## PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION

## I. INTRODUCTION

Park and recreational land uses include approximately six city owned parks, open space and recreational areas. These land uses account for approximately 108 acres or five percent ( $5 \%$ ) of the City's total acreage. The City's residents and businesses identify parks, trails and recreational facilities as an important part of the quality of life in Jordan. Recreation is viewed as an integral part of life, providing a necessary and satisfying change from the things we usually do and the places where we spend most of our time.

A community survey, comments from City staff, and the Park Board as well as comments at public meetings underscore the importance of creating and sustaining parks, trails and recreational facilities. These comments are included within this chapter.

Providing quality recreational opportunities begins with proper planning. To assure adequacy and maximum usability, recreation areas and facilities shall be developed with regard for the needs of the people and the area they serve. Proper planning must take into consideration a number of factors, including but not limited to, location of existing recreational areas (i.e. proximity to the area served, separation from incompatible land uses), adequacy of existing facilities, site planning for the location of future facilities, access to current and future facilities, provisions for recreation programs, and financing, maintenance and management of existing and proposed parks, trails and recreational facilities.

This section shall:

1. Provide Park Classification;
2. Inventory Existing Park Facilities;
3. Discuss Trails and Pedestrian Ways;
4. Discuss Recreational Opportunities in the City;
5. Examine Existing and Future Park Facility Needs;
6. Review Community Input; and
7. Establish tangible recommended goals and policies for future park, trail and recreation facilities and programs.

## II. PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

The City of Jordan features a number of existing park and recreational facilities. Recreational facilities within the City can typically be described according to their type, population served and location.

The following terms and descriptions shall be used to classify existing and future recreational facilities:
'Neighborhood Parks' provide open space for passive recreation for all ages within a neighborhood, particularly for the elderly and families with young children. An ideal neighborhood park site is scenic or wooded and located a maximum of one-quarter mile, which is normal walking distance, from primary users. Suggested minimum size for this type of park is one acre. Site development should include sidewalks, benches, landscaping, and play features for preschoolers. Trails should connect neighborhood parks with other parks and neighborhoods.
'Neighborhood Playgrounds' are usually provided in conjunction with education and institutional facilities and primarily serve the recreation needs of children ages 5 to 12. Individual neighborhood playground size is dependent on the types of activities it supports and the facilities it provides. Play features, ball fields, basketball and tennis courts, and open play fields are common components. The service area is highly variable, but it usually has a radius of one-quarter mile.
'Community Parks' typically serve several neighborhoods and are under municipal administration. Although size may vary, community parks are usually more spacious than neighborhood parks or playgrounds. In addition to the kinds of facilities provided at neighborhood parks, these parks may provide swimming pools, picnic areas, more elaborate play fields, restroom facilities and tennis courts. Community parks serve people of all ages and have an effective service area radius of one-half mile.
'City-wide Parks' may serve some or all types of a community's recreation needs. They can provide a wide range of activities for all age groups or may be very specific. In addition to some of the facilities provided by other types of parks, citywide parks may contain an area for nature study, hiking and riding trails, pond fishing, spectator sports and numerous other activities. However, in many small communities, a city-wide park is sometimes designated as such not because of its size and/or variety of recreation facilities, but because it is the only park available to the community.
'Specialized Recreation Areas' may include but are not limited to; golf courses, historic sites, conservancy area, linear trail, and floodplains. Most specialized recreation areas have limited active recreation value, are not developed as multi-purpose recreation areas, or are not always available for use by the public. Specialized areas are an important adjunct to a community and its park and open space program.
'Regional Parks' An area of natural or ornamental quality for nature-oriented outdoor recreation such as picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping and trail use. Regional parks serve people of all ages and serve a regional population.

## III. EXISTING PARK AND RECREATION INVENTORY

There are thirteen (13) municipal parks and several additional school and private recreation areas in the City of Jordan. Following is a listing of the park and recreational facilities existing in the City of Jordan. Map 8-1 illustrates the location of these facilities:
A. Brentwood Park (North of $9^{\text {th }}$ Street and west of Hooper Ct.) -Located in the northwest side of Jordan, Brentwood Park is a small grassy open area with playground equipment, which serves as a neighborhood park.
B. Bridle Creek Park - (Bridle Creek Drive) - Located on the south side of Jordan, this neighborhood park includes playground equipment, benches, a gazebo, picnic tables and a grill. The park is accessible via sidewalk, with no off-street parking available. The park includes a large open grassy area for recreational use as well as an adjacent storm water pond.
C. Fireman's Park - (Sunset Drive and Creek Lane) - This Specialized Recreation Area includes an American Flag, two benches and a number of memorial markers to recognize past fire fighters. A sidewalk provides access to the park. No off-street parking is provided.
D. Jackie Holzer Park (West of Syndicate Street and south of Valley View Drive). This community park is located on the north side of Highwya 169 and adjacent tot Sand Creek. A gravel drive and gravel parking lot provide access to the park which features two softball fields, bleachers, a concession stand and restrooms, shelters and picnic tables. A large grassy open area and trees provide a natural setting in the remainder of the park. Future pavement of the driveway and parking as well as landscaping should be considered for this park.
E. Lagoon Park (Adjacent to Mill Pond, east of Juergens Circle) - This city wide park is centrally located in the City of Jordan. It features a wide variety of recreational amenities including four horseshoe pits, three shelters with numerous picnic tables, grills, a gazebo, playground equipment, two sand volleyball courts, Mill Pond and Sand Creek, a warming house, trails and benches, plumbed restrooms, off-street paved parking lots, water fountains, and open green space.
F. Log Cabin-(Varner Street South and First Street East) - The Commercial Club owns this historic log cabin, which was one of the first homes in Jordan. The specialized recreation area is located in downtown Jordan on a 3,366 square foot parcel.
G. Mini Met Ball Park (West of Broadway/Highway 21 and east of Rice Street-) -Mini Met Ball Park, a community park, contains a lit baseball stadium with bleachers, skate park, outdoor hockey rink which is also a $3 / 4$ court basketball court in the summer, warming house, concession stand, plumbed restroom facilities, paved parking lot and city storage buildings. The City is working on establishing a rain garden in this area. A trail links the Mini Met Ball Park and Lagoon Park, which are adjacent to one another but separated by the railroad track.
H. MNDOT Rest Stop. (East of 21, north of the Highway 21 bridge). This contains a gravel parking lot. This is a potential future trailhead location.
I. Pekarna Park (South side of Water Street, west Broadway) - This park, located in the city's central business district, along Sand Creek, is a specialized recreation area which includes a gazebo, picnic table, benches, landscaping and streetlight. This downtown park serves as an entry way to the Mini Met Ball Park to the south. A sidewalk serves as access to the park with onstreet parking.
J. Riesgraf Lions Park (East of Creek Lane and southeast of Highway 169) - This Specialized Recreation Area is
 visible from Highway 169 and serves as a location for the community's park and ride. The park includes paved off-street parking, a picnic shelter, picnic tables, three grills, and three horseshoe pits. Additional landscaping could add to the aesthetics of this park.
K. Sawmill Park - (East of Highway 21 and south of Sand Creek). This two acre community park was acquired by the City in 2006. Future plans for development include a trail to link under Highway 21 to Hillside Drive and Lagoon Park, among other future improvements.
L. Stonebridge Park- (South of Stone Creek Drive) This $1 / 4$ acre neighborhood park was platted in 2007. The Park Board has identified future improvements including playground equipment and benches for a natural overlook area over the wetland area in the park.
M. Timberline Park- (Lodge Drive and Foxboro Way) - This neighborhood park, which serves Timberline Subdivision on the northwest side of the community, includes playground equipment, benches, picnic tables and a trail. Access is provided via a trail system, with no off-street parking provided.
N. School Facilities - In addition to the City owned parks there is also a number of school facilities and playgrounds that are utilized for recreational activities. The City and the School District have a joint powers agreement and Joint Powers Board that assures dual use of facilities whenever feasible. Although these are not "municipal parks", the amenities are available to serve the public at times in which school or extra curricular activities are not underway. The facilities, especially the athletic fields, serve a much larger population than the corporate limits. Following is a brief description of other school recreational facilities:

Jordan Elementary School (Sunset Drive) - The Elementary School includes two separate neighborhood playground areas, targeted for two separate age groups of elementary age children. The recreation area also includes one full and one half basketball courts, two grass softball fields, six four-square areas, sidewalks, and off-street parking. Restroom facilities are located inside the school.

Jordan Middle School (Sunset Drive) - The Middle School's recreational area includes offstreet parking, bicycle racks, eight tennis courts, a soccer field, one sand volleyball court (which is in need of improvement), two full basketball courts, two softball diamonds, and a large grassy open area which could accommodate additional soccer fields or other fields. There is a portable restroom as well as indoor restrooms at the school.

Jordan High School (Hillside Drive) - The High School's recreational area includes the official and practice football fields, a track, concession stand behind the stadium seating, plumbed restrooms, three softball and one baseball field, and a batting cage. Off-street paved parking areas and sidewalks provide access to the recreational fields.

St. John the Baptist Catholic School (Broadway St. and $2^{\text {nd }}$ Street East) - This neighborhood playground area includes two separate half-court basketball court areas within its parking lot, bench and playground equipment geared toward children aged 5 to 12 years. There is off-street parking and a sidewalk to access the play area. Restrooms are located within the school.

MN River Valley Education Center/Alternative Education Center - This neighborhood playground area includes one full basketball court and a picnic table. A paved parking lot services the recreational area and school. Restrooms are located within the educational facility.
O. Bridle Creek 7-10 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Addition - Private Park. (Prospect Point and Huntington Way) - A private neighborhood park was developed in 2006 as a part of the Bridle Creek $7^{\text {th }}$ through $10^{\text {th }}$ addition subdivisions. This private park, which is intended to serve those subdivisions, includes a small outdoor swimming pool, gazebo, small basketball court, benches and playground equipment. While this is owned and maintained by a homeowners' association and is not a part of the municipal park system, it provides recreational opportunities for residents in the southwest corner of the existing city limits.
IV. OTHER REGIONAL/COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS. There are a number of regional parks and recreational areas near and adjacent to the City of Jordan.

Scott County Fairgrounds, 7151 190th Street West. Located north of Highway 169 and west of CR 9, Scott County's Fairgrounds are located just northwest of Jordan. The fair, which originated in 1915, is held the end of July each year. This event draws crowds of 20,000 to 30,000 to Jordan for the annual event.

Ridges of Sand Creek Golf Course, 21775 Ridges Drive. This 18-hole golf course, located just south of Jordan along Highway 21, opened in July of 2000. The golf course features scenic views of Sand Creek along the 18-hole course and a 40-station driving range.

The Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area is located near Shakopee and extends south to Jordan. This includes 35 miles of equestrian trail along the Minnesota River. The state park features oak forests, savannah and sand dunes. Campgrounds are located along the Minnesota River, just south of the City of Jordan. A map, provided through the MN Department of Natural Resources follows:

The Minnesota River Scenic Byway was designated in 1996. The east section of this route features a scenic route along the Minnesota River, beginning at the junction of State Highway 25 and Sibley County Road 6, just north of the Minnesota River north of Belle Plaine. The route continues south through the cities of Henderson, Le Sueur and Mankato, and then extends northwest through the cities of New Ulm, Morton and Redwood Falls. The City of Jordan, during this planning process identified a desire to work to extend the MN Scenic Byway corridor north to Jordan.

FIGURE 8-1


Scott County Parks - A number of regional parks are located within Scott County. These include the Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve and Cleary Lake Regional Park. In addition, Historic Murphy's Landing is a special use facility. A number of areas are either under development or planned for future development including: Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park, Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park, Blakeley Bluffs Regional Park Reserve and Spring Lake Regional Park.

Headquarters (Lawrence) - As depicted on the following map, the only remaining building from the 1850's town of Lawrence is located between Jordan and Belle Plaine, on Township Road 57. This area also includes 35 rustic camp sites (which includes 8 secluded walk in sites and two canoe campsites), picnic area, twenty-two miles of trail for horseback riding, hiking and mountain biking and a fishing area on the Minnesota River (public access two miles north of Jordan on CR 9).

FIGURE 8-2


Source: http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/maps/state_parks/sra00304

Future Regional Parks and Trails. The Metropolitan Council has identified Regional Parks and Trails which impact the City of Jordan. These are identified on Map 8-5. A "Park Search Area" in Blakely, just south of Belle Plaine, has been identified. This is the county park referred to as "Blakely Bluffs Regional Park Reserve" on the previous page. This 1,500 to 2,000 acre Park Reserve will feature the Minnesota River and provide opportunities for biking, hiking, picnics, etc. A trail is proposed to extend from the Blakely Bluffs Regional Park north along the MN River, north to Jordan and then continue southeast to another regional park adjacent to Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park, in Helena Township north of New Prague. This park currently includes 235 acres with lakeshore and stands of maple-basswood forest as well as facilities that have been used as a day resort.

TABLE 8-1 JORDAN PARK INVENTORY

| Jordan <br> Park Inventory |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \tilde{\pi} \\ & \tilde{0} \\ & \frac{1}{x} \\ & \frac{0}{7} \\ & \frac{\pi}{Z} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\stackrel{n}{5}$ <br> 0 <br> 0 <br> 0 <br> 0 <br> 0 <br> 1 |  | Basketball Courts |  | słnoう ॥eqイə॥૦^ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brentwood Park | NP | SW | No | Yes | No | No | No | Yes | No | No | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No? | No |
| Bridle Creek Park | NP | SW | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | Yes | Yes | No |
| Fireman's Park | SRA | SW | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | Yes | No | No |
| Jackie Holzer Park | CP | No | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \\ & S B \end{aligned}$ | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Lagoon Park | CWP | Yes | No | Yes | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes } \\ & -4 \end{aligned}$ | No | No | No | No | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes } \\ & -2 \end{aligned}$ | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Mini Met Ball Park | CP | Yes | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & \mathrm{BB} \end{aligned}$ | No | No | No | No | Yes | No | No | No | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Con } \\ & \text { ces } \\ & \text { sion } \end{aligned}$ | Yes |
| Pekarna Park | SRA | SW | No | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | Yes | Yes | No |
| Riesgraf Lions Park | SRA | No | No | Yes | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes- } \\ & 3 \end{aligned}$ | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | PR | No | Yes | Yes |
| Timberline Park | NP | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | ? | Yes | No |
| Jordan <br> Elementary School | NPL | Yes | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \\ & \mathrm{LL} \end{aligned}$ | No | No | No | No | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes } \\ & 1 \& \\ & 1 / 2 \end{aligned}$ | No | No | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | No | IND | Yes? | No | Yes |
| Jordan Middle School | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NPL/ } \\ & \text { CWP } \end{aligned}$ | SW | $\begin{aligned} & 2 \\ & \text { SB } \end{aligned}$ | Yes | No | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes } \\ & 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes } \\ & 1 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes } \\ & 2 \end{aligned}$ | No | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes } \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | No | IND | ? | No | Yes |
| Jordan High School | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NPL/ } \\ & \text { CWP } \end{aligned}$ | Yes | $\begin{aligned} & 3 \mathrm{SB} \\ & 1 \mathrm{BB} \end{aligned}$ | No | No | No | No | No | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes } \\ & 2 \end{aligned}$ | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | IND | ? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Con } \\ & \text { ces } \\ & \text { sion } \end{aligned}$ | Yes |
| St. John the Baptist Catholic School | NPL | SW | No | No | No | No | No | $21 / 2$ <br> court | No | No | Yes | No | No | No | No | No | No | IND | $?$ | No | Yes |
| MN River Valley Ed. Center | NPL | SW | No | No | No | No | No | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Yes } \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | No | IND | ? | Yes | Yes |
| CP= Community Park CWP= City Wide Park RP= Regional Park |  | NP= Neighborhood Park <br> NPL=Neighborhood Playgrounds <br> SRA = Specialized Recreation Area |  |  |  |  |  |  | LL = Little League Field <br> BB= Baseball Field |  |  |  | IND=Indoor Restroom PR=Portable Restroom |  |  | SW=Sidewalk |  |  |  |  |  |

TABLE 8-2
JORDAN PARK ASSESSMENT

| Park Name | Turf | Irrigation | Plantings <br> Trees | Drainage System | Accessible | Parking | Parking <br> Availability | Basketball Courts | Tennis Courts | Playground <br> Equipment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Brentwood Park | 2 | NA | 2 | 0 | 2 | NA | 0 | NA | NA | 1 |
| Bridle Creek Park | 1 to 3.5 | NA to 0 | 2 to 3 | 0 | 1 to 4 | NA to 4 | 3 to 4 | NA | NA | 0 |
| Fireman's Park | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 4 | NA | NA | NA |
| Jackie Holtzer Park | 0 to 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 to 3 | 1 to 4 | 0 to 2 | 0 to 2 | NA | NA | NA |
| Lagoon Park | 0 to 2 | NA | 1 to 3 | 2 to 3 | 0 to 2 | 0 to 2 | NA to 2 | NA to 5 | NA | . 50 to 2 |
| Mini Met Ball Park | 0 to 1 | 0/1 | 1 to 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 to 1 | 0 to. 50 | 0 | NA | NA to 2 |
| Pekarna Park | . 50 |  | 1 to 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | NA | NA | NA |
| Riesgraf Lions Park | 1 to 2 | NA | 1 to 3 | O/NA | 1 to 2 | 0 | 0 | NA | NA | NA |
| Timberline Park | 3 | NA | 3 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | NA | NA | 2 |

## Ranking Key

1. Turf Condition

NA Not Applicable
0 No Problems.
1 Turf is in good conditions with some bare areas.
2 Turf has a few problems that need some work (aeration and overseeding.
3 Turf is in poor condition and needs renovation.
4 Turf is in very poor condition and should be completely redone.

## Ranking Key

4. Drainage System

0 No Problems.
2 Some saturation/standing water-minor improvements needed.
4 Very poor drainage-system needs renovation.
5 Dangerous system/conditions exist.
2. Irrigation System

NA Not Applicable.
0 No Problems.
1 System is in good condition with minor adjustment problems.
2 System is in fair condition, needs frequent work.
3 System doesn't do the job and needs to be expanded (poor coverage).
4 System is in very poor condition or no system at all.
5. Accessibility

0 Entire park is accessible to handicapped.
2 Portions of the park are accessible to handicapped individuals
4 None of the park is accessible to handicapped individuals
3. Plantings/Trees

0 No Problems.
1 Plantings/trees are in good condition with few minor problems.
2 Some bare areas that need additional plant materials.
3 Several areas have problems that need work.
4 Plantings/trees in very poor condition \& should be completely removed.
5 Condition of trees present dangerous safety situation.
6. Parking

NA Not applicable.
0 No problems.
1 Good condition - needs regular routine maintenance.
2 Surface in fair condition- spot repairs are necessary.
3 Surface in poor condition, several areas need major repairs.
4 Very poor condition, parking area needs complete renovation.
5 Dangerous conditions exist.
7. Parking Availability

NA Not Applicable
0 No Problems
2 Not enough parking mainly during peak-use periods or only occasionally.
4 Not enough parking most of the time.
8. Basketball or Tennis Courts

NA Not Applicable
0 No Problems
1 Good condition, need minor routine maintenance, patching or striping.
2 Fair condition, needs minor repairs.
3 Poor condition - needs major repairs but can still be used.
4 Very poor condition. Potholes, cracks; need extensive repair/resurfacing.
5 Dangerous surface conditions exist-holes, large cracks, etc.
9. Playground Equipment

NA Not Applicable
0 No Problems
1 Equipment is old but can still be used.
2 Equipment requires regular routine maintenance
3 Equipment is in poor condition and requires major repair or renovation.
4 Equipment is in very poor condition and should be replaced.
5 Dangerous conditions exist

Table 8-2 is a park assessment completed by members of the Jordan Park Board of nine of the municipal parks. Each park was assessed by a minimum of two Park Board members. Each member's ranking is included in the table. To summarize:

- Turf should be reviewed in Bridle Creek Park and Timberline Park.
- Other than Mini-Met, other parks do not have irrigation systems in place.
- Additional plantings or trees are suggested at most of the parks.
- Accessibility at Bridle Creek Park and Jackie Holtzer Park should be reviewed.
- Parking should be reviewed at Bridle Creek Park, Fireman's Park and Timberline Park.


## V. PATHWAYS

Pathways within communities and connecting to larger regional pathways are often classified by their purpose, type of improvement, and location. The following table includes a description of six types of pathways and identification of the pathways within Jordan which are included in each category.

| Classification | General Description | Description of each type | Existing Facilities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Park Trail | Multi-purpose trails located within greenways, parks and natural resource areas. Focus in on recreational value and harmony with the natural environment. | Type I: Separate/single purpose hard -surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters. <br> Type II: Multi-purpose hardsurfaced trails for pedestrians and bicyclists/in-line skaters. <br> Type III: Nature trails for pedestrians. May be hard or soft surfaced. | Lagoon Park, Mini Met Ball Park, Timberline Park |
| Connector Trails | Multi-purpose trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the community. Focus is as much on transportation as it is on recreation. | Type I: Separate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters located in independent R.O.W (e.g. old railroad R.O.W). <br> Type II: Separate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrian or bicyclists/in-line skaters. Typically located within road R.O.W. |  |
| On-Street Bikeways | Paved segments of roadways that serve as a means to safely separate bicyclists from vehicular traffic. | Bike Route: Designated portions of the roadway for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. <br> Bike Lane: Shared portions of the roadway that provide separation between motor vehicles and bicyclists, such as paved shoulders. | None |
| All-Terrain Bike Trail | Off-road trail for allterrain (mountain) bikes | Single-purpose loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas. | DNR Trails along the MN River in the Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area |
| Cross Country Ski Trail | Trails developed for traditional and skatestyle cross-country skiing. | Loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas. | DNR Trails along the MN River in the Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area |
| Equestrian Trail | Trails developed for horseback riding. | Loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas. Sometimes developed as multi-purpose with hiking and allterrain biking. These trails are developed so conflict can be controlled. | DNR Trails along the MN River in the Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area |

## B. Pathway Design

Trails or pathways should be designed with the following goals in mind (1) Safety - protect non-motorized and motorized users (depending on the type of trail) from adjacent or crossing vehicular traffic, (2) Linkages - provide links between local parks and recreational areas and regional trail systems, (3) Natural Environment - when designing the trail system protect the natural environment and natural features, and (4) Continuity - provide continuous trail systems with as few interruptions in user movement as possible.

Following are design guidelines suggested by the National Recreation and Park Association for the various types of pathways:

## 1. Park Trails

Type 1: These separate or single purpose trails are typically ten feet wide and hard surfaced for pedestrians, bicyclists and/or in-line skaters.

Type II: These multi-purpose trails typically include a natural buffer; such as shrubs, trees or changes in topography, from adjacent uses on either side of the trail. A 50 -foot right-of-way to accommodate the buffers is common with a ten foot paved surface.

Type III: Nature trails are generally six to eight feet wide and are soft surfaced. Trail grades vary depending on the topography of the area in which they are located. Interpretive signage is common along nature trails.
2. Connector Trails

Type 1 and II: These separate or single-purpose hard surfaced trails are designed for pedestrians or bicyclists/in line skaters. If designed for pedestrians only, a six to eight foot width is common. If designed for bicyclists/in-line skaters, a ten foot paved surface is recommended. The trails may be developed on one or both sides of the roadway and may include one or two-way traffic. The trail is typically separated from the roadway with a boulevard, grass and/or plantings.
3. On-Street Bikeways

On Street Bike Lane: Bike Lanes are typically designed as a five-foot lane adjacent to the driving lane. On-street parking may occur between the on-street bike lane and the curb or edge of the road. In essence each side of the roadway is divided into three sections (1) driving lane, (2) on-street bikeway and (3) on-street parking.

On Street Bike Route: This bicycle route is typically designated with signage. On Street Bike Routes are typically paved shoulders along roadways.
4. All Terrain Bike Trails: Design and length vary depending on the topography in the area. These trails are generally a part of a larger regional park or natural resource area.
5. Cross Country Ski Trails: The design of the cross-country ski trail is dependent upon its intended use. The traditional diagonal skiing typically includes a packed groomed trail with set tracks. Skate-skiing designs include a wider packed and groomed surface. The length of the trails may vary. Cross-country ski trails may be designed to be used as equestrian trails during summer months.
6. Equestrian Trails: These horseback riding trails, typically are designed with woodchips or grass surface. They are located in larger parks and natural resource areas where conflict with other trail users may be avoided. The length of an equestrian trail varies but is generally looped.

## C. Trails and Pedestrian Ways.

The City's Subdivision Ordinance outlines sidewalk installation requirements in new subdivisions as follows: Sidewalks shall be required as follows:

- Commercial Areas and along all collector streets: Six (6) foot wide concrete sidewalks shall be located on both sides of the street.
- Industrial Areas: Six (6) foot wide concrete sidewalks shall be located on at least one side of the street with additional requirements for collector streets in industrial areas.
- Residential Areas: Six (6) foot wide concrete sidewalks shall be located on at least one side of all streets, except cul-de-sacs., with additional requirements for collector street requirements in residential areas.

The Subdivision Ordinance also requires the installation of eight (8) foot wide trails, with a 25 foot right-of-way in areas designated by the City.

As a part of the Comprehensive Planning process a survey was mailed to all utility bill customers. Included was a question relating to the need for additional sidewalks and trails. Based on 134 surveys, 102 respondents or $76 \%$ noted they felt the City should require developers to install sidewalks and/or trails in all new subdivisions while 27 or $20 \%$ noted they felt the City should require developers to install sidewalks and/or trails only along collector streets or major transportation routes. Five individuals did not respond.

Existing trails within Lagoon Park, Mini Met Ball Park, Timberline Park are eight feet wide, within a 15 foot easement. The trails within Lagoon Park and Mini-Met Ball Park connect the two recreational areas.

Future connections of municipal parks and trails along collector streets are also recommended. A Current and Future Greenway Trail plan is attached as Map 8-4. The City should consider trails that create a circle or loop around the outer growth area of the City, link city parks and take advantage of scenic areas such as Sand Creek and bluff areas. The Trail Plan allows for the future connection to the regional park in Blakely Township and the Cedar Lake regional park to the south. The City should coordinate future trails to connect with Scott County trails and greenways.

## VI. RECREATION AND FITNESS.

There are a number of coordinated and uncoordinated recreational opportunities in and around Jordan.

Community Education and Recreation Programs are coordinated by Jordan School District's Community Education Program. Examples of youth programs include but are not limited to Kid's Company, foreign languages, Kids Camp, youth basketball, volleyball, track, tennis, football, TBall, baseball. Adult recreation includes but is not limited to knitting, basket classes, stained glass, classes and trips, golf lesions, yoga, volleyball, weight lifting and basketball.

## VII. EXAMINATION OF EXISTING AND FUTURE PARK FACILITIES

The City's combination of recreational activities, nearby golf course and existing parkland and open space provide residents and visitors with a variety of recreational opportunities. Map 8-2 indicates areas served by existing recreational facilities. As indicated parks are located so as to serve the needs of most residential areas of the City, however additional facilities would benefit residents in the southwest portion of the City. Additional park and recreational facilities and
athletic fields are planned at this time include a large community park on the southwest side of the community which would serve the Bridle Creek and Arborview Subdivisions. A conservation easement is platted within Sawmill Woods Subdivision.
A. Search Areas. Map 8-3 indicates park search areas. As noted in the park classifications, depending on the type of park the service area will vary. The attached map, Map 8-3, illustrates a need for parks in the growth areas to the northwest, northeast, southwest and southeast sections of the City, near $190^{\text {th }}$ Street and Fairview, Zanadu and Akers, 282 East, Zanadu and $200^{\text {th }}$ and Sawmill Woods.

## B. Accessibility

${ }^{1}$ The American With Disability Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990. The law requires local and state governments, places of public accommodation and commercial facilities to be readily accessible to persons with disabilities. ADA statutes affect the City of Jordan and other local and state park and recreation facilities in the following ways:

- Newly constructed buildings (after January 26, 1993) must be constructed to be readily accessible.
- Renovations or alterations occurring after January 26, 1992 to existing facilities must be readily accessible.
- Barriers to accessibility in existing buildings and facilities must be removed when it is "readily accessible". This includes the location and accessibility to restrooms, drinking fountains and telephones.

Other requirements include but are not limited to:

- One accessible route from site access point, such as a parking lot, to the primary accessible entrance must be provided. A ramp with a slope of no greater than 1:6 for a length of no greater than two feet may be used as a part of the route. Otherwise a slope of maximum 1:12 is allowed.
- One accessible public entrance must be provided.
- If restrooms are provided, then one accessible unisex toilet facility must be provided along an accessible route.
- Only the publicly used spaces on the level of the accessible entrance must be made accessible.
- Any display and written information should be located where it can be seen by a seated individual and should provide information accessible to the blind.

Parks which are developed with items such as parking lots, swimming pools, tennis courts and basketball courts should have routes which are accessible. Nature parks or areas with limited development should have the minimum of accessible routes to the site. The National Park Service provides design guidelines for accessible outdoor recreation. ${ }^{1}$

As the City redevelops city parks it will be important to include ADA standards in the design. Installation of curb cuts and pathways within the park, designation of handicap parking in the parking lots, remodeling of restroom facilities to provide a handicap accessible stall in each of the men's and women's facilities and pathways to shelters and recreational amenities has been recommended as a method to achieve accessibility goals.

[^0]
## VIII. RECREATIONAL FACILITY STANDARDS

As parkland is acquired either through dedications or purchase, it is important to plan space according to the desired recreational contents. In existing parks, it is important for the Planning Commission and City Council to be aware of space requirements and orientation recommendations to determine if it is feasible to include the item(s) within the park. Following are facility standards for a number of recreational activities:
$\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|}\hline \text { Unit } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Land } \\ \text { Required }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Recommended Size } \\ \text { \& Dimensions }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Recommended } \\ \text { Orientation }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { No. Units } \\ \text { Per } \\ \text { Population } \\ \text { (National } \\ \text { standards) }\end{array} & \text { Service Area } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Existing } \\ \text { Facilities }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Surplus/ } \\ \text { Deficit } / \\ \text { Standard } \\ \text { (Local }\end{array} \\ \text { Standards) }\end{array}\right]$
$\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|}\hline \text { Unit } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Land } \\ \text { Required }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Recommended Size } \\ \text { \& Dimensions }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Recommended } \\ \text { Orientation }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { No. Units } \\ \text { Per } \\ \text { Population } \\ \text { (National } \\ \text { standards) }\end{array} & \text { Service Area } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Existing } \\ \text { Facilities }\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Surplus/ } \\ \text { Deficit } l \\ \text { Standard } \\ \text { (Local }\end{array} \\ \text { Standards) }\end{array}\right]$

| Unit | Land Required | Recommended Size \& Dimensions | Recommended Orientation | No. Units Per Population (National standards) | Service Area | Existing Facilities | Surplusl Deficit / Standard (Local Standards) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Horseshoe courts | 0.1 acre |  |  | 1/2000 | -- | Seven, Lagoon Park (4) \& Lion's Park (3) | Ok to population of 14,000 |
| Swimming Pool | 1 to 2 acres | Teaching-min. 25 yards x 45' even depth of $3-4 \mathrm{ft}$. <br> Competitive- min. 25 $\mathrm{m} \times 16 \mathrm{~m}$. Min. of 25 sq. ft water surface per swimmer. Ratio of 2 to 1 deck to water | No recommended pool orientation but care must be taken in locating life stations in relation to afternoon sun | 1/10,000 | 150 person capacity 15 minute travel | None | Need at population of 10,000? <br> Local need expressed at this time along with local opposition. |
| Off-Street Parking | $\begin{aligned} & 300 \text { S.F } \\ & \text { Per Car } \end{aligned}$ | Typically $9^{\prime} \times 20$ with a 20' driving lane | Variable | NP: 8-12 cars <br> CWR: 25100 cars <br> SR: 25-100 cars | NA | Nine of the fourteen recreational areas provide offstreet parking. | Needed at future city wide and community parks. |
| Toilet Facilities | Varies | Per building code | Variable | 1 double unit per park | 1 park | Three city parks provide restroom facilities. | City identified as a need. Portable as a minimum |

* Derived from the National Recreation and Park Association and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration Standards with local standards applied.

The City Planning Commission and Park Board also identified a need for recreational areas for Lacrosse.

## IX. COMMUNITY INPUT IN PARKS AND RECREATION

A. Park Land Dedication Ordinance. The City has adopted parkland dedication requirements within the Subdivision Ordinance. Proposed standards pertaining to subdivisions require $10 \%$ of the gross area of all property being subdivided shall be dedicated for parks, playgrounds, greenway trail, recreational areas, or public open space. The dedication is in addition to the property dedicated for streets, alleys, drainage ways, pedestrian ways or other public ways. Storm water ponding areas may be incorporated into a park but is not considered as part of the park dedication requirement. The City has the option of collecting fees in lieu of land.
B. Park and Recreation Commission. The City has appointed a seven member Park and Recreation Commission, with staggered two-year terms. The Park Commission meets monthly to plan for the development and redevelopment of Jordan's park and trail system. The Park Board is a recommending body to the City Council that provides on-going public input on the system. Specific duties of the Park Board are outlined in Chapter 2, Section 2.36 of the City Code.
C. Jordan Aquatic Community Committee (JACC). This 10 member community group formed in 2004. It is a non-City appointed, group of citizens studying the feasibility of a swimming pool in Jordan.
D. Public Input. In conjunction with the updating of this Plan, a survey was distributed with utility bills to 1,716 customers. 134 were returned for a $7.8 \%$ response rate. Results indicate residents and businesses place an equal emphasis on the importance of small neighborhood parks and larger regional parks as well as on the acceptance of land versus fees-in-lieu of land with new subdivisions. $72 \%$ feel the city should obtain a broad range of park and open space areas with $25 \%$ supporting the acceptance of land only for active recreational uses. Following is a summary of questions and responses relating to park and trail development.

## Do you think the City should:

| (Not Answered) | 6 | $4.48 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Develop more small parks used by neighborhood and <br> community residents. <br> Develop a few larger parks that are used by all City and area <br> resident/tourists. <br> Develop both equally. | 22 | $16.42 \%$ |
|  | 34 | $25.37 \%$ |
|  | 72 | $53.73 \%$ |
|  | Total Responses | $\mathbf{1 3 4}$ |
|  | $\mathbf{1 0 0 . 0 0} \%$ |  |



## Do you think the City should:

(Not Answered)
Accept money from developers and fix up and/or enhance existing parks and recreational areas.
Accept the donation of additional parkland in developing areas.
Both.
Total Responses

$5 \quad 3.73$ \%
(Not Answered)
Support the construction and management of a municipal 47
35.07 \% swimming pool, even if it requires annual tax levies to operate it.
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { Require local organizations or citizens groups to raise funds } & 82 & 61.19 \%\end{array}$ for the construction of a municipal swimming pool.

Total Responses
$134 \quad 100.00 \%$


## Do you think the City should:

| (Not Answered) | 5 | $3.73 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Obtain a broad range of different types of open space (e.g., <br> park land for active recreational uses, wooded areas, <br> wetlands, natural areas ...) | 96 | $71.64 \%$ |
| Accept only open park land for active recreational use and <br> encourage conservation easements for other natural areas. | 33 | $24.63 \%$ |
| Total Responses | 134 | $\mathbf{1 0 0 . 0 0} \%$ |



Do you think the City should:

| (Not Answered) | 5 | 3.73 \% |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Require developers to install sidewalks and/or trails in all <br> new subdivisions. | 102 | $76.12 \%$ |
| Require developers to install sidewalks and/or trails only <br> along collector streets or major transportation routes | 27 | $20.15 \%$ |
| Total Responses | $\mathbf{1 3 4}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0 . 0 0} \%$ |



Other comments received on comprehensive plan survey forms included comments both in favor and in opposition to a municipal swimming pool. In April 2007, the City of Jordan contracted with Ankeny Kell Architects (AKA), Ballard*King and Associates ( $\mathrm{B}^{*}$ K), USAquatics (USA) and ETC Leisure Vision (ETC) to conduct a feasibility study for a Jordan Outdoor Aquatic Community Center. The study, "...included a demographic profile analysis, an inventory of alternative recreation service providers in the area, program development, concept diagrams, preliminary project cost estimates, operations analysis and
a public opinion survey." The Study, competed in December 2007 concludes," The market conditions clearly support the need for a swimming facility in Jordan. However, respondents to the community survey [ 300 surveys completed] do not feel the pool is a high priority compared to other issues facing the City of Jordan, $41 \%$ of the respondents indicated a new swimming facility was a low priority in Jordan. In addition, a large percentage of respondents (43\%) indicated that the pool operating costs should be paid for through user fees. In contrast, the operation proforma clearly indicates an outdoor aquatic center will require tax support. This information suggests that the high cost associated with building and operating a new pool will raise questions with some residents. The City must weigh the cost of building and operating a new pool against other issues facing the City and the opportunity to build a facility that will enhance the image and quality of life for Jordan residents.

Comprehensive plan survey comments also included the need for additional trails, a community center and preservation of natural areas.

## X. MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

The proper care and management of park and trail facilities will encourage park/pathway use, improve the quality of life in Jordan and enhance the visual quality of neighborhoods and the City as a whole. Maintenance of the park system is currently coordinated through the City's Public Works Department with additional three full- time summer workers. The department also assists with park duties and street functions.

Park maintenance tasks may occur on a daily, weekly, monthly, seasonal and/or weather related basis. These jobs include but are not limited to litter and garbage clean-up, mowing and trimming, preventive equipment maintenance and repair, facility repair and maintenance, painting, snow removal, trail maintenance, special event preparation among other items.

## XI. FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Several resources are available to assist the City of Jordan in providing adequate parks, trails and facilities for residents. Following is a list of typical sources.

1. Park Dedication/Fee In-Lieu of Parkland Dedication Requirements for land acquisition)
2. User Fees (rental of shelters, etc)
$3 . \quad$ Volunteer hours/labor.
3. Donations by private individuals, civic organizations, organized groups, etc.
4. Grants available through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
5. Property taxes

The City budgets for operational expenses through its annual budget process. The City currently utilizes user fees, donations from organizations and individuals, grant programs, park dedication land and fees and the general tax levy to cover expenses relating to parks. The City does not have a specific capital improvement plan for long-range capital improvements to the park system. Maintenance of parks is included in the general fund budget, while park dedication fees are tracked in a park dedication fund. The City should consider developing a capital improvement plan for future park development/updates and trail extensions.

## XII. RECOMMENDED GOALS AND POLICIES FOR PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION

Park and Recreation Policy Statements.

1. The City of Jordan will enhance its park and recreation system through natural resource protection and management.
2. The City of Jordan will continue to cooperate with the other governments, agencies, and communities to encourage a regional park and trail system, with Jordan serving as a hub to connect the proposed Blakely Bluffs Regional Park, proposed Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park and Spring Lake Regional Park Systems.
3. The City of Jordan will carefully and efficiently expand its park and open space system to meet the needs of its growing population base.
4. The City of Jordan will maintain its parks, trails, open space areas well into the future.
5. The City of Jordan will provide its residents and visitors with a range of passive and active recreational and sports facilities.
6. The City of Jordan recognizes the importance of private property rights and synergy between park and trail infrastructure and property values.
7. The City will promote open/green space areas within new commercial/industrial developments or connectivity to adjacent recreation areas.

Recommendations. The following recommendations have been developed, through this Comprehensive Planning process:

## Maintain and Improve Existing Park Systems

The City of Jordan contains approximately 108 acres of property in parkland category of land use. This figure does not include the Golf Course to the south of the growth boundary.

## Maintain Quality Park Dedication Standards through the Subdivision Ordinance

The City of Jordan currently has Park dedication standards as part of the subdivision ordinance and should continue to evaluate these standards to assure that they are adequately addressing the needs of the park system through Developer dedication. The City currently requires $10 \%$ of the land area or a monetary value equal to this be dedicated to the city. The City upon evaluating its recreational needs and projecting future park land dedications or fees-in-lieu of should evaluate the rates and method of collection (e.g. fee per lot vs. percent of total land being platted). The fee structure should be based on identified capital park and recreational needs and expenditures.

## Develop a Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan for the Park System

The City of Jordan through its Park Board has developed a five year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the existing and future park system, which is attached to this chapter as an exhibit. The Capital Improvement Program should continue to be updated identifying the types of equipment and other amenities necessary to the Park System, the cost of such items, and the year in which the City is projecting to fund such improvements. This CIP should continue to be a part of the overall Capital Improvement Program for the City.

Acquire Park and Open Space in the following areas of the City
The following areas have been identified as future growth areas for Municipal Parks (see map 8-3):

1. Northwest - near $190^{\text {th }}$ Street and Fairview
2. Northeast near Xanadu and Akers
3. East near 282
4. East near Xanadu and $200^{\text {th }}$
5. Southeast near Sawmill Road

## Continue to add segments to the City and Regional Trail System

Efforts should be made to continue to add segments to the trail system either directly or via a secondary sidewalk system so that City parks are linked together. The attached map, 8-4, shows the concept for projected trail areas. Coordination with Scott County and Carver County should occur to ensure linkages are planned developing Jordan as the regional hub for regional trails linking Blakely Bluffs Regional Park to the southwest, the proposed Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park to the south and Spring Lake Regional Park to the east and a trail linking Scott County to Carver County to the north.

## Plan for future management and maintenance of Park System

Along with capital planning, the Park Board and City should plan for the on-going maintenance and management of the Park and Recreation System. Currently the Public Works Department manages the system. As new parks are added, additional employees may be required. The City may also wish to investigate creating a Park and Recreation Department to coordinate park and community activities.

## Park CIP October 2006

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010** |  |
| Brentwood |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tree Plantings |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Holzer Park |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Blacktop Parking Lot \& Paths |  |  | 42,000 |  |  |  |
| Purchase \& Install Play Equipment |  |  | 30,000 |  |  |  |
| Extensive Landscaping |  | 8,000 |  |  |  |  |
| Lagoon |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Beautification Around Spillway |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 30,000 |  |  |  |
| Trail Around Back Perimeter of Park <br> (Swimming to Rushmeyer)  <br> Pedestrian Bridge  |  |  |  | 48,000 |  |  |
| Install 6 New Benches |  | 3,600 |  |  |  |  |
| Concrete Pads Under All Benches |  | 6,000 |  |  |  |  |
| Water Feature (fountain) in Pond |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Drinking Fountain |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2nd Restroom Near Shelters |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fishing Pier |  | 20,000 |  |  |  |  |
| Dredge Mill Pond* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pave Mill Pond Drive Entrance to Lagoon Park (Rushmeyer Property) | Comple te |  |  |  |  |  |
| Parking Lot off of Park Drive |  |  |  |  |  | * |
| Park Drive Street Improvements | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? |  |
| * Park and Recreation would like to see this completed with the Park Drive Street Improvements |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Log Cabin |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stepping Stones to Look into Windows |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Install New Flagpole (shorter \& possible new location) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mini - Met |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pave Parking Lot | Comple te |  |  |  |  |  |
| Skate Park | Comple te |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trail System |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Warming House for Hockey Rink |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Concession Stand |  |  |  |  | 50,000 |  |
| New Grandstand | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? |  |
| Pekarna |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tree Pruning |  | 1,200 |  |  |  |  |
| Riesgraf Lions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Highway Screening | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? |  |




[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Source: Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines, James D. Meres, Ph.D., CLP and James R. Hall, CLP. © 1996, National Recreation and Park Association

