



Park System Master Plan

CITY OF
MANSFIELD, OHIO

DRAFT
For Administration
and City Council Review Only

April 1, 2020

Prepared by:





Acknowledgements

Prepared for the City of Mansfield, Ohio

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Introduction

The primary purpose of this report is to provide the City of Mansfield with a community - based description of its current parks and recreation issues, identified needs and realistic recommendations.

The plan will guide decision making in regards to capital improvements and improvements to existing park space for the future. It is anticipated that the plan will identify needed facility improvements and development standards for said improvements; analyze outdoor facility needs, including the designation of potential park, recreation, open space/greenway areas and bikeways; develop language and preliminary conceptual layouts of how these improvements will be incorporated into existing park land. Based on a needs assessment and projected budgetary restraints, the City will use this plan to identify development scenarios for existing and future park space.

The implementation of this master plan will embody the City's desire to provide the highest quality parks and recreation facilities for this ever changing community. This long-term vision can be achieved through the identification of realistic, yet, innovative strategies for improvements throughout the entire park system. The objective being to create a park system that helps to continually improve the image and community pride already found throughout the Mansfield community.

It is intended that this Master Plan will be a flexible document, presenting findings that are evaluated, validated and/or modified periodically as the City responds to unforeseen opportunities and constraints. Periodic updates of the Master Plan are anticipated at approximately five-year intervals.





Inventory and Analysis

Regional Context

The City of Mansfield, located in Richland County Ohio, lies approximately 65 miles northeast of Columbus, 65 miles southwest of Cleveland, and 91 miles southeast of Toledo.

The City was founded in 1808 and incorporated as a City in 1857, encompasses nearly 31 square miles of land area in Richland County.

Demographics (Wikipedia)

As of the 2010 census, there were 47,821 people, 18,696 households, and 10,655 families residing in the city. The population density was 1,549.1 inhabitants per square mile. There were 22,022 housing units at an average density of 713.4 per square mile. The racial makeup of the city was 73.3% White, 22.1% African American, 0.2% Native American, 0.7% Asian, 0.1% Pacific Islander, 0.5% from other races, and 3.0% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 1.9% of the population.

There were 18,696 households of which 27.5% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 36.0% were married couples living together, 16.6% had a female householder with no husband present, 4.4% had a male householder with no wife present, and 43.0% were non-families. 37.1% of all households were made up of individuals and 14.6% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.21 and the average family size was 2.88.

The median age in the city was 38.5 years. 20.2% of residents were under the age of 18; 10.1% were between the ages of 18 and 24; 28% were from 25 to 44; 26% were from 45 to 64; and 15.7% were 65 years of age or older. The gender makeup of the city was 53.0% male and 47.0% female.

Regional Park and Recreational Facilities

In addition to its own system of 30 parks and open spaces, ranging in size from the 1/2 acre Betzstone Park to the 84-acre Sterkle Park, the City's parks and recreation and open space needs are being met by a number of public and private entities.

- Kingwood Center Gardens
- Ohio Bird Sanctuary
- Richland Carrousel Park
- Snow Trails Ski Resort
- The Ohio State Reformatory

State of Ohio Parks

- Malabar Farm State Park

Richland County Park District

- Richland B&O Bike Trail
- Gorman Nature Center
- Cole Road Prairie
- Hartman Woods
- Hemlock Falls
- Tugend Road Prairie
- Fleming Falls/Mowana

Mansfield Park System

Currently, the City is responsible for the development, maintenance and programming of an extensive park system spanning thirty parks and totaling 325 acres.

All operations and capital development projects are funded by the City's general fund and the Parks and Recreation Department is funded solely by the P.R.I.D.E levy which is a quarter percent income tax. The entire levy allots fifty percent to Mansfield's Fire and Police departments, twenty-two percent to the Parks and Recreation Department, twenty percent for demolition and eight percent for street lighting. The Parks and Recreation Department allotment equals \$816,000 this year. These funds support all the maintenance of the park facilities that includes mowing, landscaping and repair, including the upkeep for five enclosed pavilions.

The City's Youth Athletic Association offers youth tee ball, baseball, softball and tackle football and utilizes ball diamonds owned and maintained by the City. In addition, Mansfield has expanded its recreation programs to include a range of family activities throughout the year including a family craft night once every month.

Park and Open Space Standards

One outcome of the master plan is to develop planning standards that represent the community's preferred level of service related to the amount, type and distribution of parks and open space.

For the purposes of this study, the City's parks and open space facilities have been classified into categories according to the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) standards.

These standards will be used to measure the level of service within existing neighborhoods. The standards will also identify the potential needs of the growing areas of the community. The end result will be a customized hierarchical system of parks that are adaptable to the specific functional, location and resource preservation needs of the Village.

The NRPA suggests that the community be served by various types of parks that are reasonably distributed throughout the community and that there be 6.25 to 10.5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

Community Parks:

Parks that serve the needs of the entire community or group of neighborhoods within a 1 to 1 - 1/2 mile radius. Ideal access is via non-residential arterial or collector streets. Developed amenities should include a balance of active and passive uses.

NRPA standard size: 25+ acres with 5 to 8 developed acres per 1000 population.

City of Mansfield: 305.7 acres with 6.4 acres per 1000 population.

Neighborhood Parks:

Parks that are intended to function as the basic unit of a city park system by serving the needs of individual or combined neighborhoods within a 1/4 to 1/2 mile radius. Ideal access is via residential streets with connections to bikeway, trail, and greenway system. Neighborhood parks should have a balance of passive and active amenities and are not intended for programmed activities such as active sports uses. Neighborhood parks can also include elementary schools as joint school-park sites.

NRPA standard size: 5 acres (park only without school) with 1 to 2 developed acres per 1000 population.

City of Mansfield: 33.5 acres with 0.7 acres per 1000 population.

Mini Parks:

Typically the smallest unit of a park system, mini-parks serve limited or isolated recreational needs within a 1/4 mile radius. Facilities may also be specialized in use such as for children or senior adults and can include passive or active amenities.

NRPA standard size: 1-acre less developed (typically between 2500 SF or less than 5-acres) with 1/4 to 1/2 acre per 1000 population.

City of Mansfield: 0.1 acres with 0.002 acres per 1000 population.

Joint Use Facilities:

For the purposes of this study, joint use facilities mainly include school sites that are not owned by the City but are currently used for park and recreation uses. NRPA typically classifies this type of facility as a School-Park site within the Neighborhood Park category if there are joint ownership and maintenance agreements in place.

NRPA does not list size standards for this type of facility.

Special Use Areas:

Special Use Facilities include areas for single purpose recreational activities such as golf courses or senior centers or sites of significant cultural significance. Special use facilities typically serve an entire community and are unique to a particular place.

Site size and characteristics vary depending upon desired use.

n/a

Natural Resource Areas and Preserves:

This type of open space or parkland is set aside for preservation due to significant natural characteristics, as an open space buffer for other development, or to save remnants of landscapes that are unique to a particular place.

Site size and characteristics vary depending upon desired use.

Bikeways, Trails, and Greenways:

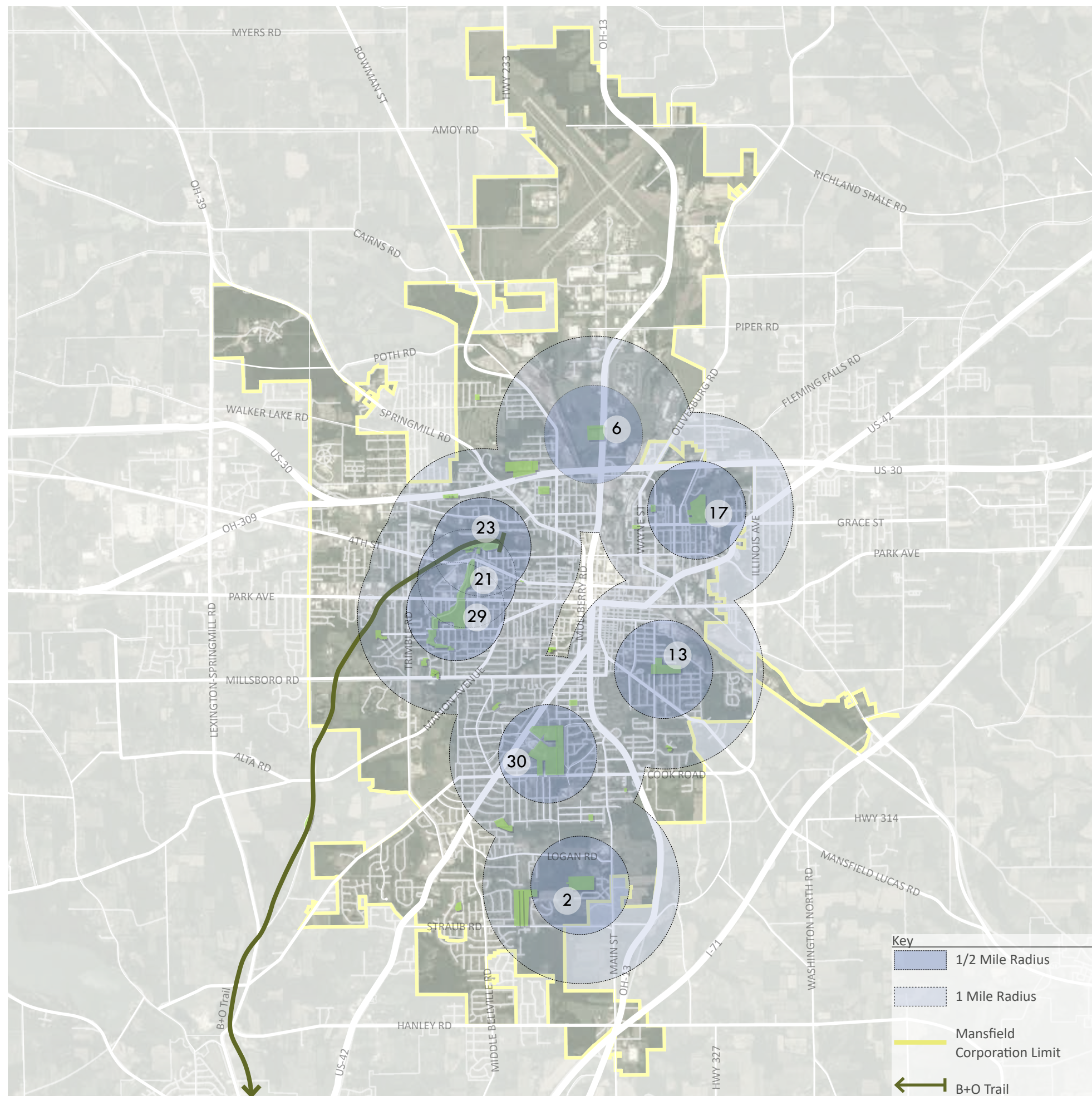
These linear segments serve to connect community facilities such as schools, parks, and other places containing the civic structure of a community to one another and to neighborhoods. Bikeways, Trails, and Greenways follow natural corridors such as rivers, wooded areas or open spaces and cultural (man-made) corridors including streets, highways, railways, easements, and utility routes. They can serve to preserve natural resources, provide transportation linkages, and become recreation sites in and of themselves.

Site size and characteristics vary depending upon desired use.

City of Mansfield:

- North/South Linear Connector: +/- 1.5 Miles
- East/West Linear Connectors: +/- 3.6 Miles (4th Street & Park Ave.)
- Richland B&O Trail within City limits: +/- 3.0 Miles

Mansfield Community City Parks Location Map

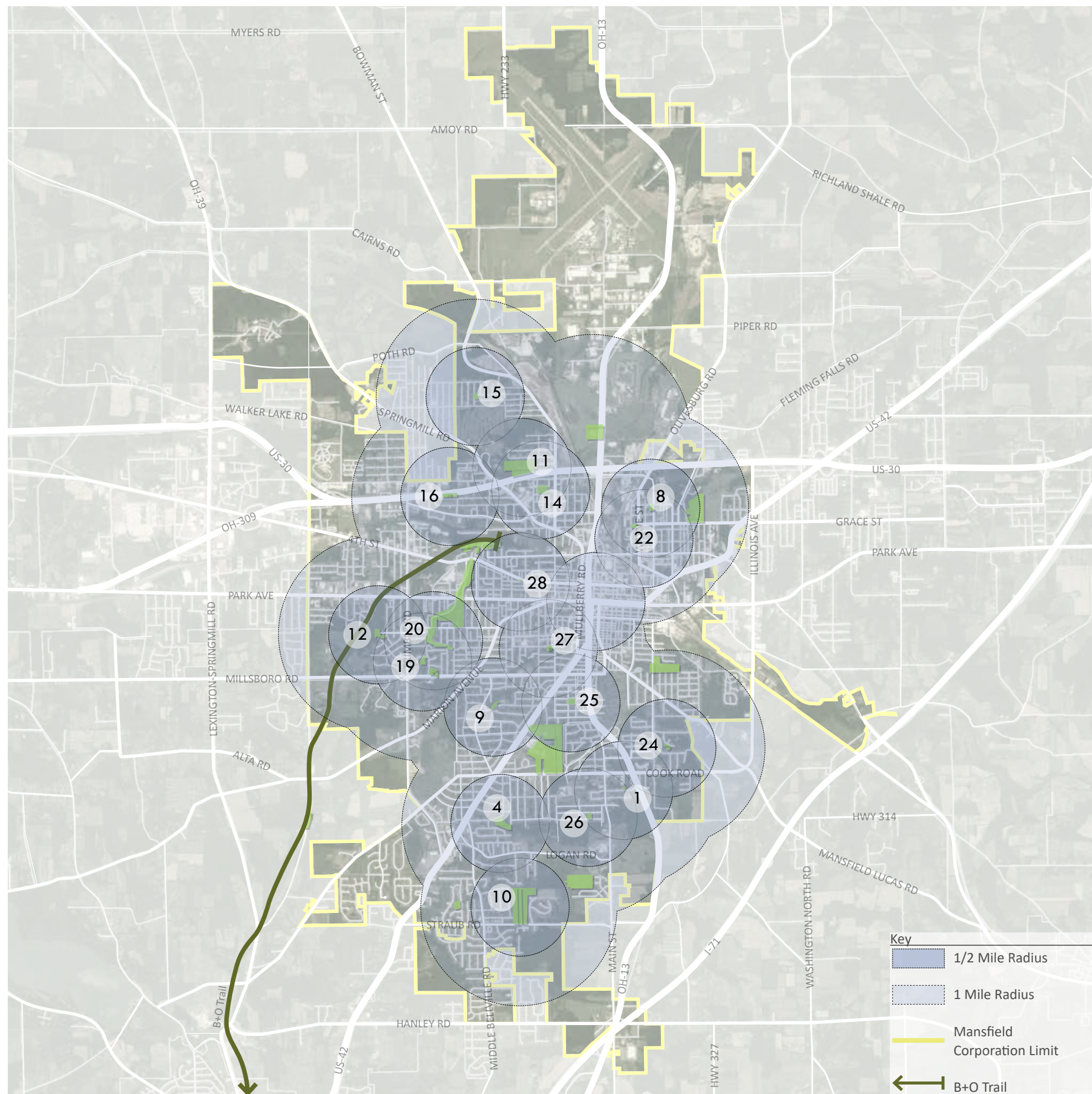


- 1 Betzstone Park
- 2** Brushwood Park
- 3 Buckeye Park
- 4 Burton Park
- 5 Central Park
- 6** Cyclops Field
- 7 Deer Park
- 8 Dewey and Vine Field
- 9 Dickson Park
- 10 Fox Glen Park
- 11 Hamilton Park
- 12 Harvard Park
- 13** John Todd Park
- 14 Johns Park
- 15 Julia Underhill Park
- 16 King Street Park
- 17** Liberty Park
- 18 Linden Pool
- 19 Linden Woods Park
- 20 Maple Lake Park
- 21** Middle Park
- 22 Newman Street Park
- 23** North Lake Park
- 24 Optimist Park
- 25 Prospect Park
- 26 Redwood Park
- 27 Ritters Run park
- 28 Sherman Estate Park
- 29** South Park
- 30** Sterkel Park

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Mansfield Neighborhood City Parks Location Map

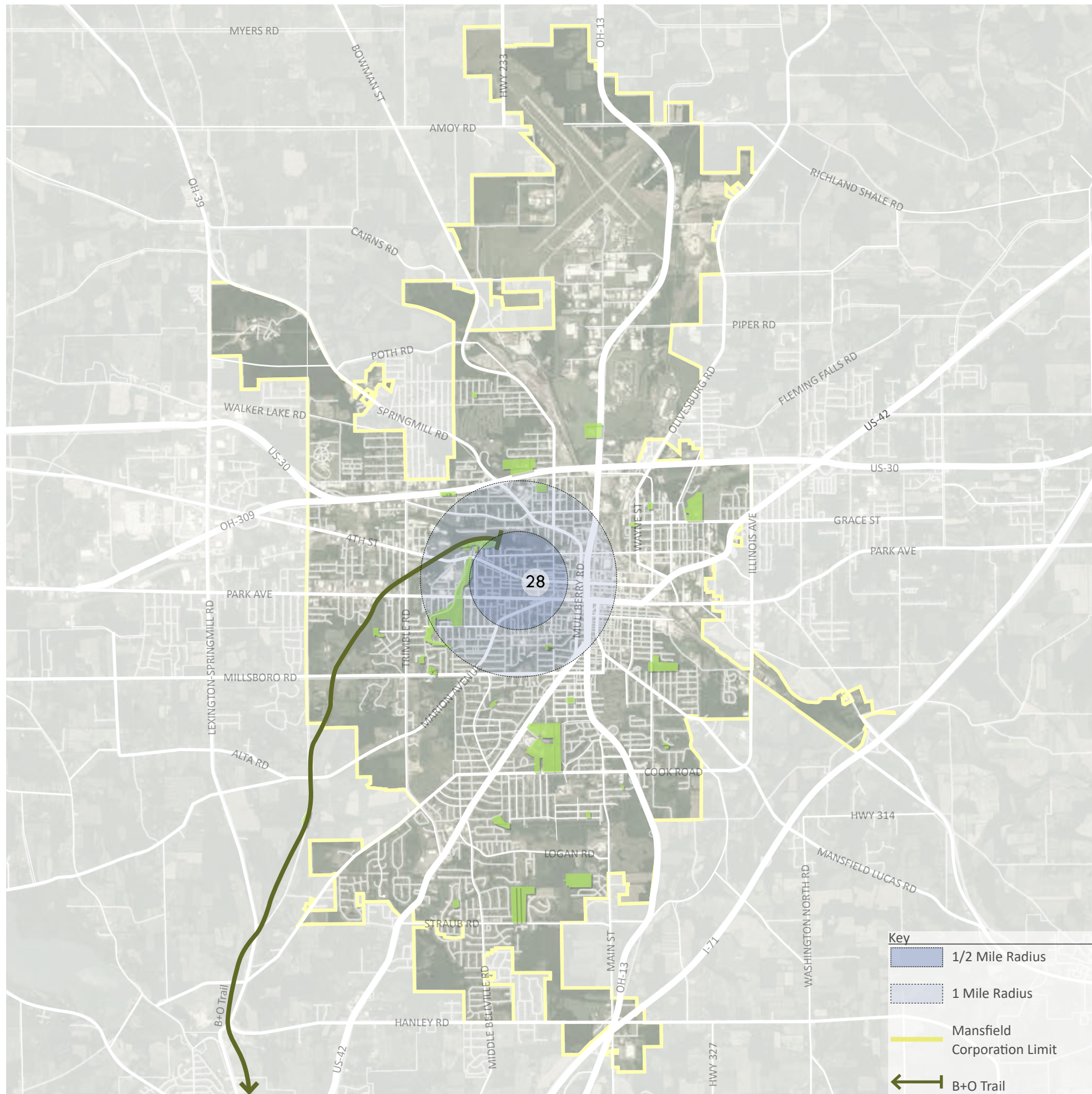


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Mansfield Mini City Parks Location Map

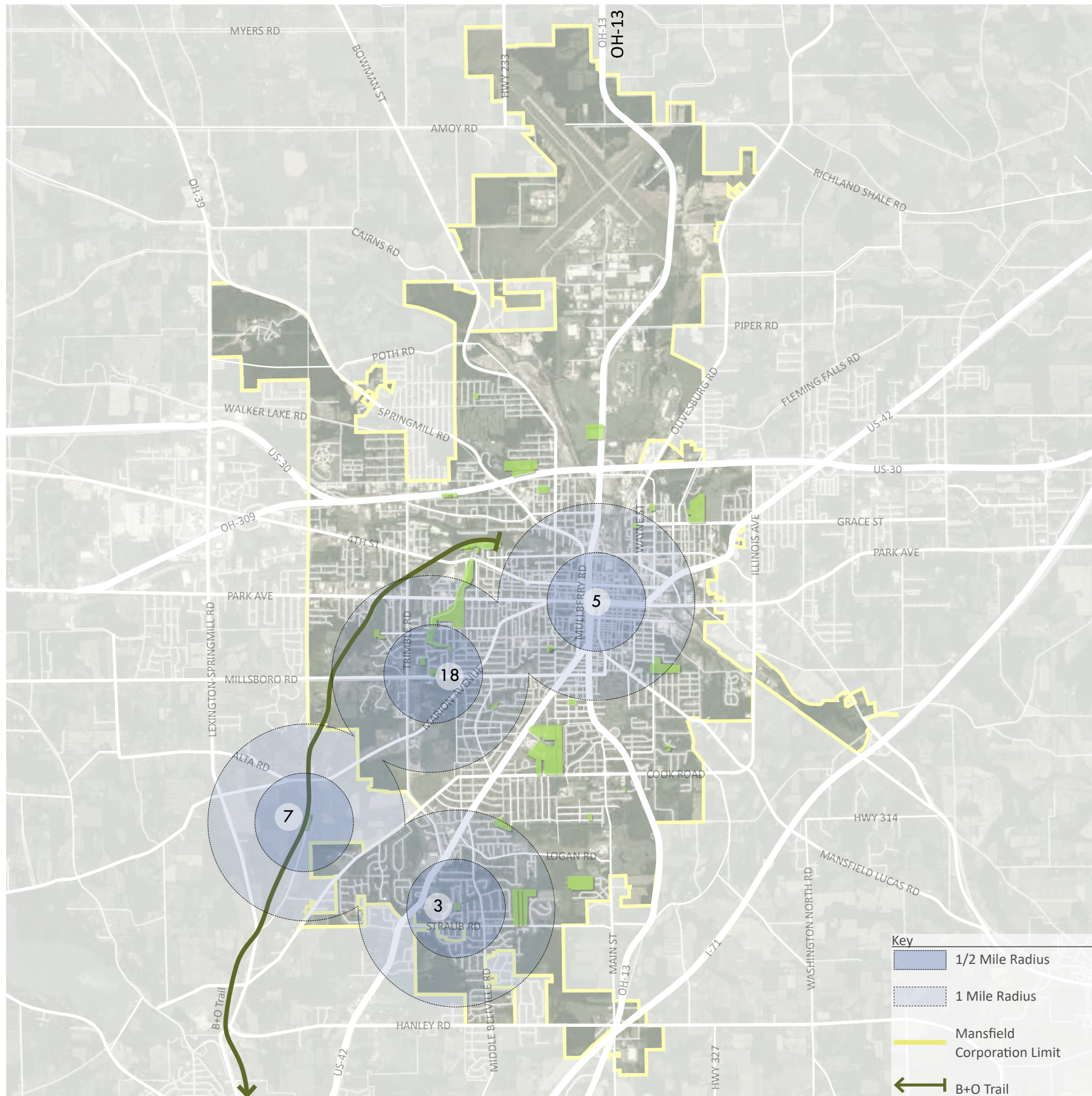


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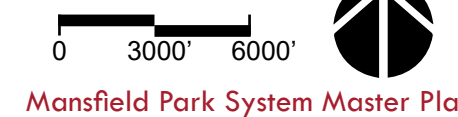


Mansfield Special Use City Parks Location Map



- 1 Betzstone Park
- 2 Brushwood Park
- 3 Buckeye Park**
- 4 Burton Park
- 5 Central Park**
- 6 Cyclops Field
- 7 Deer Park**
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	Park Name	Road Frontage / Access	Parcel	Ownership	Baseball / Softball Field	Basketball Court	Lake / Pond for Fishing	Grills	Open Lawn Area	Plenic Area	Plants / Wildlife	Playground	Shelter	Indoor Pavilion	Soccer / Sports Field	Swimming Pool	Tennis Courts	Trails / Trail Access	Volleyball Courts	Gazebo	Horse Shoe Pit	Corn Hole	Monuments & Historical Features	Water Feature / Fountain	Misc. Buildings	Community Gardens	Restrooms	Undeveloped	Community Acreage	Neighborhood Acreage	Mini Park Acreage	Special Use Acreage																													
1	Betzstone	Betzstone Avenue	270750027000	City of Mansfield								x																	0.4																																
2	Brushwood	Brushwood Drive	589350005000	City of Mansfield																							x	21.4																																	
3	Buckeye	Riva Ridge Drive	569214302027	City of Mansfield																						x					2.5																														
4	Burton	Sunset Boulevard	569250002000	City of Mansfield				x	x	x		x	x	x		x										x			7.5																																
5	Central	Park Street	N/A	City of Mansfield R.O.W.						x										x			x								2.3																														
6	Cyclops Field	N. Main Street	289003702004 289003618001	City of Mansfield	x							x												x			x		15.3																																
7	Deer	Home Road South	261150002000 372850005000	City of Mansfield														x							x						4.5																														
8	Dewey & Vine	Vine Street	270509814000	City of Mansfield	x				x																					1.7																															
9	Dickson	Davis Road	270750007000	City of Mansfield				x	x	x		x											x							1.5																															
10	Fox Glen	Straub Road	589350006000 589350007000 589350008000	City of Mansfield				x		x	x		x					x												36.8																															
11	Hamilton	Fern Avenue	270450045000 270450060000 270450037000	City of Mansfield	x	x		x	x	x		x	x														x			24.7																															
12	Harvard	Harvard Ave.	270250019000	City of Mansfield					x		x																			3.1																															
13	John Todd	Bowers Ave.	270650004000 270650005000 289050068000	City of Mansfield	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x							x							x			18.1																															
14	Johns	Johns Ave.	270450002000	City of Mansfield	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x													x			4.9																															
15	Julia Underhill	Dillon Road	270450041000	City of Mansfield				x	x	x		x														x				1.3																															
16	King Street	King Street	270450071000 270450072000 270450073000 270450074000 270450075000 270450076000 270450077000 270450078000	City of Mansfield				x	x	x		x	x																		3.1																														
17	Liberty	Grace Street	270550006000	City of Mansfield	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x								x		x			25.4																															
18	Linden Pool	Donald Court	270207501000 270207502000 270207503000 270207504000 270207505000 270207506000 270207507000 270207508000 270207509000 270207511000 270207512000 270207513000	City of Mansfield																												3.1																													
19	Linden Woods	Linden Circle West	270209703017	City of Mansfield					x																					1.9																															
20	Maple Lake	Fairlawn Avenue	270250001000	City of Mansfield	x	x		x		x		x	x												x					10.2																															
21	Middle	Rowland Avenue	270350009000	City of Mansfield				x	x	x	x		x						x								x			17.9																															
22	Newman Street	Newman Street	270550033000	City of Mansfield				x	x	x		x																		1.4																															
23	North Lake	Westbrook Ave.	270350009000 270350010000 270303011000 (N/A) 270303011001 270303012002 270303012003 270303014000 270350082000	City of Mansfield				x	x	x	x	x	x	x																	20.2																														
24	Optimist	Carol Lane	289012811001 289050009000 289012813000	City of Mansfield				x		x		x																			1.2																														
25	Prospect	Marquis Avenue	270750001000	City of Mansfield	x			x	x	x		x	x	x	x													x			2.6																														
26	Redwood	Redwood Road	270750017000	City of Mansfield					x	x		x																			1.5																														
27	Ritters Run	Ohio St.	270150207000 270150208000 270150209000 270150213000 270150210000 270150206000	City of Mansfield				x		x		x																			1.5																														
28	Sherman Estate	Sherman Pl.	270350007000	City of Mansfield																								x			0.1																														
29	South Park	Binkerhoff Avenue	270250003000	City of Mansfield				x	x	x	x	x	x												x	x	x			35.0																															
30	Sterkel	Hollywood Ln.	289050090000 289050089000	City of Mansfield				x	x	x	x	x	x															x			80.7																														
																										Total:																																305.7	33.5	0.1	12.3
																										Total Acreage																																		351.7	

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Community Input/Needs Assessment

Approach and Methodology

Due to the number and distribution of open space that the City is currently accustomed to and the valued historic character existing throughout the community, it was determined that a “Community Outreach” approach that involved input from the general public and City staff was the best approach for assistance in the development of this master plan.

The community outreach involved several steps:

- Household Park System Survey
- Parks & Recreation Staff input
- Public meeting

As an initial step, the physical site amenities within each of the existing parks were inventoried. Unique characteristics specific to each park were identified and measured against all other parks within the system. Then, national standards were applied to help determine whether the current level of service being provided to the community was appropriate.

Since this is the first parks system master plan undertaken by the City of Mansfield, this effort will provide the means to observe trends that are important for the park system now and into the future.

Household Survey for Parks

A ‘Survey Monkey’ on-line community survey was created to solicit input from all community members and supporters of the Mansfield community. The survey asked residents to respond with specific questions regarding the existing state and condition of the City’s parks and open space and how the City should invest in and focus on in future development of its parks. The survey was made available to the public via the City’s website from May 1st through June 8th, 2019. The public was notified and made aware of the on-line survey through a variety of public notifications. They were:

1. The Spring Cityline Newsletter

Residents of Mansfield were reminded in the Mayor’s newsletter to participate in the on-line household survey. Live links were provided to direct people to the appropriate web location to take the survey.

2. Utility Bill Insert

A single sheet insert was included in the May 2019 water & sewer bills of over 19,000 City of Mansfield residential and business properties notifying them of the opportunity to take the household survey. This also

included rental properties.

3. Community-Wide E-mail

Specific directed e-mails were sent to those residents currently on the City’s contact list, as well as, specifically targeted individuals previously involved in the City’s public clean-up events, the Mansfield Bloom Committee and the Chamber of Commerce.

4. Social Media Posts & Press Releases

A City-wide press release was issued and notifications to the following social media sites were posted:

- The Parks & Recreation Facebook page
- Earth Stewardship Celebration
- City of Mansfield Shade Tree Commission
- Mansfield Storm Water Management
- Richland News and Information Facebook page
- Twitter
- Facebook

Mayor, City Council and Parks & Recreation Staff Input

The Mayor and Mansfield Parks and Recreation staff members were also involved in an interactive brainstorming session to provide ideas on the ways in which the City provides services to the community through its parks and open spaces.

Additionally, individual interviews were conducted with each City Council member on a one-on-one basis to solicit input and gather feedback regarding the City’s individual parks and park system as a whole.

The value of their knowledge and understanding of the current conditions of each of the park facilities proved to be a valuable part of the planning process.

Public Input Meeting

A single public community meeting was conducted at the North Lake Park Pavilion on Thursday June 27, 2019, in which participants were asked their thoughts on the current state of the parks and open spaces within the Mansfield community and what types of development needs the City should focus on. These highly interactive sessions gathered input and facilitated discussions of the major issues and needs of the parks throughout the community.

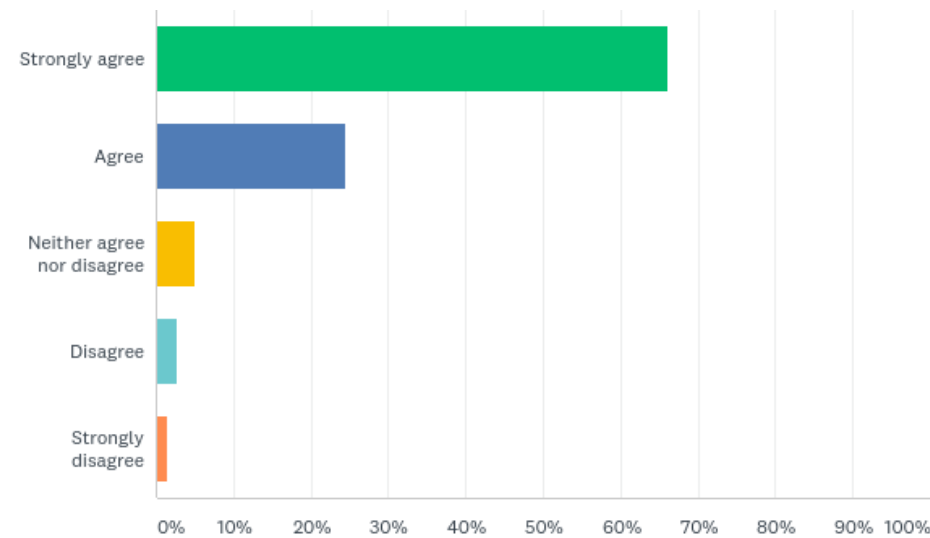


Household Survey Summary

A 'Survey Monkey' on-line household survey was created to solicit input from all community members and supporters of the Mansfield community. The survey asked residents to respond regarding the existing state and condition of the City's parks and open space and how the City should invest in and focus on in future development of its parks. Over 330 households responded with complete surveys. This approach by the park district attempted to offer every resident an opportunity to participate in the park planning process.

The following is a summary of the park system survey results. The entire household survey results, including individual comments, is located in the appendix portion of this document.

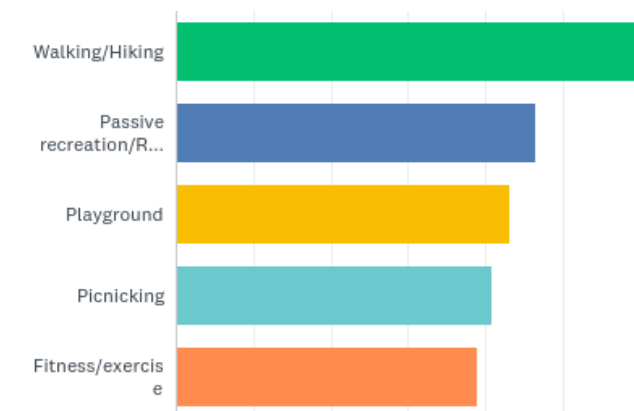
1. Please mark how strongly you agree or disagree with this statement: City park facilities make Mansfield a more livable community?



2. How would you rate park facilities within the Mansfield community?

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	POOR	NO OPINION	TOTAL
Number of parks & outdoor facilities	11.11% 37	57.06% 190	27.93% 93	3.90% 13	333
Amount of active park space (Ballfields, courts, playgrounds, etc.)	5.44% 18	50.76% 168	37.46% 124	6.34% 21	331
Amount of passive park space (Resting, relaxing, watching)	6.34% 21	57.40% 190	30.21% 100	6.04% 20	331
Location of Parks	9.45% 31	62.50% 205	21.04% 69	7.01% 23	328
Maintenance and attractiveness of parks	4.83% 16	38.67% 128	51.06% 169	5.44% 18	331
Accessibility to parks by various age groups	7.25% 24	55.29% 183	23.26% 77	14.20% 47	331

3. Please mark all the ways you currently use Mansfield parks



4. Please rate the following park planning strategies

	HIGH	LOW	NOT A PRIORITY	TOTAL
Develop new large community parks.	34.71% 109	35.03% 110	30.25% 95	314
Develop new small neighborhood parks.	44.79% 142	31.23% 99	23.97% 76	317
Create more scenic/natural open space areas.	60.44% 191	26.58% 84	12.97% 41	316
Enhance & beautify existing parks.	87.04% 282	11.11% 36	1.85% 6	324
Increase safety and security in the parks.	85.71% 276	11.49% 37	2.80% 9	322
Have fewer but better quality parks.	41.03% 128	33.65% 105	25.32% 79	312
Add fields for softball/baseball/soccer.	26.71% 82	44.30% 136	28.99% 89	307
Add courts for tennis/basketball/pickleball.	33.33% 104	40.38% 126	26.28% 82	312

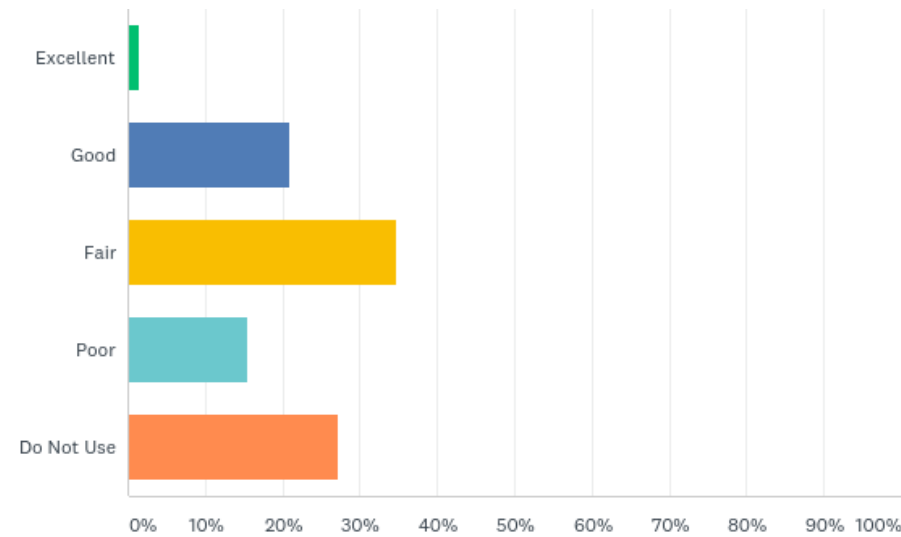
5. Please indicate which parks you use by rating how well they satisfy your park needs?

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	(NO LABEL)	TOTAL
South Park	28.65% 51	35.96% 64	21.35% 38	14.04% 25	0.00% 0	178
North Lake	13.61% 23	43.20% 73	30.77% 52	12.43% 21	0.00% 0	169
Maple Lake	10.24% 13	44.88% 57	33.86% 43	11.02% 14	0.00% 0	127
Sterkel	15.20% 19	43.20% 54	26.40% 33	15.20% 19	0.00% 0	125
Burton	14.17% 17	46.67% 56	30.00% 36	9.17% 11	0.00% 0	120

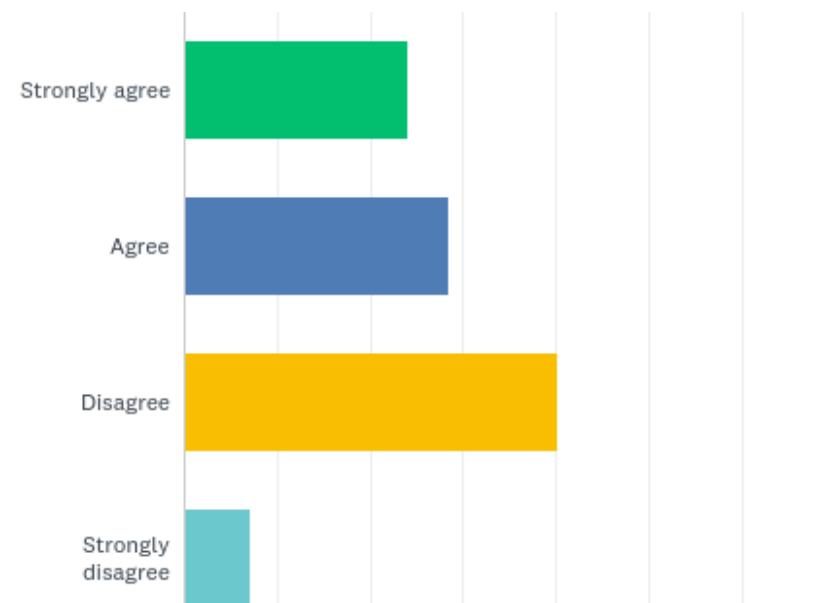
6. Please indicate which parks you use by rating how well they satisfy your park needs?

	EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	(NO LABEL)	TOTAL
Linden Pool	0.90% 1	16.22% 18	15.32% 17	67.57% 75	0.00% 0	111
Middle	8.49% 9	23.58% 25	27.36% 29	40.57% 43	0.00% 0	106
John Todd	4.62% 3	18.46% 12	36.92% 24	40.00% 26	0.00% 0	65

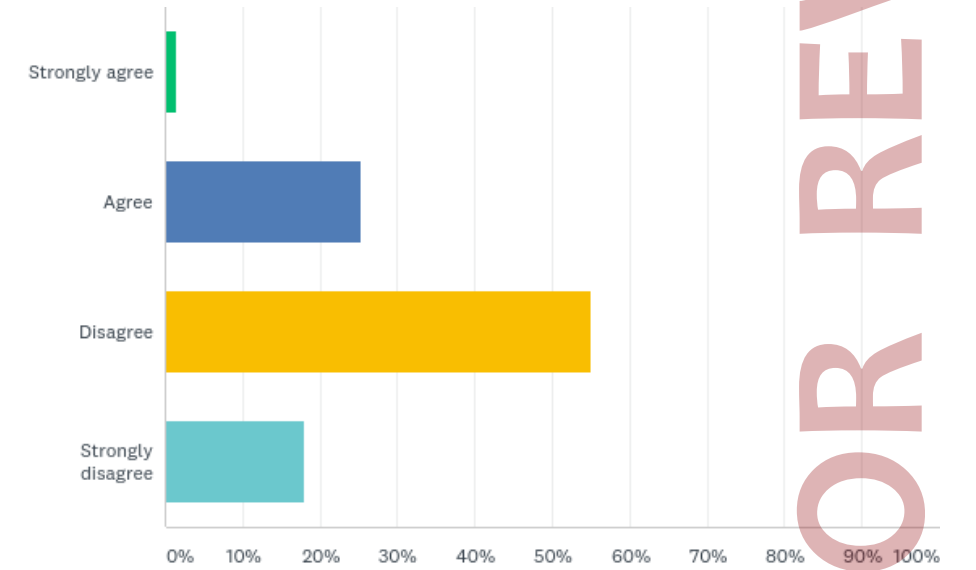
7. Thinking of the playgrounds and play equipment at the parks you use, how would you rate the playgrounds and play equipment?



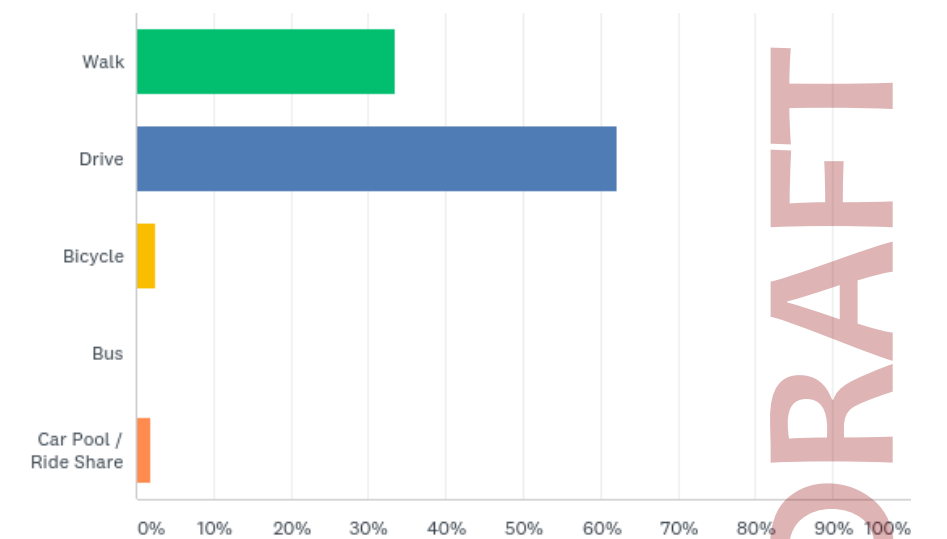
8. Please mark how strongly you agree or disagree with this statement: The City of Mansfield needs more parks and open spaces?



9. Please mark how strongly you agree or disagree with this statement: The physical condition and maintenance of City park facilities is adequate?

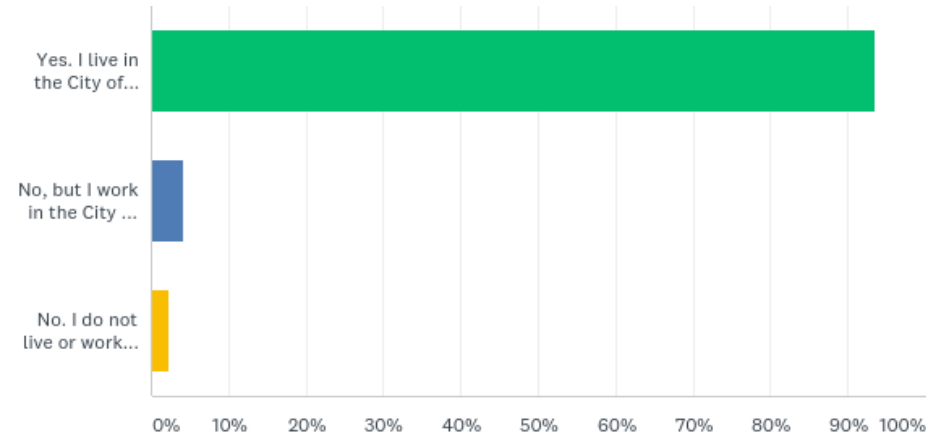


10. Please indicate the primary way you or your family travel to the parks?

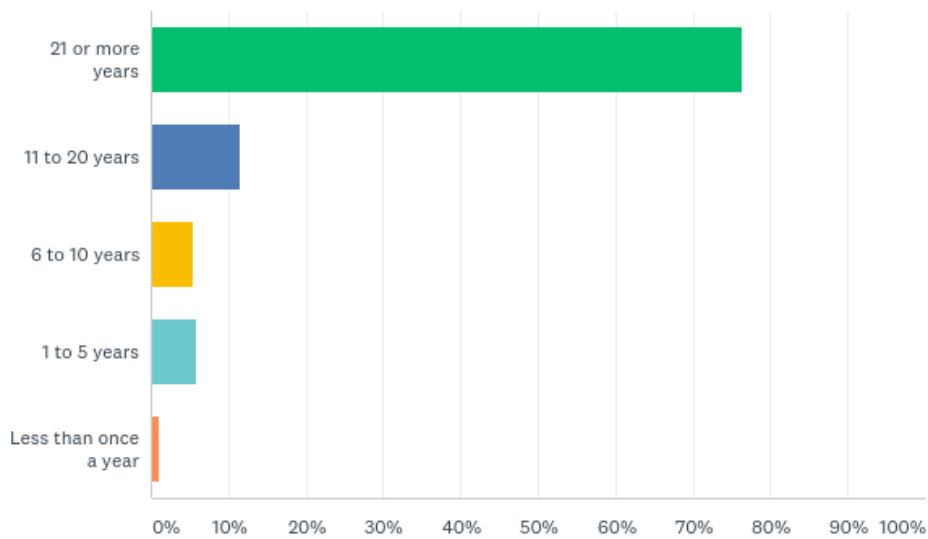


Survey Demographics

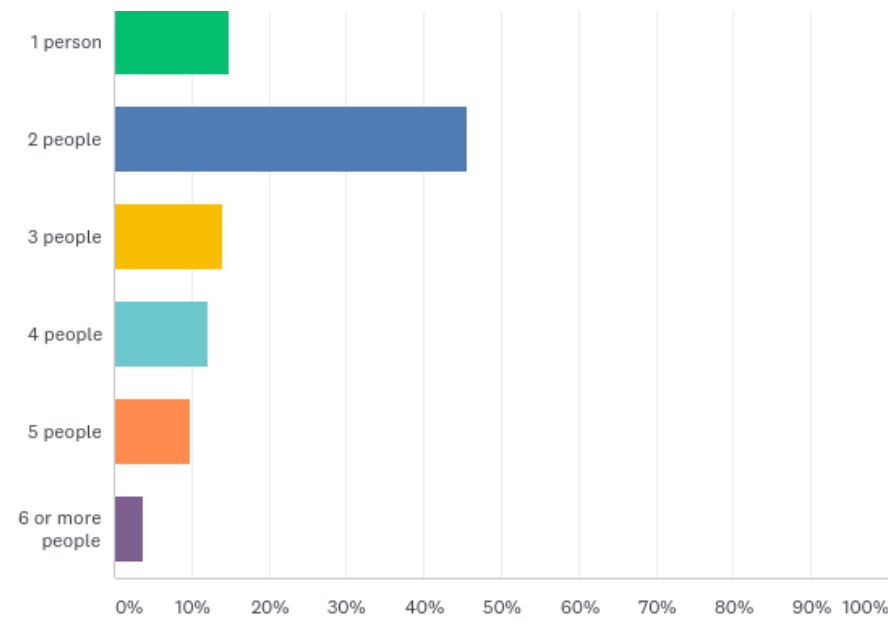
11. Are you a resident of the City of Mansfield?



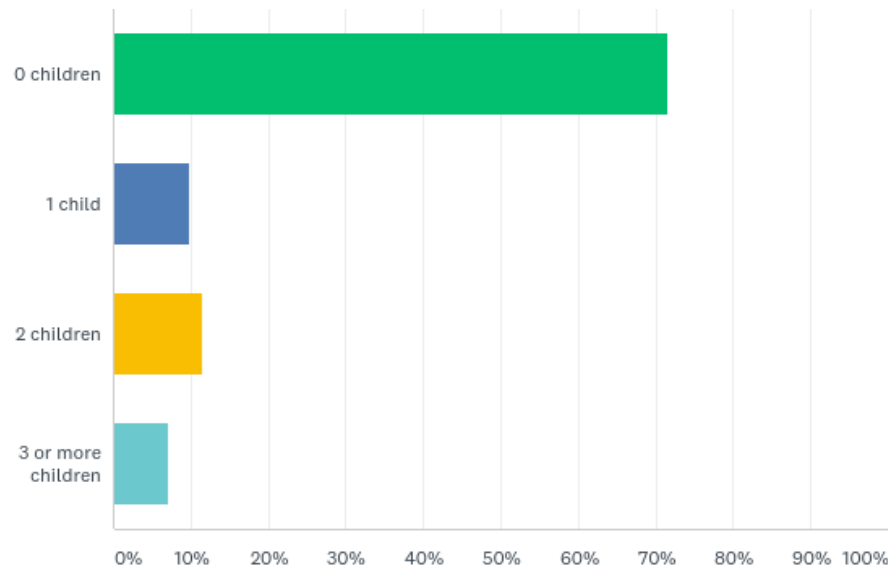
12. How long have you lived in Mansfield or the surrounding area?



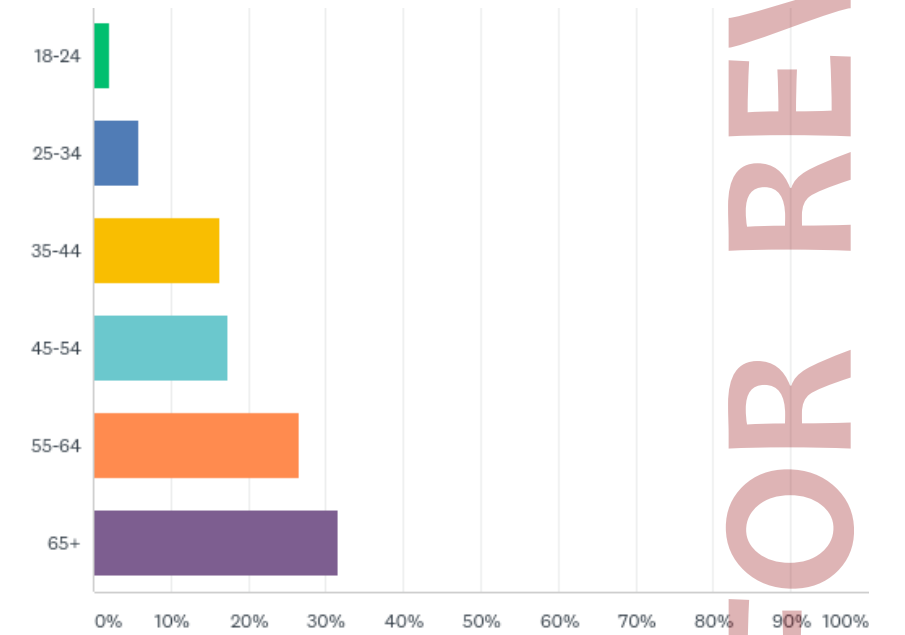
13. How many people reside in your household?



14. How many school age children reside in your household?

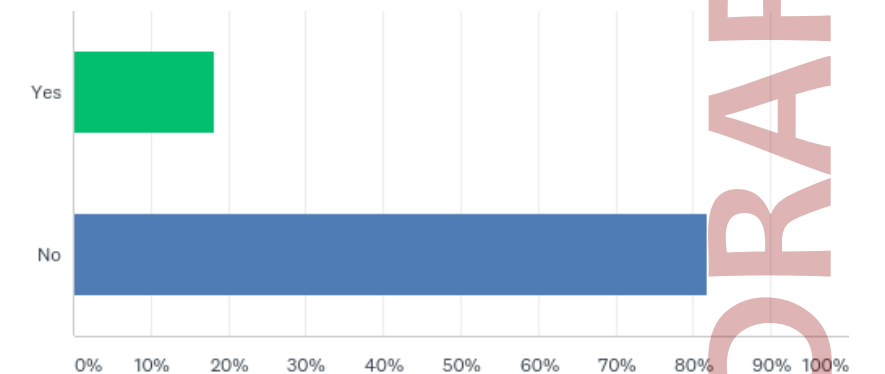


15. Your age?



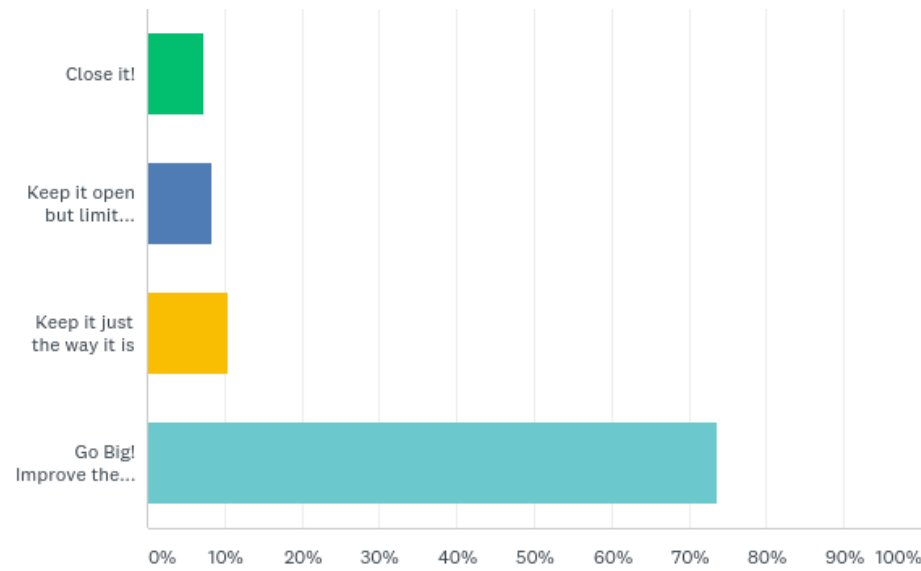
Aquatics Related Questions

16. Do you feel that Mansfield's pools meet the needs of the community?



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

17. Regarding The Future of the Community Pool:



18. Level of agreement with the following statements

	STRONGLY DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	N/A	TOTAL
Keeping a Community Pool open is important to this community	9.76% 29	5.72% 17	29.29% 87	49.83% 148	5.39% 16	297
Members of my family plan to use the pool next year	18.18% 54	16.50% 49	15.49% 46	10.10% 30	39.73% 118	297
I plan to go to a different pool next year	9.43% 28	9.43% 28	12.12% 36	14.14% 42	54.88% 163	297
The city should sell the complex and let someone else run it	26.60% 79	23.57% 70	19.87% 59	8.08% 24	21.89% 65	297

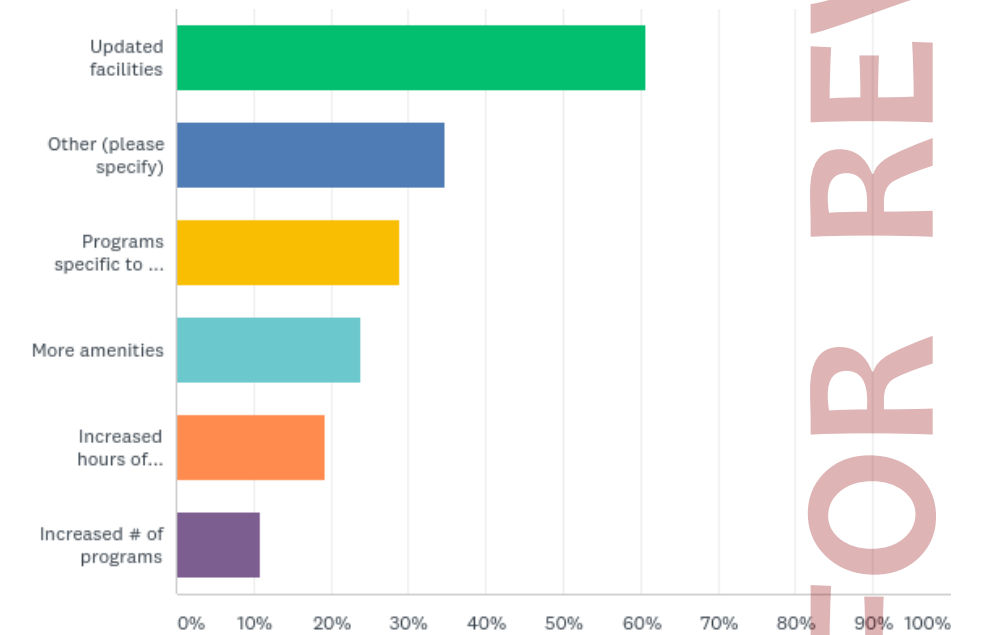
19. If we have a city pool open, how important are the following existing features:

	NOT IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Toddler Pool	5.05% 15	8.75% 26	36.36% 108	49.83% 148	297
Changing Rooms>Showers	4.71% 14	13.13% 39	34.68% 103	47.47% 141	297
Concession Stand/Snack Bar	14.81% 44	27.27% 81	36.03% 107	21.89% 65	297
Lap Pool	24.92% 74	26.26% 78	28.62% 85	20.20% 60	297
Basketball Court	47.14% 140	22.56% 67	19.87% 59	10.44% 31	297
Diving Boards	30.98% 92	34.01% 101	26.60% 79	8.42% 25	297

20. Please rank the importance of the following features if they were to be added to the pool complex

	NOT IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Baby Pool	7.74% 23	18.18% 54	37.37% 111	36.70% 109	297
Walk in Pool (zero entry pool)	18.71% 55	23.47% 69	31.29% 92	26.53% 78	294
Lockers	16.55% 49	29.73% 88	30.07% 89	23.65% 70	296
Spray Fountains	20.95% 62	35.81% 106	25.00% 74	18.24% 54	296
Splash Pad	29.05% 86	29.39% 87	23.99% 71	17.57% 52	296
Water Slide	22.11% 65	37.41% 110	26.53% 78	13.95% 41	294
Lazy River	47.80% 141	28.47% 84	13.56% 40	10.17% 30	295
Sand Volleyball Court	46.28% 137	32.77% 97	16.22% 48	4.73% 14	296
Arcade Area	78.23% 230	15.31% 45	3.74% 11	2.72% 8	294

21. If you're currently not utilizing the pool, or are using it infrequently, what would increase your attendance?



Public Input Meeting

A public input meeting was conducted on June 27, 2019 at the North Park Pavilion located within North Park. Combined, approximately 47 people attended and offered comments. Short introductory presentations were made by Mark Abrams, Parks and Recreation Director and discussions were led by the EMH&T planning team. The presentation included a powerpoint presentation summarizing the results from the Household Survey for the group to consider. The presentation was followed by an open forum discussion.

The following comments and issues were discussed at the meeting:

Some type of community education would be helpful to make people aware of what parks and recreation has to offer to the community. Many in attendance claimed to have never received any information regarding the household survey. Create a better information outreach system.

- Social media
- Local media
- Get the word out

Mansfield is a 'Nostalgic Community' and the parks should represent that feeling. Can we use the park system as an opportunity to promote good things that are happening within the community?

Please provide sidewalks and/or parking spaces in the community's "top parks".

Sidewalks throughout the City would be nice to connect neighborhoods and not force people to walk in the street.

The City's youth should have input into the proposed improvements.

We would like the parks and aquatic spaces to address accessibility issues and be inclusive

- This was listed as a "top priority"
- Also mentioned was the desire for an accessible play space at Prospect Park specifically

There is no need to add additional park space, fix up and remediate the current parks.

Strong desire to see nice affordable pools in more than just one neighborhood.

Site furnishings, equipment, tables, benches in parks should not be moveable to avoid vandalism and theft.

Residents said that they would like to see true pedestrian friendly connections between parks to facilitate bike riding and walking to provide a safe North/South connection.

Address safety issues in parks through increased visibility, police presence, cameras and safety kiosks.

Provide programs and activities in parks such as: Farmers Markets, Gardening Classes, Fitness Classes, Rock Wall Climbing, etc.

Please repair the steps going down into South Park.

Please improve and increase signage within all of the parks.

Increased maintenance on all park restrooms. It would also be convenient if they were actually opened during the day.

Create Public Art Spaces to reduce vandalism.

There was general agreement that providing a skate park would be a great amenity in the community. It would keep people from going to other cities and towns. A "Concrete Bowl" style was preferred over superficial metal or wood surface structures.

Benefits would be:

- It will help keep kids out of trouble
- It will keep kids off of street and private property
- Try to have materials donated
- Let interested kids and residents donate their time to help build it
- Potential locations would be:
 - Burton Park
 - Hamilton Park
 - Johns Park
 - Liberty Park
 - Maple Lake Park
 - Newman Street
 - North Park

Some residents feel that the "North Side" of town of town has been neglected.

Make use of the existing "Adopt a Park" Program.

Utilize sheep and goats to upkeep lawn areas.

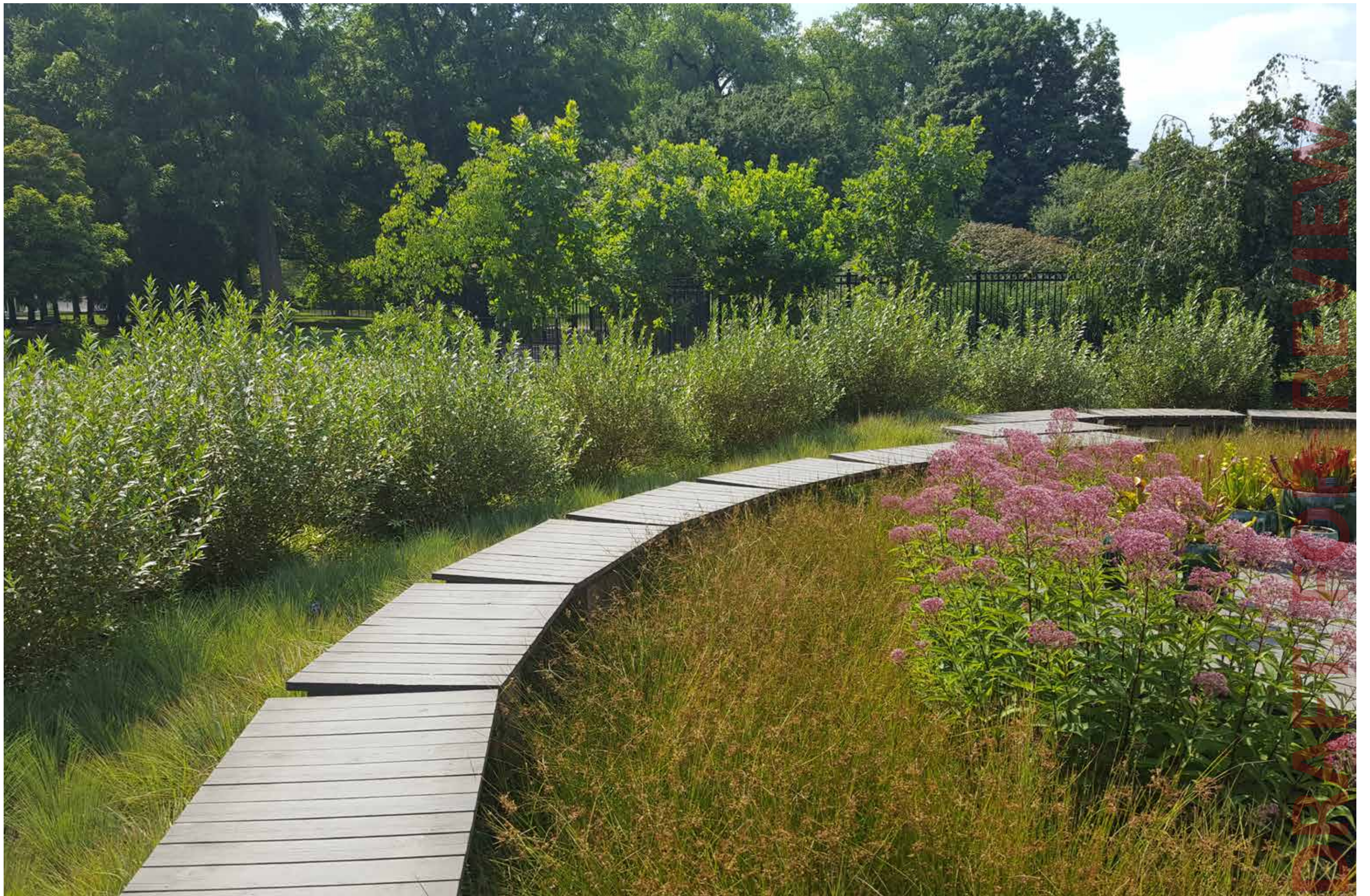
Make a system in which people can sign up to volunteer and/or donate for

the parks and programming.

Julie Parsons "Fun in the Parks" was successful and should be done again.

The public cares about their community, we would like to know how we can help with maintenance and upkeep of facilities.

At the conclusion of the meeting, we encouraged individuals in attendance to talk to their neighbors, children's teachers and friends and reminded them about the importance of their opinions throughout this master plan process.



Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of this master plan were developed through a community based approach. Various meetings were held with the Parks & Recreation Staff to discuss these system-wide recommendations.

Provide equal service to the entire community

- Promote community health and wellness for residents using the parks
- Make all parks welcoming and easily accessible for all levels of users
- Promote all types of public open space within the community regardless of use (active, passive, or natural)
- Provide the community with a variety of park and open space options
- The Parks and Recreation Department should react to the reasonable desires of the community
- Promote Parks and Recreation as an essential City service

Improve the appearance of the current park system

- Create standards for signage, lighting and site furnishings
- Encourage recycling throughout the community
- Establish an improvement strategy to aid the City and the Parks Department in determining order, timing and extent of various park improvements based on available resources

Develop system-wide maintenance standards

- Reduce the amount of manicured mowing and develop no-mow areas within the park where feasible
- Upgrade and maintain all parks to meet high level of safety and quality standards
- Place emphasis on the quality of maintenance of existing parks rather than the acquisition of additional park space
- Provide 'High Level Maintenance' to parks areas with reasonably high visitation and use
- Provide 'Moderate Level Maintenance' to parks areas with moderate levels of visitation, moderate use or budgetary restrictions
- Provide 'Moderately Low Level Maintenance' to parks areas with low levels of visitation, low use, undeveloped open space or budgetary

restrictions

- Consistently reevaluate all parks annually to determine the required level of maintenance needs

Maintain and improve safety within each of the parks

- Provide clear and understandable signage to help enhance the feeling of safety by allowing people to orient themselves within the parks
- Consider formal or informal surveillance or the extent to which park activities can be observed by people to reduce vandalism, inappropriate activities or the perception of isolation
- Enhance lighting to enhance the perception of safety and enhance night time surveillance
- Conduct audits of all playground equipment to identify deficiencies and/or necessary improvements
- Design for all ages and ranges of physical abilities
- Design barrier-free handicapped accessible facilities
- Provide sanitary, modern restroom facilities in community parks when feasible
- Integrate sidewalks and safety crosswalks when feasible

Develop a multi-use trail system strategy

- Create standards for the entire City trail network
- Create a linear multi-use trail network
- Strengthen internal neighborhood connectivity
- Identify and connect important elements throughout the community
- Create a dynamic system that integrates easily into the B&O Trail

Create more efficient use of existing facilities and services

- Pursue and encourage joint uses with schools
- Encourage churches and other community services to share resources
- Do not duplicate services that another adjacent community may already provide
- Identify volunteering opportunities within the community
- Identify alternative funding sources throughout the community

- Create a park foundation to raise funds through public and private partnerships for parks, trails, and recreational programs
- Identify opportunities to return non-park related maintenance practices back to their appropriate City departments (Service Department, Storm Water Department, etc.)

Establish a continuous communication and public awareness campaign

- Focus on the creation of a new park district image and identity as a catalyst for improved community pride
- Make the community aware of current parks and trails, their sizes and components through the quarterly newsletter and the internet
- Provide the community with up-to-date maps and descriptions of all facilities

Partner with other community groups, associations and park districts

- The Richland County Foundation
- Richland Area Chamber of Commerce
- SXS419
- Richland County Parks
- Mansfield City Schools

Pursue private development partnerships for recreation and leisure activities throughout the community

- Encourage local businesses to participate, volunteer, donate services and/or provide sponsorships
- Promote local economic development opportunities through dialogue with the Mayor's office and City Economic Development Director

Recommendations

This chapter outlines a series of recommendations for parks in Mansfield. These recommendations are based on the findings of the community needs assessment and are mainly inclusive of existing park and open space facilities. All of the recommendations are designed to help the City achieve its long-term open space goals.

System-Wide Benefits

Throughout the entire master plan process, The City of Mansfield has held onto a vision for a park system that is one of a walkable, accessible, interconnected park and open space system supporting a wide variety of active recreation and outdoor experiences and opportunities.

This ideal park system should contain a variety of park types, each offering certain types of recreation and/or open space opportunities. While each of the park types found throughout the community may individually serve a primary function, collectively they should all meet the needs of the entire system working toward the overall benefit of the community. In this manner, the park system can serve a wider range of Mansfield residents on variety of levels.

Rarely does an individual park serve a single purpose for visitors. Whether visiting a community park or a neighborhood park, residents typically have several amenities to choose from. Most park users will visit a park, not so much because of what type of park it is, but because of the amenities that it provides. Many parks include, in some form, general open space, picnic shelters, restrooms, playgrounds, community gardens, trails and pathways, benches and other site furnishings and active recreation zones. Each of these parks may individually serve a specific purpose, but together they contribute to the resident or visitor's overall experience.

Each of these features should not all be included in every individual park, but the goal of the parks department should be to have a park serving this variety of needs within walking distance of each resident. Ideally, the full range of basic amenities may be provided at one site, but in some cases, basic park amenity access could be achieved through the combination of several parks within an area for residents to choose.

Upon review, our assessment and consideration of the public comments, there were several uses that were missing that could improve the park system tremendously.

Recreate a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

A Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will provide recommendations in order to enable the City of Mansfield's Department of Parks and Recreation to plan, program and maintain the City's parks and provide recreational program guidance for the general welfare of Mansfield residents. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will advise the City Council, Mayor, Department of Parks and Recreation Director, and other city departments as necessary. Additionally, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will advocate for and develop public interest in the Parks and Recreation Department's activities.

Identify property within the existing park system to develop an aquatic facility

Since the closing of Linden Pool in 2016, Liberty Pool has served as the only option for Mansfield residents in search of outdoor swimming, as Ford Hill and Unity Pools also closed several years prior.

As a signature community destination, the pool and aquatic facility should consider a new modern swimming pool area, zero depth entry area, toddler pool, lap pool, diving pool, slides and pool deck areas containing zones for shade and sunning. The aquatic facility should also contain a modern pool house containing accessible changing areas, lockers, restrooms, concessions and party spaces.

The development of a centrally located pool would help promote a greater sense of community and improve the health and well-being of Mansfield residents. A collaborative, community-based design process should be conducted to engage residents and appropriate stakeholders.

Potential aquatic facility locations may include Liberty Park, Hamilton Park, former 4th Street school site (identified in the 2019 Mansfield Rising Plan), former Cline Avenue school site (identified in the 2019 Mansfield Rising Plan).

Identify property within the existing park system to develop a skatepark

A common comment that continued to surface throughout the community engagement process was the identification of programmed activities for young people, teens and young adults within the community. Specifically the development of a skatepark.

A collaborative, community-based design would be strongly encouraged to engage local youth throughout the community in the skatepark design process. Ultimately, the design should at least consider street sections with rails and ledges, beginner, intermediate and advanced bowls, spectator seating, shaded areas and lighting. A pump track should also be considered as a optional design element.

Potential skatepark locations may include Prospect Park, former 4th Street school site (identified in the 2019 Mansfield Rising Plan), former Cline Avenue school site (identified in the 2019 Mansfield Rising Plan).

Create a series of connected green spaces using the existing open spaces opportunities within the community

The North/South Linear System
Maple Lake Park, South Park, Middle Park, North Lake Park and the B&O Trail are all adjacent to one another, visually connected and yet don't feel physically connected.

Connectivity of all of these open spaces can be achieved by developing a multi-use trail system supported with traffic control devices, signalized crosswalks, tunneling under City streets, signage, maps, literature and a public awareness campaign.

The East/West Linear System
Create standard bike lanes and/or sharrows along 4th street and Park Avenues.

A standard bike lane is a portion of the road set aside by markings for use by bicyclists. Generally placed between the lane of parked cars and the travel lane, bike lanes provide dedicated space for people riding bikes but do not provide physical barriers preventing automobiles from encroaching into the space. Bicycle riders should always ride with traffic.

The term sharrow stands for "shared use arrow" and refers to a visual pavement marking depicting a bicycle beneath a double chevron. A sharrow does not create dedicated space for bicyclists, but is used to communicate to both drivers and bicyclists that a particular roadway is likely to be used by cyclists and where on the roadway cyclists are recommended to ride. Cyclists who understand the markings will generally ride directly over the sharrows if they are placed properly.
The Downtown Urban System

(From the Mansfield Rising Downtown Investment Plan 2019)

With the Carrousel serving as a hub, develop a series of linear parks that make use of existing green spaces, alleys, parking lots, vacant and underutilized properties to connect to the pending Imagination District, Municipal Building, and perimeter parking.

Transform key alleys as destinations and safe walkways by closing them off to vehicular traffic and making their primary function for gathering, exploring, and art. Key opportunity spaces include the alley East of Dan Lew Exchange, Dickson Avenue, Temple Court, and Luther Place.

Continue masterplan improvements to North Lake Park

The continued development of North Lake Park represents one of the City's best opportunities to increase the level of park service within the community. A fully developed North Lake Park will be a very visible commitment to the City. This community park should be designed as a major recreational facility centered around the lake, Touby Run, Richland B&O Trail, the existing pavilion, potential linear trail network and the specific need for active recreation. The current active general open space areas within the park must remain an important program element within the master plan. New playground equipment, shelters and additional parking should also be integrated into a new internal circulation approach.

Integrate 'Central Park' into the park and open space system

Central Park must be designated as an integral part of the City's park system in much the same way as a showcase park. The downtown offers the opportunity for community activity and festivity. It is also an area for passive recreation and enormous historic significance. The downtown makes an extremely positive contribution to the character of the community. This extremely important civic space should be considered into any future development opportunities and future streetscape enhancement projects.

Promote the joint use of school sites and facilities

Several of the City schools are an integral part of many neighborhoods within the community. School sites serve as very important components of the park system. In many cases, outdoor recreation space is generally not available, as school activities are scheduled well into the evening. Improvements to school grounds should be planned in cooperation with the school district and service the widest community use possible. In most cases this would only include the enhancement of passive green spaces, where available for neighborhood recreation uses.

Improve Existing Facilities

Provide modern sanitary restrooms in all community parks and where feasible in neighborhood scale parks. This was a frequently requested element brought up throughout the public process.

Provide picnic shelters with running water and electricity in all community parks. This was a highly requested element that was brought up continuously throughout the public process.

Provide drinking water and electricity within specific neighborhood parks. The request for water and electricity may create the need for additional lighting and security for prevention of vandalism and general safety.

Provide drinking fountains along trails and in passive areas.

Encourage all parks to be "pet friendly"

Create an education campaign that encourages pet owners to follow leash regulations in all public spaces. Provide pet waste stations and drinking water within City parks where feasible.

Implement community-wide connectivity plan by relating all development, infrastructure improvements and zoning plans to the future system.

Throughout the public meetings and mail in surveys, Mansfield residents identified walking and bike trails as an important recreational activity and community need. Pedestrian and bicycle path connectivity will then not only support an important recreational activity but will also satisfy certain transportation needs related to trips to neighborhood schools, access between neighborhoods, trips to downtown, and equally important regional connections to the B&O Trail.

The City must seek opportunities to make system connections as part of all private development and public infrastructure projects when feasible and the property acquired through those means should be usable for specific parks & recreational needs.

Develop a series of nature-based playscapes

Nature based play environments are dynamic, vegetation rich, intentionally designed play spaces that encourage an affinity for nature in all children. Nature playscapes typically use natural materials such as logs, boulders, water, earth forms and plant material, never compromising safety.

Consider the development of an adult fitness zone

Create an outdoor, adult fitness zone or ninja course within one of the City's community parks and along a multi-use trail. As adult obesity continues to increase, encouraging regular physical activity is an important consideration for public health. The City should identify ways to make physical activity and exercise more accessible, available, affordable, pleasurable, and ultimately, more useful.

Potential fitness zone locations may include North Lake Park.

Make inclusive play spaces a priority when considering the re-design of future and existing playgrounds

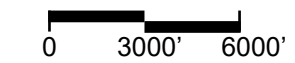
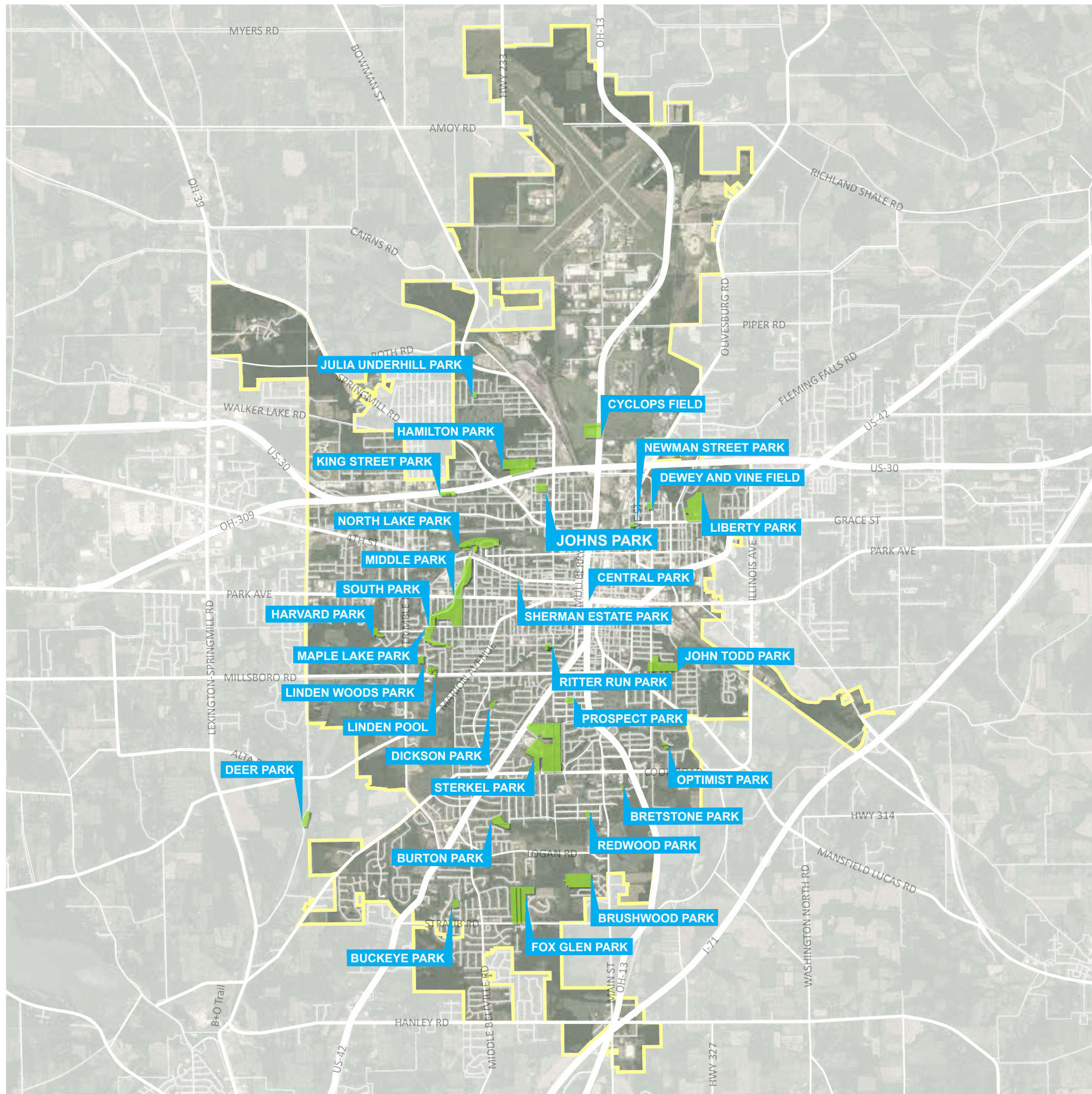
An inclusive playground addresses the needs of all children including those who may have limitations regarding their neurological, intellectual, social, emotional or physical abilities.

An inclusive playground accommodates EVERYONE and challenges them at their own developmental level.

The City should consider inclusive alternatives when developing new or redesigning existing play spaces throughout the community when feasible.

Place a high emphasis on ADA compliance

The City shall make their parks, programs and services accessible to all people with disabilities. This requirement extends not only to physical access, but also to departmental policy ensuring that all people with disabilities can take part in, and benefit from, the programs and services offered by the City.



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

Individual Park Recommendations



LAND BANK PROPERTY

1 **Betzstone Park**
Neighborhood Park
0.37 acres



Recommendations

- As requested by the City of Mansfield administration, this property is recommended to be placed in the Richland County Land Bank whose mission is to make a positive, sustainable impact on the community by strategically acquiring vacant or abandoned properties, reducing blight, and returning them to productive use, improving the quality of life for county residents.
- The park shall be maintained in its current state until final transfer of the property to the land bank



Key

--- Property Line

0 25' 50'



DRAFT FOR REVIEW



Recommendations

- Verify future easement and potential access points
- Provide neighborhood connections where appropriate
- Prepare an internal ADA accessible path system to accommodate future access to the natural environment and boardwalks
- Provide boardwalks for groups outings, interpretive programming, observation of nature and ADA accessibility
- Seek partnership opportunities with the local business community and/or manufacturing companies
- Maintain the open space in an 'off-line' status until significant improvements can be made
- Continue to limit access along Brushwood Drive to prevent vandalism, trash dumping and deviant behavior

Key

- Property Line
- Boardwalk
- Nature Trail Pathway
- Nature Zone
- - - Potential Neighborhood Access Point
- Future Neighborhood Access Point



LAND BANK PROPERTY

3 Buckeye Park
 Neighborhood Park
 2.58 acres

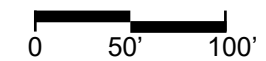


Recommendations

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- The park shall be maintained in its current state until final transfer of the property to the land bank

Key

Property Line



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

4 **Burton Park**
 Neighborhood Park
 3.18 acres

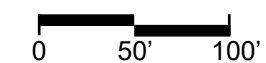


Recommendations

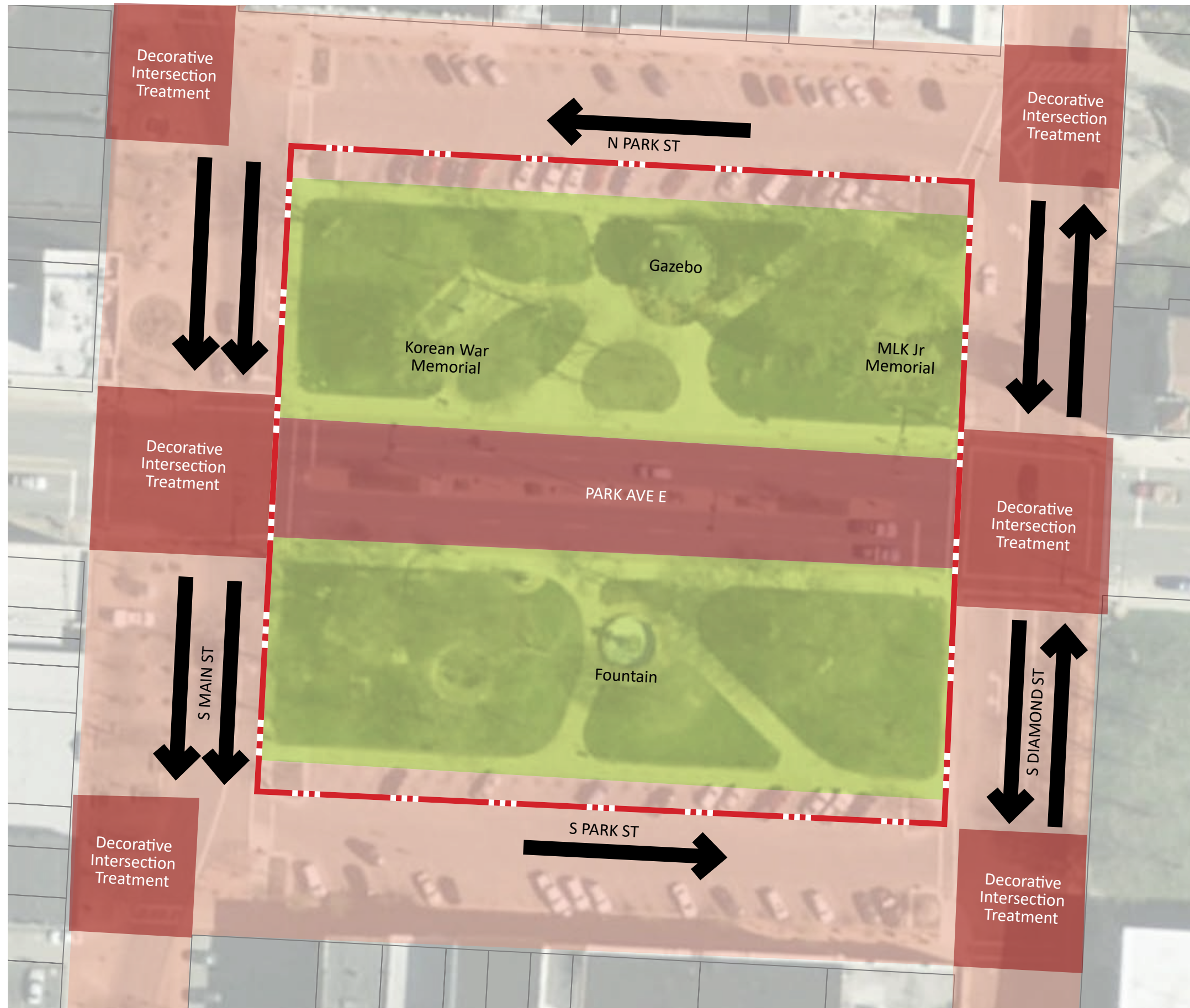
- Make improvements to parking & dedicate lots for specific uses in the lower area
- Improve parking lot efficiency for the pavilion in the upper area
- Provide new playground equipment
- Plant a wildflower meadow
- Resurface the basketball court and consider conversion to 2 half-courts
- Make improvements to the tennis courts
- Add pickleball courts
- Add picnic shelter to accommodate pickle ball and upgraded playground

Key

- Property Line
- Vehicular Circulation
- Light Green Mow Zone
- Dark Green No Mow Zone
- Dark Green Wildflower Meadow



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

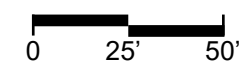


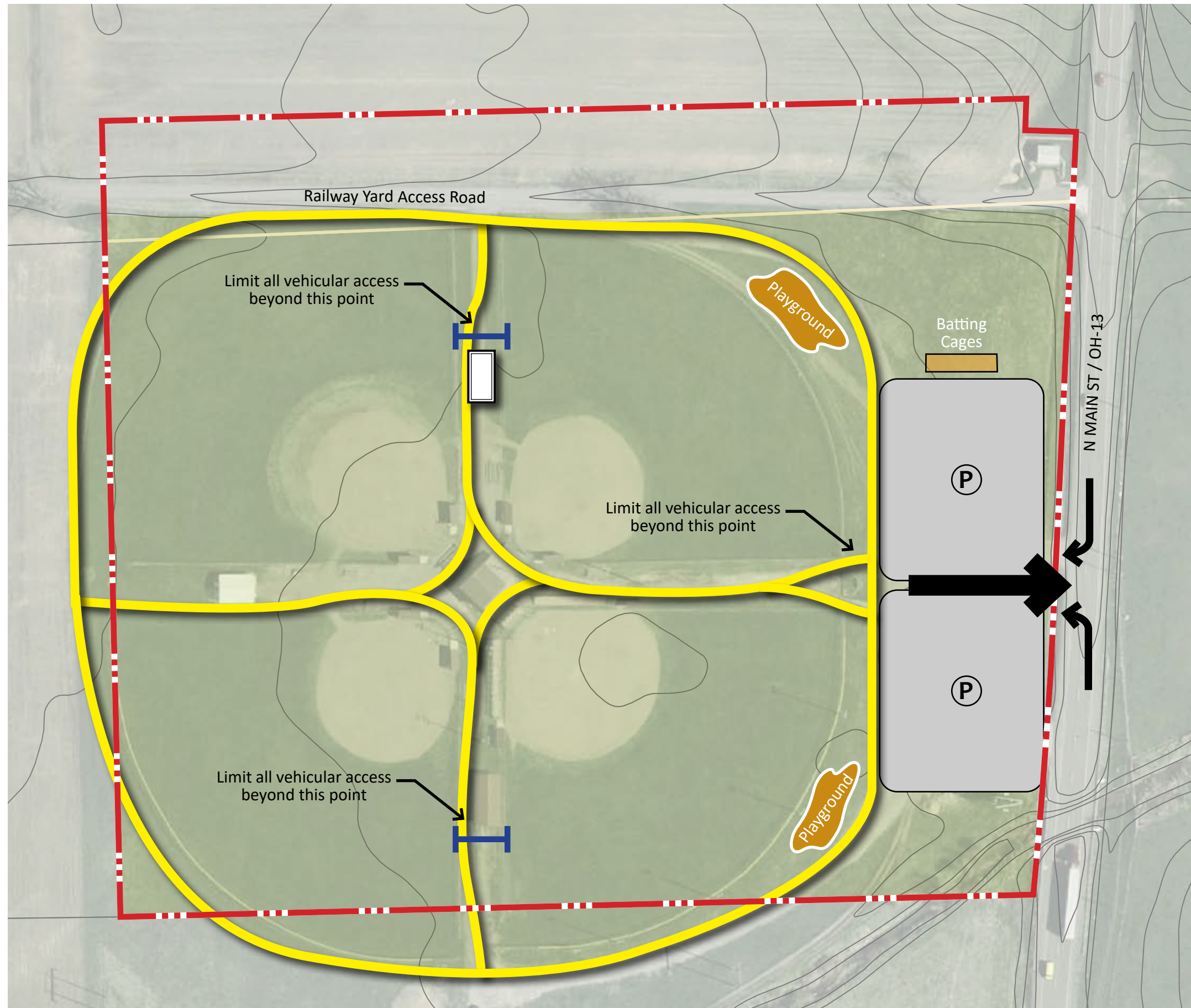
Recommendations

- Use decorative pavement along Park Avenue and at intersections to promote traffic calming
- Upgrade Park Avenue to a more pedestrian friendly zone in materiality for larger community events while maintaining vehicular circulation
- Expand Central Park into community and commercial spaces through the creative use of materials, landscaping and site furnishing upgrades
- Incorporate the park into Downtown Redevelopment opportunities and future streetscape enhancements plans
- Priority maintenance focus
- Use space to promote park activities, programming, and historically significant events
- Central Park is worthy of a more detailed masterplan which engages the local business community
- Evaluate the benefits of returning streets to two-way travel similar to the South Diamond Street effort

Key

- Property Line
- ↔ Vehicular Circulation
- Street Enhancement
- Park Expansion Zone
- Programmed Green Space



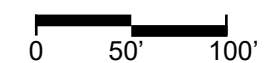


Recommendations

- Make parking lot improvements
- Dedicate a single point of entry/exit
- Add safe turning lanes southbound and northbound to Main Street/OH-13
- Provide a circular multi-use trail system
- Upgrade all playground equipment
- Provide batting cages
- Add an additional picnic shelter
- Upgrade the press box
- Relocate Hamilton Park light fixtures
- Make upgrades to all fields
- Limit all vehicular traffic to City maintenance vehicles only within internal field areas
- Verify ownership discrepancies
- Improve drainage
- Consider corporate partnership such as the Warren Rupp Company
- Maintain clear access to the Ashland Railway Yard

Key

- Property Line
- ▭ Proposed Structure
- Paved Trail
- I No Vehicular Access
- Ⓟ Parking



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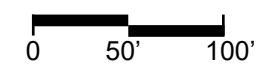


Recommendations

- Relocate shelter and provide family restrooms
- Improve the trailhead connection to the Richland B&O Trail and the County Land Conservancy property
- Create a picnic area
- Make parking lot improvements

Key

- Property Line
- ☐ Shelter / Family Restroom
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- Vehicular Circulation
- Mow Zone
- No Mow Zone
- Ⓟ Parking Improvements



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

LAND BANK PROPERTY

8 Dewey and Vine Park Neighborhood Park 1.68 acres



Recommendations

- As requested by the City of Mansfield administration, this property is recommended to be placed in the Richland County Land Bank whose mission is to make a positive, sustainable impact on the community by strategically acquiring vacant or abandoned properties, reducing blight, and returning them to productive use, improving the quality of life for county residents.
- The park shall be maintained in its current state until final transfer of the property to the land bank

Key

Property Line

0 25' 50'



DRAFT FOR REVIEW



Recommendations

- Mowing reduction along the wooded area
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection
- Provide an ADA accessible route from the sidewalk
- Provide opportunities for butterfly or pollinator gardens

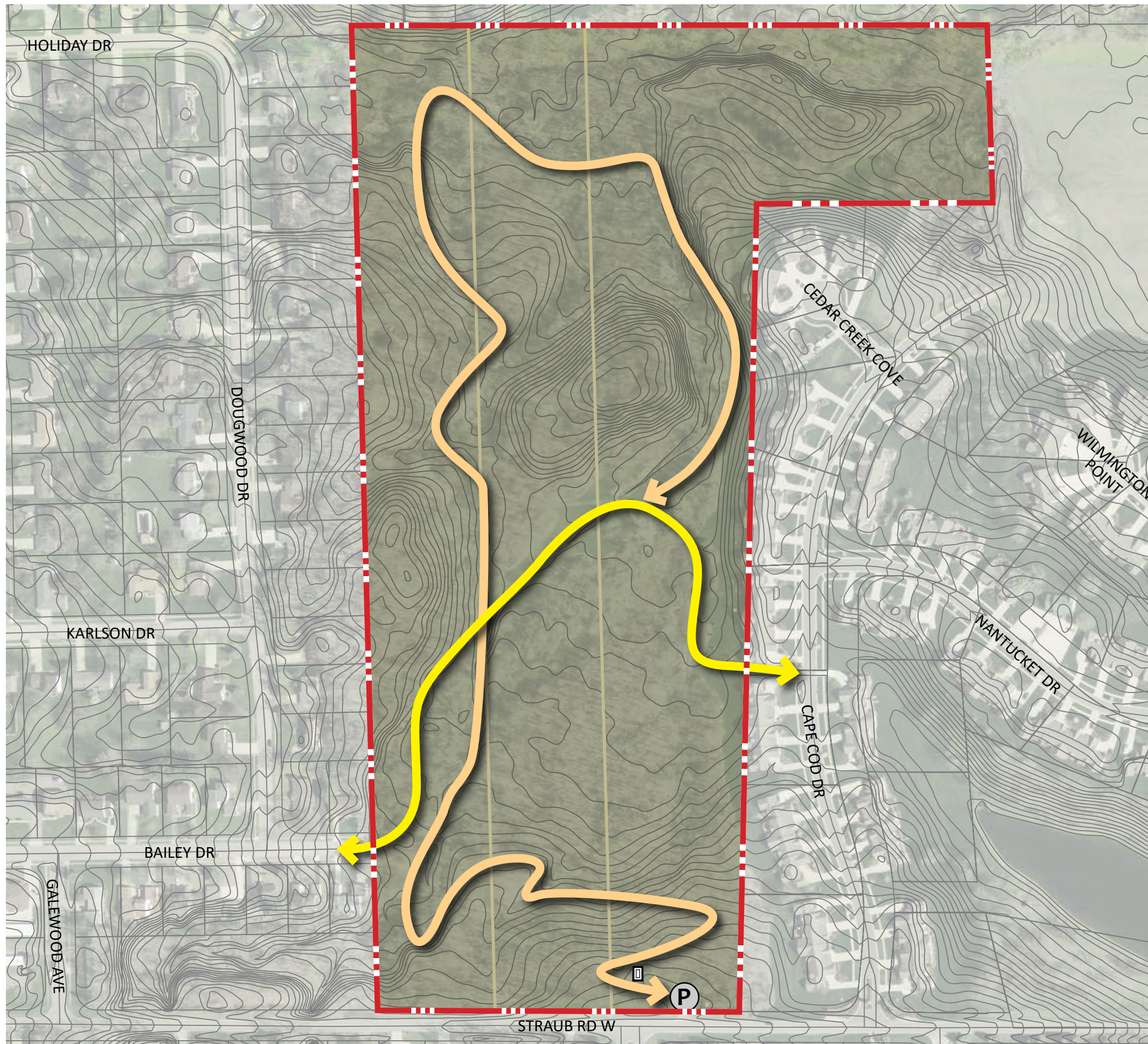
Key

- Property Line
- * Park Signage
- Yellow shape Playground Structure
- Black arrow Accessible Path
- Light green Mow Zone
- Light brown No Mow Zone



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

10 Fox Glen Park
 Neighborhood Park
 34.97 acres



Recommendations

- Provide parking lot improvements along Straub Road
- Enhance on-site neighborhood connections with paved trail
- Provide secondary, multipurpose nature trail improvements
- Provide a trail map to help walkers and hikers navigate designated trails
- Increase maintenance efforts regarding downed trees, branches that block trails and repair trail erosion
- Provide park signage

Key

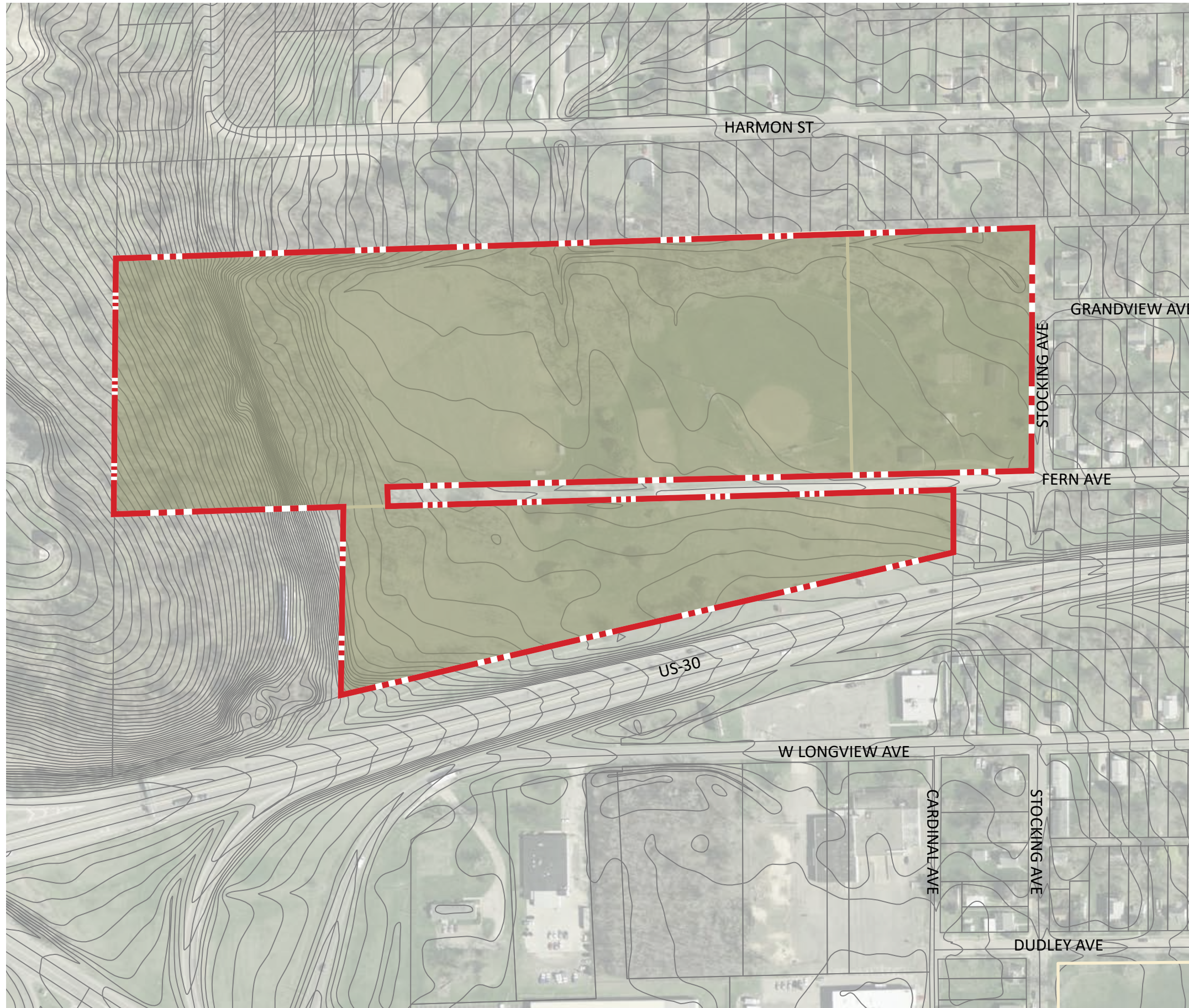
- Property Line
- Existing Structure
- Paved Trail
- ↔ Nature Trail
- (P) Parking



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

LAND BANK PROPERTY

11 Hamilton Park
Neighborhood Park
20.55 acres



Recommendations

- As requested by the City of Mansfield administration, this property is recommended to be placed in the Richland County Land Bank whose mission is to make a positive, sustainable impact on the community by strategically acquiring vacant or abandoned properties, reducing blight, and returning them to productive use, improving the quality of life for county residents.
- The park shall be maintained in its current state until final transfer of the property to the land bank

Key

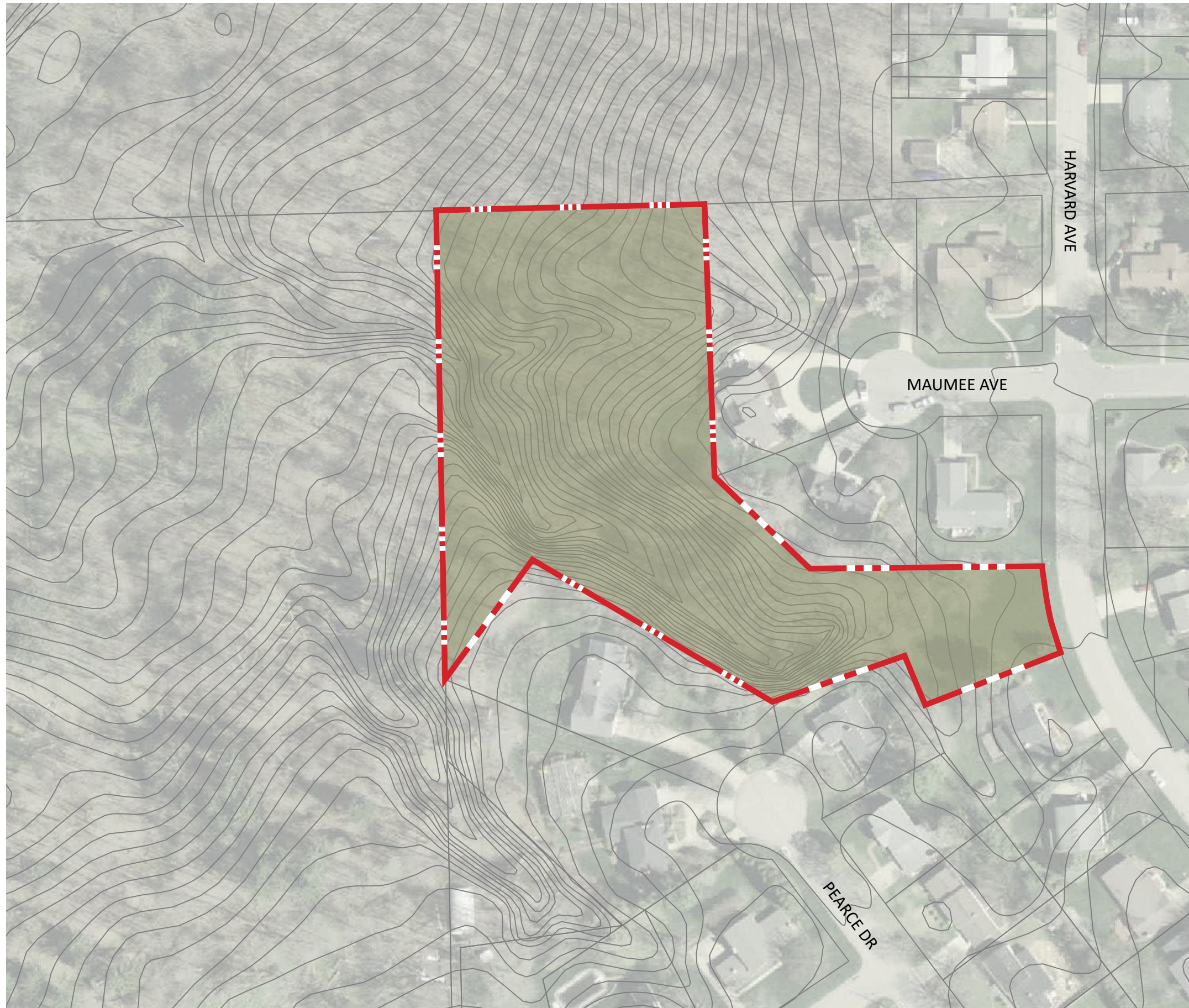
----- Property Line



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

LAND BANK PROPERTY

12 Harvard Park
Neighborhood Park
3.12 acres

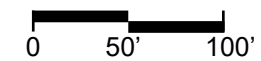


Recommendations

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Key

..... Property Line



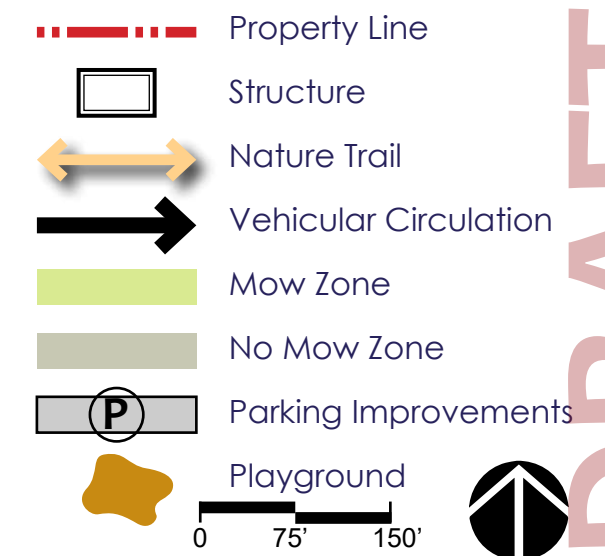
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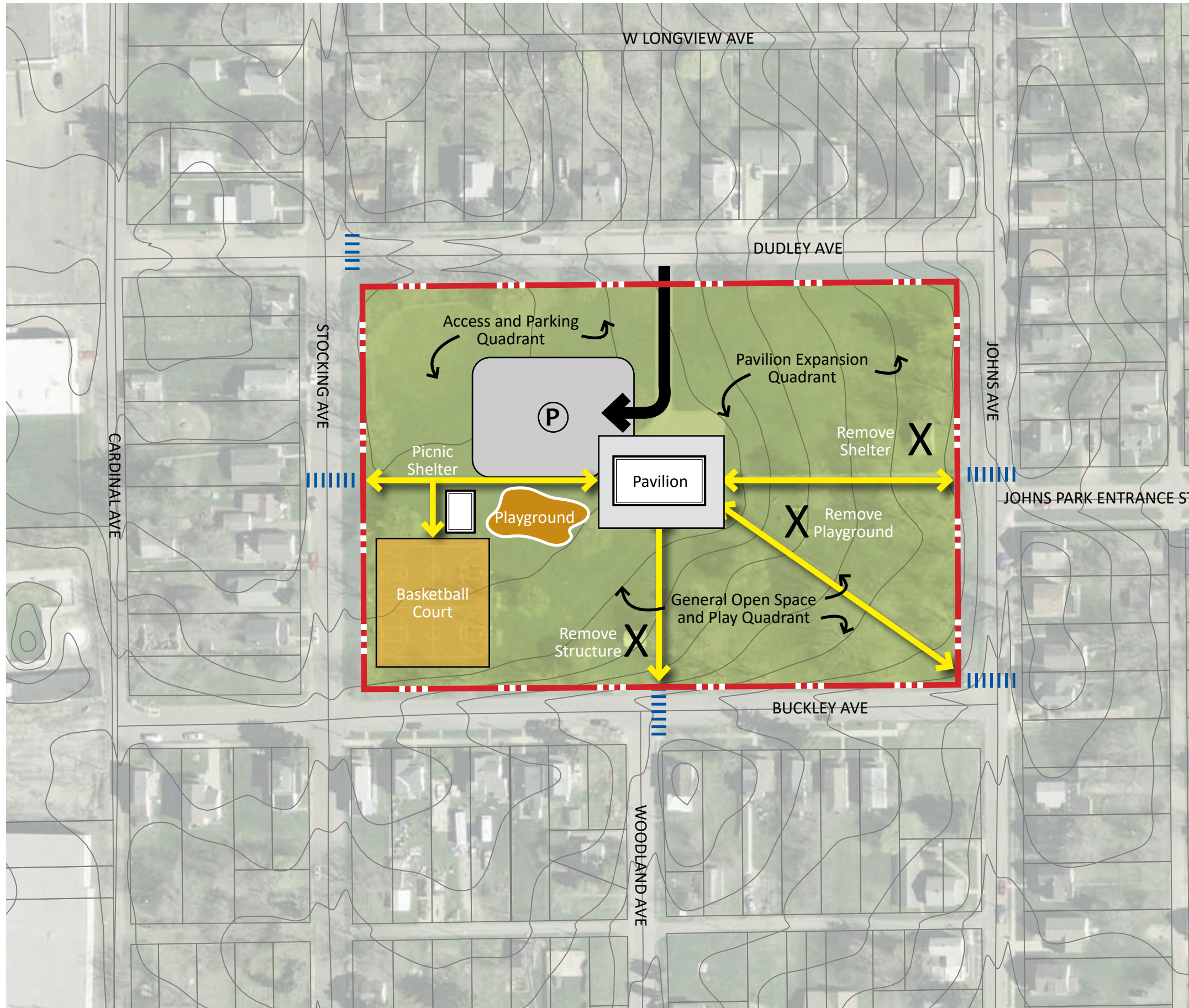
Recommendations

- Provide opportunity for pollinator gardens to support local butterfly habitat
- Encourage interpretive and educational opportunities around old growth trees
- Improve shelter to include restrooms
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection
- Develop the lower area as a nature preserve supporting current habitats and 'Botany Blitz' programs
- Maintain current maintenance schedule for existing baseball field and basketball court
- Allow baseball field to also be used for multi-use sports

Key



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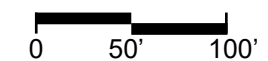


Recommendations

- Renovate and potentially expand the pavilion
- Use the pavilion as a winter farmer's market alternative
- Other pavilion uses to consider could be: child care, elderly programs, after school programs, homework assistance, etc.
- Create a safe parking lot
- Improve basketball courts and restrooms
- Add a picnic shelter near basketball
- Reserve parking around pavilion for ADA spaces only
- Provide year round rentals at pavilion
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection
- Provide better connectivity to the neighborhood with safety crosswalks
- Replace sidewalks where needed

Key

- Property Line
- Structure
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- ||||| Crosswalk
- Mow Zone
- Playground



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

LAND BANK PROPERTY

15 Julia Underhill Park
Neighborhood Park
1.29 acres



Recommendations

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Key

Property Line



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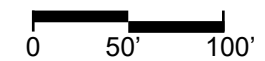
Recommendations

- Provide better connectivity to the neighborhood with safety crosswalks
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection
- Reconstruct the picnic shelter and provide restrooms
- Maintain on-street parking
- Add multi-use path
- Provide multiple basketball courts
- Provide multipurpose field
- Remove/Improve internal sidewalks



Key

- Property Line
- Picnic Shelter/Restrooms
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- ||||| Crosswalk
- Mow Zone
- Playground



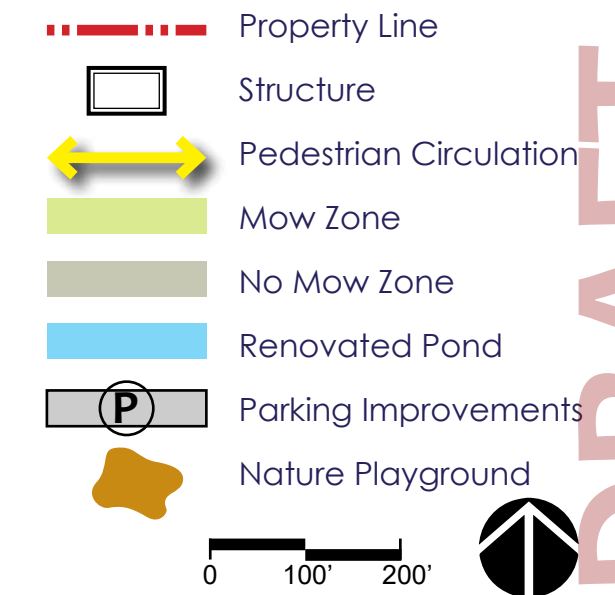
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Recommendations

- Develop the northern third of the park as an outdoor aquatic facility (± 7+ acres) and consider a splash pad as an alternative
- Redevelop the vehicular drive as a single point of entry with a turn-around
- Make repairs to the existing vehicular bridge
- Develop the hillside as an outdoor amphitheater and sledding hill
- Relocate the flag memorial
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection
- Develop the old "Duck House" area as a nature-based play scape
- Upgrade, dredge and renovate the pond, pond edge and dam
- Renovate the southeast pavilion and maintenance building and upgrade its associated parking
- Renovate the basketball courts
- Provide additional picnic shelters
- Provide an internal dedicated looped path system

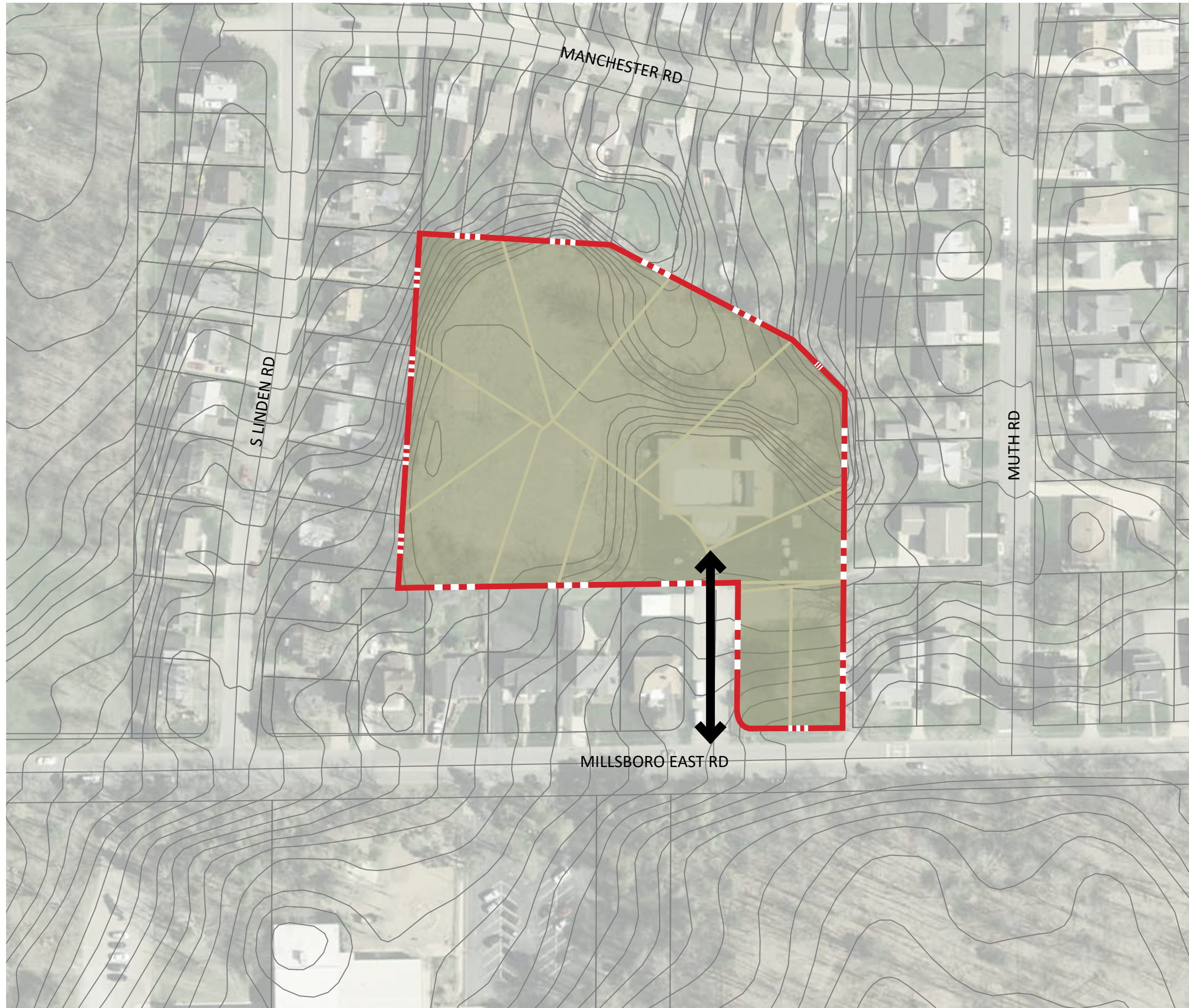
Key



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

LAND BANK PROPERTY

18 Linden Pool
Neighborhood Park
3.05 acres

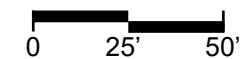


Recommendations

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Key

--- Property Line



DRAFT FOR REVIEW

LAND BANK PROPERTY

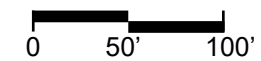


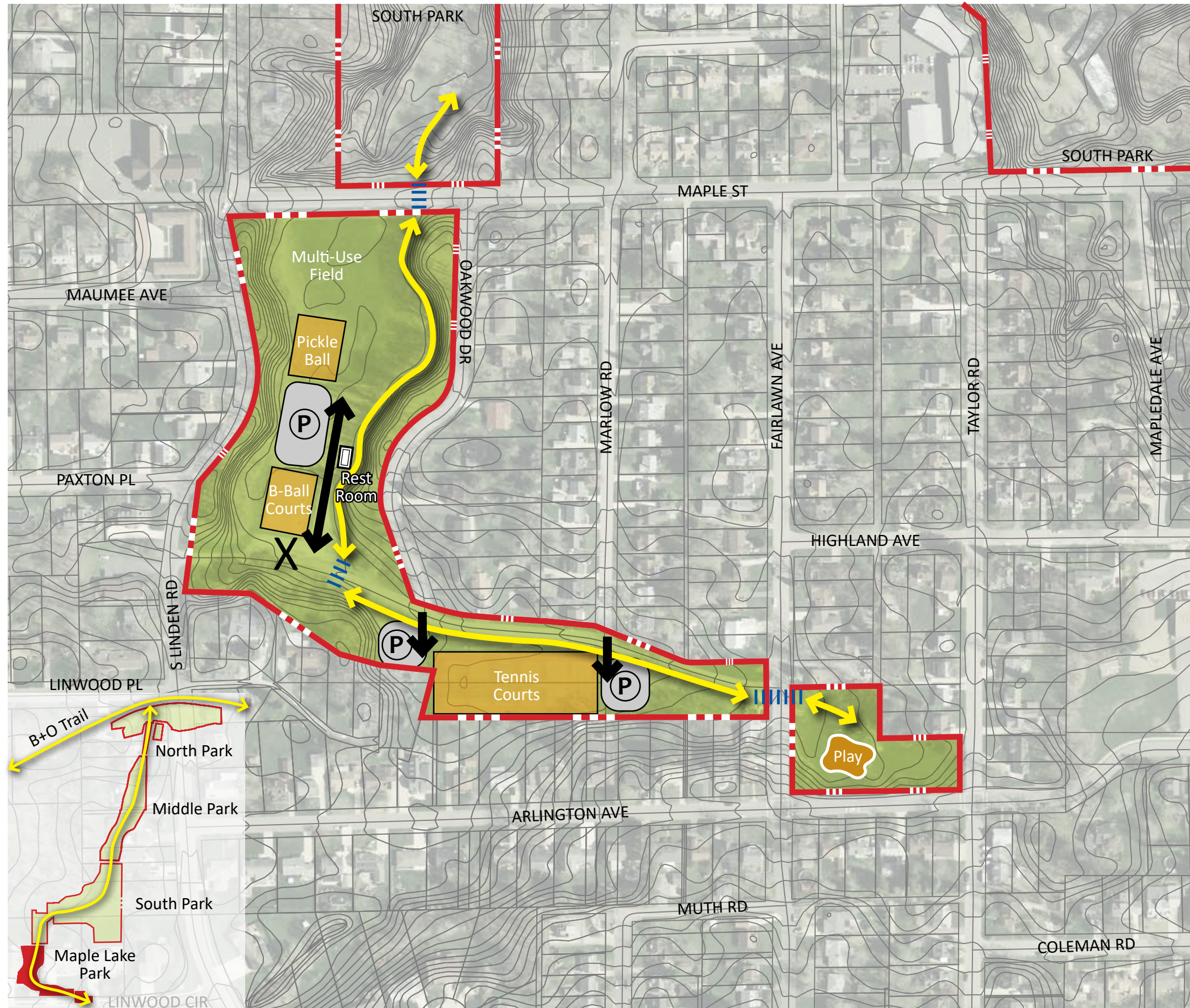
Recommendations

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Key

Property Line





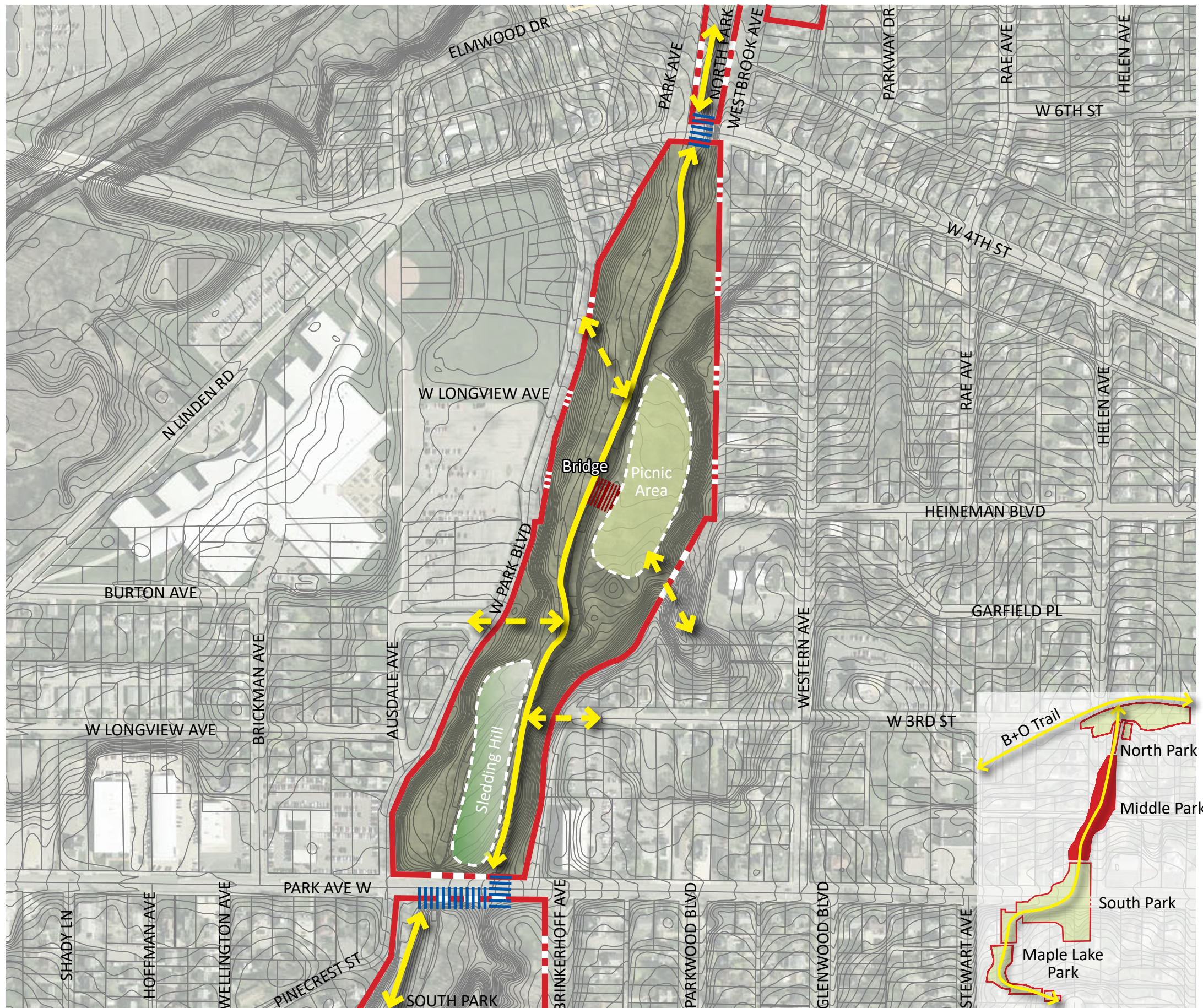
Recommendations

- Provide better connectivity to the neighborhood with safety crosswalks
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection
- Develop an inclusive playground here
- Replace existing shelter with small shelter
- Provide area for shade and bleachers at tennis courts
- Provide physical separation between tennis courts and Oakwood Drive
- Construct safe off-street parking lots
- Upgrade the basketball courts
- Construct pickle ball courts
- Maple Lake Park will develop as the south anchor of north/south linear park connection to the Richland B+O Trail

Key

- Property Line
- ↔ Vehicular Circulation
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- ||||| Crosswalk
- █ Mow Zone
- █ No Mow Zone
- Ⓟ Parking Improvements
- 👤 Playground / Skatepark



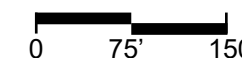


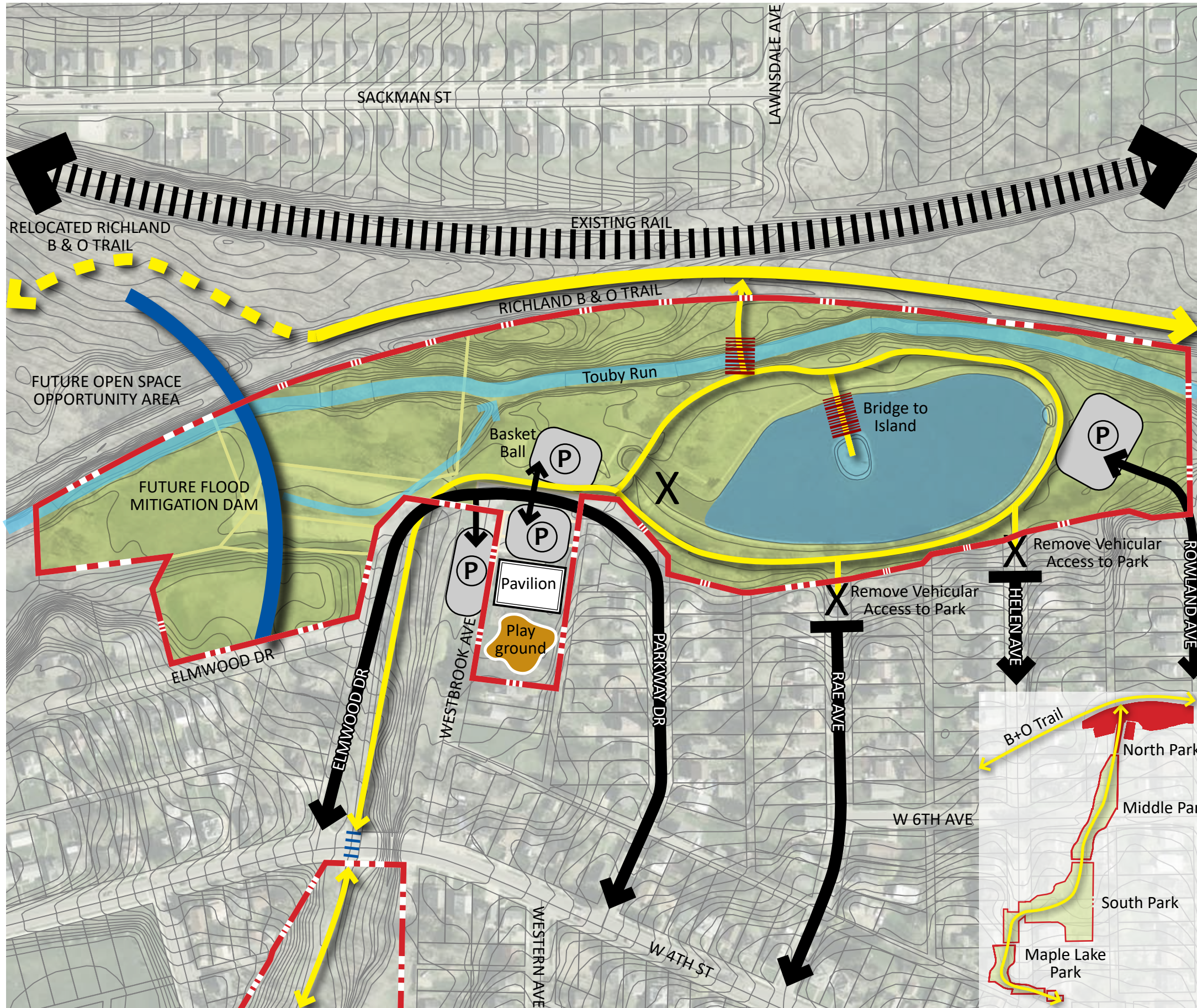
Recommendations

- Continue pedestrian access only policy
- Convert the asphalt road to trail system focused on pedestrian connectivity to the north and south as part of the communities linear O/S system with safe respite zones
- Middle Park will develop as a central anchor of north/south linear park connection to the Richland B+O Trail
- Provide safe E/W neighborhood connections where feasible
- Add flashing pedestrian crossing signals at W. 4th street and Park Ave.
- Renovate the picnic shelter and upgrade the picnic area
- Repair the bridge connection to the proposed picnic area
- Redevelop the sledding hill that previously existed
- Consider a nature-based playscape or nature play trail in this park

Key

- Property Line
- ||||| Crosswalk
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- Potential Neighborhood Connection
- No Mow Zone



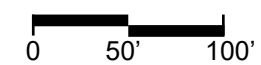


Recommendations

- Remove all vehicular circulation from around the pond and transition to pedestrian access only
- Close Rae and Helen Avenues to through traffic
- Provide a new parking lot at the Rowland Avenue park entrance
- Provide pedestrian access to the Island
- Naturalize the pond edge
- Replace picnic shelters around pond
- Remove eastern bridge condition by reconfiguring the pond edge
- North Lake Park will develop as the north anchor of north/south linear park connection to the Richland B+O Trail
- Develop a ninja warrior course behind the pavilion

Key

- Property Line
- ↔ Vehicular Circulation
- ⇄ Pedestrian Circulation
- ||||| Crosswalk
- ||||| Footbridge
- Mow Zone
- Renovated Pond
- Ⓟ Parking Improvements
- Proposed Dam



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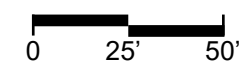


Recommendations

- Mowing reduction along the wooded area
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection
- Provide an ADA accessible route from Carol Lane
- Provide opportunities for butterfly or pollinator gardens
- Continue to allow access to existing nature trails cut in by local neighborhood residences

Key

- Property Line
- * Park Signage
- Playground Structure
- ↔ Accessible Path
- Mow Zone
- No Mow Zone



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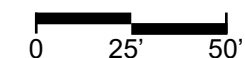


Recommendations

- Develop a skatepark within this park
- Make improvements to the existing parking lot
- Provide additional parking if necessary
- Demo the existing pavilion building and shelter
- Replace all deteriorated sidewalks and add additional pedestrian connections
- Provide a picnic shelter with restrooms adjacent to the playground
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection
- Make appropriate neighborhood pedestrian connections and improve crosswalks at all of the intersections
- Provide general open space for neighborhood activities and general play

Key

- Property Line
- ↔ Vehicular Circulation
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- ||||| Crosswalk
- █ Mow Zone
- Ⓟ Parking Improvements
- █ Playground



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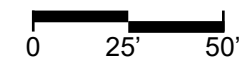


Recommendations

- Provide a picnic shelter adjacent to the playground
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection
- Make appropriate neighborhood pedestrian connections
- Provide general open space for neighborhood activities and general play
- Provide seating and swings for adults
- Provide security lighting

Key

- Property Line
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- General Open Space
- Playground



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LAND BANK PROPERTY

27 **Ritters Run Park**
Neighborhood Park
1.54 acres

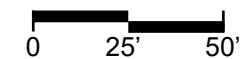


Recommendations

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Key

--- Property Line



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LAND BANK PROPERTY



Recommendations

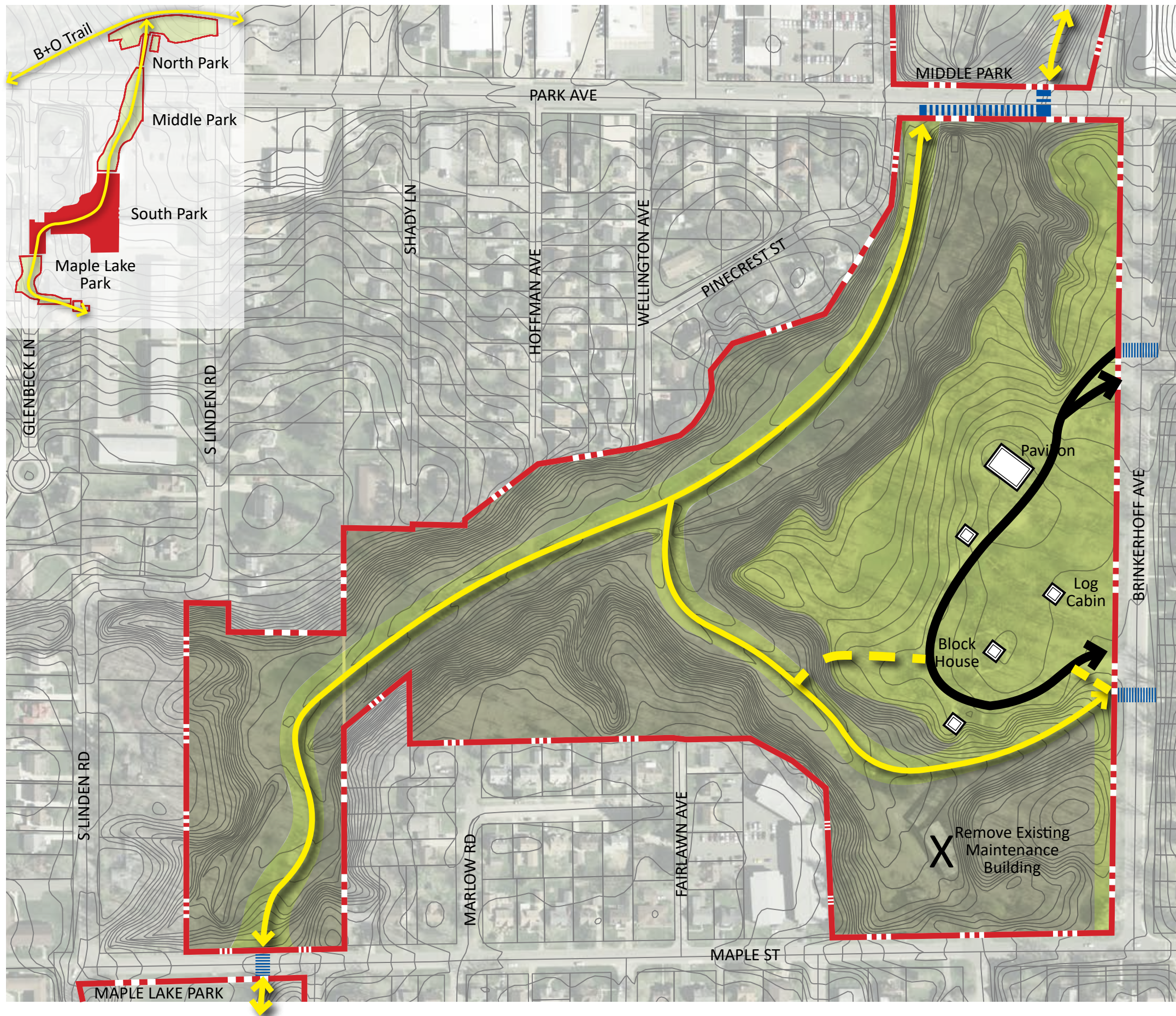
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Key

--- Property Line










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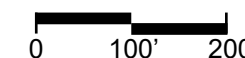


Recommendations

- Provide signalized pedestrian crossings at Park Ave and Maple St. to provide good safe neighborhood connectivity
- Convert the lower asphalt road to trail system focused on pedestrian connectivity to the north and south as part of the communities linear O/S system with safe respite zones
- South Park will develop as a central anchor of north/south linear park connection to the Richland B+O Trail
- Provide safe E/W neighborhood connections where feasible
- Maintain block house, log cabin, blacksmith shop and other significant historic structures
- Relocate maintenance facility to a more efficient location

Key

-  Property Line
-  Structure
-  Pedestrian Circulation
-  Crosswalk
-  Under Road Circulation
-  Mow Zone
-  No Mow Zone



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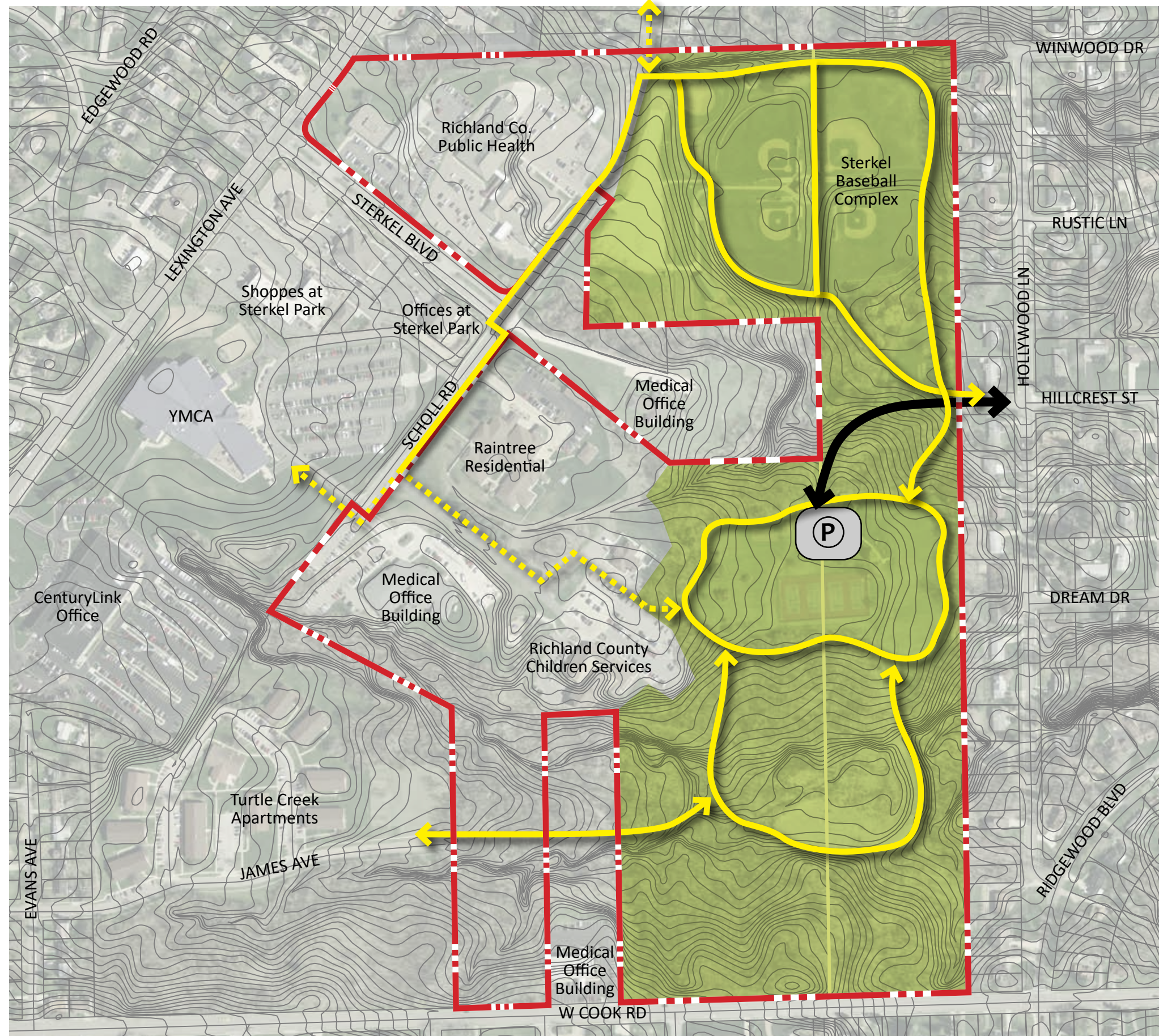
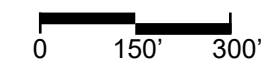


Recommendations

- Implement the existing Sterkel Park Master Plan
- Provide a park wide neighborhood connectivity plan
- Make connections to other community services
- Provide opportunity for pollinator gardens to support local butterfly habitat
- Encourage interpretive and educational opportunities
- Provide more shelters with some to include restrooms
- Consolidate play equipment, upgrade playground equipment and provide appropriate fall protection

Key

- Property Line
- ↔ Vehicular Circulation
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- ⋯ Potential Circulation
- █ Mow Zone
- Ⓟ Parking Improvements



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