DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS & RECREATION

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2026 - 2030

December 2025
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Appleton, Wisconsin

RETTLER corporation

DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS &
RECREATION

CITY OF APPLETON
COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

Prepared by the City of Appleton and
Rettler Corporation

Adopted December 17, 2025

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SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Public open space and recreational facilities are an important part of a community's effort to meet the needs and promote the well-being of its citizens. Local parks offer public space and amenities, free of charge, for people of all ages, incomes, races, ethnicities, and abilities and play an important role in community health, recreation, and morale.

People are aware of and taking advantage of these opportunities. According to the National Recreation and Park Association's *2023 Engagement with Parks Report*:

- More than 280 million people in the United States visited a local park or recreation facility at least once during the last year.
- Nine in ten people agree that parks and recreation is an important service provided by their local government.
- 84% percent of U.S. adults seek high-quality parks and recreation when choosing a place to live.
- 88% of U.S. adults agree it is vital for their local park and recreation agencies to engage with every member of their communities to ensure that offerings meet their needs.

According to the *2019-2023 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*, Wisconsin's urban population has more than tripled in the last 100 years. With over 95% of Wisconsinites enjoying some sort of outdoor recreation, parks and open space can now be viewed as essential to the public good in much the same way as roads, sewers, and other public infrastructure.

PARKLAND BENEFITS	
COMMUNITY IMAGE	▪ Parks, green space, and landscaping play a key role in the image of a community.
ECONOMIC PROSPERITY	▪ Communities with excellent parks and recreational facilities are in a better position to retain and attract new residents. ▪ Property values generally increase the closer residential lots are to a park facility. ▪ If a park system is designed with regional amenities or connected to a regional destination, the additional tourism can benefit local businesses.
COMMUNITY HEALTH	▪ Parks provide places for neighborhood residents to interact and create social bonds. ▪ Parks encourage physical activity, especially for those who are not able to afford expensive gym memberships.
HISTORICAL CONNECTION	▪ Parks named after prominent individuals or historical events can be a good way to connect and educate the next generation in local history.
INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT	▪ Vegetated surfaces absorb and filter runoff stormwater. ▪ Trees and shrubs increase air quality and reduce the "urban heat island" effect created by hard surfaces in the summer.
ECOLOGICAL HEALTH AND EDUCATION	▪ Parks and green spaces are often connected to, or include, ecologically sensitive areas such as wetlands and can provide habitat for plants and animals.

1.1 Plan and Purpose

The City of Appleton recognizes the importance of parks, trails, and open spaces to the community's character and quality of life, and is committed to meeting the recreational needs of current and future residents.

Good planning is essential in ensuring that these outdoor facilities and services are located, developed, and maintained in a logical, efficient, and cost-effective manner. A Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) is a formal document designed to support and assist communities in this planning effort. A Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan provides:

- An inventory of existing park and recreational facilities.
- A list of city goals and objectives as well as past accomplishments.
- A review of physical and environmental resources and constraints of the planning area as well as demographic trends.
- An analysis of parkland and recreational needs based on several metrics, including the guidelines set by National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), with a strong emphasis on community input.
- General recommendations based on the above data regarding park and open space facility planning and maintenance.
- Park-specific recommendations, including locations, sketches, and general, high level estimated costs for various park and recreational features*
- A list of implementation strategies, including funding programs, both existing and potential.

** Please note that the CORP represents plans and guidelines. In nearly every case, more detailed planning, engineering, studies, budgeting, and discussions will be necessary before decisions are made to acquire land or construct recreational facilities.*

This 2026-2030 update to the *City of Appleton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP)* is a cooperative effort based on previous CORPs, other adopted city plans, and input from city staff, municipal groups, and citizens. This plan is intended to guide the city in continuing to meet the open space and recreation needs of its citizens over the next five years. Approval of this plan will maintain city eligibility to apply for and receive federal and state grants.

1.2 Mission Statement

"Building communities and enriching lives where we live, work and play."

The Appleton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is designed to guide the Parks and Recreation Department, city officials, advisory committees, and other partners and stakeholders as they strive to provide the best possible facilities and leisure activities for the citizens of Appleton. To do this, the Appleton Parks and Recreation Department operates with the following vision statement:

"A progressive leader in providing superior parks and recreation services to enrich the quality of life for our community."

1.3 Past Planning and Accomplishments

1922	City Planning Survey with Proposals for Future Development
1975	Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (oldest found)
2004	City of Appleton Parks and Recreation Department Master Plan
2010	City of Appleton Comprehensive Plan 2010-2030
2010	City of Appleton On-Street Bike Lane Plan
2010	Arbutus Park Master Plan
2015	Scheig Center Master Plan
2015	Appleton Memorial Park Master Plan
2017	City of Appleton Trails Master Plan
2019	2019-2023 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

The City of Appleton has been engaged in park planning for many years. As of the time of writing, the oldest adopted Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan dates back to 1975, meaning that this CORP update will celebrate 50 years of Appleton park planning! This commitment to outdoor recreation resources has played a significant part in the development of the city's current park system.

The following are some of the park and recreation related updates, features, and tasks accomplished between 2020-2025.

2020

- Universal Playground and Poured-in-Place (Appleton Memorial Park)
- Scheig Center Parking Lot Reconstruction (Appleton Memorial Park)
- New Dugouts, Bleacher Pads, and Walkways (Einstein and Kiwanis Parks)
- New Dugout Pads and Dugouts Covers for Field 5 (Appleton Memorial Park)
- McDonald Street Trail and Lights (Appleton Memorial Park)
- Playground and Poured-in-Place Surfacing (Pierce Park)
- Basketball and Tennis Courts (Linwood Park)
- Park Pavilion HVAC Upgrades (Scheig Center and Pierce Park Restroom Building)
- Lighting Replacement - Phase 1 (Pierce Park)
- ADA Upgrades to Baseball Diamond (Kiwanis Park)

2021

- Irrigation - Mainlines Run to Field 5, 6, and 7 (Appleton Memorial Park)
- Playground (Linwood Park)
- Scheig Center Renovations (Appleton Memorial Park)
- Memorial Park Ice Center Parking Lot Reconstruction (Appleton Memorial Park)
- Trail Reconstruction from Scheig Center to Playground (Appleton Memorial Park)
- Lighting Replacement - Phase 2 (Pierce Park)
- Parking Lot Reconstruction (Reid Golf Course)
- New Pavilion Roofs (Schafer Park and Telulah Park)
- ADA Fishing Pier (Telulah Park)

2022

- 8 Court Pickleball Complex with Lights (Telulah Park)
- New Tennis and Basketball Courts (Green Meadows Park)
- Parking Lot Replacement with Added Lights (Einstein Park)
- Parking Lot Replacement and Trails (Pierce Park)
- Removed Restroom Building (Einstein Park)
- River Trail with Lighting (Ellen Kort Peace Park)

2023

- Paved the Baseball Complex Walkway (Appleton Memorial Park)
- Shade Structures (Jones Park)
- River Trail Reconstruction (Telulah Park)
- Restroom Renovation (Telulah Park)
- Wooded Area Rehabilitation - Removal of All Ash Trees, Invasives, and Hazard Trees (Vosters Park)
- Veterans Memorial at Scheig Center (Appleton Memorial Park)

2024

- New Playgrounds (Highview Park and Green Meadows Park)
- Trail Repaving (Highview Park)
- Trail Repaving (Peabody Park)
- Playground with Poured-in-Place Surfacing, Pickleball and Basketball Courts with Lighting, Trails, and Multiuse Field (Lundgaard Park)
- Trail and Shoreline Redevelopment, ADA Canoe/Kayak Launch Improvements, Replaced Park Lights (Lutz Park)
- Fountain Renovations (Houdini Plaza and City Park)
- Pavilion Renovation (Telulah Park)
- Pavilion Roof Replacement (City Park)
- Pavilion Roof Replacement (Appleton Memorial Park)
- ADA Upgrades to Ball Diamonds #6 and #7 (Appleton Memorial Park)
- Scheig Center Generator Installed (Appleton Memorial Park)
- New Surface on Miracle League Field (Appleton Memorial Park)

2025

- New Pavilion and Park Site Lighting (Lundgaard Park)
- Trail Repaving (Riverheath/Lower Telulah Park)
- Restroom and Pavilion Renovation (Pierce Park)
- Mead Pool Painted and Added ADA Restroom/Changing Rooms (Mead Park)
- Sport Courts Sealed and Lined (Kiwanis and Schaefer Parks)
- Trail Fitness Equipment Installed (Pierce and Erb Parks)
- Pavilion Stained (Veterans Memorial Park)

TRAILS

- Trail Riverheath/Telulah Park River Trail: Newberry Street to Lower Telulah Park
- Lawe Street Trestle: Lawe Street to John Street (Eagle Point Development)
- Ellen Kort Peace Park: River Trail
- Jones Park: Lawrence Street to Water Street
- McDonald Street Trail: McDonal Street to Memorial Park Scheig Center
- Lutz Park Trail: Cedar Street to Yacht Club
- Vulcan Heritage Park: Water Street to River
- Alicia Park: Park Pavilion to Cedar Street
- Memorial Park: Witzke Blvd to Universal Playground Parking Lot
- Pierce Park: Prospect Street to Playground and Parking Lot

1.4 Strategies, Goals, and Objectives

APPLETON PARKS AND RECREATION KEY STRATEGIES	
#	**STRATEGY**
1.	Provide clean, safe, sustainable, and accessible parks, public facilities, public golf course, trails, and recreational facilities.
2.	Preserve and extend the useful life of real estate, hardscape, playgrounds, courts, pavilions, ball diamonds, and other assets.
3.	Provide lifelong experiences, healthy living, and enrichment.
4.	Collaborate with partners to provide a diverse range of sustainable, accessible, and inclusive recreation and leisure opportunities.
5.	Maintain a two-way communication strategy that supports the parks, facilities, programs, and services to solicit input, measure performance, and provide timely feedback.
6.	Foster a quality workforce and positive work environment.
7.	Protect open space, connect the community to nature, and engage the community in conservation practices.
8.	Proactively pursue alternative funding sources earmarked directly toward program/facility development and delivery.
9.	Embrace innovative technology to improve efficiency and effectiveness.
10.	Engage with the City's diverse community and proactively respond to changing demographics, needs, and trends.

The following goals, developed by city staff and the Parks and Recreation Committee, are meant to guide city officials and staff as well as to form the basis from which more specific objectives, departmental policies, budgets, and actions are developed.

APPLETON PARKS AND RECREATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES		
CATEGORY	**GOAL**	**OBJECTIVE**
Park and Open Space Acquisition	**Identify land for acquisition, or opportunities to share facilities, to provide adequate access to parks in developed parts of Appleton where there are no existing parks.**	▪ There are areas within the developed part of Appleton and parts of adjoining towns that may someday come into Appleton, that are not adequately served by existing parks. The city should seek to provide desired facilities within these areas in partnership with other stakeholders. Priorities may include partnering with the Appleton Area School District to provide public access and recreational facilities for residents in the surrounding neighborhoods. ▪ Acquire and develop additional park areas in neighborhoods where residential density is expected to increase through redevelopment activities. For residential development that occurs at higher density, additional parkland should be considered. ▪ Evaluate parkland dedication for mixed use developments.
Park and Open Space Acquisition	**Continue to work with land developers and municipalities to acquire new park land through dedication or other means, as new development occurs.**	▪ Continue parkland and trail dedication, or fee-in-lieu-of land dedication requirements for all new residential development. Additional land should be required for new development in the north and southwest parts of Appleton and its future growth area. ▪ Where development may occur in adjacent municipalities, the city should work with the municipality to identify suitable locations, require dedication, and develop park facilities to meet the needs of current and potential future Appleton residents.
Park and Open Space Acquisition	**Develop the city's park system as an interconnected network of sites linked by greenways and trails.**	▪ Create linkages between parks with long-term goal to have the city's parks arranged as nodes connected by recreational or environmental corridors. Stormwater drainageways, floodplains and wetland areas, utility corridors, railroad corridors, and other greenways may serve this purpose. ▪ Implement the recommendations contained within the Appleton Trails Master Plan. ▪ Develop a joint trail, bicycle and pedestrian plan that aligns with the complete street policy.
Park and Recreation Facilities Development	**Continue to make parks and recreation facilities and programs as efficient and effective as possible.**	▪ Where it makes sense, adopt practices to cluster or consolidate dedicated athletic fields in order to reduce maintenance costs and to provide greater flexibility for the use of neighborhood parks. Neighborhood parks are typically small facilities. Installation of large athletic fields intended for a single, or small number of

		uses, can eliminate the potential for other activities to occur. Additionally, having these dedicated athletic fields scattered throughout the city can increase maintenance and operational costs. ▪ Investigate and implement technologies that reduce maintenance costs or allow more intensive use of park facilities. ▪ Continue to consider alternative approaches that may help to mitigate the impacts of park use, or reduce maintenance costs. For example, artificial turf can bear more intensive use than a conventional grass playing field with less maintenance, but has a higher installation and replacement cost and may contribute to stormwater runoff. The use of naturalized plantings can reduce mowing requirements and have environmental benefits, but may not be accepted by all members of the community. The benefits and drawbacks to practices such as these should be weighed when contemplating alternatives. ▪ Regularly monitor and assess community demand for new facilities to accommodate emerging and growing recreational activities, ensuring future development aligns with evolving needs and trends. ▪ Conduct a comprehensive needs assessment and market analysis to determine the city's role in providing indoor recreation as well as cultural facilities and services that meet the evolving needs of the growing community. ▪ Conduct a needs assessment for outdoor athletic fields to evaluate current capacity, support the growth of youth and adult programs, and plan for future recreational needs.
Park and Recreation Facilities Development	**Expand and develop additional park and recreational facilities along the Fox River.**	▪ Plan, design, and construct additional facilities to facilitate greater access and enjoyment of the river including but not limited to boat launch and parking, canoe/kayak launch, additional trail facilities, trail heads, trail parking, and wayfinding signage. ▪ Explore and foster partnerships with other agencies and programs with compatible missions, including but not limited to the Fox River Navigation System Authority, Outagamie County, Fox Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region.
Park and Recreation Facilities Development	**Plan, design, and develop additional parks and recreation facilities that meet current and emerging needs of the community.**	▪ Plan, design, and develop new facilities to meet community needs, including but not limited to a recreation enter to accommodate the increasing demand for programs and rental space currently fulfilled through external contracts. ▪ Plan, design and construct new facilities to better serve those areas of the community where service coverage gaps exist. ▪ Evaluate potential policies, park improvements, or new facilities to accommodate the needs of dog owners throughout the city.

Park and Recreation Facilities Development	**Implement the Capital Improvement Plan for development of specific parks and facilities.**	▪ Improve existing parkland and park facilities and develop new park facilities
Recreational Programs	**Collaborate with local recreation service providers to stay informed on industry trends and strengthen partnerships, ensuring a proactive response to community needs.**	▪ Plan with the numerous recreation service providers throughout the community. It is important the city stay on top of trends and strengthen partnerships to become more responsive to community needs. Community partnerships play a vital role in the future success and ability to broaden program offerings. Strong community partnerships are essential to success and the ability to expand program offerings.
Recreational Programs	**Expand public outreach and participation in community groups, organizations, and events to advocate our programs, facilities, and services.**	▪ Increase awareness and engagement with community groups, organizations, and local events through targeted outreach, initiatives and collaborative partnerships to enhance participation in our programs and facilities
Recreational Programs	**Promote health and wellness within our community and provide opportunities for learning and socialization to support personal growth and well-being for adults in our community.**	▪ With the surge of baby boomers coming into the older adult population, it will be critical to continually assess and adapt program offerings and services to meet their evolving needs.
Recreational Programs	**Working together with community partners to increase programming directed to minority and cultural interests, and for persons who are physically or cognitively challenged.**	▪ Appleton will continue to program activities of cultural interest, as well as provide facilities and activities that remain universally accessible to all members of the community.
Recreational Programs	**Develop and deliver meaningful outdoor adventure and educational experiences for members of our community to help connect them to the outdoors. Work to promote the trail system and increase use of our outdoor amenities.**	▪ Encourage active use of outdoor amenities through targeted promotions and events.
Management and Operations	**Continue to enhance departmental management and operations to better serve the community.**	▪ Conduct a periodic review of Appleton's park land dedication ordinance as well as impact fees for development of park facilities. ▪ Evaluate impact fees as a means of funding park capital costs. ▪ Continue the Parks and Recreation Department's practice of evaluating the carrying capacity of park facilities and establishing standards or use limits that protect them from damage caused by over-use. This practice mitigates damage to facilities that would incur

costs to repair and deprive residents of the use of the facility while repairs were made.

- Continue the Parks and Recreation Departments commitment to, and implementation of "best practices" for sustainable park development and operations including but not limited to:
  - Acquisition of land for parks as well as the preservation of natural features.
  - Development of paths and trails that facilitate non-motorized transportation modes.
  - Specification of local, recycled content, or other products that minimize processing impacts to the environment.
  - Improvements in energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources.
  - Adoption of design elements that enhance the environment and reduce maintenance costs.
  - Utilization of low-maintenance and native planting materials.
- Continue self-operation of Reid Golf Course to ensure the needs of the community are met.

1.5 Planning Process

A Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan update is required every five years, in order to remain eligible for various grants and to ensure that the plan continues to meet community needs. In the fall of 2024, the City of Appleton contracted with Rettler Corporation, an experienced park, recreation, and site design firm, to assist with the 2026-2030 CORP update.

The *Appleton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* update process began with a kickoff meeting on October 22, 2024 to discuss general strategies, focus areas, the concurrent City Comprehensive Plan, city input items, and public input methods.

An online survey was conducted in from mid-December 2024 through mid-January 2025 to gather community feedback on the Appleton park system and recreational facilities. The evening of January 16, an in-person Community Input meeting was held to gather perspectives and feedback. Please refer to Section 5: Needs Assessment for an in-depth review of the questions, responses, and suggestions. Three Park Staff input meetings were also held in March and April.

Oversight for the project was provided by the Parks Director and the Parks and Recreation Committee.

The following plan was developed per the *Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans* by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Community Assistance, as well as the standards of the *Development of Local Outdoor Recreation Plans* (Appendix F of the *2011-2016 Wisconsin State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*) created by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

This plan is a cooperative effort based on resources from the previous *Appleton Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans*, the *City of Appleton Comprehensive Plan*, other local plans, Outagamie County GIS data, and input from city staff and citizens. Approval of this plan will maintain city eligibility to apply for and receive federal and state grants.

PROJECT MILESTONES

October 22, 2024	Kickoff Meeting
December 19, 2024-January 20, 2025	Online Community Survey
January 16, 2025	Public Input Meeting
March 21, 2025	Park Review Meeting
April 1, 2025	Park Review Meeting
April 10, 2025	Park Review Meeting
June 5, 2025	Draft 1 Submitted
November 24, 1025	Park and Recreation Committee Presentation
December 8, 2025	Park and Recreation Committee Adoption
December 17, 2025	City Council Presentation and Adoption

DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS & RECREATION

SECTION 2

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

2.0 COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Situated in the Fox River Valley of northeastern Wisconsin, Appleton is located at the crossroads of US Interstate 41 and US Highway 10, and is part of one of the fastest growing urban areas in the State of Wisconsin.

2.1 History and Regional Context

Appleton was first settled in 1848, incorporated as a village in 1853, and became a city in 1857. The earliest white settlers in the area were fur traders following the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers. A series of rapids, the "Grand Chutes," required travelers to portage at the present site of Appleton.

Industry soon followed to harness the power of the falling water. The first paper mill, constructed in 1853, was soon followed by others in Appleton as well as elsewhere in the Fox Valley. Papermaking provided the industrial base on which the region grew.

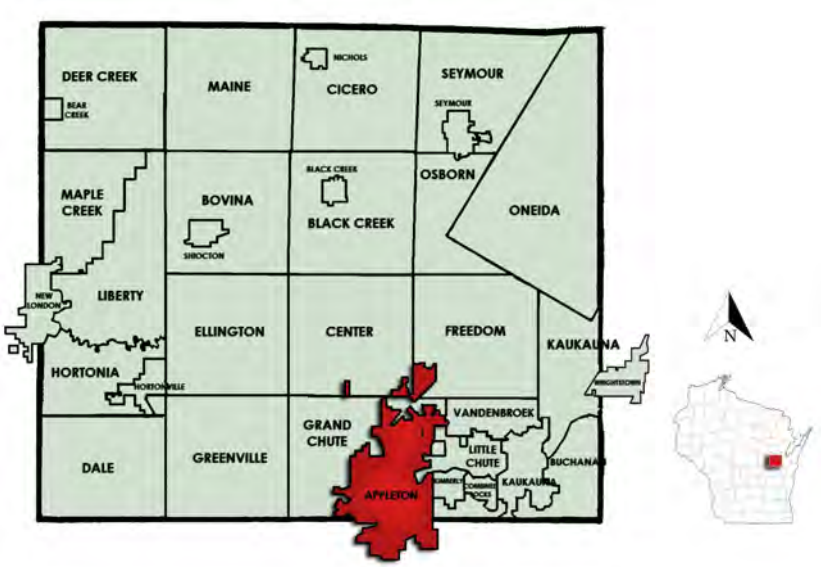
Readily available hydropower opportunities led to the city's pioneering use of electricity. The Vulcan Street Hydroelectric Central Station was constructed and began operation on November 25, 1882 in order to provide electricity to paper mills. The Vulcan Street Plant represents one of the earliest examples of a hydroelectric plant operation that sold electricity commercially and provided incandescent lighting service to the public. On August 16, 1886, the Appleton Electric Street Railway Company began operation of five Pullman cars on the newly installed track, becoming the United States' first commercial electric street railway. Electric lights replaced gas lamps on College Avenue in 1912.

Education has also played an important role in the city. Appleton has grown along with Lawrence University. Chartered in 1847, the school covers 84 acres of ground on the east side of the downtown, north of the Fox River. Appleton was named for an early benefactor of the college. The school attracts students from all over the United States and several countries, and brings many cultural programs to the community.

Appleton also lays claim to being the site of the first enclosed shopping mall in the United States. Valley Fair Shopping Center was constructed in 1954, although much of it was subsequently torn down and a portion was reused for commercial space. Today, the city's downtown retailers have specialized in order to successfully compete with the Fox River Mall and other commercial development along US Interstate 41 in the neighboring Town of Grand Chute.

Location and Transportation

The City of Appleton is located near the bottom-center of Outagamie County, along both sides of the Fox River. The city's boundaries straddle Calumet, Outagamie, and Winnebago Counties.



Nearby communities include Grand Chute and Fox Crossing to the west, and Little Chute, Kimberly, Combined Locks, and Kaukauna to the east, and Menasha to the south and west. Neenah and Appleton are located further south, while De Pere, Ashwaubenon, and Green Bay are located about 20 miles north.

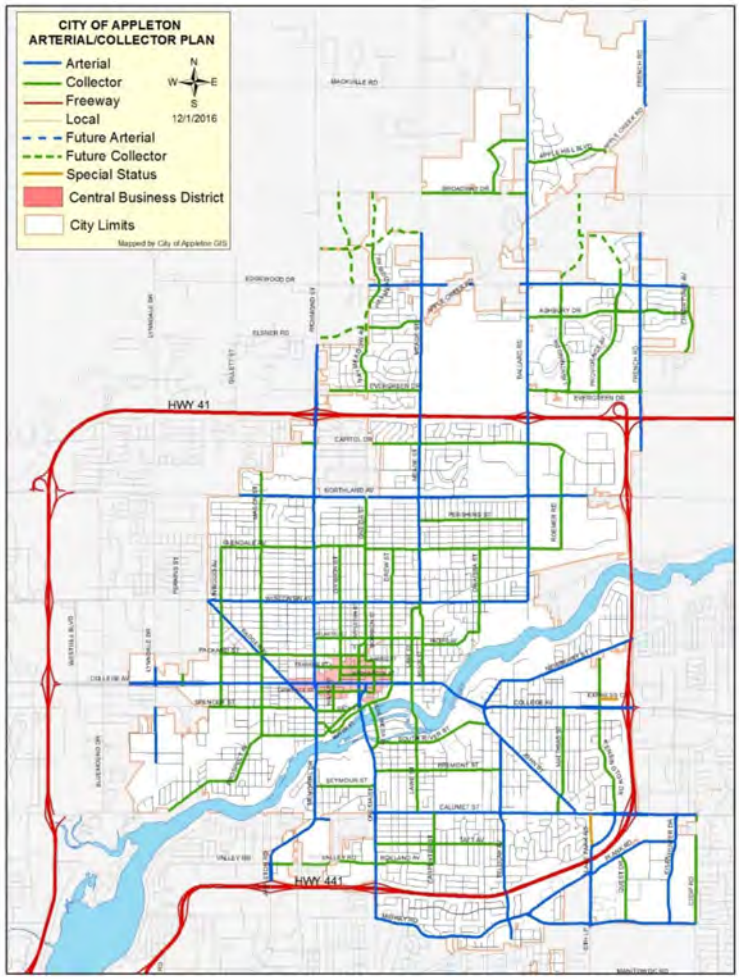
The large number of overlapping and adjacent government entities has made intergovernmental cooperation in the region challenging at times. The City of Appleton has entered into boundary agreements with several of its neighbors. See the City of Appleton Comprehensive Plan for more information on these agreements.

Main roadways within the city include:

- **Interstate Highway 41** is a major north-south United States highway that runs from Miami Florida to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Interstate 41 runs north-south and then curves sharply to the east-west along the top of the city.
- **State Wisconsin 441** forms a beltway around the greater Appleton area, running south of the Fox River for the most part. About 10 miles long, it connects at both ends to its parent, highway I-41.
- **US Highway 10** (US 10) in Wisconsin runs east–west across the central part of the state. US 10 collects US 45 south in northwest Winnebago County for a three-mile (4.8 km) southeast trek before US 45 splits to the south and US 10 turns east to rendezvous with WIS 441 at the junction with I-41/US 41 in Neenah. US 10 turns south off the WIS 441 freeway south of Appleton and turns east into Calumet County.
- Other major roadways include: WIS 10, WIS 47, WIS 96, and WIS 125.

Arterial and collector roads designated by the City of Appleton are depicted on the map on the following page. Appleton has chosen to classify its roads by an alternative interpretation of criteria and needs related to traffic, access, connectivity, and other measures of road function.

According to the *Appleton Comprehensive Plan, 2010-2030*, Appleton has developed a pedestrian-friendly network of sidewalks and paths through most of its neighborhoods. This system is expanding through new sidewalks in developing parts of the community, and through the efforts to expand path systems.



The Safe Routes to School Program is one of the city's principal initiatives for addressing problem areas (such as gaps or danger points) in the pedestrian network.

The city also adopted a Sidewalk Installation Policy in 1992 to provide pedestrian safety and convenience throughout the city.

Appleton does designate some roads as on-street bicycle routes and except for a portion of College Avenue, bicycles may be used on sidewalks throughout the city.

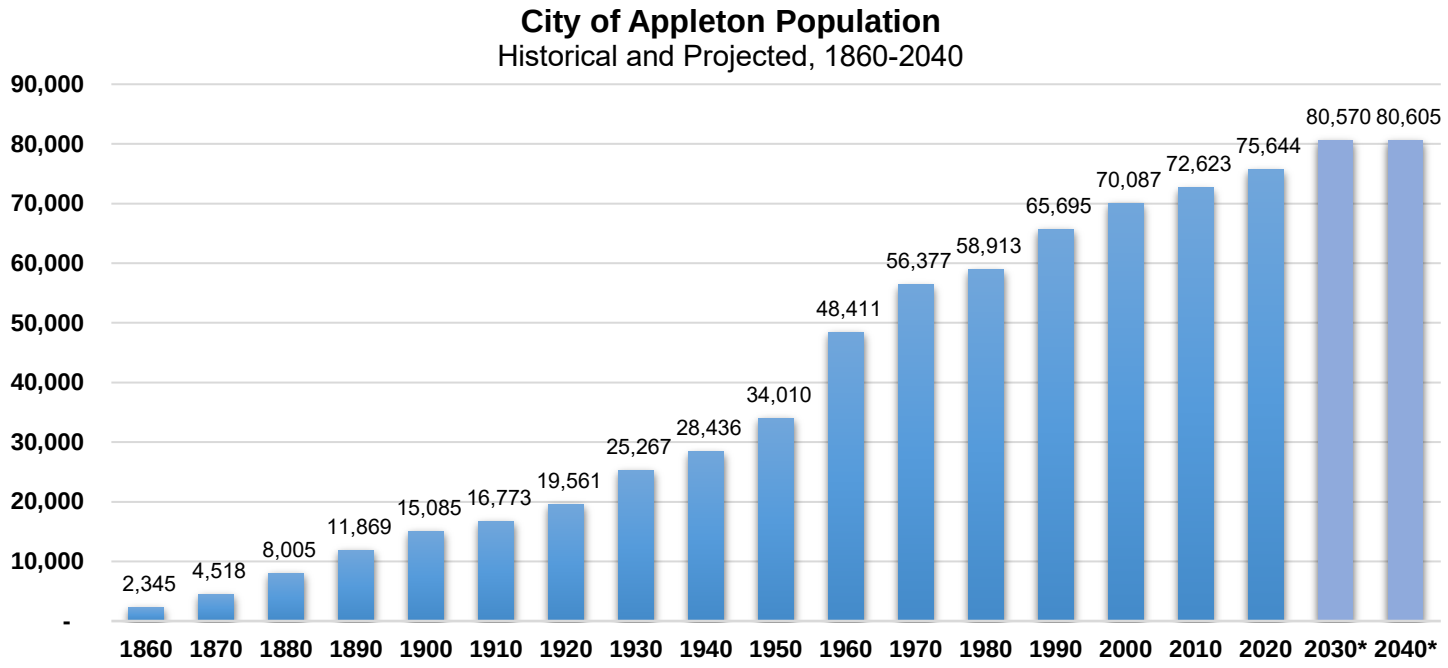
Bicycling is supported by the Valley Transit System, which has equipped its buses with bicycle racks. The 2010 On-Street Bike Lane Plan identifies actionable solutions to grow the bicycle network in Appleton.

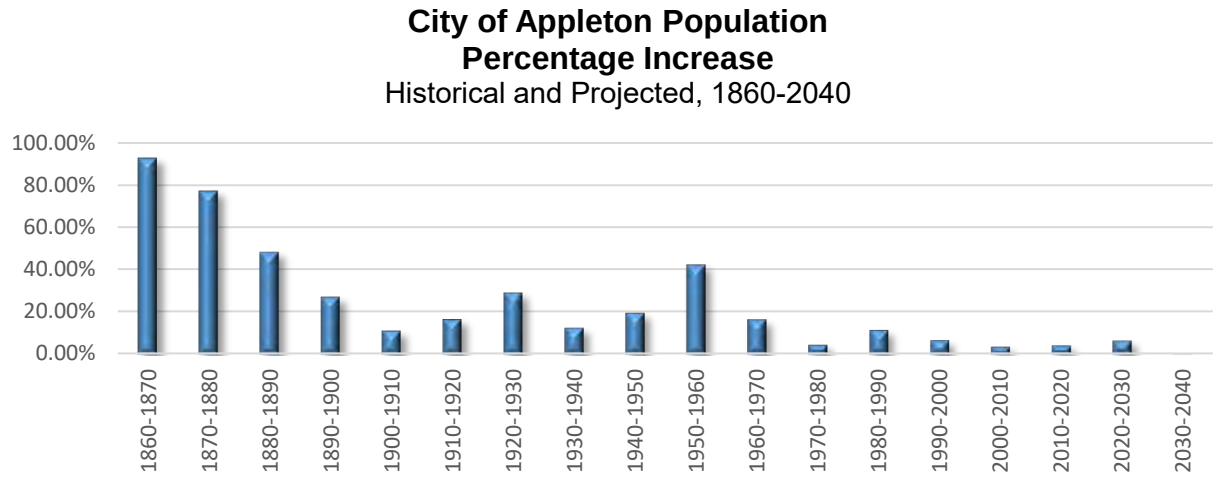
Appleton's various railroads have been condensed into the Canadian National Railway. The remaining active rail corridors in Appleton include the Former Wisconsin Central (Soo Line) tracks on the west side of Appleton, and the former Chicago and Northwestern track through the Fox River Valley. Up to 30 trains per day are estimate to travel over Appleton's mainline tracks and utilize a total of 82 at-grade railroad crossings.

2.2 Demographics

Size and Population Trends

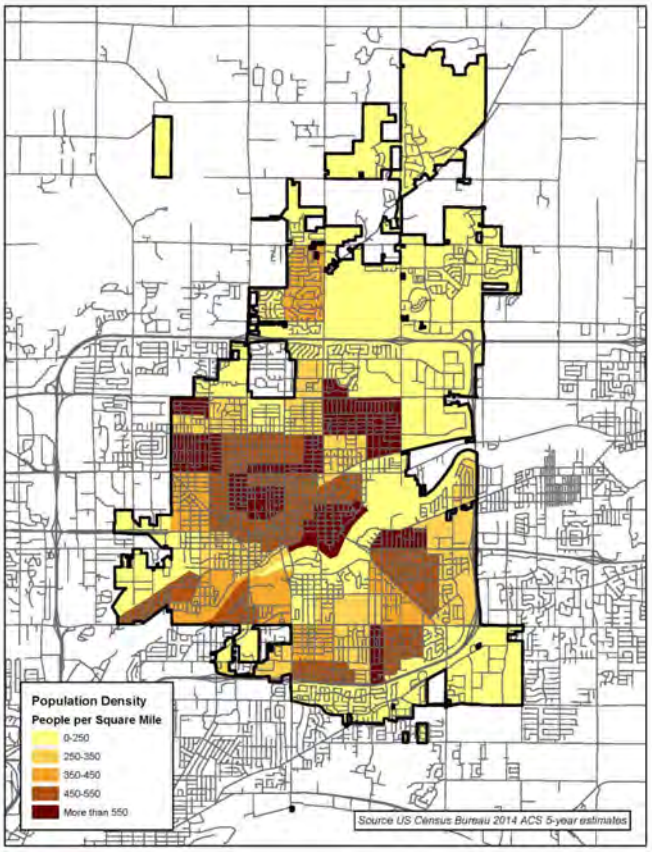
The City of Appleton has grown steadily over the years, with the most significant increases in the late 1800's, the 1920's, and the 1950's. According to the 2020 to 2040 population estimates produced by the Wisconsin Department of Administration, the population of the city is predicted to continue to increase, although at a slower rate.





** From the doa.wi.gov MCD and Municipal Population Projections, 2010-2040.*
Other information from US Census Bureau, US Census Library, and the City of Appleton Comprehensive Plan Update 2040

As this population density graphic from the Appleton Comprehensive Plan shows, Appleton's highest population is concentrated in the central, older, parts of the city.



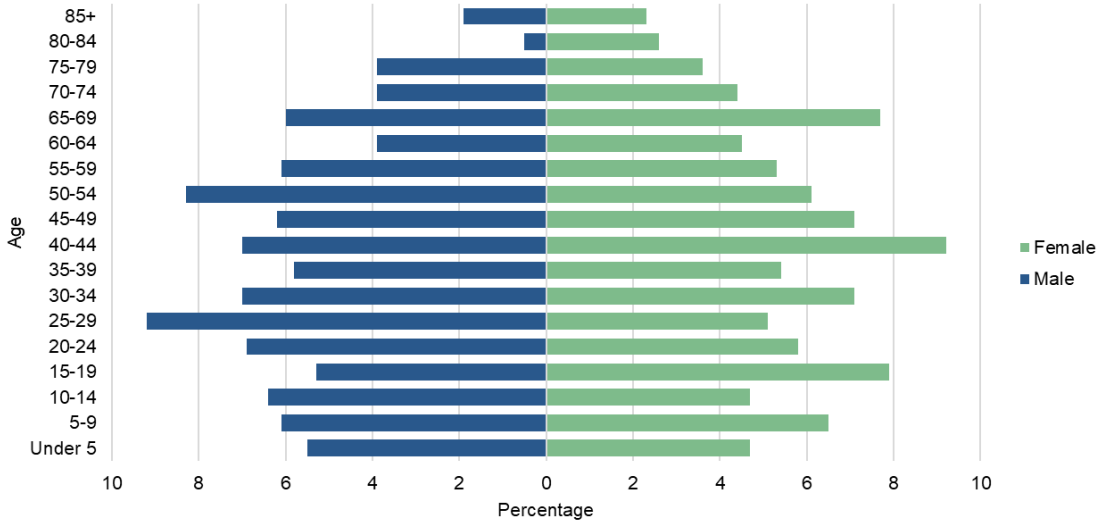
Age, Gender, and Diversity

The median age within the City of Appleton, according to the 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, is 40.1 years. While this number is substantially similar to the Wisconsin median age of 40.5, it has been steadily increasing from the city's average of 35.3 years in 2010 and 33.8 years in 2000.

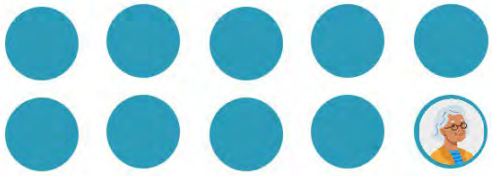
Appleton can expect to experience the same demographic trends that are occurring at the national and state level in terms of aging. For example, according to *Wisconsin State Aging Plan FFY 2023-2025* by the Department of Health Services:

- Wisconsin's population ages 60 and older totaled 1.45 million in 2020, comprising 25 percent of the state's total.
- The older population has been Wisconsin's fastest growing age segment for several years and will continue to be for the foreseeable future. The 60-plus population increased by 356,000 since 2010, a growth rate of 32 percent. For comparison, total population grew 142,000 or 2.5 percent. Seventy percent of Wisconsin's 60 and older residents live within 26 metropolitan counties. The 60-plus are concentrated in the southeast and south-central regions, which are the most densely populated and metropolitan parts of the state.

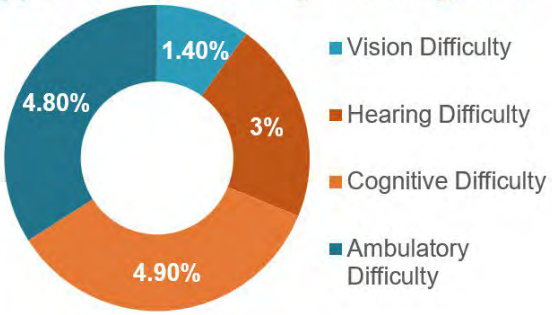
Appleton Population
by Age and Sex



Appleton is also home to people of a variety of abilities and needs. **Almost 1 in 10 people in Appleton have some form of disability.** In 2023, 11.3% of the population had a disability.[viii]



Appleton Population by Disability, 2023[ix]



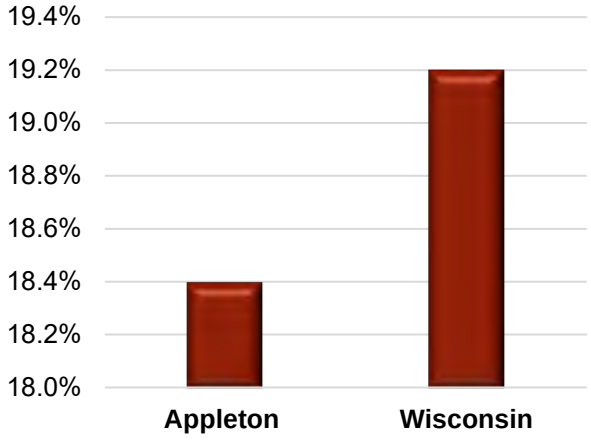
8.6% of Appleton's population identified as being foreign born, compared to the 5.2% of foreign-born in Wisconsin as a whole.

While still predominantly white, Appleton has seen quite a bit of growth in diversity over the past few decades.

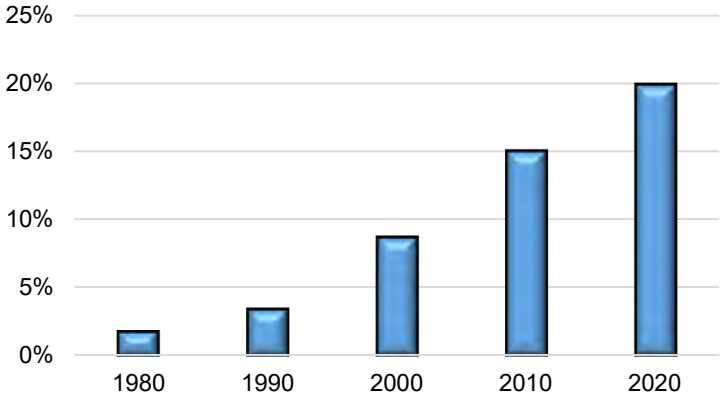
And although not represented in Census data, the city is home to a diversity of religions, people with disabilities and LGBTQ individuals, all of whom contribute to the rich diversity of the community.

The City of Appleton prides itself on inclusion. Inclusion refers to how diversity is leveraged to create a fair, equitable, healthy, and welcoming community where all individuals are respected, feel engaged and motivated, and their contributions toward meeting societal goals are valued. Appleton established a position for a Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator in its city budget in 1997. This position works with city leaders to make a more welcoming community for all.

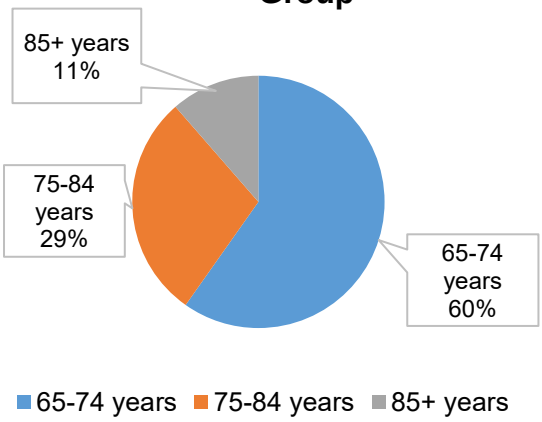
Age 65+ Population in Appleton vs Wisconsin



Appleton Diversity - Races Other than White



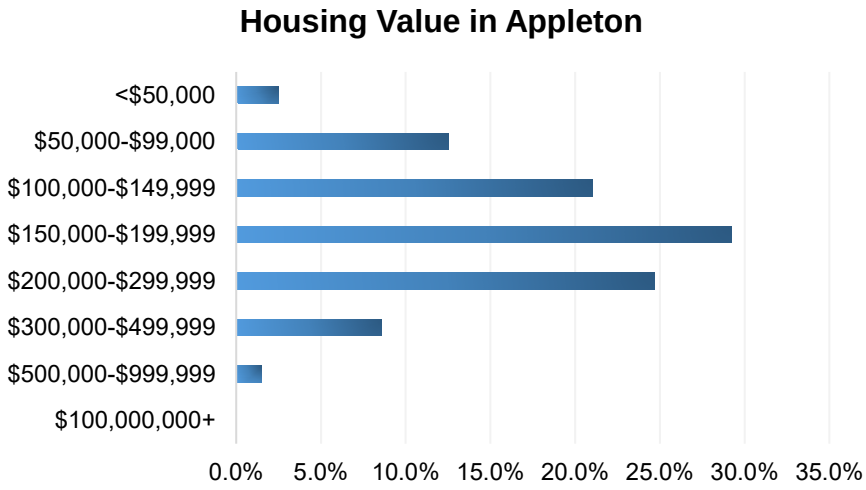
Age 65+ Population by Age Group



Housing

According to the 2020 Decennial Census, there were roughly 31,747 housing units in Appleton, 95.6% of which were occupied.

The home ownership rate in Appleton is 67.3%, lower than the 71.8% rate for Outagamie County, but similar to the 67.9% rate for the State of Wisconsin.



The majority Appleton houses are in the $200,000 to $299,999 price range, with the median value of owner-occupied housing units being $192,200.

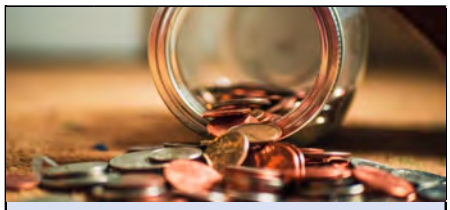
Meanwhile, the median gross rent in Appleton was $989, compared to $1,101 in Outagamie County and $1,071 for the State of Wisconsin.

There are an estimated 30,580 households in Appleton. The average household, defined as all the people occupying a given housing unit, is 2.38 persons.

95.2% of these households have a computer, and 92.9% have a broadband internet subscription.

Income and Employment

Based on the 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Appleton's median household income is $73, 449. This is only slightly less than the State of Wisconsin median household income of $74,631, but substantially less than Outagamie County's median household income of $85,784.



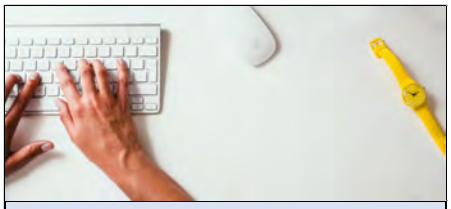
Median Household Income	
Appleton	$73,449
Outagamie County	$85,784
State of Wisconsin	$74,631

6.6% of Appleton residents live at or below the poverty line, as compared to the Outagamie County average of 5.7%, and the Wisconsin state average of 10.7%.

37.7 Mean usual hours worked by workers in Appleton

39.0 Mean usual hours worked by workers in Outagamie County

38.5 Mean usual hours worked by workers in Wisconsin



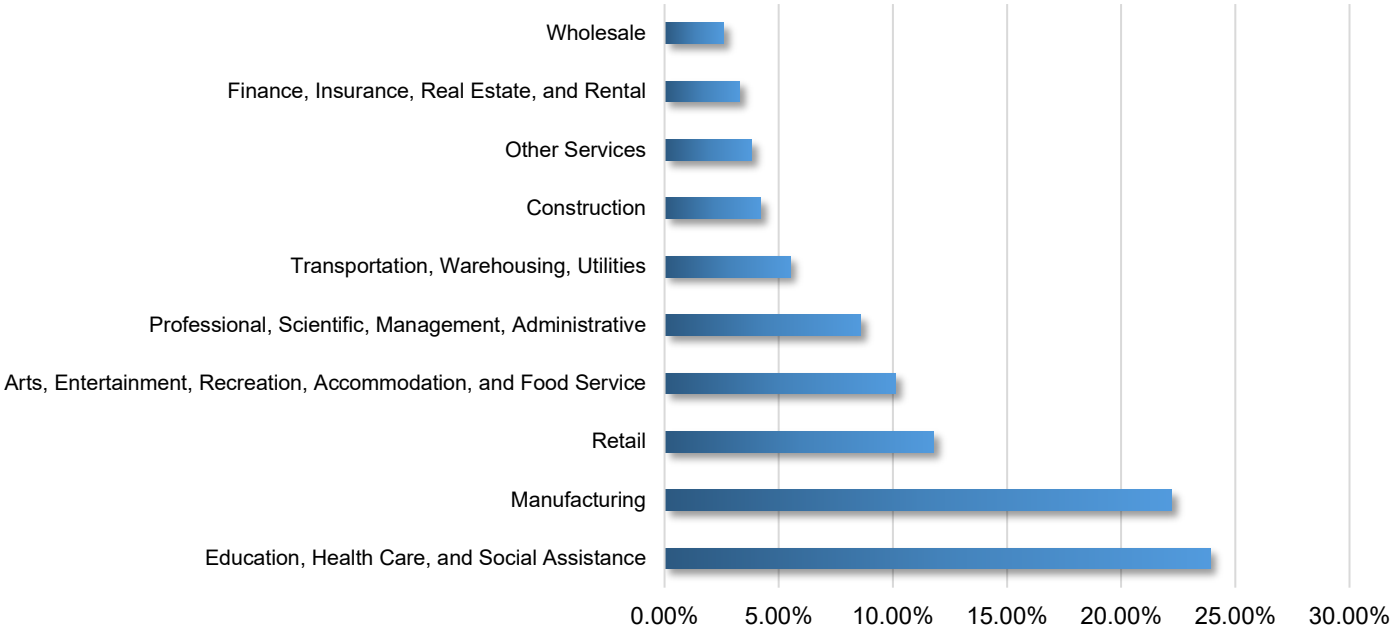
Employment Rate	
Appleton	63.2%
Outagamie County	64.1%
State of Wisconsin	63.4%

The city includes the following industrial parks:

- Southwest Industrial Park
- Southpoint Commerce Park
- Northeast Business Park

Some of the major employers in the Appleton and the Fox Cities area are listed on the next page.

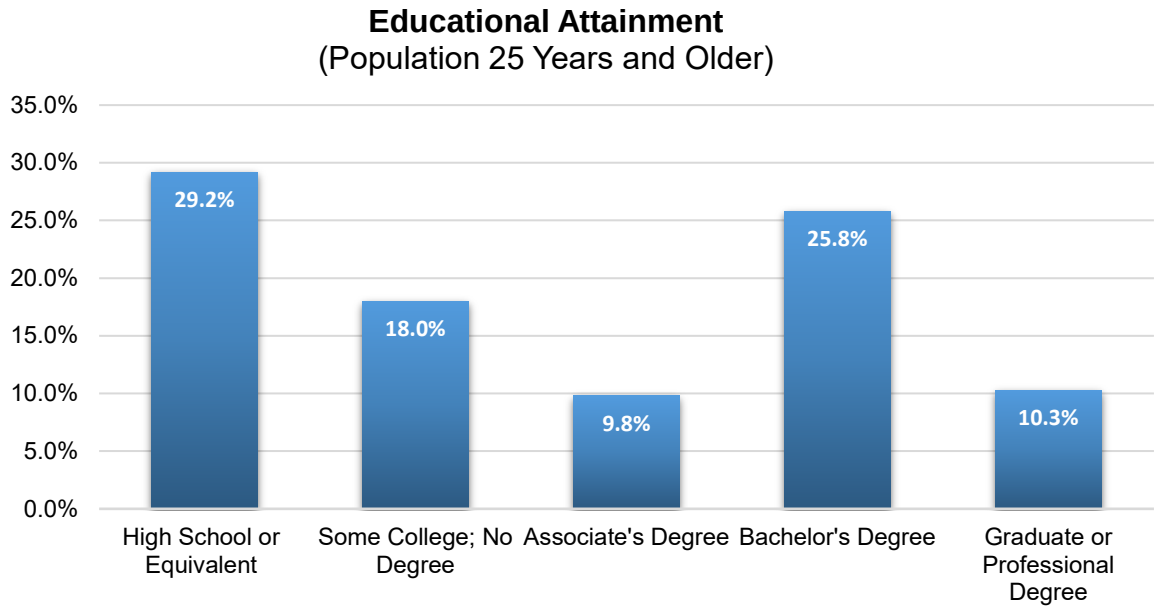
Employment by Industry
(Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over)



Fox Cities Employers	
▪ Afry USA LLC	▪ Miller Electric Manufacturing Co
▪ Air Wisconsin Airlines Corp	▪ Miron Construction
▪ Alta Resources	▪ Neenah Enterprises Inc
▪ Amazon	▪ Nestle USA Inc
▪ Appvion LLC	▪ Network Health
▪ Appleton Area School District	▪ Ornua
▪ Ascension	▪ Outagamie County
▪ Bergstrom Automotive	▪ Outlook Group Holdings LLC
▪ Boldt Company	▪ Pierce Manufacturing Inc
▪ Ducommun	▪ Plexus Corp
▪ Essity	▪ Rockwell Automation
▪ Expera Specialty Solutions	▪ Secura Insurance Companies
▪ Faith Technologies	▪ Thedacare
▪ Fleet Farm Inc	▪ Thrivent
▪ GFL Environmental	▪ US Venture Inc
▪ Great Northern Corporation	▪ VF Outdoor
▪ Jeweler's Mutual	▪ Valley Packaging Industries
▪ JJ Keller & Associates Inc	▪ Voith Paper Inc
▪ Kimberly-Clark	▪ Walmart
▪ Menasha Corporation	▪ West Business Services

Education

According to the July 1, 2023 US Census Quick Facts, 93.7% of Appleton's population aged 25 years and over had graduated high school or the equivalent. Additionally, 36.2% of Appleton's population 25 and older hold a bachelor's degree or higher compared to 32.0% of Wisconsin's overall population.



The Appleton Area School District serves most Appleton residents, with sixteen elementary schools, four middle schools, and three high schools.

Fox Valley Technical College, Lawrence University, St. Norbert College, and three University of Wisconsin campuses (Fox Valley, Oshkosh, and Green Bay) provide higher educational opportunities to residents of Appleton and the region.

Marian University and Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac, St. Norbert College in De Pere, and Lakeland University in Grand Chute are some of other higher educational opportunities open to residents of the region who are willing to travel.

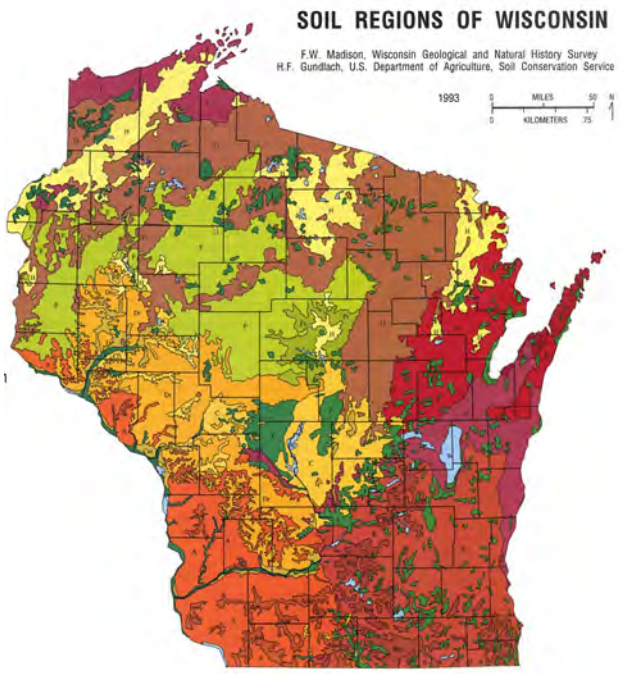
Bachelor's Degree Or Higher	
Appleton	36.1%
Outagamie County	31.4%
State of Wisconsin	33.8%

2.3 Physical and Environmental Resources

Soil Types and Topography

Although many soil types can be found in the Appleton area (including lime-rich tills, clays, loams, and sandy deposits) the dominant soil types consist of silty loam, silty clay, and silty clay loams. Typical examples include Brigssville and Kewaunee silt loams and Winneconne silty clay. These soils tend to be relatively deep. Dolomite is the predominant bedrock type, although the Fox River Valley is underlain by shale.

The dominant hydrological feature in Appleton is the Lower Fox River, which runs through the center of the city from west to east. The river has been central to the City's formation, first as a transportation route for Native Americans and fur trappers, later as a source of power for industry, and now as an environmental feature that draws residents and visitors.



Adapted from Hole, F.D., et al., 1968, Soils of Wisconsin: Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, scale 1:710,000.

Grading and filling have altered the original drainage patterns over much of the urbanized area of Appleton, replacing open streams with storm sewers and channels. The narrow ravines leading down to the Fox River are a remnant of this former landscape.

The well-drained plains and ravines ensure that Appleton is notably free of wetlands and wetland indicator soils.

Climate, Flora, and Fauna

Appleton falls in the Omernik Level IV Ecoregion - Lake Michigan Lacustrine Clay Plain category under the Southeastern Wisconsin Till Plains heading.

The Wisconsin DNR Ecological Landscapes are sixteen areas of Wisconsin with different ecological attributes and management opportunities. Appleton belongs, for the most part, in the Central Lake Michigan Coastal category.

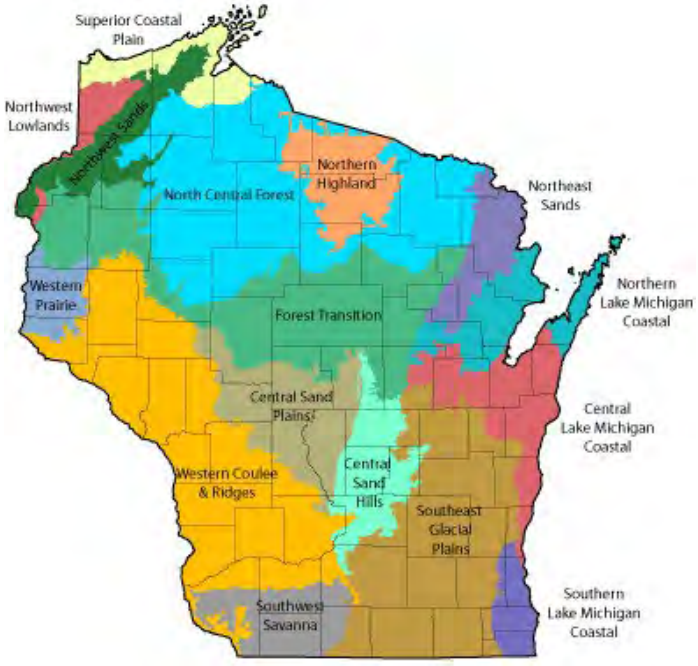
The climate in the eastern part of this Ecological Landscape is moderated by its proximity to Lake Michigan, leading to warmer temperatures in the fall and early winter and somewhat cooler temperatures during spring and early summer that influence vegetation and other aspects of the ecology. Lake effect snow can occur in areas along the Lake Michigan coast during the winter.

The landforms in the Central Lake Michigan Coastal are mostly glacial in origin, especially till plains and moraines, reworked and overlain in the western part by Glacial Lake Oshkosh. Beach ridges, terraces, and dunes formed near the shorelines of this glacial lake when sandy sediments were present. At other locations boulder fields were formed when silts and clays were removed by wave action.

Woodlands covered much of Winnebago and Outagamie Counties before settlement. At one time, the area was primarily covered with deciduous hardwood forest. The Fox Valley's reliance on the paper industry attests to the regions' forested history.

Agriculture is the dominant area land use here by area, along with several medium sized cities. Some large forested wetlands occur in both the eastern and western parts of the Ecological Landscape. The Wolf River bottoms are especially important in the west, and extensive marshes persist in southwestern Green Bay.

Level III and IV Ecoregions of Wisconsin



Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

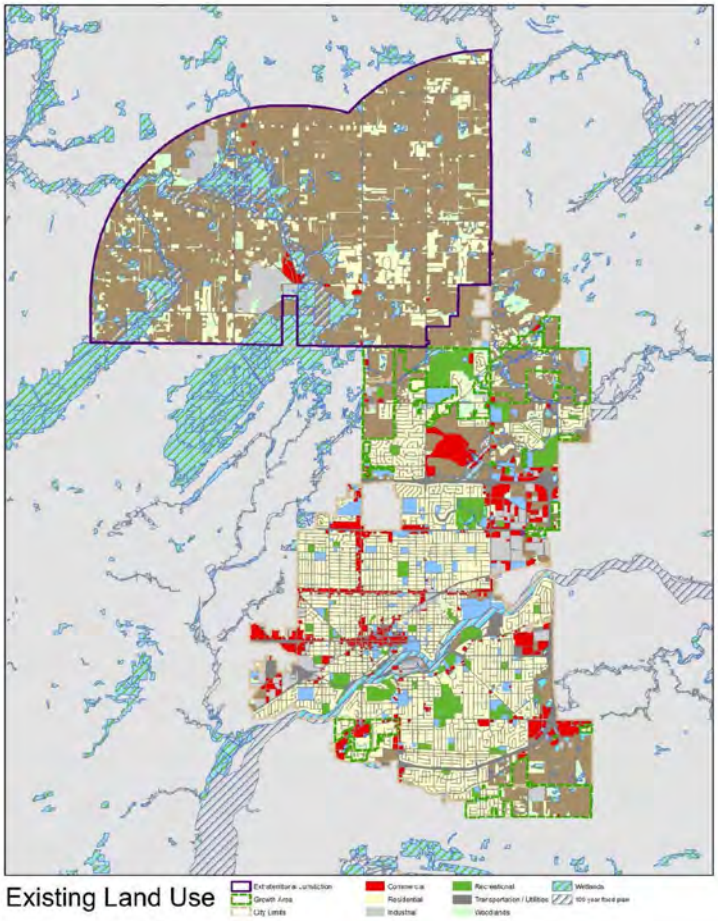
2.4 Current Land Use

Appleton currently has an area of 15,963.4 acres. An additional 14,143.2 acres lie within its extraterritorial jurisdiction, as delineated by the boundary agreements the city has entered into with some of its neighbors.

One and two-family residential uses make up the largest part of the city, taking up more than half of the total land area.

Agriculture remains an important element of the regional economy, although its role within the City of Appleton is somewhat limited. Active farmland within or adjacent to the city is located predominantly to the north, where continued growth (by Appleton and its neighbors) is resulting in conversion of agricultural land to urban uses.

Of the existing farmland, corn, forage, and soybeans are the primary crops. Cattle and calves make up a vast majority of the livestock farmed. Other livestock raised in the area includes poultry, hogs, and lambs.



Source: City Comprehensive Plan

In place of its original forests, Appleton now has a well-developed "urban forest." The urban forest is made up of trees on both public and private property within the city, such as those in city parks, street trees, trees on commercial property, and those on individual homeowner's lots. The value of urban forests has been well documented and includes benefits such as improved aesthetics, increased economic value to property, stormwater absorption, shade and mitigation of the urban heat island effect, shelter for animals, carbon sequestration, and air quality improvement.

Appleton's Department of Public Works manages the urban forest. Their mission is to "manage the urban forest to enhance the current and future environmental quality, safety and aesthetics for the benefit of the community." The city has a policy to plant street trees following construction or reconstruction of new roads.

Please refer to Appendix E to see the Appleton Future Land Use Map.

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DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS & RECREATION

SECTION 3

PARKLAND INVENTORY

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

3.1 City Parks

Name:	**Alicia Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	1301 W. Cedar St.
Location:	Located along the north bank of the Fox River in the southwest part of the city, just south of Pierce Park and W. Prospect Ave.
Size:	12.00 acres
Parcel/s #:	313138800
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Shelter/Pavilion (cap. 48) ▪ Off Street Parking ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grills
Notes:	Alicia Park is 12 acres located high above the Fox River. The steep nature of the hillside does not allow for river access but the park has off street parking, a rentable pavilion and a playground. In the summer months, the name "Alice" is planted in a foliage display as a memorial to the wife of Alexander Reid who willed the park to the City in 1910.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Arbutus Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	431 W. Atlantic St.
Location:	Located near the center of the city, north of W. College Ave and east of N. Richmond St.
Size:	3.44 acres
Parcel/s #:	315099200
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Grills ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Porta Toilets
Notes:	One of several ravine parks in Appleton, Arbutus Park is nestled in between Packard and Atlantic Streets and is easily missed if you are not looking for it. It has a paved trail that bisects the park and a playground. There are no rest room facilities, a portable toilet is provided during the summer months.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**City Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	500 E. Franklin St.
Location:	Located near the center of the city, north of Lawrence University.
Size:	8.00 acres
Parcel/s #:	311033101
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 24) ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grills
Notes:	Appleton's oldest park is 8 acres and is located within close proximity to the downtown and Lawrence University. The park contains a playground with an artificial grass surface, a fountain and a rentable pavilion. City Park hosts several events throughout the year including Art in the Park.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Colony Oaks Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	801 N. Briarcliff Dr.
Location:	Located on the far east part of the city, just south of the Fox River, west of Hwy 441.
Size:	7.88 acres
Parcel/s #:	314463100
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trail ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Multipurpose Sports Field ▪ Backstops ▪ Volleyball Court ▪ Basketball ▪ Tennis ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 48) ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grills
Notes:	This 8 acre park on Appleton's east side boasts a playground, rentable pavilion, tennis and basketball courts and sand volleyball. There is also a large general purpose field for various sports.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Derks Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	3220 E. Guyette St.
Location:	Located in the southeast corner of the city, near Hwy 441.
Size:	9.07 acres
Parcel/s #:	314547000
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 48) ▪ Food Prep Area ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grills
Notes:	This popular park is located on Appleton's east side. There is a rubber surfaced playground, a rentable pavilion and plenty of room to run on its 9 acres.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Einstein Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	3200 N. Durkee St.
Location:	Located in the north-central part of the city next to Einstein Middle School.
Size:	6.60 acres
Parcel/s #:	316313700 316313800 316740000 316730000
Amenities:	▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball ▪ Pickleball ▪ Tennis ▪ Gaga Pit ▪ Off Street Parking
Notes:	Einstein Park is located between three schools and can get quite busy during school days. Outside of school hours this quiet park has a playground, two tennis courts and a baseball field.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Ellen Kort Peace Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	337 W. Water St.
Location:	Located along the north bank of the Fox River near the Oneida St. bridge.
Size:	3.38 acres
Parcel/s #:	313148300 312078601 313148400 312078500
Amenities:	▪ Seating ▪ Monument ▪ Paved Biking/Walking Trails
Notes:	This park honors Ellen Kort, a lifelong resident of Appleton, named Wisconsin's first Poet Laureate by Governor Tommy Thompson in 2000. With a space designed for reflection, healing, and community connection, this revitalized green space transforms a once-industrial site into a welcoming park with river views, natural landscaping, walking paths, and a central gazebo-like monument dedicated to sexual assault awareness. While there are no restrooms on site, the peaceful setting makes it an ideal spot for quiet moments and creative inspiration.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Green Meadows Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	65 Pheasant Ct.
Location:	Situated on the southern side of Appleton along and south of Hwy 441.
Size:	5.60 acres
Parcel/s #:	319437700
Amenities:	▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Multipurpose Sports Field ▪ Backstops ▪ Pickleball ▪ Tennis ▪ Basketball ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 48) ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grills
Notes:	Green Meadows is a 5.6 acre park on Appleton's south side. It has a playground, tennis courts, a rentable pavilion and a general purpose sports field with a backstop.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Highview Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	110 W. Wayfarer Ln.
Location:	Located in the northwestern part of the city, near Hwy 47.
Size:	12.59 acres
Parcel/s #:	316516400
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Multipurpose Sports Field ▪ Basketball ▪ Pickleball ▪ Tennis ▪ Ice Skating ▪ ADA Grilling Area ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 48) ▪ Food Prep Area ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	This north side park is 12.6 acres and is located at the end of the Highview Trail. It features a rentable pavilion, playground, tennis and basketball courts and a general use sports field. Several paved paths cross the park. In the winter there is a skating rink.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Hoover Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	600 E. Roeland Ave.
Location:	Located in the southern part of the city, near Hwy 441.
Size:	11.60 acres
Parcel/s #:	319126400
Amenities:	▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball ▪ Soccer ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 48)* (*No food prep area/kitchen) ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	Hoover Park is an 11.6 acre park that feature a soccer field, baseball and softball diamonds, and a rentable pavilion. The green and gold playground was donated by the Green Bay Packers, who also provided some players to help with the installation.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Jaycee Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	1200 S. Jefferson St.
Location:	Located in the southern half of the city, just south of the Fox River.
Size:	4.00 acres
Parcel/s #:	314037700
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball ▪ Volleyball Courts ▪ Basketball ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (capacity: 48) ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	At only 4 acres Jaycee Park still hosts a rentable pavilion, playground, basketball court and two sand volleyball courts. The park also contains a softball diamond.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Kiwanis Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	2315 N. Nicholas St.
Location:	Located in the northwest part of the city, just south of W. Northland Ave.
Size:	6.50 acres
Parcel/s #:	315375100
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball ▪ Multipurpose Sports Field ▪ Soccer ▪ Basketball ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (capacity: 48) ▪ Food Prep Area ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	Kiwanis Park is located on the northwest side of Appleton. It is 8 acres, has a playground, rentable pavilion and a baseball diamond.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Linwood Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	401 N. Douglas St.
Location:	Located in west-central part of the city, near Appleton West High School.
Size:	9.5 acres
Parcel/s #:	315173202
Amenities:	▪ Open Space ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball ▪ Basketball ▪ Pickleball Courts ▪ Tennis Courts ▪ Fishing ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Open Air Shelter ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	This 10 acre, west side park was added to the system in 1945. It features a playground, rentable pavilion, basketball and tennis courts, and a baseball diamond. The park also has a paved walking loop.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Lions Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	1920 S. Matthias St.
Location:	Located in southeast part of the city, next to Appleton East High School.
Size:	4.40 acres
Parcel/s #:	314585801
Amenities:	▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball ▪ Gaga Pit ▪ ADA Grilling Areas ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 48) ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	Lions Park is 4.5 acres located off Matthias Street. This well-loved neighborhood park is packed with amenities for all ages. It features a playground with a very tall slide that's a hit with adventurous kids, a baseball diamond, pavilion, restrooms, drinking fountain, grill area, and a Gaga pit. With plenty of green space and its close proximity to Fire Station 2 and the city water tower, Lions Park is a go-to spot for family fun, pick-up games, and community gatherings.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Lundgaard Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	4900 Lightning Dr.
Location:	Located on the north side of Appleton, across the road from Appleton North High School.
Size:	6.77 acres
Parcel/s #:	311725002
Amenities:	▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Basketball Court (lighted) ▪ 2 Pickleball Courts (lighted) ▪ Walking Trail ▪ Restrooms ▪ Pavilion/Shelter ▪ Picnic Tables
Notes:	Lundgaard Park is located next to Fire Station #6 and features a firefighter-themed playground, as well as pickleball courts and a basketball court. The park was named for Mitch Lundgaard, a 14-year veteran of the Appleton Fire Department, who was killed in the line of duty.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Lutz Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	1320 S. Lutz St.
Location:	On the north side of the Fox River and the west side of Appleton between Alicia and Pierce Parks.
Size:	3.70 acres
Parcel/s #:	313136400
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Boat Ramp ▪ Fishing ▪ ADA Kayak Launch ▪ Fishing Pier ▪ Gazebo ▪ Off Street Parking ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	Lutz Park is a three acre park along the Fox River. Before dams, this area contained rapids called the Grand Chute, Appleton's historic steamboat landing. The park has restrooms, a boat launch, ADA kayak launch and a playground. It offers shoreline and bridge fishing opportunities. With its river views and gazebo, this is a popular spot for photos.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Mead Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	1430 E. John St.
Location:	Located in the south-central part of Appleton, just south of the Fox River near Lawrence University.
Size:	8.50 acres
Parcel/s #:	314082600
Amenities:	▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Volleyball Court in Pool Area ▪ Swimming Pool ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Grill(s) ▪ Off Street Parking
Notes:	Mead Park is a 8.5 acre park that contains one of the city's municipal pools, Mead Pool. It has off street parking and a playground. The park has no dedicated restroom facilities (aside from those in the pool area).

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Peabody Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	601 N. Green Bay Rd.
Location:	Located in the central part of the city, just north of the Fox River, and across the river from Telulah Park.
Size:	16.20 acres
Parcel/s #:	311098001 311098101 311119001 311117800 311072100 311098401 311117600
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Basketball ▪ Fishing ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 48) ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	Known until 1971 as Bellaire Park, Peabody Park was the second park added to Appleton's Park system. It is an interesting park with a part located along the Fox River and the remainder extending up a ravine into the surrounding neighborhood. A trail extends out the back of the park to Rankin St.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Pioneer Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	420 W. Prospect Ave
Location:	Located along W Prospect Ave, just north of Ellen Kort Park.
Size:	0.52 acres
Parcel/s #:	313041700
Amenities:	▪ Benches ▪ Walking Trail
Notes:	This small half acre park is located on what once was an underground water storage tank. While it doesn't have a playground or recreational amenities, the park provides benches and open space for rest, reflection, or a peaceful pause during a walk. Its simplicity and history make it a subtle but meaningful part of Appleton's park system. .

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Providence Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	4620 Providence Ave.
Location:	Located in the northern section of the city, near the USA Youth Sports Complex.
Size:	3.32 acres
Parcel/s #:	311650501
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Connection to the Providence Trail ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Porta Toilets
Notes:	This north side park is 3 acres and is located at the east end of the Providence Trail. The park features a playground and gazebo, providing a welcoming stop for families and trail users. While there are no restroom facilities, the open green space and quiet setting make it an ideal spot for a play break, picnic, or a peaceful pause along your walk or ride.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Schaefer Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	610 S. Buchanan St.
Location:	Located in the southern half of the city, just south of E. College Ave.
Size:	6.40 acres
Parcel/s #:	314399000
Amenities:	▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Basketball ▪ ADA Grilling Areas ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 48) ▪ Food Prep Area ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	Schaefer is a six and a half acre park nestled in a quiet, tree-lined area. A paved path winds through the park's natural setting, making it perfect for a peaceful stroll or a family walk. It has a rentable pavilion, playground and basketball court. A paved path dissects the park.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Summit Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	2423 N. Summit St.
Location:	Located on the north-central side of the city, along W. Lindbergh St.
Size:	5.49 acres
Parcel/s #:	315953017
Amenities:	▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Basketball ▪ Multipurpose Sports Field ▪ Pickleball ▪ Tennis ▪ Porta Toilets
Notes:	It has pickleball and basketball courts, a playground and general use sports field. Summit has no restroom facilities but a portable toilet is provided during the summer months.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

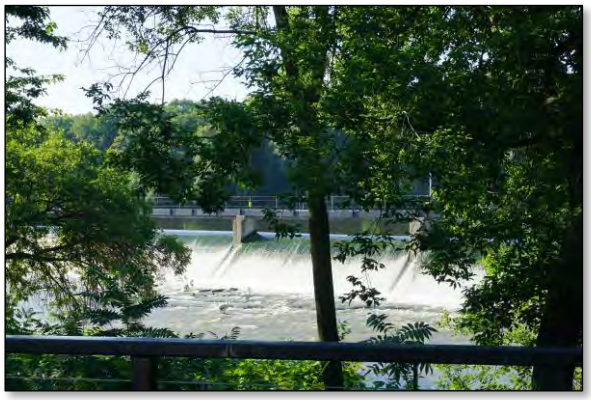
Name:	**Veterans Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	1201 S. Memorial Dr.
Location:	Located along the south bank of the Fox River and along S. Memorial Dr.
Size:	5.73 acres
Parcel/s #:	314122601 314093000 314093400
Amenities:	▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Porta Toilets
Notes:	Veterans Park is a small park just south of the Memorial Drive Bridge. Nestled among mature trees with scenic river views, this park offers a quiet spot for reflection, relaxation, or a riverside stroll. Families can enjoy the playground, and a seasonal portable restroom is available from May through September. Limited off street parking is available. Located on the Fox River, but the steepness of the bluff makes the river inaccessible.

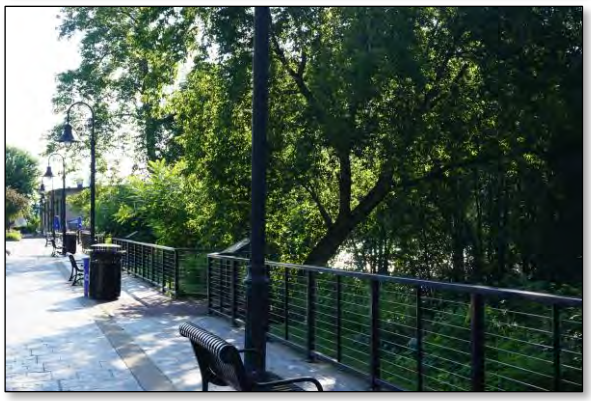
3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Vosters Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	4200 E. Ashbury Dr.
Location:	Located far up on the north side of the city on Ashbury Dr.
Size:	5.10 acres
Parcel/s #:	311750901
Amenities:	▪ Playground ▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Grill ▪ Porta Toilets
Notes:	Vosters Park is a 5 acre park located on Appleton's north east side. A trail loops through the park, making it a pleasant spot for a stroll or nature exploration. The park is a destination for neighborhood families and children looking for open space and outdoor fun. The park has no restroom facilities but a portable toilet is provided during the summer months.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Vulcan Heritage Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	535 W. Water St.
Location:	Located on the north bank of the Fox River along W. Water St.
Size:	2.05 acres
Parcel/s #:	313147900 313033303 313147800
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Fishing ▪ Off Street Parking ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	Located along the Fox River this 2 acre park offers river access along with signage explaining the historical significance of the area. The park includes tables and a grill. No playground or restrooms are available.





3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Woodland Park**
Classification:	Neighborhood Park
Address:	1815 Schaefer Cir.
Location:	Located on the southern side of the city, just north of Hwy 441.
Size:	8.70 acres
Parcel/s #:	319267600 319239900
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball ▪ Gazebo ▪ ADA Grilling Areas ▪ Off Street Parking ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	Woodland Park shares a border with an elementary school so it can get quite busy on school days. Otherwise it is a quiet 8.7 acre park with a playground, ball diamond and gazebo. The park has a small wooded area with some trails. There are no restroom facilities at Woodland Park.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Erb Park**
Classification:	Community Park
Address:	1800 N. Morrison St.
Location:	Located in the center of the city, between WI-96 and E. Northland Ave.
Size:	27.75 acres
Parcel/s #:	316057200
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Fitness Stations ▪ Horseshoes ▪ Multipurpose Sports Field ▪ Basketball ▪ Tennis ▪ Sledding ▪ Swimming Pool ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap: 84) ▪ Food Prep Area ▪ Off Street Parking ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s) ▪ Cornhole ▪ Gaga Pit
Notes:	This 28 acre community park is home to Erb Pool. It features a rubber surfaced playground, ping pong table, beanbag toss and an ice rink and sledding hill in the winter.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Jones Park**
Classification:	Community Park
Address:	301 W. Lawrence St.
Location:	Located in the central part of the city along S. Oneida St.
Size:	5.75 acres
Parcel/s #:	312011601
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Hockey ▪ Ice Skating ▪ Off Street Parking ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Amphitheater ▪ Pavilion
Notes:	This ravine park is located next to the Fox Cities Exhibition Center and contains a pavilion and playground. The park also has a large amphitheater which will host several events including the Mile of Music. An ADA accessible ramp was installed to supply access from Lawrence Street down to the park. Hockey and family ice rinks will be put in seasonally with the pavilion used as a warming shelter with concessions.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Pierce Park**
Classification:	Community Park
Address:	1035 W. Prospect Ave.
Location:	Located on the southwest corner of the city along the Fox River, near S. Mason St.
Size:	34.91 acres
Parcel/s #:	313135300 313135400
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball ▪ Multipurpose Sports Field ▪ Basketball ▪ Tennis ▪ Disc Golf ▪ Hockey / Ice Skating ▪ Cornhole ▪ Fitness Stations ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 150) ▪ Food Prep Area ▪ Parking Lot ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	Pierce Park is a 35 acre community park on a bluff with sweeping views of the Fox River. This vibrant park hosts City Band concerts on Tuesdays, and several annual community events. Popular playground with a zip-line.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Telulah Park**
Classification:	Community Park
Address:	1300 Georgia St.
Location:	Located in the south central part of the city along the south banks of the Fox River, across from Peabody Park.
Size:	39.31 acres
Parcel/s #:	314083002 314083000 314083100 314083001
Amenities:	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball ▪ Horseshoes ▪ Soccer ▪ Disc Golf ▪ Pickleball Complex (8) ▪ ADA Kayak Launch ▪ Fishing Pier ▪ Fitness Stations ▪ Skateboard Area ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 150) ▪ Food Prep Area ▪ Parking Lot ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	This community park is Appleton's second largest and was once known for its mineral springs. The park even offers a bike repair station and kayak rental kiosk.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

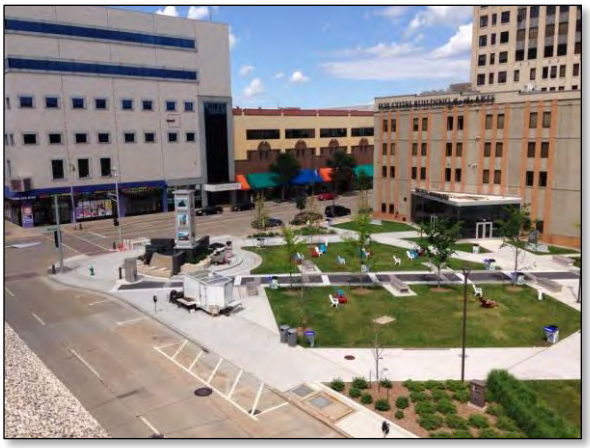
Name:	**Veterans Memorial Park** (formerly Appleton Memorial Park)
Classification:	Community Park
Address:	1620 Witzke Blvd.
Location:	Located in the north-central part of the city, along E. Northland Ave and N. Ballard Rd.
Size:	140.10 acres
Parcel/s #:	311653201 311653501
Amenities	▪ Biking/Walking Trails ▪ Picnic Area ▪ Playground Equipment ▪ Baseball/Softball (7) ▪ Miracle League Field ▪ Fitness Stations ▪ Soccer ▪ Archery ▪ Scheig Center and Surrounding Gardens ▪ Gaga Pit ▪ Fishing ▪ Ice Skating ▪ Sledding ▪ Pavilion/Shelter (cap. 48) ▪ Food Prep Area ▪ Parking Lot (4) ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Restrooms ▪ Grill(s)
Notes:	At 140+ acres Appleton Memorial is the largest and most diverse park in Appleton.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Ballard Road Property**
Classification:	Special Use Park
Address:	Unassigned
Location:	Located in the far northern part of the Appleton area along North Ballard Road.
Size:	1.75 acres
Parcel/s #:	040099703
Amenities:	▪ Undeveloped
Notes:	The Ballard Road Property is part of the Apple Hills Development.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Houdini Plaza**
Classification:	Special Use Area
Address:	100 W. Lawrence St Unit 307
Location:	Located downtown near and just north of the river.
Size:	1.00 acres
Parcel/s #:	312006700 312006500
Amenities:	▪ Benches ▪ Lawn ▪ Picnic Tables ▪ Plantings ▪ Houdini Tower ▪ Raised Terrance/Stage ▪ Fountain
Notes:	Developed in the 1980's as an open green space in the center of downtown Appleton, the Plaza has become the place for several events and activities such as the Appleton Farmers Market, Octoberfest, etc. Throughout the plaza you will find benches, lawn areas, an illuminated fountain, and a raised terrace that is also utilized as a stage for performances. Houdini Tower is one of the focal points of Houdini Plaza.



3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Reid Golf Course**
Classification:	Special Use Area
Address:	1100 E. Fremont St.
Location:	Located in the south-center of the city, south of the Fox River.
Size:	107.60 acres
Parcel/s #:	314092100 314092000
Amenities:	▪ Golf Course ▪ Club House
Notes:	Reid Golf Course is an award winning 18-hole municipal golf course located in the heart of Appleton. Reid Golf Course features excellent course design, full-service pro shop, and relaxing clubhouse with food and beverage service, practice range, and club and cart rental. During winter months the facility is also used as a winter recreation center and is advertised in the City Guide for sledding and cross-country skiing

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

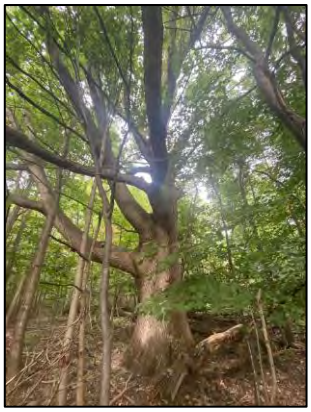
Name:	**Union Springs Park**
Classification:	Special Use Area
Address:	313 N. Kalata Pl.
Location:	Located in the downtown, north of the Fox River.
Size:	0.10 acres
Parcel/s #:	312048803
Amenities:	▪ Artisan Well (Abandoned)
Notes:	This artesian well on this site was originally constructed in 1920. The Lutz Ice Co. drew water from the 500-foot well. Valley Bank acquired the 650 square foot parcel in the early 1970's. May 13, 1997 was the official dedication of Union Springs Park.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**USA Youth Sports Complex**
Classification:	Special Use Area
Address:	3300 E. Evergreen Dr.
Location:	Located in the northeast part of the city, just north of Hwy 41.
Size:	80.50 acres
Parcel/s #:	311650500
Amenities:	▪ (2) Little League Fields ▪ (2) Baseball Diamonds ▪ (15) Soccer Fields ▪ Off-Street Parking (1,200 spaces) ▪ Concession ▪ Restrooms ▪ Meeting Space & Storage
Notes:	USA Youth Sports Complex is managed by the United Sports Association for Youth (USA Youth), a non-profit organization run by a 12-member Board of Directors, including representatives from the Appleton Soccer Club and Appleton Little League. USA Youth leases 80 acres of parkland from the City of Appleton for the sports complex that includes fifteen soccer fields, two Little League diamonds, and two Baseball diamonds. USA Youth is responsible for the management and operations of the entire complex.

3.0 PARKLAND INVENTORY

Name:	**Appleton Conservancy**
Classification:	Natural Resource Area
Location:	Located on the very southeast corner of the city along E. Midway Rd.
Size:	33.45 acres
Amenities:	▪ Nature Area ▪ Future amenities per the master plan to include: trails, signage, parking, outdoor classroom, and shelter.



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3.2 Public School-Owned Recreational Facilities

Appleton is served by the Appleton Area School District and various private schools. The following list of amenities is based off aerial photography.

Badger Elementary

- 501 S. Bluemound Dr.
- Outdoor facilities include: backstop, open green space, playground equipment, shade structure, hard surface play area, and off-street parking.

Berry Elementary

- 3601 S. Telulah Ave.
- Outdoor facilities include: football/soccer fields, backstop, hard surface trails, playground equipment, hard surface play area, and off-street parking.

Columbus Elementary

- 913 N. Oneida St.
- Outdoor facilities include: hard surface play area with half basketball court, playground equipment, and off-street parking.

Dunlap Elementary

- 1000 N. Mason St.
- Outdoor facilities include: football/soccer field, backstop, playground equipment, hard surface play area with basketball hoops, and hard surface trail.

Edison Elementary

- 412 N. Meade St.
- Outdoor facilities include: soccer/football field space, playground equipment, hard surface play area, and off-street parking.

Ferber Elementary

- 515 E. Capitol Dr.
- Outdoor facilities include: soccer/football field space, playground equipment, hard surface play area, hard surface trail, and off-street parking.

Franklin Elementary

- 2212 N. Jarchow St.
- Outdoor facilities include: football/soccer field space, playground equipment, hard surface play area, and off-street parking.

Highlands Elementary

- 2037 N. Elinor St.
- Outdoor facilities include: two baseball/softball backstops with infields, playground equipment, hard surface play area, Highlands Habitat natural area, and off-street parking.

Horizon Elementary

- 2101 Schaefer Cir.
- Outdoor facilities include: baseball/softball backstop and infield, soccer/football areas, playground equipment, hard surface play area, paved trails, and off-street parking.

Houdini Elementary (in Grand Chute)

- 2305 W. Capitol Dr.
- Outdoor facilities include: soccer/football areas, open space, backstop, playground equipment, hard surface play area, and off-street parking.

Huntley Elementary

- 2224 N. Ullman St.
- Outdoor facilities include: soccer/football area, baseball/softball backstop with infield, T-ball, basketball courts, playground equipment, hard surface play area, and off-street parking.

Jefferson Elementary

- 1000 S. Mason St.
- Outdoor facilities include: playground equipment, hard surface play area, and off-street parking. A baseball/softball field is available in the adjoining Pierce Park.

Johnston Elementary

- 2725 E. Forest St.
- Outdoor facilities include: backstop with infield, soccer/football field area, playground equipment, hard surface play area, and off-street parking.

McKinley Elementary

- 1125 E. Taft Ave.
- Outdoor facilities include: backstop with infield, soccer/football field area, playground equipment, hard surface play area, and off-street parking.

Neinhaus Field

- 551 N. Outagamie Ct.
- Outdoor facilities include: open green space, two lighted baseball/softball fields, concessions, and off-street parking.

Richmond Elementary

- 1441 E. John St.
- Outdoor facilities include: soccer/football field area, playground equipment, hard surface play area, and off-street parking.

Sandy Slope Elementary

- 2625 E. Edgewood Dr.
- Outdoor facilities include: Not applicable. School not finished as of the writing of this plan.

Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School

- 305 W. Foster St.
- Outdoor facilities include: backstop, soccer/football field area, playground equipment, hard surface play area, green space, and off-street parking.

Einstein Middle School

- 324 E. Florida Ave.
- Outdoor facilities include: two baseball/softball fields, running track, outdoor classroom/garden, and off-street parking.

Kaleidoscope Academy

- 318 E. Brewster St.
- Outdoor facilities include: backstop with infield, soccer/football field area, hard surface play area, hard surface trails, and off-street parking.

Madison Middle School

- 2020 S. Carpenter St.
- Outdoor facilities include: running track with interior soccer/football area, field events, backstop with infield, soccer/football practice field areas, hard surface play area, basketball court, and off-street parking.

Wilson Middle School

- 225 N. Badger Ave.
- Outdoor facilities include: running track with football field and field events, ropes course, climbing wall, and off-street parking.

Appleton East High School

- 2121 E. Emmers Dr.
- Outdoor facilities include: all weather surface running track with synthetic turf football/soccer field and field events, (2) baseball fields, (2) softball fields, (2) shot put, (2) discus, batting cages, soccer field, (8) tennis courts, pool, and off-street parking.

Appleton North High School

- 5000 N. Ballard Rd.
- Outdoor facilities include: all weather surface running track with synthetic turf football/soccer field and field events, (2) baseball fields, (2) softball fields, (3) shot put, (2) discus, batting cages, soccer field, practice space, (8) tennis courts, pool, and off-street parking.

Appleton West High School

- 610 N. Badger Ave.
- Outdoor facilities include: all weather surface running track with synthetic turf football/soccer field and field events, (2) shot put, (2) discus, (8) tennis courts, pool, and off-street parking.

3.3 Additional Area Recreation Resources

The following is a selection of outdoor facilities and/or recreational sites open to the public within a half-hours drive or less from the city.

1000 Islands Environmental Center

- 1000 Beaulieu Ct., Kaukauna, WI 54130
- This 350-acre environmental center and conservancy site offers miles of hiking and snowshoeing trails, photography opportunities, educational programs, a Nature Center with educational displays, a gift shop, pavilions and pavilion rentals. Over 18,000 school children from Northeast Wisconsin make 1000 Islands their environmental field trip each year.

Alliance Church

- 2693 Grand Chute Blvd., Appleton, WI 54913
- Outdoor facilities are open to the general public. Soccer fields are reserved by certain groups for practices or games, primarily in the evening, Monday through Thursday, for a few months. All outdoor space is open to the public if not in use. A portable restroom is provided near the basketball courts and at one of the soccer fields May through October. Amenities include basketball, soccer/lacrosse fields, a playground, and open green space.

Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve

- 2851 E. Apple Creek Rd., Appleton WI 54913
- The Bruce B. Purdy Nature Preserve was created in 2005 through a donation of 104 acres of land to the YMCA of the Fox Cities from the late Bruce and Barbara Purdy. This unique parcel of land features wooded hills and ravines, open fields, restored prairie, ponds and wetlands, and pine plantations – all accessed through a network of approximately 3 miles of trails. Located on Appleton's quickly growing north-side, the land within its boundaries is home to a diverse mix of local plant and animal life. All visitors should check in at the Apple Creek YMCA.

Barker Park (County-Owned)

- 76 Old 54 Rd., Shiocton, WI 54170
- The County-owned Barker Park offers a boat ramp to the Wolf River, two new fishing docks, off-street parking, and a picnic area located on 27 acres.

Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve

- 4815 N. Lynndale Dr., Appleton, WI 54913
- The non-profit Bubolz Nature Preserve sits on roughly 725 acres in Grand Chute, WI. The preserve welcomes over 80,000 visitors annually and offers 8.5 miles of trails, snowshoe and ski rental, natural playscape, and family programs.

Chaska Golf Course (Privately Owned)

- W6575 W. Wisconsin Ave., Greenville, WI 54942
- Chaska Golf Course opened to the public in May of 1975. Designed by renowned golf course architect Larry Packard, Chaska Golf Course encompasses over 200 acres with professionally designed tees, bunkers, fairways and greens.

Community First Champion Center

- 5000 W. Champion Dr., Appleton, WI 54913
- The Grand Chute-owned Community First Champion Center is a 164,000-square-foot youth sports facility and features three competition pods: a year-round ice rink; a fieldhouse; and a seasonal arena that transitions between an ice rink and hardwood courts. In addition to basketball, volleyball, hockey, and figure skating, sports such as gymnastics, cheer, dance, wrestling, futsal, and more can be held in the competition spaces. The venue also includes 10 locker rooms; 3 team meeting rooms; onsite physical therapy clinic; a first aid/trainer's room; a break room, concessions, two-sided mezzanine with seating as well as additional standing room.

County Forest (County-Owned)

- 2400 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton, WI
- The county forest is a wooded natural area which is great for bird watching and hiking. The trail on the south edge connects to a network of trails in the Town of Grand Chute. Parking for the County Forest is available on the east side of North Casaloma Drive and north of the Timber Rattlers Stadium.

Fox Cities Stadium

- 2400 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton, WI 54912
- Neuroscience Group Field at Fox Cities Stadium is a baseball park in Grand Chute, Wisconsin. It is primarily used for baseball, and is the home field of the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers, the Midwest League Minor League Baseball affiliate of the Milwaukee Brewers.

Heckrodt Wetland Reserve

- 1305 Plank Rd, Menasha, WI 54952
- Heckrodt Wetland Reserve is a 91-acre urban nature reserve with habitats including forested wetland, cattail marsh, open water, created prairie, open field, and upland forest. Persisting despite the urbanization that continues to grow around it, the Reserve is home to numerous species of reptiles, amphibians, and mammals. Migrating songbirds and waterfowl nest and feed in its protection.
  Our unique and convenient location allows visitors an easy day trip within city limits that makes them feel as though they have traveled much further from home.

High Cliff State Park

- N7630 State Park Rd., Sherwood, WI 54169
- This 1,187-acre park is the only state-owned recreational area on Lake Winnebago, Wisconsin's largest lake. High Cliff gets its name from the limestone cliff of the Niagara Escarpment, which parallels the eastern shore of Lake Winnebago. The magnificent 12-foot statue of Winnebago Indian Chief Red Bird, standing high on a huge granite rock, overlooks the lake and is a popular destination in the park.

Ledgeview Golf Course

- 3149 Dickinson Rd., De Pere, WI 54115
- For over 50 years, Ledgeview Golf Course has been offering one of the finest golf experiences in the Green Bay Area. Combining playability with natural beauty, our classic course layout features rolling fairways, well bunkered greens, acres of picturesque wild flowers and gardens, and the most spectacular view of the City of Green Bay and the Fox River Valley.

Mosquito Hill Nature Center (County-Owned)

- N3880 Rogers Rd., New London, WI 54961
- An environmental education and recreation facility operated by the Outagamie County Parks Department; the center is open year-round on 441 acres adjacent to the Wolf River. An 11,000 square-foot interpretive building features natural history exhibits, hands-on displays, a gift shop, themed classrooms, meeting rooms, library and office. Environmental education or natural history programs are offered for schools, youth and adult groups by appointment. A trail system for hiking or walking includes three miles of developed trails with a loop to scenic vistas on top of Mosquito Hill, one of the highest elevation points in the area.

Old Stone Bridge Wooded Area (County-Owned)

- 3404 W. Brewster St., Appleton, WI 54914
- The county-owned Old Stone Bridge Wooded Area is wooded green space with the Stone Bridge Trail running through the property. It is located north of Brewster Village and south of Fox Valley Technical College, west of Bluemound Road in Grand Chute.

Outagamie County Dog Park (County-Owned)

- 2830 French Rd., Appleton, WI 54911
- The 12-acre site is fenced in for the purpose of exercising your dog without the use of a leash.

Outagamie County Fairground (County-Owned)

- 637 N. Main St., Seymour, WI 54165
- The Outagamie County Fairground is located on the northern limits of the City of Seymour, just 20 miles north of Appleton and the Fox Cities and 15 miles west of Green Bay.

Plamann Park (County-Owned)

- 1375 E. Broadway Dr., Appleton, WI 54913
- Plamann Park, a 257-acre park owned by Outagamie County, offers many activities, including self-guided scenic nature and hiking trails, swimming, an inflatable aquapark, a children's farm, sledding, snowmobiling, and cross-country skiing. If you are interested in sport activities, there are volleyball and tennis courts as well as horseshoe pits with sports equipment available to rent. Plamann Park is also home to a 5-star rated 27-hole disc golf course.

3.4 Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities and Trails

Bicycling, walking and trail use are becoming increasingly popular across the state. Not only do they provide important recreation and health benefits to the community, but they are essential to providing access to parks, businesses, tourist attractions, and other amenities for users that do not have constant access to a vehicle. Walking and biking are also important for economic and environmental reasons. Additionally, this slower and more friendly form of transportation also promotes social interaction.

Understanding the importance of trails, the City of Appleton has made great strides in improving its trail system. The League of American Bicyclists ranked Appleton as a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community. By 2021, Appleton had risen to a Silver Level Bicycle Friendly Community.

Please refer to the *Existing Trails Network* map and *Proposed Trails Network* map (taken from the *City of Appleton Trails Master Plan)* at the end of this section.

For more information on Appleton walking facilities and trails, please refer to the following publications.

- *City of Appleton Trails Master Plan* (adopted January, 2017)
- *The Outagamie County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan,* by Toole Design (adopted November 6, 2023)
- *Outagamie County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2022-2026* (adopted 2020)
- *Outagamie County Comprehensive Plan 2040: The Shared Path Forward* (adopted 2020)
- Appleton (Fox Cities) Transportation Management
- Area and Oshkosh Metropolitan Planning
- Organization Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (Adopted 2021)

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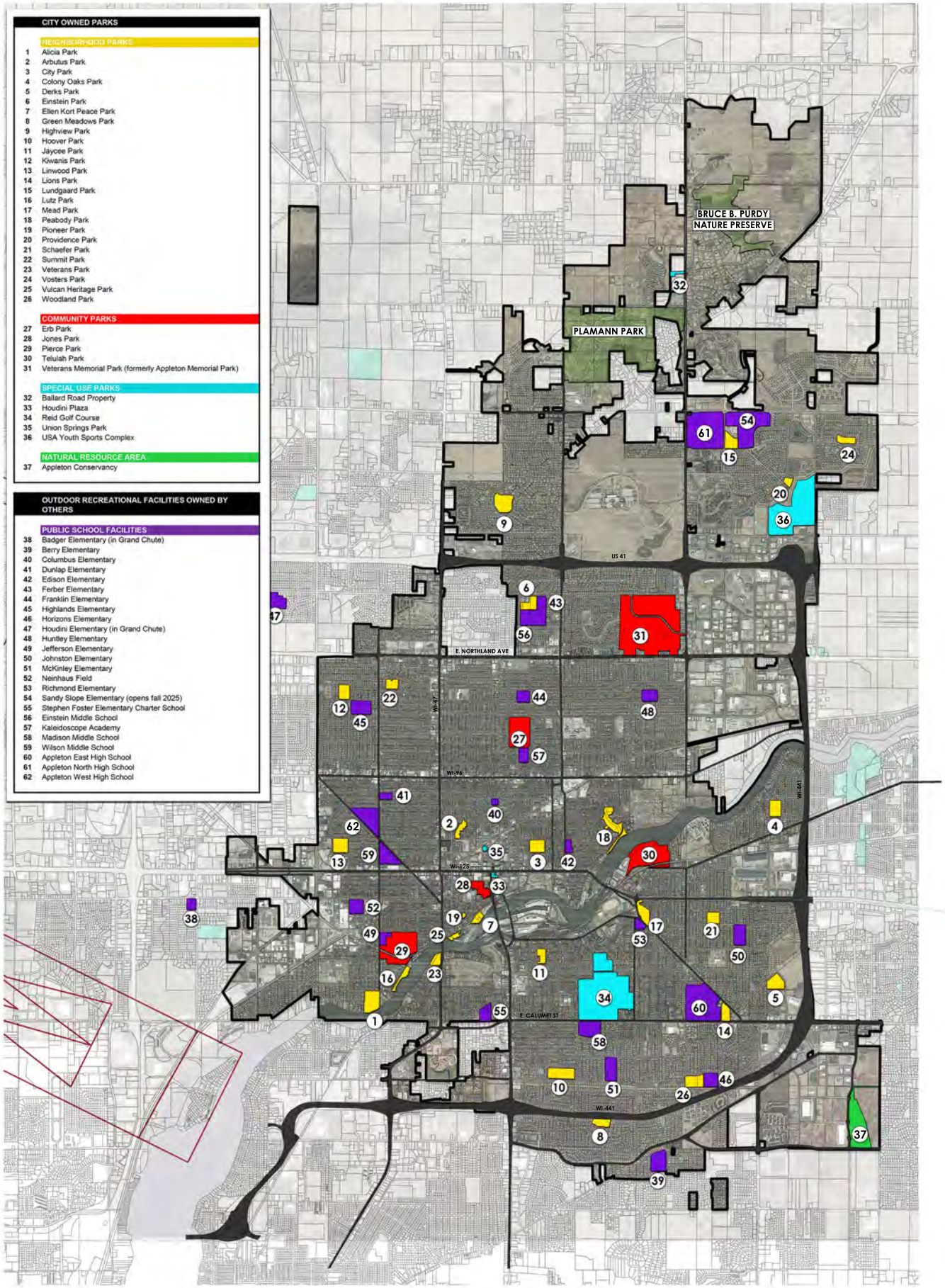
City of Appleton
Park Matrix

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

				Passive Areas						Active Games						Hard Surfaced Courts			Seasonal										Special							Shelters & Amenities								
				Lake/Pond/River	Nature Area	Picnic Area	Playground Equipment	Trails (paved)	Trails (unpaved)	Baseball/Softball	Backstop	Horseshoes	Multipurpose Sports Field	Soccer	Volleyball Courts	Basketball *=lighted	Pickleball *=lighted	Tennis Courts *=lighted	Archery	Boat Ramp	Disc Golf	Fishing	Fitness Stations	Gardens (Community or Flower)	Hockey	Ice Skating	Kayak/Canoe Launch	Sledding	Aquatic Facility (pool, water park, splash pad)	Bag Toss	Gaga Pit	Golf Course	Monument or Interest	Performance Stage	Skateboard Area	Benches	Concessions	Food Prep Area	Gazebo	Grill(s)	Off Street Parking	Pavilion/Shelter (Seated Capacity)	Picnic Tables	R=Restrooms P=Porta Toilets
	Neighborhood Parks	Acres	Address																																									
1	Alicia Park	12.00	1301 W. Cedar St.	X		X	X	X																												X				X	X	X (48)	X	R
2	Arbutus Park	3.44	431 W. Atlantic St.			X	X	X																				X								X				X				P
3	City Park	8.00	500 E. Franklin St.			X	X	X																									X			X				X		X (24)	X	R
4	Colony Oaks Park	7.88	801 N. Briarcliff Dr.			X	X	X			X		X		X	X		X																						X		X (48)	X	R
5	Derks Park	9.07	3220 E. Guyette St.			X	X	X																												X		X		X		X (48)	X	R
6	Einstein Park	6.60	3200 N. Durkee St.				X	X		X							2	2													X										X			
7	Ellen Kort Peace Park	3.38	337 W. Water St.	X				X														X											X			X								
8	Green Meadows Park	5.60	65 Pheasant Ct.			X	X				X		X			X	X	X																		X				X		X (48)	X	R
9	Highview Park	12.59	110 W. Wayfarer Ln.			X	X	X					X			X	X	X								X										X		X		X		X (48)	X	R
10	Hoover Park	11.60	600 E. Roeland Ave.			X	X			2				X																						X				X		X (48)	X	R
11	Jaycee Park	4.00	1200 S. Jefferson St.			X	X	X		X					X	X																				X				X		X (48)	X	R
12	Kiwanis Park	6.50	2315 N. Nicholas St.			X	X	X		X			X	X		X																				X		X		X		X (48)	X	R
13	Linwood Park	9.50	401 N. Douglas St.			X	X	X		X						X*	X*	X*																		X				X		X (48)	X	R
14	Lions Park	4.40	1920 S. Matthias St.			X	X			X																					X					X				X		X (48)	X	R
15	Lundgaard Park	6.77	4900 Lightning Dr.			X	X	X								X*	2*														X					X		X		X		X (48)	X	R
16	Lutz Park	3.70	1320 S. Lutz St.	X		X	X	X												X		X					X										X			X	X	X		X	R
17	Mead Park	8.50	1430 E. John St.			X	X								X														X							X				X	X		X	R
18	Peabody Park	16.20	601 N. Green Bay Rd.	X		X	X	X								X						X														X				X		X (48)	X	R
19	Pioneer Park	0.52	420 W Prospect Ave					X																												X								
20	Providence Park	3.32	4620 Providence Ave.			X	X	X																												X								P
21	Schaefer Park	6.40	610 S. Buchanan St.			X	X	X								X																				X		X		X		X (48)	X	R
22	Summit Park	5.49	2423 N. Summit St.				X						X			X	2	2																		X				X				P
23	Veterans Park	5.73	1201 S. Memorial Dr.	X		X	X																													X								P
24	Vosters Park	5.10	4200 E. Ashbury Dr.			X	X	X	X																											X				X			X	P
25	Vulcan Heritage Park	2.05	535 W. Water St.	X		X		X														X														X				X	X		X	
26	Woodland Park	8.70	1815 Schaefer Circ.		X	X	X	X	X	X																										X			X	X				
		177.04																																										
	Community Parks																																											
27	Erb Park	27.75	1800 N. Morrison St.	X		X	X	X				X	X			X		4*					X			X		X	X	X	X					X		X		X	3	X (84)	X	R
28	Jones Park	5.75	301 W. Lawrence St.			X	X	X																	X	X								X		X					X	X (50)	X	R
29	Pierce Park	34.91	1035 W. Prospect Ave.			X	X	X	X	X			X			X		3			X		X		X	X				X			X	X		X		X	X	X	4	X (150)	X	R
30	Telulah Park	39.31	1300 E. Newberry St.	X		X	X	X		X		X		X			8*				X	X	X				X						X		X	X		X		X	3	X (150)	X	R
31	Veterans Memorial Park	140.10	1620 Witzke Blvd.	X		X	X	X	X	7				X					X			X	X	X		X		X			X		X	X		X		X		X	4	X (48)	X	R
		247.82																																										
	Special Use Areas																																											
32	Ballard Road Property	1.75	Unassigned																																									
33	Houdini Plaza	1.00	100 W Lawrence St.			X																											X			X							X	
34	Reid Golf Course	107.60	1100 E Fremont St.																									X				X									X			R
35	Union Springs Park	0.10	313 N. Kalata Pl.																														X											
36	USA Youth Sports Complex	80.50	3300 E Evergreen Dr.					X		4				15																							X				3	X		R
		190.95																																										
	Natural Resource Area																																											
37	Appleton Conservancy	33.45	Unassigned		X																																							
		33.45																																										
	Total Park Acreage	649.26																																										



CITY OWNED PARKS

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

1 Alicia Park
2 Arbutus Park
3 City Park
4 Colony Oaks Park
5 Derks Park
6 Einstein Park
7 Ellen Kort Peace Park
8 Green Meadows Park
9 Highview Park
10 Hoover Park
11 Jaycee Park
12 Kiwanis Park
13 Linwood Park
14 Lions Park
15 Lundgaard Park
16 Lutz Park
17 Mead Park
18 Peabody Park
19 Pioneer Park
20 Providence Park
21 Schaefer Park
22 Summit Park
23 Veterans Park
24 Vosters Park
25 Vulcan Heritage Park
26 Woodland Park

COMMUNITY PARKS

27 Erb Park
28 Jones Park
29 Pierce Park
30 Telulah Park
31 Veterans Memorial Park (formerly Appleton Memorial Park)

SPECIAL USE PARKS

32 Ballard Road Property
33 Houdini Plaza
34 Reid Golf Course
35 Union Springs Park
36 USA Youth Sports Complex

NATURAL RESOURCE AREA

37 Appleton Conservancy

OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OWNED BY OTHERS

PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

38 Badger Elementary (in Grand Chute)
39 Berry Elementary
40 Columbus Elementary
41 Dunlap Elementary
42 Edison Elementary
43 Ferber Elementary
44 Franklin Elementary
45 Highlands Elementary
46 Horizons Elementary
47 Houdini Elementary (in Grand Chute)
48 Huntley Elementary
49 Jefferson Elementary
50 Johnston Elementary
51 McKinley Elementary
52 Neinhaus Field
53 Richmond Elementary
54 Sandy Slope Elementary (opens fall 2025)
55 Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School
56 Einstein Middle School
57 Kaleidoscope Academy
58 Madison Middle School
59 Wilson Middle School
60 Appleton East High School
61 Appleton North High School
62 Appleton West High School

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

CITY OF APPLETON

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY LOCATION

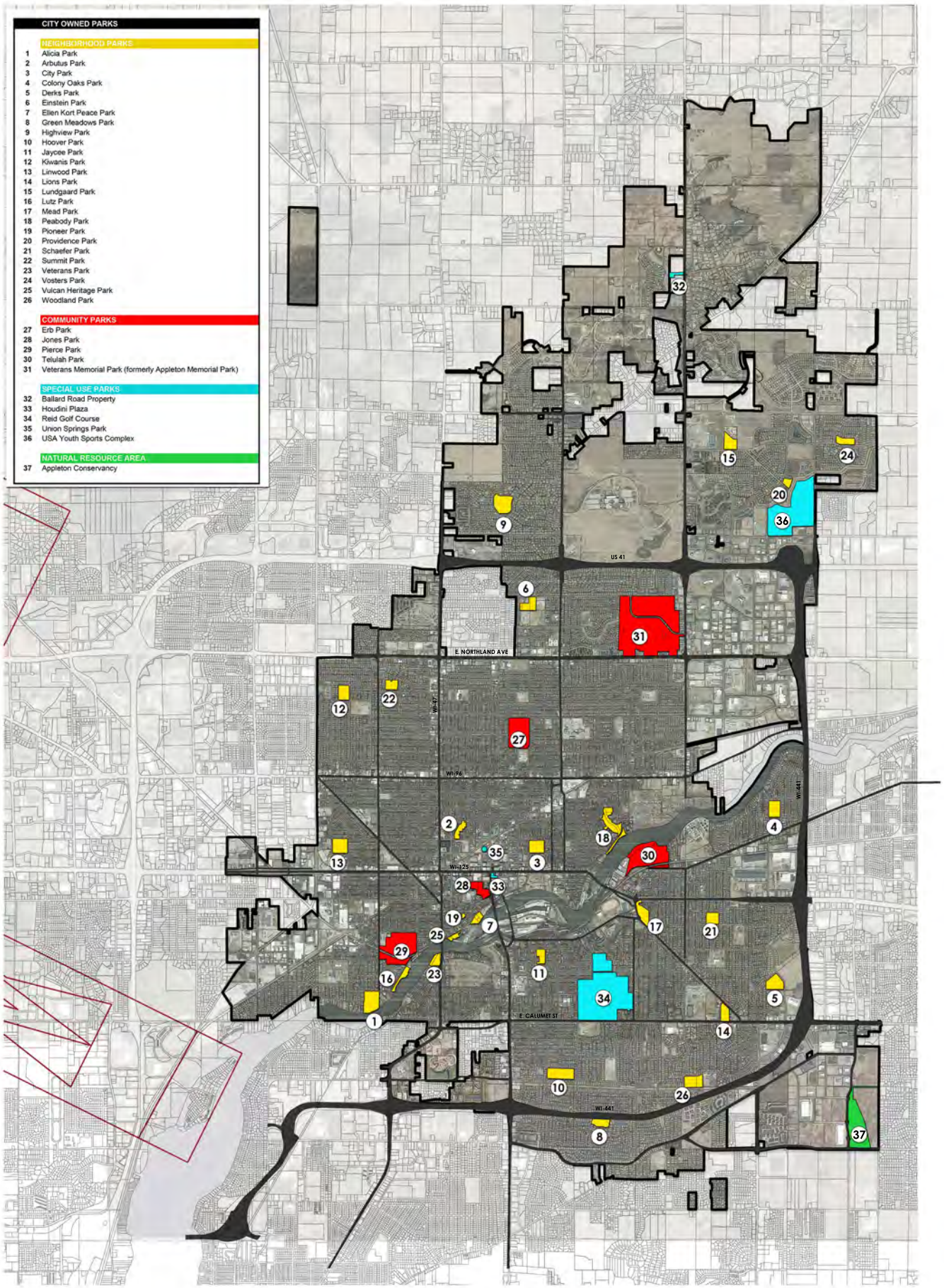
1819 E Witzke Blvd, Appleton, WI 54911

N

0' 1,600' 3,200' 4,800'

RETTLER CORP. PROJECT # • 24.053
DATE• 11.03.2025

RETTLER corporation



CITY OWNED PARKS

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

1 Alicia Park
2 Arbutus Park
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7 Ellen Kort Peace Park
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10 Hoover Park
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13 Linwood Park
14 Lions Park
15 Lundgaard Park
16 Lutz Park
17 Mead Park
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19 Pioneer Park
20 Providence Park
21 Schaefer Park
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SPECIAL USE PARKS

32 Ballard Road Property
33 Houdini Plaza
34 Reid Golf Course
35 Union Springs Park
36 USA Youth Sports Complex

NATURAL RESOURCE AREA

37 Appleton Conservancy

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

CITY OF APPLETON

CITY PARK LOCATION MAP

1819 E Witzke Blvd, Appleton, WI 54911

N

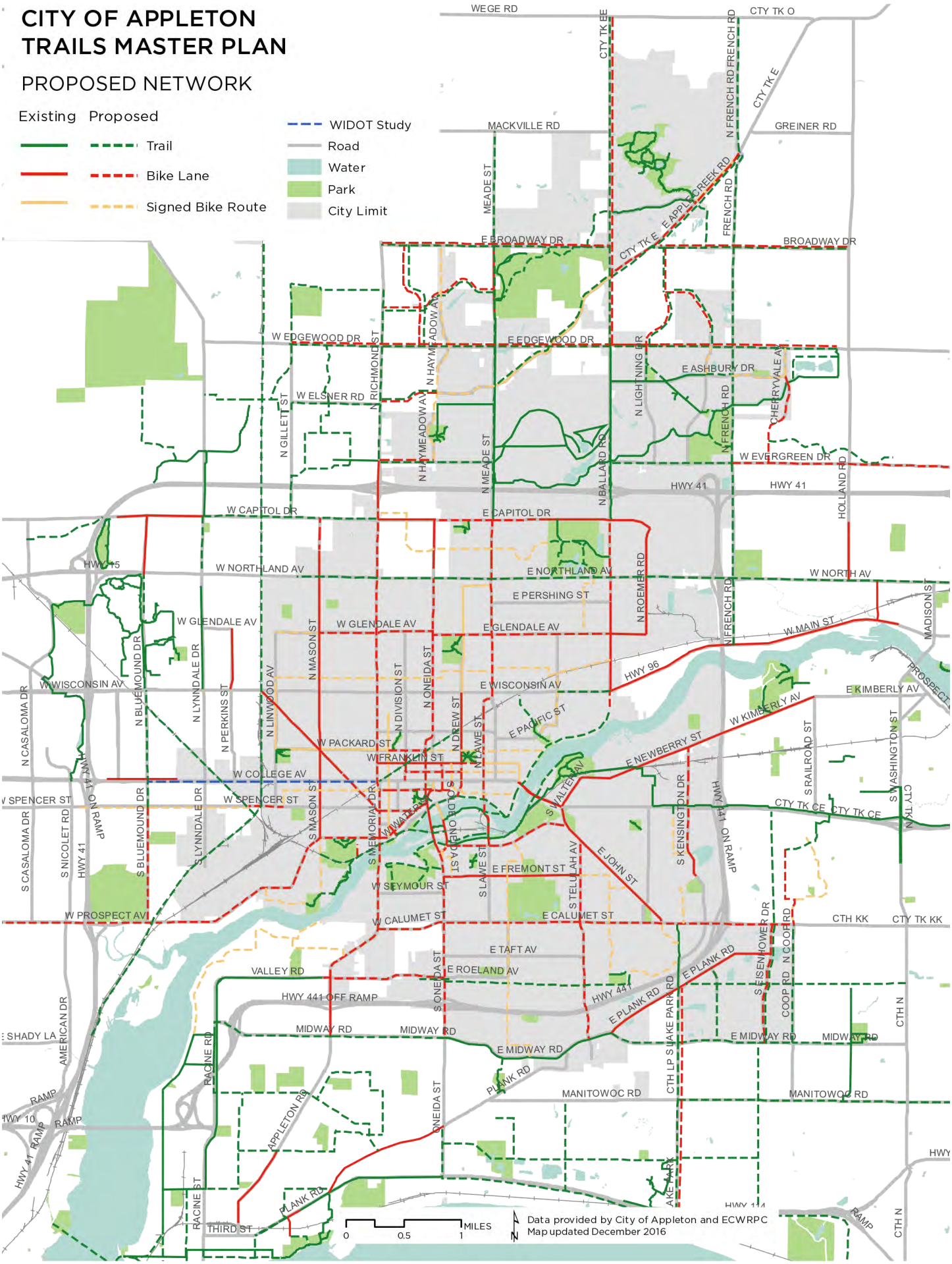
0' 1,600' 3,200' 4,800'

RETTLER CORP. PROJECT # = 24.053
DATE= 11.03.2025

RETTLER corporation

CITY OF APPLETON TRAILS MASTER PLAN

PROPOSED NETWORK



DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS & RECREATION

SECTION 4

PARKLAND ANALYSIS

4.0 PARKLAND ANALYSIS

The City of Appleton owns thirty-seven and maintains thirty-six park sites, totaling almost 650 acres. These parks tend to be distributed relatively evenly throughout the south and central parts of the city, with a slight emphasis on waterfront locations.

Determining if community open space needs are being met can be a complicated question and is best approached from a variety of angles. To obtain a more comprehensive picture, this section examines the existing City of Appleton park facilities using six different metrics:

- Acreage Standards Comparison
- Service Area Evaluation
- Suggested Recreational Standards Comparison
- Similar City Comparisons
- Community Input
- Regional and State Trends

4.1 Acreage Standards Comparison

The Acreage Standards Comparison compares the acres of city-owned parkland to the number of residents, in an acres per 1,000 persons format.

The 2011-2016 Wisconsin Statewide CORP (in Appendix F: Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans) recommends that park classifications and standards "usually correspond to the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) recreation, park, and open space standards guidelines." Additionally, the *Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans* published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Community Assistance, recommends that local communities provide at least 6.25 to 10.5 acres per 1,000 persons.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), while historically recommending 7-10 acres per 1,000 residents, currently encourages each community to evaluate level of service (LOS) in coordination with citizen input and adapt the recommendations to develop their own customized standards.

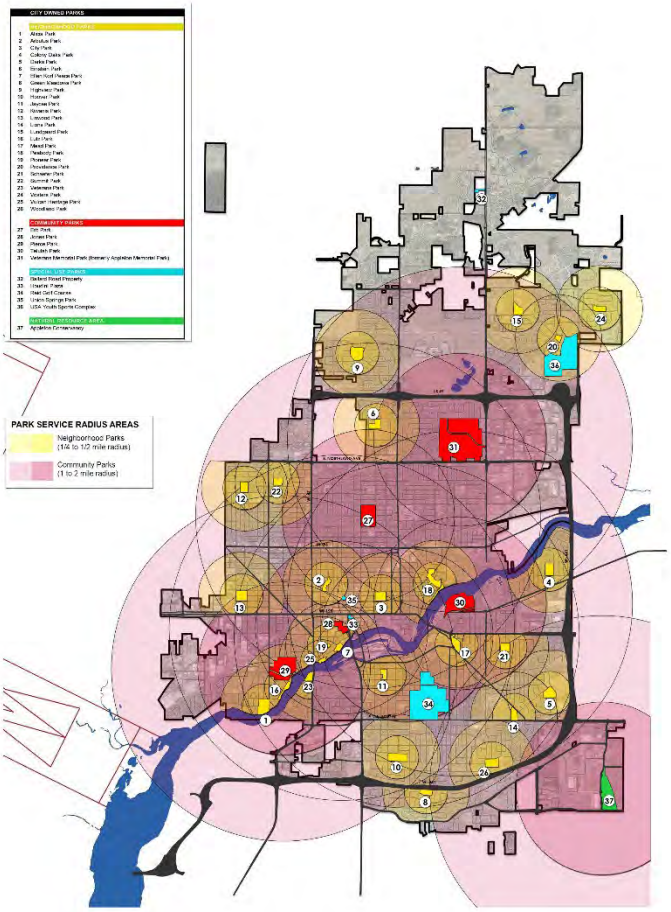
The following chart is based on population numbers provided by City staff.

City of Appleton Comparison to NRPA Acreage Recommendations		
Park Type	**Recommended Acres per 1,000 Residents**	**Appleton Park Acres per 1,000 Residents**
Mini Parks	0.25 - 0.5 acres	0.00 acres
Neighborhood Parks	1 - 2 acres	2.25 acres
Community Parks	5 - 8 acres	3.15 acres
Special Use Parks	variable	2.43 acres
Natural Resource Areas	variable	0.43 acres
TOTAL NRPA LOS CLASSIFIED PARKLAND	**6.25 – 10.5 acres**	**5.40 acres**
TOTAL CITY-OWNED PARKLAND	**N/A**	**8.25 acres**

As can be seen above, the total NRPA LOS classified parkland areas falls below the recommended acreage metrics, including those published by the Wisconsin DNR in the *Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans*. However, total City-owned Parkland area comes to 8.25 acres per 1,000 residents.

4.2 Service Area Evaluation

A Service Area Evaluation projects a specified distance around each NRPA classified park (Mini, Neighborhood, and Community) based on classification, as well as guidelines adopted by the city in previous Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans. This section also examines land usage, as designated by zoning classifications, within the service areas.



The five Community Parks, once more equally spaced, now fall more toward the center of the city as it expands to the north and south. Two of the Community Parks, Telulah and Pierce, are located along the Fox River and Jones Park is positioned less than 500 feet north of it. Erb and Veterans Memorial are situated further north of the Fox. The Appleton Conservancy on the south, while a Natural Resource Area, is a community destination and of similar size, so it was allocated the same service area. The 1 to 2-mile service radii of these Community Parks covers the majority of residentially zoned areas, however there are some areas to the far north that do not receive coverage. Plamann Park, an Outagamie County-owned park, serves the function of a Community Park in these areas and this has been factored into the Proposed Acquisition Map.

A Neighborhood Park's service area is a 1/4 to 1/2-mile distance, uninterrupted by major roads and other physical barriers such as waterways, wetlands, and railroad tracks without crossings. Several residentially-zoned areas of the community are not served within the desired 1/4 to 1/2-mile neighborhood park radius. These areas are mainly found in the Erb Park-Veterans Memorial Park area, the far north, west, and southern parts of the city.

Appleton has no Mini Parks, however it is not unusual for municipalities to focus on neighborhood parks as the smallest unit of the park system rather than Mini Parks for maintenance and efficiency reasons.

Please refer to the larger Park Service Area Map following page 84, near the end of this section, for more information.

4.3 Suggested Recreation Standards Comparison

Adopted standards are another method used to determine a community's recreation needs. The NRPA has developed recommendations for a number of outdoor recreational facility types, which in turn, provided the basis for Wisconsin DNR recommendations.

Suggested Recreation Facility Development Standards (selected facilities)					
Facility/Activity	**No. of Units per Population**	**Appleton Population**	**No. Units Needed**	**Units in Park System**	**Other Area Providers**
Baseball/Softball	1 per 5,000	75,745	15.15	17	Also see Appleton area schools, particularly the High Schools
Basketball	1 per 5,000	75,745	15.15	12	Also see Appleton area schools, particularly the Middle and High Schools.
Football	1 per 20,000	75,745	3.79	0	See Appleton area High Schools
Ice Hockey/ Ice Skating	Indoor – 1 per 100,000. Outdoor depends on climate.	75,745	0.75	1 indoor; 5 outdoor	Appleton Family Ice Center in Veterans Memorial Park
Outdoor Pool	1 per 20,000	75,745	3.79	2	Pools at Mead and Erb Parks.
Running Track	1 per 20,000	75,745	3.79	0	See all Appleton High and Middle Schools.
Soccer	1 per 10,000	75,745	7.57	19	Most are in the USA Youth Sports Complex
Tennis (and Pickleball)	1 court per 2,000	75,745	37.87	25	Also see Appleton area high schools- each has 8 courts.
Trail System	1 system per region	75,745	1	1	See the trail map on the Appleton Park and Rec website, under "trails."
Volleyball	1 court per 5,000	75,745	15.15	3	

Selected from *Recreation Facility Development Standards* from Appendix 11 of the *WDNR Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans*

Both the NRPA and the DNR suggested Outdoor Recreation Facility Development standards are included in the appendix section of this plan. These standards were reviewed during the development of the Needs Assessment.

It should be noted however, that these standards have been developed primarily for urban communities in the 1980's and assume the needs and wants of individuals are similar in all areas. Additionally, these standards do not take into account local demographics, user preferences and physical barriers between actual park locations. While worth examining, these standards should

be subject to the locally gathered data in the Needs Assessment section in prioritizing and justifying the real needs for the community.

4.4 Urban Reflections: Comparing Cities

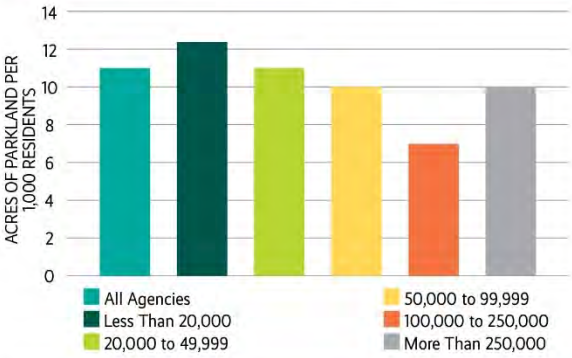
Another approach is looking at how Appleton compares to similar sized cities in Wisconsin in regards to parkland acreage provided. The following park acreage numbers were obtained from reviewing posted city data and current Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans or calling and emailing park departments and directors. The population numbers are from 2020 US Census data. Please note that the term "developed" can mean different things to different municipalities.

Community	Population*	Total Developed Park Acreage**	Acres per 1,000 Residents
Appleton	78,680	649	8.25
Eau Claire	69,421	363	5.23
Green Bay	107,395	1,646	15.33
Janesville	65,615	2,580	39.32
Kenosha	99,986	949.00	9.49
La Crosse	52,680	1,560	29.61
Oshkosh	66,816	417	6.24
Racine	77,816	1,100	14.14
Stevens Point	25,666	564	21.97
Waukesha	71,158	1,056	14.84
Average Acres per 1,000 Residents			**16.47**

**Population data based on US Census (2020)*
***Park acreage data obtained via municipal websites, planning documents and direct outreach*

For a broader look, consider the following national data from the 2024 NRPA Agency Performance Review, which "presents data from nearly 1,000 park and recreation agencies across the country from 2021 to 2023."

FIGURE 2: ACRES OF PARKLAND PER 1,000 RESIDENTS
(BY JURISDICTION POPULATION)



	All Agencies	Less Than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	More Than 250,000
Median	10.6	12.6	11.2	10.2	7.0	10.2
Lower Quartile	5.1	6.0	6.2	4.8	4.4	5.0
Upper Quartile	18.0	20.9	18.0	17.4	15.5	16.7

Source: 2024 NRPA Agency Performance Review

"The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) gathers data annually from park and recreation agencies nationwide to assemble a clear overview of park and recreation agencies' performance. The purpose of this 2024 NRPA Agency Performance Review is to allow agencies to compare their own performance metrics with those of other U.S. agencies to identify areas of excellence and areas for potential improvement."

This NRPA document notes that there are no one-size-fits-all solutions and that it does not provide "standards" to which all agencies must strive to deliver, but merely informative evidence-based guidelines. They recommend that these metrics be used "in conjunction with other internal and external resources to gather a clearer understanding of needs and resources specific to their agency."

Based on the national statistics presented here, with 8.25 acres/1,000 persons, Appleton falls somewhat below the median parkland of 10.2 acres per 1,000 residents for cities in the 50,000-99,999-population category.

4.5 Community Input Summary

"A standard for parks and recreation cannot be universal, nor can one city be compared with another even though they are similar in many respects."
NRPA Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines.

The most important gauge of how well the park system is meeting the needs of the community is by studying input gained directly from community residents, officials, and staff.

The online community survey, completed by approximately 371 persons, reveals that 96% of respondents are "Satisfied" or "Very Satisfied" with the park system, which is exceptionally high. When asked what amenities are most important, the top ten items are as follows: Playgrounds, Water Park/Pool, Restrooms, Trails (paved), Trails (unpaved), Open Space, Pavilions, Bicycling (general), Gardens, and Picnic/BBQ Areas. The most desired new or additional features are more Bicycling Opportunities, Canoe/Kayak Launch, a Dog Park, Gardens, Open Space, Prairie Plantings, Restrooms, a Splash Pad, and Trails.

The following section, *Section 5: Needs Assessment,* will examine this data, including comments, in much more depth. Please see Appendix A of the electronic version of the CORP for complete survey responses.

4.6 Regional and State Trends

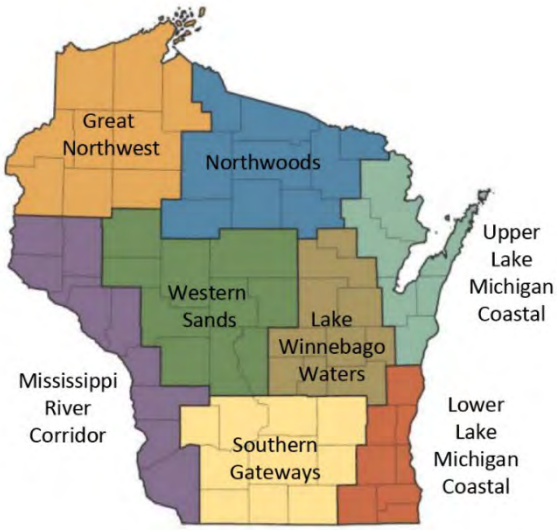
As of the time of writing, the *2019-2023 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan* is the most current state CORP. The following data from the that plan is useful for a larger Wisconsin perspective.

Overall, 95% of Wisconsin adults participated in some type of outdoor recreation in the past year. Wisconsin residents' top five favorite nature-based outdoor activities were: walking/hiking, fishing, hunting, bicycling, and camping.

The SCORP divides the State of Wisconsin into eight regions. The Lake Winnebago Waters region (of which Appleton is a part) "is centered on the Lake Winnebago watershed which includes the lakes of Butte des Morts, Winneconne, and Poygan as well as the Fox and Wolf rivers. Together, these waters are the major recreational resource within the region" and "draw visitors from throughout the state and beyond for boating, fishing, hunting, bird watching, and more."

In the Regional Recreation Needs section, activities rated highly by respondents in the Lake Winnebago Waters region included:

- Bicycling (all kinds)
- Bird or wildlife watching
- Camping
- Canoeing or kayaking
- Cross country skiing
- Dog walking
- Fishing
- Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking
- Hunting
- Motor boating
- Nature photography
- Participating in nature-based education programs
- Picnicking
- Swimming in lakes and rivers
- Visiting beaches



Identified gaps and needs in existing recreation opportunities state-wide were listed as:

- Outdoor recreation facilities near population centers
- Trails
- Water access (such as shoreline and boat launches)
- Camping opportunities
- Dog parks and exercise areas
- Target shooting ranges

The following list is based on the methods suggested in the SCORP to boost outdoor recreation participation:

- Increase promotion and marketing of outdoor recreation areas.
- Improve mapping and online information.
- Continue upgrading and developing recreation facilities to meet demand.

- Evaluate visitor usage at the various facilities and locations.
- Identify and implement strategies to improve access and reduce barriers.
- Expand efforts among federal, state, county, and local governments to coordinate and collaborate on providing recreational opportunities.

4.7 Future Park Lands

The City Comprehensive Plan depicts Appleton's population as slowly increasing and then holding stable through 2040. The following charts compare the median NRPA recommended park acreage per 1,000 persons with the existing and projected population numbers to give a rough sense of the amount of new parkland, if any, that may be desired in the future.

The tables below are projections, and as with all projections, if community growth patterns differ significantly, parkland changes should be re-evaluated.

Population Projection and Parkland Analysis

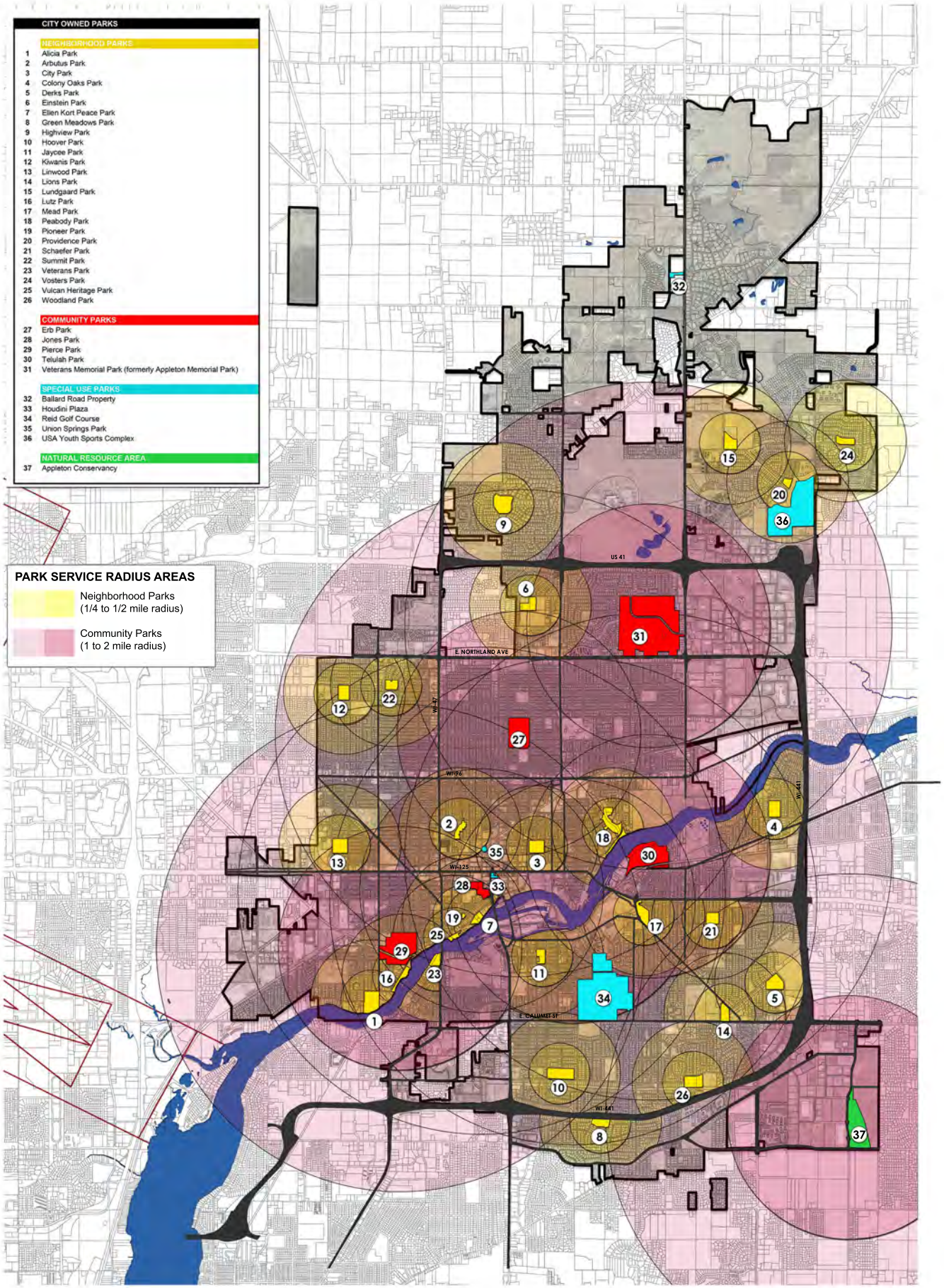
Neighborhood Parks											
Year	**Population Projection**	**÷**	**1,000**	**=**	**NRPA Standard Benchmark/1,000**	**=**	**Median Acreage Recommended**	**-**	**Existing Acreage**	**=**	**Acreage Over Median**
2025	78,680	÷	1,000	=	78.7 x 1.5	=	118.0	-	177.0	=	59.0
2030	80,570	÷	1,000	=	80.6 x 1.5	=	120.9	-	177.0	=	56.2
2035	81,165	÷	1,000	=	81.2 X 1.5	=	121.7	-	177.0	=	55.3
2040	80,605	÷	1,000	=	80.6 X 1.5	=	120.9	-	177.0	=	56.1

Community Parks											
Year	**Population Projection**	**÷**	**1,000**	**=**	**NRPA Standard Benchmark/1,000**	**=**	**Median Acreage Recommended**	**-**	**Existing Acreage**	**=**	**Acreage Under Median**
2025	78,680	÷	1,000	=	78.7 x 6.5	=	511.4	-	247.8	=	(263.6)
2030	80,570	÷	1,000	=	80.6 x 6.5	=	523.7	-	247.8	=	(275.9)
2035	81,165	÷	1,000	=	81.2 X 6.5	=	527.6	-	247.8	=	(279.8)
2040	80,605	÷	1,000	=	80.6 X 6.5	=	523.9	-	247.8	=	(276.1)

Population projections from Wisconsin Demographics Services Center, Municipal Population Projections from 2010-2040, Vintage 2013

Please see the Proposed Park Acquisition Map at the end of this section for areas in which the city would like to investigate adding additional parkland. The map was created after examining the perspectives and factors listed in this section and fine-tuned with City input.

It is additionally recommended that local needs and desires, nearby county or neighboring municipality parkland, city staffing capabilities, and budgets be carefully examined before acquiring or developing additional parkland.



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

CITY OF APPLETON

SERVICE RADIUS MAP

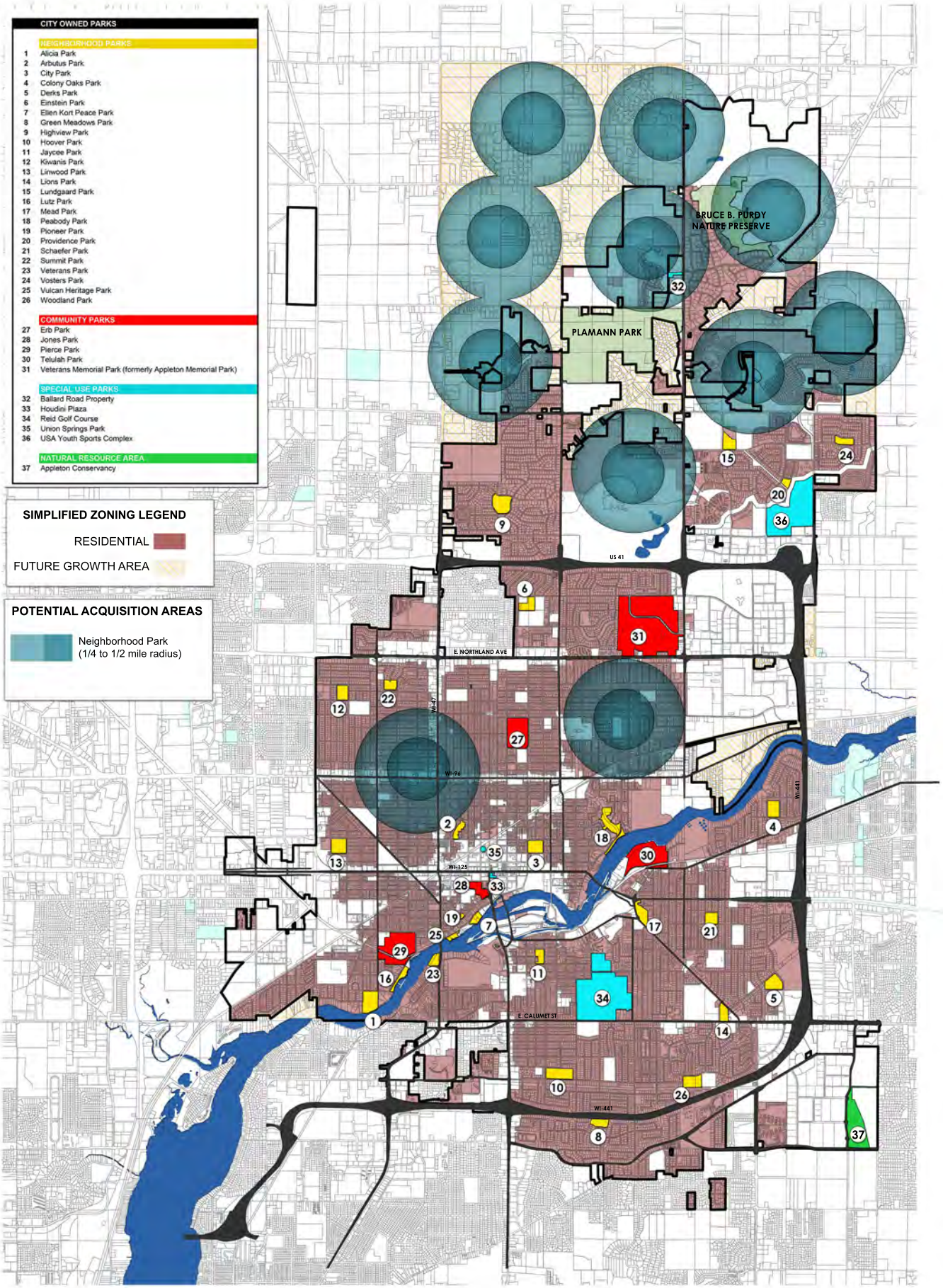
1819 E Witzke Blvd, Appleton, WI 54911

N

0' 1,600' 3,200' 4,800'

RETTLER CORP. PROJECT # • 24.053
DATE• 11.03.2025

RETTLER corporation



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

CITY OF APPLETON

PROPOSED PARK ACQUISITION MAP

1819 E Witzke Blvd, Appleton, WI 54911

N

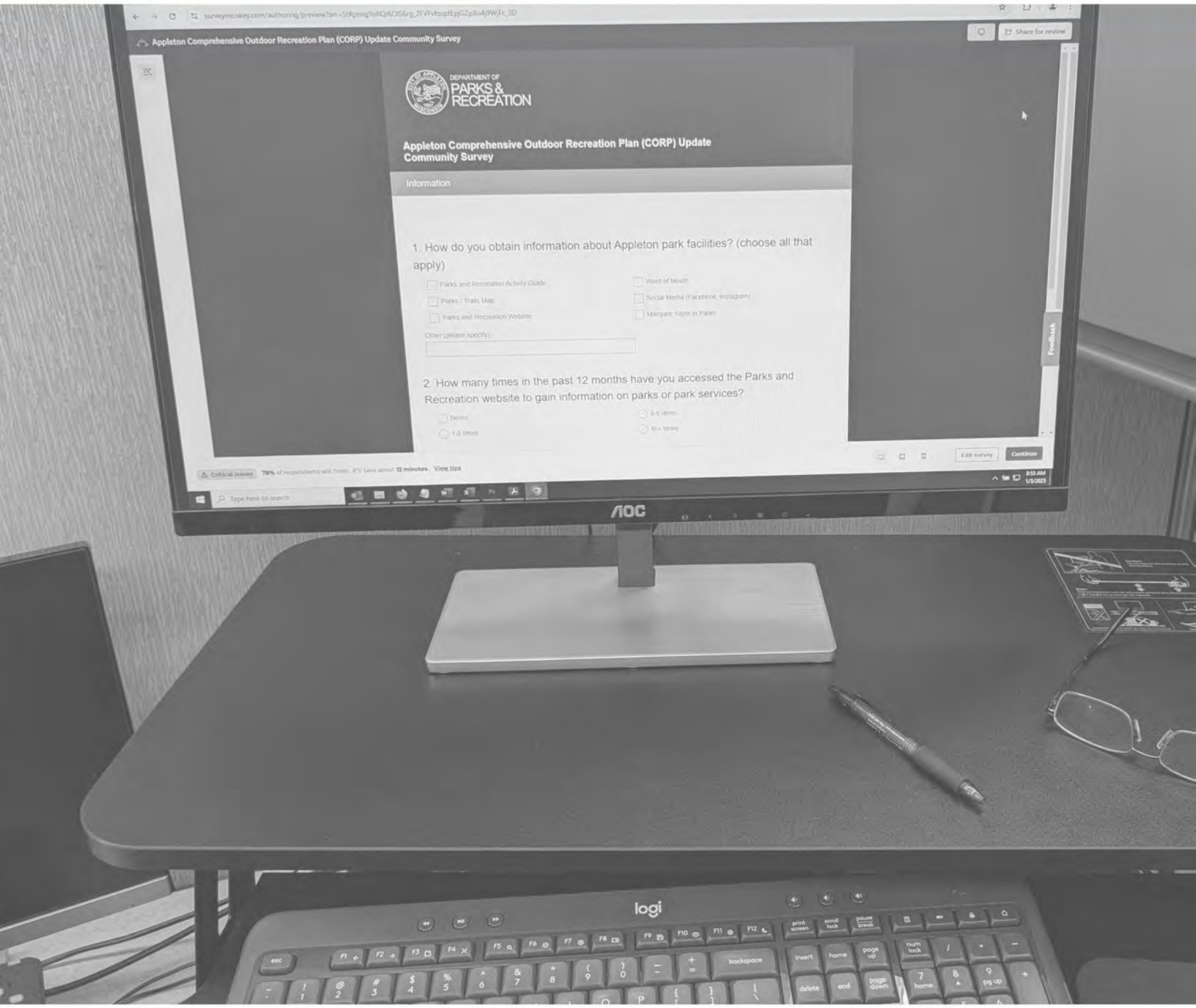
0' 1,600' 3,200' 4,800'

RETTLER CORP. PROJECT # = 24.053

DATE= 11.12.2025

RETTLER corporation

DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS & RECREATION



SECTION 5

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

5.0 NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Guidelines and industry recommendations are useful metrics, but the best way to get a true picture of community needs and opportunities is to obtain input directly from the people who live there.

Online surveys, input meetings, and emails provide direct information on how existing facilities and services are being utilized- or not- and the reasons why. There is no better way to determine needs and opportunities and to create customized solutions than to listen to what the community is saying.

5.1 Online Community Survey

The Appleton Parks and Recreation Department conducted an online community survey from December 19, 2024 and January 21, 2025. The survey contained up to 21 questions (depending on choices) regarding preferred information sources, website utilization, park and trail usage, satisfaction with existing facilities, rental experiences, the importance of various amenities, several questions about specific amenities, general park safety perceptions, ease of reaching parks, demographic related questions, and an option for general comments.

Efforts to promote the online survey included a writeup and links on social media and the city website, town hall flyers, and social media updates. Partner organizations were also asked to share it as well. The result was a total of 371 completed surveys. The following is a summary of the information shared. Please see the appendix for a complete list of responses.

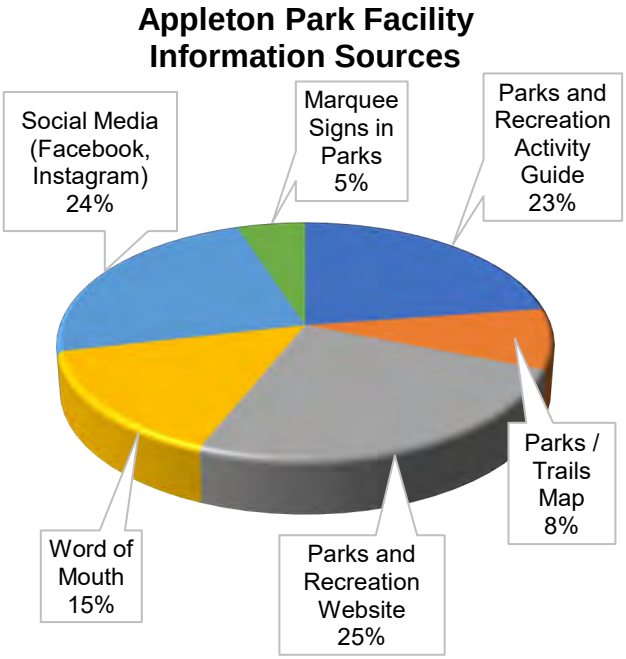
Information Sources
Respondents were asked to choose from a list of information sources. Multiple answers were allowed for this question, including a comment option. The most popular source, with a little over quarter of the total responses, was the Parks and Recreation Website. This was closely followed by Social Media (23.4%) and the Parks and Recreation Activity Guide (22.7%).

"Email", "Friends of Scheig Center Gardens", and "Go Valley Kids" were the main alternative information sources mentioned in the twenty comments.

Over half (57%) of those surveyed had accessed the city parks website from one to five times in the last twelve months to learn information on park services. 10% indicated that they never use the website at all.

When asked if there is any other park-related information they would like to see on the website that isn't currently there, most (82.5%) said "no."

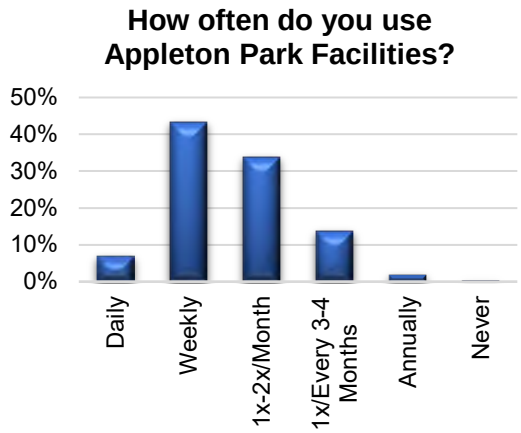
Most of the suggested additional park-related information recommended consisted of: Scheig Center related information, Trail related

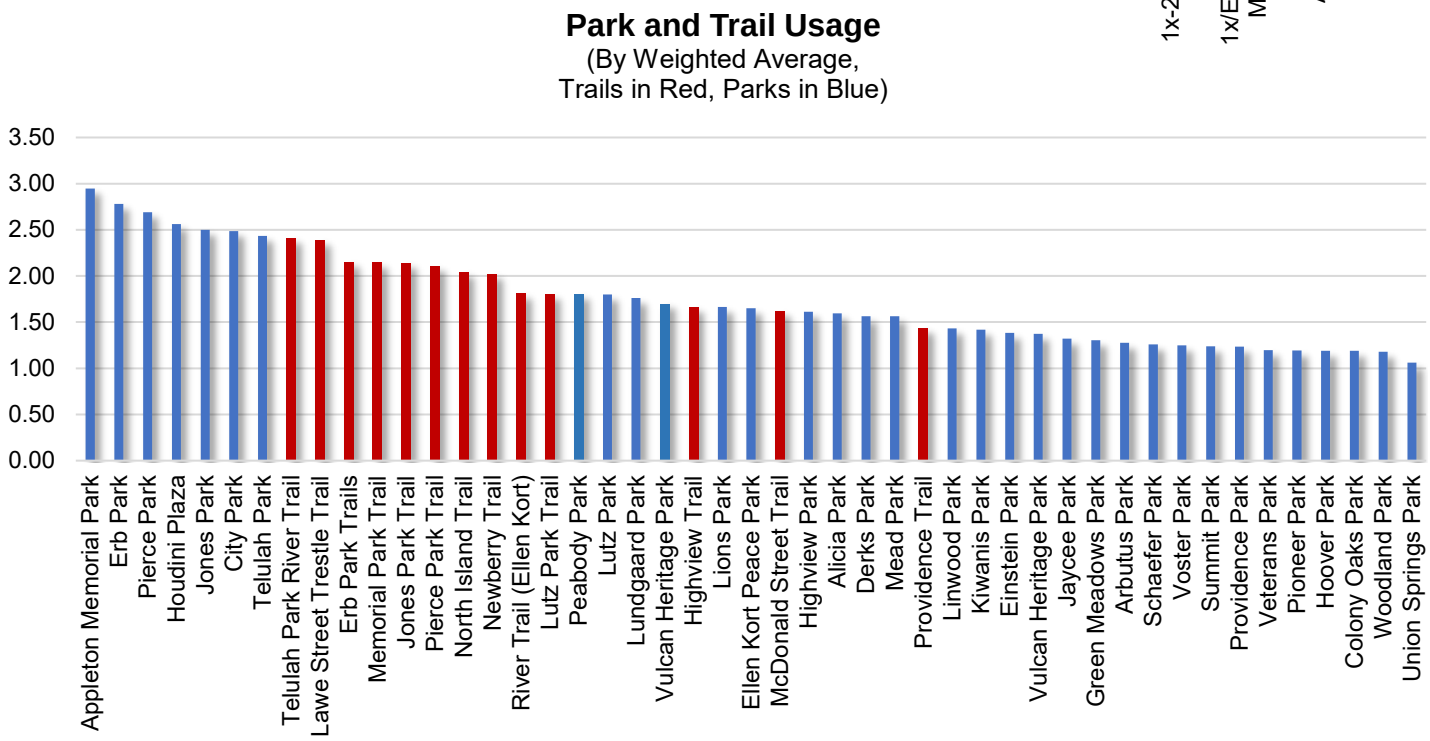


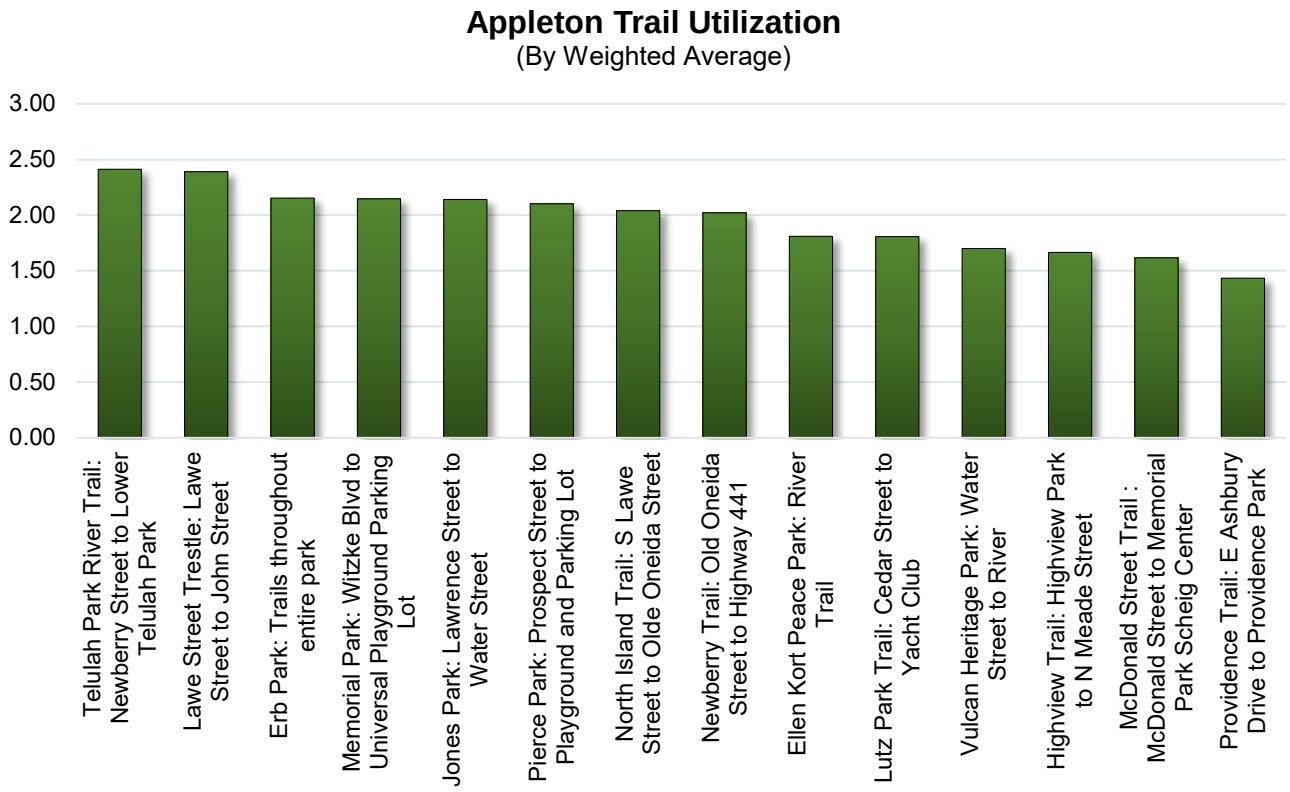
information, information on ongoing park projects, the ice rink status, playground equipment information, and simply "not sure."

Park and Trail Usage
How often do you use the Appleton park facilities? Almost half (43%) of the respondents visit the parks weekly. Another 34% visit one or two times a month. A dedicated 7% visit the parks daily. Only 0.3% indicated that they never visit the parks.

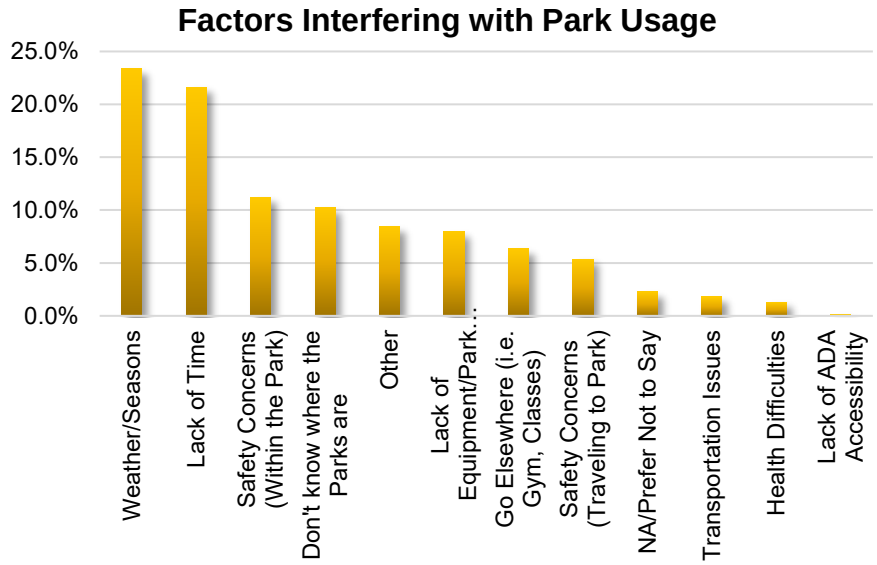
Appleton Memorial Park (name officially changed to Veterans Memorial Park on June 18, 2025), Erb Park, and Pierce Parks (all Community Parks), took the first three places as the most popular parks in the Appleton park system. Houdini Plaza also gets a lot of use, followed by Jones Park, City Park, and Telulah Park.







The top two factors that limit park usage in Appleton are the weather/winter season, unsurprisingly, and a simple lack of time. Other significant factors (which also showed up in the comments) are safety concerns within the parks, and not knowing where the parks are, or what amenities are in them.

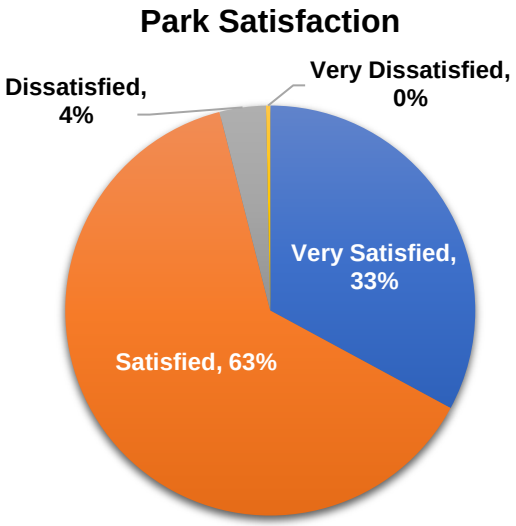


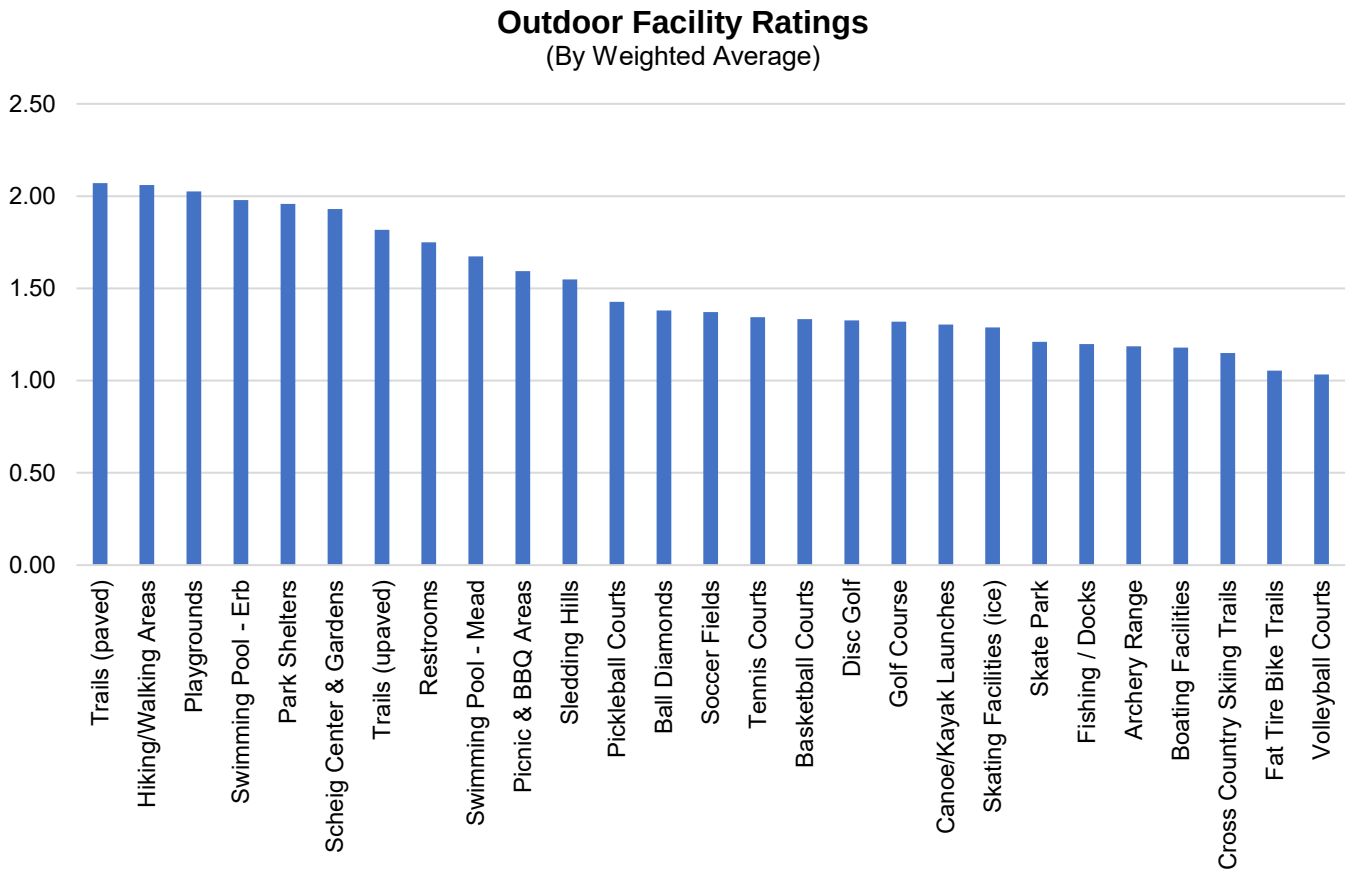
Satisfaction

Park satisfaction levels are very high with 96% of respondents describing themselves as "Satisfied" or "Very Satisfied." No respondents chose "Very Dissatisfied." 43 Comments were received, containing a variety of complements, concerns and suggestions. The most commonly mentioned topic, by a significant extent, were complements. This was followed by suggestions for restroom improvements and updated play equipment.

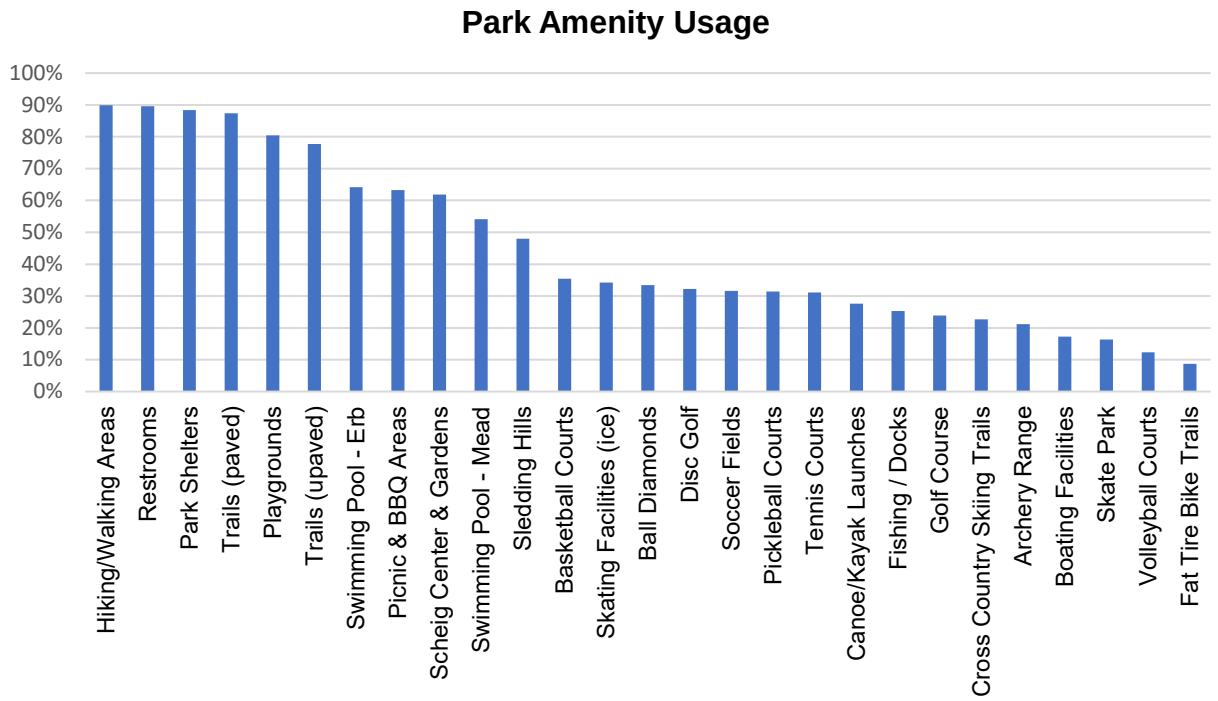
When asked how well a list of Appleton park and trail amenities are meeting the needs of the community, some interesting trends emerged.

Based on weighted average, the top ten most important amenities are as follows: Trails (paved), Hiking/Walking areas, Playgrounds, Swimming Pool (Erb), Park shelters, the Scheig Center and Gardens, Trails, Restrooms, Swimming Pool (Mead), and Picnic/BBQ Areas.





One of the answer options was “Never Use.” Park amenities sorted by usage reveals that hiking/walking areas, restrooms, park shelters, trails, and playgrounds receive high usage while the Fat Tire bike trails, volleyball courts, and skate park are more specialized and receive comparatively less usage by the general public.

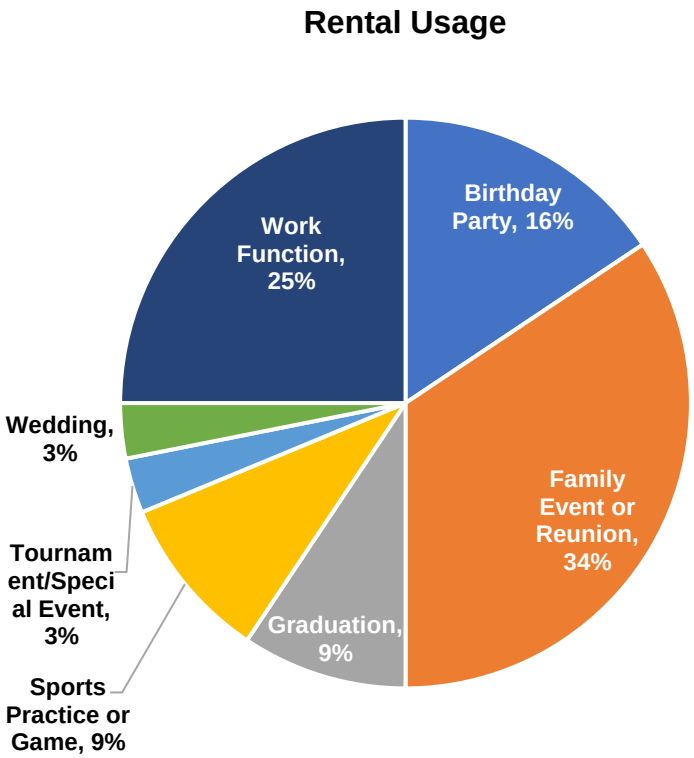


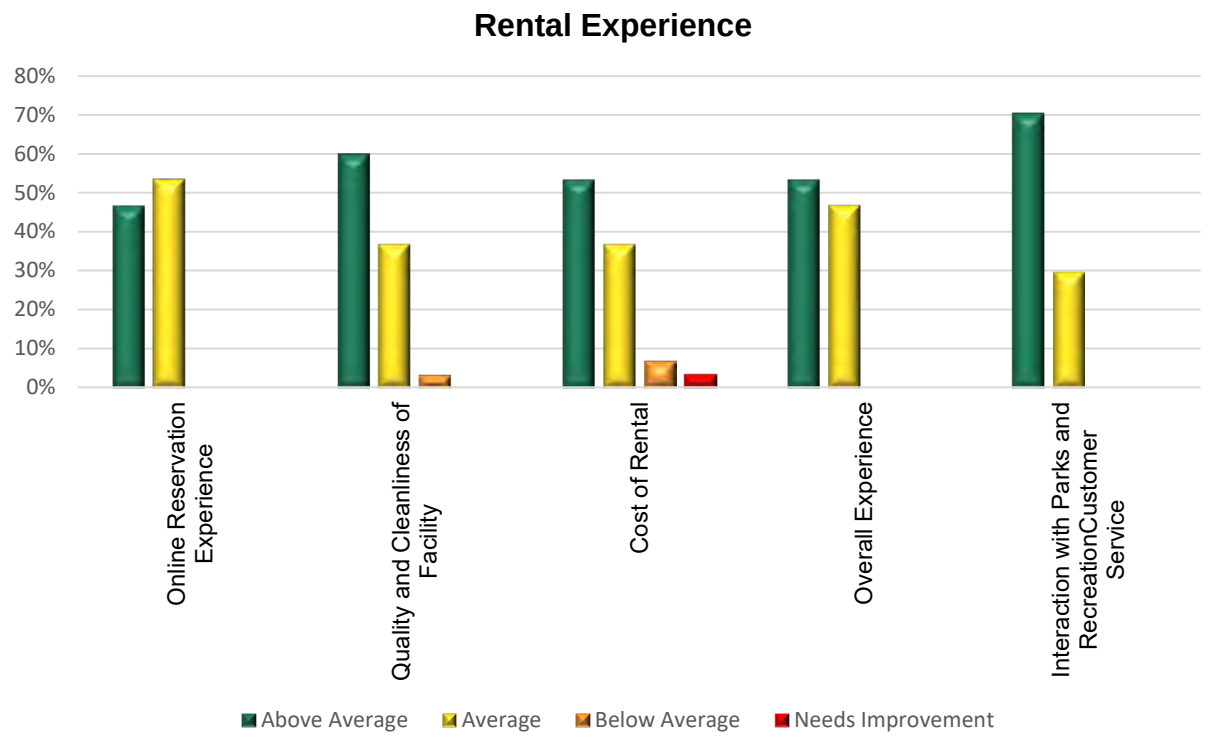
Rentals

The vast majority (90%) of respondents have not rented or reserved a park pavilion, shelter, or sports field in the past 12 months.

Of those who did, 50% of the rentals were for a family event or birthday. 25% were for a work function.

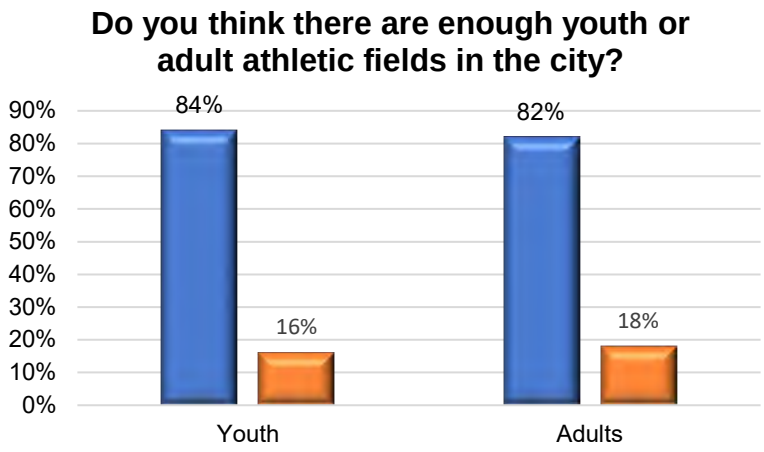
Most users rated their rental experience as "Above Average", except in the case of the online rental experience, which was merely rated "Average." The Cost of Rental was the only category that received even one "Needs Improvement." The greatest concentration of "Above Average" was found in "Interaction with Parks and Recreation Customer Service.”





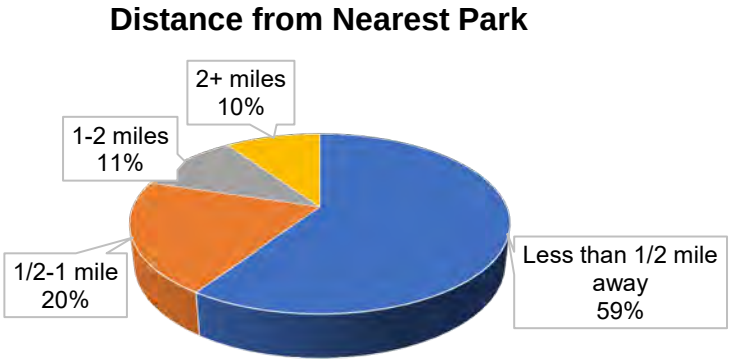
Athletic Fields

When asked whether they thought there were enough athletic fields in Appleton, 82% of respondents indicated that there are enough fields for adults and 84% thought there were enough fields for youth. 18% said there are not enough athletic fields for adults and 16% thought there were not enough for youth.

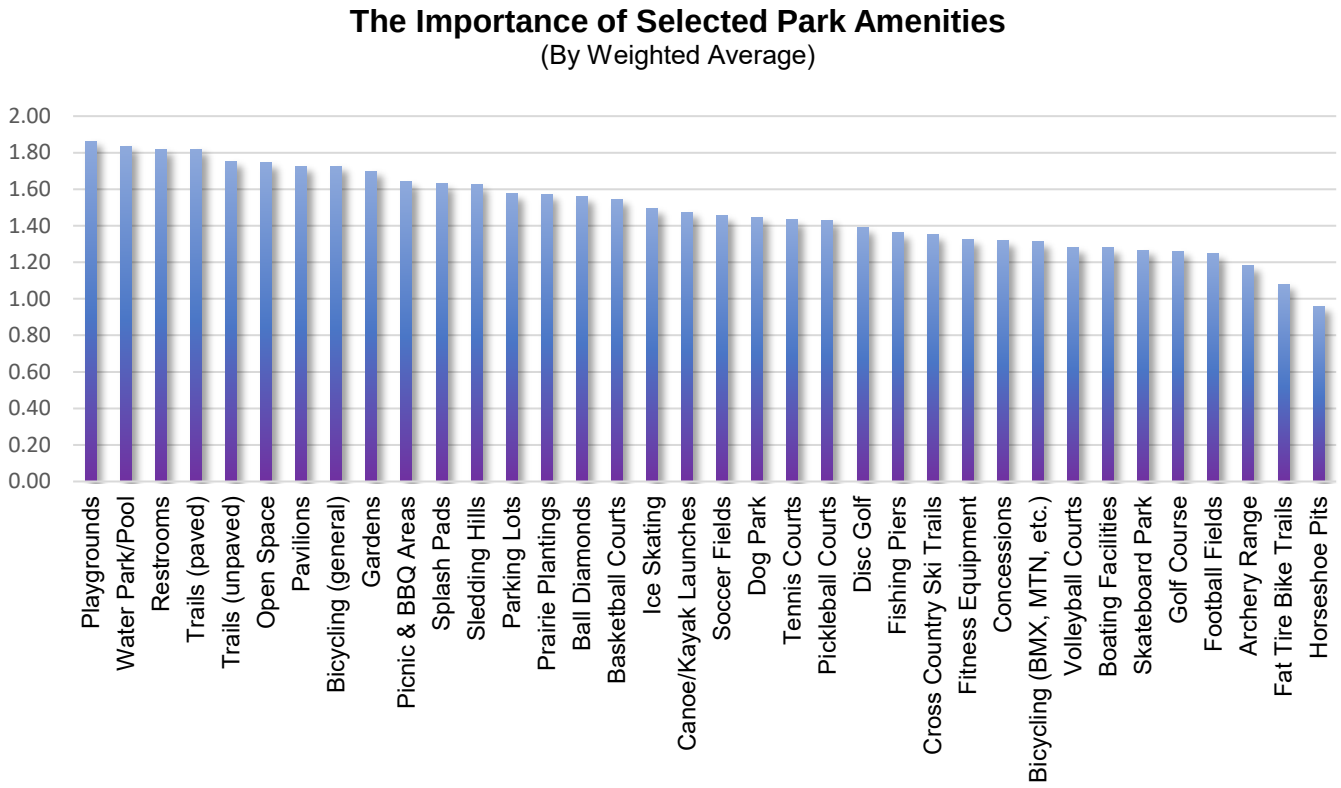


Park Access

More than half (59%) of respondents live less than a half mile from a park. Almost a fourth (20%) live 1/2 to 1 mile from a park.



Facility Planning
Respondents were then provided with a list of park amenities and asked to rate their overall importance.



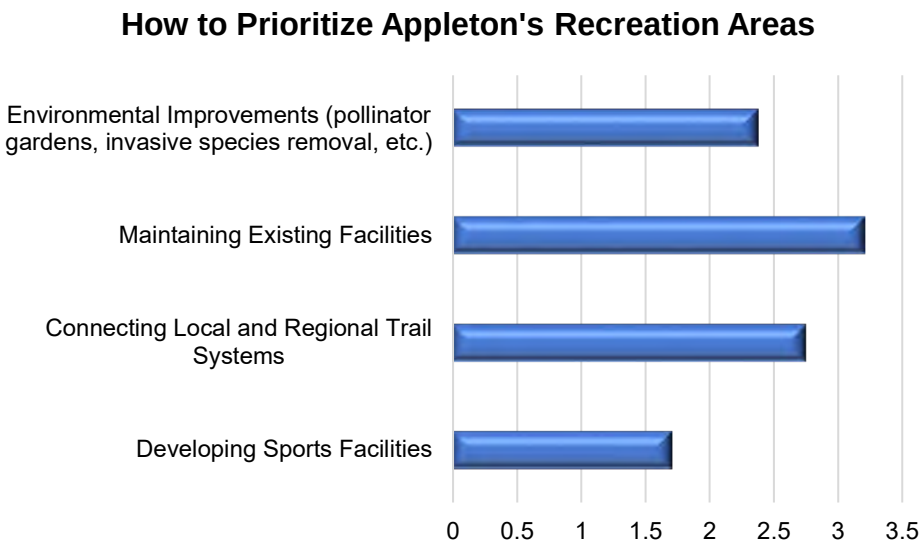
The highest rated park amenities, by weighted average, are the playgrounds, waterpark/pool, restrooms, trails (paved), and trails (unpaved).

The question divided the “Important” category into “Important (we need more)” and “Important (but we have enough).”

- Amenities rated “Important (we need more)” are as follows: Bicycling opportunities, canoe/kayak launches, a dog park, gardens, open space, prairie plantings, restrooms, splash pads, trails (paved and unpaved).
- Amenities rated “Important (we have enough)” with focus more on maintaining are: ball diamonds, basketball courts, ice skating, parking lots, pavilions, pickleball courts, picnic & BBQ areas, playgrounds, sledding hills, soccer fields, water park/pool.

Comments included a list of additional suggestions, the top five of which were: more trails and trail connections, playground equipment-related requests, pool and splash pad requests, requests for more native species/natural areas, and complements. Other topics included requests for more mountain bike trails and disc golf improvements, volleyball courts, dog-friendly areas, and complaints about geese.

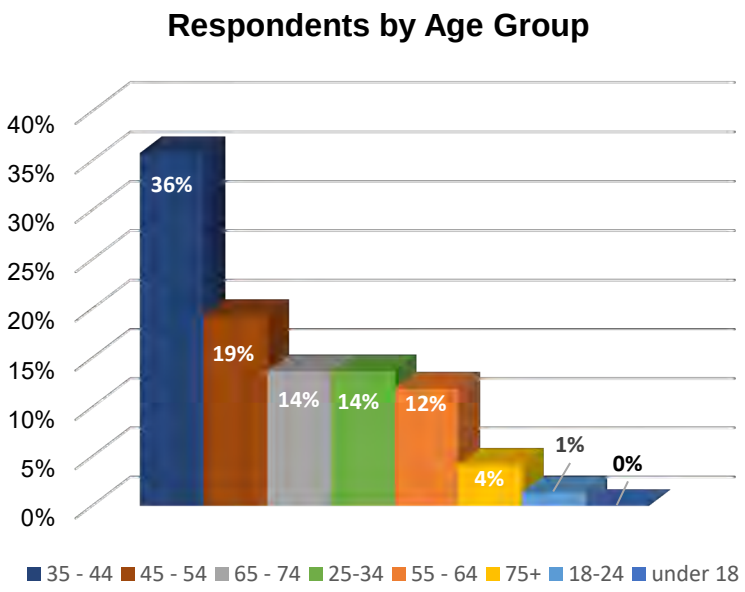
When asked how Appleton Parks and Recreation should prioritize the following activities within recreation areas, respondents chose "Maintain Existing Facilities" by a significant margin. The next largest choice was “Connect local and regional trail systems,” followed by “Environmental Improvements.”

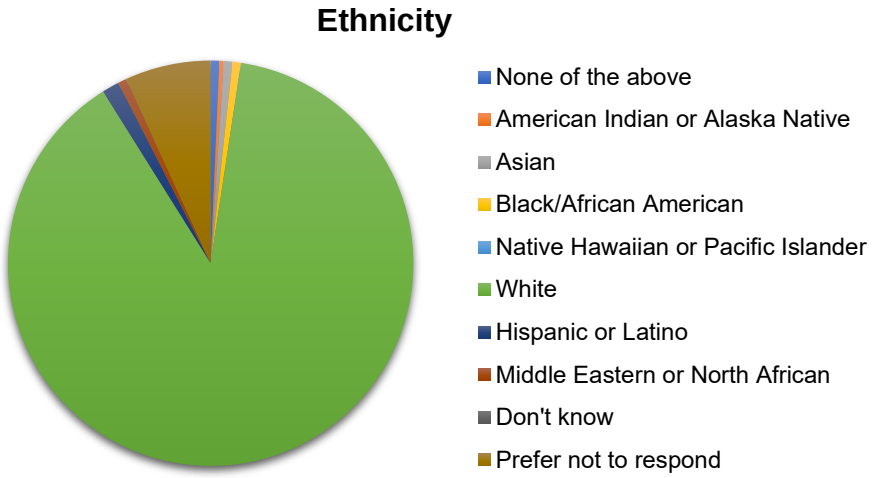


Demographics

A little over a third (36%) of survey respondents fell into the 35- to 44-year-old age bracket, making this by far the largest response group. Just 4% of responses came from the 75+ year group, and only 1% of responses came from the 18- to 24-year-old age group.

The majority (89%) of those responding identified as "White." The next largest group was "Prefer not to Respond" at 7%.

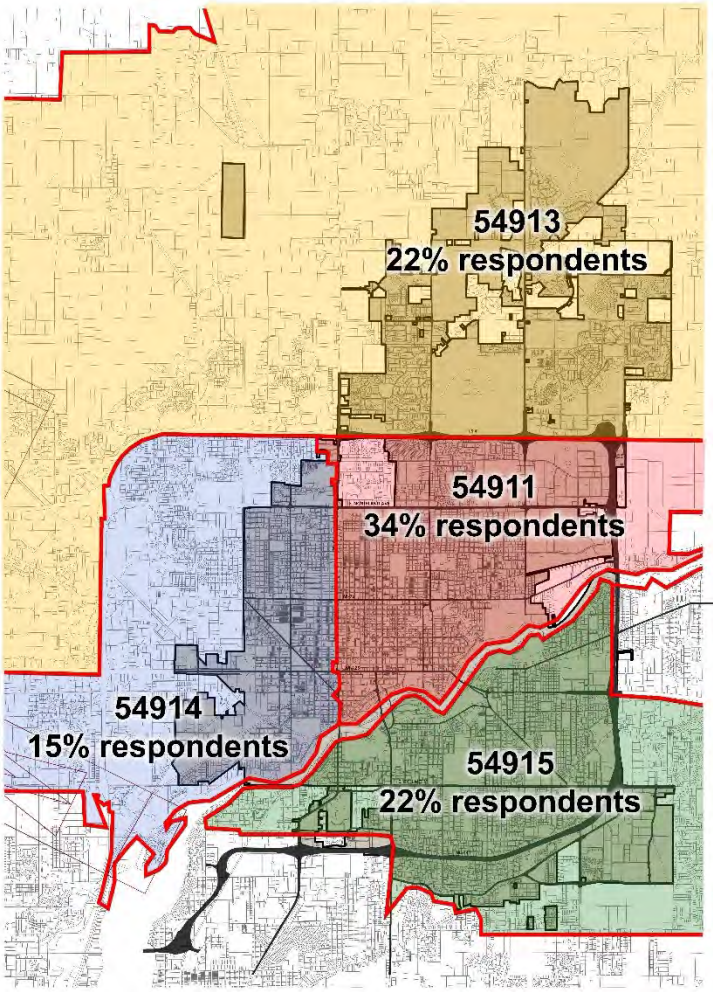


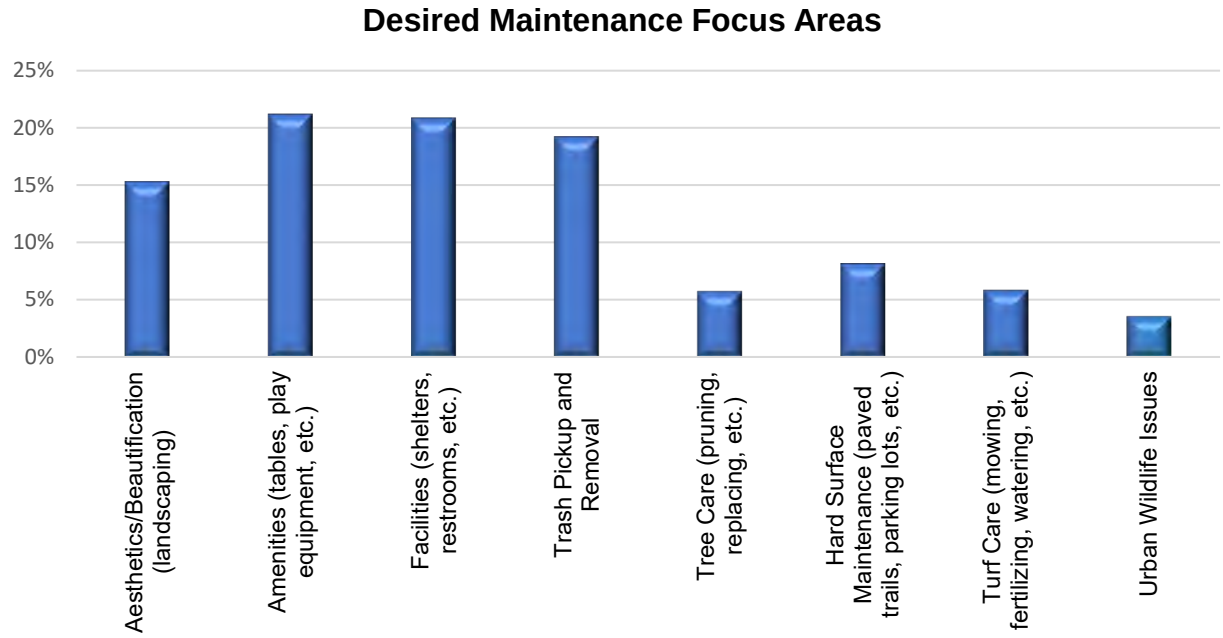


Zip code data indicates that surveys were filled out by residents from all across the city. 7% of respondents chose "other," and of that subcategory, the majority came from Neenah (20%), Little Chute (15%), Menasha (15%), and Oshkosh (15%).

Park Maintenance
Respondents were then asked to indicate their top priorities for park maintenance. "Amenities (tables, play equipment, etc.)" and "Facilities (shelters, restrooms, etc.)" ranked highest at 21% each, followed by "Trash Removal" at 19% and "Aesthetics/Beautification" (15%).

Sorted by category, most of the open comments were requests for more tree care, the greater use of native plant species, an appeal to replace lost trees and to reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides. Safety concerns due to homeless persons and rowdy teens were also mentioned.





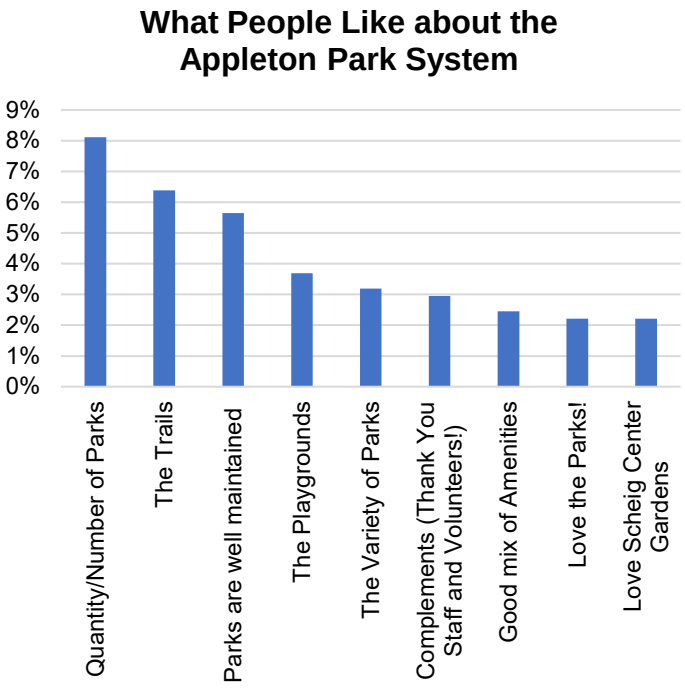
General Comments

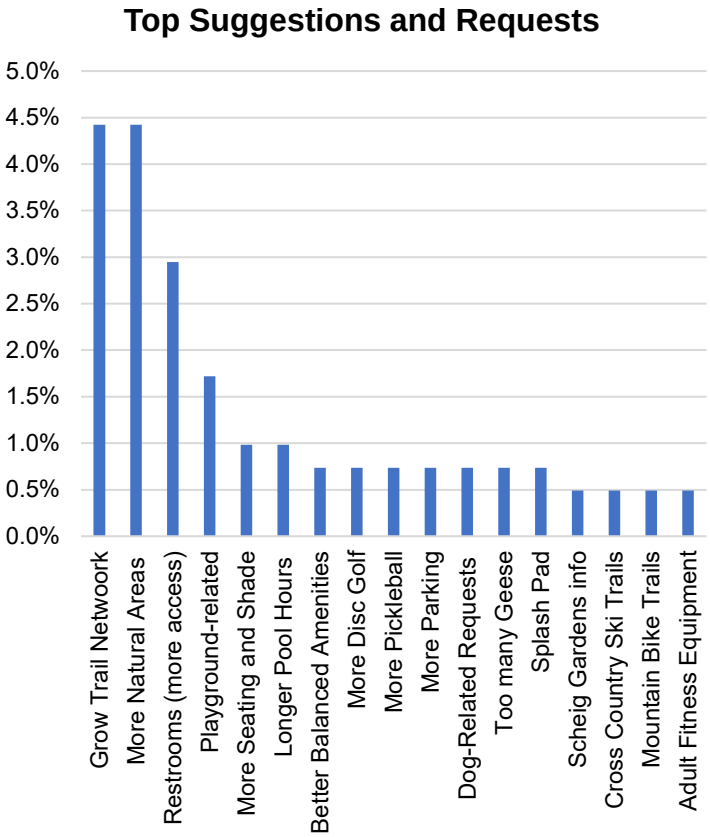
The final question focused on what respondents liked most and least about the Appleton Park System. 171 people chose to share over 400 different comments and suggestions. Most of those comments contained multiple ideas and thoughts.

When asked what they liked most about the Appleton Park System people indicated that they love the quantity of parks, the trails, the level of park maintenance, the playgrounds, the variety of parks and amenities, and the Scheig Center Gardens. Other items that received multiple very positive mentions include: park accessibility, the green space, the pools, the trees, the opportunity to provide input, Erb Park, and recent park updates.

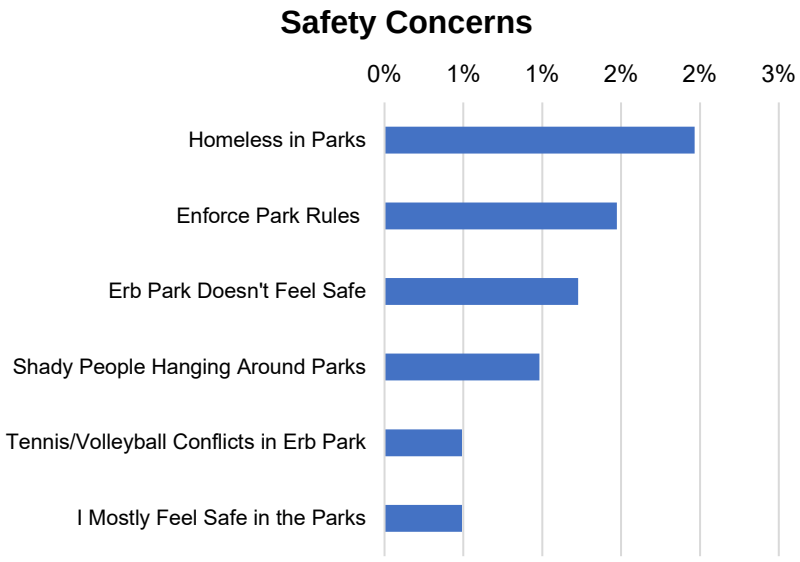
Most of the programming-related comments were also positive. People love the variety of programming in general, particularly the youth sports programs and other kid's events. There were a few requests for more winter activities.

With regards to things that could be improved, there was high interest in increasing trail connectivity to existing trails and interesting city features. There was a similarly high interest in natural areas, trees, native plantings, and areas for natural exploration. The bathrooms came in third, with requests for more of them and for longer hours. A number of playground-related requests were received as well, mostly for equipment for specific age groups and more soft surfacing. After that came a more eclectic mix of requests: more seating and shade, longer pool hours, more balanced amenities, more disc golf, more pickleball, more parking, dog-related requests, less geese, a splash pad, more mountain bike and cross-country ski trails and more fitness equipment.





The biggest safety concerns arose from an increasing transient and homeless population in the parks. The largest request was to enforce park rules regarding alcohol, equipment usage, off-leash dogs, and dog waste removal. In safety-related comments, Erb park was mentioned most frequently, due primarily to recent violence, resource conflicts, and the street parking. However, Arbutus Park and the ravine at Pierce Park were also mentioned as areas that might benefit from lighting and more police presence.



Of the maintenance-related comments, the majority were requests for updating park facilities and several persons expressed the opinion that the department should maintain existing facilities before acquiring new ones. Several thought the Parks Department should have more resources.

5.2 Additional Feedback

Parks Department and City Staff
An in-person meeting, followed by two virtual meetings, were held with Parks Department and City staff to gain detailed, first-hand perspectives of park use and specific needs. These meetings took place on March 21, April 1, and April 10, 2025.

Over the course of these three meetings, general park system wide topics were talked about and each park was discussed individually.

Public Input
A Community Input meeting was held January 16, 2025. At the meeting, support was voiced and questions were raised about the Appleton Conservancy planning. Questions and discussion were also held on parkland quantity per capita and how Appleton stands in comparison to other similarly sized municipalities in the state, what the Parks Department is doing to support the aging population, security within the parks, park funding, and Parks Department staffing.

Please refer to *Appendix A: Community Input* for more information.

DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS & RECREATION

SECTION 6

RECOMMENDATIONS

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The primary purpose of this Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan is to guide the City of Appleton in the development of parklands and facilities to satisfy the outdoor recreation needs of both visitors and residents. The recommendations listed below are based on information gathered from the community, the consultant's professional judgement and experience, and discussions with the City Parks and Recreation Department.

6.1 General Recommendations

The following is a list of general recommendations for general park and park system improvements.

Accessibility Guidelines and Provision for Persons with Disabilities:
A segment of the population who would like to avail themselves of public parks is impeded by physical or cognitive disabilities. Often traditional amenities and programs have little to offer these residents.

The term "accessible" describes a site, building, facility, or portion thereof that complies with the *Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines* (ADAAG) as interpreted by the Department of Commerce in the Wisconsin Administrative Code and Register for Barrier-Free Design.

The city should continue to upgrade existing facility and parkland features in accordance with the plan and ADA guidelines. Newly designed, constructed, and/or altered recreation facilities should comply with the applicable requirements under the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

Acquisition and Development of Park Land:
If NRPA Level of Service (LOS) classified parkland is counted, the city is 0.64 acres per 1,000 persons below the range recommended in the WIDNR *Guidelines for the Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans*. However, if all city-owned parkland is counted, (including Special Use Parks and Natural Resource Areas), then the city falls within the recommended range. The potential shortage in parkland is mitigated somewhat by the proximity of several Winnebago County park areas. It should be noted that these ranges are merely guidelines and being on the lower end provides an opportunity to reassess community needs and to qualify for grant opportunities.

There are several residentially-zoned areas within the city which are not served within the recommended service radius, due to distance or barriers. The city should investigate the acquisition and/or development of recreational opportunities in the areas shown on the Potential Park Acquisition/Development Map as budgets and opportunities allow. It is further recommended that the city monitor potential future parkland areas as residential areas grow.

The city has been shown to be on the low side of parkland recommendations. Based upon the current and future projections, there will be a need to acquire and develop lands for community parks with the recommended amount of acreage within the appropriate service perimeters in the far northern and southern areas of the city. The city should continue to explore future acquisition and development of recreational opportunities in the aforementioned parts of the city as they are developed or redeveloped.

Community Beautification:
The city continues to recognize that the appearance of the community is an important component in the provision of programs and services. A clean safe environment helps to instill a sense of pride in the community.

Beautification projects, such as planting trees, shrubbery, and flowers, along with other general landscaping for parks and other public areas should continue to be encouraged, particularly with perennials and native species.

Conservation/Natural Areas:
In addition to providing space and facilities for leisure activities, park systems should include conservation and preservation measures.

- WDNR policies discouraging the development of wetlands, floodplains, areas of steep slopes and other environmentally sensitive areas should be strictly enforced.
- Additionally, the city should review and identify parks that have the topography and space for natural areas. It is recommended that these areas be protected and enhanced with practices such as planting native and pollinator species, managing erosion, reforestation, and invasive species removal.

Dogs in Parks:
Dogs are prohibited in parks "unless the dog is on a sidewalk, trail, parking lot, or road and is restrained by a chain, rope or other type of leash no more than eight (8) feet in length and an individual competent to govern and physically control and restrain the dog is in physical control of the leash at all times. The dog shall display tags verifying it is currently licensed and vaccinated against rabies. Any waste left by the dog shall be immediately removed for sanitary disposal by the individual in control of the animal." Municipal Code Section 13-5(n).

Results from the online survey show that a dog park is listed among the amenities that respondents consider "important, and need more of." Therefore, it is recommended that the city explore the development of an off-leash dog park and dog exercise areas. It is further recommended that funding be set aside for a study that includes further community input, as well as coordination with the county and neighboring municipalities, and research into various properties and potential sites.

Efficiency and Sustainability:
The city should continue to ensure that park development occurs in a fiscally sustainable manner by considering the following:

- Installing new or replacing aging infrastructure with more energy efficient "green" amenities such as LED lighting and water saving measures where feasible.
- Naturalizing certain little-used and currently mowed expanses in order to better utilize staff time and resource costs and to benefit the environment.
- The Parks Department should continue to research grant opportunities and other funding sources to support and enhance parkland, park programs, and park maintenance. (See Public-Private Partnerships and Service Group/Volunteer Involvement sections below.)

Federal and State Aid Programs:
The city should continue to take advantage of state and federal financial and technical assistance programs designed to assist the community in meeting recreation needs. To maintain eligibility for such programs, the city's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan must be updated every five years.

Future Amenity Development Opportunities:
The following are a list of amenities that the Parks Department would like to see a part of the Appleton Parks system. However, some study will be required to determine which park locations are best for each one.

- Agility Course
- Hard Surface Volleyball Courts

Impact Fees:
Many communities collect "impact fees" at the time the building permit is issued for a new residential dwelling. These impact fees can fund a variety of things including sewer and water construction, firefighting equipment, library facilities and park development. Regardless of the particular facility or service, the fee must be reasonably related to or somehow serve the new neighborhood. When a municipality collects park impact fees, they must go into a separate account to fund capital development of parks (or improvements to existing parks) to serve the new residents.

The City of Appleton currently has no impact fees. Due to an increased focus on infill and redevelopment projects, it is recommended that the city evaluate the feasibility of instituting a park impact fee.

If the city does decide to implement impact fees, it must hold a public hearing and prepare a needs assessment for the public facilities for which it is anticipated the impact fees may be imposed. The needs assessment must include an inventory of public facilities (including an identification of any existing deficiencies for which it is anticipated an impact fee may be imposed), an identification of new public facilities or expansions to the same, and a detailed estimate of the capital costs of providing these additions or improvements to the community. In addition, the impact fees must meet a series of standards, for example the fees must bear a rational relationship to the facilities required to serve the land development, shall be based on actual capital costs or reasonable estimates, must be reduced to compensate for other capital costs imposed by the municipality or monies received from the state or federal government for the public facilities in question, may not include expenses for operation and maintenance, etc.

Further and more specific standards and requirements are found in the Wisconsin State Legislature, Wis. Stat. § 66.0617 https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/66/vi/0617.

Invasive Species:
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has developed resources and policies for identifying invasive species and describing the various types of control mechanisms and procedures for preventing the spread of species. The city should utilize WDNR guidelines for invasive species management. The guidelines include strategies and other methods of documenting and controlling invasive species, such as buckthorn, phragmites, emerald ash borer, etc.

Municipal/School District Cooperation:
The city should promote the continued cooperation between the municipality and local school district in meeting the needs of the community. Cooperation might take the form of joint land acquisition and facility development cost sharing. The increased use of existing facilities by both the city and school district during the hours not scheduled by the respective agency should be strongly encouraged. Establishing a joint, written agreement with the school district to identify responsibilities and regulations is recommended in order to promote the harmonious use of school district and city facilities.

Native Plantings:
Native plants are those that occur naturally in a region in which they evolved. There are many benefits of landscaping with native plants including conserving water, protecting soil, creating habitat, and providing food for many different animals. Without native species- and the insects that depend on them- birds, pollinators, small mammals, and other local species cannot survive. In addition, native plants are easy-to-grow and require minimal maintenance. Due to minimal or lack of herbicide and pesticide requirements, the use of native species contributes to a healthier environment for people.

Parkland Dedication Requirements:
Many communities, including the City of Appleton, have developer exactions for parkland acquisition and recreational facilities development. These exactions are designed to help a growing community develop new park facilities to keep pace with new residential development. A selection from the City of Appleton ordinance is reproduced below. Municipal Code Sec. 17-29 Dedication of Public Sites and Public Sites.

(e) Parkland and/or trail dedication. Within the corporate limits of the City, the subdivider shall dedicate land to provide for park, trail, and/or recreation needs in accordance with the adopted ordinances and planning documents described in subsection (d) above.

(1) Dedication area calculation. The dedication to the public shall be a minimum of three acres or an amount of land to be determined as specified in the following table, whichever is greater.

Zoning District	Land Dedication (per dwelling unit)
R-1A, R-1B, R1C, and R-2	800 square feet
R-3, PD, and TND	650 square feet

(2) Dedication consultation and land evaluation. The location, suitability, and dimensions of the land to be dedicated shall be determined in consultation between the subdivider and appropriate City departments (see §17-4), prior to submission of the preliminary plat or certified survey map. The land to be dedicated must be free of wetlands, floodplain, or other limitations that would prevent the land from being used for parkland purposes, unless this requirement is waived by the Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities Management or their designee.

a. Factors used in evaluating the adequacy of land to be dedicated shall include, but not be limited to, size, shape, topography, geography, tree cover, access, and location of people to be served.

b. Stormwater ponds may be located within the land to be dedicated, but pond square footage shall not count toward the dedication requirement unless designed and constructed to serve as a park amenity, as determined by the Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities Management or their designee.

(3) Reservation of additional land. Where the adopted ordinances and planning documents described in §17-29(d) call for a larger amount of land than the subdivider is required to dedicate, the land needed beyond the minimum amount shall be reserved for subsequent purchase by the City. Such acquisition must occur within three (3) years from the date of approval of the final plat or certified survey map, unless the timing or other details regarding the conveyance are modified by the development agreement. If such acquisition does not occur within the specified time period, the City shall release the reservation.

(f) Proportionate payment in lieu of parkland and/or trail dedication. Where such dedication is not feasible or is not consistent with the adopted ordinances and planning documents described in subsection (d) above, the landowner shall, in lieu thereof, pay to the City a fee equivalent to the value of the required dedication.

(1) Fee amount. In lieu of parkland and/or trail dedication, the landowner shall pay to the City a fee according to the zoning classification of each lot as specified in the following table:

Zoning District	In Lieu Payment (per dwelling unit)
R-1A, R-1B, R-1C, and R-2	$1,100.00
R-3, PD, and TND	$900.00

(2) Fee collection. The required payment shall be made by the landowner upon the issuance of a building permit for individual lots.

(3) Fee deposit. Such fees shall be deposited and held in a nonlapsing fund to be used exclusively for immediate or future site acquisition or capital improvement.

(4) Further division of land. If a lot or parcel is further divided, payment of the fee as specified in this section must be made, upon issuance of a building permit, for each additional undeveloped lot or parcel created by the land division.

(g) Provision of land for trails. The following requirements are included in this chapter to recognize the importance of trails within and between developments. Trails provide access to parks, open spaces, and other community destinations.

(1) Within the corporate limits of the City, the subdivider shall provide land for trail needs in accordance with the adopted ordinances and planning documents described in subsection (d) above. The location, suitability, and dimensions shall be determined in consultation between the subdivider and appropriate City departments (see §17-4), prior to submission of the preliminary plat or certified survey map. The following factors and criteria shall be considered:

a. A subdivision and/or minor land division adjacent to an existing trail shall provide connection(s) to said trail.

b. A subdivision and/or minor land division in an area identified with a proposed trail, per the Trails Master Plan, shall accommodate future trail placement using outlot(s) dedicated to the public and/or widened street rightof- way. In limited cases, the use of easements may also be considered.

c. Outlots dedicated to the public for trail purposes shall be exempt from any dimensional standards on lot width and lot area found in Chapter 23, Zoning of the Municipal Code and from lot design standards found in §17-26. These outlots must be noted as such on the Final Plat or Certified Survey Map.

d. Exact trail placement and configuration is adaptable, based on site features at the time of subdividing. The location and dimensions of land needed for a trail shall reasonably accommodate development of the property. To allow for trail pavement, clearances, and other amenities, a corridor width of twenty (20) feet will be considered typical.

e. Unless otherwise agreed upon, the City is responsible for design, construction, and maintenance of trails after the land is dedicated or transferred to the City.

f. Rules governing trail use are found in Chapter 13, Parks and Recreation of the Municipal Code.

(2) The area of the outlot(s) and/or widened street right-of-way dedicated for trail purposes shall be counted toward the parkland dedication requirement as specified in §17-29(e).

(h) Determination of feasibility. The determination as to the feasibility of dedication shall be made by the Common Council. When dedication to the public is proposed for a certified survey map, the acceptance of the dedication must be approved by Common Council before administrative approval of the certified survey map.

Park System Planning:
The City of Appleton should encourage park and recreation facility planning on a neighborhood, community and city-wide basis, viewing each site as an integral part of a unified system. A master plan and/or management plan should be established for each community park (and parks in other categories, as needed) to provide direction for the progressive and orderly planning, maintenance, and programming of the facilities.

Areas of high population (apartments/townhomes) need more parkland closer than the ¼ to ½ mile park service area. Future land use will allow medium density housing (townhomes/four plex) on collector and arterial streets.

Pedestrian/Bicycle Circulation and Trails:
The online community survey provided insight on the community's view of trails and multiuse paths.

- Question 3 asked if there was any park-related information that respondents would like to see on the Parks Department website that isn't currently there. Trail information, primarily location, length, information, conditions, and parking availability was the second most mentioned request.
- Question 5 asked what parks respondents visited in the last twelve months. Question 6 asked the same of trails. Both questions had similar numbers of responses. When evaluated together, trail usage rates very highly, just behind the top seven parks in fact.
- Question 9 asked users to indicate their level of satisfaction with outdoor recreation amenities, "Paved Trails" and "Hiking/Walking Areas" were the top two amenities users were most satisfied with.
- When asked to rank the importance of park amenities for future planning, "Paved Trails" and "Unpaved Trails" are among the top five most important. Additionally, amenities for "Bicycling" are important and respondents indicated that they would like more of them.
- Question 17 noted that outdoor recreation providers often need to focus their efforts strategically and asked how Appleton Parks and Recreation should prioritize a list of activities within the community's recreation areas. "Connecting local and regional trail systems" was voted the second most important item to prioritize within the community's recreation areas, second only to "Maintaining existing facilities."

- The final survey question, an invitation for open comments, was a compound question: *"What do you like most and least about City of Appleton parks? Please share any other comments or suggestions you have for Parks Department."* In response to the first half, respondents revealed that the trails are a favorite feature of the Appleton Park system-second only to "the Quantity/Number of Parks." And in response to the second part of the question, "Grow the Trail Network" was the top suggestion/request.

Recognizing the importance of pedestrian and bicycle facilities in connecting people to parks, businesses and other attractions, as well as commuting to work, the city adopted the *City of Appleton Trails Master Plan* in 2017. This plan should be referenced and implemented to increase access to parks.

The city should also continue to work with surrounding communities, private landowners, local conservancy groups, and state and federal agencies to improve trail development and connections.

Currently the City of Appleton has two separate plans that identify on-street and off-street bike and pedestrian needs. It is recommended that the City consolidate and update the Trails Master Plan (2017) and the City of Appleton On-Street Bike Lane Plan (2010).

Playgrounds:

Most of the playground sites located throughout the city have been updated with new equipment that meets the recommended safety standards; however, some of those are nearing their intended life expectancy. The city has implemented a replacement plan for all of its playgrounds as they reach the age of 20 years (the typical benchmark for the industry).

A need remains however, to expand existing equipment to enhance play opportunities and offer a more stimulating, creative play environment. Shade structures should be planned for equipment areas to provide relief from various weather conditions. In addition, all playgrounds should be inclusive and accessible to those with disabilities including surfacing and access routes. It is important that the city continues to stay current with changing safety standards.

Private Recreation Areas and Facilities:

The city should encourage development of specialized facilities by the private sector. Specialized facilities (miniature golf, kayak launches and rentals, indoor athletic venues, etc.) are an important enhancement to public recreational facilities. Quality and availability for public use should be emphasized.

Programming:
One of the fundamental objectives of the Appleton Parks Department is to develop a variety of recreational facilities and activities for the community. This is to promote the public use and enjoyment of community facilities, to increase community interaction, to support health and wellness, and to enhance leisure time through the development of individual skills. In order to accomplish this, a number of programming factors should be considered.

- Communicate opportunities to the community by utilizing multiple options including the city website, social media, print media, and community publications.
- Develop and maintain adequate facilities and open space to accommodate current and future program needs.
- Consider offering more programming during nontypical working hours, including evenings and weekends.
- Continue to conduct periodic surveys of the community's recreational facility preferences, needs, and trends to ensure that facilities are of the type and quality that residents desire.

Public-Private Partnerships:
The city should look for opportunities to increase outdoor recreation opportunities by coordinating with recreation interest groups, health care providers, recreation providers, elected officials, and others to collaboratively develop outdoor projects.

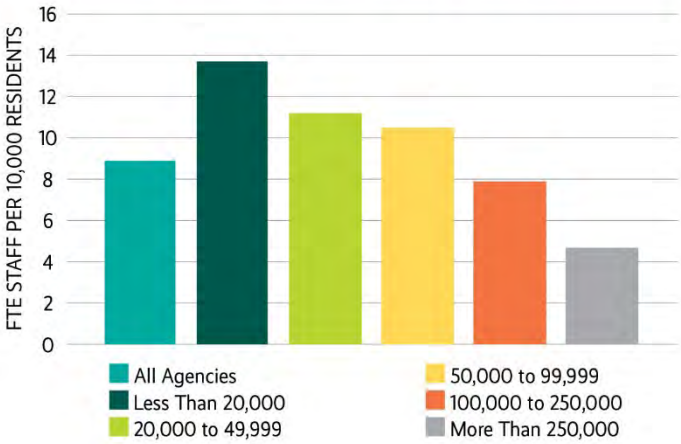
Through public-private partnerships, development and acquisition opportunities may be enhanced, which could allow for the preservation of existing resources and access to resources that have not been previously available to residents and visitors.

Service Group/Volunteer Involvement:
The city should continue to encourage service groups and special interest groups to become involved in park and recreational developments, including development of competitive sports areas and neighborhood parks.

Staffing Considerations:
Increased maintenance needs for new areas as well as for aging facilities has the potential to increase the need for staff and resources within the department in the next five to ten years. It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Department monitor staff workload, keeping the following figures in mind.

- The ***2024 NRPA Agency Performance Review***, which summarizes the key findings from the National Recreation and Park Association's *NRPA Park Metrics* benchmarking tool, reveals that agencies serving jurisdictions with 50,000-99,999 persons have a median number of 11.2 FTEs (full time equivalent employees) for every 10,000 residents.

FIGURE 12: PARK AND RECREATION AGENCY STAFFING: FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) EMPLOYEES PER 10,000 RESIDENTS
(BY JURISDICTION POPULATION)



	All Agencies	Less Than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	More Than 250,000
Median	8.9	13.7	11.2	10.5	7.9	4.7
Lower Quartile	4.9	6.9	5.8	6.5	3.8	2.1
Upper Quartile	16.6	25.3	20.3	17.1	12.2	7.8

As demand increases, consideration should be given to varied and creative solutions including the following:

- Employing additional staff.
- Increasing the efficiency of current staff by:
  - Studying task/time record keeping data.
  - Examining where and how equipment is stored and maintained for ease of access and increased equipment life.
  - Acquiring new and more equipment and technology if/as necessary.
- Encouraging community volunteers.
- Looking into increasing public-private partnerships.
- Reducing maintenance requirements, if possible, by:
  - Reducing maintenance intensive features and plantings.
  - Determining what park areas will be maintained to the highest degree and which will be more natural. Consider clustering high maintenance areas near each other.
- Contracting out certain services or projects.

In the meantime, the city should continue to support current staff by:

- Encouraging a healthy work/life balance.
- Continuing to solicit feedback from employees on a regular basis and making changes as necessary.
- Assisting in the professional development of employees by encouraging continuing education and memberships in professional associations that promote the concepts, practices and techniques of professional parks, recreation, and urban forestry management.

Third Space:
Along with establishments such as coffee houses, libraries, churches, bookstores, and the like, parks have long been considered a typical “third space”- a place outside of work or home that serves as a hub for socializing, relaxation, planning, and contemplation. The Parks Department is committed to providing support and infrastructure to promote enhanced third space opportunities. It is recommended that park ordinances be reviewed and updated to allow food truck sales within some parks.

Urban Food Forest:
According to the U.S. Forest Service, a part of the USDA, urban food forests can improve the environment by sequestering carbon, providing habitat for biodiversity, and improving water quality. And “with planning, agroforestry practices also can address urban-specific issues like food insecurity, heat islands, soil contamination, limited wildlife habitat, stormwater runoff and other concerns.”

The City of Appleton plans to establish three strategically located urban food forests within designated grant boundaries, ensuring equitable access to fresh, nutrient-dense produce for historically disadvantaged populations.

Currently, 5% of Appleton’s population lacks access to healthy foods, exacerbating public health disparities. By integrating permaculture principles, native edible plantings, and regenerative agroforestry techniques, these food forests will create self-sustaining ecosystems that provide free, accessible nutrition to vulnerable communities.

Additionally, these sites will serve as educational hubs, offering hands-on workshops in urban agriculture, ecological restoration, and sustainable land stewardship. Partnerships with local schools, community organizations, and food security initiatives will maximize the impact of these forests, fostering a culture of environmental literacy and food sovereignty.

The success of this initiative will be evaluated through annual yield assessments, community engagement metrics, and ecological health indicators. By embedding resilience-focused urban agriculture into Appleton’s sustainability framework, this project will advance long-term food security, climate adaptation, and equitable green space development across the city.

Urban Forestry:
The Department of Public Works Forestry Division is tasked with the care and maintenance of 30,000 street trees and 5,000 park trees. The City of Appleton recognizes the numerous benefits provided to the community by the presence of trees in an urban environment which include environmental, social, and economic benefits. It’s the Forestry Division’s mission to support these efforts while engaging the public and providing services for the long-term care and maintenance of this green infrastructure. The work is directed by 7 Certified Arborists and operations are overseen by the City Forester.

Waterfront Access and Recreation:
One of Appleton's greatest natural resource assets is the Fox River that bisects the community. The city should explore greater recreational usages to provide residents and visitors the ability for outdoor recreational experiences including paddle sports, boating, sailing, and fishing to name a few.

The city should also continue to improve existing access points and boat/canoe launches as well as investigate additional access points along the waterways. Additionally, the city should seek out public/private partnerships for public and recreational spaces along the Fox River during re-development.

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6.2 Park-Specific Recommendations

The following specific proposals have been developed based on the Needs Assessment survey, the Parkland Analysis (which includes National Recreation and Park Association standards), as well as consultant input and direction from city and the Parks Department staff. Parks not identified in the following list do not have immediate needs and/or recommendations at this time or have independent master plans. Park numbers are keyed to tie in with the maps included in Sections 3 and 4 of this Plan.

Please refer to Section 7: Implementation Strategies for estimated costs for each individual component.

The budget estimates in Section 7 are intended to provide guidance to the decision makers responsible for implementing the plan and are organized into a matrix of short-, mid- and long-term goals based on time increments of 1-5 years, 6-10 years and 11-15+ years.

The schedule of improvements for each facility will be determined at a later date, as recommended by the Parks Department Staff and the Parks and Recreation Committee as part of the annual Capital Improvements Program.

1. ALICIA PARK

Neighborhood Park
12.00 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Replace Playground
2. Walkway Improvements
3. Staircase (waterfront access)
4. Fishing Pier
5. Scenic Overlook
6. Pavilion/Restroom Building Renovation
7. Accessible Picnic/Grill Area

2. ARBUTUS PARK

Neighborhood Park
3.44 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Walkway Improvements (with turnaround)
2. Replace Existing Stairs with Accessible Ramp
3. Dog Exercise Areas
4. Restroom Building
5. Playground Improvements
6. Accessible Picnic Area
7. Design Services

3. CITY PARK

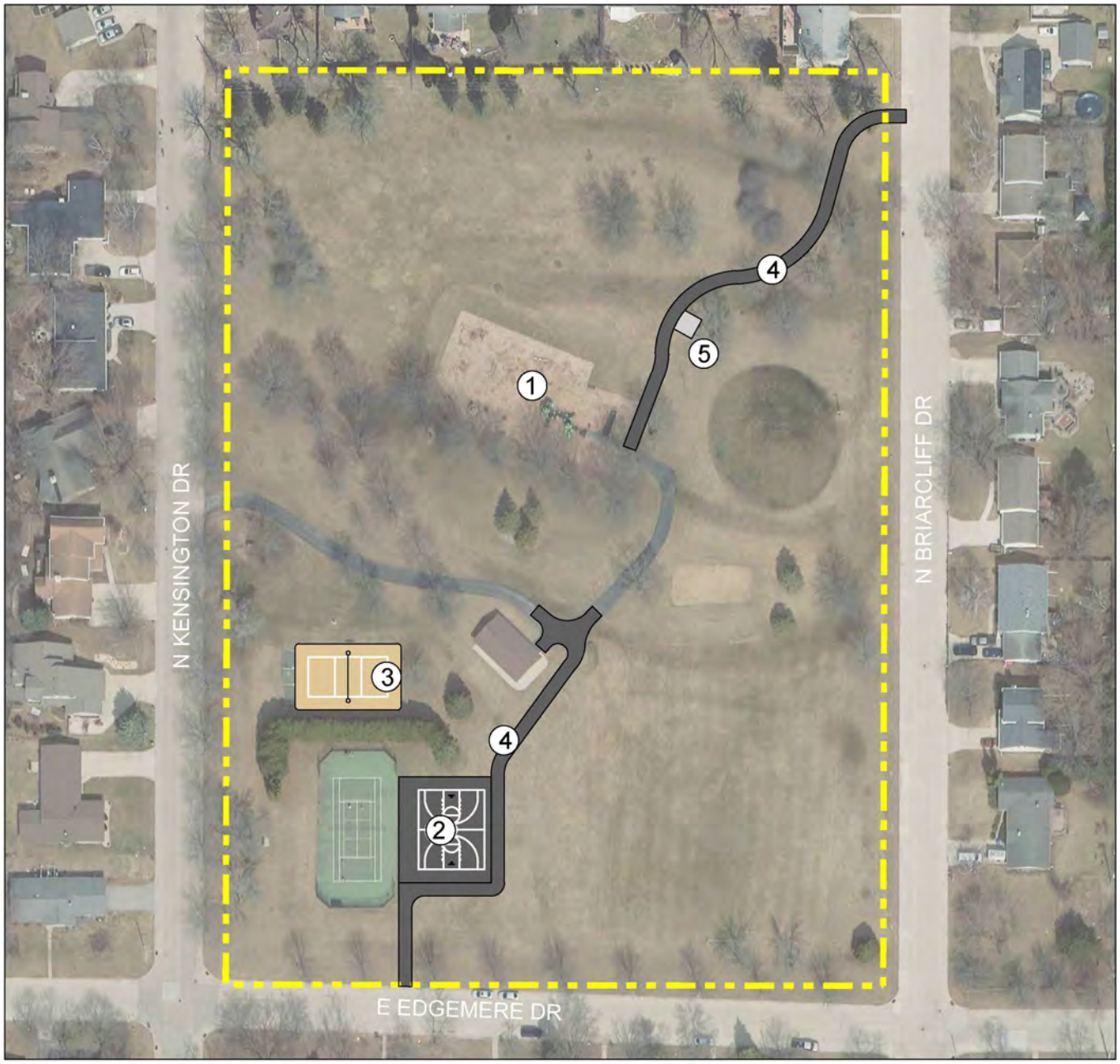
Neighborhood Park
8.00 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Replace Playground & ADA Surface
2. Fountain Improvements
3. Fitness Equipment

4. COLONY OAKS PARK

Neighborhood Park
7.88 acres

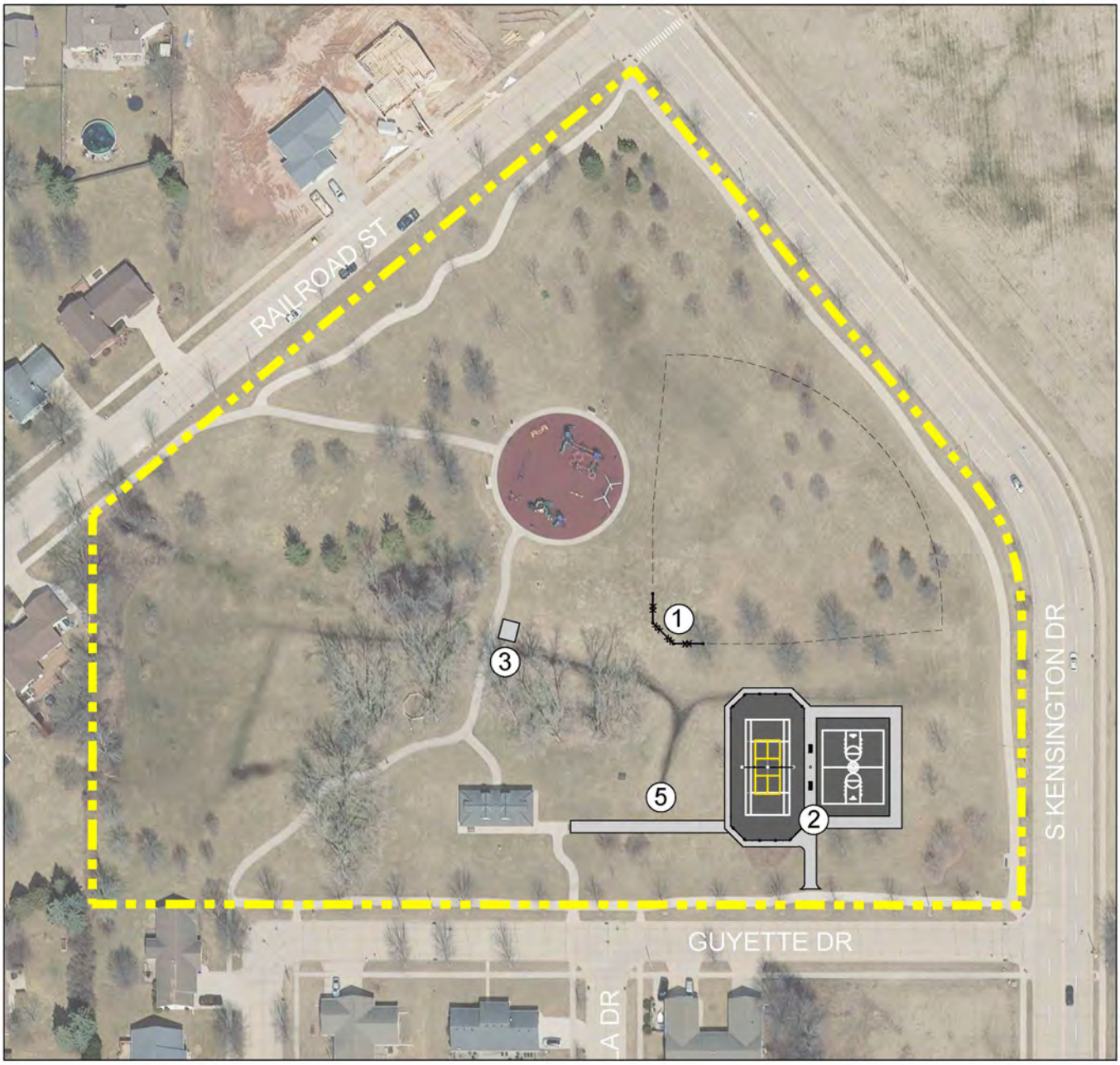


RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Replace Playground
2. Basketball Court (relocated)
3. Volleyball Court (relocated)
4. Walkway Improvements
5. Accessible Picnic Area
6. Lighting Allowance

5. DERKS PARK

Neighborhood Park
9.07 acres

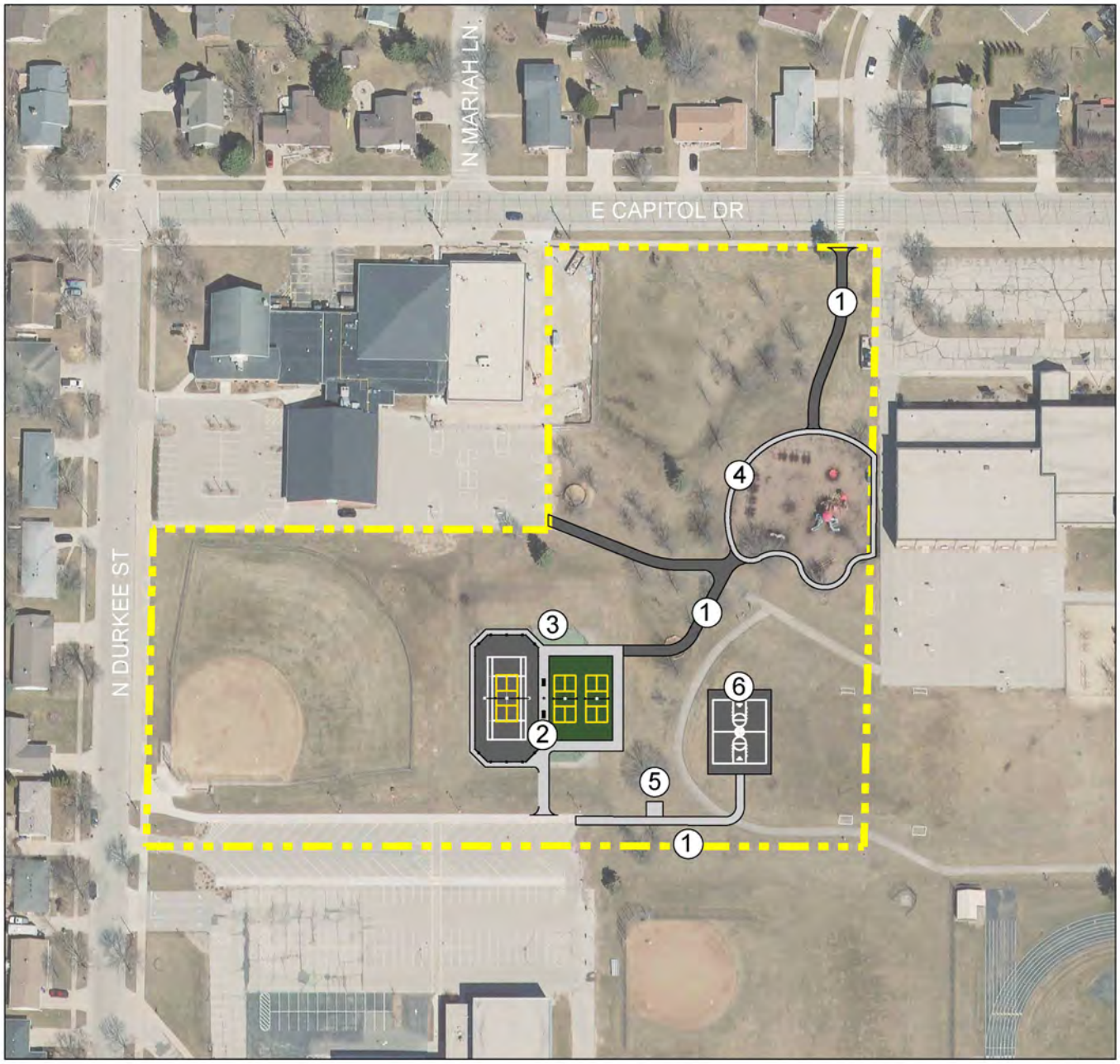


RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ball Diamond/Kickball
2. Pickleball/Basketball Court
3. Accessible Picnic Area
4. Lighting Allowance
5. Walkway Improvements

6. EINSTEIN PARK

Neighborhood Park
6.60 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Walkway Improvements
2. Tennis/Pickleball Court Renovations
3. Lighting Allowance (sport court & walkways)
4. Play Area Improvements (perimeter walk)
5. Accessible Picnic Area
6. Basketball

7. ELLEN KORT PEACE PARK

Neighborhood Park
3.38 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

Please refer to the Ellen Kort Park Master Plan

8. GREEN MEADOWS PARK

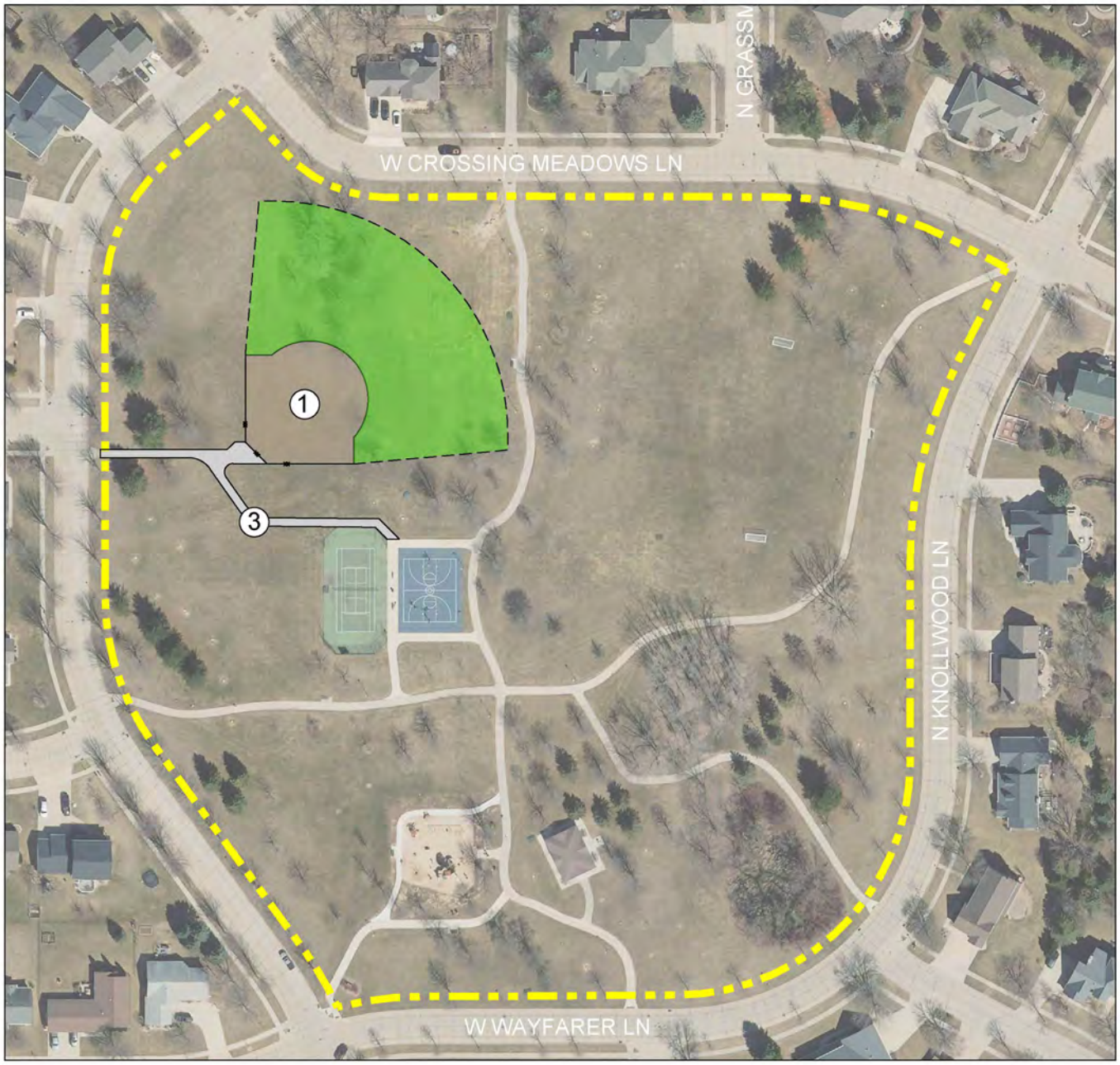
Neighborhood Park
5.60 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Walkway Improvements
2. Backstop Improvements
3. Accessible Picnic Area
4. Lighting Allowance

9. HIGHVIEW PARK

Neighborhood Park
12.59 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Little League Ball Diamond Backstop (dirt infield, grass outfield)
2. Lighting Upgrades
3. Walkway Improvements

10. HOOVER PARK

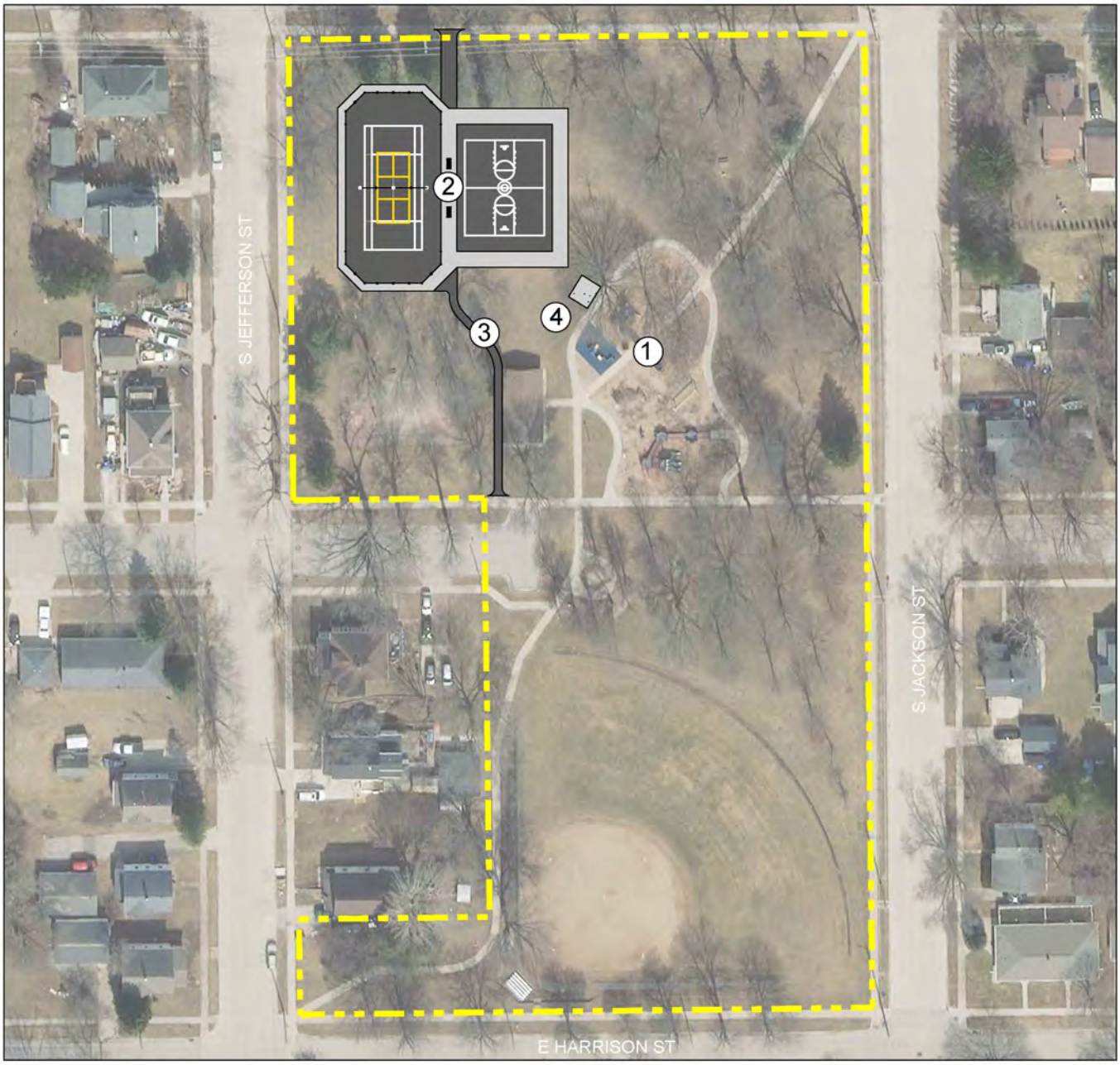
Neighborhood Park
11.60 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Basketball/Pickleball Sport Court
2. Urban Food Forest
3. Walkway Improvements
4. Softball Field Improvements (dugouts & bleacher pad)
5. Soccer Field Improvements (irrigation & underdrain)
6. New Pavilion
7. Sidewalk

11. JAYCEE PARK

Neighborhood Park
4.00 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Playground Replacement
2. Basketball/Pickleball Sport Court (design & construction)
3. Walkway Improvements
4. Accessible Picnic Area
5. Lighting Upgrades

12. KIWANIS PARK

Neighborhood Park
6.50 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Walkway Improvements and Additions (8' width)
2. Pavilion/Shelter Building (design and Renovation)
3. Basketball Court (relocation)
4. Picnic Area
5. Multiuse Field Improvements (215'x120') (overseed, underdrain, irrigation)
6. Site Lighting
7. Remove Asphalt (old court)
8. Pickleball Court (1)

13. LINWOOD PARK

Neighborhood Park
9.50 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Urban Food Forest
2. Walkway Improvements
3. Lighting Allowance

14. LIONS PARK

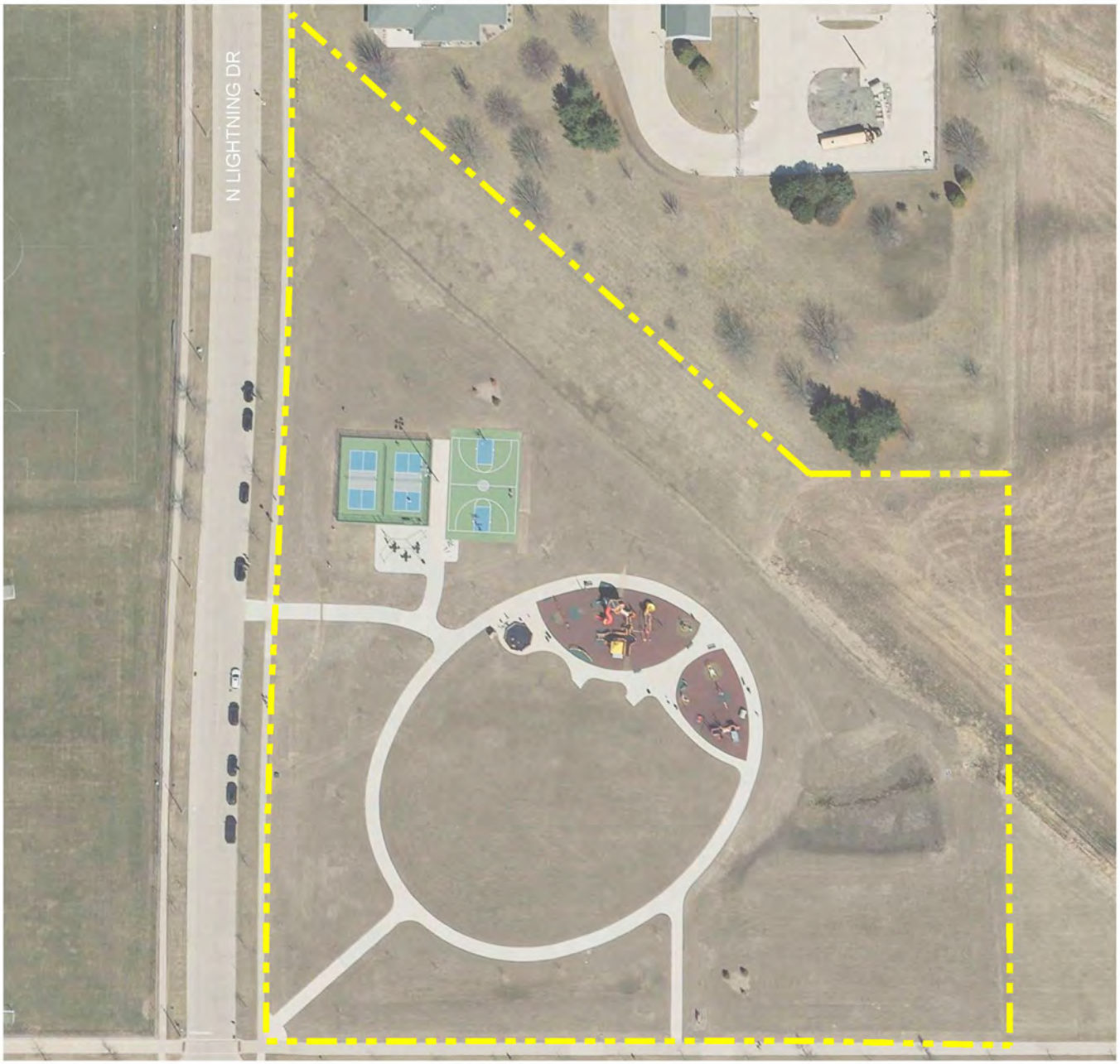
Neighborhood Park
4.40 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Walkway Improvements
2. Ball Diamond Bleacher Pad

15. LUNDGAARD PARK

Neighborhood Park
6.77 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

Please refer to the Lundgaard Park Master Plan

16. LUTZ PARK

Neighborhood Park
3.70 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Accessible Picnic Area
2. Trail Connection

17. MEAD PARK

Neighborhood Park
8.50 acres

N
0' 200'

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Master Plan Allowance (park and pool)
2. Park Expansion Allowance

18. PEABODY PARK

Neighborhood Park
16.20 acres

N
0' 300'

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Shoreline Improvements (seawall, trail, lighting, parking)(design & planning allowance)
2. Shoreline Improvements (construction)
3. Sport Courts (basketball & pickleball)
4. Pavilion (design and renovation)

19. PIONEER PARK

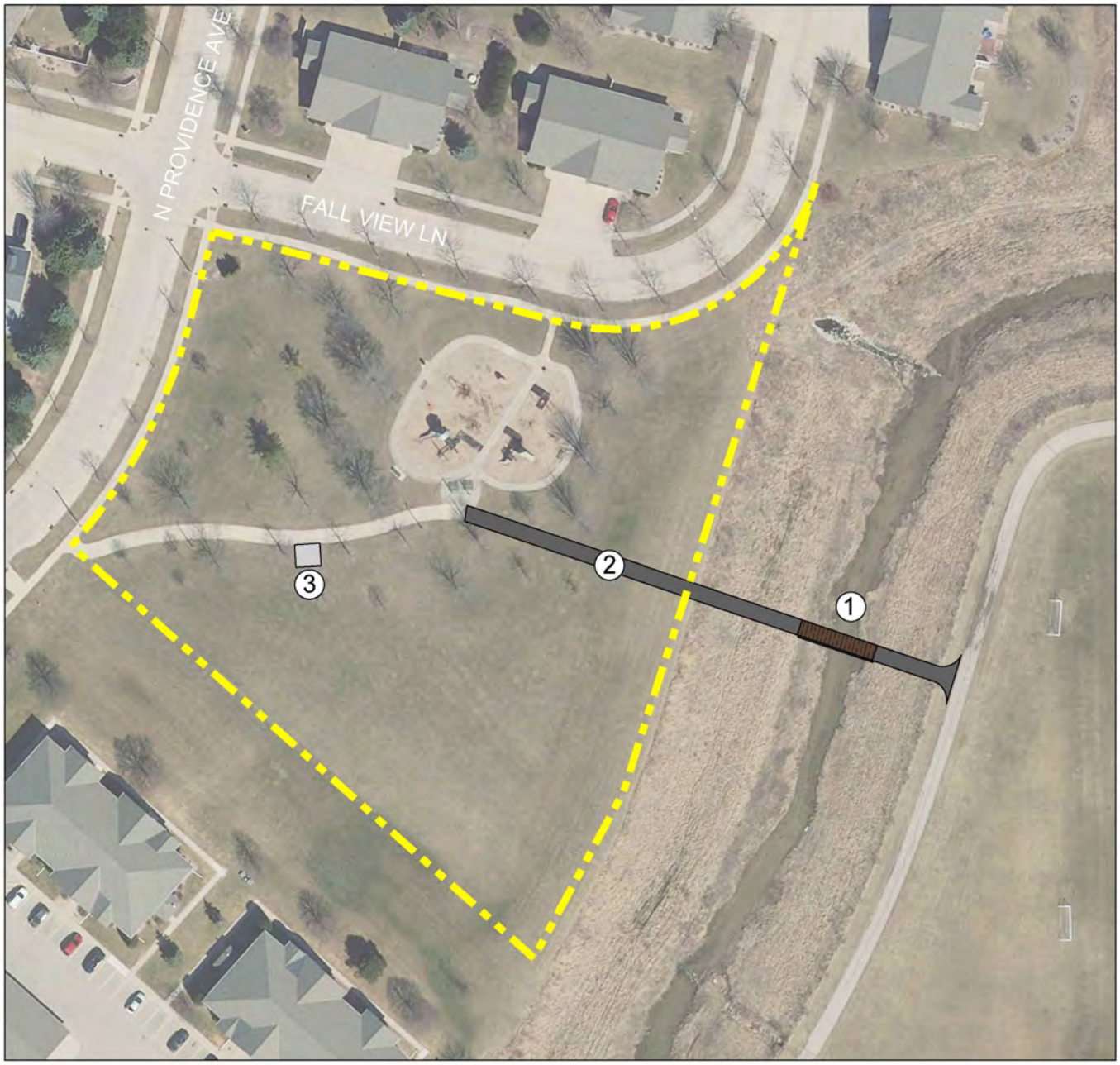
Neighborhood Park
0.52 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Walkway Improvements

20. PROVIDENCE PARK

Neighborhood Park
3.32 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Bridge (design and construction)
2. Walkway Improvements
3. Accessible Picnic Area

21. SCHAEFER PARK

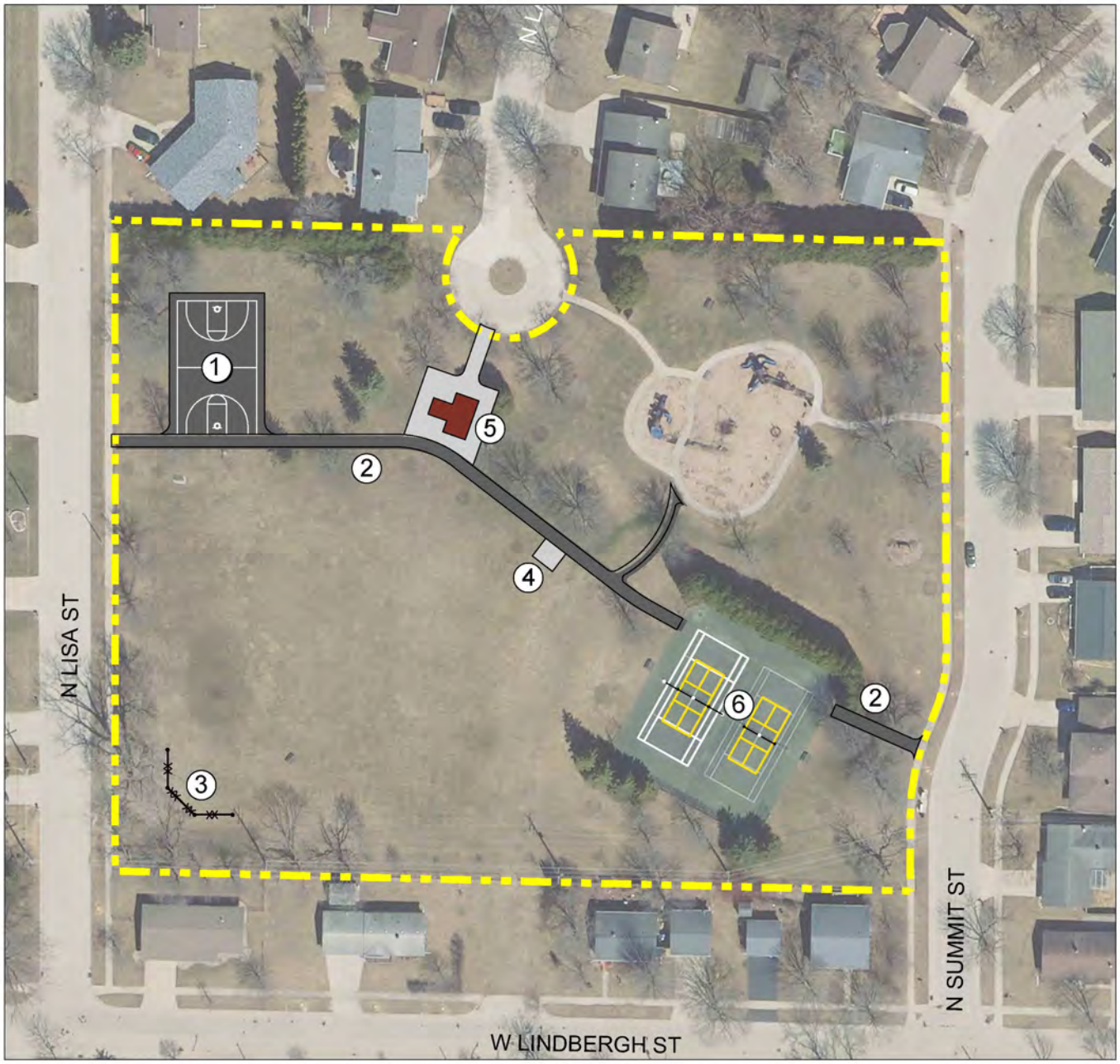
Neighborhood Park
6.40 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Playground Improvements
2. Walkway Improvements
3. Basketball (relocate)
4. Reduce Asphalt Area
5. Accessible Picnic Area
6. Pavilion Renovation
7. Site Lighting Allowance
8. Pickleball Courts

22. SUMMIT PARK

Neighborhood Park
5.49 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Basketball Court Reconstruction
2. Walkway Improvements (connections)
3. Ball Diamond Backstop
4. Accessible Picnic Area
5. New Pavilion (design & construction inc. plaza)
6. Sport Court Resurfacing (1 tennis & 2 pickleball)
7. Site Lighting Allowance

23. VETERANS PARK

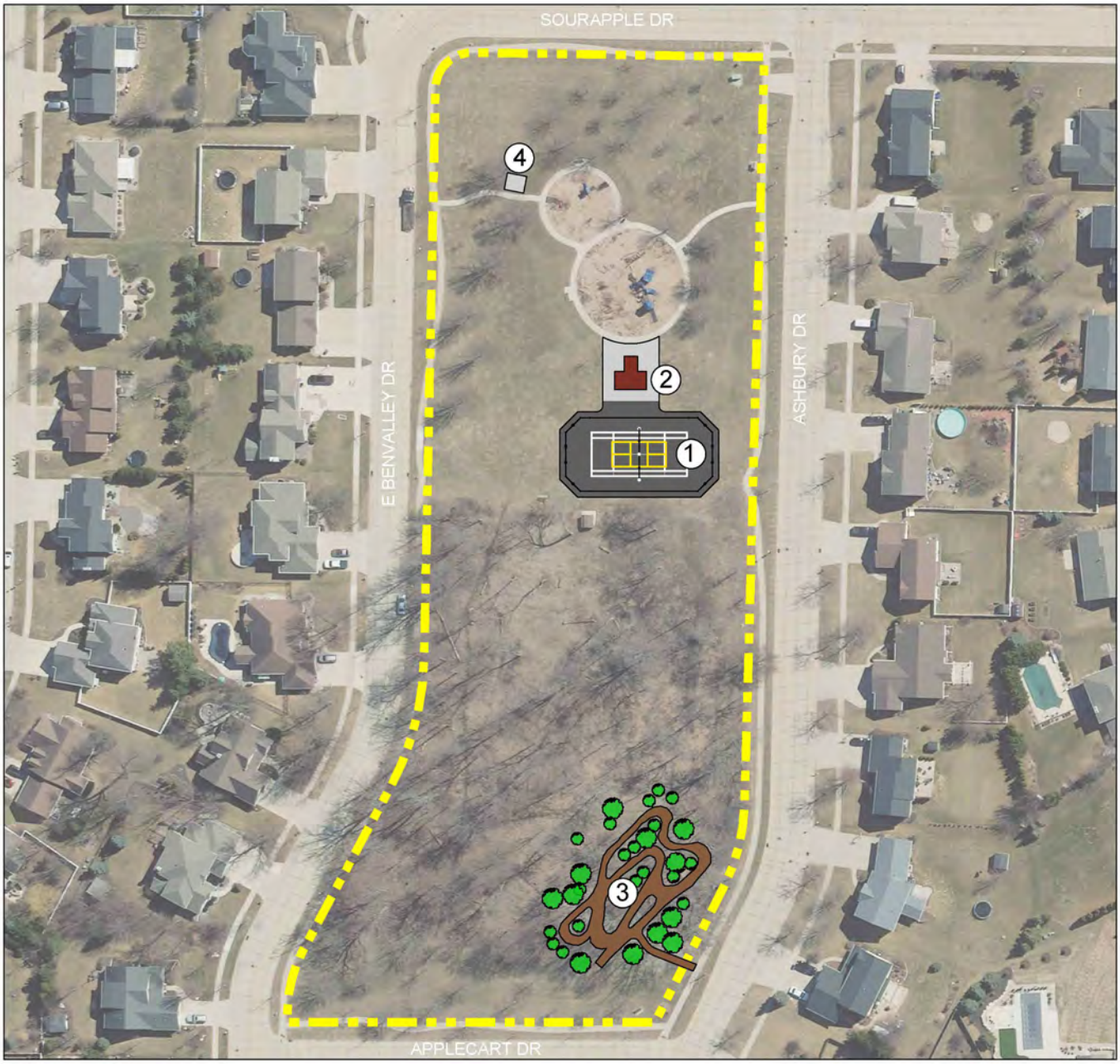
Neighborhood Park
5.73 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Parking Improvements
2. Walkway Improvements
3. Scenic Overlook
4. Accessible Picnic Area
5. Selective Clearing/Thinning

24. VOSTERS PARK

Neighborhood Park
5.10 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Sports Court (Striping TBD)
2. New Restroom Pavilion
3. Pump Track/BMX Area
4. Accessible Picnic Area

25. VULCAN HERITAGE PARK

Neighborhood Park
2.05 acres

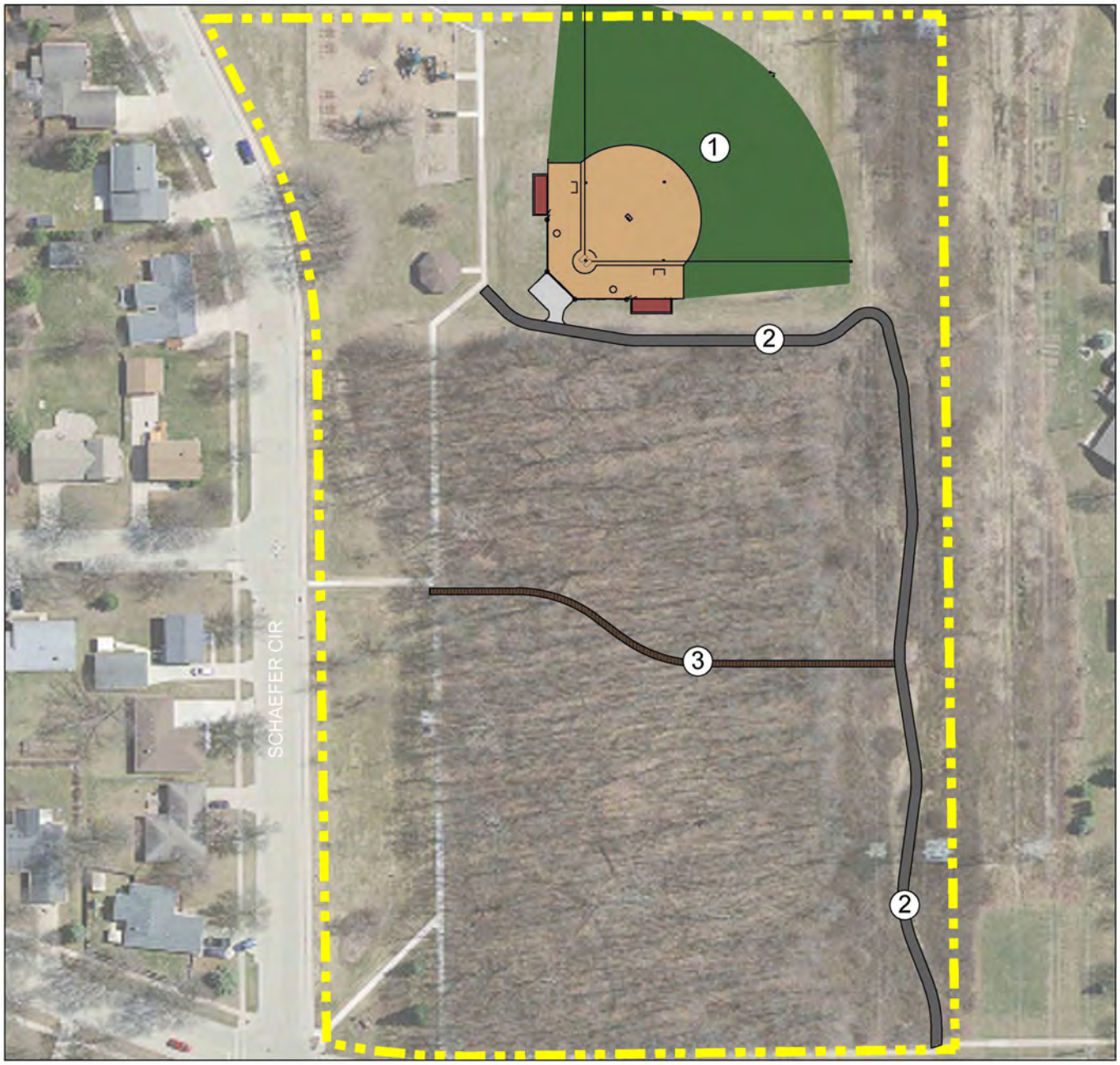
N
0' 100'

RECOMMENDATIONS

Please refer to the Vulcan Heritage Park Master Plan

26. WOODLAND PARK

Neighborhood Park
8.70 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Relocate Ball Diamond with Concrete Pad
2. Walkway Improvements
3. Boardwalk Allowance
4. Lighting Improvements Allowance

27. ERB PARK

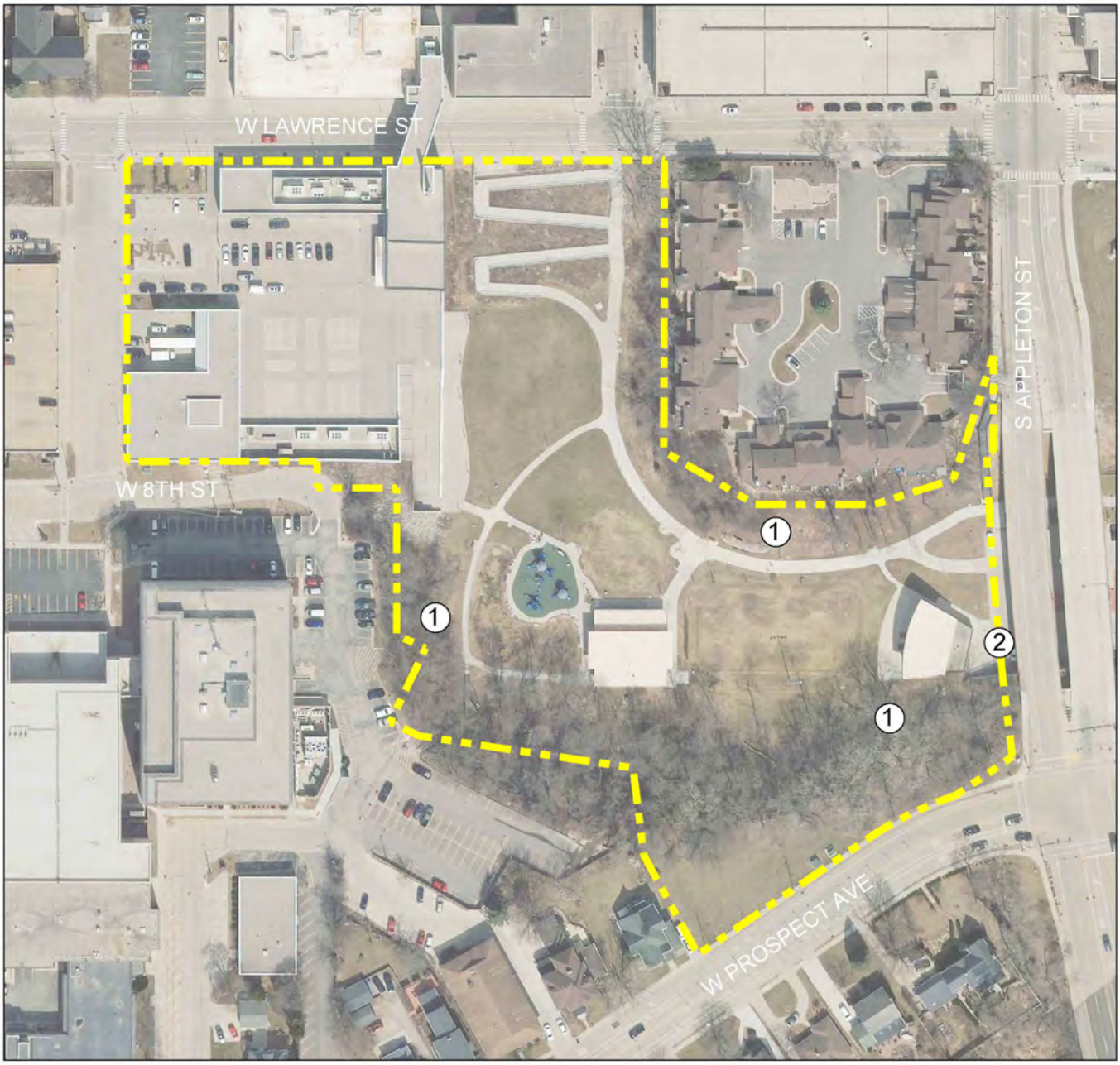
Community Park
27.75 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Walkway Improvements (new trail)
2. Tennis Court Lighting (replace existing 2 courts and add to two courts)
3. Trail Lighting
4. Walkway Improvements (widen/replace trail)

28. JONES PARK

Community Park
5.75 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Invasive Species Removal
2. Safety/Security Gate Allowance

5

29. PIERCE PARK

Community Park
34.91 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Walkway Improvements (tennis vicinity)
2. Walkway Improvements (west access trail)
3. Walkway Improvements (ravine trail)
4. Trail Connection (over tracks)
5. Log Cabin (removal and replacement)
6. Lighting Improvements
7. Basketball Court Improvements
8. Lighting (basketball/tennis courts)
9. Relocate Ball Diamond
10. Disc Golf Improvements
11. Reconstruct Parking Lot
12. Reconstruct Stairs
13. Natural Area Enhancements

30. TELULAH PARK

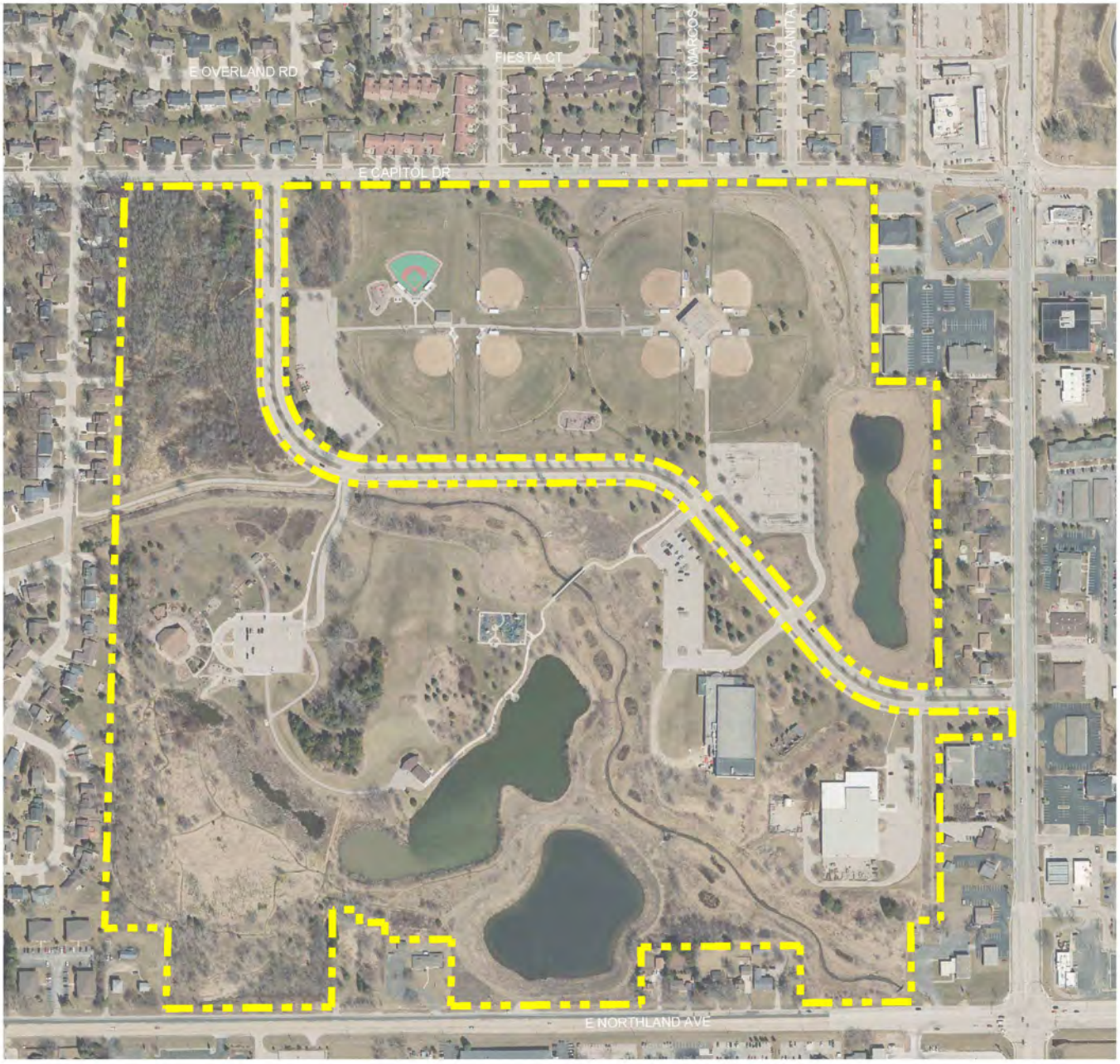
Community Park
39.31 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

Please refer to the Telulah Park Master Plan

31. VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Community Park
140.10 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

Please refer to the Veterans Memorial Park Master Plan

32. BALLARD ROAD PROPERTY

Special Use Park
1.75 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

No recommendations at this time

33. HOUDINI PLAZA

Special Use Park
1.00 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Irrigation Allowance
2. Electrical Improvements Allowance
3. Safety Improvements

34. REID GOLF COURSE

Special Use Park
107.60 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

For Golf Course Improvements, see the Reid Municipal Golf Course Master Plan. While Reid Golf Course is owned by the City of Appleton, it is operated under a Special Revenue Fund.

35. UNION SPRINGS PARK

Special Use Park
0.10 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

No recommendations at this time.

36. USA YOUTH SPORTS COMPLEX

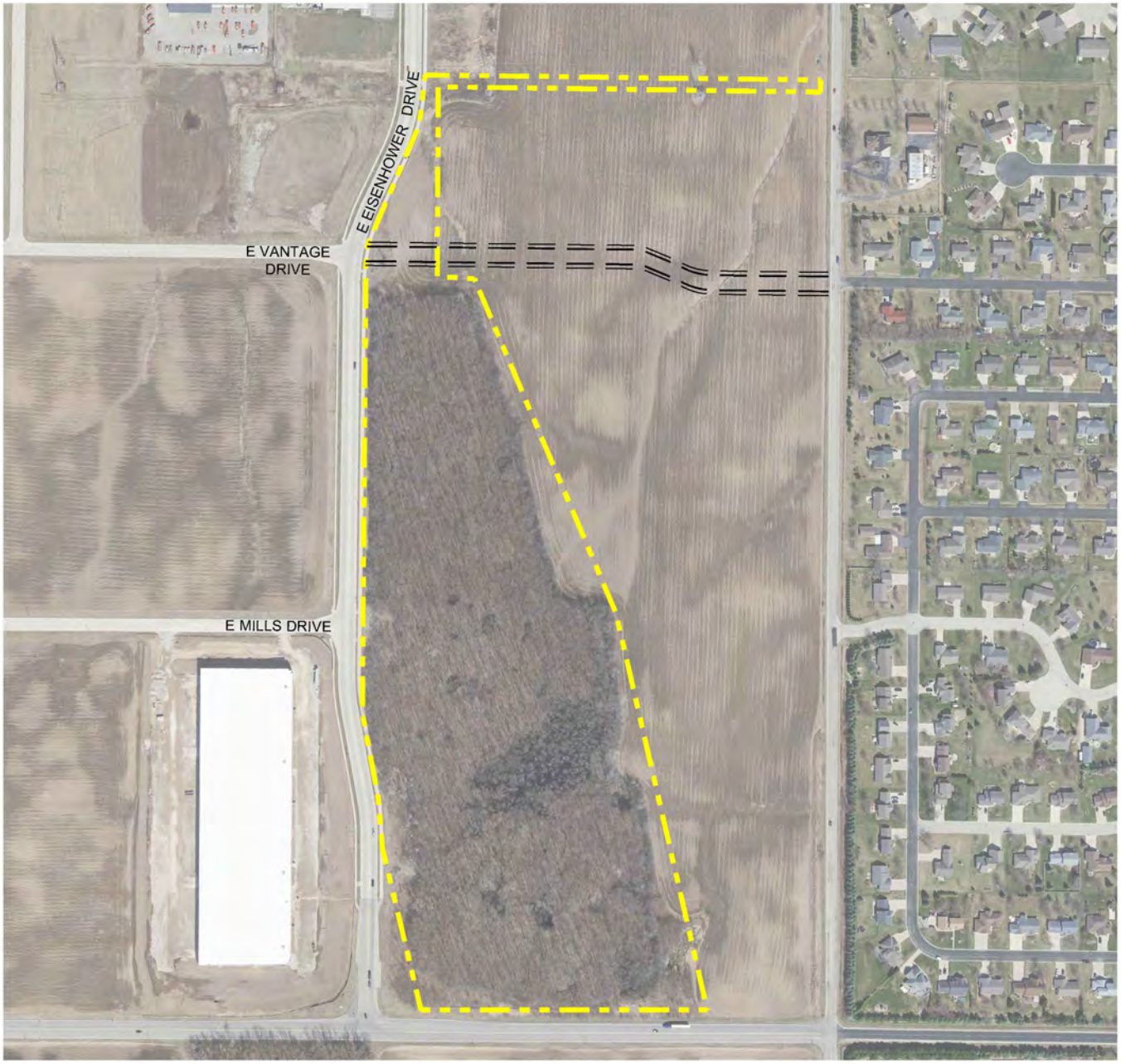
Special Use Park
80.50 acres

RECOMMENDATIONS

This Property is owned by the City of Appleton, but leased to USA Youth and not open to the public.

37. APPLETON CONSERVANCY

Natural Resource Park
33.45 acres



RECOMMENDATIONS

Please refer to the Appleton Conservancy Park Master Plan

6.3 Proposed Park Types

The exact size and location of the proposed facilities should be decided on a specific case by case basis. However, as lands become available and residential growth continues to move into underserved and/or undeveloped areas, the city should investigate securing park space in the areas shown on the Proposed Park Acquisition Map.

Careful planning, particularly of larger parks, will help to minimize acquisition and development costs and better meet community needs. The master planning process should include a comprehensive review of the existing conditions, advantages, and challenges for each potential park site as well as an evaluation which includes the identification of proposed needs, the collection of community input, the preparation of concept plans, and detailed cost estimates. It is recommended that the city seek the assistance of a licensed landscape architect for park planning.

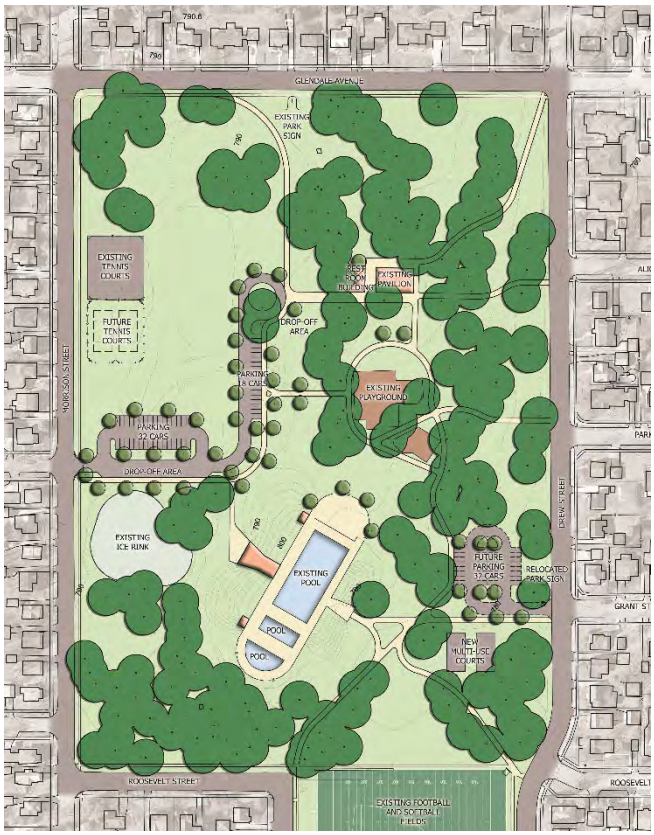
Park Examples

The following are some general examples of parks by NRPA classification types.

Mini Park

Classification	General Description	Location	Preferred Size	Service Area
Mini Park	▪ The smallest park classification. ▪ Used to address limited, isolated, or unique recreational needs. ▪ Often contains landscaping, seating areas, and central focus feature such as a gazebo, fountain, play area, or historical marker or art project. ▪ Often created on a single urban lot or remnant parcel.	Generally located in a residential setting. Accessibility is by way of trails, sidewalks, or low volume residential streets.	Typically between 2,500 sq. ft. and 2 acres.	1/4-mile radius

Neighborhood Park



Classification	General Description	Location	Preferred Size	Service Area
Neighborhood Park	▪ Basic unit of the park system. ▪ Recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. ▪ Informal active and passive recreation. ▪ Typical amenities include: shelters, picnic areas (with tables and grills), drinking fountains, and pathways.	Generally located in a residential setting. Accessibility is by way of trails, sidewalks, or low volume residential streets. Access should not be interrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	2 acres min. 5-10 acres preferred.	1/4 to 1/2-mile radius

Community Park

Classification	General Description	Location	Preferred Size	Service Area
Community Park	▪ Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs and/or preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. ▪ Provides a combination of intensive and non-intensive development. In addition to the facilities provided at neighborhood parks, community parks may provide natural features, trails, swimming pools, picnic areas, elaborate playfields, game courts, ice skating, shelters, or sanitary facilities and ample off-street parking.	Usually serves two or more neighborhoods.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually 11-35+ acres.	1 to 2-mile radius

6.4 Maintenance Plan

While careful planning and design are essential to building a great park system, the level of long-term care generally plays the biggest part in determining facility attractiveness, safety, longevity, and visitor experience. Sustainable maintenance also improves the quality of the natural environment.

The amount of necessary maintenance will vary from park to park. Active parks, very visible parks in central locations, and well-used parks tend to need a higher level of attention while open spaces often only require some type of annual maintenance.

The following is a general list of goals and recommendations for municipal park systems. While the overall list of recommendations is extensive, it is meant to be long-term and many should be implemented over a period of years.

Maintenance Goals and Recommendations

Goal: Efficiency

Recommendations

- Provide adequate and well-trained park personnel.
- Promote an understanding of the significant scope of work related to parks, facilities and trail operations and maintenance.
- Plan realistic time frames when scheduling maintenance work.
- Acquire appropriate equipment to perform maintenance effectively and efficiently.
- Create and maintain a log for tracking park system and individual park maintenance activities.
- Implement systematic routine maintenance of park facilities and equipment:
    - Play equipment
    - Courts and fields
    - Benches and picnic tables
    - Trail systems
    - Restrooms and shelters
    - Paved parking areas
    - Accessible routes

Goal: Accessibility

Recommendations

- Retrofit all parks and park facilities to be accessible, including shelters and restrooms. As park facilities are constructed or upgraded, they should be designed to be barrier-free and accessible to all park users.
- Cover surfaces directly under play equipment and a safe zone around the play equipment with an ADA compliant safety surface. In addition, provide an accessible route to all play structures and facilities.
- Continue with the current playground equipment replacement program.

Goal: Sustainable Maintenance and Care Practices

Recommendations

- Periodically survey the condition of each park as well as the facilities within the park in order to schedule routine maintenance projects effectively and efficiently.
- Design a sustainable maintenance program that includes evaluating annual labor, supply and equipment needs.
- Consider employing some or all of the following guidelines in the maintenance program:
    - Retain existing soil during construction and planting projects. Stockpile and reuse this soil on-site to minimize disturbance that could encourage growth of invasive plant species.
    - If fill needs to be imported, specify weed-free fill.
    - When using fertilizer, use organic or "slow-release" and use no more than recommended for proper growth.
    - The soil should be tested once every three years to determine the need for fertilizer and pH adjustment.
    - Use compost as an annual dressing.
    - Mulching retains moisture in the soil, moderates soil temperature, prevents erosion and the washing away of nutrients, and keeps weed growth under control. Mulch should be applied no deeper than 4" on trees, 2-3" on shrubs, and about an inch on perennials.
    - Use shredded hardwood mulch rather than wood chips because of its slower decomposition rate and lower nitrogen depletion properties.
    - In turf areas and newly planted areas, water deeply, about one inch of water per week to keep plants healthy and to prevent soil erosion. Water in the early morning to prevent evaporation.
    - Consider using two types of grass within the parks, a cool season athletic mix turf grass for active play areas, such as ball fields and picnic areas, and a native cool season grass such as Canada rye in place of Kentucky bluegrass and fescue in other areas of the park.
    - Mow high (about 3" or no more than one-third of the blade of grass) in earlier morning hours, leaving grass clippings on the turf. Longer blades of grass tend to grow deeper roots helping to avoid erosion and obtaining more moisture and nutrients from the soil.
    - Turf grass on ball fields and soccer fields should be mowed 2x/week during the seasons when needed. All other turf grass areas should be mowed 1x/week as time and weather permit.
    - Include large drifts of native grasses and flower areas in parks, especially around water bodies to protect water quality, provide seasonal color and texture, enhance wildlife habitat and deter goose populations.
    - Consider a controlled burn or equivalent natural management area approach, such as mowing, to maintaining native landscapes within parks. Controlled burns, if selected, should be performed only by trained personnel.
    - Incorporate natural storm water control measures within the parks such as rain gardens, grass swales and additional planting of trees around parking and other hard surface areas to reduce site run-off.
    - Reduce the use of pesticides, herbicides or other chemically treated materials (i.e. wood), whenever possible due to their impacts on water quality and wildlife habitat. When needed, especially in the case of invasive plant species control, chemicals should be applied only by trained personnel and care should be taken to ensure proper use and storage.

Goal: Community Partnership and Cooperation

Recommendations

- Solicit evaluation of parks, facilities, and trail maintenance from the public using periodic surveys or online feedback.
- Utilize community volunteer resources to assist in park beautification and maintenance projects, e.g., rain gardens, restoration projects, invasive species control and installation of signage, new playground structures, etc. These types of activities bring community members together, especially in neighborhood park settings and can create a sense of ownership that will last.
- Create volunteer recognition programs to acknowledge groups or community members for their service.
- Educate the public on the aesthetics and benefits of sustainable park landscapes using brochures, fact sheets, the city website, social media, and/or newsletters and signage.

Goal: Capital Improvements

Recommendations

- Routine maintenance generally consists of the repair and upkeep of existing park facilities (such as painting a shelter building), does not appreciably increase the value of the park, and is traditionally funded through the Park Department's operations budget. Capital improvements, on the other hand, are the addition of labor and materials that improve the overall value and usefulness of a park (such as upgrading a restroom facility to be barrier-free), and often designated and funded individually through segregated municipal funds.
- Generally, capital improvements are ranked in the following manner:
    - Improvements to existing facilities:
        - Correct health and safety hazards
        - Upgrade deficient facilities, including accessibility-related deficiencies
        - Modernize adequate but outdated facilities
    - Development of new facilities, as deemed appropriate and necessary through public demand (public meetings, Parks Department input, expected population growth).

Landscape Maintenance Guidelines

Planting Type	Annual Maintenance Schedule				Long-Term Maintenance		
	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	At 2 Years	At 5 Years	At 10+ Years
Trees and Shrubs					Only prune lower branches that will create a hazard. Trees should not be staked unless absolutely necessary. Renewal prune woody shrubs to improve shape. **DO NOT SHEAR SHRUBS.** Pruning should be done only by trained personnel.	Selectively replace shrubs that have overgrown. Renewal prune woody shrubs to improve shape. **DO NOT SHEAR SHRUBS.** Pruning should be done only by trained personnel.	Replace shrubs that have become overgrown.
Planting New/Replacement		X	X	X			
Fertilizer	Only when needed						
Mulch		X	X	X			
Pest Control (only as needed)		X	X				
Plant Repair	X	X	X	X			
Pruning	X	X	X	X			
Perennials/Ornamental Grasses						Divide existing plants to keep them healthy and maintain shape.	Divide existing plants to keep them healthy and maintain shape.
Planting New/Replacement		X	X	X	In areas where establishment is unsuccessful, amend soil and replant.	Replace dead plant material. Change plant species in cases of major die-outs.	Replace dead plant material. Change plant species in cases of major die-outs.

Planting Type	Annual Maintenance Schedule				Long Term Maintenance		
	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	At 2 Years	At 5 Years	At 10+ Years
Aeration		April		Sept.	Re-grade sections that may have become "bumpy." Remove lawn from area around tree trunks.		Complete major renovation of turf areas designated for active sports such as ball fields, soccer fields, etc.
Mowing		X	X	X			
Re-sodding		X	X	X			
Re-seeding (over-seeding)				X			
Weed control (only as needed)		X		X			
Fertilization		X		X			
Naturalized Areas							
Planting		X		X	Weeding/burns and general management is critical during the first three years of establishment. The goal is to have minimal contact in subsequent years to reduce impact to wildlife habitat. **ONLY BURN IN NATIVE GRASS & FLOWER AREAS.** Most trees and shrubs cannot typically survive this method of weed control.	Plant species selection should be modified based on success rates.	Long-term management should consider wildlife habitat quality. Plant species selection should be modified based on success rates and aesthetic quality. Replace plants or re-seed as needed.

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DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS & RECREATION

SECTION 7

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

7.0 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

The recommendations in the previous section (consisting of repairs, upgrades, corrections, and desired additional amenities) are intended to provide guidance to decision makers.

In this section, estimated costs are provided for each of these improvements to assist the city in organizing funding. Typically, these costs include furnishing and installation as well as appropriate allowances for demolition, mobilization, and permitting. These estimates are based on 2023-2025 costs from similar bid projects and do not necessarily reflect inflation, regional price differences, and potential future material cost increases. Quantities are based on county GIS aerial photography.

These items may be funded through a combination of city capital improvements budgets, public-private partnerships, grants, volunteer opportunities, and donations. Any city-funded improvements would have to be presented to and approved by the city as part of its annual Capital Improvements Program. Various grant and alternate funding sources are listed in the second half of this section.

For ease of reference, this section also provides a plan for implementing those recommendations over the next ten to fifteen years. The improvement information is organized into a spreadsheet matrix of short-, mid- and long-term strategies that are based on time increments of 1-5 years, 6-10 years, and 10+ years and beyond. This section should be viewed as a planning tool. Projects not completed in the hypothetical time frames identified should simply be considered future opportunities.

It is recommended that the city monitor, review, and prioritize the improvement strategies on an annual basis.

7.1 Capital Improvements

(See the following spreadsheets)

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Capital Improvement Schedule

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

	Multiplier	1.035 to 1.188	1.229 to 1.411	1.460+
	*Note: a 3.5% construction inflation multiplier to be added per year to the current estimated cost.	**Short Term (1-5 Years) 2026-2030**	**Mid Term (6-10 Years) 2031-2035**	**Long Term (11+ Years) 2036+**
PARK NAME	**CURRENT ESTIMATED COST**			
Alicia Park				
Replace Playground (CIP 2026)	$150,000	X		
Walkway Improvements	$84,000	X		
Staircase (to riverfront)	$950,000		X	
Fishing Pier	$50,000		X	
Scenic Overlook	$950,000			X
Restroom Building	$607,500			X
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$2,794,500**			
Arbutus Park				
Walkway Improvements	$66,000	X		
Existing Stair Replacement with Accessible Ramp	$75,000		X	
Dog Exercise Area	$160,000		X	
Restroom Building	$739,000			X
Playground Improvements	$175,500	X		
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
Design Services (CIP 2028)	$40,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$1,258,500**			
City Park				
Replace Playground & Surface (CIP 2028)	$600,000	X		
Fountain Improvements	$700,000		X	
Fitness Circuit Equipment	$55,000		X	
SUBTOTAL	**$1,355,000**			
Colony Oaks Park				
Replace Playground (CIP 2027)	$150,000	X		
Basketball Court (relocated)	$86,500		X	
Volleyball Court (replocated)	$27,000		X	
Walkway Improvements	$50,500	X		
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
Lighting Allowance	$16,500	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$333,500**			

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

	Multiplier	1.035 to 1.188	1.229 to 1.411	1.460+
	*Note: a 3.5% construction inflation multiplier to be added per year to the current estimated cost.	**Short Term (1-5 Years) 2026-2030**	**Mid Term (6-10 Years) 2031-2035**	**Long Term (11+ Years) 2036+**
PARK NAME	**CURRENT ESTIMATED COST**			
Derks Park				
Ball Diamond/Kickball Backstop	$35,000		X	
Tennis/Pickleball Sports Court (design)	$45,000	X		
Tennis/Pickleball Sports Court (const.)	$350,000		X	
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
Walkway Improvements	$16,500	X		
Lighting Improvements	$250,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$699,500**			
Einstein Park				
Walkway Improvements	$53,500	X		
Tennis/Pickleball Renovations (design)	$45,000	X		
Tennis/Pickleball Renovations (construction)	$350,000	X		
Basketball Court	$54,000	X		
Lighting Allowance (courts & walks)	$200,000	X		
Play Area Improvements	$33,000	X		
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$738,500**			
Ellen Kort Peace Park				
Update Park Master Plan	$15,000	X		
Bridge Design (CIP 2028)	$1,000,000	X		
Park Upgrades (design & construction)(CIP 2029)	$100,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$1,115,000**			
Green Meadows Park				
Walkway Improvements	$19,000	X		
Backstop Improvements	$30,000	X		
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
Lighting Allowance	$27,500	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$79,500**			
Highview Park				
Ball Diamond Backstop	$213,000	X		
Walkway Improvements	$43,000	X		
Lighting Upgrades (CIP 2026)	$250,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$506,000**			

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

	Multiplier	1.035 to 1.188	1.229 to 1.411	1.460+
	*Note: a 3.5% construction inflation multiplier to be added per year to the current estimated cost.	**Short Term (1-5 Years) 2026-2030**	**Mid Term (6-10 Years) 2031-2035**	**Long Term (11+ Years) 2036+**
PARK NAME	**CURRENT ESTIMATED COST**			
Hoover Park				
Basketball/Pickleball Sport Court (design)(CIP 2028)	$45,000	X		
Basketball/Pickleball Sport Court (construction)(CIP 2029)	$350,000	X		
Urban Food Forest	$100,000	X		
Walkway Connection Improvements	$36,000	X		
Sidewalk Addition	$90,000	X		
Softball Field Improvements	$144,500	X		
Soccer Field Improvements	$95,700	X		
New Pavilion	$750,000		X	
SUBTOTAL	**$1,611,200**			
Jaycee Park				
Playground Replacement (CIP 2029)	$175,000	X		
Basketball/Pickleball Sport Court (design)(CIP 2026)	$45,000	X		
Basketball/Pickleball Sport Court (construction)(CIP 2027)	$350,000	X		
Walkway Improvements	$10,000	X		
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
Lighting Upgrades (CIP 2028)	$200,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$783,000**			
Kiwanis Park				
Walkway Improvements & Additions	$47,000	X		
Pavilion/Shelter (design & renovation)	$750,000		X	
Basketball Court (design & construction)	$395,000	X		
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
Multiuse Field Improvements	$42,000	X		
Basketball Court Removal	$5,000	X		
Pickleball Court	$70,000		X	
Site Lighting	$22,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$1,334,000**			
Linwood Park				
Urban Food Forest	$25,000	X		
Walkway Improvements	$100,000	X		
Lighting Allowance	$22,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$147,000**			

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

	Multiplier	1.035 to 1.188	1.229 to 1.411	1.460+
	*Note: a 3.5% construction inflation multiplier to be added per year to the current estimated cost.	**Short Term (1-5 Years) 2026-2030**	**Mid Term (6-10 Years) 2031-2035**	**Long Term (11+ Years) 2036+**
PARK NAME	**CURRENT ESTIMATED COST**			
Lions Park				
Walkway Improvements	$25,000	X		
Ball Diamond Bleacher Pad	$32,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$57,000**			
Lundgaard Park				
Prairie Planting	$6,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$6,000**			
Lutz Park				
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
Walkway Connections	$20,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$23,000**			
Mead Park				
Master Plan Allowance	$25,000	X		
Park Expansion Allowance	TBD		X	
SUBTOTAL	**$25,000**			
Peabody Park				
Shoreline Improvements (design & planning)(CIP 2027)	$100,000	X		
Shoreline Improvements (construction)(CIP 2028)	$850,000	X		
Basketball/Pickleball Sports Courts (design)	$45,000	X		
Basketball/Pickleball Sports Courts (construction)	$350,000	X		
Pavilion (design)	$50,000	X		
Pavilion (renovation)	$550,000		X	
SUBTOTAL	**$1,945,000**			
Pioneer Park				
Walkway Improvements	$5,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$5,000**			
Providence Park				
Bridge (design and construction)	$500,000		X	
Walkway Improvements	$18,500	X		
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$521,500**			

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

	Multiplier	1.035 to 1.188	1.229 to 1.411	1.460+
	*Note: a 3.5% construction inflation multiplier to be added per year to the current estimated cost.	**Short Term (1-5 Years) 2026-2030**	**Mid Term (6-10 Years) 2031-2035**	**Long Term (11+ Years) 2036+**
PARK NAME	**CURRENT ESTIMATED COST**			
Schaefer Park				
Playground Improvements (CIP 2029)	$175,000	X		
Walkway Improvements	$35,000	X		
Basketball (design)	$45,000	X		
Basketball (construction)	$350,000	X		
Reduce Asphalt Area	$13,000	X		
Accessible Picnic Areas	$6,000	X		
New Pavilion (design)	$30,000	X		
New Pavilion (construction)	$550,000		X	
Site Lighting Allowance	$27,500	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$1,231,500**			
Summit Park				
Basketball Court Reconstruction	$91,500	X		
Walkway Improvements	$26,000	X		
Softball Backstop	$35,000	X		
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
Pavilion (design)	$30,000	X		
Pavilion (construction)	$525,000		X	
Sport Court Resurfacing	$112,000	X		
Site Lighting Allowance	$27,500	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$850,000**			
Veterans Park				
Parking Improvements	$40,500	X		
Walkway Improvements	$20,000	X		
Scenic Overlook	$950,000		X	
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
Selective Clearing/Thinning	$15,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$1,028,500**			
Vosters Park				
Sports Court (design)	$45,000	X		
Sports Court (construction)	$200,000	X		
Restroom Building	$376,000		X	
Pump Track	$140,000	X		
Accessible Picnic Area	$3,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$764,000**			

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

	Multiplier	1.035 to 1.188	1.229 to 1.411	1.460+
	*Note: a 3.5% construction inflation multiplier to be added per year to the current estimated cost.	**Short Term (1-5 Years) 2026-2030**	**Mid Term (6-10 Years) 2031-2035**	**Long Term (11+ Years) 2036+**
PARK NAME	**CURRENT ESTIMATED COST**			
Vulcan Heritage Park (refer to master plan)				
Park Improvements (design and construction)(CIP 2028)	$75,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$75,000**			
Woodland Park				
Relocate Ball Diamond with Concrete Pad	$425,000	X		
Walkway Improvements	$46,000	X		
Boardwalk Allowance	$147,000		X	
Lighting Improvements	$33,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$651,000**			
Erb Park				
Walkway Improvements (new walk)	$57,000	X		
Walkway Improvements (widen/replace walk)	$28,500	X		
Tennis Court Lighting (CIP 2029)	$250,000	X		
Trail Lighting (Newberry Trail)(CIP 2029)	$200,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$535,500**			
Jones Park				
Invasive Species Removal	$10,000	X		
Safety/Security Gate	$6,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$16,000**			
Pierce Park				
Accessible Connecting Walks (tennis area)	$14,000	X		
Accessible Connecting Walks (west access trail)	$53,000	X		
Accessible Connecting Walks (ravine trail)	$85,000		X	
Trail Allowance (design and construction)	$500,000		X	
Log Cabin Demolition and Replacement	$35,000	X		
Ravine Lighting Allowance	$75,000	X		
Basketball Court Resurfacing	$51,000	X		
Lighting (tennis/basketball)	$200,000	X		
Relocate Ball Diamond	$350,000		X	
Disc Golf Improvements	$10,000	X		
Parking Lot Reconstruction	$100,500		X	
Stair Reconstruction Allowance (exact cost depends on materials used)	$82,000		X	
SUBTOTAL	**$1,555,500**			

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

	Multiplier	1.035 to 1.188	1.229 to 1.411	1.460+
	*Note: a 3.5% construction inflation multiplier to be added per year to the current estimated cost.	**Short Term (1-5 Years) 2026-2030**	**Mid Term (6-10 Years) 2031-2035**	**Long Term (11+ Years) 2036+**
PARK NAME	**CURRENT ESTIMATED COST**			
Veterans Memorial Park (*=part of 2M 2028 CIP)				
Park Improvements (design for parking lot, pavilion and splash pad)(CIP 2027)	$25,000	X		
Parking Lot (~88 spaces)*	$513,000	X		
Splash Pad*	$700,000	X		
Basketball Court*	$60,000	X		
Pavilion (with restrooms)*	$1,125,000	X		
Pickleball Courts*	$380,000			
Pickleball Court Lighting*	$200,000	X		
Park Improvements (design for Jones Building replacement) (CIP 2029)	$100,000	X		
Archery Range Renovation (CIP 2026)	$375,000	X		
Design & Construction- Phase 1 (develop ADA paved trails with lighting between OO &Witzke)(CIP 2027)	$450,000	X		
Design & Construction - Phase 2 (develop ADA paved trails with lighting between OO &Witzke) (CIP 2028)	$450,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$4,378,000**			
Telulah Park				
Lighting Upgrades (CIP 2027)	$275,000	X		
Hard Surface Sport Courts	$270,000	X		
Parking (for Sports Courts)	$125,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$670,000**			
Ballard Road Property				
No recommendations at this time				
SUBTOTAL	**$0**			
Houdini Plaza				
Irrigation Allowance (CIP 2029)	$200,000	X		
Electrical Improvements Allowance	$150,000	X		
Safety Improvements Allowance	$25,000	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$375,000**			
Reid Golf Course				
Operated Under Special Revenue Fund				
SUBTOTAL	**$0**			
Union Springs Park				
No recommendations at this time				
SUBTOTAL	**$0**			
USA Youth Sports Complex				
Owned by City; Leased by USA Youth				
SUBTOTAL	**$0**			

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

	Multiplier	1.035 to 1.188	1.229 to 1.411	1.460+
	*Note: a 3.5% construction inflation multiplier to be added per year to the current estimated cost.	**Short Term (1-5 Years) 2026-2030**	**Mid Term (6-10 Years) 2031-2035**	**Long Term (11+ Years) 2036+**
PARK NAME	**CURRENT ESTIMATED COST**			
Appleton Conservancy (refer to master plan)				
Parking Lot (12 spaces)	$124,100	X		
Future Trail Connection	$47,350		X	
Hard Surface Trail	$137,270	X		
Limestone Trails	$819,320	X		
Restroom Structure	$97,625	X		
Boardwalk	$94,550	X		
SUBTOTAL	**$1,320,215**			

TOTALS (EXCLUDING CURRENT CIP ITEMS)	$18,829,915
Short Term	$7,712,065
Mid Term	$8,821,350
Long Term	$2,296,500

TOTALS (INCLUDING CURRENT CIP ITEMS)	$28,787,915
Short Term	$17,670,065
Mid Term	$8,821,350
Long Term	$2,296,500

Please note that complete master plan costs, for those parks with master plans, are not included.

7.2 Funding

There are various common funding methods that communities can use to help acquire, develop, operate, and maintain park systems. Each have potential benefits and drawbacks. It is desirable that capital improvement schedules combine funding sources. The specific method or combination chosen will depend on the particulars of the situation. Methods are as follows:

- **General Funds/Local Taxes**: Commonly used for park system administration, park operations, maintenance, and some park acquisition and development.
- **User Fees:** These voluntary fees ensure that only those who use a particular facility or feature pay for it, rather than relying on a large base of non-users to subsidize usage. User fees are generally implemented only on specialized features such as boat launches or hunting licenses. The general idea is that if a feature benefits the public at large, it should be supported by the public. If a feature benefits only a limited number of private individuals or organizations, then it should be financed- at least in part- by the same.
- **Impact Fees**: Wisconsin State Statute §66.0617 permits municipalities and counties in Wisconsin to impose impact fees on developers. This legislation specifies what standards that an impact fee ordinance must meet, as well as establishing procedural requirements that must be satisfied before a governmental entity may enact such an ordinance, including the completion of a needs assessment study and the holding of a public hearing. Used for parkland acquisition and development within a specified district and designed to meet recreation needs created by the new development.
- **Philanthropy/Donations**: Used for park acquisition, development, and management. "Friends" groups, foundations, conservancies, benevolent individuals, and even local businesses can provide a way for public parks to receive ongoing support from private funding.
- **Volunteer Participation**: Used for park development, operations, and management. If volunteer participation is utilized for park development and management, it must be properly administered to be effective. Volunteers must be trained, equipped, and supervised to work in an effective, safe, and legal manner. Please note that some grant-in-aid programs do not recognize donated labor as a local match.
- **Loans**: Used for park acquisition and development.
- **Grant-in-Aid Programs**: Used for park acquisition and development. It should be noted that although it is desirable to acquire funding from grants, the city should also consider its ability to:
    - Submit the necessary grant application materials
    - Administer the grant
    - Maintain the necessary documentation as required by the grant
    - Fund any required match
    - Maintain he improvement or program
    - Accept any long-term obligations or restrictions on the city property where the funding is used.

The chart below lists some potential grant funding sources.

Potential Funding Sources

STATE OF WISCONSIN GRANTS:
WI Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Acquisition & Development of Local Parks (Stewardship)
Acquisition of Development Rights (Stewardship)
Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program
Clean Water Fund Program
Friends of State Lands (Stewardship)
Gypsy Moth Suppression Program
Habitat Area (Stewardship)
Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program Grants (Multiple)
Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)*
Surface Water Grants
Motorized Stewardship Grants
Municipal Flood Control
Municipal Water Safety Patrols State Assistance
Natural Areas (Stewardship)
Targeted Runoff Management Grant Program
Recreational Boating Facilities Grant Program
Recreational Trails Program
River Protection and Planning Grant Programs
Shooting Range Grant Program
Snowmobile Trail Aids
Sport Fish Restoration
Stamp Funds
State Trails (Stewardship)
Streambank Protection (Stewardship)
Urban Forestry Assistance Grants
Urban Green Space Program (Stewardship)
Urban Non-Point Source and Storm Water Grant Program
Urban Rivers Grant Program (Stewardship)
Utility Terrain Vehicle Trails
WI Economic Development Corporation (WEDC)
Brownfields Grant Program
Brownfield Site Assessment Grant
Community Development Investment Grant
Community Based Economic Development Program (Multiple)
Community Development Block Grants (Multiple)
WI Department of Administration (DOA)
Coastal Management Grants
WI Department of Transportation (DOT)
Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program
Harbor Assistance Program
Local Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program
Safe Routes to School Grant Program (SRTS)
Surface Transportation Program – Urban
Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
Transportation Economic Assistance (TEA)

Wisconsin State Infrastructure Bank (Loan Program)
FEDERAL GRANTS:
US Department of Housing and Urban Development
Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)
US Department of the Interior
National Park Service Land & Water Conservation Fund
US Environmental Protection Agency
Brownfield Clean Up Grant
Clean Water State Revolving Fund
EPA Environmental Education Grant Program
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
US Fish and Wildlife Service
State Wildlife Grants Program
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund
PRIVATE/NON-PROFIT GRANTS:
American Academy of Dermatology
AAD Shade Structure Grant Program
Bikes Belong Coalition
Bikes Belong Grant Program
Eastman Kodak, etc.
Kodak American Greenways Program
Dr Pepper Snapple & KaBOOM!
Let's Play Imagination Playground Grant
Major League Baseball
MLB Baseball Tomorrow Fund
Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin
C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant (small grants only)
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program
Bring Back the Natives
Sustain our Great Lakes Program
US Soccer Foundation
US Soccer Foundation Grant

WI DNR Projects

Eligibility
"Eligible local governments are only those towns, cities, counties, and tribal governments that have a Department approved Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan or Master Plan, which has been approved by resolution by the local governing unit or a plan of a higher unit of government. Local governments with qualifying plans receive eligibility to apply for grants for five years."
Source: (http://www.dnr.state.wi.us)

In general, eligible projects include land acquisition, development, and renovation projects for "nature-based outdoor recreation" purposes. Decisions by the department (DNR) as to whether a particular project activity is categorized as "nature-based outdoor recreation" are made on a case-by-case basis. Some eligible projects or reasons are as follows:

Eligible Projects

- Acquisition of a conservation easement that enhances or provides nature-based outdoor recreation. Because of the complexity of easements, the department has developed separate guidelines, including a model easement to explain the requirements for eligibility for Stewardship funding. Contact a regional DNR Community Service Specialist for additional information.
- Land purchases to preserve scenic or natural areas, including areas of physical or biological importance and wildlife areas. These areas shall be open to the general public for outdoor recreation use to the extent that the natural attributes of the areas will not be seriously impaired or lost.
- Land within urban areas for such uses as open natural space, undeveloped play areas, bicycling trails, walking and horseback riding trails, and day-use picnic areas.
- Areas that preserve or restore urban rivers or riverfronts for the purposes of economic revitalization and nature based outdoor recreation activities.
- Development and renovation projects for the purpose of nature-based outdoor recreation.
- Development and renovation of support facilities for the above – e.g., access roads, parking areas, restroom facilities, utility and sanitation systems, permanent landscaping, park signs, fences and lighting for the protection of park users, etc.
- Shoreline habitat restoration projects that serve public recreation or resource conservation purposes and are dependent on being on a shoreline.
- Riparian buffer rehabilitation including establishment of native vegetation, which may include slope and site preparation, and control of exotic plant species.
- Shoreline stabilization, which may employ bioengineering practices, and other environmentally beneficial stabilization techniques.

Source: (http://www.dnr.state.wi.us)

Ineligible Projects

- Land acquired through condemnation by the applicant.
- Purchasing land for, and development of, recreation areas that are not related to nature-based outdoor recreation – e.g., sports that require extensively developed open space such as dedicated sports fields, swimming pools, tennis courts, playgrounds, skateboard parks, hockey rinks, indoor horse arenas, golf courses, and motorized recreation.
- Lands dedicated through a local park land dedication ordinance.
- Restoration or preservation of historic structures.
- Buildings primarily devoted to operation and maintenance.
- Indoor recreation facilities.
- Construction or repair of seawalls, dams, and lagoons.
- Construction of lodges, motels, luxury cabins or similar facilities.
- Environmental remediation or clean-up of site contamination.

Source: (http://www.dnr.state.wi.us)

Please refer to the Wisconsin DNR *2025 Grant Program Guidance* at:
https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Aid/grants/RTP/RTPGrantGuidance.pdf

DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS & RECREATION

SECTION 8

REFERENCES

8.0 REFERENCES

8.1 Annotated Bibliography

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8.2 Aerial Park Site Maps

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Union Springs Park ..... SM - 35
USA Youth Sports Complex ..... SM - 36

Natural Resource Area

Appleton Conservancy ..... SM - 37

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SM-01

RETTLER corporation

ALICIA PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 150'

N

SM-02

RETTLER corporation

ARBUTUS PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N

SM-03

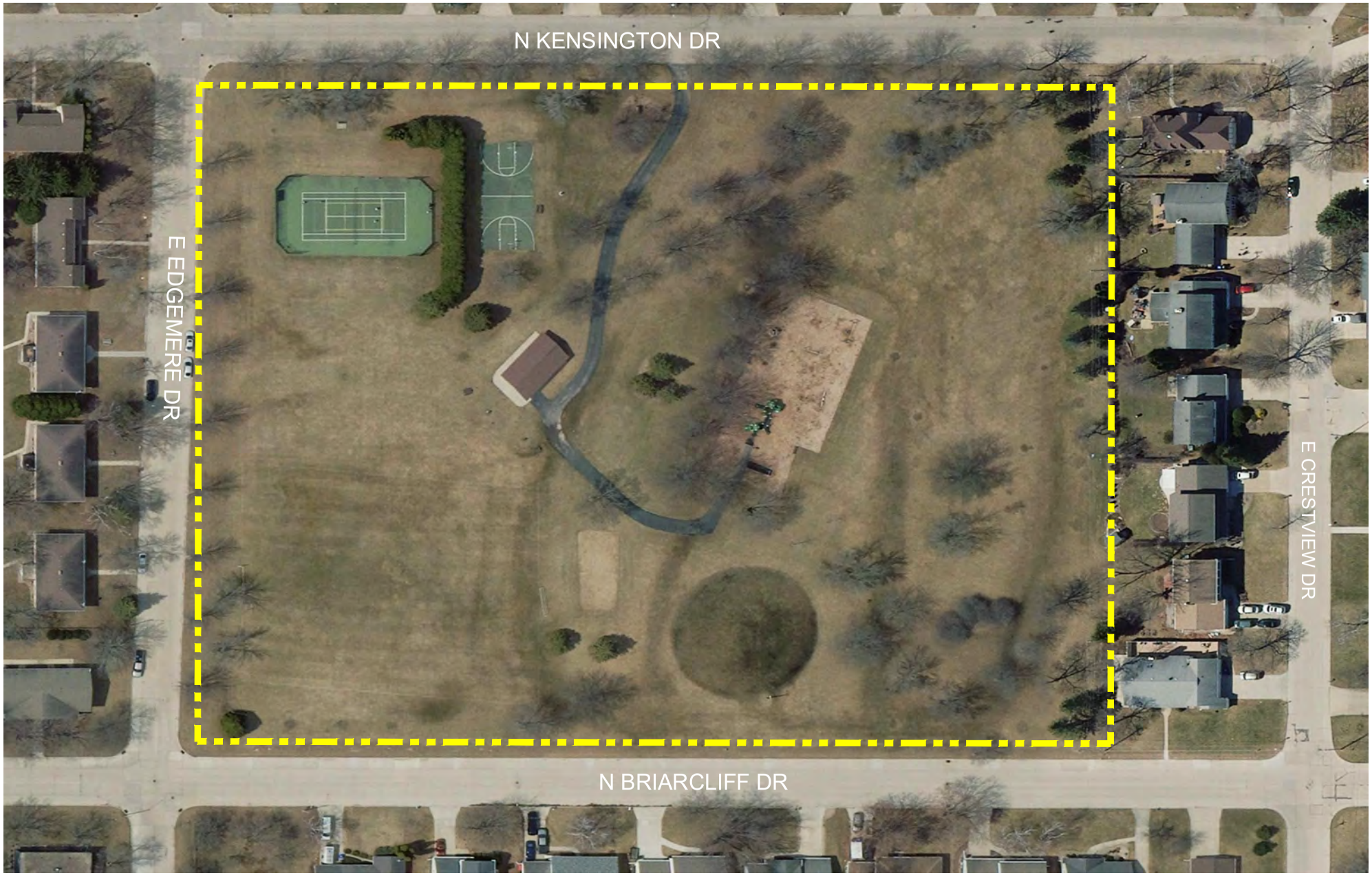
RETTLER corporation

CITY PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 120'

N



SM-04

RETTLER corporation

COLONY OAKS PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

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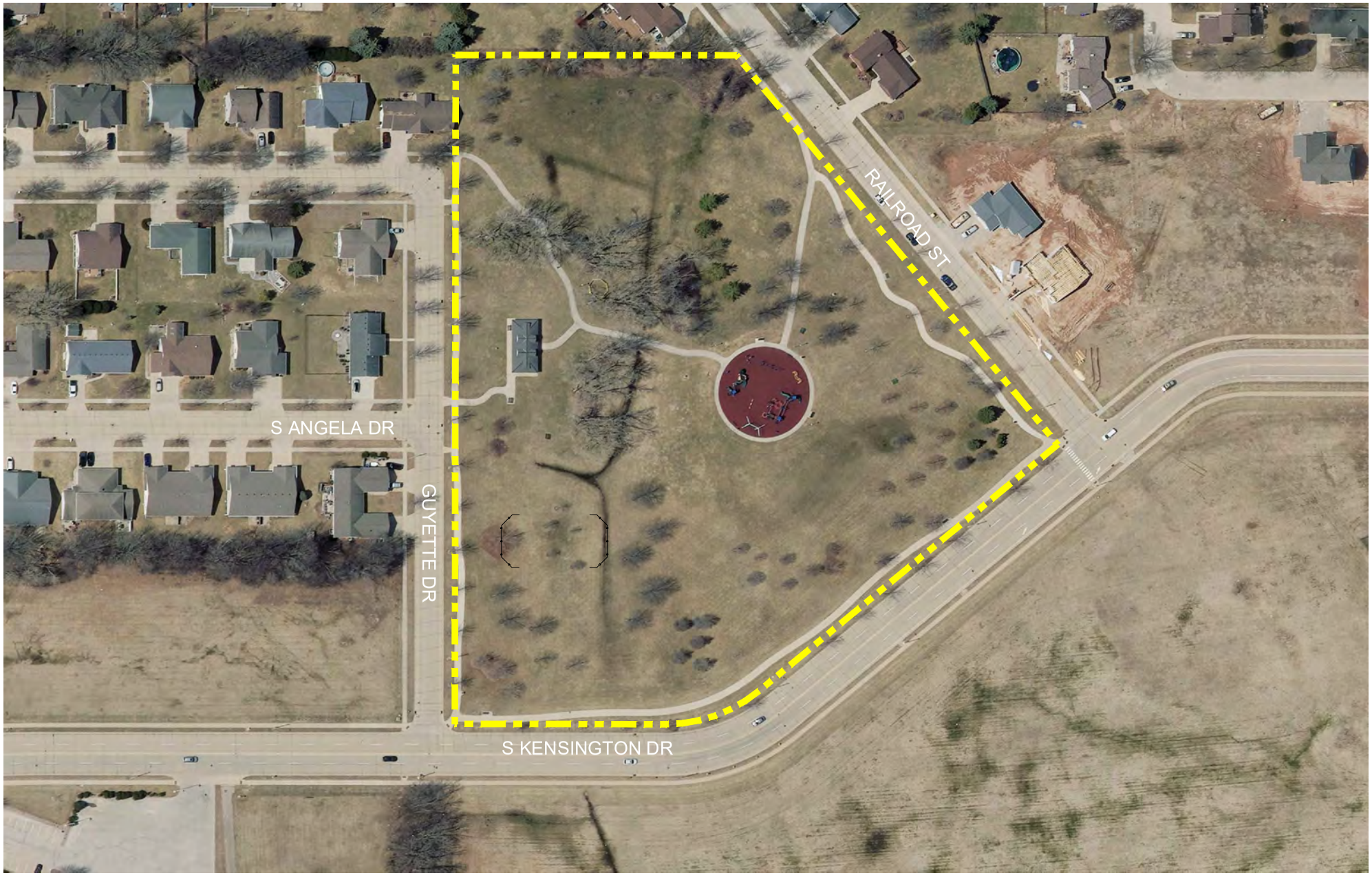

SM-05

RETTLER corporation

DERKS PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 150'

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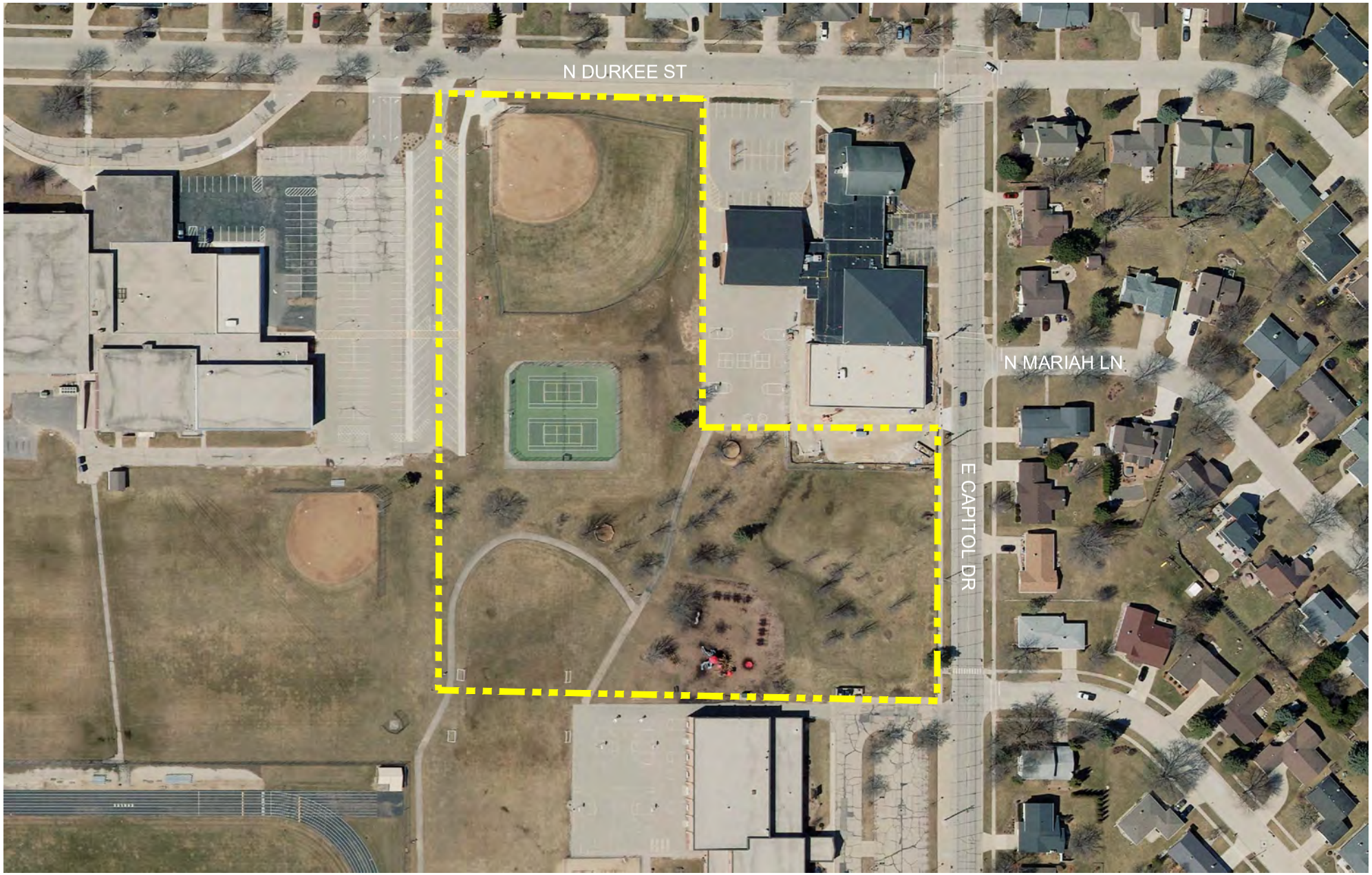


SM-06

RETTLER corporation

EINSTEIN PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 150'

N

SM-07

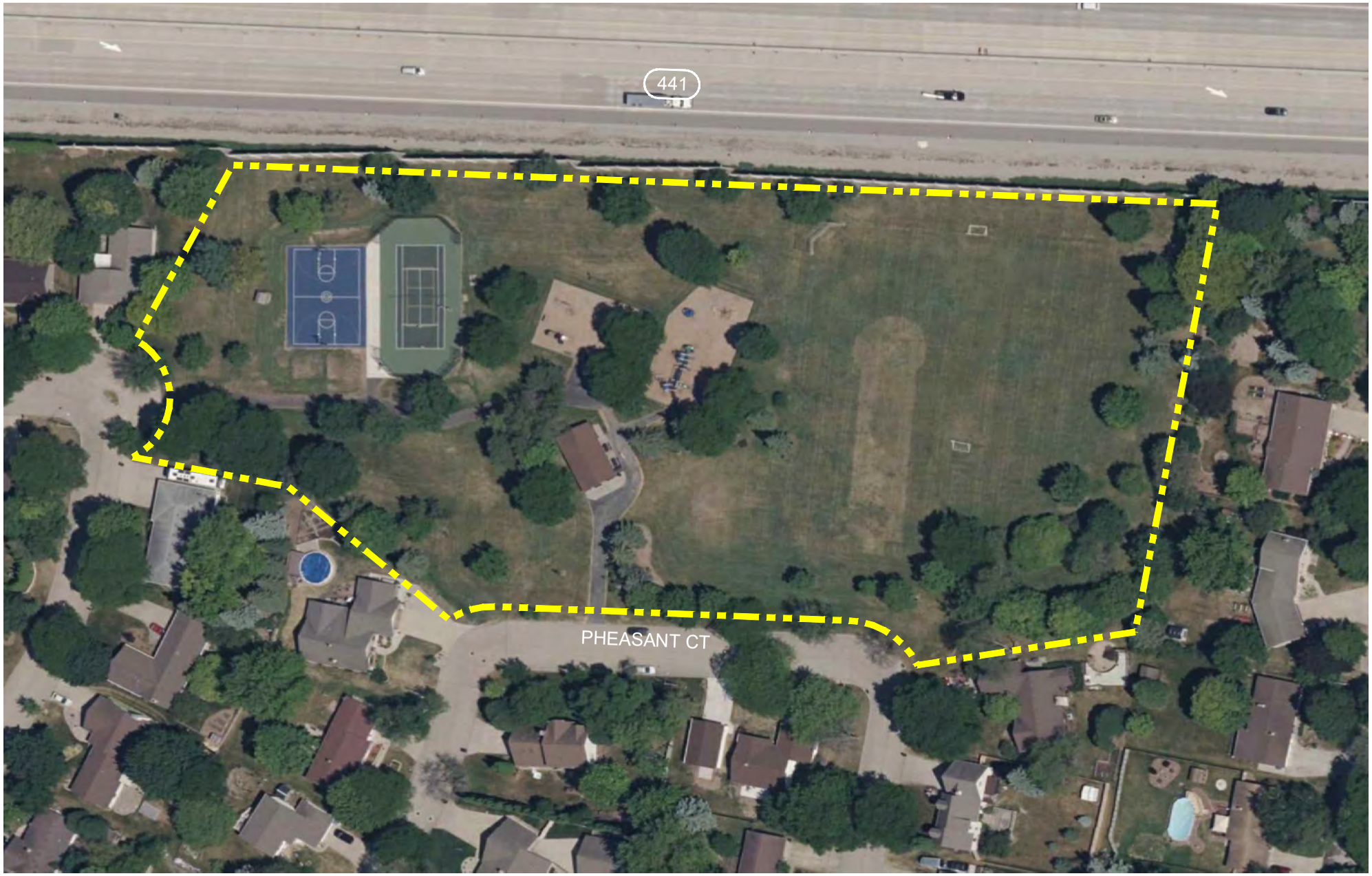
RETTLER corporation

ELLEN KORT PEACE PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 150'

N



SM-08

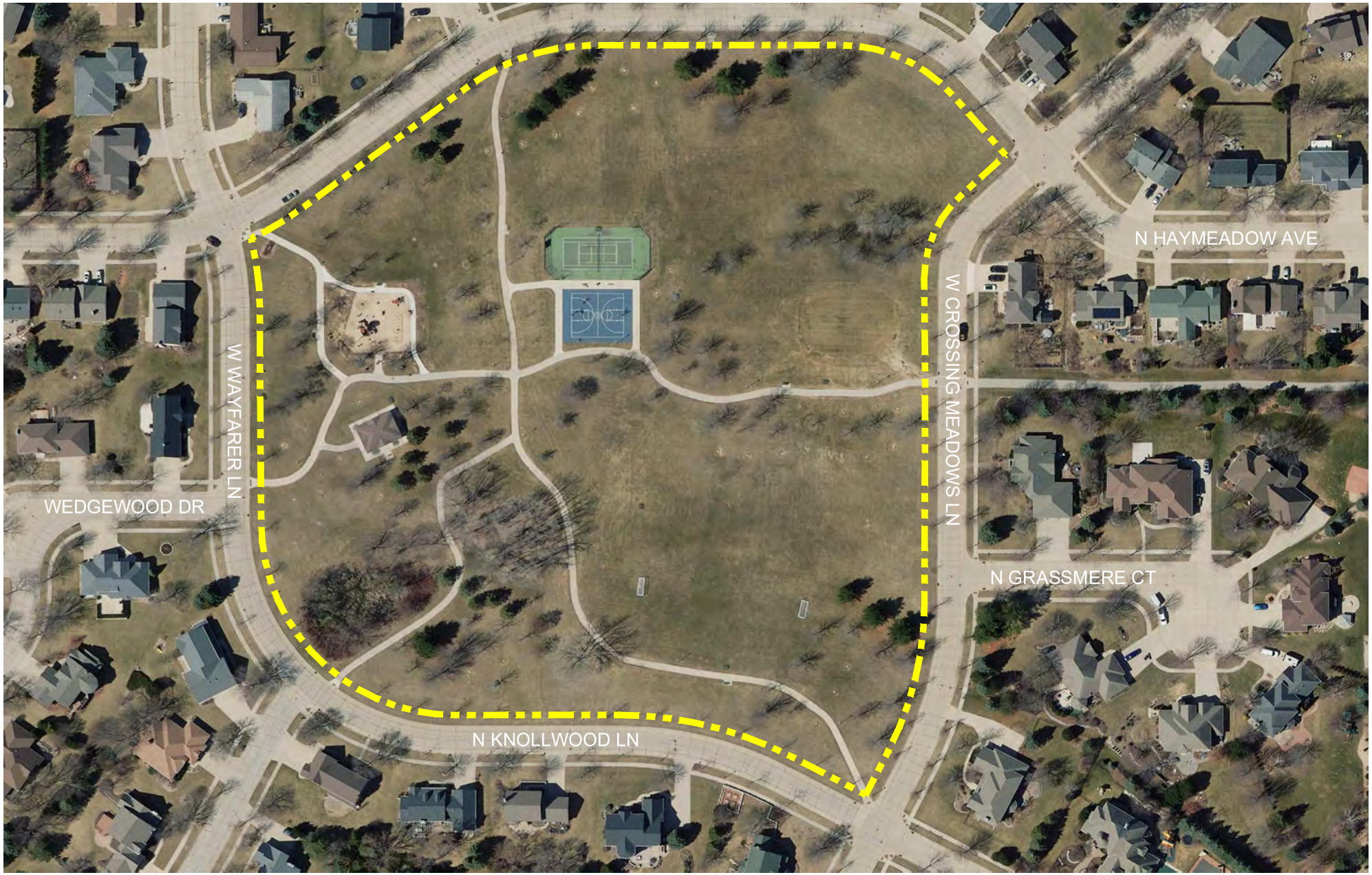
RETTLER corporation

GREEN MEADOWS PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N



SM-09

RETTLER corporation

HIGHVIEW PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 150'

N

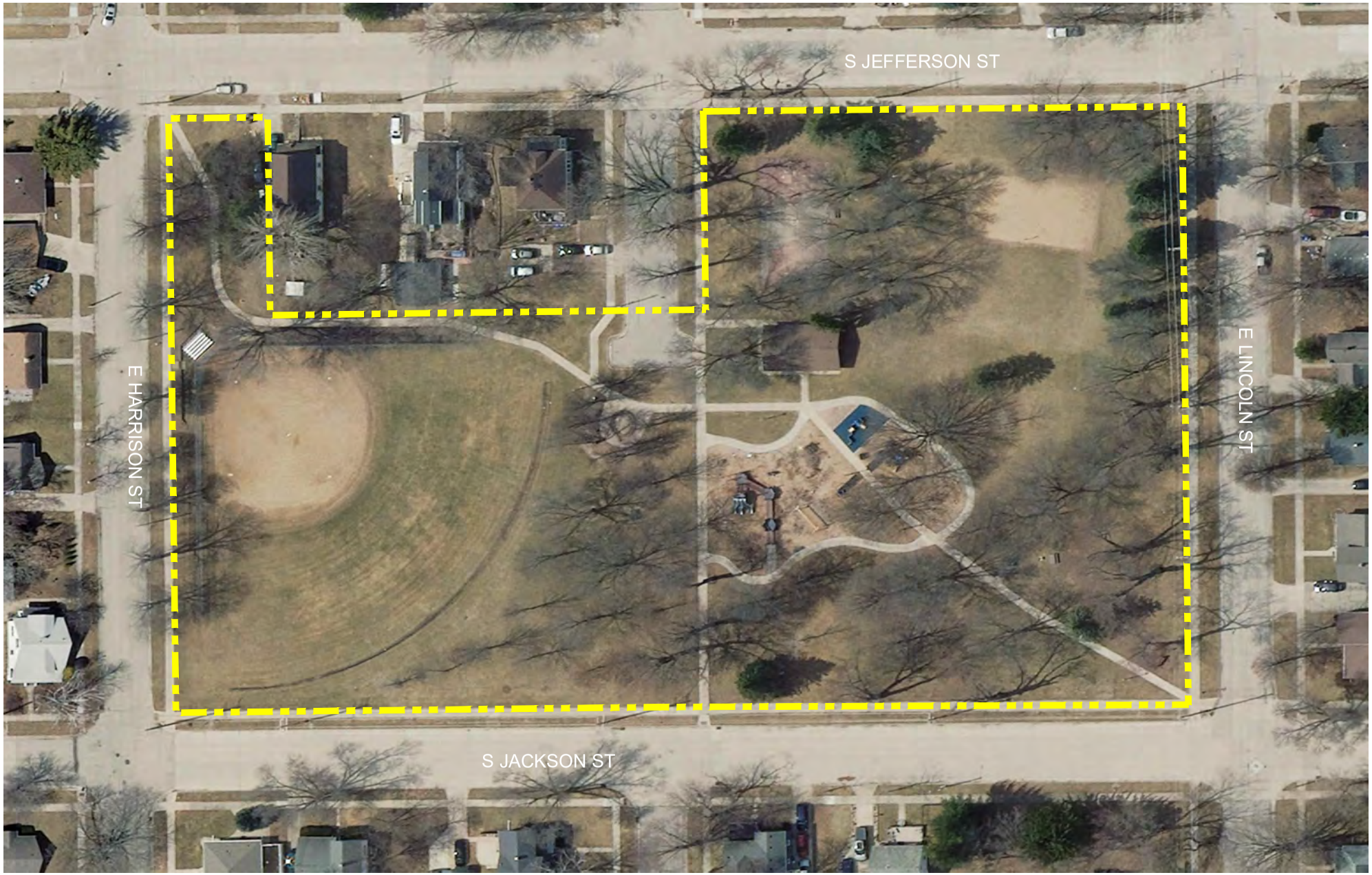
SM-10

RETTLER corporation

HOOVER PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 150'

N



SM-11

RETTLER corporation

JAYCEE PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 80'

N

SM-12

RETTLER corporation

KIWANIS PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N

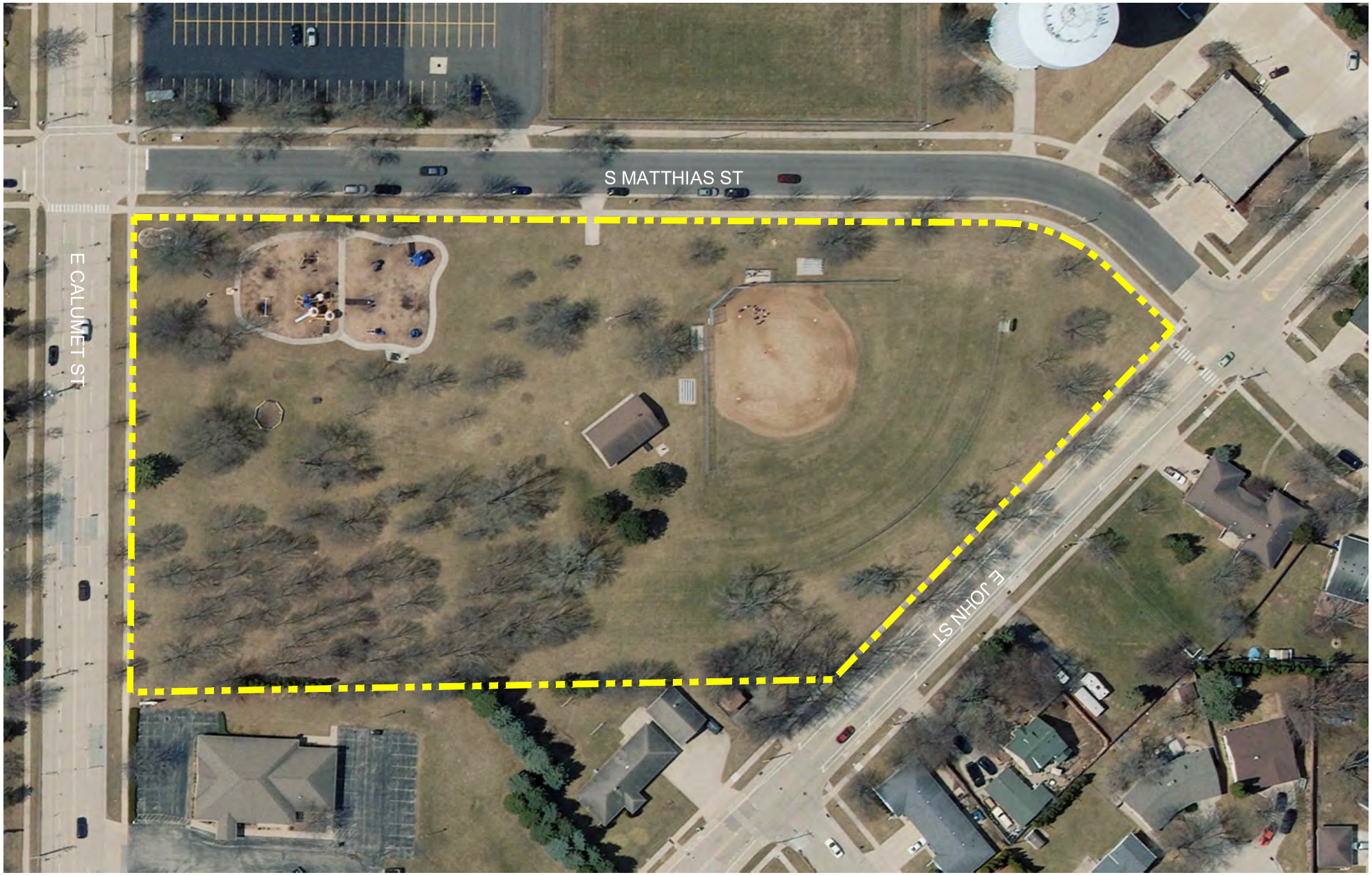
SM-13

RETTLER corporation

LINWOOD PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 120'

N



SM-14

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LIONS PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

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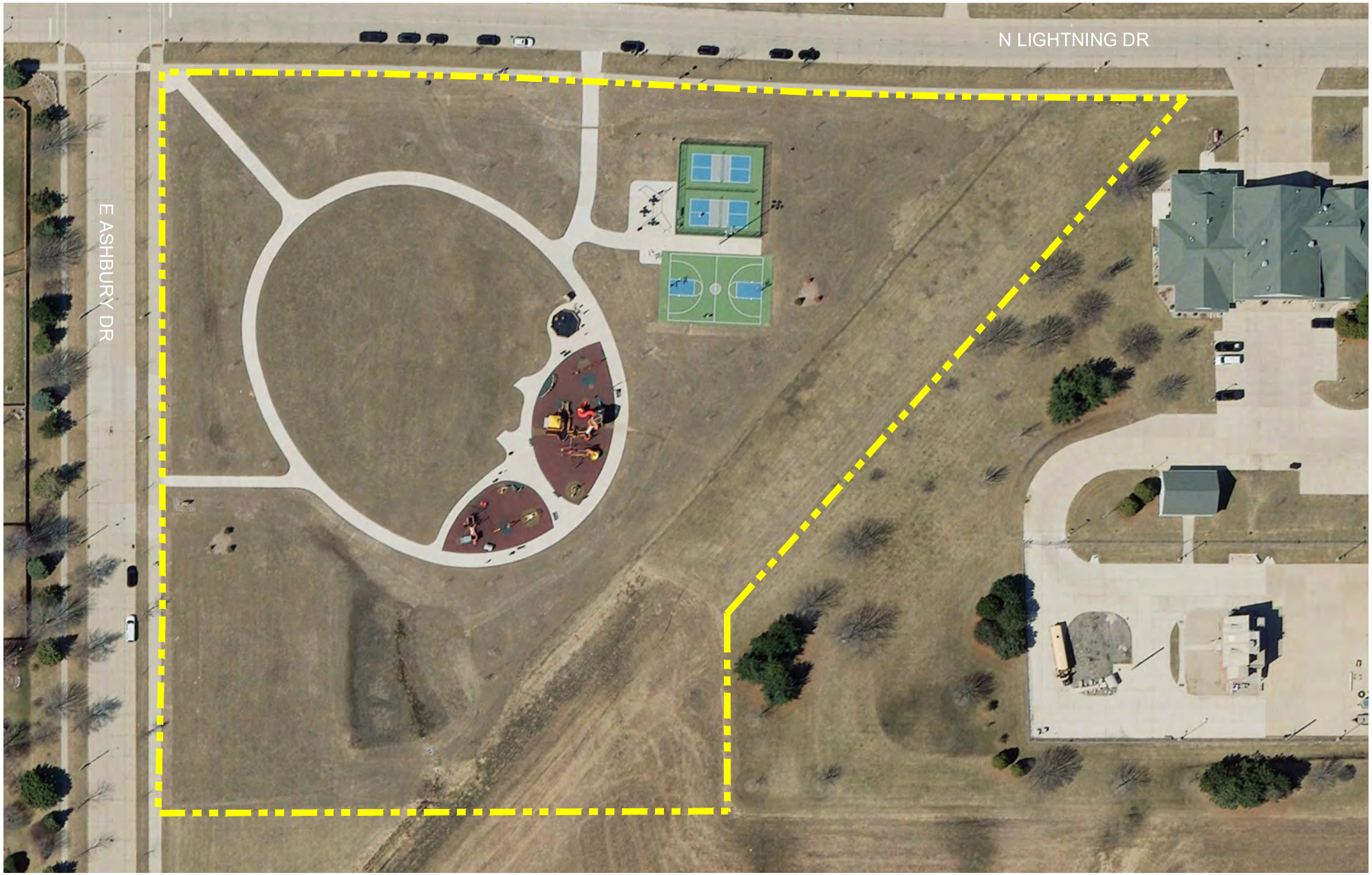


SM-15

RETTLER corporation

LUNDGAARD PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N

SM-16

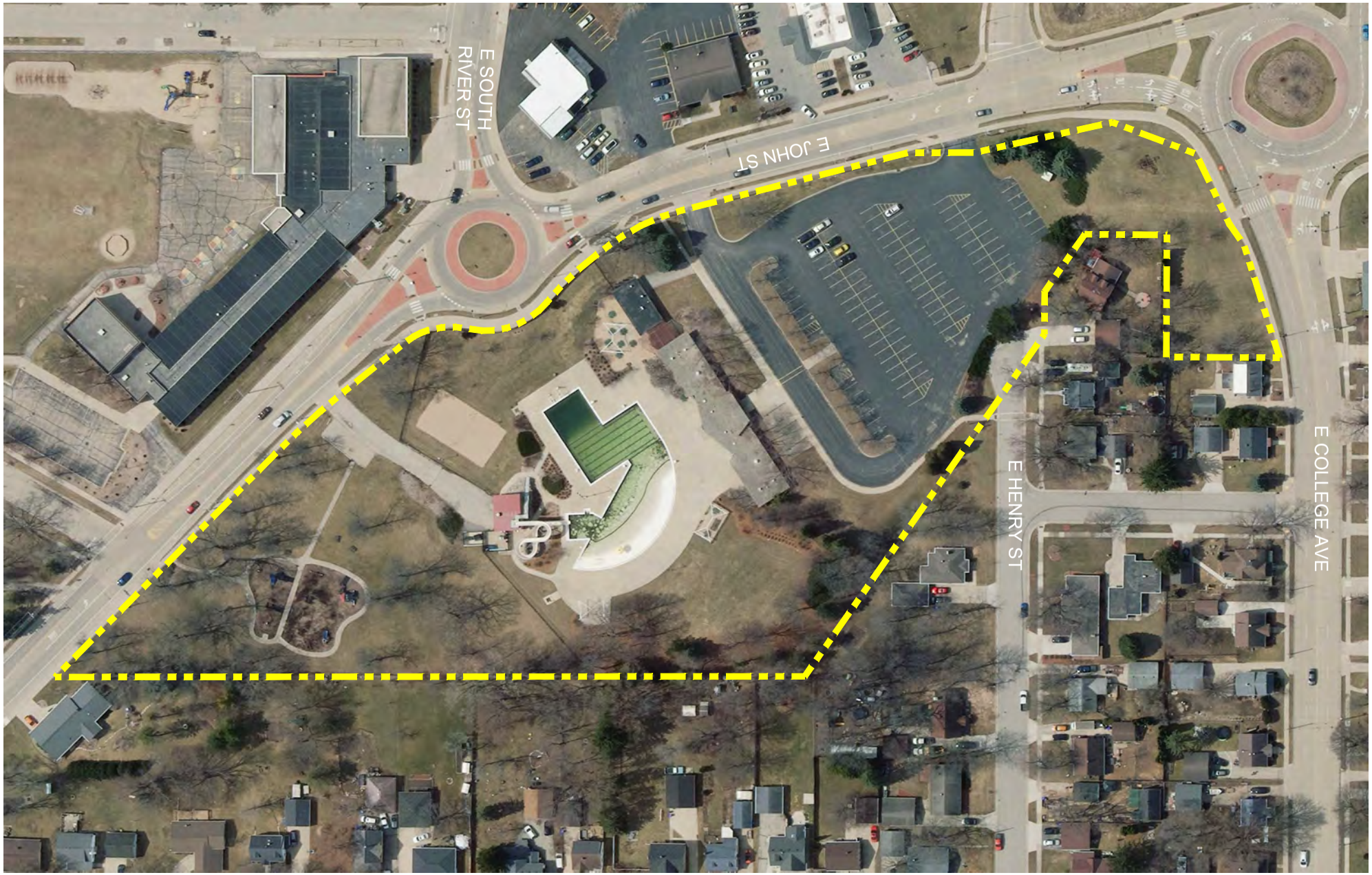
RETTLER corporation

LUTZ PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 200'

N



SM-17

RETTLER corporation

MEAD PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 130'

N

SM-18

RETTLER corporation

PEABODY PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 200'

N

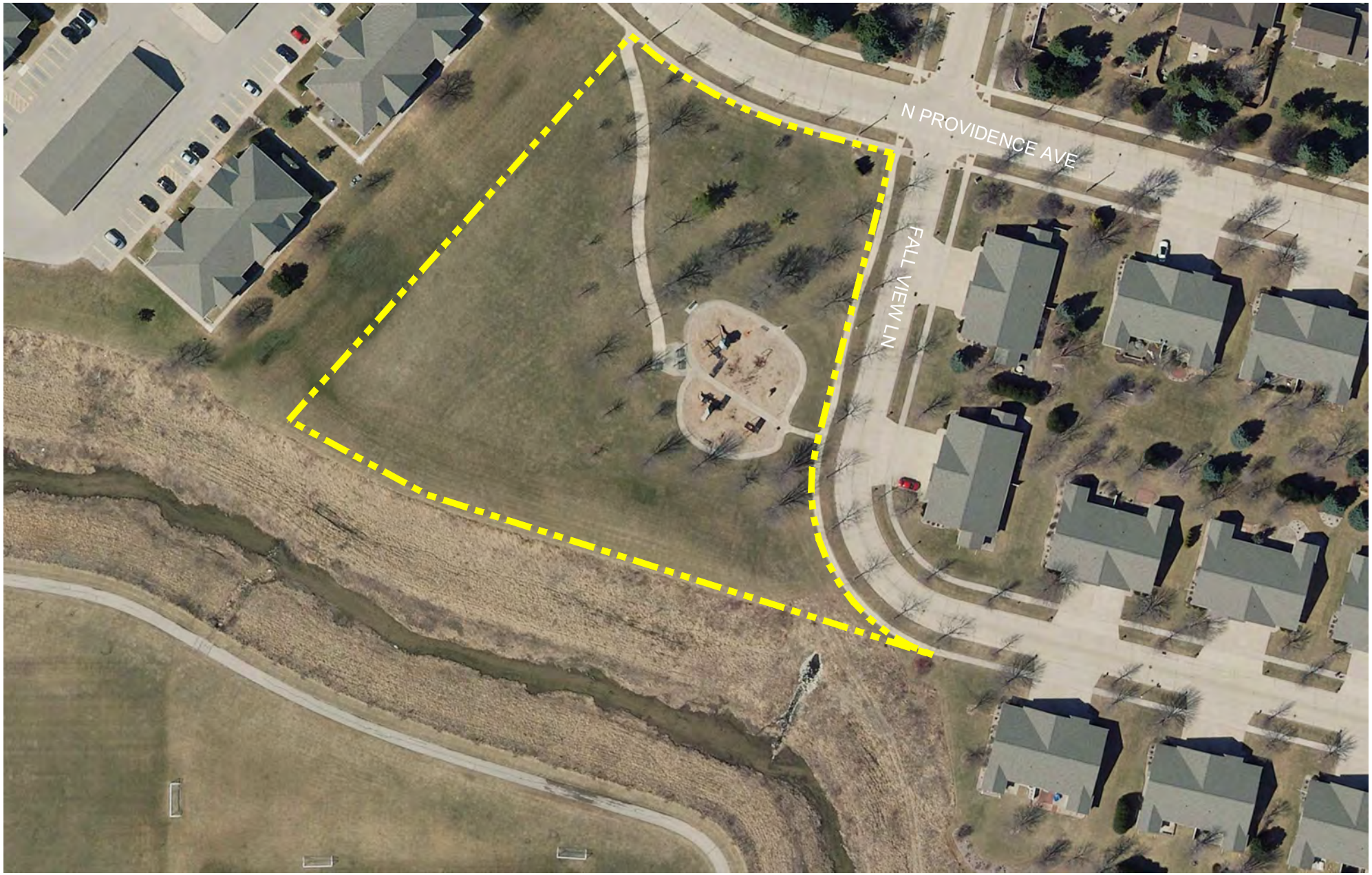
SM-19

RETTLER corporation

PIONEER PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 50'

N



SM-20

RETTLER corporation

PROVIDENCE PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N

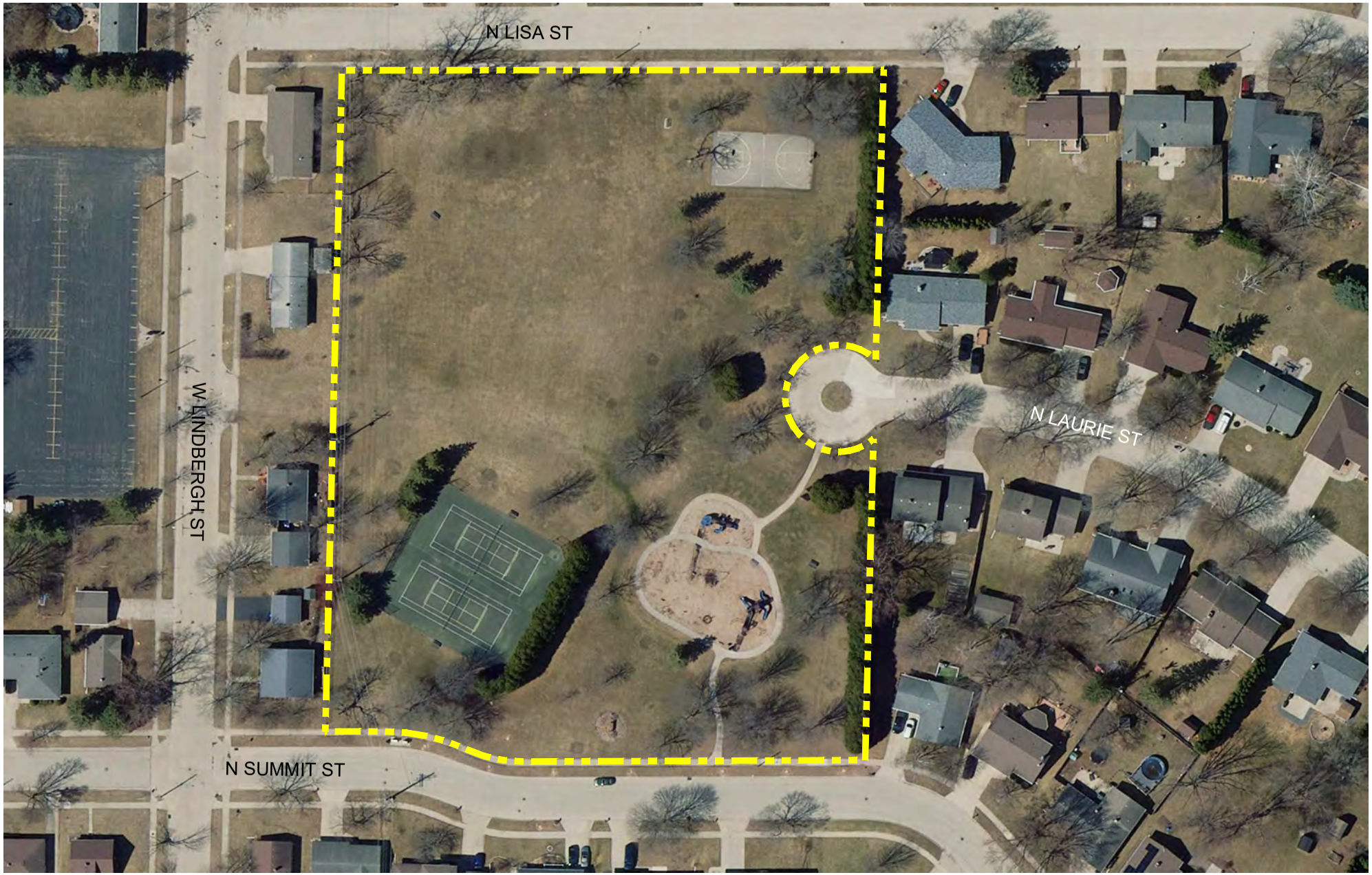
SM-21

RETTLER corporation

SCHAEFER PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N



SM-22

RETTLER corporation

SUMMIT PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N

SM-23

RETTLER corporation

VETERANS PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N

SM-24

RETTLER corporation

VOSTERS PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N

SM-25

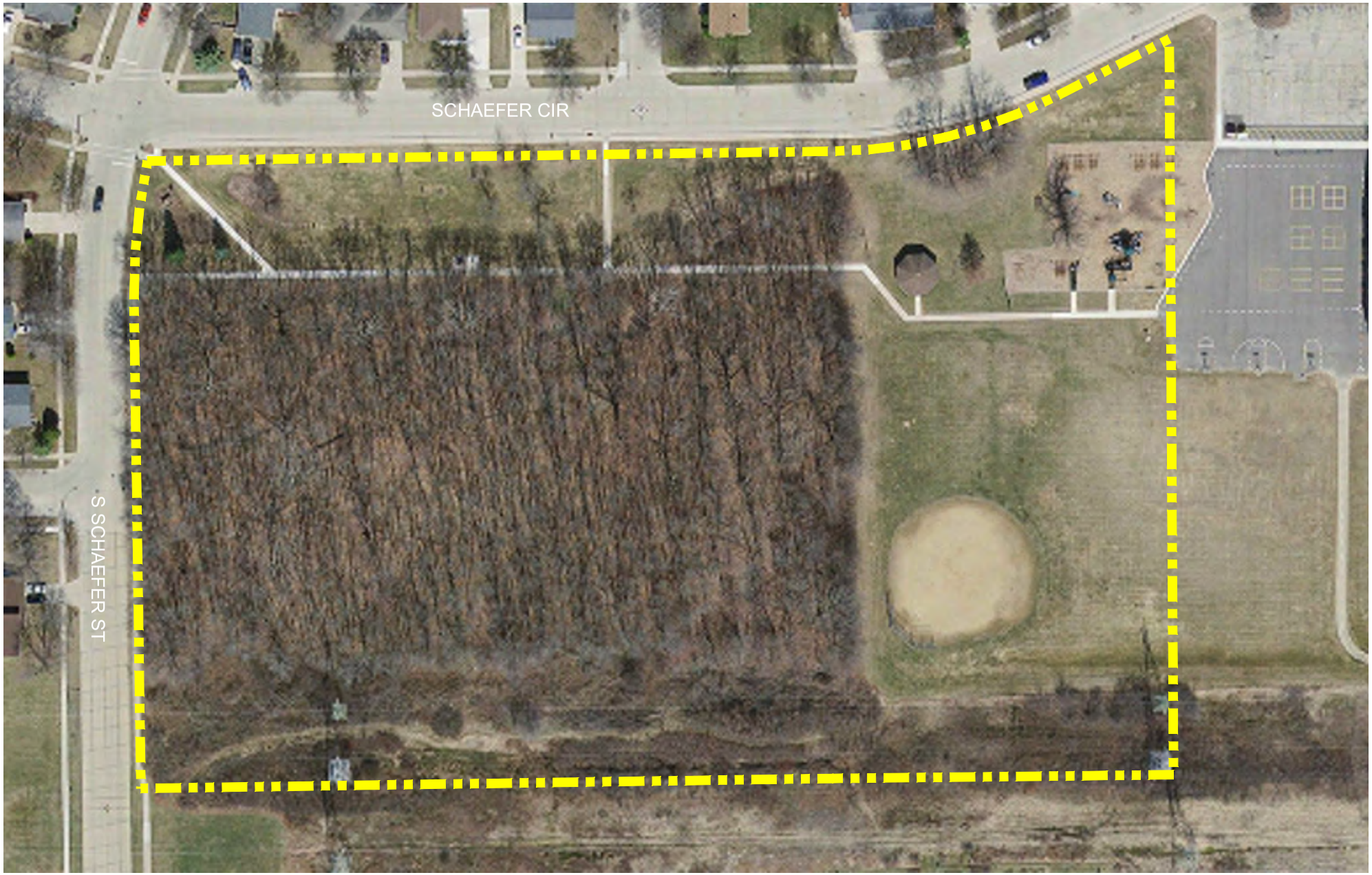
RETTLER corporation

VULCAN HERITAGE PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

N



SM-26

RETTLER corporation

WOODLAND PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 100'

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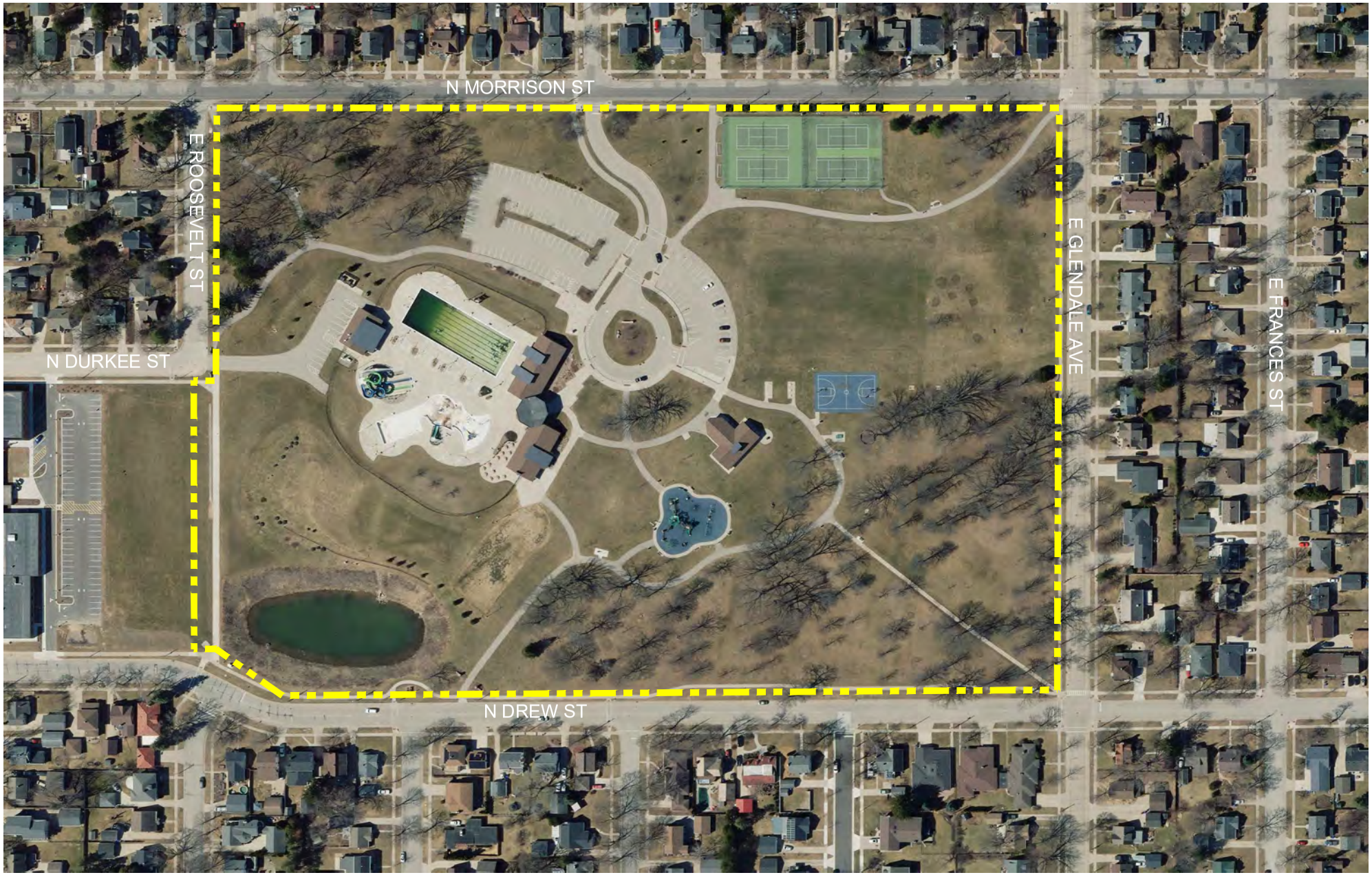

SM-27

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ERB PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 200'

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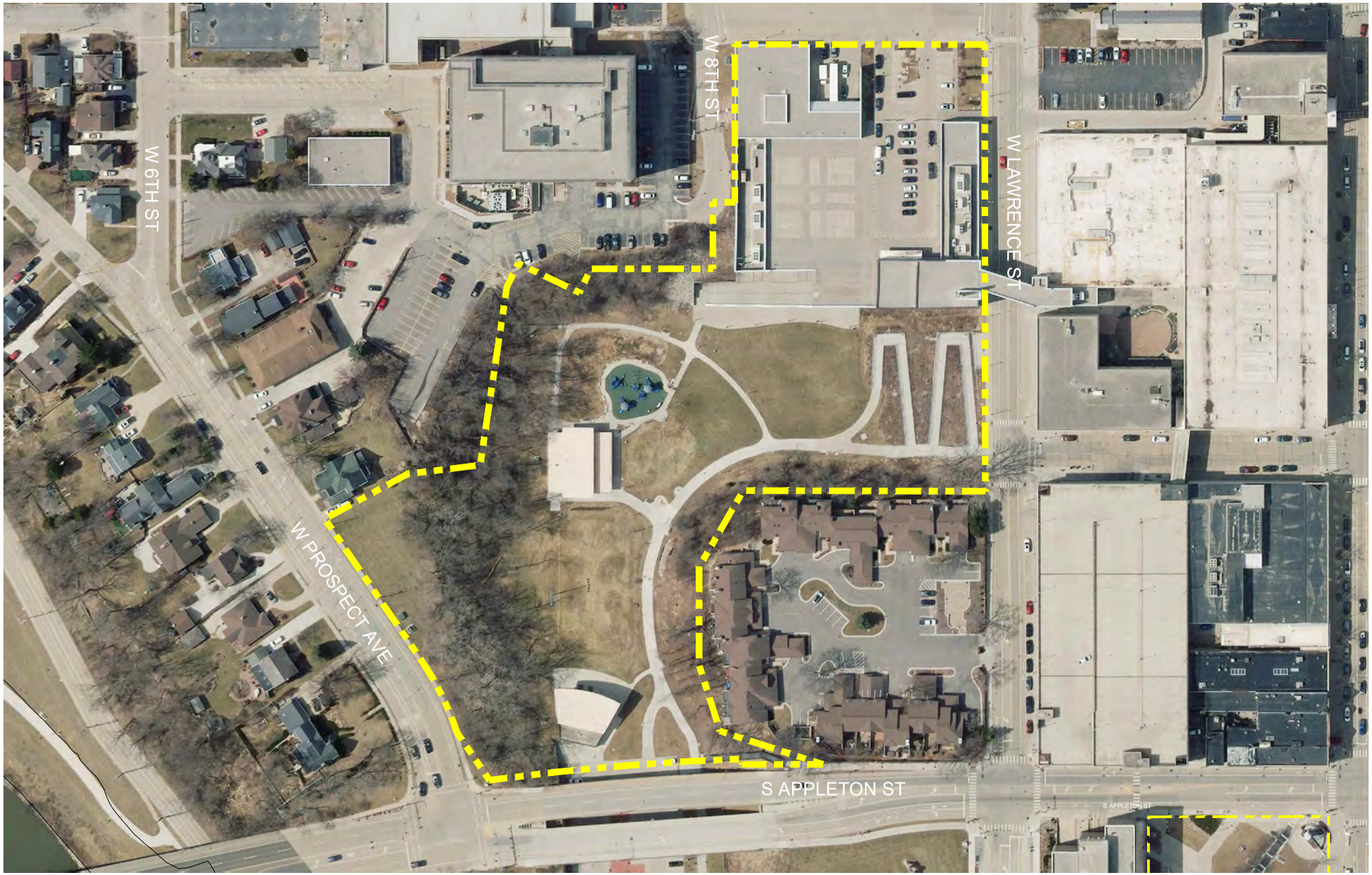


SM-28

RETTLER corporation

JONES PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 150'

N

SM-29

RETTLER corporation

PIERCE PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 300'

N

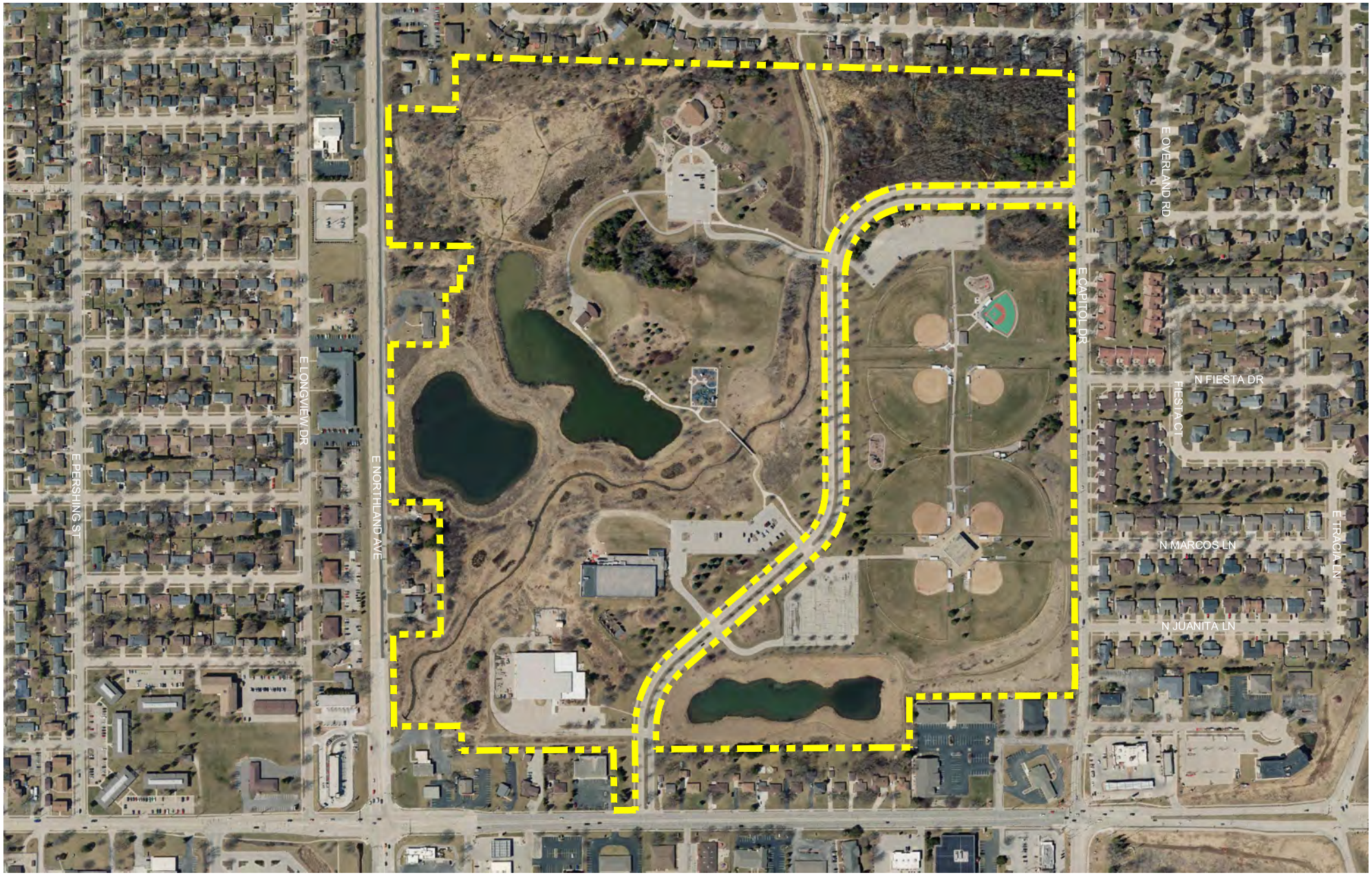
SM-30

RETTLER corporation

TELULAH PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 250'

N



SM-31

RETTLER corporation

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 500'

N

SM-32

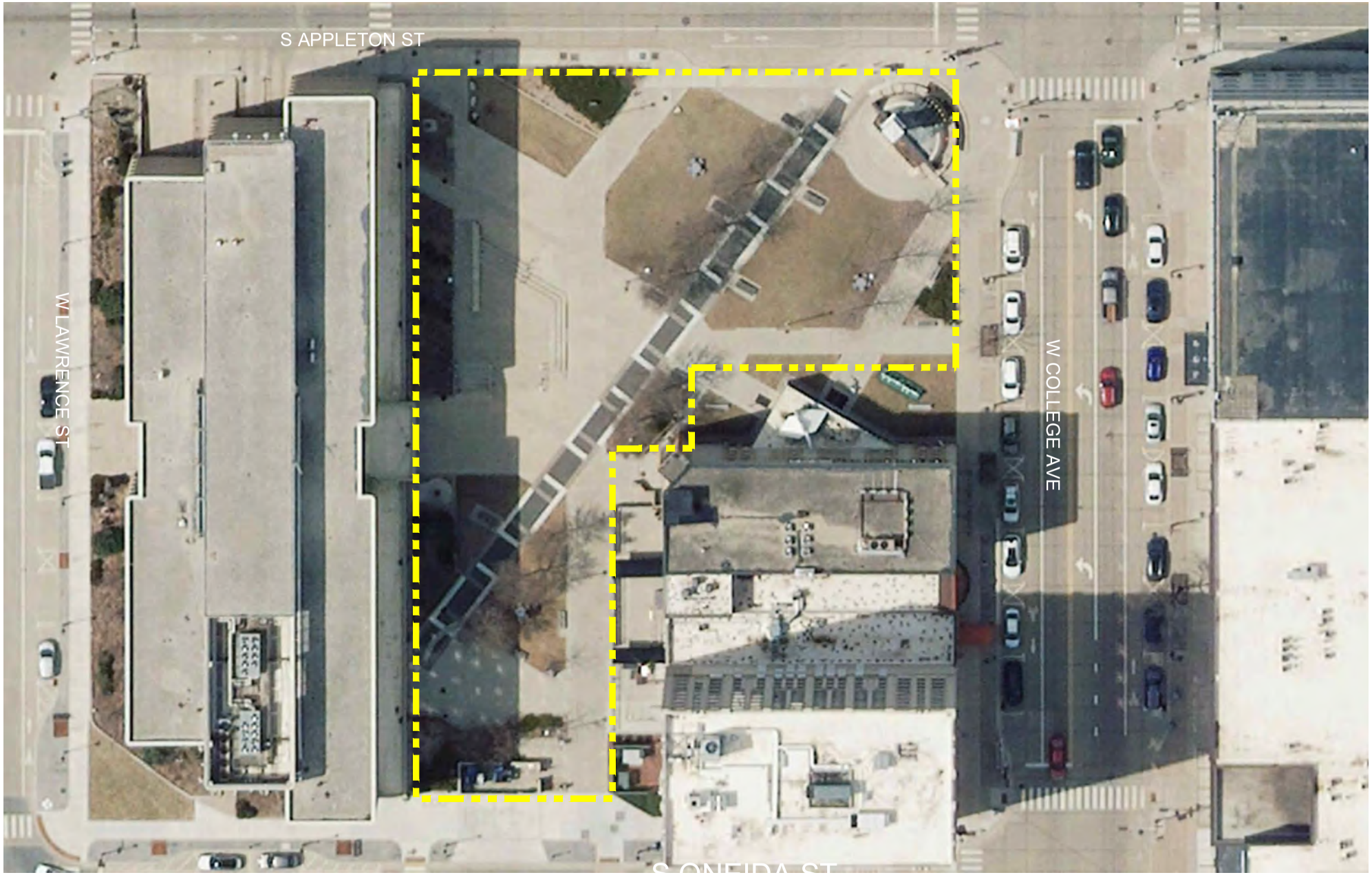
RETTLER corporation

BALLARD ROAD PROPERTY

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 80'

N



RETTLER corporation

HOUDINI PLAZA
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 50'

N

SM-34

RETTLER corporation

REID GOLF COURSE

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 400'

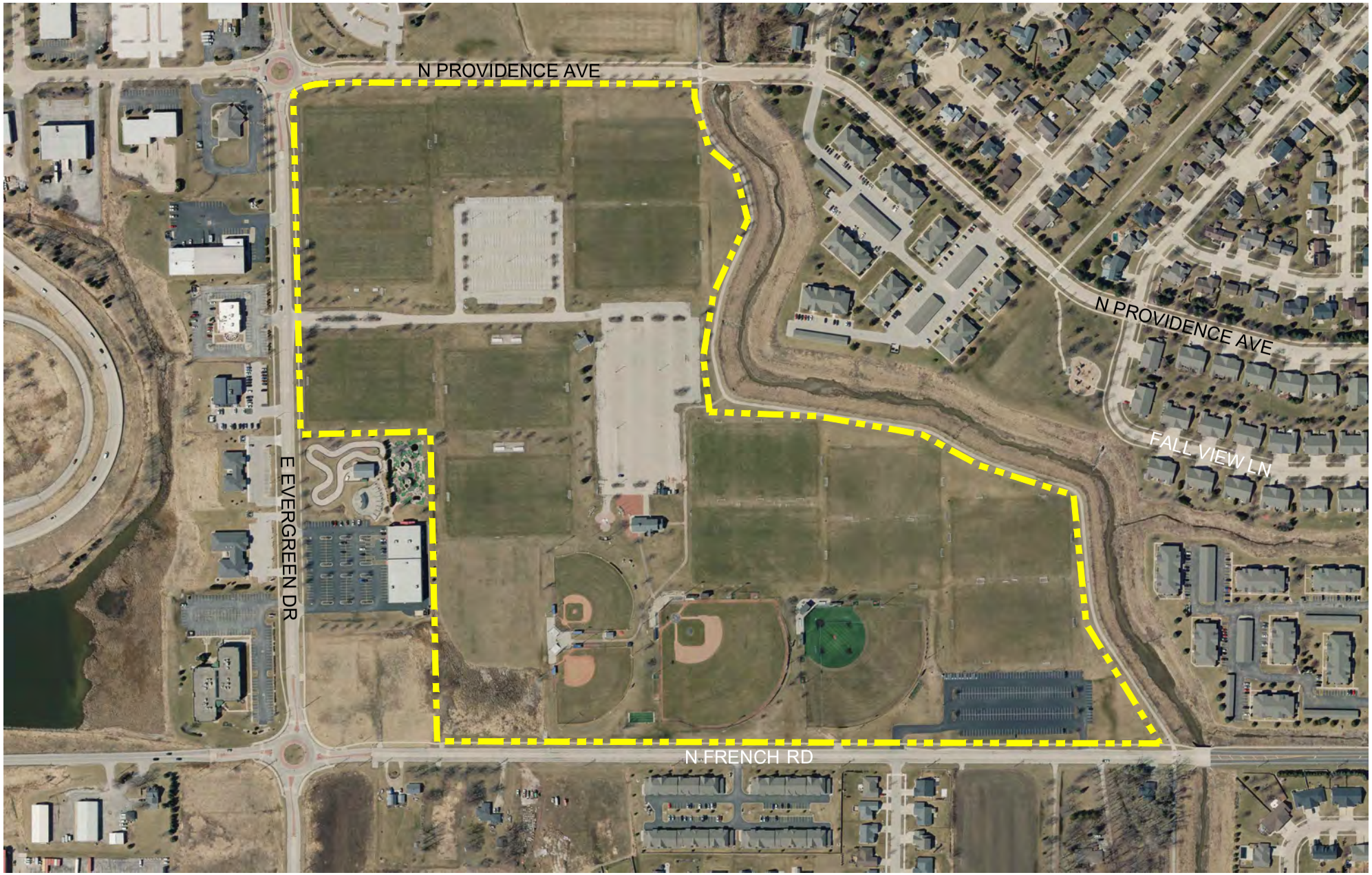
N

RETTLER corporation

UNION SPRINGS PARK
CITY OF APPLETON

0' 40'

N



SM-36

RETTLER corporation

USA YOUTH SPORTS COMPLEX

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 400'

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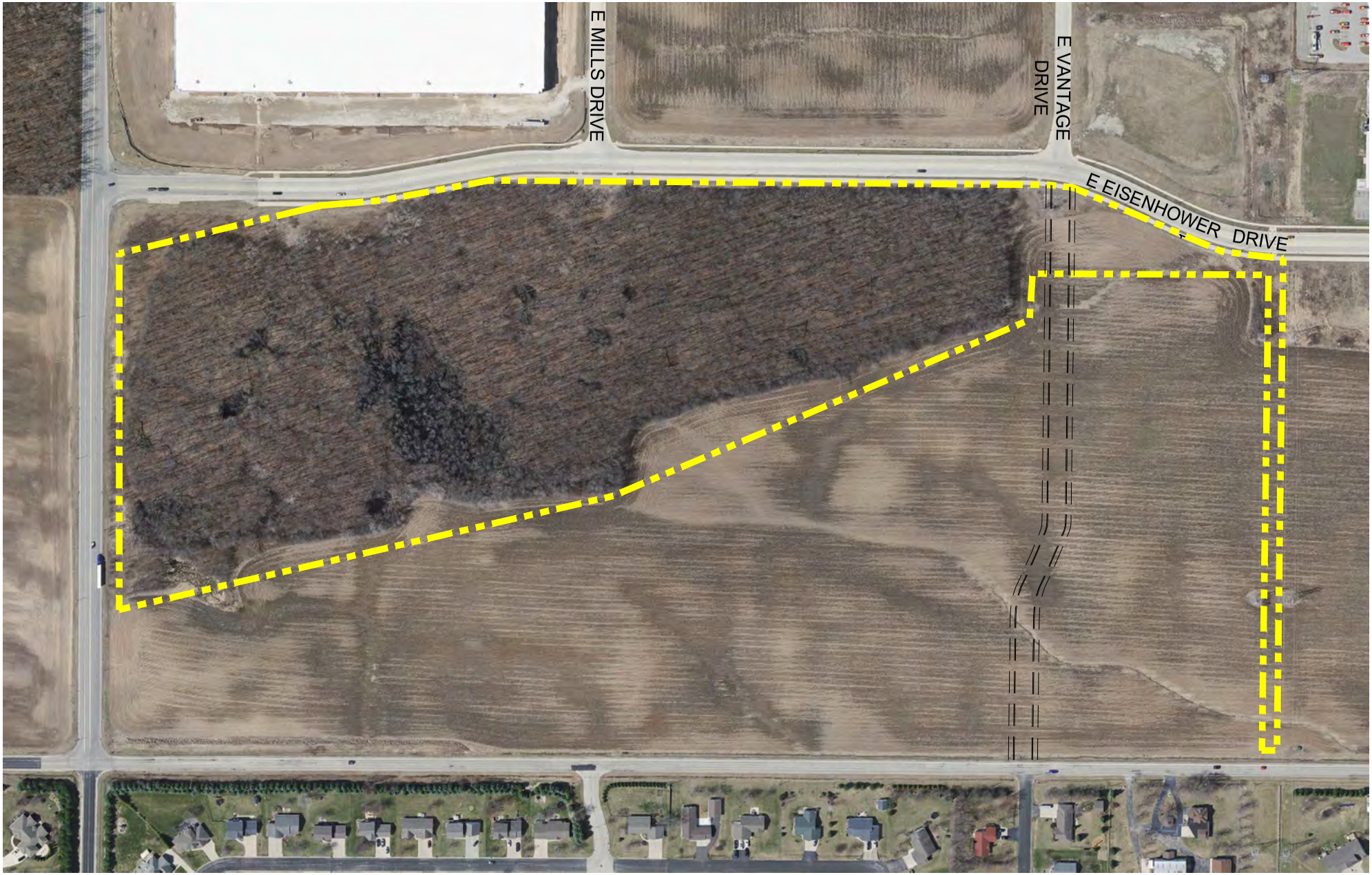

SM-37

RETTLER corporation

APPLETON CONSERVANCY

CITY OF APPLETON

0' 300'

N