
26	Cedar Island School CPF Hemlock Ponds PL Maple Tree PL	1513*	1772	1772	-41%
27	Fish Lake Woods NP Worden SU Wedgwood PL	2186*	2640	2640	-12%
28	Crosswinds NP Goldenrod Marsh NP Polaris PL	2270*	1982	1982	-67%
29	Grove West NP Nottingham NP	4700	3895	3895	-35%
30	Undeveloped NP	3400	3210	3210	7%
31	Gleason Fields CPF	5050	5938	5938	98%
32	South Elm Rd NP	4400	3178	3178	6%
33	Basswood School CPF Basswood NP Donahue South PL	2400	2300	2300	-62%
34	Donahue North CPF	1856*	1228	1228	-59%
35	Maple Meadow PL	1385*	1628	1628	-46%
36	Woodcrest NP Thoresen SU Eagle Nest PL	no estimate	1940	1940	-35%

* Estimate from the 1987 Park Plan

**3,000 residents per NP is the established guideline.

Comments:

PSA 1	1. Exceeds typical size for NP.	2. Has the amenities of a CPF.
PSA 4	1. Undeveloped	2. Has amenities at Elm Creek Park Reserve.
PSA 14	1. Exceeds guideline by only a small percentage.	2. Housing densities increased.
PSA 18	1. Housing densities increased.	
PSA 24	1. Undeveloped	2. Size may increase to serve the higher population.
PSA 30	1. Undeveloped	2. Size may increase to serve the higher population.
PSA 31	1. Large CPF accomodates population.	
PSA 32	1. Exceeds guideline by only a small percentage.	

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Demographic Projections by PSA: Since most of the previous neighborhood parks were planned and developed based on population projections, a review of current population estimates in these older PSAs provides insight on the accuracy of projected populations for future PSAs and can indicate demographic changes which now exist in older areas of the City. The "Park Service Area Comparison Table" compares the 1994 projections with current estimates provided by the Community Development Department.

Changing Age Profile: Not only has the number of potential park users increased, but their characteristics have changed. The median age in Maple Grove has increased from 29.9 years in 1990 to 34.4 years in 2006. This seems to especially reflect a large increase (over 15% since 1990) in residents aged 45 to 64 years old. The percent aged 45-65 is now 28.4% of the total City population. Meanwhile, the number of residents under the age of 18 has decreased by over 5% since 1990. Hennepin County's age distribution has been shifting in similar ways, but much less dramatically. Parks and trails will have to respond to the needs of older adults as they become an increasing portion of the park user population.



If, as it appears, the individuals now making up the 45-65 age group are the persons in the former 25-44 group in the 1990 census, it's safe to assume they are "aging in place." This group of homeowners has maintained their residency in the City while raising families and watching their children grow up and move away. These empty-nesters will likely be looking for a change in housing style in the period from 2015-2030. This will result in a conversion of 6,800 Maple Grove homes owned by people with few or no children to younger home buyers looking for detached homes. This diverse but active age group (45-65) will continue to challenge recreation programmers to find quality activities that keep them stimulated and to bring them into the recreational system. The public trail system will continue to be a favorite municipal park facility for this population segment.

Race Profile: The race and ethnicity of Maple Grove residents has changed very little. There has been a slight decrease in Caucasian residents (down 3.2% since 1990) and a slight increase in Asian or "Other" residents (up 3.0%). Diversity of race and ethnicity within the community may provide new opportunities in recreation programming to meet the needs of these cultures.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Family Structure Profile: The family structure of Maple Grove households has also changed slightly, especially between 1990 and 2000. The percent of households that consist of families has fallen 4.4% since 1990 and the percent of married households fell 5.6% during that period. Since 1990, the percentages have become more stable. By comparison, Hennepin County's percent of family households fell 2.8% and the percent of married households fell 3.3% from 1990 to 2000. However, the County's percentages were significantly lower than Maple Grove's to begin with, so it may be that Maple Grove is moving slowly toward the County average. Household size has also fallen from 3.09 persons in 1990 to 2.84 persons in 2005. This may partially reflect an increasing number of empty-nesters, but national trends suggest that family structure is becoming less nuclear and many couples are having fewer children.

	<u>1990 Census</u>	<u>2006 Estimate</u>
Total number of households	12,531	20,891
Percent of married couples/households	75.1	79.6
Average household size	3.09	2.90
Median age	29.9	34.4
White race	97.1	94.1
Percent detached homes	72.3	72.6

Economic Profile: Residents of Maple Grove seem to be experiencing increasingly positive economic situations. Average household income has been steadily increasing by almost \$25,000 every 10 years. Hennepin County's household income increased a similar amount from 1990 to 2000, but was substantially lower – about \$15,000 less – to begin with. The percent of households with an income below \$25,000 has decreased by almost 6% since 1990. This change is somewhat deceiving since it is not adjusted for inflation. (Worth noting is that Hennepin County decreased the number of households with an income below \$25,000 by 13% from 1990 to 2000 – a much faster rate than Maple Grove.) The percent of the population over the age of 16 who were unemployed fell 1.5% in that period. That is about twice as fast as Hennepin County. Most amazingly, the average value of owner-occupied houses rose \$143,000 from 1990 to 2005. Housing values in Maple Grove are increasing faster than those in Hennepin County as a whole. As Maple Grove residents become more affluent, park uses will probably change to accommodate the residents' more affluent lifestyles.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Healthy Living Profile: Statistics about healthy lifestyles and activity levels suggest that the need for parks, trails and other active recreational resources has certainly not declined. In 2002 only 43.2% of adults living in the northwest suburbs of Hennepin County had a normal body weight; 34.1% were overweight and 21.7% were obese. The percentages are actually higher than Hennepin County as a whole, where 45.8% were normal weight, 34.8% were overweight and 16.8% were obese. The study also showed that 34.6% of adults in the northwest suburbs do not get 30 minutes of exercise five or more days of the week compared to 37.6% of the adults in the County. These statistics may also point to a greater need for increased public awareness of the resources available and the greater awareness of the residents' present unhealthy lifestyle.

Although the statistics suggest residents in northwest Hennepin County get less than the recommended amount of activity, the participation in Maple Grove recreation programs has increased from approximately 23,000 in 1994 to nearly 40,000 in 2006. Programs are offered during all four seasons with the biggest enrollments in the spring and summer. The number of programs being offered has expanded substantially increasing from 318 programs in 1994 to 817 programs currently.

The continued development of a well planned park and trail system safely integrated into the neighborhoods and a diverse selection of year-round recreational programs will provide an array of opportunities so each Maple Grove resident is encouraged to develop a healthy lifestyle.

Sources:

- *United States Census 1990*
- *United States Census 2000*
- *City of Maple Grove Demographics Estimated for 2005*
- *"SHAPE 2002 Geographic Book" Hennepin County Community Health Department*
- *www.city-data.com*

The Park Plan

Growth Areas Plan

Northwest Area (PSAs 4, 5 & 6)

This area is a relatively flat, rural landscape with large wetlands and agricultural fields. All three PSAs have the beauty of Rush Creek running through them. Land use planning for this part of the City consists of a range of residential densities coupled with a significant portion of mixed use zoning along the future Highway 610. The northwest area of Maple Grove will include at least four major transportation corridors. They are the existing Interstate 94 and Highway 81, the new Maple Grove Parkway and the proposed Highway 610. These major roadways coupled with wetlands and the Rush Creek Corridor fragment this part of Maple Grove into oddly shaped neighborhoods and Park Service Areas.

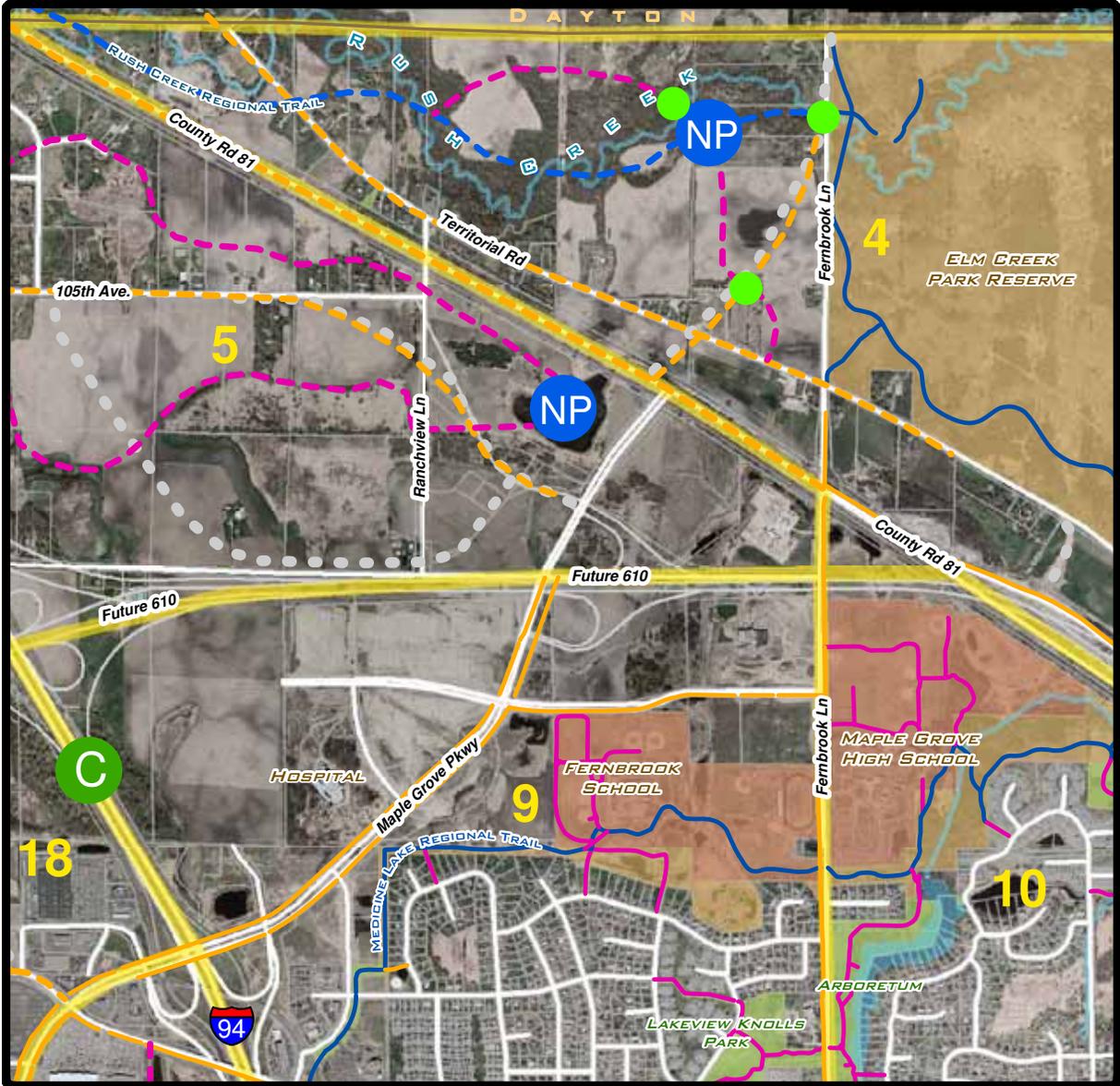
PSA 4

PSA 4 will be mostly a residential area with a higher density residential component on Maple Grove Parkway on the north side of County Road 81. The boundaries of PSA 4 have been adjusted to include the portion of Elm Creek Park Reserve within Maple Grove. This does not add a significant amount of residents to the service area. PSA 4 is expected to include slightly over 1,700 residents at build-out. In addition to the long narrow shape of this service area, one of the more interesting natural features is the presence of Rush Creek flowing west to east through the middle of this service area. A neighborhood park site is proposed in the eastern portion of the PSA and along the south edge of the creek. This will make the site more accessible to the residents in higher density developments on the east side and give a public presence to this attractive natural amenity. A full size 15 acre park site is recommended. Since the neighborhood is split by Rush Creek, ample crossings, either as sidewalks along side roads or as pedestrian bridges, are recommended to give the residents on either side of the creek a common sense of neighborhood and equitable access to the single neighborhood park. An east-west creekside regional trail is being considered by Three Rivers Park District. This will provide a highly compatible link through the length of this PSA and provide direct access to the neighborhood park and into the regional park system.

See Exhibit 3: PSA 4.

See Exhibit 4: PSA 4 Park Search Area.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Park Service Area 4

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Large lot residential ○ Population: undeveloped ▪ Anticipated Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Residential ○ High density residential (Fernbrook & Hwy 81) ○ Population: 1,700 ▪ Transportation Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hwy 610 ○ Maple Grove Parkway ○ Possible transit station at 610 and MG Pkwy ○ Possible Light Rail Corridor on Co Rd 81 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Natural Amenities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rush Creek ○ Woodlands creek ○ Wide floodplain in areas ▪ Parks and Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neighborhood Park ○ Elm Creek Park Reserve ○ Regional Trail bridge over Hwy 610, Hwy 81 and railroad ○ Regional Trail along Rush Crk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Park School District Property Three River Park District Property Park Trail City Pathway Three Rivers Park District Trail Proposed Park Trail Proposed City Pathway Proposed Three Rivers Park Dist Trail Park Service Area Boundary Pedestrian Crossing Neighborhood Park
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NORTH

0 750 1,500 Feet

Exhibit 3

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Neighborhood Park - Search Area
Park Service Area 4



Exhibit 4

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

PSA 5

Located south of County Road 81, north of 101st Avenue (future Highway 610) and east of I-94, PSA 5 has an area of 1.1 square miles. This PSA has several large wetlands and a relatively small planned residential land use component. Rush Creek flows south to north in the northwest end of the service area. The area is split from east to west by 105th Avenue North which will eventually cross I-94 and connect to Lawndale Lane in PSA 6.

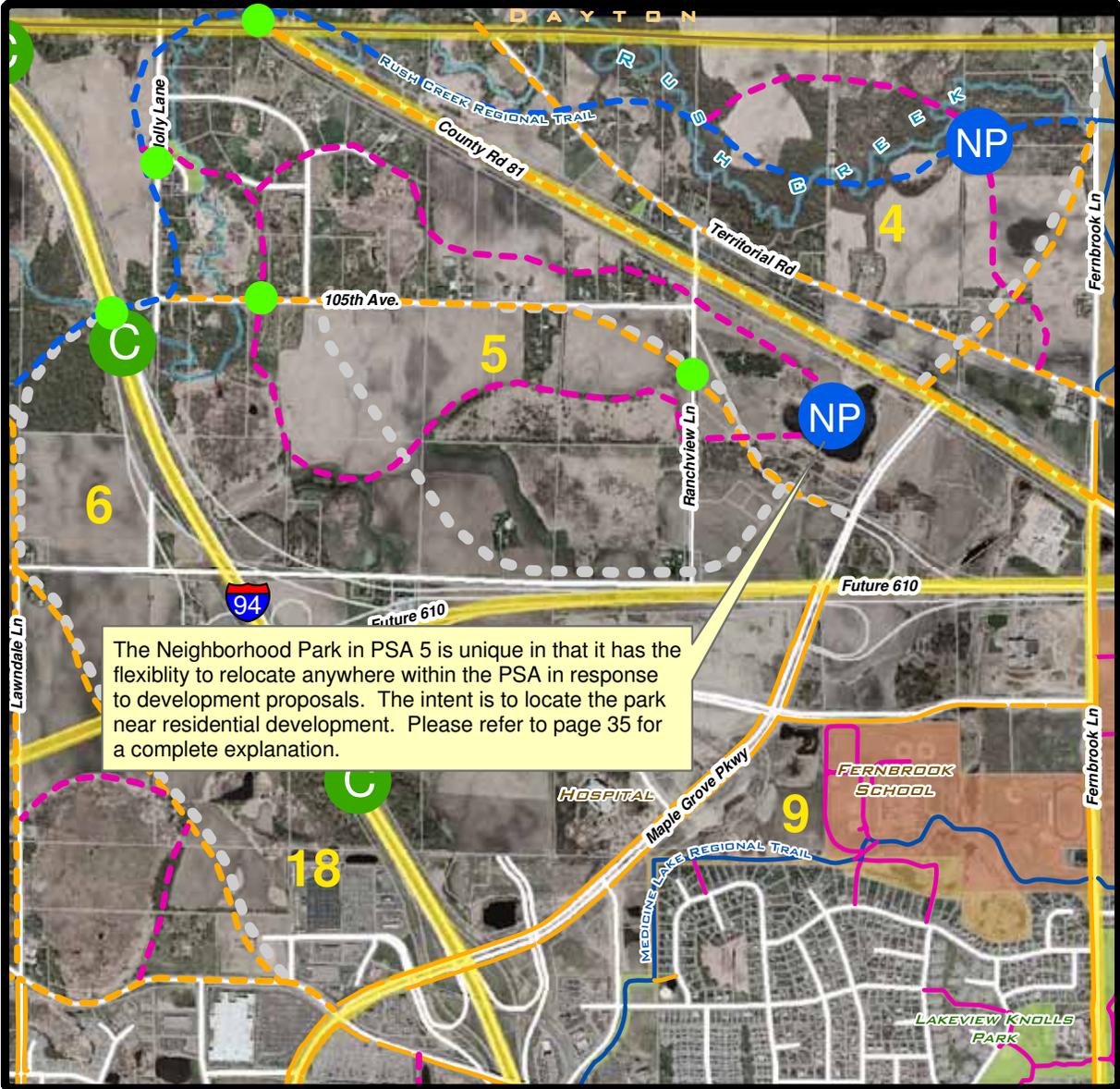
Two possible scenarios have been studied for PSA 5 in response to the possible half-interchange at 105th Ave. and Interstate 94 being considered by MnDOT. The development of a half-interchange is the more likely scenario which may lead to the PSA being dominated by Mixed Use development. Mixed Use does allow some residential, but it is limited. In response to the possibility of some homes being developed in this service area (but a limited number of homes), the Plan will eliminate the western Neighborhood Park from the 1994 Plan leaving the eastern Neighborhood Park. The eastern side of PSA 5 will likely include some residential land use in the area of Ranchview Lane and Hwy 610 giving justification for retaining the eastern park location. Master planning of all or portions of PSA 5 may be necessary to determine the best location for the park. The final park size and amenities should respond to the projected population creating a facility that is fitting for the number of residents.

Because Mixed Use may be developed with no residential components, the Neighborhood Park in PSA 5 will have the ability to relocate in response to development proposed and under review by the City. The Park Board reserves the right to relocate the Neighborhood Park to anywhere within the Park Service Area to best serve its future residents.

See Exhibit 5: PSA 5.

See Exhibit 6: PSA 5 Park Search Area.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Park Service Area 5

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Large lot residential ○ Population: undeveloped ▪ Anticipated Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mixed Use throughout ○ Residential pockets are possible ○ Population: 1,389 ▪ Transportation Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hwy 610 ○ 105th Ave interchange to I-94 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Natural Amenities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rush Creek ○ Woodlands along I-94 and creek ○ Large wetland at south central portion of PSA ▪ Parks and Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neighborhood Park (location respondent to development patterns) ○ Linear Park along Rush Crk ○ Conservancy at border and I-94 and at 105th and I-94 ○ Regional Trail along Rush Crk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Park School District Property Three River Park District Property Park Trail City Pathway Three Rivers Park District Trail Proposed Park Trail Proposed City Pathway Proposed Three Rivers Park Dist Trail Park Service Area Boundary Pedestrian Crossing Neighborhood Park Conservancy
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NORTH

 0
 750
 1,500
 Feet

Exhibit 5



Neighborhood Park - Search Area
Park Service Area 5



Exhibit 6

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

PSA 6

The far northwest corner of Maple Grove (west of I-94 and north of 97th Avenue No.) is PSA 6. This PSA is large (approximately 1½ square miles in area); characterized by a rather flat, open landscape. Rush Creek and some large wetland areas along a drainage ditch entering the City from Dayton are the most significant natural features. Only the area along County Road 30 has developed at this time. This area will be the second most populated of the PSAs addressed in this Plan; it is expected to attain approximately 4,489 residents at build-out. The larger than typical PSA population suggests two neighborhood park sites would be appropriate.

The south neighborhood site would be located on the east bank of Rush Creek at the river's "bend" approximately ¼ mile north of County Road 30. The second neighborhood park site would be approximately 2/3 of a mile north and just west of Troy Lane. The southern park site is proposed to be approximately 10 acres and would include basic neighborhood park facilities and is proposed to be part of the proposed Rush Creek Linear Park which starts on the south end at County Rd. 30 and continues north until it leaves PSA 6 near 105th Avenue at I-94.

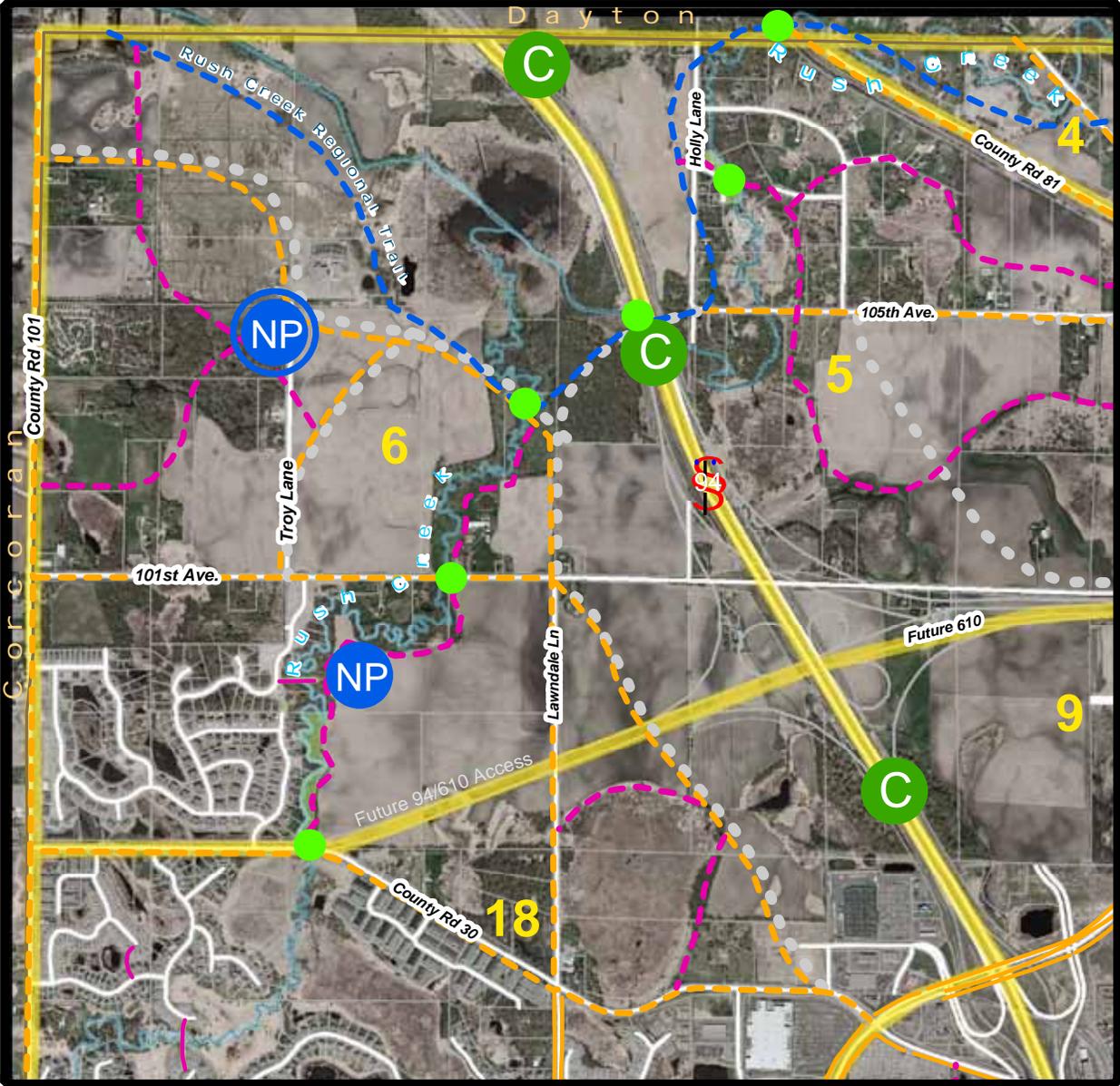
The north neighborhood park site is classified in the Plan as a Neighborhood Park with athletic fields. This is similar to what is currently developed at Rush Creek School. Due to the location of this park in proximity to other playfields in the system and the potential for a cooperative facility with the School District, this park will have more facilities than the traditional Neighborhood Park. The park will be planned to accommodate a baseball field, two multi-use ballfields, a soccer/football field, a hockey rink and tennis courts, as well as a play structure, trails and site furniture. A 20 acre site may be needed to accommodate these facilities. It is anticipated that this will be a joint use facility with the School District requiring a land acquisition totaling 30 or more acres. The exact park acreage will be a function of the school's involvement and the amount of land needed to fulfill the program requirements.

See Exhibit 7: PSA 6.

See Exhibit 8: PSA 6S Park Search Area.

See Exhibit 9: PSA 6N Park Search Area.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Park Service Area 6

- Current Development
 - Hindu Temple of MN
 - Population: 698
- Anticipated Development
 - Residential
 - Mixed Use along I-94
 - Population: 4,489
- Transportation Impacts
 - Co Rd 30 access to I-94/610
 - 105th Ave interchange to I-94
- Natural Amenities
 - Rush Creek
 - Woodlands along I-94 and creek
 - Large wetland at north end along west side of I-94
- Parks and Trails
 - Two Neighborhood Parks (North possible joint facility w/ ISD)
 - Linear Park along Rush Crk
 - Two Conservancy Areas
 - Regional Trail along Rush Crk

	City Park
	Park Trail
	City Pathway
	Three Rivers Park District Trail
	Proposed Park Trail
	Proposed City Pathway
	Proposed Three Rivers Park Dist Trail
	Park Service Area Boundary
	Pedestrian Crossing
	Neighborhood Park
	Neighborhood Park w/ Athletic Fields
	Conservancy


0
750
1,500
 Feet

Exhibit 7

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Neighborhood Park - Search Area
Park Service Area 6S



Exhibit 8

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Neighborhood Park - Search Area
Park Service Area 6N



Exhibit 9

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Rush Creek Regional Trail

Rush Creek is a noteworthy natural feature in the northwest quadrant of Maple Grove. The creek weaves through all three PSAs; 4, 5 & 6 in this area of the city. The creek corridor varies from stretches of wide floodplain to fairly narrow areas with steep bluff-like banks adding to the unique diversity of the proposed trail route. The undeveloped land around Rush Creek is typically open and flat and has an agricultural history, unlike the central part of the City where the land is more rolling and wooded. Preservation of the four mile Rush Creek corridor from north of County Road 30 to Dayton and continuing to the west side of Elm Creek Park Reserve would create an opportunity to link three Park Service Areas (6, 5 and 4) with a natural open space and public trail.

The Park District approved the Rush Creek Regional Trail Master Plan (formerly known as Elm Creek Regional Trail) in March 2008. The Master Plan includes provisions to extend the regional trail west through Elm Creek Park Reserve and along the Rush Creek to Crow-Hassan Park Reserve. When complete, the regional trail will total over 18 miles and connect Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park to Crow-Hassan Park Reserve by way of Elm Creek Park Reserve. This regional trail will provide a critical trail amenity to an area of Hennepin County which is currently underserved by regional trails.

The Rush Creek Regional Trail Master Plan also includes provisions to acquire additional property for natural resource protection and to provide a high-value user experience. This complements the City's plans for a linear park along portions of the Rush Creek. Consequently, on February 19, 2008, the City passed Resolution No. 08-018 indicating the City's support for the initiative.

Acquisition and development for the Rush Creek Regional Trail is a long-term initiative which will require significant financial resources and partnerships with the local communities. There are several opportunities to collaborate on both the acquisition and development of the regional trail within the city including, but not limited to the proposed neighborhood park within PSA 4 (pages 32-34) and Rush Creek Linear Park. In these examples, several of the city's goals overlap with the Rush Creek Regional Trail plans. Collaboration between the Park District and City will result in the highest possibility of achieving said goals and providing open space and recreation opportunities for future generations.

The City will strive to coordinate with Three Rivers Park staff to work out compatible routings between regional goals and local access. Further assistance will need to occur to accomplish parcel acquisition during the subdivision process if these areas go through the municipal development process before Three Rivers Park District can act on land acquisition.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Rush Creek Linear Park

A segment from County Road 30 north to 105th Avenue where the linear park connects with the proposed regional trail corridor will remain Rush Creek Linear Park and a local facility. Consideration for how to conserve natural resources on both sides of the creek will be addressed during development proposal review. Developing a parkway along the corridor would provide a public presence to the entire neighborhood as opposed to hiding the trail corridor in rear yards. This notion will need to be driven by Community Development, but is very much in keeping with the intent of a Linear Park.

Crystal Lake Regional Trail

The Park District's Parks and Trails System Plan also includes a new regional trail, Crystal Lake Regional Trail, along County Road 81 and through the cities of Robbinsdale, Crystal, Osseo and Maple Grove. This regional trail will connect Theodore Wirth-Victory Memorial Parkway and the Grand Rounds trail system to Elm Creek Park Reserve.

Gravel Mining Area (PSAs 23 & 24)

PSAs 23 and 24 include the final remnants of the gravel mining area located east of Arbor Lakes north of Interstate 694 and south of Weaver Lake Road in east central Maple Grove. No truly natural features or resources remain in these areas due to the nature of the mining operation that has existed in this area for decades. What does remain are some sizeable open water ponds formed by deep excavation. Many of these ponds will, by design, likely remain permanent features of this area. Both of these PSAs are planned to develop into a mix of land uses including commercial, industrial, office/warehouse and residential. This area benefits from excellent visibility and access to the Interstate highway system which has led to its prolific retail development since the 1994 Plan. The Arbor Lakes area has become a destination shopping area for the metropolitan area and beyond, bringing in large volumes of traffic and visitors to the community. This area is also the location of Maple Grove's Civic Campus on which are important public facilities like the Community Center, Government Center, the future Town Green and the future Hennepin County Library. The Arbor Lakes area has been planned with a more urban character (not typical to the suburbia envisioned in earlier planning,) with greater building heights, pedestrian oriented streets, lifestyle shopping areas and the highest residential densities in the City.

The park planning proposed in this document is reflective of the recent land use modifications and the desire for an urban development pattern focused around a more dense mix of commercial, office, public and residential land uses that thrive off of each other.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

PSA 23

PSA 23 extends from Weaver Lake Road to I-94 along the west side of Zachary-Hemlock Lane. This 1.3 square mile PSA is projected to be the home of 4,755 residents when the area is fully developed. PSA 23 will be the most populated PSA of all the areas being addressed in this Plan. The area will develop with mixed land uses in the south and west portions and residential uses in the northeast. The proposed park site in PSA 23 is suggested to have a CP (Community Park) designation with some facilities characteristic of a Neighborhood Park. The park site is proposed to be located in middle of residential land uses, just south of a 20 acre storm pond and north of the Arbor Lakes area on Lakeview Drive. Residents in PSA 23 will use their park site as their neighborhood play and open space, but the City will facilitate community wide events and activities at this location as well. The CP aspects of this facility are described in the following section.

The Community Park

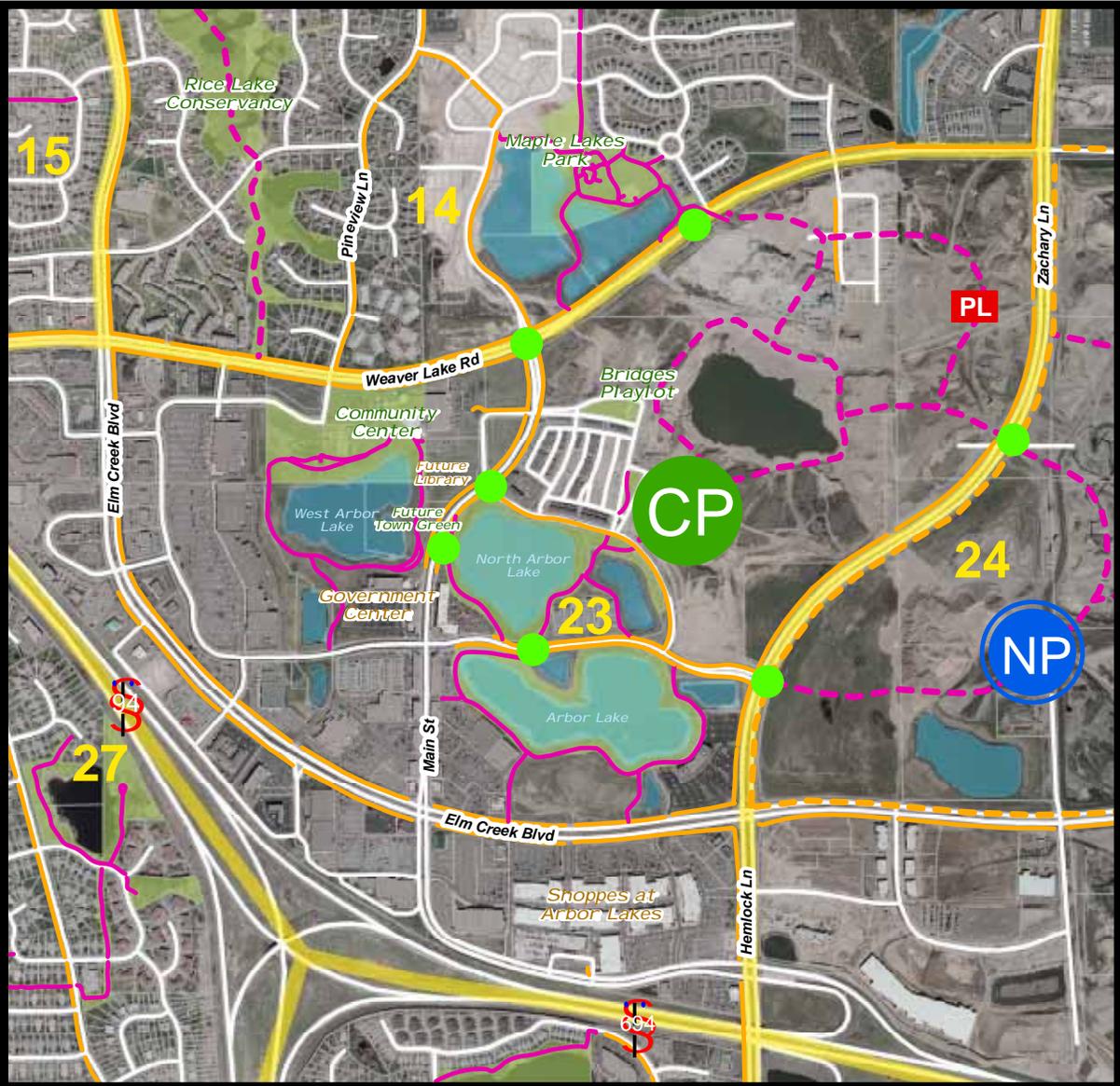
The proposed CP in PSA 23 is envisioned as a type of “central park” with relatively large turf areas, edged with boulevard trees which allows for the flexibility to accommodate both formal and informal uses. Other park features could include formal gardens, pavilions, a large pleasure skating rink, trails, unique lighting, play structures and parking. The CP would need to be 15-20 acres in size and should link well to the proposed trail elements on its perimeter so that it becomes well connected to nearby residents and other pedestrians. As currently planned, it is a very central location within the PSA and well linked with the other public spaces being planned and developed around the three Arbor Lakes. The park will be designed to include substantial street frontage to maximize public visibility and access. This street frontage will display the public amenities built on site, creating a sense of vitality and community pride. The site will be designed with enough open, useable land to accommodate many of the social and community activities envisioned in the planning of the Arbor Lakes area.



See Exhibit 10: PSA 23.

See Exhibit 11: PSA 23 Park Search Area.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Park Service Area 23

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vibrant Commercial District ○ Civic Campus ○ New Urbanism Residential ○ Gravel Mining ○ Population: 972 ▪ Anticipated Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ County Library ○ Civic Campus expansion ○ Dense Residential Development ○ Office/Retail/Hotel ○ Population: 4,755 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transportation Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transit station at Main St ○ Extensive urban roadway system ▪ Natural Amenities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Arbor Lakes (groundwater) ▪ Parks and Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Park ○ Town Green ○ Network of trails, paths and sidewalks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Park Park Trail City Pathway Proposed Park Trail Proposed City Pathway Park Service Area Boundary Pedestrian Crossing CP Community Park NP Neighborhood Park w/ Athletic Fields PL Playlot/Pocket Park
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0
625
1,250
Feet

Exhibit 10

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Community Park - Search Area
Park Service Area 23



Exhibit 11

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

PSA 24

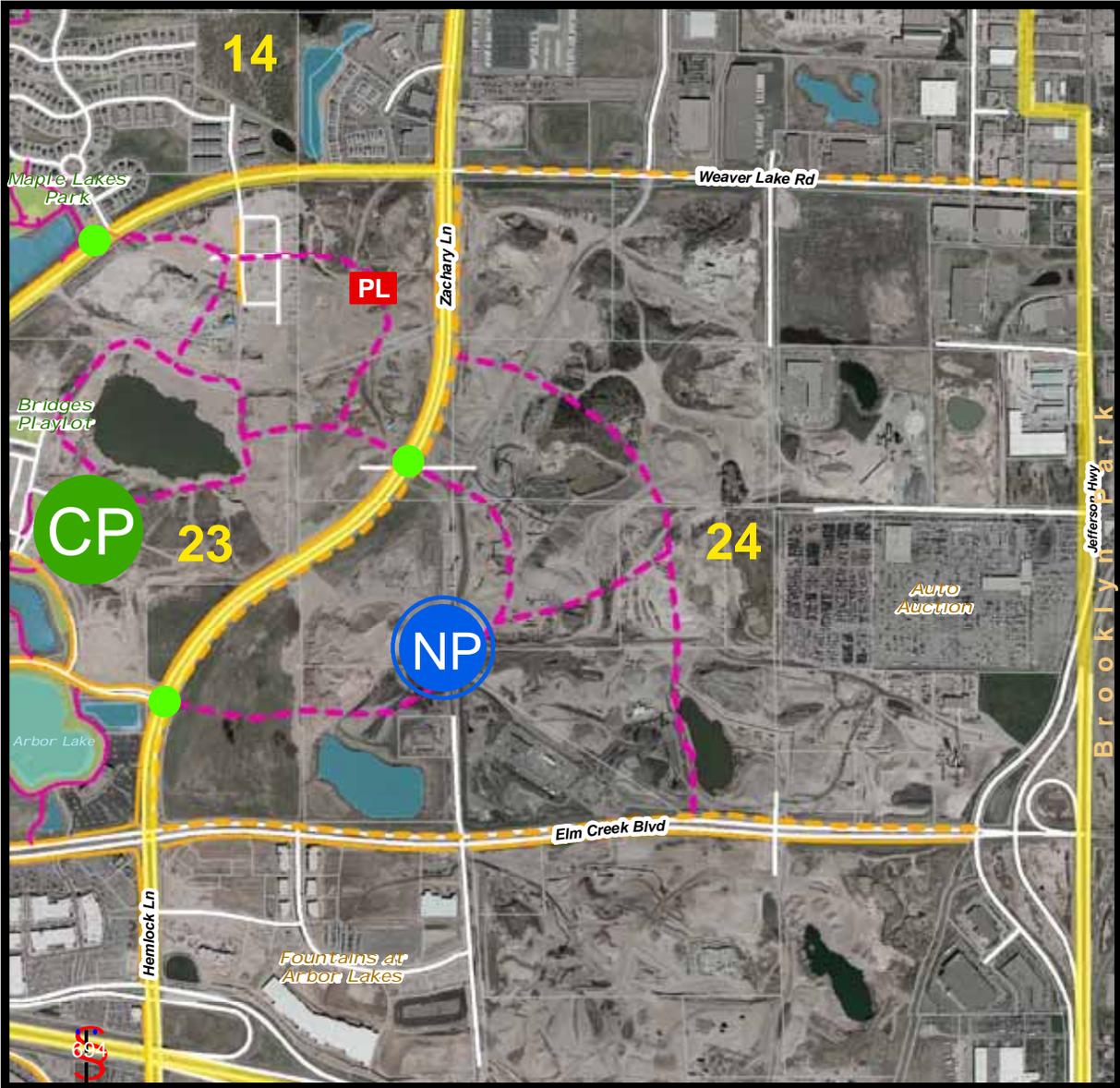
Located south of County Road 30, north of Interstate 694 and east of Zachary-Hemlock Lane is PSA 24, the largest PSA in the City. A good portion of this service area, that north of Weaver Lake Road, is dominated by industrial and office/warehouse land uses which have little need for parks amenities. This service area, like PSA 23, has been in operation as a gravel mine for many years and still remains active over a large portion of the area. Development is starting to creep into this area but build-out is many years away

Only the west-central portion of this 2.7 square mile service area is planned for residential land use. This area is projected to include 4,127 residents. A Neighborhood Park with athletic fields of approximately 15-acres is currently being recommended. The relatively high number of residents using this park site may require a fairly efficient and creative design to meet the anticipated demand. The park may need to be 100% useable and have more "hard" surfacing than has been typically provided in NPs. This site is planned to have additional athletic fields beyond the typical NP. To meet the facility guidelines for the community this park may include a soccer-football field, multi-use ballfield, hockey rink and tennis courts, as well as a potential park building, play structure, basketball court, trails and parking. The exact park acreage should be a function of meeting the program requirements and anticipated demographics of the service area.

See Exhibit 12: PSA 24.

See Exhibit 13: PSA 24 Park Search Area.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Park Service Area 24

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Active Gravel Mining ○ Manufacturing/Warehouse along Hwy 169 and north of Weaver Lake Rd ○ Auto Auction ○ Population: undeveloped ▪ Anticipated Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dense Residential Development along Zachary-Hemlock ○ Office/Warehouse ○ Corporate Campus ○ Population: 4,127 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transportation Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Extensive urban roadway system ▪ Parks and Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neighborhood Park ○ Network of trails, paths and sidewalks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Park Park Trail City Pathway Proposed Park Trail Proposed City Pathway Park Service Area Boundary Pedestrian Crossing CP Community Park NP Neighborhood Park w/ Athletic Fields PL Playlot/Pocket Park
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N

0 625 1,250
Feet

Exhibit 12

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Community Park - Search Area
Park Service Area 24



Exhibit 13

Southwest Area

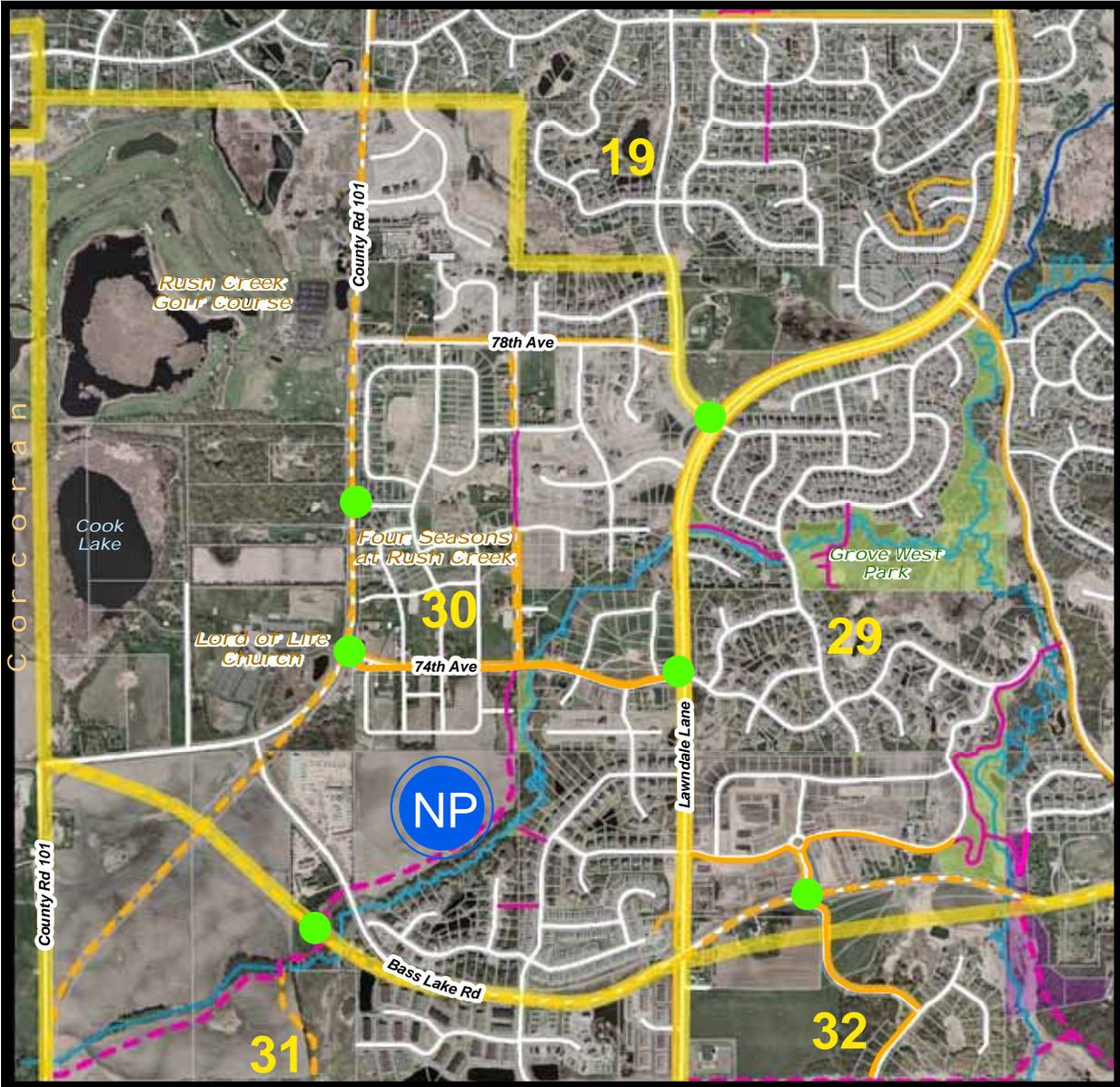
PSA 30

PSA 30 will be the last area to develop in the southwest area of Maple Grove. This area is comprised mostly of predominantly 5 and 10 acre open hobby farm residential lots with some smaller agricultural areas. West of County Road 101 is the Rush Creek Golf Course, a substantial wooded area and a large open water wetland called Cook Lake which is unknown to most people because it is not visible from the public road system. In the southern portion of PSA 30 is a branch of Elm Creek, referred to as Maple Creek, which flows west to east under Bass Lake Road toward Grove West Park where it merges with the main flow of Elm Creek. This PSA is 1.1 square miles in area. Within recent years, residential development has occurred along the west side of Lawndale Lane. Currently there are a number of residential developments in various stages of construction. One noteworthy development is an "over 55" subdivision with significant private leisure amenities. The expected build-out population for PSA 30 is 3,210 residents. The NP site would be located north of Bass Lake Road along the west side of Maple Creek on land owned by the School District and intended for an elementary school. The school land is about 30 acres which is comparable to other joint use facilities shared with the District #279. This park facility will be classified a Neighborhood Park with athletic fields. It is planned to have a baseball field, multi-use field and soccer-football field as well as a play structure, trails and parking. The exact park acreage should be a function of meeting the program requirements.

See Exhibit 14: PSA 30.

See Exhibit 15: PSA 30 Park Search Area.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Park Service Area 30

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rush Creek Golf Course ○ Lord of Life Church ○ Four Seasons at Rush Crk (55+ Development) ○ Population: 815 ▪ Anticipated Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commercial Ctr at Co Rd 101 and Bass Lk Rd ○ Residential ○ Elementary School ○ Population: 3,210 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transportation Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Realignment of Co Rd 101 and Bass Lake Rd ▪ Natural Amenities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maple Creek ○ Cook Lake ▪ Parks and Trails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neighborhood Park planned jointly with school ○ Maple Lakes Linear Park from 74th Ave to Co Rd 101 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City Park Park Trail City Pathway Proposed Park Trail Proposed City Pathway Park Service Area Boundary Pedestrian Crossing NP Neighborhood Park w/ Athletic Fields
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N

0 625 1,250
Feet

Exhibit 14

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan



Neighborhood Park - Search Area
Park Service Area 30



Exhibit 15

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Elm Creek Valley Linear Park

In the southwest area (PSAs 29, 30, 31 and 32) Elm Creek and a west tributary creek pass through existing and planned residential areas. In PSAs 29 and 32, existing park land and built trails provide an incomplete but attractive Linear Park along the route of the main flow of Elm Creek. Park land and trails along Elm Creek extend from the Elm Creek Park Reserve at the north end of the City all the way through Maple Grove to Plymouth. The majority of the unfinished Elm Creek Valley Linear Park areas are in the southwest part of Maple Grove.

The Park Board has and will continue to study the options to locate and develop a crossing of Elm Creek south of Bass Lake Road and north of Elm Road. A possible option under consideration is the powerline corridor from Lawndale to the creek. The Park Board has already acquired an easement over a portion of the corridor which would provide an attractive route to link the Elm Creek Valley Linear Park to residents on the west side of the creek. In PSAs 29 and 31 along a tributary creek a new linear park experience is proposed. This proposed Linear Park is mostly in PSA 31, but continues into PSA 30 and could link to the Neighborhood Park proposed along the creek in PSA 30. The total length of this segment is approximately one mile including the creek frontage in the proposed NP. The cumulative effect of the Elm Creek Valley Linear Park system (including park sites and the Tree Preservation Area) provides an integrated open space system which links the City from end to end. The continuous open space effect of this land (including private land) provides a well preserved habitat area for song birds and other small animals. This "presence of nature" (with or without trails) is generally valued by the abutting neighborhoods as a quality of life element.

Other Park Elements (outside growth areas)

Community Playfields

There are presently 12 community playfield sites in the Maple Grove park system. The sites are distributed throughout the City. Many of these sites have a dual purpose; Neighborhood Parks with playfields. Having the CPF (Community Playfield) designation means that the City recreation staff may schedule athletic programs on the fields in these sites. That scheduling gives these sites a community orientation beyond the neighborhood orientation. CPFs typically have some combination of baseball fields, multi-use ballfields (including softball), soccer/football fields and hockey rinks, as well as play equipment, trails and a multi-purpose park building.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

While the number and location of planned neighborhood park sites are determined by geographic service areas, CPF development is driven by user demand for specific athletic field facilities for which these sports are scheduled. The demand for these sports can change with time. The Recreational Standards historically used in planning playfield development have recently been reviewed by City staff and adjustments have been made to reflect changing demand for recreational programs. To minimize the need to acquire and maintain more land for recreation than necessary, the staff has found ways to maximize the use of the facilities. These methods include layered scheduling and a facility design which allow fields to be used for multiple activities i.e. soccer and football on the same field.

The need for future playfields is expected to be less than was anticipated in the 1994 Park Plan. Since this park plan will serve the community during the development of the last undeveloped areas of the City, it must identify the remaining park site needs of the City, including CPF needs. Three of the six new neighborhood park sites in growth areas as proposed in this Plan will have athletic facility elements (PSAs 6N, 23 and 30). PSAs 6N and 30 may show cooperative facilities with the School District but must include athletic field uses, even if no school is needed in these areas. Because these neighborhood parks include athletic fields, they require more land than a standard NP with additional on-site parking to support the increased sports programming. Revisions to ballfield layouts at existing park sites will also be necessary to meet the recreational demand. Additional study will be necessary before park facilities are redesigned.

Conservancy Sites

The only Conservancy Park sites that remain un-acquired are the three wooded "Gateways" along I-94 from County Road 30 to the northern City limits. These sites were identified in the 1994 Park Plan and still remain mostly intact due to their isolation. Their presence along Interstate 94 provides a striking image maker for Maple Grove. Driving from the north into the City, there are no other landmarks on the Interstate system that seem to make such a fitting statement of



Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

one's arrival to Maple Grove. All three of the proposed conservancy sites are on undeveloped private lands that will likely be under some development pressure in the foreseeable future.

- The southernmost of the three conservancy sites is just north of the ramps off the Maple Grove Parkway bridge over I-94 and just south of the planned Highway 610/ I-94 interchange. Construction of the interchange may result in the loss of some of the quality woods.
- The middle conservancy site is lower quality woodland. This area is located near where the planned 105th Avenue bridge over I-94 will occur. The construction of this bridge will likely have a negative impact on the trees.
- The northernmost Conservancy is just before the City border adjacent to Dayton. The trees on the west side of I-94 are isolated and relatively removed from development pressure while the corresponding trees on the east side of I-94 may be more vulnerable to development pressure.

The trees are located such that they might not be impacted by a sensitive development plan, but non-residential land uses may wish to improve their visibility from I-94 thus making them vulnerable. Furthermore, the high cost of land typically puts pressure on site developers to use the land as efficiently as possible. Public ownership is not essential to save these features as conservation easements might be a more useful method to preservation.

Special Use Facilities

Special Use Parks are those that provide a unique amenity or function not provided by the typical park facilities within the system. Maple Grove has established a number of special use facilities that have enhanced the livability of the community. Listed are the special use facilities that were in the 1994 Park Comprehensive Plan, along with some others and their progress to date.

Provided

Community Center: Opened in 1997, the Community Center has become a core community amenity to Maple Grove residents and non-residents alike. Listed below are a number of complimentary facilities that are part of the Community Center. The Community Center also houses the Park and Recreation Department offices.

- **Meeting Rooms:** Provides rentable space for community organizations, area groups and businesses. The banquet room is very popular for events especially weddings.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

- **Teen Center:** Focuses on providing drop-in opportunities, activities, games, movies and programs for teens.
- **Senior Center:** Focuses on providing educational and social programs for older adults.
- **Health and Fitness Facility:** Developed as a private entity by Northwest Athletic and sold to LifeTime Fitness. Provides numerous exercise machines and strength and fitness training opportunities.
- **Ice Arena:** An Olympic sized ice sheet that provides a setting for numerous skate programs and is the home of the Maple Grove High School and athletic association teams.
- **Gymnasium:** Provides drop-in opportunities for court type games.
- **Skateboard Park:** Portable ramps and rails located in surplus parking stalls next to the Community Center. Currently a Tier II facility which requires special insurance protection and user waivers.
- **Swimming Pool:** Indoor and outdoor pools were developed with the Community Center. The indoor pool includes a large water slide and separate lap pool. The outdoor pool include some spray toys and a "lazy river". Both pools are shared between LifeTime Fitness and the City of Maple Grove through a cooperative agreement.
- **Second Ice Sheet** – The construction of a second sheet of ice was completed in the fall of 2008. A second sheet will provide additional ice time for area teams and the opportunity to host tournaments.



Three Rivers Park District: The regional park facilities within Maple Grove are managed by Three Rivers Park District and provide some excellent natural resource based recreational opportunities including archery, cross-country skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing, golf courses, large picnic facilities, nature center and fishing piers all within or very near Maple Grove.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Planned

Civic Campus: The area between the Government Center and the Community Center has become recognized as the Civic Campus. The area consists mostly of West Arbor Lake but also includes the land around the lake west to Cub Foods and east to Main Street. Some improvements have been made to the public space including the Lions Pavilion, a loop trail and a perennial garden. A visioning study was completed in 2003 that identified how this public land may be developed as a community gathering space. Listed are some of the components of the Civic Campus.

- **Library** – Hennepin County is constructing a 45,000 sf library to be located on Main Street east of West Arbor Lake. The library is expected to open in 2010.
- **Town Green and Bandshell** – A bandshell at the center of the community has been envisioned for a number of years. Ideas are currently being conceptualized for the development of a bandshell structure, a town green plaza and a place for residents to engage the water's edge of West Arbor Lake. The development will be implemented in phases starting with the bandshell which is to be developed in conjunction with the county library.

Community Park: A "central park" type facility to accommodate large civic events will be considered in the near future. This document identifies a 20-acre park in PSA 23 that will be directly linked to the Arbor Lakes and Civic Campus creating a strong public presence in the heart of the community. The park may take on an open lawn feel surrounded by trees and gardens, walkways and benches which could accommodate large gatherings but at the same time allow for informal recreation.

Disc Golf Course: Disc golf is becoming increasingly popular throughout the country. It provides a quality non-traditional family recreational opportunity in a park system that facilitates mostly athletic fields. An agreement has been made to develop a cooperatively funded 18-hole championship disc golf course with Three Rivers Park District at the Elm Creek Park Reserve in north Maple Grove the summer of 2009.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Possible

Dog Park: One type of special use facility, the dog park, seems to have both merit and public readiness for inclusion in the Maple Grove Park System. Dog parks are becoming increasingly popular as a municipal park and recreation option. As part of the research for this document various sites were considered as possible dog park locations, but at this time the Plan is not ready to specifically identify a location.

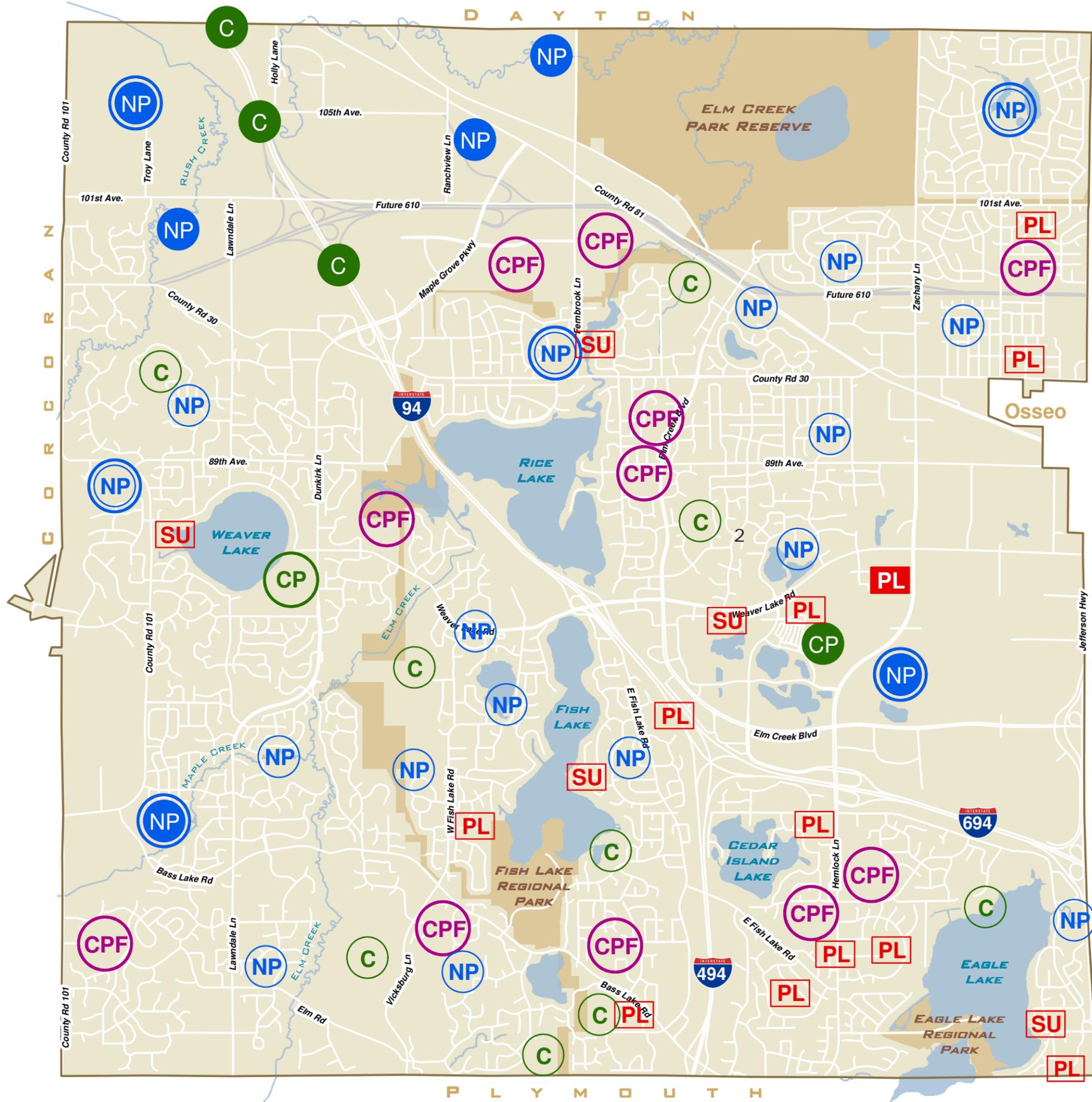


As public interest builds, the Board may conduct further research to determine the need and may pursue the addition of a dog park in the park system.

Indoor Athletic Training Facility: Local athletic associations have shown interest in the development of an indoor athletic training facility. City staff, at the direction of the City Council, may search for a potential site which may include a cooperative agreement with the School District.

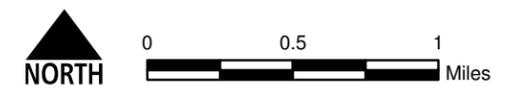
Arts Center: This type of facility may include a theater, gallery, studio and educational rooms. This could be a joint facility with a History Center.

History Center: There has been a strong interest by a core group of history enthusiasts to preserve Maple Grove's early history. These types of special uses are typically housed in a structure and include a museum and educational components. This could also be a joint facility with an Arts Center.



COMPREHENSIVE PARK SYSTEM

- | Existing | Proposed | |
|----------|----------|--|
| | | Community Playfield |
| | | Neighborhood Park with Athletic Fields |
| | | Neighborhood Park |
| | | Community Park |
| | | Conservancy |
| | | Playlot/Pocket Park |
| | | Special Use Park |
| | | Three River Park District Facility |



The Trail Plan

Trail development has historically been a major feature of the Maple Grove park system. Paved trails which were constructed outside of the right-of-way corridor occurred in many of the residential subdivisions approved prior to approximately 1999. These “backyard” trails typically were links to park sites. They used lands abutting wetlands and sometimes dodged between lots to create more direct park access through residential areas. These trails became very popular with home buyers and homeowners in Maple Grove as they used them for walking, jogging, in-line skating and biking. The trail system is part of a residential lifestyle which is used by all ages and continues to be a popular asset. As the Maple Grove trail system has evolved over the years, specific functions have been identified which can be reviewed as separate goals or features. They can be viewed as fulfilling the following purposes.

- Connections to neighboring communities
- Access to municipal and regional parks and trails
- Access to school sites, retail centers and adjoining neighborhoods
- Recreational “loops”

Connections to Neighboring Communities

North (Dayton) - Two potential links to Maple Grove have been proposed in the Dayton trail plan in addition to the three trail routes within Elm Creek Park Reserve. The first is along County Road 101 and the second would be along Highway 81. These routes are likely to develop with the improvements to these roadways which are both county facilities. The proposed Rush Creek Regional Trail connecting Elm Creek Park Reserve to Crow Hassan Park Reserve would likely provide linkages between Dayton and Maple Grove in the Rush Creek area as it passes through PSA 4, 5 and 6. This regional trail route, when implemented, will become a major east-west corridor linking Maple Grove to Dayton, Hassan Township and Rogers.

East (Brooklyn Park & Osseo) - Trail plans for Brooklyn Park show four links coming to Maple Grove from the east. One significant link already exists in the Rush Creek Regional Trail along 101st Avenue and the other three are street-side trails. The possibility of an improved trail link to Brooklyn Park at 63rd Avenue would create increased access to park facilities to the two small residential areas on either side of Highway 169. Improvements would be necessary to the bridge over Highway 169. In many other areas, Highway 169 and accompanying land uses create little opportunity or rationale to justify recreational trail linkages between Brooklyn Park and Maple Grove. Trail and sidewalks links to Osseo are limited to County Road 81 and County Road 30 and possibly 89th Avenue.

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South (Plymouth) - The City of Plymouth's trail system plan has a number of planned connections to the Maple Grove System. Eight trail links are planned with two being regional trails (Eagle Lake and Medicine Lake). Both communities have residential land uses and attractive parks and open space near their shared border allowing for a pleasant trail experience as users transition between the two communities. Most of the existing links are towards the central and eastern ends of the shared border. The planned Elm Creek Valley Linear Park provides a nice opportunity to link with Plymouth in the western half of the shared border.



West (Corcoran) - The Corcoran trail plan shows several connection points and a trail along County Road 101. The Maple Grove recreational trail system does not identify any connections with Corcoran, although the transportation trail system within the rights-of-way will provide numerous connecting points.

Access to Regional Parks

Elm Creek Park Reserve - Maple Grove has linkages to this regional facility from the east, a new bridge connection over Highway 81 from the south and a proposed linkage along Rush Creek with the Rush Creek Regional Trail from the west. Other trail link opportunities may present themselves in the next 5-10 years when the area west of the Park Reserve is developed.

Fish Lake Regional Park - This facility is fairly well linked to the municipal trail system. A connection from the northwest corner of Fish Lake Regional Park to Niagara Lane has been identified in previous plans as a possibility to complete the trail loop but has gone undeveloped due to the challenging grades in the area. This possible connection will remain on the plan but only be considered if supported by the neighborhood.

Eagle Lake Regional Park - Two solid links to this park exist providing excellent access.

Trail “Loops”

Loop routes are recreational trails which allow the user to complete a route by beginning and ending at the same site without backtracking. Loop routes are desired by users because they provide variety for enhanced variation. Within the City a variety of lengths of trail loops are desirable.

Current Loops

The following loop routes were identified in the 1994 Plan:

North Elm Creek

- is a combination of trails, pathways and sidewalks depending on route selection.
- is nearly complete with two important segments under construction in 2008 to complete the loop.
- is approximately 4-5 miles in length.

Rice Lake

- is 100% complete.
- is a beautiful trail route with quality lake views and good access.
- is approximately 3½ miles in length.

Weaver Lake Loop

- is 100% complete depending on which route.
- is mostly a residential experience with both trail and sidewalk.
- provides a very nice route through Weaver Lake Park providing access to many park facilities.
- extends approximately 2.5 to 3 miles long.

Arbor Lakes Loop

- is 100% complete in Arbor Lakes. Expansion possibilities remain to PSA 24.
- consists of trails around the three Arbor Lakes with connections to neighboring residential, commercial and office complexes and other existing and planned parks.
- has been utilized as a 5K race route having the potential for a permanently marked 5K route which may be considered.
- is approximately 3 miles total length with expansion possibilities.

Fish Lake Loop

- is 100% complete.
- consists of a majority of trails with some pathways and sidewalk.
- passes through four park sites and has ample access to both local and regional park facilities.
- is approximately 5 miles long.
- has an incomplete segment at the end of Niagara Lane which when completed will provide a nice alternative route through the west neighborhood.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

South Elm Creek Loop

- is about 30% complete.
- consists of a combination of trails and pathways.
- passes around the edge of the Forest Preservation Land and South Elm Road Park and becomes part of the Elm Creek Valley Linear Park with a wonderful view of the area's natural resources.
- is approximately a 6 mile loop when complete.
- could have a possible additional creek crossing for a beautiful natural resource experience.

Cedar Island Loop

- is 100% complete.
- consists of mostly pathway with some trail and sidewalk.
- has some lake views but is mostly a neighborhood experience.
- is approximately 2.5 miles.

Eagle Lake Loop

- is 100% complete.
- incorporates both local and regional system.
- consists of both trail and sidewalk.
- provides a very nice experience through Eagle Lake Regional Park.
- extends approximately 5 miles long.

Potential Loops

Arbor Lakes Area (PSA 23 and 24)

- is partially complete with trails around the three Arbor Lakes.
- has expansion opportunities into planned neighborhoods.
- has potential vehicular conflicts.
- must include well marked crosswalks for safety.
- has supporting studies including: "Vision Plan – The Public Spaces of Arbor Lakes".

Elm Creek Valley Linear Park (PSA 29 and 32)

- is partially developed but more as a spine with loop opportunities extending from it.
- passes through high quality natural resources.
- has supporting studies including: "Central and South Elm Creek Trail Routing Study", "South Elm Creek Trail Study".

Rush Creek Linear Park and Regional Trail (PSA 4, 5 and 6)

- is undeveloped.
- is planned as a spine with loop opportunities extending into the surrounding neighborhoods.
- passes through high quality natural resources.
- will link Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park to Crow-Hassan Park Reserve.
- has supporting studies including: "Rush Creek Linear Park Study".
- the regional trail will be planned, developed and funded by Three Rivers Park District.

Trail Amenities

The paved trails that weave through Maple Grove provide the basis for a popular and attractive trail system. But the complexity and size of the entire network suggests the need for additional support amenities to provide a safe and completely functional trail network. These are facilities or programs which supplement and enhance the trail network include:

Trail heads: Places where one can come by foot, bike, or car to get in proximity of a specific trail experience. The Board has recognized that a special use park for trail head purposes only may not be practical, but if trails and parks are properly planned the park facilities can serve as trail heads.

Trail maps: Trail system maps that users can carry with them may be made available at select locations which show how to navigate through the system and what features and amenities can be found along the way.

Overlooks or rest areas: Areas abutting trail routes that may include benches, viewing areas, toilets and drinking water. They may be specifically created or could be existing facilities that are identified as part of the trail experience. Long loops such as routes over three miles will benefit the most from these types of support facilities.

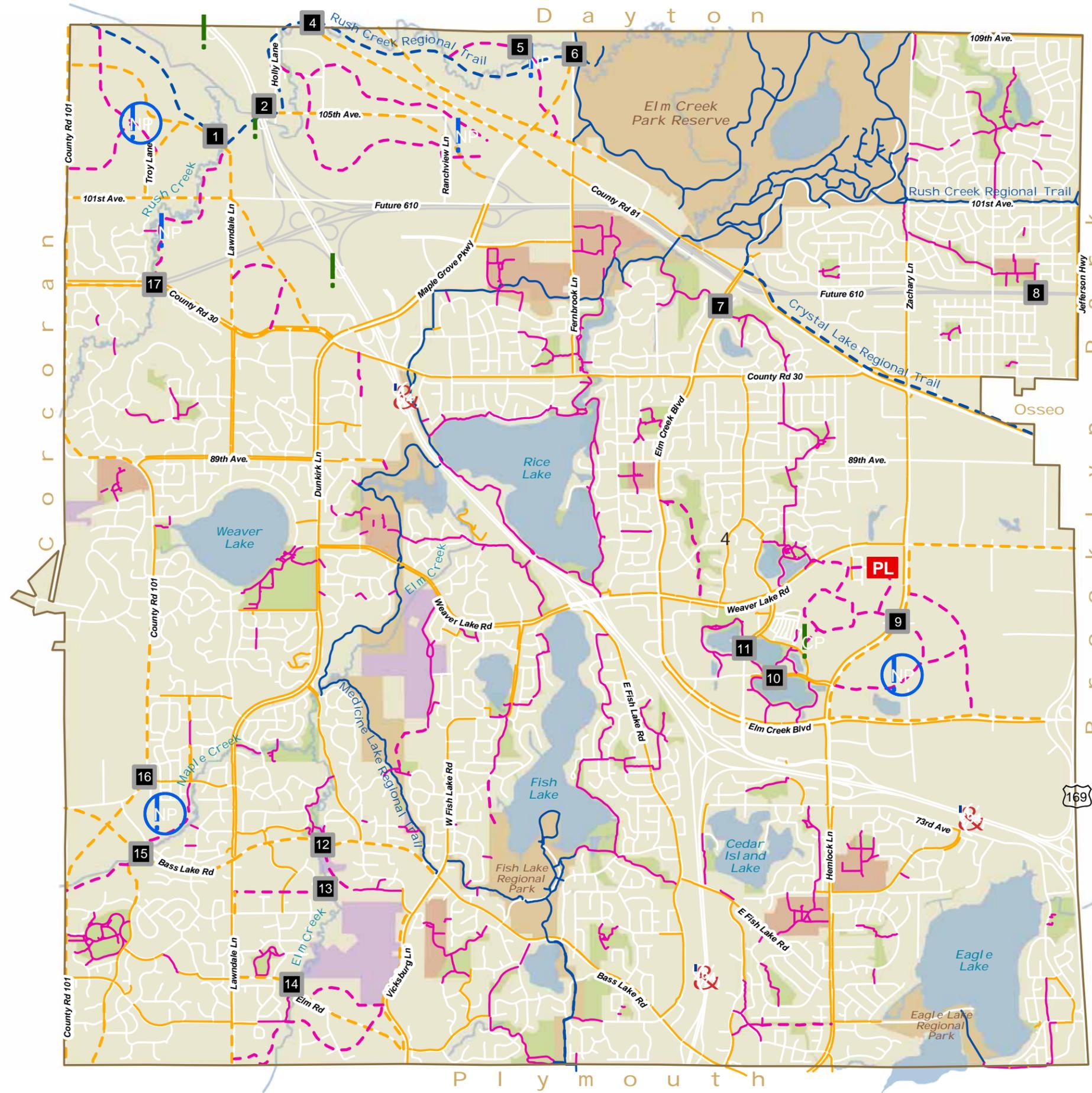
Trail signage: This could include kiosks with information such as: maps, cultural data, natural resource facts, or historic facts. Making unique information available will enrich the trail experience and create a sense of community. Long routes or those with many variations will especially benefit from clear, concise signage.

Barriers & Barrier Reduction Program

Previous comprehensive plans for Maple Grove have included a Trail Barrier Reduction Program to identify those restrictions in the trail system that should receive additional study to resolve the user conflict. This program has been very successful where barriers have been minimized in many locations. The new Highway 610 and north-south arterial routes like Maple Grove Parkway and Hemlock/Zachary will create new barriers to be considered. PSAs 5 and 6 are planned to receive new arterial routes in residential areas. Residential development in natural areas near Rush Creek and Elm Creek will present further barriers. While each barrier represents a substantial construction cost, each will be considered on its own merit at the time infrastructure planning is occurring. Neither the natural system nor the planned road system will be allowed to reduce Maple Grove's future residential neighborhoods to small isolated fragments, unable to access recreation facilities and amenities.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Major Barriers to Pedestrian Movement				
Map Key	Barrier	Linkage	Method	Purpose
1	Rush Creek	- North of 101 st Ave. - PSA 6	Bridge over creek.	- Connects users east of creek to park west of creek. - Part of Rush Creek Linear Park.
2	Interstate 94	- Near 105 th Avenue. - PSA 5 and 6	Bridge. Develop with 105 th Ave interchange and overpass.	- Regional trail corridor. - Link northwest city to regional park.
3	Rush Creek	- North of 105th Ave. - PSA 5	Bridge over creek.	- Connects users east of creek to regional trail west of creek. - May be part of regional system.
4	County Road 81/ Railroad	- Near Rush Creek and Holly Lane. PSA 4 and 5	Bridge or tunnel.	- Connects users north of creek to amenities south of creek. - May be part of regional system.
5	Rush Creek	- Between Fernbrook and Ranchview Lanes. - Near future park. - PSA 4	Bridge(s) over creek.	- Connects users north of creek to park south of creek. - May be part of regional system.
6	Fernbrook Lane	- North of Co Rd 81 near Rush Creek. - PSA 4	Bridge or at grade crossing.	- Connects users west of creek to regional park east of creek. - May be part of regional system.
7	Elm Creek Blvd.	- North Elm Creek Trail between Teal Lake Park and Senior HS. - PSA 10	Improved at grade crossing. Possible warning flasher.	- Part of linear park and significant trail loop.
8	Highway 610	- Between Jefferson Hwy and Zachary Lane. - PSA 12	Planned trail bridge at Nathan Lane with 610 improvements. Sidewalks at Jefferson, Revere and Zachary.	- Link south PSA 12 to Elm Creek School.
9	Hemlock-Zachary	- Between Weaver Lake Rd and Elm Creek Blvd. - PSA 23 and 24	Improved at grade crossing(s).	- Link residents to Arbor Lakes.
10	Arbor Lakes Blvd.	- Between North Arbor Lake and Arbor Lake. - PSA 23	Improved at grade crossing.	- Improved circulation in Arbor Lakes area. - 5K route
11	Main Street	- Between West and North Arbor Lakes. - PSA 23	Improved at grade crossing.	- Improved circulation in Arbor Lakes area. - 5K route
12	Bass Lake Road	- East side of Elm Creek. - PSA 29 and 32	Underpass with improvements to Bass Lake Rd.	- Elm Creek Linear Park. - Major connection point for barrier free linkage each side of Bass Lk Rd.
13	Elm Creek	- South of Bass Lake Rd. - Utilize powerline corridor. - PSA 32	Boardwalk and bridge over creek.	- Connects west neighborhood to east side trail and Forest Preservation Area.
14	Elm Road	- Near Elm Creek. - PSA 32	Likely at grade crossing.	- Elm Creek Linear Park. - Links residents south of Elm Road to park north of Elm Road.
15	Bass Lake Road	- Near Rush Creek and Vagabond Lane. - PSA 30	Underpass with improvements to Bass Lake Rd.	- Maple Creek Linear Park. - Links Gleason Fields to proposed PSA 30 site.
16	County Road 101	- Between 78 th Ave and Bass Lk Rd. - PSA 30	At grade crossings at future roadway intersections.	- Link Cook Lake neighborhood to park on east side.
17	County Road 30	- Co Rd 30 and Rush Creek - PSA 18 and PSA 6	At grade crossings east of creek.	- Connect residents south of Co Rd 30 to the PSA 6S Neighborhood Pk.



TRAIL BARRIERS

- 99** Trail Barrier Identifier
- Refer to the Trail Barriers Table on the previous page for more detail.
- City Park
- School District Property
- Three River Park District Facility
- City Forest Preservation Land
- Park Trail
- City Pathway
- Three Rivers Park District Trail
- Proposed Park Trail
- Proposed City Pathway
- Proposed Three Rivers Park Dist Trail
- N Neighborhood Park with Athletic Fields
- N Neighborhood Park
- CP Community Park
- | Conservancy
- PL Playlot/Pocket Park



Trails Summary

The existing trail system in Maple Grove is an extensive system which continues to grow and evolve. Trails are basic facilities which can be used by a wide demographic that are looking for a healthy, non-programmed opportunity for exercise. When the remaining undeveloped areas of the City are subdivided, the opportunity to secure land and build trails will be ripe to continue Maple Grove's rich tradition of trail development. The trail planning efforts to be pursued in the 2008-2017 timeframe will likely be:

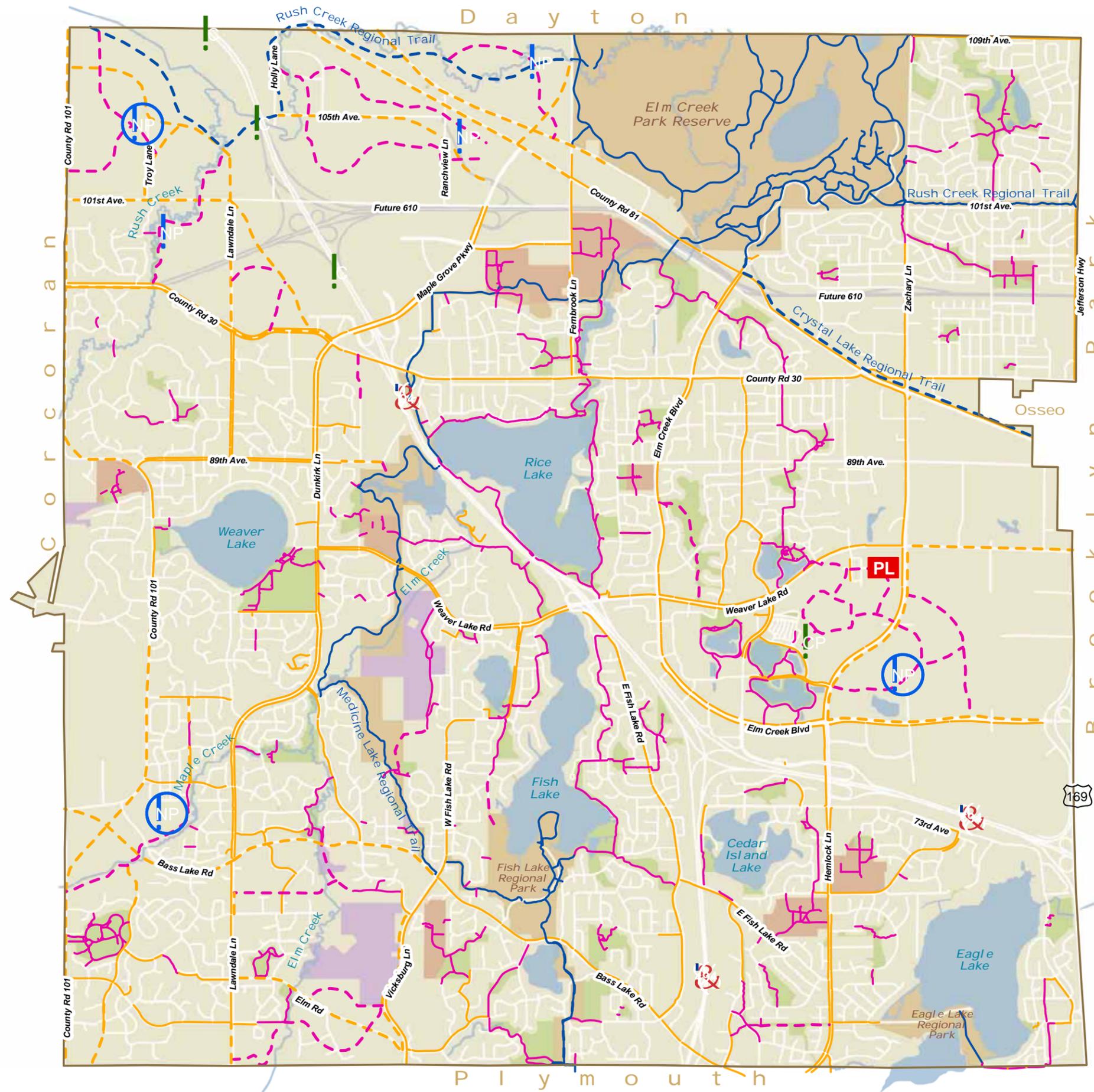
1. Work with the Three Rivers Park District staff on the regional trail corridor from Crow Hassan Park Reserve to Elm Creek Park Reserve, to facilitate this route and enhance Maple Grove's access to this route and link other park features to the corridor.
2. Establish routes to the City limits which provide access to and from residential and park areas in adjoining cities.
3. Strive to improve the loop systems in all areas of the City. This will include physical route improvements and education about the routes. Individual loop routes should be examined and evaluated to determine cost effective improvements. Implementation of those improvements should be prioritized among all other capital improvements in the park system.
4. Pursue new natural resource based trails and linear parks in the Rush Creek and Elm Creek areas based on existing plan concepts.
5. Create non-right-of-way trail routes as a supplemental system to the sidewalk system in the remaining undeveloped PSAs.



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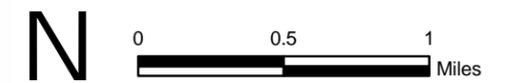
6. Consider adding historic, geographic, or cultural signage elements to the trail routes to help create a sense of place.
7. Continue the Trail Barrier Reduction Program. Trail planning for major routes and loops will benefit greatly from barrier reductions making these high use trails even more user friendly.
8. Add trail amenities as deemed appropriate to the trail system to make the basic trails more user friendly.





COMPREHENSIVE TRAIL SYSTEM

- City Park
- School District Property
- Three River Park District Facility
- City Forest Preservation Land
- Park Trail
- City Pathway
- Three Rivers Park District Trail
- Proposed Park Trail
- Proposed City Pathway
- Proposed Three Rivers Park Dist Trail
- NP Neighborhood Park with Athletic Fields
- N Neighborhood Park
- CP Community Park
- Conservancy
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Implementation

Park System Priorities

The purpose of this Plan is to define the appropriate type and location for parks and trails to meet the needs of the community. Priorities for implementation are provided here to bring a better focus to the broad range of community needs and desires that this document has expressed in the category of parks, recreation and trails. In Maple Grove the Neighborhood Park system and the trails that link them together have and will continue to be the backbone of the Park System Plan.

The established priorities

- 1) Neighborhood Parks,
- 2) Trails and Natural Resource Oriented Facilities,
- 3) Special Use Facilities, and
- 4) Athletic Facilities; guide staff and the Park Board when working with developers for acquisition, developing budgets and capital improvement programs.

Short term Priorities

The Plan section of this document addresses a broad range of recommended actions for the City of Maple Grove. The proposed new sites and system changes are illustrated and discussed in the Plan section of this document. A summary of short term priorities are:

Neighborhood Parks: Maple Grove's remaining neighborhood park sites are likely to be established in the next 3-20 years. The exact date of when these sites are acquired and developed will be driven by residential development. The Comprehensive Plan which will be adopted within the next 12 months will resolve the land use patterns of the last undeveloped areas of the City and the Capital Improvement Plan will create the infrastructure to facilitate development of those areas. Economic and market forces will be the determining factors for timing development and the park site establishment. Seven remaining park sites have been identified for acquisition and development in this Plan. They are located in PSAs: 4, 5, 6 (2 sites), 23, 24 and 30.

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Athletic Fields: The delivery of additional programmed athletic fields will continue to be a need in the short term. The Parks and Recreation Department staff has refined their estimate of facility based athletic fields. Programmed facilities (baseball, multi-use ballfields, soccer fields and outdoor hockey rinks) may be built at several of the proposed new NP sites; PSAs 6(N), 24 and 30. Conversion of some existing ballfields at Weaver Lake Playfields and Cedar Island School Community Playfield may also occur to realign the current athletic field needs with the available fields.

Community Parks: Over the last Comprehensive Park and Recreation Plan period, the City of Maple Grove has built the Community Center and expanded it with facilities on the abutting Civic Campus area. It is likely that further expansion of facilities in the Civic Campus area will occur. Some facilities are currently planned for development in the next few years. The amenities include an outdoor performance stage, a public plaza and a new county library all incorporated into the Civic Campus.

Additionally the proposed Community Park in PSA 23 is identified in this Plan to provide a large open space not otherwise available in the Civic Campus area. The design of the site is to be flexible enough to accommodate community scale gatherings and activities. To support large gatherings, creative solutions will be necessary to solve the support needs of an urban park site with a limited site area. On-street and lot parking, public toilets and non-typical built-in infrastructure (turf irrigation, lighting, plumbing and electricity) may be necessary.

Other parks or facilities: A new disc golf course opened at Elm Creek Regional Park in 2009. In addition a dog park may be considered for implementation in the future. The Three Rivers Park District has identified a willingness to consider accommodating local needs in their sites. Dog parks, disc golf, interpretive trails programs, etc. are among the opportunities which may be able to be provided for local use in Eagle Lake Regional Park, Fish Lake Regional Park and Elm Creek Park Reserve. It is prudent that facility development recognize programs available or potentially available through other public agencies operating in the same geographic area to avoid unneeded duplication.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Linear Parks: This Comprehensive Park System Plan identifies several Linear Parks which likely will be acquired in the foreseeable future. The continuation of Elm Creek Linear Park from Bass Lake Road to the Plymouth city limits and the development of Rush Creek Linear are two essential corridors in the local trail network which will take priority. Other linear parks like those in Arbor Lakes and the Maple Creek Linear should be considered as well.

Trails: A fairly extensive system of trails has been proposed in this Plan. The approach to new trails does not rely entirely on sidewalks or pathways within the rights-of-way. In selected areas, non-right-of-way trails have been proposed to make key links to specific sites and/or amenities. In addition, trail system improvements including maps, on-site signage, site specific furnishing (benches, shelters, markers, etc.) are proposed.

Long Term Priorities

Neighborhood Park

Sites: It is unlikely that additional neighborhood park sites, beyond those mentioned in this document will be needed in the future unless land use changes occur or large scale redevelopment occurs. The City will continue to monitor user preference and demographic changes in neighborhoods and consider these changes when replacing outdated or worn facilities.

Level of service will be periodically checked to attempt to create parity and access to facilities. At some time in the future, redevelopment of neighborhood park sites will become necessary.

The basic definition of what constitutes the appropriate facilities in a neighborhood park will then be a timely topic for staff, Board and public discussion.



Community Parks, Playfields and other park sites: The Forest Preservation Area, City owned parkland and the regional park system create an extensive amount of public park or park-type land in Maple Grove. While it is unlikely that any significant park land acquisitions will be needed beyond those outlined in this document, the City will remain responsive to the needs of future residents. It is more likely that if park or recreation needs change, the impacts can be accommodated on the lands already in the system by way of redevelopment planning. The City Recreation staff will continue to monitor recreational demand and inform the Board if changes have occurred which suggest that the existing or planned park land can't accommodate the demand of recreational fields or facilities. Site specific facility improvements will be an increasing issue as the existing special use facilities become older, worn or socially archaic. Special purpose facilities like fishing docks, skate board parks, outdoor pools, beaches or pleasure skating areas, may fail to meet changing public interest. Public demand and usage however, needs to be continually monitored to continue to maintain facilities which provide "quality of life" value to residents even if they aren't part of organized programs.

Trails: The municipal trail system will continue to be of timeless value. Care should be taken to protect the integrity of the current trail system, expand or fill in gaps as much as possible and add quality improvements to the routes. Route amenity improvements may include repaving and widening the trail surface, safety improvements, preparing and distribution of route maps, providing on site directional or interpretive signage, additional plantings and site specific furnishings (emergency phones, benches, shelters, markers, lighting).

Implementation Tools

The Park Dedication process has historically generated land and money to build much of the Maple Grove park system. The majority of the land and money for the remaining park and trail development identified in this Plan will again come from park dedication. In addition, the City should be watchful for new funding opportunities. Creative ways to maximize alternative funding sources and incorporate those opportunities into the planning and redevelopment of the existing park system will be important once the system is in its redevelopment years and park dedication funds have diminished.

Development Process: In addition to park dedications of land and money, the land development process may provide other opportunities. Trending development patterns which create larger areas of open space around dense home sites could provide some of the desired land use diversity. These areas may remain private open space or could be donated to the City as "surplus" land. Even with private ownership of open space or conservation easements, the public benefits from the natural resource protection and land use diversity.

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Grants: Typically there are no grant sources which routinely fund development or acquisition of a complete park site. At the state level, grant programs are available for certain special projects such as managing unique landscapes, programs which address possible demonstration projects on urban trails for multimodal use, water quality improvement, landscape restoration (shorelands, wetlands, uplands) and special activities that have received governmental endorsement (like water access, urban fishing programs).

Other Funding Methods: Bond referendums and long-term development funds have been used for park and trail development. The Community Center, Forest Preservation Area and several park facilities over the years were funded through these methods. This funding method places park facilities in direct competition with other City priorities. Widespread public support is usually necessary to facilitate this type of park and trail funding.

Land Donations: Occasionally the City is offered land as a donation to the park and trail system. For the most part the land is undevelopable, such as flood plain or wetland. This is, however a good way to widen linear park corridors or add buffers between land uses. Each donation should be evaluated on a case by case basis to determine the long term financial impacts.

Shared Use Facilities: Maple Grove has been successful in establishing joint use agreements with the School District to create playfield and Neighborhood Park facilities adjacent to school sites. This arrangement has been beneficial to all participants and may be appropriate for one or more of the last neighborhood park sites to be created in the future. Athletic groups may have similar special needs which can be matched with a municipal need to create a facility not likely to be built by either party independently. Each opportunity needs to be considered on a case by case basis.

Cooperative Facility Development: Occasionally there is public interest for special facilities that serve more of a regional need or require large land areas or integrate better into a natural park setting. Opportunities will be sought with Three Rivers Park District to share in the funding of these amenities which will keep them within the community. Good examples of this would be a dog park or disc golf course.

Implementation Conclusion

Ideally, the key projects identified in the Park Development Program will be prioritized over a five year period with consideration of funding types and sources, prior commitments, previous arrangements, grants and community development pace and pressure. In Maple Grove; however, it's impractical to budget beyond the current fiscal year because the primary sources of funding for park capital improvements - park dedication, grants and donations - are annually unpredictable. Therefore, the Parks and Recreation Board each year identifies all park acquisition and development projects in the Park Development Program, evaluates immediate facility needs/proposals and prioritizes improvements for yearly implementation based upon funds available.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Appendix

Appendix 1: Refer to the section on Recreation Facility Guidelines (page 19) for the use of this table.

FACILITY GUIDELINE COMPARISON

Data from Summer 2006

Community Comparison Chart

City	Population	Population at Build out		Small Baseball					
				Baseball Fields	Fields w/ mounds	Multi-use Ballfields	Soccer/Football	Hockey Rinks	Tennis Courts
Eagan	67,091	70,437	Number of Facilities	7	6	46	12	13	41
			Ratio of Facilities per Resident	1/9,600	1/11,200	1/1,500	1/5,500	1/5,200	1/1,600
			Established Guideline	None	None	1/2,000	1/1,500	1/4,000	1/1,500
Woodbury	55,341	85,000	Number of Facilities	5	0	36	8	4	33
			Ratio of Facilities per Resident	1/11,100	N/A	1/1,500	1/6,900	1/13,800	1/1,700
			Established Guideline	None	None	None	None	None	None
Eden Prairie	54,901	65,000	Number of Facilities	5	4	31	28	8	44
			Ratio of Facilities per Resident	1/11,000	1/13,700	1/1,800	1/2,000	1/6,900	1/1,200
			Established Guideline	1/6,000	1/6,000	1/3,000	1/1,500 jr size 1/3,800 full size	1/6,900	1/1,100
Brooklyn Park	72,000	85,000	Number of Facilities	5	5	15	17	8	22
			Ratio of Facilities per Resident	1/14,400	1/14,400	1/4,800	1/4,200	1/9,000	1/3,300
			Established Guideline	None	None	None	None	None	None
Plymouth	73,000	85,000	Number of Facilities	9	7	24	24	12	49
			Ratio of Facilities per Resident	1/8,100	1/10,400	1/3,000	1/3,000	1/6,100	1/1,500
			Established Guideline	None	None	None	None	None	None
Maple Grove	61,500	89,500	Number of Facilities	13	0	43	20	12	45
			Ratio of Facilities per Resident	1/4,700	N/A	1/1,400	1/3,100	1/5,100	1/1,400
			Established Guideline	1/6,000	N/A	1/2,000	1/4,000	1/5,000	1/2,000

New Guidelines

Maple Grove	Ratio of Facilities per resident	Small Baseball					
		Baseball Fields	Fields w/ mounds	Multi-use Ballfields	Soccer/Football	Hockey Rinks	Tennis Courts
		1/6,000	1/15,000	1/2,200	1/4,000	1/6,000	1/3,000
	Total Facilities at Build Out	15	6	40-41	22-23	15	30
	Facilities Needed to Meet Guidelines	2	6	Guideline met	2 or 3	3	Guideline met

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

Appendix 2: Refer to the section Community Analysis (page 26) for the use of this data.

This information was provided by the Maple Grove Community Development Department.

Park Service Area Analysis (excerpt):

Planning staff has analyzed the Park Service Areas (PSA) of the city with regard to the current number of units, estimated population, future development and final estimated population. The calculations used to obtain the estimated population follow. All acreages are net based on the gross minus wetlands, floodplains and major road corridors.

(See Methodology sheet in Maple Grove Community Development Department for explanation of how the numbers in this report were derived.)

Low Density: 2.6 units/acre

Medium Density: 6.3 units/acre

High Density: 16 units/acre

Households = Units x 97% (the assumed vacancy rate)

Population = Households x 2.5 (the assumed # of people per household in 2030)

Some of the issues associated with the development of each area are also discussed. Staff has focused the efforts on the areas of the city that are primarily undeveloped or partially developed.

Listed below are the various PSAs that are undeveloped or partially developed:

PSA: Now included in PSA 4
Not Numbered (area adjacent to Elm Creek Park Reserve)
Development: Undeveloped

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	43.3	113		
Medium Density	27.2	171		
High Density	10.5	168		
Total	81	452	438	1096

Issues:

- Area is subject to County Road 81 ROW needs.
- Land uses may change in response to Bottineau Boulevard Busway (a station is proposed at Maple Grove Parkway and County Road 81).

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- High Density Residential may shift to PSA 4 in response to the station location.
- Coordinate Linear Park connection to Elm Creek Park Reserve trail system.
- Coordinate Linear Park crossing of Fernbrook Lane (underpass possible with upgrade of road?)

**PSA: Now included in PSA 18
 Not Numbered (area near the 610/94 interchange)**

Development: Undeveloped

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
High Density	10.7	171		
Total	10.7	171	166	415

Issues:

- High Density area is separated from other PSAs by major roads (I-94, CSAH 610, CSAH 30).
- Approximately 13 acres of high density was rezoned to Mixed Use for the Tri-Care Hospital proposal that now appears unlikely to happen. Could theoretically switch back to high density.

**PSA: 4 (updated, includes area previously not in PSA 4 adjacent to Elm
 Creek Park Reserve)**

Development: Undeveloped

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	201	523		
Medium Density	96.6	609		
High Density	12.7	203		
Total	297.6	1334	1294	3236

Issues:

- Neighborhood Park is planned (15 acres).
- Linear Park along creek corridor is planned.
- Coordinate Linear Park crossing of Fernbrook Lane (underpass possible with upgrade of road?)
- Linear park crossing of County Road 81 should be planned for interim and permanent crossings.
- Linear park could serve as the open space spine throughout the PSA with fingers extending into the residential neighborhoods.
- Land uses may change in response to Bottineau Boulevard Busway.
- Busway station is proposed at Maple Grove Parkway and County Road 81.
- Medium density area along creek could change to low.
- Development north of the creek should be coordinated with the City of Dayton.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

PSA: 5 (updated) 105th Avenue Interchange Option

Development: Undeveloped

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
High Density	35.8	573		
Commercial	23			
Mixed Use	295			
Total	353.8	573	556	1389

PSA: 5 (updated) No 105th Avenue Interchange Option

Development: Undeveloped

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	177	460		
Medium Density	19	120		
High Density	35.8	573		
Commercial	23			
Mixed Use	97.7			
Total	353.8	1153	1118	2795

Issues:

- Major land use changes are possible due to possible interchange at 105th Avenue and Interstate 94. It may be some time before we know what the final transportation scenarios might be in this area.
- All residential land could change to non-residential uses.
- Major floodplain and wetland areas.
- 2 neighborhood parks proposed (15 and 10 acres).
- Linear park along creek.
- Linear park crossing of County Road 81 and Interstate 94 should be planned for interim and permanent crossings.
- Conservancy along 94 is planned.

PSA: 6 (updated)

Development: Partially developed

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	370	962		
Medium Density	83.8	528		
Public-Semi Public	12.4			
Mixed Use	109.9			
Sub-Total (future units)	576.1	1490		
Existing Units		288	279	698
Approved Units		73		
Total		1851	1795	4489

Issues:

- Boundary adjustment is recommended to include all the residentially guided property west of I-94 in PSA 6.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

- Land uses subject to change, especially Medium Density and High Density west of Rush Creek
- Linear Park planned along creek.
- Linear park crossing of Interstate 94 should be planned for interim and permanent crossings.
- Possible parkway along creek?
- 2 Neighborhood Parks planned (20 and 10 acres).
- Conservancy along I-94 is planned.

PSA: 14 (Partial GMA)

Development: Almost completely developed

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	10.3	27		
GMA-Low Density	34.3	137		
Sub-Total (future units)	44.6	164		
Existing Units		2282		
Approved Units		179		
Total		2625	2546	6366

Issues:

- 34 acres of Low Density Residential in the Gravel Mining Area remaining.
- 10 acres of Low Density Residential outside the GMA (currently a nursery.)

PSA: 18 (updated, includes area of high density near 94 and 610)

Development: Almost completely developed

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	8.4	22		
Medium Density	27.8	175		
High Density	17.1	274		
Sub-Total (future units)	53.3	471		
Existing Units		1956		
Approved Units		45		
Total		2472	2397	5994

Issues:

- 22 acres of Medium Density Residential bordered by Lawndale Lane, County Road 30 and future 610 extension may be difficult to serve.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

PSA: 19

Development: Almost completely developed

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	29	75		
Sub-Total (future units)	29	75		
Existing Units		1956		
Total		2031	1970	4926

Issues:

- Boundary adjustment recommended to better account for existing road network and development patterns.

PSA: 23 (GMA)

Development: Partially developed

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
GMA-High Density	14.7	441		
Sub-Total (future units)	14.7	441		
Existing Units		401	389	972
Approved Units		1119		
Total		1961	1902	4755

Issues:

- Much of the area has been conceptually approved.
- HighGrove proposal is currently in review for development approval.
- Park System around large storm water pond.
- Pocket parks within neighborhoods?
- Current plan shows a large community park in this PSA.

PSA: 24 (GMA)

Development: Undeveloped

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
GMA-Medium Density	149	1192		
GMA-High Density	17	510		
Sub-Total (future units)	166	1702	1651	4127
Total		1702	1651	4127

Issues:

- Current Plan shows a linear park system separating the residential area from the industrial area interspersed with storm ponds. The current storm pond plan for this area does not show a similar series of storm ponds.
- Current plan envisions a community ball field facility in the middle of the industrial area which may be difficult to develop.
- Pocket parks within neighborhoods?

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

PSA: 29

Development: Almost fully developed

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	29	75		
Medium Density	4.7	30		
Sub-Total (future units)	29	105		
Existing Units		1084		
Approved Units		417		
Total		1606	1558	3895

Issues:

- Boundary adjustment proposed to account for Bass Lake Road realignment.

PSA: 30

Development: Partially developed

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	105.6	275		
Medium Density	6.2	39		
High Density	15	240		
Commercial	5.3			
Sub-Total (future units)	132.1	554		
Existing Units		336	326	815
Approved Units		434		
Total		1324	1284	3210

Issues:

- Land uses around Bass Lake Road and County Road 101 are proposed to change to Mixed-Use but the estimates for unit numbers is expected to remain the same. The above calculation uses the existing land use breakdown to get the estimate even though the actual guiding will be for Mixed-Use. Some units from the south of Bass Lake Road (PSA 31) may shift into this area.
- 300 unit 55+ development approved just north of the proposed park site.
- Neighborhood Park is planned in coordination with a proposed elementary school.
- Boundary adjustment proposed to account for Bass Lake Road realignment.

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

PSA: 31

Development: Partially developed

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	197.7	514		
Medium Density	40.8	257		
High Density	23.4	374		
Mixed Use	17.7			
Commercial	5.3			
Sub-Total (future units)	284.9	1145		
Existing Units		1136	1102	2755
Approved Units		167		
Total		2448	2375	5938

Issues:

- Land uses around Bass Lake Road and County Road 101 are proposed to change to Mixed-Use but the estimates for unit numbers is expected to remain the same. The above calculation uses the existing land use breakdown to get the estimate even though the actual guiding will be for Mixed-Use. Some units from this area may shift to PSA 30.
- All recommended land use changes as part the Comprehensive Plan Amendment are taken into account.
- Boundary adjustment proposed to account for Bass Lake Road realignment.

PSA: 32

Development: Partially developed

	Acres	Units	Households	Population
Low Density	239	621		
Medium Density	5.6	35		
High Density	12	192		
Sub-Total (future units)	256.6	849		
Existing Units		267	259	647
Approved Units		195		
Total		1311	1271	3178

Issues:

- Linear park along Elm Creek.
- Conservation area north of Elm Road.
- Boundary adjustment proposed to account for Bass Lake Road realignment.
- Grand round trail system around wetland complex?

Maple Grove Comprehensive Park System and Recreation Plan

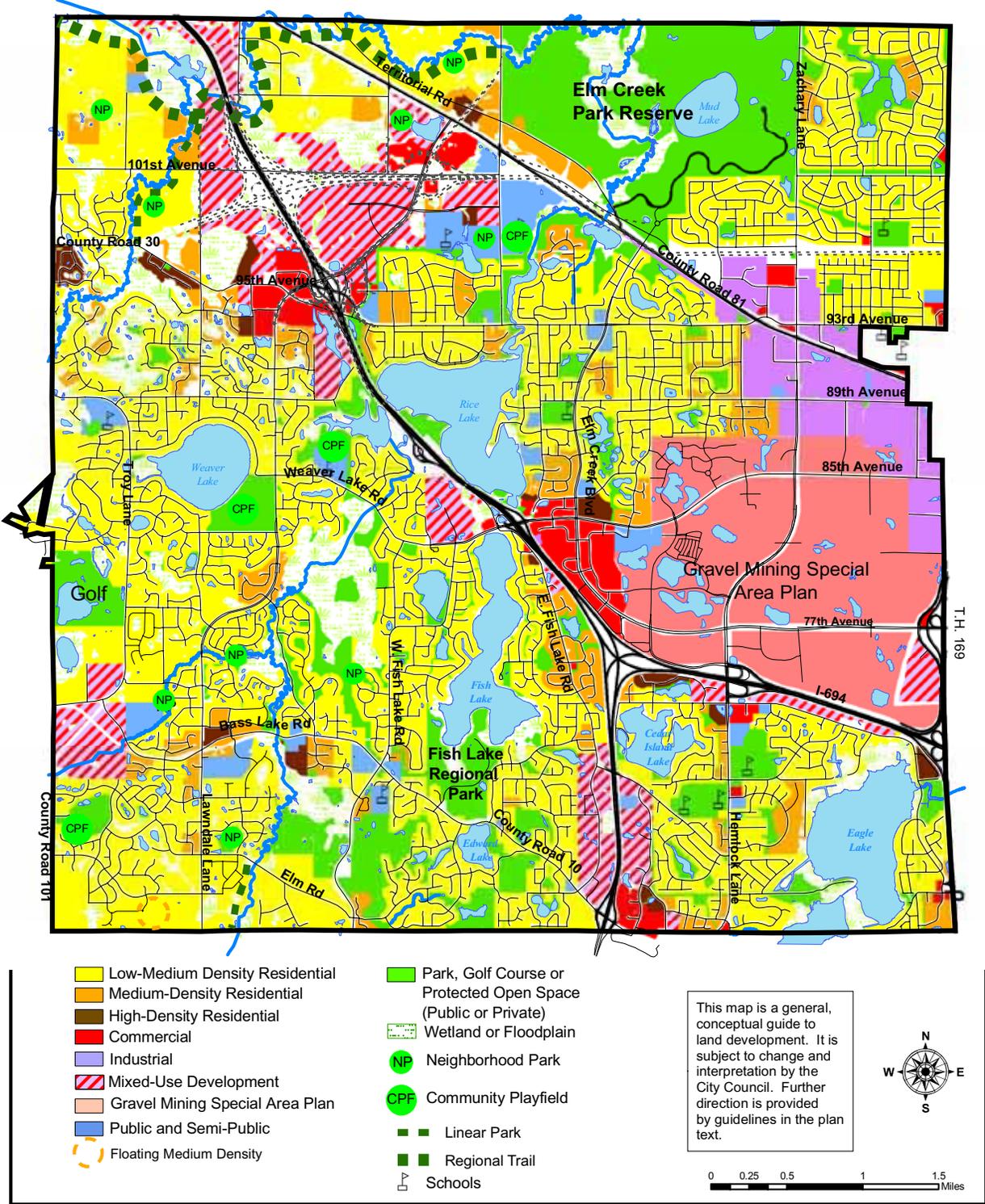
FULLY DEVELOPED PSAs

Below are the Park Service Areas that are fully developed in which the population is not expected to change dramatically due to development. Community Development staff notes that as the City becomes more fully developed there may be opportunities in the future to redevelop areas and increase density, but it is difficult to anticipate where this will occur at this time.

PSA	Units	Households	2000 Census Population	People Per Household from 2000 Census	Estimated 2030 Population (2.5 people per household)
1	1302	1263	3870	3.1	3158
9	1090	1057	2751	2.6	2642
10	717	695	1999	2.9	1738
11	584	566	1560	2.8	1415
12	1171	1136	3484	3.1	2840
15	793	769	1975	2.6	1922
17	960	931	1441	1.5	2328
25	1035	1004	3073	3.1	2510
26	731	709	1569	2.2	1772
27	1089	1056	2866	2.7	2640
28	818	793	2645	3.3	1982
33	948	920	2867	3.1	2300
34	506	491	1384	2.8	1228
35	671	651	1535	2.4	1628
36	800	776	1514	2.0	1940

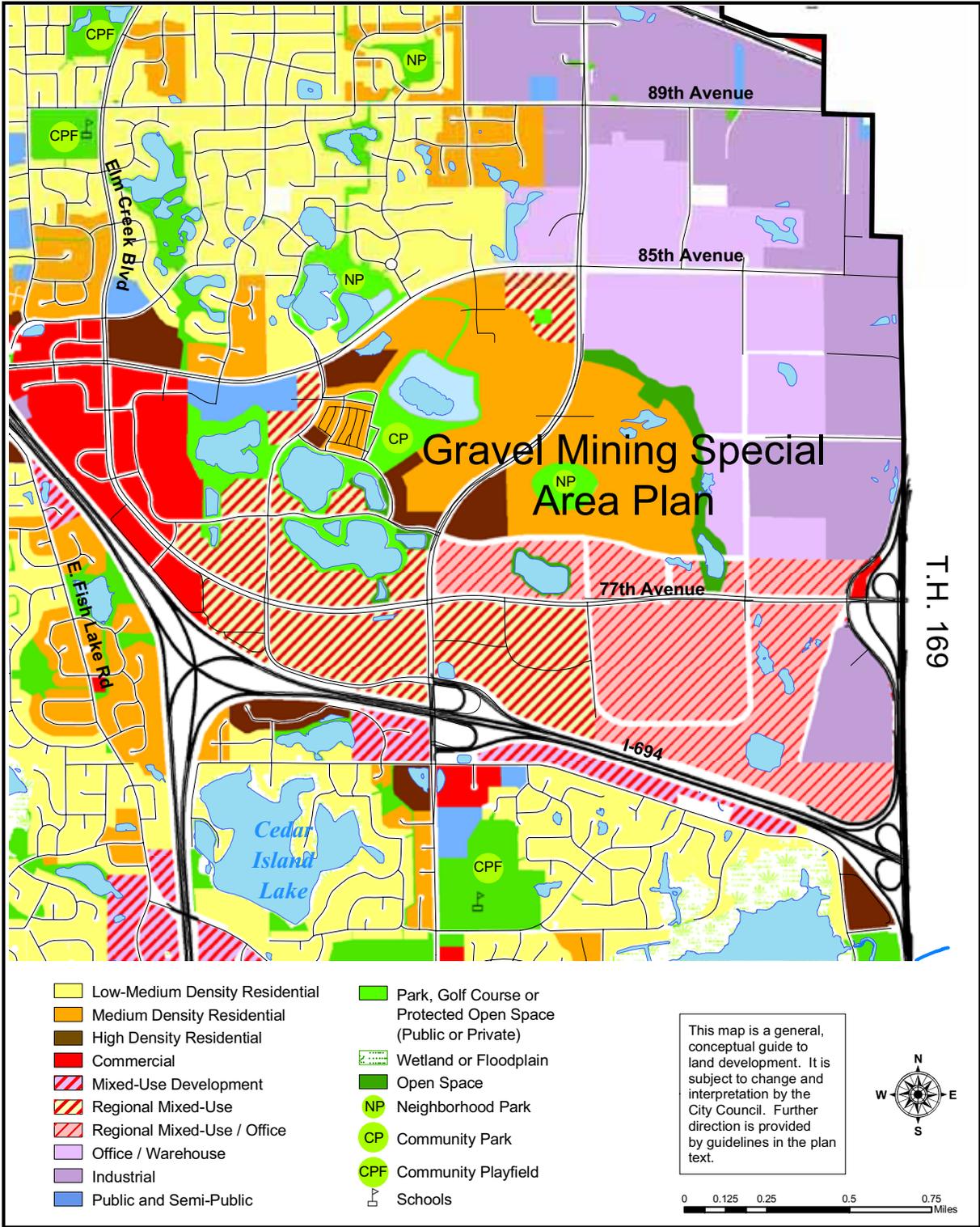
Maple Grove Land Use Plan

This Land Use Scenario is reflective of no 105th Ave interchange at Interstate 94.

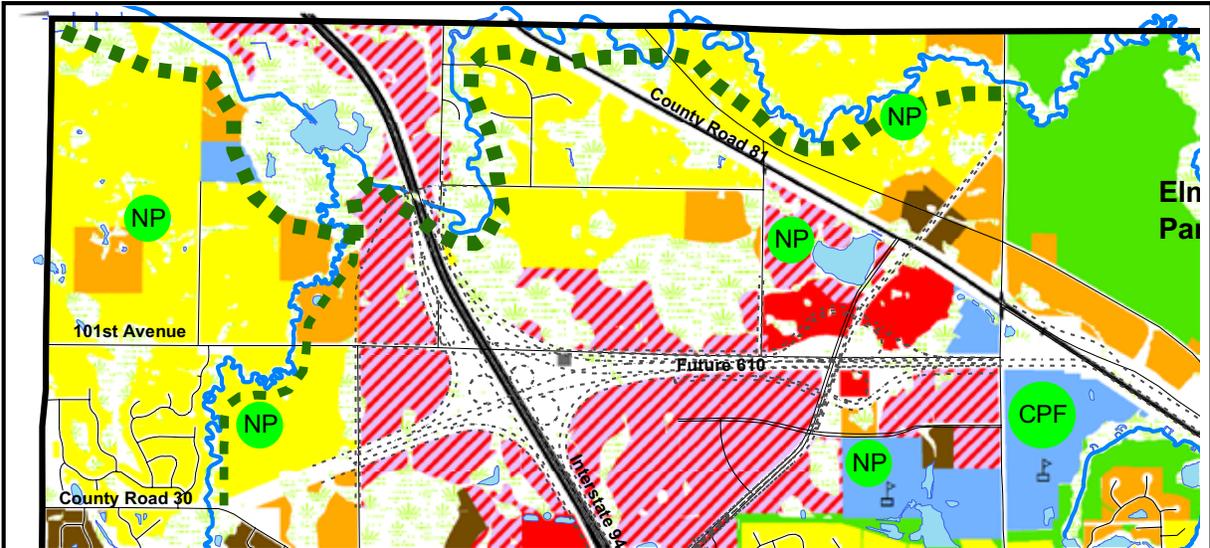


Gravel Mining Area Land Use Plan

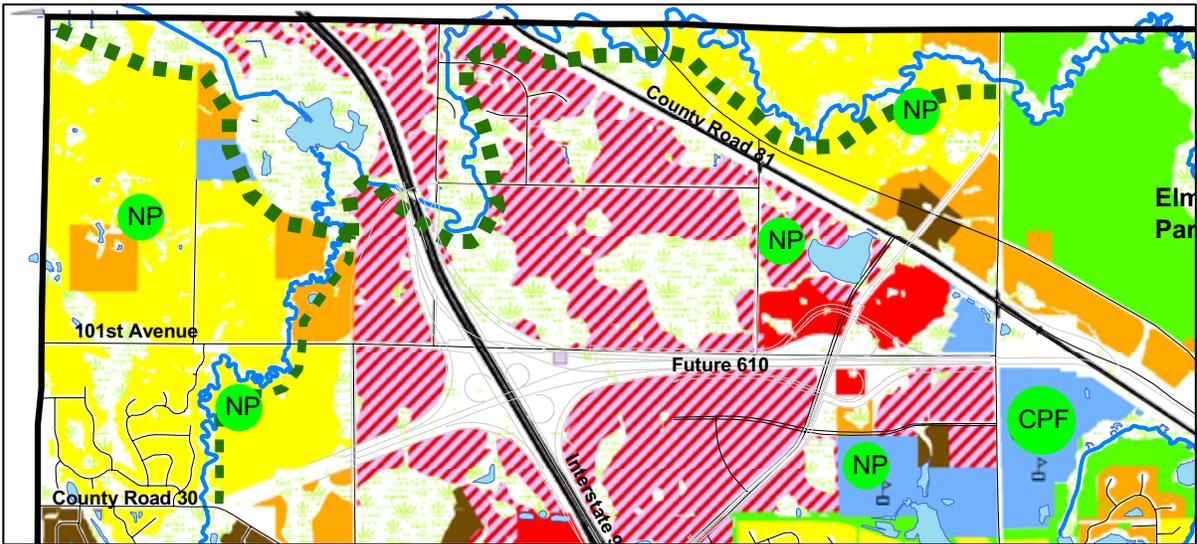
The land use designations in this Plan are special to the Gravel Mining Area.



Northwest Maple Grove Land Use Plan Scenarios



This Land Use Scenario is reflective of no 105th Ave interchange at Interstate 94.



This Land Use Scenario is reflective of a 105th Ave interchange at Interstate 94.

- Low-Medium Density Residential
- Medium-Density Residential
- High-Density Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Mixed-Use Development
- Public and Semi-Public
- Park, Golf Course or Protected Open Space (Public or Private)
- Wetland or Floodplain
- NP Neighborhood Park
- CPF Community Playfield
- Linear Park
- Regional Trail
- Schools

This map is a general, conceptual guide to land development. It is subject to change and interpretation by the City Council. Further direction is provided by guidelines in the plan text.

