

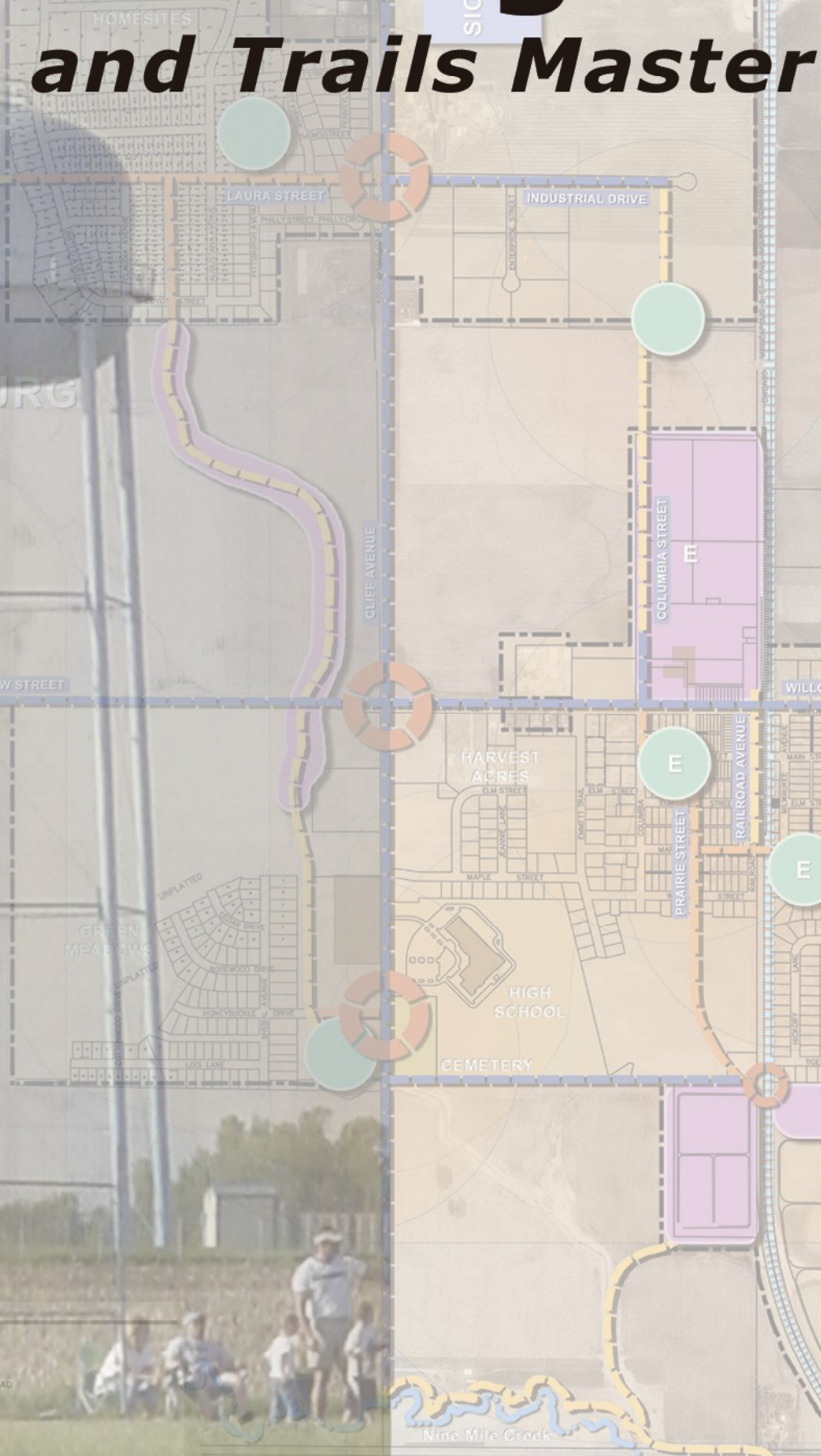
Harrisburg

Parks and Trails Master Plan

City of
HARRISBURG

SIoux FALLS
2005

- CITY LIMITS
- BURLINGTON NORTHERN RAILROAD
- WATERWAYS
- EXISTING PARKS, OPEN SPACES, & RECREATION AREAS
- POTENTIAL CRITICAL INTERSECTIONS



October 2004

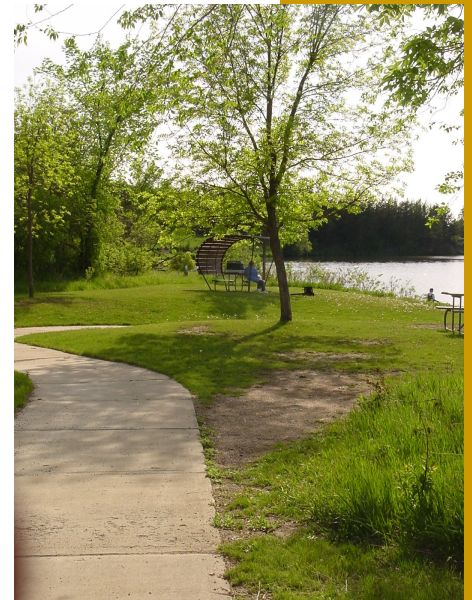
1	<i>Table of Contents</i>
2	<i>Introduction</i>
3	<i>Community</i>
5	<i>Process</i>
6	Existing Park Inventory
14	National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Guidelines
15	Stakeholder Meetings
16	Community Surveys
24	<i>Recommendation</i>
26	Existing/Proposed Regional Parks
29	Existing/Proposed Community Parks
32	Existing/Proposed Neighborhood Parks
38	Trails and Greenbelts
45	<i>Alternate Recommendation</i>
48	<i>Implementation</i>
54	<i>Range of Costs for Park Components</i>
55	<i>Addendum – Maps</i>
	<i>Appendix</i>



As the summer sun began to set, we witnessed a community at play. Parents' and friends were taking their toddlers for an evening walk. Grandfathers and their grandchildren were fishing from a sun kissed dock. Friends were joining up for a bike ride around the lake. Parents, children, and neighbors were coming together on front porches, back patios, downtown street corners, and at tee ball practice to catch up on the events of the day. These were the first glimpses of how a community recreates.

Upon a closer look, we noticed that those taking their evening walks, were forced to walk single file along the narrow edge of the highway, or to take their chances walking in the middle of the street, or hoping to find a continuous sidewalk route that would afford them a leisurely stroll. Those that were fishing, were crowded onto one dock, and parked in a cramped little parking area because there was no way to reach the lake by foot or bicycle. Many of the children that were coming together to play, were doing so in church and school parking lots because there weren't any parks or playgrounds in their neighborhood. Or they waited patiently for a turn on the play equipment that was overloaded with children, because it was the only 'cool' play structure in town.

These indicators reinforce the importance of a plan...specifically, a plan that outlines the future of the parks and trails system in the City of Harrisburg. This report outlines several aspects of Harrisburg Parks and Trails Master Plan. From initial community demographics to a Master Plan process, through preliminary concept development and ultimately to a final recommendation for the future parks and trails in Harrisburg, including locations, areas served, amenities to include, opinions of potential cost, an implementation strategy, and possible funding sources. The intent of this report is to document the existing parks and trails in Harrisburg, summarize the wants and needs of community members, and act as a resource for both future community development as well as information to use in applying for funding.



Harrisburg, South Dakota, a community of just less than one square mile, is a small commuter suburb of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, which is three miles to the north. Located around the intersection of County Road 110 and County Road 123, this community has grown to approximately 1175 people. Due to the quiet peaceful nature of this little town, demand for real estate and housing has skyrocketed. Housing developments have sprung up in all corners of the community, and the desire to build continues to increase.

The last census taken in Harrisburg was in 2000; most information listed below was taken from that census.

- Harrisburg is in Lincoln County; the Lincoln County Seat is Canton, South Dakota, which is 12 miles south of Harrisburg.
- Other surrounding communities include:
 - Sioux Falls, South Dakota - 3 miles North.
 - Tea, South Dakota - 8 miles East.
 - Brandon, South Dakota - 17 miles Northeast.
- The racial makeup of Harrisburg is primarily Caucasian (98.64%).
- While the median age is 30 years, there is a small percentage (4.4%) of senior citizens.
- Mix in gender is almost equal; there are 106 males for every 100 females.
- 53% of Harrisburg households have children under the age of 18 in them. However, in the two years since the census was taken, these numbers have increased dramatically. The trend of families with young children continues to escalate.
- The median household income in the community is \$51,196. Due to the fact that the median income for males is \$32,109 and the median income for females is \$24,167, it could be assumed that a majority of the family households in Harrisburg have two full-time working adults in them.

Primarily rural in nature, Harrisburg has a balance of agricultural land, housing developments, and a small amount of industry. The downtown area includes approximately 3 blocks on either side of the Burlington Northern Railroad. There are two city parks within the city limits, and no bodies of water (ponds, lakes, or streams.) The Burlington Northern Railroad runs north/south through center of the downtown area.





HARRISBURG PARKS & TRAILS MASTER PLAN

Photo Collage

Existing Conditions
June 2004

In the spring of 2004, the community of Harrisburg hired the consulting firm of Howard R. Green Company (HRG) to assist them in preparing a Parks and Trails Master Plan. Many steps would be involved, but the primary purpose of this Master Plan was to identify the needs and desires of the community and transfer those ideas into a framework plan for the future growth and development of the community. The first step in this process was to inventory the community and the existing parks. This was completed in May of 2004, when representatives from HRG came to Harrisburg and met with the City Clerk, Public Works Director, and a member of City Council. The group discussed development in the community, how the area was currently used for recreation, the direction that recreation in Harrisburg was taking, as well as many other issues surrounding available recreational resources in and around the community. After a brief consultation with these city representatives, the consultants set out to inventory the existing parks and open spaces within the City limits. This was a three-step process:

- Photograph existing parks.
- Document size, existing amenities and uses within the parks.
- Rate the quality of amenities, equipment, access, etc. within the parks.

The first step in the inventory of Harrisburg's parks and trails was to photo document the existing parks, how they are used, what amenities and structures each include, and the visual quality of the amenities in each park. The graphic images that follow this section give a glimpse of the existing parks and their conditions.

Second was to document the size, quality, and types of play equipment, amenities, and facilities in each of the parks. The following identifies a general list of Harrisburg's parks and the approximate size of each.

- +/- 1 acre - Ellis Larson Youth Park.
- +/- ½ acre - Hugh Robinson Park.
- +/- 25 acres - Playground/Softball/Baseball/Practice Field Complex shared with Elementary/Middle School.

For purposes of rating the quality of the parks and the amenities and equipment within the park, the consultants set up a general hierarchy of overall quality. The following gives some definition to the rating terms that were used.

Excellent - Equipment is relatively new, no major safety concerns are apparent, no broken or damaged portions are apparent; surface of play equipment does not show signs of wear or safety concerns. Overall, equipment is in a condition to be used as it was intended.

Good - Equipment is structurally sound; some minor improvements may be needed: a new coat of paint, new nets, small dents or signs of wear in equipment, etc. Equipment may be outdated, but is still used by community.

Fair - Equipment is old, outdated, and/or showing signs of more advanced wear. Parts or portions of play equipment are broken, settling has occurred making structures tilt or tip. Wood portions of play equipment show minor warping and/or splintering.

Poor - Equipment is old and outdated. Parts or portions of play equipment are completely missing; settling of equipment has made it almost unusable. Wood portions of play equipment show major warping and splintering or are broken; areas where wood is used to make the supports for structures are leaning or sagging.

The consultants also noted if parks and play equipment were accessible by the American Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and whether or not

there was available parking at the facilities. The following gives a breakdown of each of the three park areas and the general quality of each.

Ellis Larson Youth Park

Size: Approximately 1 acre.

Buildings/Enclosed Facilities: Harrisburg Public Library.

Park is completely enclosed with chain link fence.

ADAAG Accessible:

- There is an accessible path to the Library; play equipment is not ADAAG accessible.
- Play equipment has a pea-gravel/dirt mix as a play surface - not accessible.

Restroom Facilities: Men's and women's restrooms are attached to the Library.

Trash Collection: 3 trash cans - maintained weekly.

Parking: On-street parking surrounding the park.

Signage: Park name is on a sign and in good condition.

Shelter Structure: There is one semi-large covered picnic shelter with a concrete floor that is in good condition.

Picnic Tables: 7 tables in good/fair condition - may need to be repainted.

Playgrounds/Hard Surface Courts: 1 basketball court with 2 hoops - excellent/good condition, concrete surface.

Landscaping:

- Good shade trees on north side of park.
- Open grassy field area in middle of park.
- Park is maintained weekly.

Play Equipment:

- Swing set with 4 toddler seats and 2 youth seats - fair condition.
- Swing set with 6 toddler seats - fair condition.
- Wooden merry-go-round - fair/poor condition - some warping of wood
- Small metal slide - excellent condition.
- Large metal slide - good condition - some dents.
- 4 animal shaped 'bouncy' seats - fair condition.
- Quad-seat teeter-totter - good condition.



- LIST OF AMENITIES**
- Park Signage
 - Shade Trees
 - 2 Swing Sets (both youth & toddler swings)
 - 1 Merry-go-round
 - 2 Metal Slides
 - 4 Bouncy Seat
 - 1 Quad Teeter Totter
 - 1 Paved Path to Library
 - 1 Library Facility
 - Restrooms
 - 1 Picnic Shelter (7 tables)
 - 1 Basketball Court with 2 Hoops
 - Paved Area - Enclosed with fence
 - Open Field Area - Grass



HARRISBURG PARKS & TRAILS MASTER PLAN
 Ellis Larson Youth Park

Existing Park Inventory
 June 2004



Howard R. Green Company

Hugh Robinson Park

Size: Approximately ½ acre.

Buildings/Enclosed Facilities: Harrisburg City Hall/Administration Building. Park is fenced on two sides.

ADAAG Accessible: The park is not ADAAG accessible.

Restroom Facilities: There are restroom facilities in the Administration Building when it is open.

Trash Collection: 2 trash bins - maintained weekly.

Parking: On-street parking surrounding the park.

Signage: Park name is on a sign and in fair/poor condition - sign is weathered and old.

Shelter Structure: There is one covered shelter that has an enclosed portion for storage of maintenance equipment - fair/poor condition.

Picnic Tables: 3 tables in good/fair condition - may need to be repainted.

Water Source: Iron Pump.

Landscaping:

- Good shade trees throughout park.
- Moderate amount of bare spots on park lawn (due to amount of shade).
- Park grounds maintained weekly.

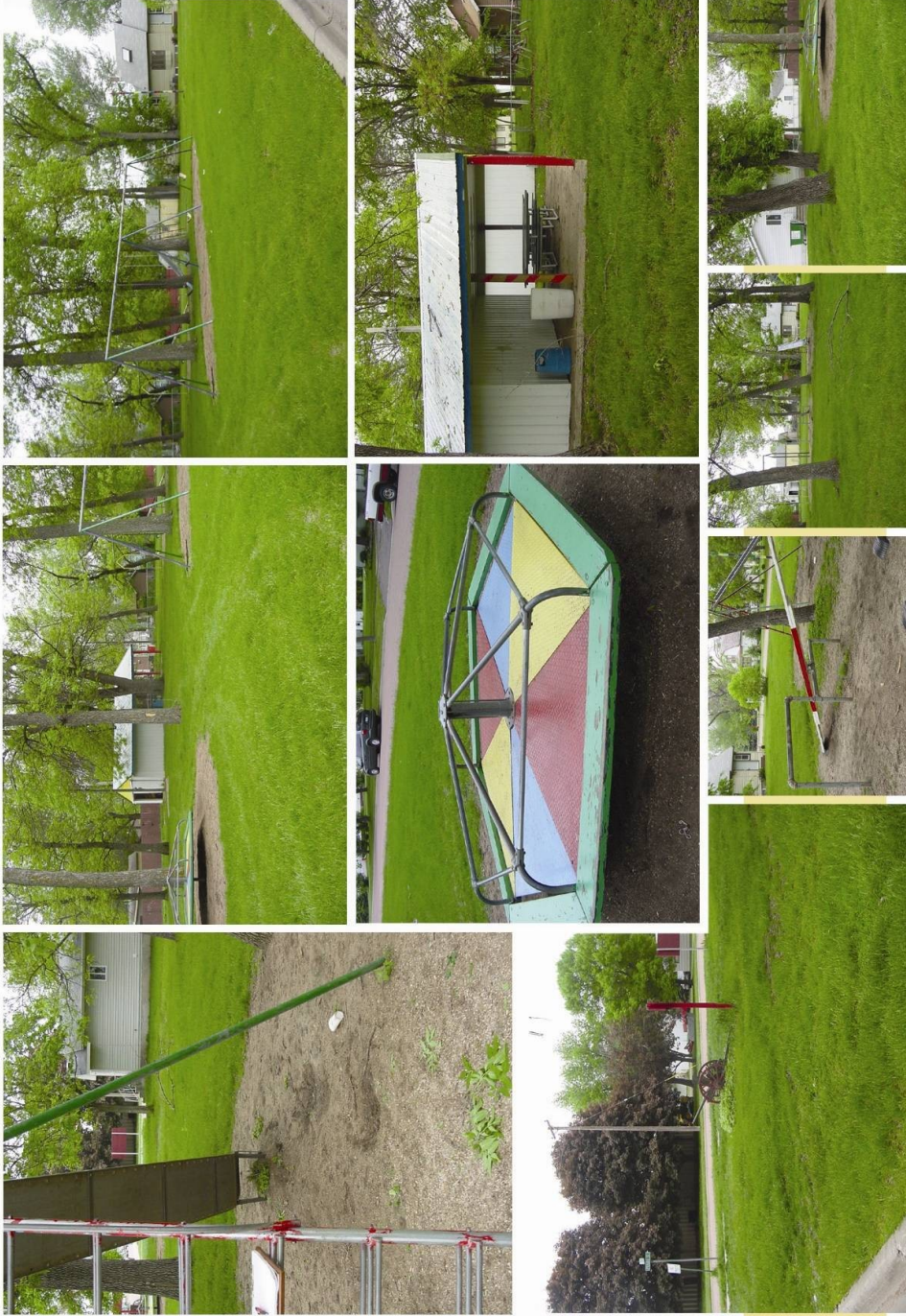
Play Equipment:

- Swing set with 5 youth seats - fair/poor condition - missing a seat, paint is chipped, swings are lopsided.
- Swing set with 2 toddler seats - fair condition.
- Wooden merry-go-round - fair condition – equipment is old/dated.
- Slide- Fair condition.
- Teeter-totter - fair/poor condition - needs new paint, connection to base is wobbly, one space is empty (needs a replacement board-seat).
- May pole - fair condition.



LIST OF AMENITIES

- Park Storage
- Shade Trees
- 1 Merry-go-round
- 1 Swing Set
- 1 Maypole
- 1 Metal Slide
- 1 See-Saw (space for another)
- 1 Set Toddler Swings
- 1 Picnic Shelter (3 tables)
- 1 Water Fountain
- Water Source / Pump
- Storage Area / (enclosed)
- Restrooms available in City Hall



HARRISBURG PARKS & TRAILS MASTER PLAN
Hugh Robinson Park

Existing Park Inventory
June 2004



Howard R. Green Company

Elementary/Middle School Grounds and Playing Fields

Size: Approximately 25 acres.

Buildings/Enclosed Facilities: Elementary/Middle School Building.

ADAAG Accessible: The blacktop playground north of the school building is accessible. The newer play structure has accessible portions - but the route to the structure is not accessible. The practice/playing fields and other play equipment are not accessible.

Restroom Facilities: There are restroom facilities in the concession stand structure at the regulation baseball field to the north of the school building. There are also 'port-o-potty' type facilities near the practice baseball fields.

*For organization purposes, the remainder of this inventory will be broken into park area sections.

Blacktop/Playground North of School

Trash Collection: No trash cans.

Parking: Gravel parking lot to the south of blacktop, parking along gravel access drive to the east of playground area.

Signage: No signage.

Shelter Structure: No shelter structure.

Seating: 2 aggregate benches.

Water Source: No water source.

Landscaping:

- Fencerow of trees along western edge of playground, good sized trees surround west, north, and east sides of playground.
- Trees are young but in good condition.
- Evergreen trees show more wear.
- The western side of the blacktop area is a large grassy practice soccer field.

Play Equipment/Court/Field Amenities:

- Surface for play equipment is a pea gravel mix – not accessible.
- 3 swing sets - good condition:
 - 1 set has 2 toddler seats and 2 youth seats.
 - 2 sets have 6 youth seats.
- 1 Landscape Structures play structure - excellent condition.
- 1 metal arch catwalk climbing structure - good condition, chipped paint.
- 1 3-level swinging bars structure - good condition, chipped paint.
- 1 cube-shaped climbing structure - good condition, chipped paint.
- 3 basketball hoops - good condition, need new nets.
- 6 tetherball poles - good condition.
- 4 hopscotch courts - good condition.
- 4 four-square courts - good condition.

Practice Field North of Playground

Trash Collection: 4 trash cans - one by each backstop.

Parking: Gravel parking lot to the south of blacktop, parking along gravel access drive to the east of playground area.

Signage: No signage.

Shelter Structure: No shelter structure.

Seating: No bleachers/seating.

Water Source: Water fountain.

Landscaping:

- No Landscaping.
- Field condition is good/fair - it is rather lumpy and there is no windbreak or other type of wind protection from the north and west.

Play Equipment/Court/Field Amenities:

- Open field is set up for the following:
 - 1 football game/practice – there are 2 goal posts.
 - 1 soccer game/practice – there are 2 goal nets.
 - 4 tee ball/coach pitch games/practices – one is set up in each corner of the field.

Northernmost Softball/Baseball Practice Field

Trash Collection: 3 trash cans.

Parking: Gravel parking lot to the north of the school building, parking along gravel access drive running between playground and ball fields.

Signage: No signage.

Shelter Structure: 2 dugout structures - fair/poor condition - crooked supports, supports not in footings, no splintering of wood.

Seating: No bleachers.

Water Source: No water source.

Landscaping:

- Some young trees along west side of field.
- Some mature trees along south side of field (between two practice fields).

Play Equipment/Court/Field Amenities:

- Field is dirt surface.
- Field is enclosed by chain link fence.

Center Baseball Practice Field

Trash Collection: 3 trash cans.

Parking: Gravel parking lot to the north of the school building, parking along gravel access drive running between playground and ball fields.

Signage: No signage.

Shelter Structure: 2 dugout structures - fair/poor condition - crooked supports, supports not in footings, no splintering of wood.

Seating: No bleachers.

Water Source: No water source.

Landscaping:

- Some mature trees along north side of field (between two practice fields).

Play Equipment/Court/Field Amenities:

- Field is granular surface.
- Field is enclosed by chain link fence.

Main Baseball Field (Southernmost Field)

Trash Collection: 4 trash cans.

Parking: Parking lot to the south of football field. Gravel parking lot to the north of the school building, parking along gravel access drive running between playground and ball fields.

Signage: Some graphic signage painted on bleachers.

Shelter Structure(s): 2 dugout structures - good condition; One concession stand structure - good condition.

Seating: 2 small sets of bleachers, one large set of bleachers with a press box on top.

Water Source: Water fountain attached to concession structure.

Play Equipment/Court/Field Amenities:

- Field is granular surface.
- Field is enclosed by chain link fence.
- 1 batting cage enclosed by netting - fair condition.
- Field is lighted for night events (total of 8 lights).

Football Field/Track

Trash Collection: number varies per event.

Parking: Gravel parking lot to the north of the school building, parking along gravel access drive running between playground and ball fields.

Signage: No signage.

Shelter Structure(s): 1 large wooden bleacher/press box structure – old/fair condition, not accessible.

Seating: 1 set small metal bleachers on 'home' side near larger wooden structure, 2 sets of 'visitor' bleachers opposite side of field.

Water Source: No water source.

Play Equipment/Court/Field Amenities:

- Field is lighted for night events.
- Asphalt running track encircles football field.
- Scoreboard.
- Long jump track and landing pit.



Trash Cans

- Playground (North of School & Blacktop)**
- Bench Seating
 - 3 Swing Sets (both toddler and older child swings)
 - 1 Large Play Structure (Landscape Structures)
 - 1 Metal Arched "Monkey Bars" Structure
 - 3 Three-level Swing Bars
 - 1 Climbing Structure

2 Practicing Soccer Fields

4 Softball / Double Field

- * Concession Stand / Restroom Facility

Blacker Sealing

- FOOTNOTES AND REFERENCES



Existing Park Inventory
June 2004

Traditional guidelines from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) state that within each community, there should be a minimum of 10 acres of parks/open spaces for every 1000 people. These standards were put into practice in 1934, but are still widely used today by planners and landscape architects in park planning and development. Within the last decade, the NRPA has recognized a need for a modification in their standard minimum requirements. They have reacted with a change in their approach and recommended guidelines for park planning and development. In a feature article for Illinois Periodicals Online, authors Richard L. Williams, MRTPI and Peter T. Dyke state,

"NRPA presents an alternative premise which states that every community has its own unique blend of social and economic characteristics that define it. Each community must be considered on an individual basis in order to tailor the most appropriate range, quantity and quality of recreational facilities within fiscal limits."

The authors go on to describe the new NRPA Systems Approach:

"The new guidelines address three particularly important social changes in the last decade:

- *The need to accommodate different cultures;*
- *The need to include citizen opinion in the process;*
- *The identification of the wellness movement.*

Most significantly, though, is a fourth change: the establishment of Level of Service standards (LOS) and the recognition that the residents of each community should be given the right to determine the size and use of land set aside for parks and recreation facilities."

For these reasons, and in order to make this Master Plan respond to the needs and desires of the community of Harrisburg, the consultants and City Staff felt it was very important to include key stakeholders as well as the general public in the initial stages of this planning process. On June 16, 2004, the consultants held two stakeholder meetings as well as an evening input session that was open to the general public. The main purpose of these meetings was to explain the Master Plan Process, discuss the existing parks and trails in Harrisburg, and identify what residents felt would improve the quality of life and recreation in their community.

The consultants started the input sessions with a brief PowerPoint presentation highlighting the existing parks in Harrisburg as well as the opportunities and recreational trends going on in other parts of the country. Next were several questions that the consultants asked the participants to get a feel for what the community wanted for the future of Harrisburg.

1. *The best or most unique recreational feature in and around Harrisburg is ____.*
2. *One of my favorite outdoor activities that I cannot currently do in Harrisburg is ____.*
3. *If I had a visiting friend or relative, I would recommend that they do ____ or go ____ on a sunny afternoon.*
4. *The most important three ingredients in developing a vibrant and livable community are ____.*
5. *The ____ area of town would be great for ____.*

For a complete graphic copy of the PowerPoint presentation and a documentation of all of the responses to the questions, please refer to the Appendix at the end of this report.

Stakeholder Session 1 -

School Principals, School Board, Athletic Directors and Coaches, Day Care Providers, Church Representatives, and FFA Representatives.

While we were not able to get representation for all of the above activities and organizations, we did get a good cross section of representatives from several of them. In summary of their responses to the questions posed to them, it was found that safety, linkages or connections, and appropriate equipment for different age groups were very important to this group. Balance was another key issue that this group touched on: balance between large and small parks, balance between play spaces for older and younger children, balance between new equipment and parks, and maintenance, improvement, and upkeep of existing parks and trails. There were also several recommendations for other types of recreational activities to include such as ice skating, sand play areas, and trail development along Nine-Mile Creek.

Stakeholder Session 2 -

City Council and Mayor, Utilities Superintendent, Police and Fire Dept., Planning and Zoning, Local Developers and Land Owners, Utility Services.

While we were not able to get representation for all of the above activities and organizations, we did get a good cross section of representatives from several of them. In summary of their responses to the questions posed to them, the focus was more on opportunities for linkages and connections between neighborhoods, improving community image, enhancing the unique elements in Harrisburg, and 'starting simple' improving what Harrisburg has in existence. This group focused more on the economic development and growth aspects of the city's Master Plan. In particular, this group listed the development of the economic core, being a kid-friendly community, a forward thinking city government, and the potential for flexibility to deal with growth as some of the most important ingredients for a successful community. The communication that sparked in this session was instrumental in setting a precedent for how the City of Harrisburg works with housing developers to benefit the community.

Stakeholder Session 3 -

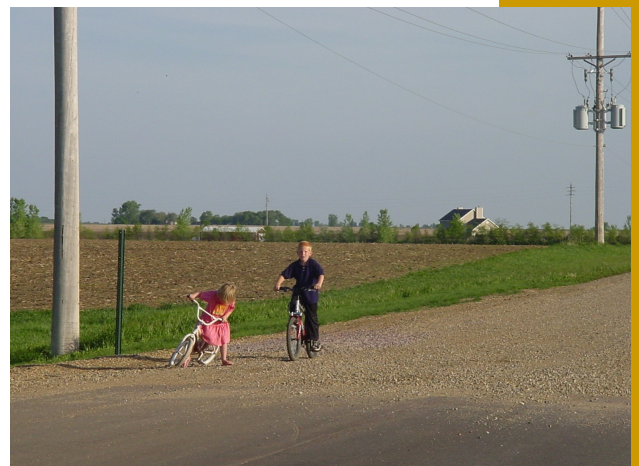
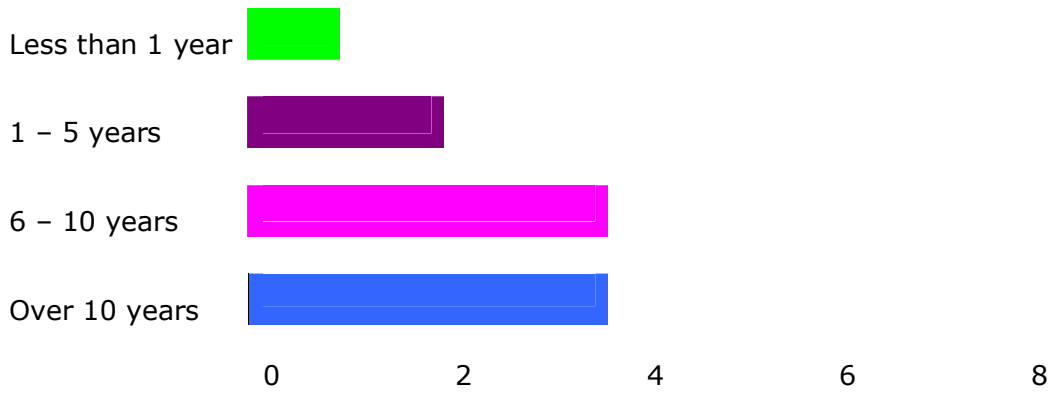
General Public

A variety of new people came to the public meeting, as well as a few others who had already participated in earlier sessions. Elements that were important to this group spanned from safety of the children, to recreational development in vacant property, to linkages and connections to and throughout Harrisburg. Of particular focus or interest were the children of the community and providing safe and entertaining recreational opportunities for them. There were also several comments about providing recreational opportunities for older citizens and nature enthusiasts. Needless to say, **VARIETY** was the magic word during this session.

Due to the fact that not all community members would be able to attend our stakeholder sessions, a survey questionnaire was created and left with the City Clerk so that other residents would be able to voice their opinions regarding the Master Plan. Several copies of the survey were handed out during the stakeholder sessions, and participants were asked to pass them along to friends and neighbors to complete and return to the consultant. There were also several copies available at the City Administration building. A dozen or so copies of the

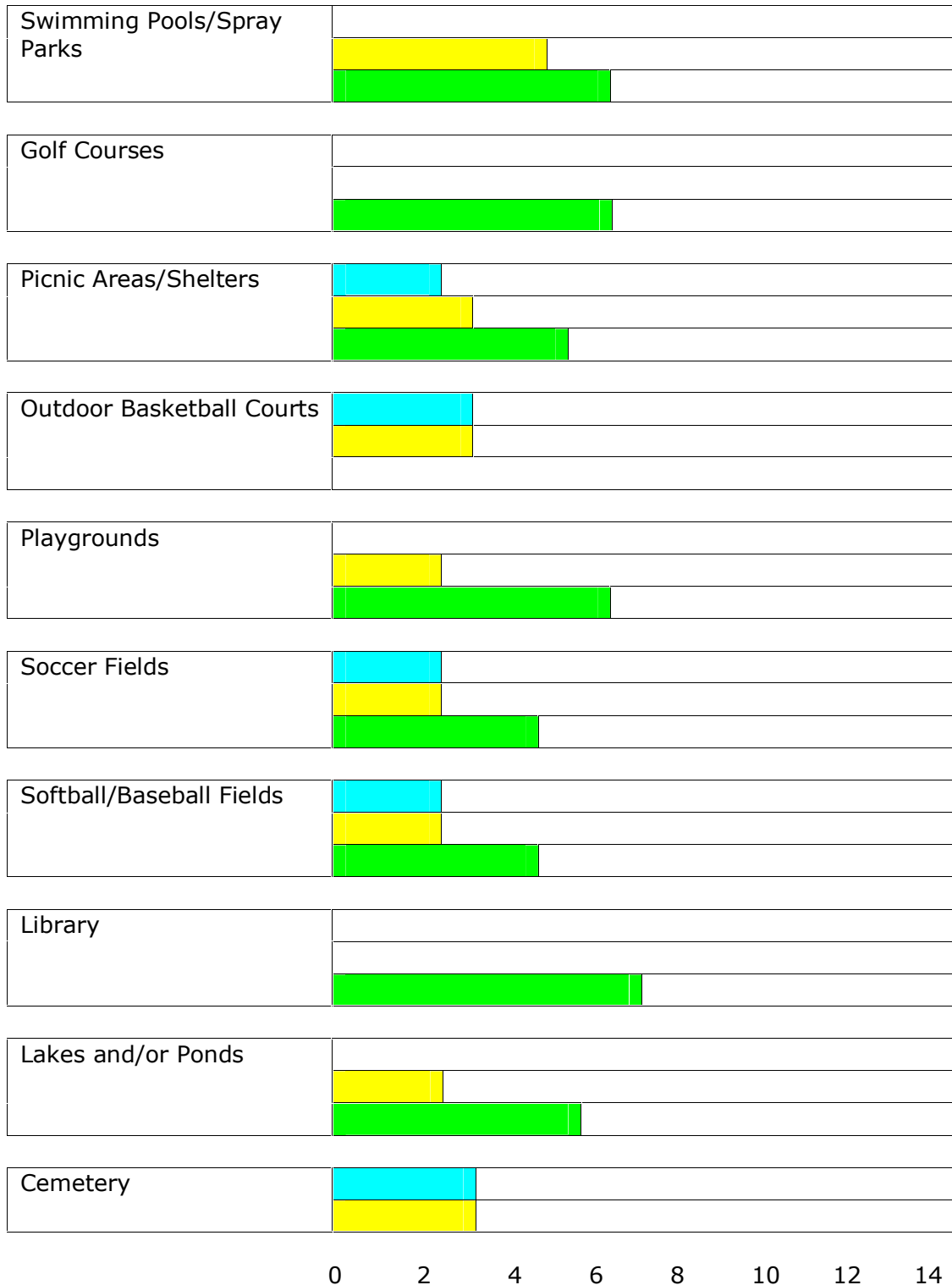
survey were returned to the consultant, and the following is a summary of the responses that were included. For a copy of the survey, please refer to the Appendix at the end of this report.

How long have you or your family lived in Harrisburg?



Identify how many times you or your family visited the following Harrisburg and surrounding facilities during the past year.

GENERAL AMENITIES: A – 1-4 Times B – 5-10 Times C – More than 10 Times



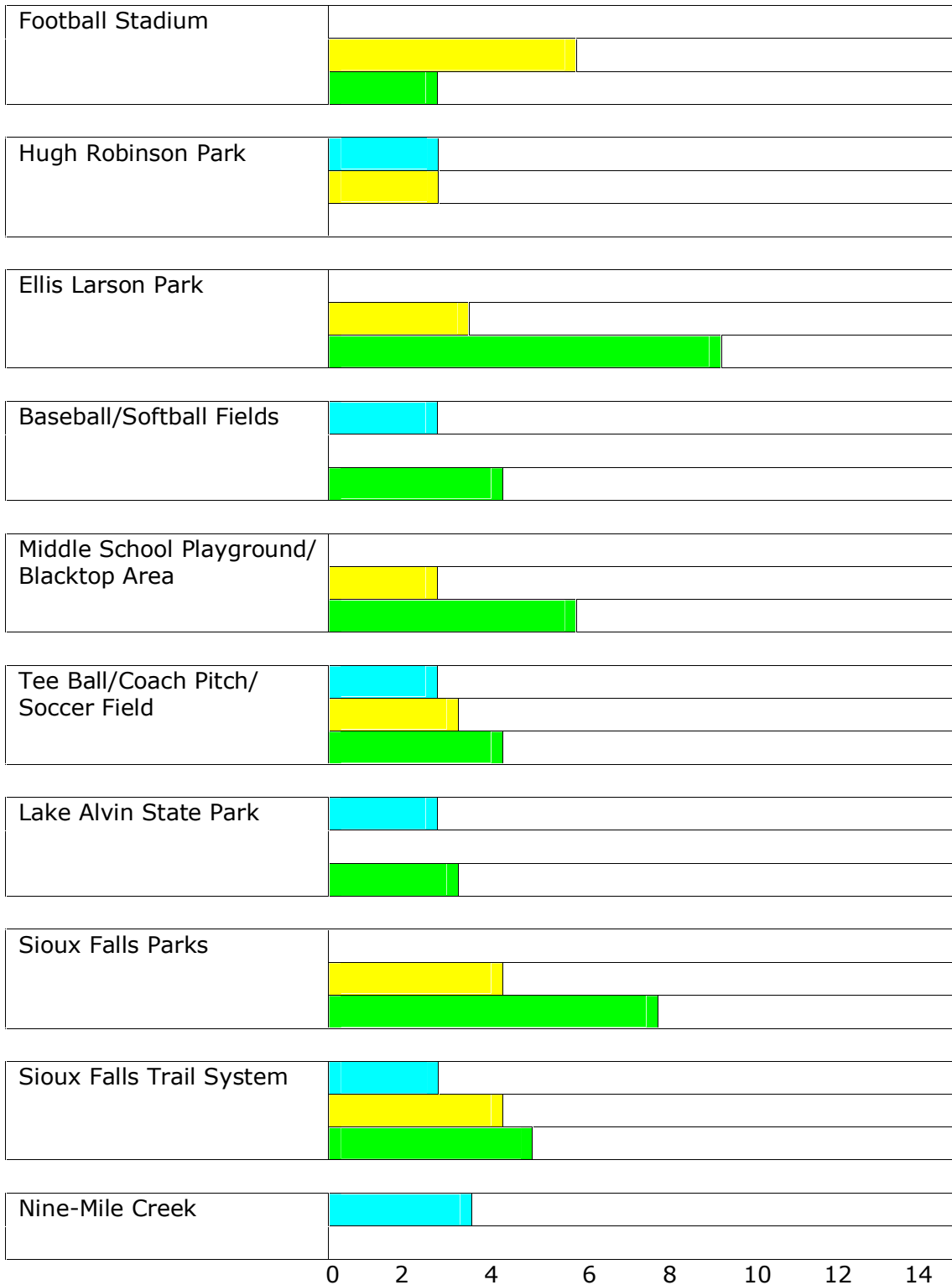
Identify how many times you or your family visited the following Harrisburg and surrounding facilities during the past year.

HARRISBURG PARKS AND NEIGHBORING PARKS/OPEN SPACES

A – 1-4 Times

B – 5-10 Times

C – More than 10 Times

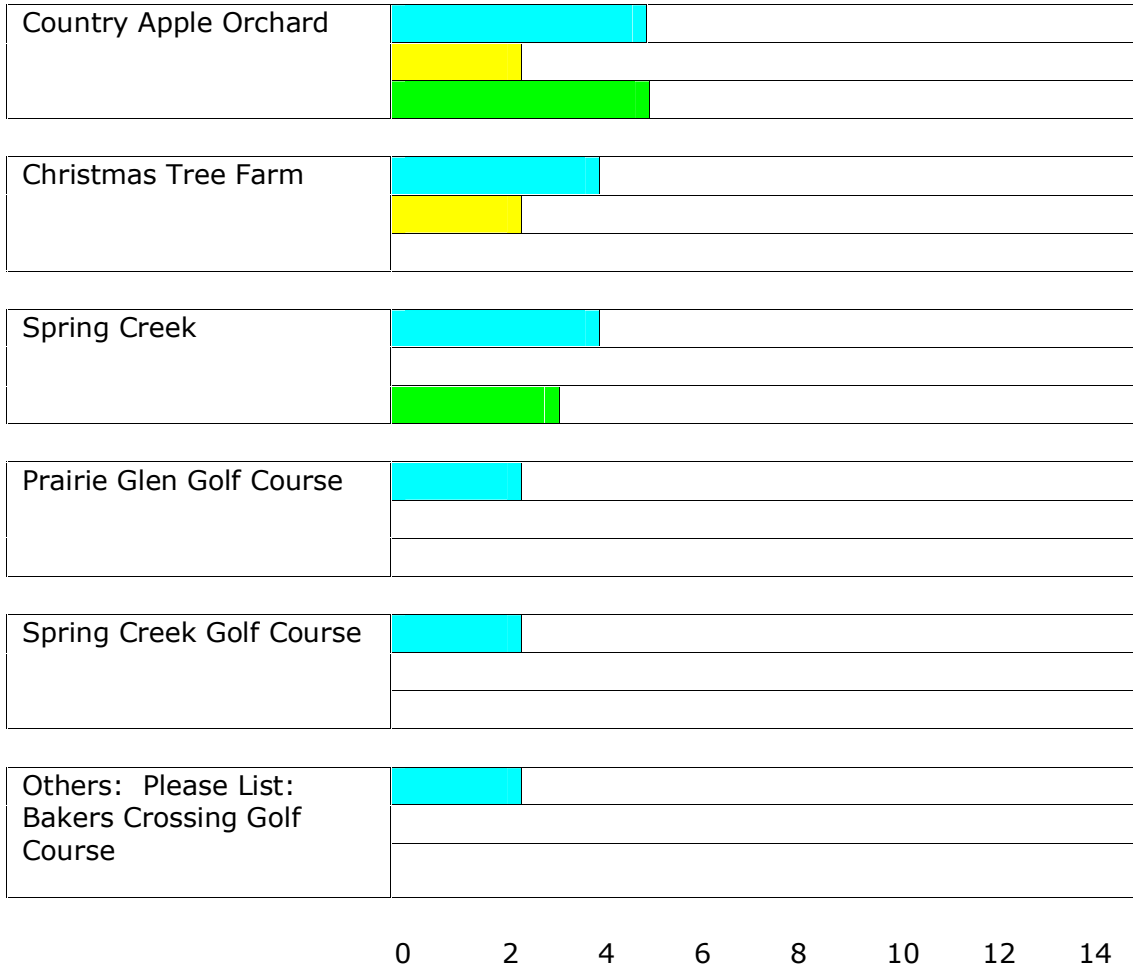


Identify how many times you or your family visited the following Harrisburg and surrounding facilities during the past year.

A – 1-4 Times

B – 5-10 Times

C – More than 10 Times

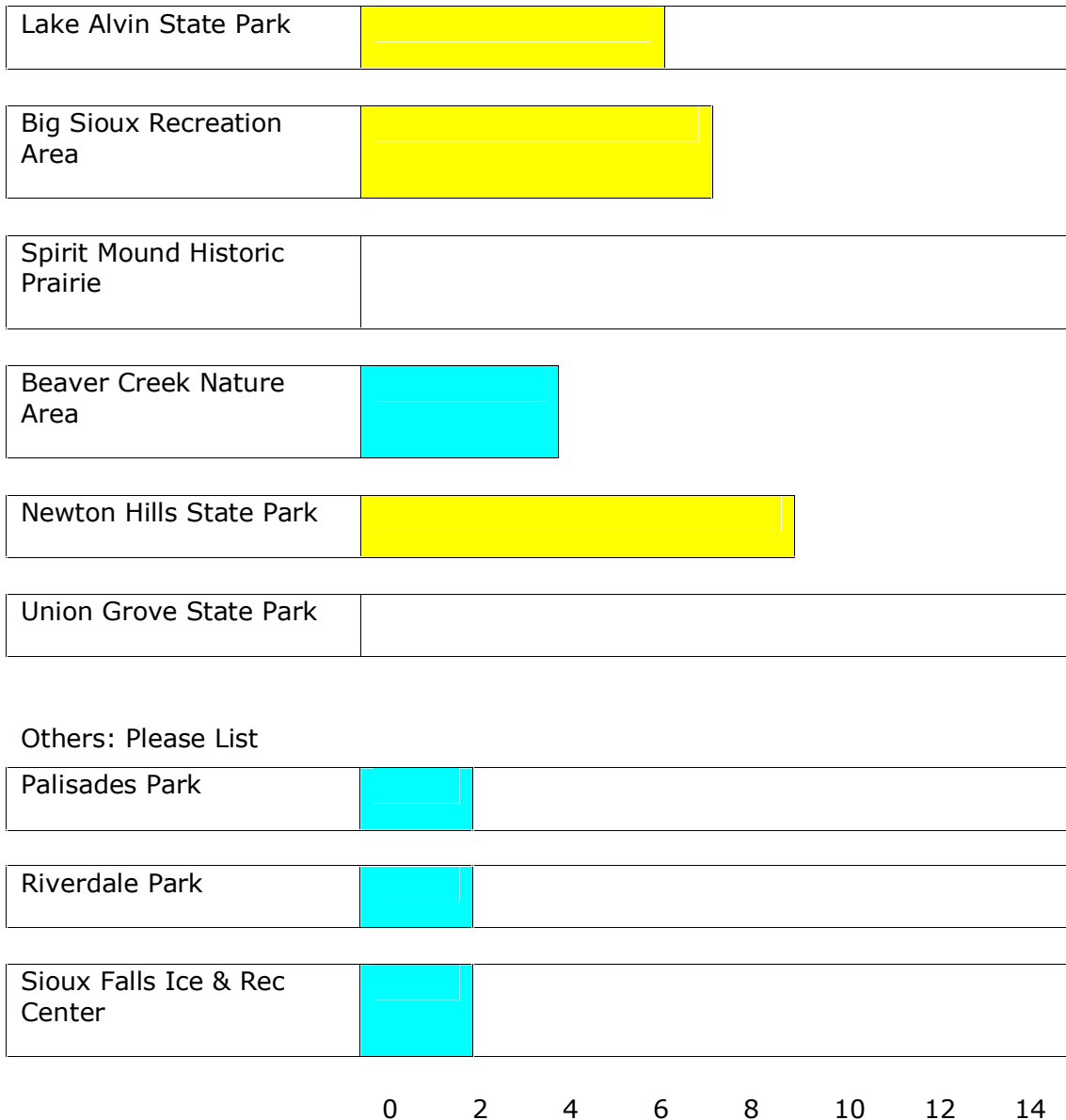


Which of the following City, County, State Parks or other Recreational Areas have you visited within the last year?

A – 1-4 Times

B – 5-10 Times

C – More than 10 Times



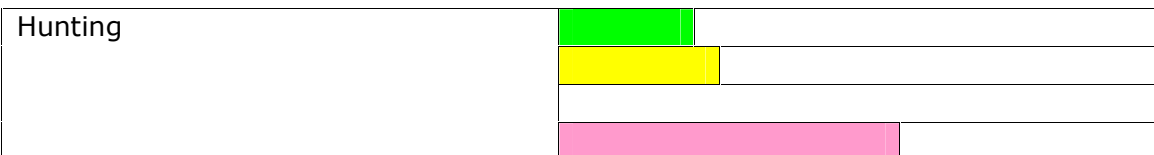
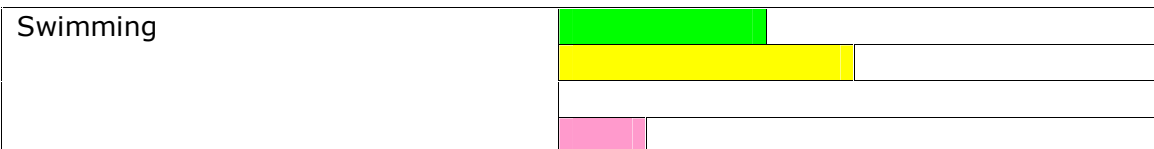
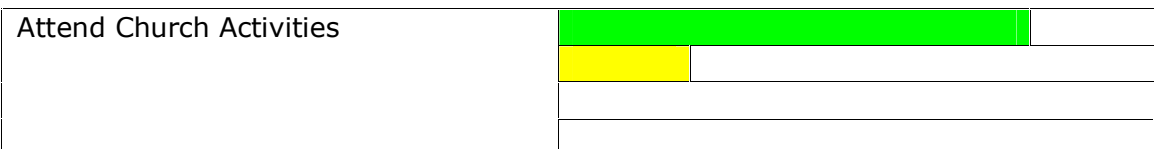
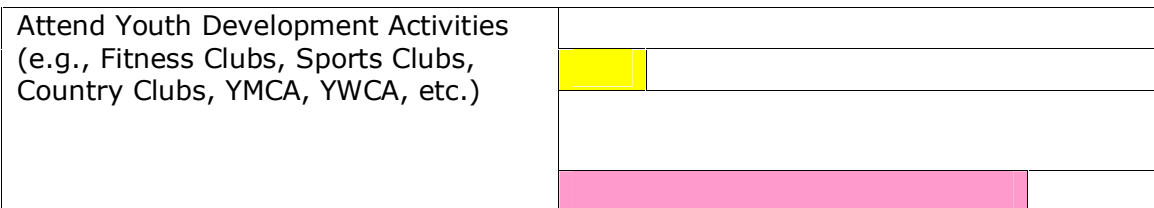
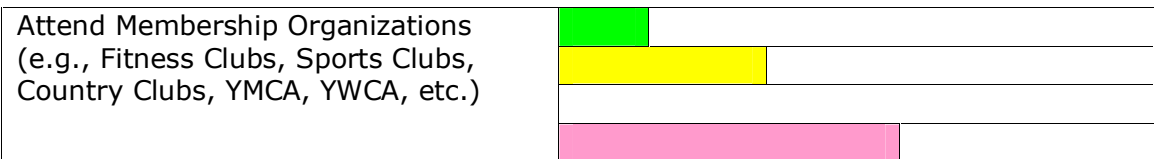
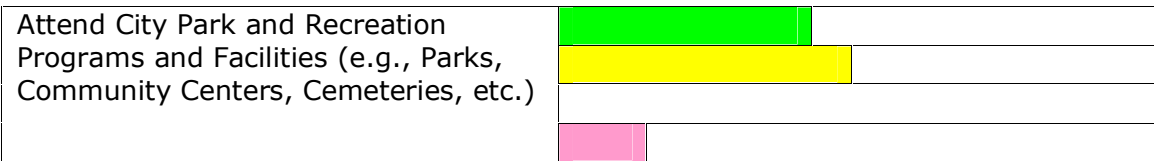
How do you or your family spend your leisure time per week?

1-5 Hours

6-10 Hours

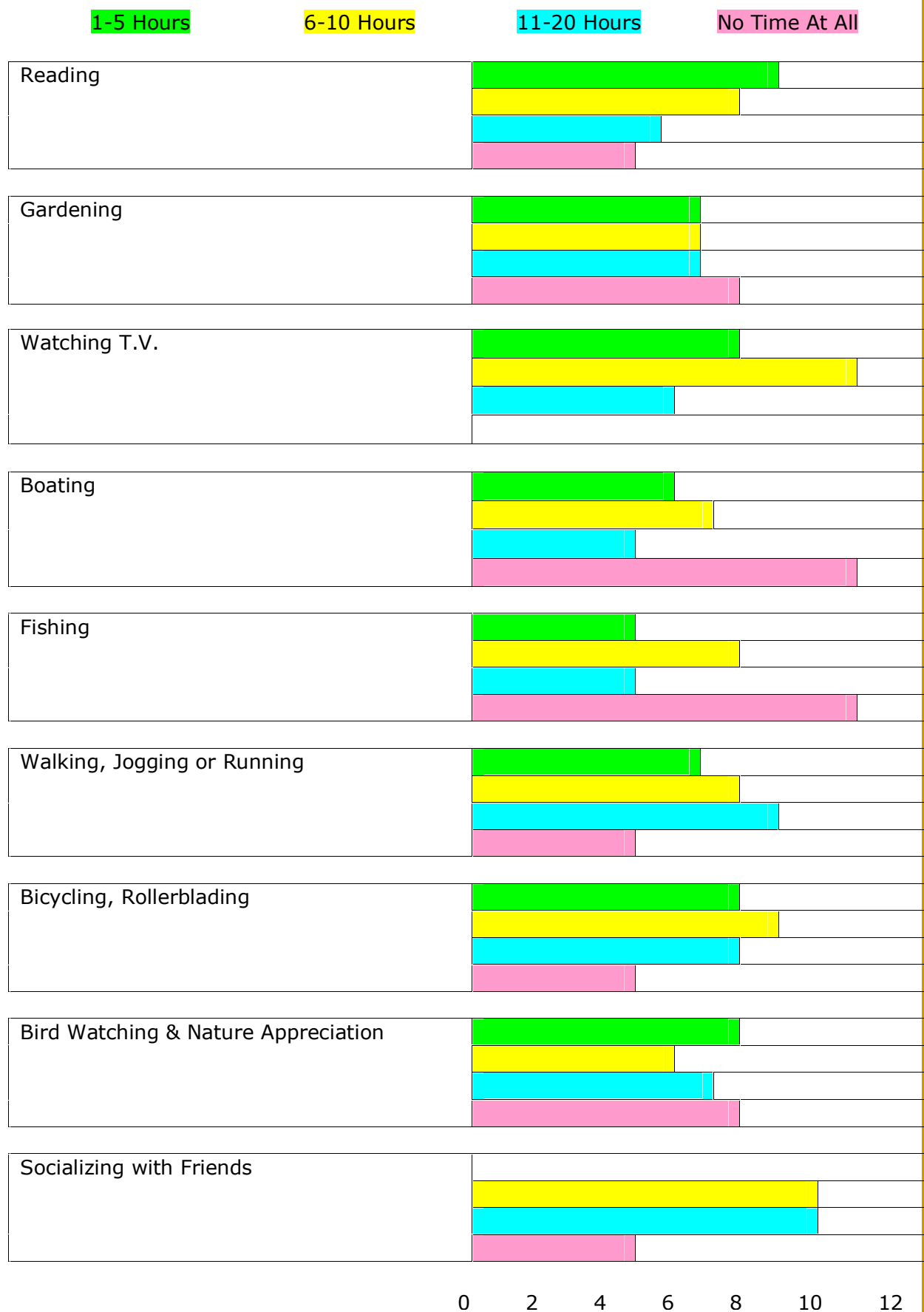
11-20 Hours

No Time At All

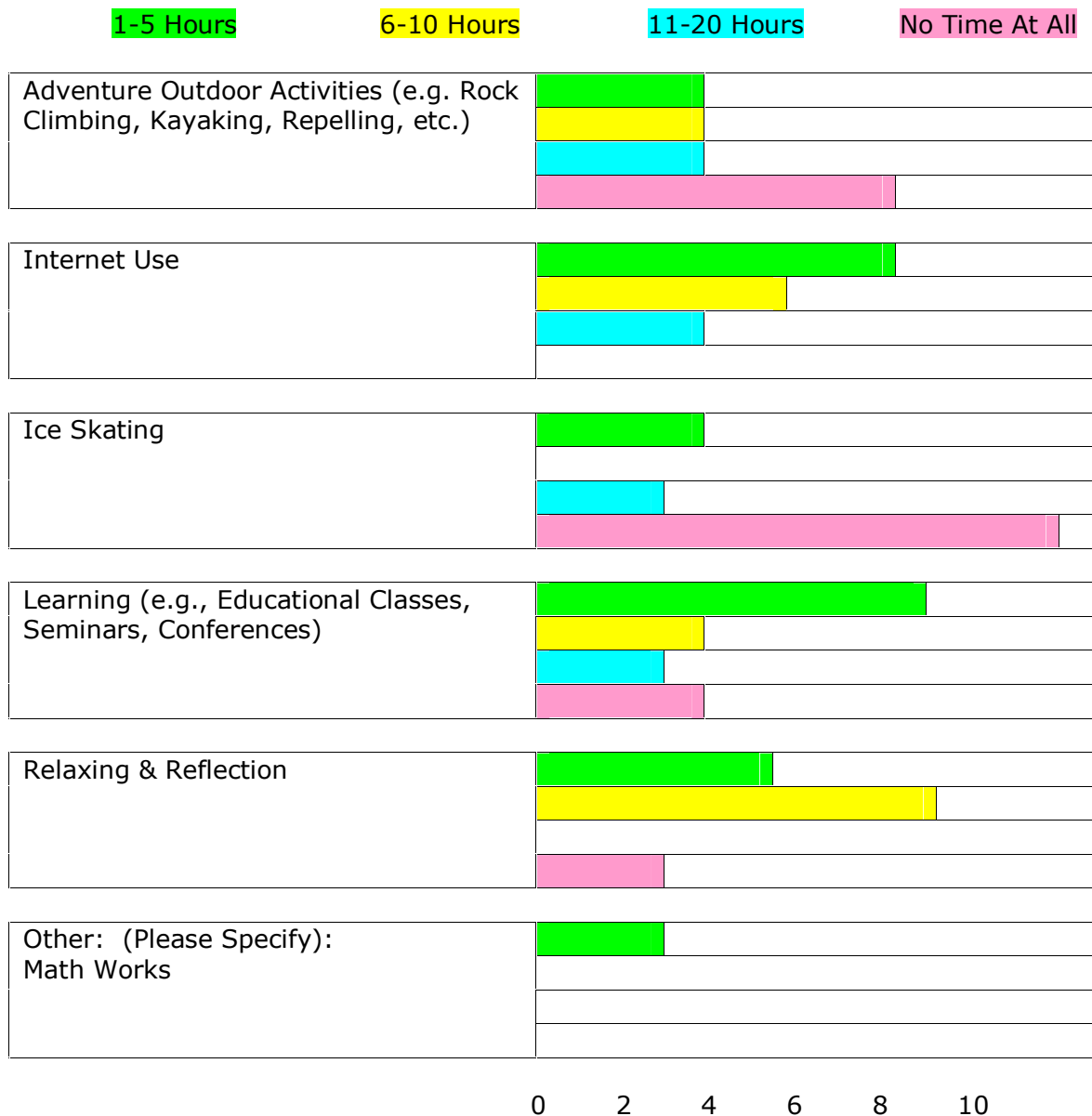


0 2 4 6 8 10 12

How do you or your family spend your leisure time per week?



How do you or your family spend your leisure time per week?



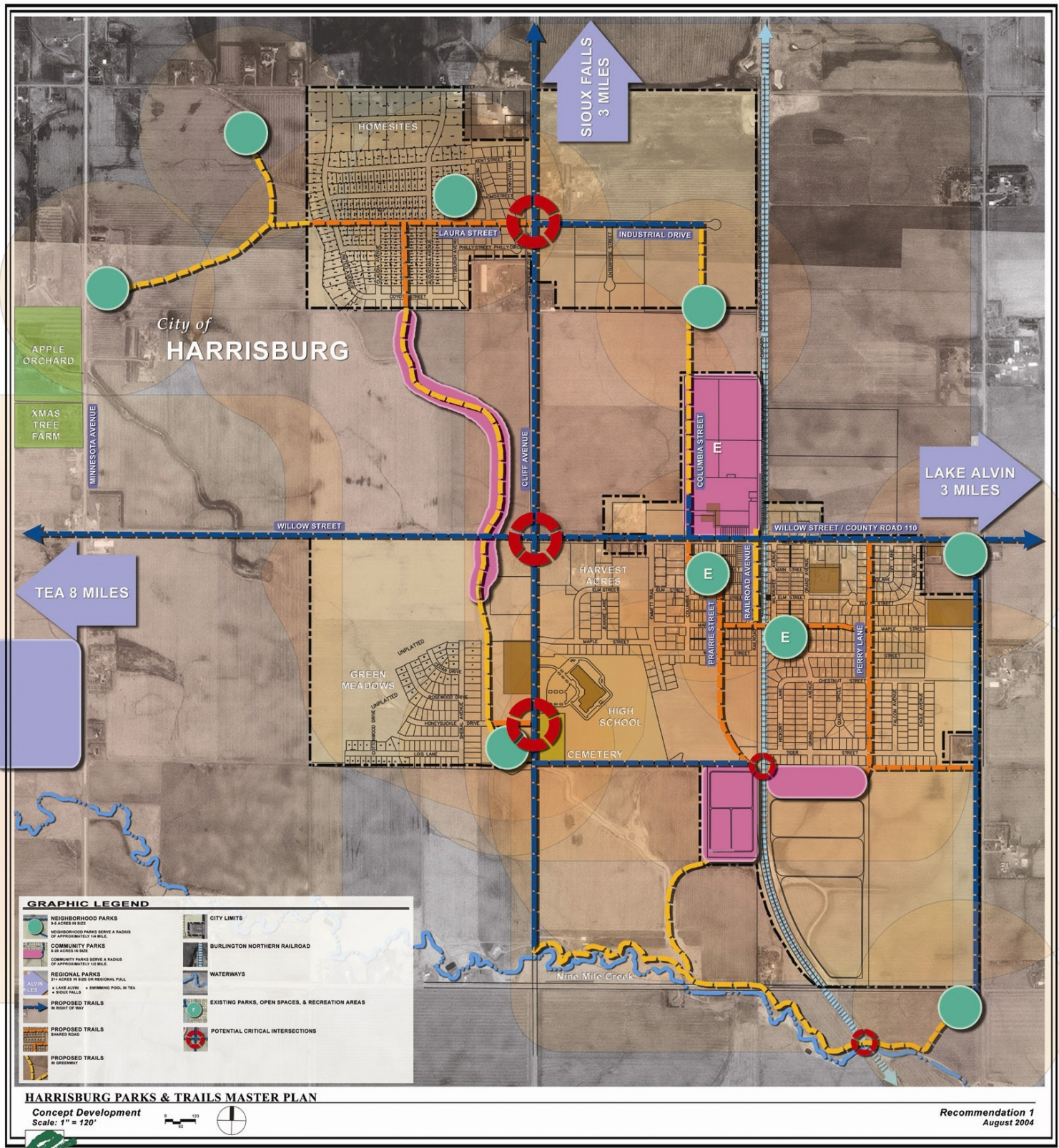
As was mentioned previously in this report, the NRPA Guidelines for Parks and Open Spaces was used to set the baseline for developing a Parks and Trails Master Plan for Harrisburg. Key components of these guidelines that were used to set up the criteria for Harrisburg's future park development were:

- Setting up a classification of park types within a community.
- Minimum requirement of at least 10 acres of parks and open space per 1000 people - as a baseline only.
- Providing parks and open spaces in locations so that the service radii for each type of park would accommodate and provide for the entire community.
- Community and public involvement in the planning process.
- Recommendation that all park development include the neighborhoods and community in the planning process to determine amenities, size, location, etc.

Hierarchy of Harrisburg's Parks, Trails and Open Spaces

In order to begin planning for future parks and open spaces in Harrisburg, it was first necessary to determine what types of parks/open spaces should be incorporated into the Master Plan. In keeping with the ideas that came out of the public meetings: Balance, Variety, Appropriateness, and Flexibility, this plan recommends a system of four (4) basic types of park spaces. A brief description of each of these types of park spaces proceeds the graphic illustration of "Recommendation 1" on the following page.





Regional Parks

Regional Parks are the largest of the parks described and recommended in this report. Ideally, they should act as a destination area to fulfill the needs of the community, draw neighboring communities, and include infrastructure to support their designated use. Regional Parks are recommended to fulfill one of the following niches in the community:

- A larger park of over 21 acres in size.
- A park of a smaller size that provides a regional pull, such as providing an amenity that is not available in the surrounding communities.

Regional Parks provide a service area of approximately 1-2 miles in radius. It is recommended that Regional Parks serve several neighborhoods and/or communities. Amenities that would be appropriately sited within a Regional Park may include:

- Natural features such as lakes, streams, or other large water bodies.
- Interpretive signage and development.
- Swimming pools, water slides, or other treated water recreation.
- Access to hike/bike trails over 5 miles in length.
- Areas of diverse environmental flora/fauna.
- Athletic complexes, sports fields, indoor recreation facilities.
- Parking, infrastructure, restroom facilities, and other service type features.
- Preferably pedestrian or bicycle access and/or linkage to multiple communities/neighborhoods. Vehicular access at a minimum.
- Areas that provide recreational opportunities in all seasons.

This plan for Harrisburg's Parks and Trails system recommends utilizing nearby Regional Parks to fulfill the large park needs of the community as much as possible. Due to the proximity of the two rather large parks and park systems described on the following pages, Harrisburg could benefit from amenities that these parks provide, without having to secure property and funding to recreate those parks within the city limits.

Lake Alvin State Park

With the lake as the main focus, and plenty of potential for trails, additional fishing docks, viewing areas, and interpretive signage; Lake Alvin has the potential to be an incredible regional resource not only for Harrisburg, but for other surrounding communities as well. Due to the parks proximity, only about 3-4 miles east of Harrisburg, this area provides an excellent opportunity for swimming, fishing, interpretation, education, and a variety of other recreational activities. At 59 acres, and with the aforementioned amenities, Lake Alvin meets the criteria for a Regional Park.

While Lake Alvin is an excellent opportunity for a Regional Park for Harrisburg, there are more needs that should be met in order to successfully connect the community to the park. First, it is recommended that a pedestrian/bicycle connection be created to allow members of the community to safely reach Lake Alvin. The most logical connection would be a trail connection along County Road 110. Second, it is recommended that additional trails be planned and implemented around at least one side of the lake to allow users to fully experience all that the lake has to offer. For more information on the recommended trail connection, refer to the section on Trails later in this report. Upon successful introduction of a circulation system to and through Lake Alvin State Park, it is recommended that the community look at working with the Park's staff at Lake Alvin to implement additional projects around the lake, such as a system of directional and interpretive signage, small seating areas including

trash cans, benches, bike racks, etc. Also, the creation of additional fishing areas as warranted by increased use of the lake. Finally, it is recommended that all plans and concepts be discussed fully with the Park's staff, South Dakota DNR, County Engineering Department, and other involved agencies so that all concerned parties are working together to arrive at a solution that will meet everyone's needs.

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Unconventional though it may be, Sioux Falls offers a wealth of recreational opportunities for the citizens of Harrisburg. Since the city is a mere 3 miles north of Harrisburg, the parks and trails system of Sioux Falls is within a reasonable distance to be used by the community. Sioux Falls trail system includes about 20 miles of trails, and connects visitors to parks and attractions such as Falls Park, Great Bear Recreation Park, and the Great Plains Zoo. Due to the proximity of this community and its recreational resources to Harrisburg, the City of Sioux Falls is recommended as a second Regional Park.

The key to utilizing Sioux Falls as a Regional Park resource is providing a safe connection from Harrisburg to Sioux Falls. In order for the community of Harrisburg to take advantage of the resources in Sioux Falls; and in order for the citizens of Sioux Falls to experience the 'small town' more rural characteristics of Harrisburg, it is recommended that Harrisburg plan and implement a pedestrian/bicycle connection to Sioux Falls. It is recommended that this trail connection be implemented as part of the widening of Cliff Avenue that runs north south through Harrisburg. A secondary layer to the physical connection between Harrisburg and Sioux Falls is to include directional and potentially interpretive signage as part of the trail system. It is recommended that trail users be informed of distances and sites that are available both in Sioux Falls, and in Harrisburg in order to promote both communities and use the trail connection as a tourism enhancing resource. For more information on the recommended trail connection along Cliff Avenue, please refer to the section on Trails later in this report. Finally, it is recommended that all plans and concepts be discussed fully with the City of Sioux Falls, South Dakota DNR, South Dakota DOT, County Engineering Department, and other involved agencies, so that all concerned parties are working together to arrive at a solution that will meet everyone's needs.

Proposed 40 Acre Park

A third and final Regional Park is recommended for the City of Harrisburg. For this park, it is recommended that Harrisburg locate the park very close to the City so that at least one of the City's Regional Park resources is within walking distance to a good portion of the community. The site recommended by this Master Plan is west of town south of the intersection of Willow Street and Minnesota Avenue. This location is approximate for planning purposes only. As additional property is annexed into the city limits, housing develops in this area of the city, or as property becomes available in or outside of the city limits, the location of this proposed park might be adjusted. This corner of the community is recommended due to the other two Regional Park resources being located to the north and east of the community. Also, due to the new housing developments on the west side of Cliff Avenue, and the new High School located on the south side of town, this location offers a Regional recreation resource for these areas in the community. Locating a Regional Park in this area of town balances out a 'triangle' of sorts for the Regional Park Resources for Harrisburg.

Due to the flourishing trend of organized sports both in Harrisburg, and in the region, it is recommended that this Regional Park take on an organized sports base as its main component. A combination of regulation soccer and

softball/baseball fields along with concession and restroom facilities could anchor the park. In addition, it is recommended that an indoor, multi-purpose facility be included for indoor recreation games and opportunities. This indoor facility could be used as a rental facility as well to help support operations and maintenance costs. As secondary recreational resources, it is recommended that trail connections tie this proposed park to the community so that safe access is provided to this park. It is also recommended that smaller areas be offered throughout the 40 acres to allow for viewing, picnics, and play areas in conjunction with the organized sports. Infrastructure, utility connection, parking, and directional signage are all components that should be implemented with the planning of this proposed park.

As is the case with all of the parks proposed in this plan, it is strongly recommended that the planning of this park be done by a partnership of City staff and community members, so that the needs of the community are addressed, and the proposed park supplies the resources that the community desires. In addition, the park must be planned so that it can be maintained efficiently either by the City or a partnership of public and private entities.



Community Parks

Community Parks are recommended to provide parks/open spaces that are between 5-20 acres in size.

Community Parks provide a service area of approximately 1/2 mile in radius. It is recommended that Community Parks serve several neighborhoods within one community. Amenities that would be appropriately sited within a Community Park may include:

- Areas for organized or structured recreational activities such as baseball/softball, soccer, football, tennis or combinations of several of the aforementioned activities.
- Areas for enjoyment, interpretation, and appreciation of nature such as greenbelts, picnic areas, bird-watching areas, native plant restoration, etc.
- Areas that are easily accessible to the entire community.
- Areas that may be developed in conjunction with community school development.
- Areas that may include play equipment for a variety of age/use groups within one park.
- Areas that may include an indoor community recreation facility and parking/infrastructure that would support it.
- Areas that provide recreational opportunities in all seasons.

This Master Plan for the Parks and Trails in Harrisburg recommends the incorporation of a total of three (3) Community Parks within the City limits. It is recommended that these parks are planned with input from the community, school district, and other involved parties, and implemented as the community grows and new land becomes available and is acquired; and as new property is annexed into the City limits. The plan also recommends utilizing existing Community Parks to fulfill the needs of the community as much as possible. The following is a description of existing and proposed community parks within the City of Harrisburg.

Elementary/Middle School Complex

The approximate size and current recreational uses of the playground and ball fields north and east of the Elementary/Middle School Complex meet the requirements for designation as a Community Park in Harrisburg.

It is recommended that the City of Harrisburg work with the school district and community to plan for and implement repairs and maintenance to older equipment and structures that reside in this park area. It is also recommended that wherever possible, and as funding resources present themselves, the City work with the school district and community to provide ADAAG access to all fields, play areas, equipment, and seating areas. Finally, it is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Community Park to other neighborhoods, Neighborhood Parks, and other areas of town. For more information on proposed trail alignments, please refer to the Trails section later in this report.

Southeast Community Park #1

A second Community Park is recommended for the City of Harrisburg, to be located on the southeast side of town. The area recommended by this Master Plan is the rectangular plot of land, located on the north side of the wastewater treatment lagoons. The size of this area meets the requirements for a Community Park. The native habitat currently residing in the area, make this an excellent candidate for a more passive recreational resource. It is recommended

that the following recreational uses be included in the planning of this proposed Community Park:

- Native prairie and wetland education, interpretation, and appreciation.
- Bird-watching and appreciation of other native species.
- Walking path.
- Seating/viewing areas.
- Directional, information, and interpretive signage.

Southeast Community Park #2

Another Community Park is recommended on the southeast side of Harrisburg. The site of the old wastewater treatment lagoons is property currently under ownership of the City of Harrisburg; therefore, allows for park development without having to purchase additional property or wait for property to become available. With this site's proximity to the aforementioned environmentally-oriented Community Park, this park could provide amenities to compliment the more passive use park east of the railroad. The two could work in conjunction to offer community members different recreational alternatives. It is recommended that the following amenities and uses be considered for inclusion in the development of this park:

- Vehicle parking.
- Play structure(s) - with a focus on toddlers and children.
- Sand/Water play structures to introduce children to environmental and nature related topics.
- Picnic/seating areas.
- Open field play areas.
- Larger picnic/gazebo structure for event rental.
- Trailhead access, parking, and information for trails connecting into park.
- Potential support facilities/structures for future recreation development in the area: i.e. Nine-Mile Creek Trail, Golf Course development, environmental education/nature park development, etc.

Providing these two parks in such close proximity allows multiple park uses within one recreational area, thus serving a variety of the needs of the neighbors and residents on this side of town. Providing both types of park uses will also help to introduce new park experiences to those who come to these Community Parks.

Westside Community Greenbelt Park

The third Community Park recommended by this Master Plan is to provide recreational opportunities, on a larger scale, for the residents on the west side of Cliff Avenue. In order to provide a different type of recreational experience than what has been described in the aforementioned Community Parks, it is recommended that this Community Park take on a linear park form. A "greenbelt" is a linear park space, usually running adjacent and/or parallel to a recreational trail. It is recommended that a recreational trail and greenbelt park be planned and implemented along the existing drainage way west of Cliff Avenue from the southern edge of the Harrisburg Homesites Development at Coyote and Augustana Streets, south to an area approximately 600 feet south of Willow Street (as shown on the Recommendation 1 graphic). This linear park would not only provide a safe path for children and adults to walk or bike from the housing developments on the north side of town, to the housing developments, potential parks, and new High School on the south side of town. The bridge at Willow Street appears to allow enough clearance that the trail and greenbelt could pass underneath that bridge, rather than have to provide a signalized at-grade crossing. This underpass concept would need to be researched further. It is recommended that the following recreational uses be included in the planning of this proposed Community Park.

- 10' wide, paved, recreational trail.

- Small seating, resting, and interpretive 'nodes' or enlarged areas along the trail.
- Directional, distance, and interpretive signage.
- Approximately 20'-50' easement of land to allow for a variety of landscape experiences, as well as to screen from possible future development on either side of the greenbelt.

It is recommended that the City of Harrisburg work with the community, school district, County, DOT, and any other interested parties to ensure that this greenbelt is planned and implemented according to city, state, county, and federal guidelines and regulations.



Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are recommended to provide parks/open spaces that are between 0.1-5 acres in size.

Neighborhood Parks provide a service area of approximately 1/4 mile in radius. It is recommended that neighborhood parks serve 1 to 2 neighborhoods within one community. Amenities that would be appropriately sited within a neighborhood park may include:

- Specific amenities that serve a concentrated area of the community.
- Amenities may be repeated in several neighborhood parks so that residents do not have to cross town to get to a specific recreational opportunity.
- Small areas of water play such as wading pools or spray parks.
- Specialized areas of play/recreation equipment such as skate parks, ice skating rinks, trail head parks, or sand play.
- Areas for appreciation/interpretation of nature on a small scale such as perennial gardens, community gardens, butterfly gardens, water gardens, bird/wildlife watching, etc.
- Areas for specific events such as band shells, amphitheaters, stage and seating areas, and picnics/barbeques, rental facilities, lodge, etc.
- Areas that include suitable and appropriate play equipment for ages of children being served.
- Playgrounds/hard surfaced areas for both organized and impromptu court play.
- Dog parks or dog walking paths.
- Areas that act as a park-like entryway or gateway into a neighborhood or community access point.
- Areas for passive recreation such as Frisbee Golf or Tai Chi.
- Areas that provide recreational opportunities in all seasons.

This Master Plan for the Parks and Trails in Harrisburg recommends the incorporation of a total of nine (9) Neighborhood Parks. It is recommended that these parks are planned with input from the community, school district, and other involved parties, and implemented as the community grows and new land becomes available and is acquired; and as new property is annexed into the city limits. The plan also recommends utilizing existing parks to fulfill the needs of the community as much as possible. Currently, there are two (2) existing parks that meet the aforementioned guidelines for a neighborhood park. The following is a description of existing and proposed community parks within the City of Harrisburg.

Ellis Larson Youth Park

The approximate size and current recreational uses of the Ellis Larson Youth Park and Library site meet the requirements for designation as a Neighborhood Park on the southeast side Harrisburg.

It is recommended that the City of Harrisburg work with the community to plan for and implement replacement, repairs, and maintenance of older and outdated equipment and structures that reside in this park area. This joint task force of City and community participants, should work together to identify new types of play equipment that is in line with current recreational trends and also age-appropriate for the children who frequent this park. At a minimum, it is recommended that a new play structure, similar to the structure at the elementary/middle school, be planned for this park, as well as replacements for equipment that has been identified in the inventory section of this report as being in fair or poor condition. It is also recommended that wherever possible, and as

funding resources present themselves, the City work with the community to provide ADAAG access to play areas, equipment, and seating areas. Finally, it is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Neighborhood Park to other Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks. For more information on proposed trail alignments, please refer to the Trails section later in this report.

Several options for new types of play equipment and/or play areas present themselves as suitable for this park. Due to its proximity to the Library, and the younger age of children that use the park, the following is a list of potential types of recreational activities that could be implemented in Ellis Larson Park:

- Pre-fabricated play structure with safety surface and ADAAG Accessibility.
- Sand/Water Play area - could be designed as part of the proposed play structure.
- Small wading pool, or small zero depth spray park area.
- Area for ice skating and other winter activities.
- Partially or completely enclose existing shelter for use as arts and crafts area, day-camp type activities, or small changing room for proposed wading pool/spray park in the warmer months; and a warming shelter in the colder months.
- Small designated parking area located on the south side of the park property, to allow for vehicular access during the colder months or for community members who are from other parts of town.
- Bike racks for bike parking.

Hugh Robinson Park

The approximate size and current recreational uses of Hugh Robinson Park meet the requirements for designation as a Neighborhood Park on the east central side of Harrisburg.

It is recommended that the City of Harrisburg work with the community to plan for and implement replacement, repairs, and maintenance of older and outdated equipment and structures that reside in this park area. This joint task force of City and community participants, should work together to identify new types of play equipment that is in line with current recreational trends and also age-appropriate for the children who frequent this park. At a minimum, it is recommended that a new play structure, similar to the structure at the elementary/middle school, be planned for this park, as well as replacements for equipment that have been identified in the inventory section of this report as being in fair or poor condition. It is also recommended that wherever possible, and as funding resources present themselves, the City work with the community to provide ADAAG access to play areas, equipment, and seating areas. Finally, it is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Neighborhood Park to other Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks. For more information on proposed trail alignments, please refer to the Trails section later in this report.

Several options for new types of play equipment and/or play areas present themselves as suitable for this park. Due to the central location of the park within the city and the variety of ages of children and youth that use the park, it is recommended that a variety of activities be planned within the park; the following is a list of potential types of recreational activities that could be implemented in Ellis Larson Park:

- Pre-fabricated play structure that combines several different age-appropriate activities and components to satisfy the needs of various ages of park users. These structures should include a plan for safety surface and ADAAG Accessibility.
- New park shelter with areas for potential arts/crafts activities, day camp, and boy scout/girl scout activities, etc.

- Benches, gathering areas, or other sitting, visiting, and viewing areas for parents watching small children, children meeting other children to play, or teens gathering for social interaction.
- ADAAG accessible path to and through the park.
- Bike racks for bike parking.

Neighborhood Park Near Cemetery at City Limits and Cliff Avenue

Due to this areas proximity to the new housing developments on the southwest side of town, the new High School complex, and the cemetery, it is recommended that a Neighborhood Park be located in this vicinity to provide open space and recreational opportunities. This particular park could not only offer a variety of recreational activities, it also acts as an entry way or gateway into the Green Meadows Housing Development. Because of its location directly across Cliff Avenue from the Cemetery, it would also provide a balance to the green space that the Cemetery offers, and the pair of open spaces begin to form a southern gateway into the community on Cliff Avenue.

It is recommended that the City work with the School, Green Meadows Housing Development, and other community members to plan what types of park components would fit within this park. Because of the proximity to the High School, this park should offer amenities and activities that appeal to an older age of children. Such amenities may include:

- Basketball and/or tennis courts.
- Seating areas - both shaded and open.
- Skate park components.
- Frisbee Golf.
- Water fountain.

Because of the proximity of this site to the Green Meadows Housing Development, the park should also appeal to the variety of ages of children that live in the nearby development. Amenities that would appeal to a wider variety of children may include:

- Pre-fabricated play structure.
- Court play areas.
- Walking/biking paths.
- Open field play areas.
- Water fountain.

Lastly, due to the higher visibility of this park along Cliff Avenue and directly across from the Cemetery, it should also include site amenities and landscaping that enhance its appearance as a gateway into the community and neighborhood. Such amenities may include:

- Perennial and annual gardens.
- Overstory and flowering trees.
- Informational and interpretive signage and/or sculpture.
- Access to water for maintenance of plant material.
- Small storage facility for maintenance equipment.

It is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Neighborhood Park to the High School, Green Meadows Housing Development, and other Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks. For more information on proposed trail alignments, please refer to the Trails section later in this report.

Southside Neighborhood Park at the Intersection of 476th Avenue and City Limits

It is recommended that planning for the components and amenities in this park wait until further indication of development in the surrounding area is known.

Due to probable expansion of the community in this direction, as well as the lack of parks and open spaces in the far southeast portion of the community, this location has the potential to fulfill several recreational needs within the adjacent neighborhoods. Located on the southern boundary of the City, this location also provides the community with another southern gateway-type park, announcing to residents and visitors alike that they have entered the City of Harrisburg.

Amenities that would enhance the gateway nature of this park may include:

- Perennial and annual gardens.
- Overstory and flowering trees.
- Informational and interpretive signage and/or sculpture.
- Access to water for maintenance of plant material.

It is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Neighborhood Park to Nine-Mile Creek, other Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks in the area. For more information on proposed trail alignments, please refer to the Trails section later in this report.

Eastside Neighborhood Park at the Intersection of Willow Street and 476th Avenue

It is recommended that a small trailhead-type park be located in this area to support the proposed trail connection to Lake Alvin. With an increase in the amount of residents using this route to Lake Alvin, the need for directional/distance signage, parking, and seating/resting areas becomes more necessary. In addition, with the potential of more tourists coming to Harrisburg and using this trail connection, there is an excellent opportunity to promote the nearby downtown Harrisburg area and all that it has to offer, or will have to offer once further developed. Attractions such as ice cream parlors, bar and grill establishments, antiques and specialty shops, and hotels or bed and breakfast facilities could be within a few blocks of this proposed park. The partnership of the recreational activities and tourism activities has the potential to boost the economy, atmosphere, and image of Harrisburg. Amenities that would be suitable for this trailhead/park may include:

- Bicycle and vehicle parking.
- Directional, distance and interpretive signage (both for trail and downtown Harrisburg).
- Seating areas.
- Trash collection.
- Water fountains.
- Restroom facilities.
- Open field/space for gatherings, events, bike rides, fun runs, organized activities, etc.

Neighborhood Park Near Country Apple Orchard on Western Avenue

It is recommended that planning for the components and amenities in this park wait until further indication of development in the surrounding area is known. Due to probable expansion of the community, as well as the lack of parks and open spaces in the far northwest portion of the community, this location has the potential to fulfill several recreational needs for the adjacent neighborhoods. Located on the northwestern boundary of the City, this location also provides the community with a northern gateway-type park, announcing to residents and visitors alike that they have entered the City of Harrisburg. Due to the proximity of the existing Country Apple Orchard, tree species, amenities, or other park components could play off the forms and patterns already occurring in the area. Amenities that would enhance the gateway nature of this park may include:

- Perennial and annual gardens.
- Overstory, flowering, or fruit trees.
- Informational and interpretive signage and/or sculpture.

- Access to water for maintenance of plant material.

It is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Neighborhood Park to other Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks in the area. For more information on proposed trail alignments, please refer to the Trails section later in this report.

Neighborhood Park West of Harrisburg Homesites Development

It is recommended that planning for the components and amenities in this park wait until further indication of development in the surrounding area is known. Due to probable expansion of the community, as well as the lack of parks and open spaces in the far northwest portion of the community, this location has the potential to fulfill several recreational needs for the adjacent neighborhoods. This park is not adjacent to any major roads and access could be somewhat limited and protected. Therefore, it is recommended that the City work with the community and residents of future housing developments in the area to identify specialized park activities that could take place here that may flourish in a more protected environment, or an environment where the residents of the adjacent neighborhoods take more ownership and responsibility for the upkeep and maintenance of the Neighborhood Park. Amenities and activities suitable for this type of Neighborhood Park may include:

- Neighborhood gardens.
- Dog parks.
- Specialized/or custom play structure/or structures.
- Areas for group or individual meditative-type activities: yoga, tai chi, reflecting pond or water feature, etc.
- Neighborhood maintained rose gardens.
- Bird-watching, participation in and appreciation for nature.
- Small group field sports such as horseshoes, bocce ball, etc.

It is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Neighborhood Park to other Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks in the area. For more information on proposed trail alignments, please refer to the Trails section later in this report.

Neighborhood Park in Harrisburg Homesites Development

It became apparent at our public meeting that the future plans for this particular site, located in the middle of the Harrisburg Homesites Development on Troy Avenue, were controversial in nature. Many residents of the development came to the input session specifically to find out if anything had been planned for the site, and if so, what those plans entailed. As has been recommended throughout this report, it is highly recommended that the planning of this park and the components that will reside there be developed as part of a team effort between the City, the neighborhood, and the community. It is also recommended in this case that the developer be included in the planning of this park.

Based on comments from City Staff and residents that were discussed during the public meetings, it is the recommendation of this Master Plan that this Neighborhood Park not include any type of open body of water or aerated pond. It is the recommendation of this report that an alternate form of water feature be explored for consideration for this park, as well as other unique and specialized interactive features that would work in combination to provide a new and exciting play experience for the residents of Homesites as well as the community of Harrisburg. Amenities and activities that would be suitable for this type of Neighborhood Park may include:

- Spray parks with a variety of fountains, water cannons, shoots, bubblers, etc.

- Sand and zero depth water play areas.
- Specialized or custom play structures.
- Unique seating and viewing areas such as terraced lawns or hard surfaced areas - to support both supervision of children as well as occasional small outdoor performances etc.
- Small areas for picnics, gazebos/shelters, etc.
- Open areas of flat or rolling topography for impromptu group activities and 'pickup' games.

It is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Neighborhood Park to other Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks in the area. For more information on proposed trail alignments, please refer to the Trails section later in this report.

Neighborhood Park Near Water Tower, North of Elementary/Middle School

Due to the proximity of this proposed park to both the Middle/Elementary School as well as the community's water tower, this site was chosen as a neighborhood park. Also, because the land surrounding this park has yet to be annexed into the city, there is potential for further development in and around this park site. Once property is annexed and purchased by the City, access roads, support areas for parking, maintenance, and other amenities could also be included. Because of the potential for support or infrastructure improvements surrounding this site, it is recommended that a larger more community-oriented park feature be planned for it. This Master Plan recommends the City seriously consider a splash park in this Neighborhood Park site. The icon created by the water tower, gives this site an excellent trademark, or theme to build on. For example, if there were to be a splash park or wading/swimming pool developed here, the theme of the park could play on the water tower.

It is recommended that the City work with existing property owners, Industrial Park Property owners, the Middle/Elementary School, as well as other members of the community to identify specific amenities to include in this park, and the direction of themes and types of structures to include. Amenities and activities suitable for this type of Neighborhood Park may include:

- Zero-depth splash park, with option for wading pool component.
- Pre-fabricated play structure.
- Infrastructure to support increased community use, i.e. parking lot, access drive, lighting, maintenance, storage, etc.
- Sand play areas.
- Small areas for picnics, gazebos/shelters, etc.
- Open areas of flat or rolling topography for impromptu group activities and 'pickup' games.

It is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Neighborhood Park to other Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks in the area. For more information on proposed trail alignments, please refer to the Trails section later in this report.



Trails and Greenbelts

Trails and greenbelts are recommended to provide safe and efficient routes to connect the various recreational areas within a community, as well as linking a single community to the recreational resources beyond its City limits. For the purposes of "Recommendation 1", there is no set length of trail required for the City of Harrisburg. It is recommended that trails be implemented to allow the aforementioned connections to occur and encourage an increase in the use of both new and existing parks. There are three (3) types of recreational trail recommended by this report:

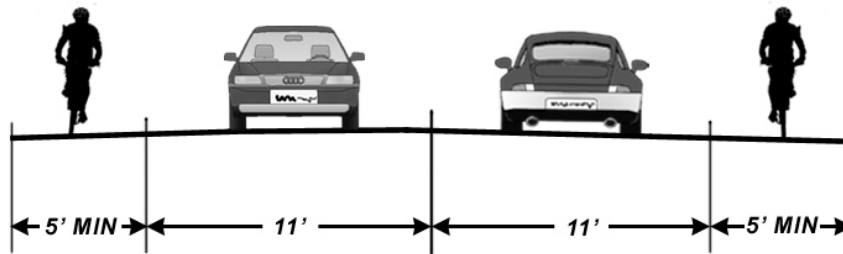
- On-street, shared use trails indicated by painted lane markings (minimum 5' lane width) (indicated in orange on the graphic illustration [page 25]).
- Off-street trails running within the road right-of-way (minimum 8' trail width) (indicated in blue on the graphic illustration [page 25]).
- Off-street trail running through a greenbelt, parkway, or some other unpaved area (minimum 8' trail width with 2' shoulders on either side) (indicated in gold on the graphic illustration [page 25]).

The following images show the recommended cross-sections for each of these types of trails. It is recommended for all trail development, that the community work with whichever governmental agency oversees the roadway where the proposed trail goes, i.e. a joint planning effort with the Lincoln County Engineering Department, South Dakota DOT, City of Sioux Falls, State Park, etc. It is also recommended that proposed trail development adhere to AASHTO guidelines for trail development whenever possible.

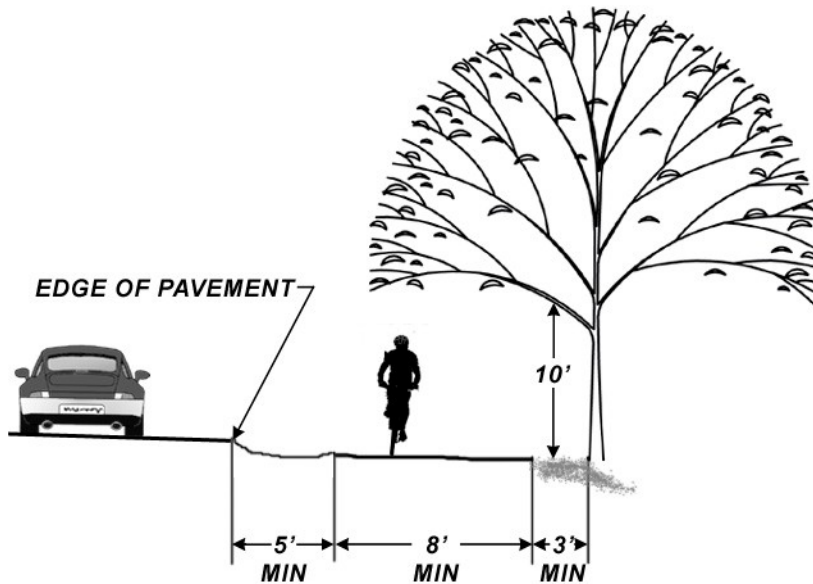
Trails and greenbelts can serve as many neighborhoods and communities as they can connect. It is recommended that trails connect each park to at least one other park within the City limits of Harrisburg. It is also recommended that planning for new or expanded roadways within the community include incorporation of 8-10' recreational trails on either side of the roadway as indicated on the graphic master plan. If appropriate right-of-way can be established at the early stages of roadway development, it will make the incorporation of recreational trails and their connective nature even easier to implement. It is also recommended that street crossing designs take trail crossing into account as roadways are planned and developed. Even if traffic counts do not warrant a stoplight or stop sign at the time of implementation, if there is to be a major trail or pedestrian crossing at that intersection, it would be wise for the City to plan accordingly. Critical crossing intersections are shown in the graphic illustrations and are discussed later in this report.

Amenities that would be appropriately sited along a trail or greenbelt may include:

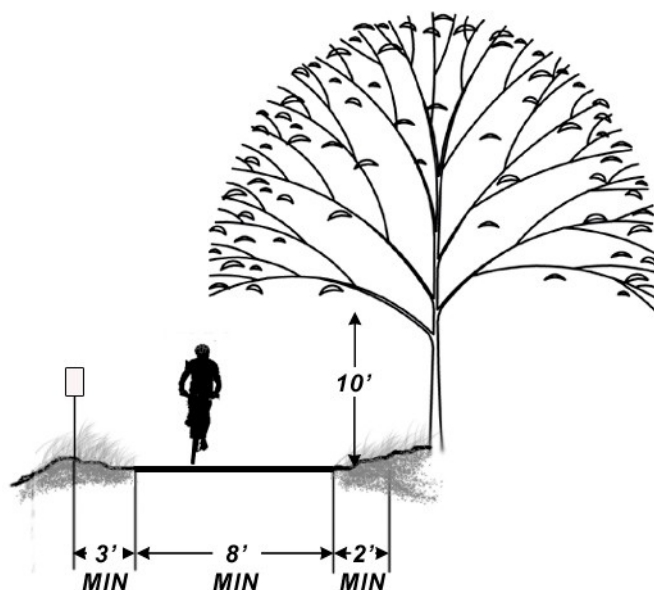
- Hard surfaced, paved trails.
- Directional, distance, and interpretive signage.
- Trail head parking and access.
- Visual and physical separation from highly-used vehicular paths.
- Benches, trash containers, bike racks or other appropriate trail site furnishings.



Typical On-street shared use trail



Typical Off-street trail within right-of-way



Typical Off-street trail outside right-of-way

Recommended Locations for On-Street, Shared Use Trails

Several community streets have been identified as potential connection routes for neighborhood and community parks. It is recommended that the City work with area residents to evaluate the suitability of these roads, and adjust locations as necessary to meet the needs of the community. The streets listed below were chosen for their proximity to proposed park sites. As with the nature of this entire plan, these locations are meant to be a guide only and can be adjusted as needed or as development dictates.

- In the Harrisburg Homesites Development, a shared use trail along one or both sides of Laura Street, running east-west to connect the neighborhood to the proposed park sites and greenbelt trail to the west; as well as to the critical crossing point at the intersection of Laura and Cliff Avenue. It is also recommended that a shared use trail connect Laura Street, south to the proposed community greenbelt along west of Cliff Avenue.
- In the Green Meadows Housing Development, it is recommended to implement a short segment of a shared use trail to connect the proposed greenbelt trail in the area to the critical crossing point at the High School/Cemetery and Cliff Avenue. It is recommended that as property and future roads develop, this on-street shared use trail run to the west to connect new housing developments to the proposed parks and open spaces, as well as to connect the community to the proposed regional park to the west of Minnesota Avenue.
- Along Columbia Street, it is recommended to implement a shared use trail to connect the Elementary/Middle School to the existing Hugh Robinson Park, from Willow Street to Prairie Street by way of Main Street.
- It is also recommended that a shared use trail be implemented along Prairie Street, south to the proposed community parks on the south side of town.
- It is recommended that a shared use trail be implemented along Maple Street from Prairie Street, east to Perry Lane to connect parks and trails on the west side of the railroad tracks to parks and trails on the east side of the railroad tracks. Also to connect park users and community members from the Elementary/Middle School Complex, to Hugh Robinson Park, and on to Ellis Larson Youth Park.
- A shared use trail, implemented along Perry Lane from Willow Street, south to the proposed Nature Park/Community Park would allow for a connection between the neighborhoods on the south side of the community to the downtown area and/or Lake Alvin to the east.
- To complete a loop of trail from the downtown area, south to the proposed Nature/Community Park, a shared use trail is proposed along Perry Lane which could potentially connect back up to Willow Street/County Road 110 and eastward to Lake Alvin.

Recommended Locations for Off-street Trails along Roadway Right-of-Way.

Several highly traveled community streets or streets that have the potential to become highly traveled have been identified as potential connection routes for neighborhood and community parks. Because these roads will circulate vehicular traffic, any trail development that is implemented along their right-of-way would be more suitable for safe pedestrian and bicycle travel, if it were situated off the actual roadway. It is recommended that the City work with area residents to evaluate the suitability of these roads, and adjust locations as necessary to meet the needs of the community. The streets listed below were chosen for their proximity to proposed park sites, as well as the potential for adding an 8-foot trail on either side of the roadway, in the right-of-way. As with the nature of this entire plan, these locations are meant to be a guide only and can be adjusted as needed or as development dictates.

- One of the major east-west trail routes, recommended by this Master Plan, is an off-street, right-of-way trail along Willow Street/County Road 110 from Minnesota Avenue, east to Lake Alvin State Park. This route would connect the community to a major regional state park to the east, and future community build out and another potential regional park to the west.
- Another major trail route recommendation, running north and south, is an off-street, right-of-way trail along both sides of Cliff Avenue, from Nine-Mile Creek, north into Sioux Falls. As Cliff Avenue is widened, it is recommended that ample right-of-way be allowed to accommodate off-street trails. This north-south route would connect the community to the Elementary/Middle School, to future parks, between neighborhoods, and into the parks and recreation opportunities in Sioux Falls. It would also allow for an easy trail commute for residents of Sioux Falls, who may be interested in exploring Harrisburg.
- An off-street, right-of-way trail is recommended along Industrial Drive from Cliff Avenue to the potential access for the proposed Water Tower Park. This would allow for safe circulation for the residents of the Harrisburg Homesites Development to the parks, schools, and playgrounds on the east side of Harrisburg.
- A short segment of off-street trail is recommended near the Elementary/Middle School Complex to connect the playing fields and proposed Water Tower Park to the on and off-street trail system on and surrounding the intersection of Willow Avenue and Columbia Street.
- In order to create a trail loop around the center of Harrisburg, an off-street, right-of-way trail is recommended to connect the park and trail at the intersection of Cliff Avenue and the City limits, to the proposed Community Park and Nature Park on either side of the railroad. It is recommended that this trail be implemented in conjunction with the planning and implementation of a roadway going through this area.
- In order to complete a larger 'Community Trail Loop,' it is recommended that an off-street trail be implemented along one or both sides of 476th Avenue from the southeast corner of the current City limits, north to Willow Street/County Road 110. This will also directly connect two of the proposed neighborhood parks on the east side of town.

Recommended Locations for Off-Street Greenbelt Trails

Several areas within and outside of the current city limits have been identified as potential connection routes for neighborhood and community parks in a linear park or greenbelt form. It is recommended that the City work with area residents to evaluate the suitability of these areas and drainage ways, and adjust locations as necessary to meet the needs of the community. The areas listed below were chosen for their proximity to proposed park sites and their suitability for a greenbelt trail. As with the nature of this entire plan, these locations are meant to be a guide only and should be adjusted as needed or as development dictates.

- **Northwest Greenbelt Trail** - This segment of greenbelt trail is located to the west of the Harrisburg Homesites Development. It is recommended that this portion of trail's primary purpose is to connect the two neighborhood parks proposed in that area. The connection could follow any waterway/drainage ways in the area, and ultimately connect the two parks to the proposed on-street trail located along Laura Street. It is recommended that planning for the alignment of this trail wait until further indication of development in the surrounding area is known. Once development is determined, it is possible that this trail could fall into the other two categories of trails recommended in this Master Plan.

- Greenbelt Trail West of Cliff Avenue - This segment of greenbelt trail is described under the headings of Community Parks. The recommended location of the trail is west of Cliff Avenue from the south end of the Harrisburg Homesites Development, south to the proposed neighborhood park west of the new High School. This proposed greenbelt park and trail could follow existing drainage ways, which are not suitable for building development. There is also the potential that the existing drainage way that flows under Willow Street could act as a trail underpass to allow adults and children to travel safely from the housing and developments in the northern portion of the community to the housing, developments, and amenities in the southern portion of the community.
- Southern Trails/Nine-Mile Creek Loops – This segment of greenbelt trail, located south of the southern City limits, is recommended to run parallel to Nine-Mile Creek from Cliff Avenue east to 476th Avenue. By connecting the right-of-way trail along Cliff Avenue to the right-of-way trail along 476th Avenue, this greenbelt trail would create a loop circuit for community members to use, as well as a way of connecting the west side of the community with the east side of the community. An off-shoot of this trail, the portion of greenbelt trail that is shown branching from Nine-Mile Creek northward to the proposed Community Park, would form an additional smaller loop to allow access from Nine-Mile Creek up to the two Community Parks. These segments of greenbelt trails would not only take advantage of the many environmental features offered by Nine-Mile Creek, they would also connect several different types of outdoor spaces in the southeastern region of Harrisburg.
- Schoolyard/Industrial Park Greenbelt Trail – This segment of greenbelt trail is located in the northeast section of Harrisburg. The primary purpose of this segment is to connect trail users from the Elementary/Middle School Complex northward to the proposed Water Tower Park, and further north to the Industrial Park and recommended right-of-way trail proposed along Industrial Drive. This small segment of trail is integral in connecting the already extensively used playground and ball fields of the Elementary/Middle School Complex to the neighborhoods west of Cliff Avenue via Industrial Drive. This would allow for easy and safe transportation to the playgrounds, softball practice, soccer practice, potential uses such as a spray park in the proposed neighborhood park near the community's water tower, and on to the additional parks, trails and open spaces in the other areas of the community.
- Grain Elevator Greenbelt – The existing grain elevator is slated for abandonment. While the adjacent railroad will continue active operation, the area currently housing the grain elevator has the potential for a small greenbelt park and trail near the downtown area. It is recommended that the area be converted into recreational space once abandonment is complete. This could be an excellent opportunity for a small trailhead in the center of downtown Harrisburg with a small amount of parking, bike parking, restroom facilities, water fountains, etc. This segment also connects the on-street trail proposed along Maple Street to the right-of-way trail along Willow Street and to the Elementary/Middle School Complex through a greenbelt park. It is also recommended that the City work with the community and consultants to salvage and use as many of the existing structures that make up the elevator to add character and theme to this small greenbelt park. This will provide an excellent opportunity for interpretation and education on the Elevator and its history in Harrisburg as well as information about railroad commerce and transportation.

Critical Crossings

Due to different user groups coming into direct contact with each other, there are several areas designated by this Master Plan as Critical Crossings. The definition of a critical crossing is an intersection of two or more different types of transportation uses. For example, an area where a heavily trafficked roadway intersects an existing or proposed recreational trail would be considered a critical crossing. While careful planning should be undertaken to limit the amount of Critical Crossings in the community, there will be areas where they are unavoidable. Wherever possible, safety measures should be taken to ensure the safe transport of all users. For example, stop lights or stop signs and bike crossing signs should be posted to alert drivers and trail users of the other vehicles in the area. Pavement markings, informational signs, even planting could be used to alert drivers to the potential for trail users in the area. Vision triangles should follow state and federal regulation for visual clearance to allow trail users and motorists to see oncoming traffic clearly. The following are a list of potential critical crossing areas arising from development of the parks and trails recommendations:

- Intersection of Cliff Avenue and Laura Street/Industrial Drive - Due to the need for adults and children in the Harrisburg Homesites Development to have safe access to the Elementary/Middle School Complex and other features in the central and eastern part of Harrisburg; as well as the potential for an increase in the development of the Industrial Park, this intersection could become a major crossing point in the community. As Cliff Avenue develops and plans are implemented to increase the cross-section of the road, it is recommended that a pedestrian activated crossing feature or other safe crossing feature be studied for inclusion into the roadway expansion. This would allow for safe access for pedestrians and trail users at this critical intersection.
- Intersection of Cliff Avenue and Willow Street - These are two of the major thoroughfares through Harrisburg. It is a natural assumption that as the community grows, this intersection will become more highly trafficked, and more of a critical point of conflict. With the addition of a trail intersection along with the vehicular intersection, this increases the potential for conflict even more. It is recommended that as plans for Cliff Avenue and Willow Street develop, a suitable pedestrian/trail crossing feature be studied for inclusion into the roadway expansion.
- Intersection of Cliff Avenue and Honeysuckle Drive near the High School and Cemetery - With the development of Green Meadows and an increase in the students attending Harrisburg High School, the intersection of these two streets will become more of a critical crossing as time passes and development continues. With the trail segments recommended by this Master Plan, the crossing becomes even more complicated. It is recommended that the city explore safe crossing options for Cliff Avenue in conjunction with any plans to expand the roadway.
- Intersection of Railroad and Tiger Street - Two community parks are recommended on either side of the Railroad near Tiger Street - the 'nature' park, as well as an additional community-sized park where the old wastewater treatment lagoons were sited. Due to the close proximity of these two recreational resources, the natural inclination for park users will be to cross from one park to another at Tiger Street or just south of the street, where there is currently no designated railroad crossing. The designated crossing is currently located north of the park sites on Maple Street. It is recommended that the community work with Burlington Northern Railroad to get permission to designate a pedestrian/trail crossing of the railroad in this location at Tiger Street.
- Intersection of Nine-Mile Creek and Railroad - With the implementation of a trail system that runs parallel to Nine-Mile Creek and connects the west

side of the community to the east side, a crossing of the Burlington Northern Railroad will be necessary. While a costly venture, it is recommended that the City explore an underpass crossing adjacent to the creek bed as a way to get from one side of the railroad to the other. If an underpass is deemed unacceptable, it is recommended that the City look into an overpass or bridge structure that would safely get users from one side of the railroad to the other.



As with any type of master plan, vision, comprehensive plan, or other strategy for future development, a Parks and Trails Master Plan must be flexible if it is going to work for your community. Properties may not develop exactly as a City forecasts, opportunities may arise that were never discussed during initial planning sessions, or negotiations and agreements may open some opportunities and close others as communities grow. For these reasons, it is important to consider options or alternatives when planning for the future of your community. This section of the Master Plan recommends some alternatives to the recommended plan that the City should consider. Whether due to feasibility, opportunity, or maintenance and community support, situations may arise that would prevent or hinder the community to follow the exact recommendations proposed in this Master Plan. The parks, trails and open spaces below are supplemental recommendations to be considered as Harrisburg develops its future parks and trails system. For a graphic representation of these alternatives, please refer to the graphic illustration labeled, "Recommendation 2" following this section.

Regional/Community Sports Park

Identifying property, annexing it into City jurisdiction, planning a 40+ acre recreational area and finally financing the construction of a large, regional park is a somewhat daunting task. If partnerships can be formed to 'share' the costs and responsibilities of undertaking the planning and implementation of a regional park, the process can be easier for a community the size of Harrisburg to handle. If, however, this partnership does not arise, or if for some other reason, the implementation of a larger park near the City of Harrisburg is not welcomed and supported by the community, an alternate plan or modified version of this type of park should be explored. "Recommendation 2" identifies a smaller, community-sized park to replace the larger 40 acre sports complex described in "Recommendation 1". In order to meet the needs of the Harrisburg Homesites Development, along with future developments immediately to the south and west, it is recommended to incorporate a smaller version of a sports field oriented park. This type of park would benefit the community by supporting the increasing demand for regulation size practice and playing fields for soccer, softball, baseball, and other field sports. These fields along with concession and restroom facilities would make up the core of the park. As a secondary recreational resource, it is recommended that a trail connection tie this proposed park to both the existing Harrisburg Homesites Development, as well as to the proposed community greenbelt park and trail so that safe access is provided to and from this park. It is also recommended that a smaller area of the park be offered for viewing, picnics, and play areas in conjunction with the organized sports. Infrastructure, utility connection, parking, and directional signage are all components that should be implemented with the planning of this proposed park.

Neighborhood Park Near Intersection of Tiger Street and the Railroad

"Recommendation 2" offers a neighborhood sized park alternative to the larger Community Park recommended in Option 1 on the site of the City's old wastewater treatment lagoons. If an agreement could be facilitated with developers of housing to the north of this area, so that property would be reserved for park space at no cost to the City, this smaller version of a park in the area may offer a less expensive option, both in terms of up-front costs and maintenance of the park.

This site is recommended for planning and development of a Neighborhood Park because of it's proximity to the proposed Community Park/Nature Park, its proximity to land that has potential to be developed into an extension of the

housing to the north, and to provide recreational opportunities for both the existing and future community members on the south side of Harrisburg.

It is recommended that the City work with the community, County, and area developers to plan what types of park components would fit within this park. Because of the proximity of this site to several different housing developments on the community's southside, the park should appeal to a variety of ages of children that live in the nearby developments. Amenities that would appeal to a wider variety of children may include:

- Pre-fabricated play structure.
- Court Play areas.
- Walking/Biking paths.
- Open field or rolling topography play areas/allowing for sledding or other winter activities.
- Water fountain.

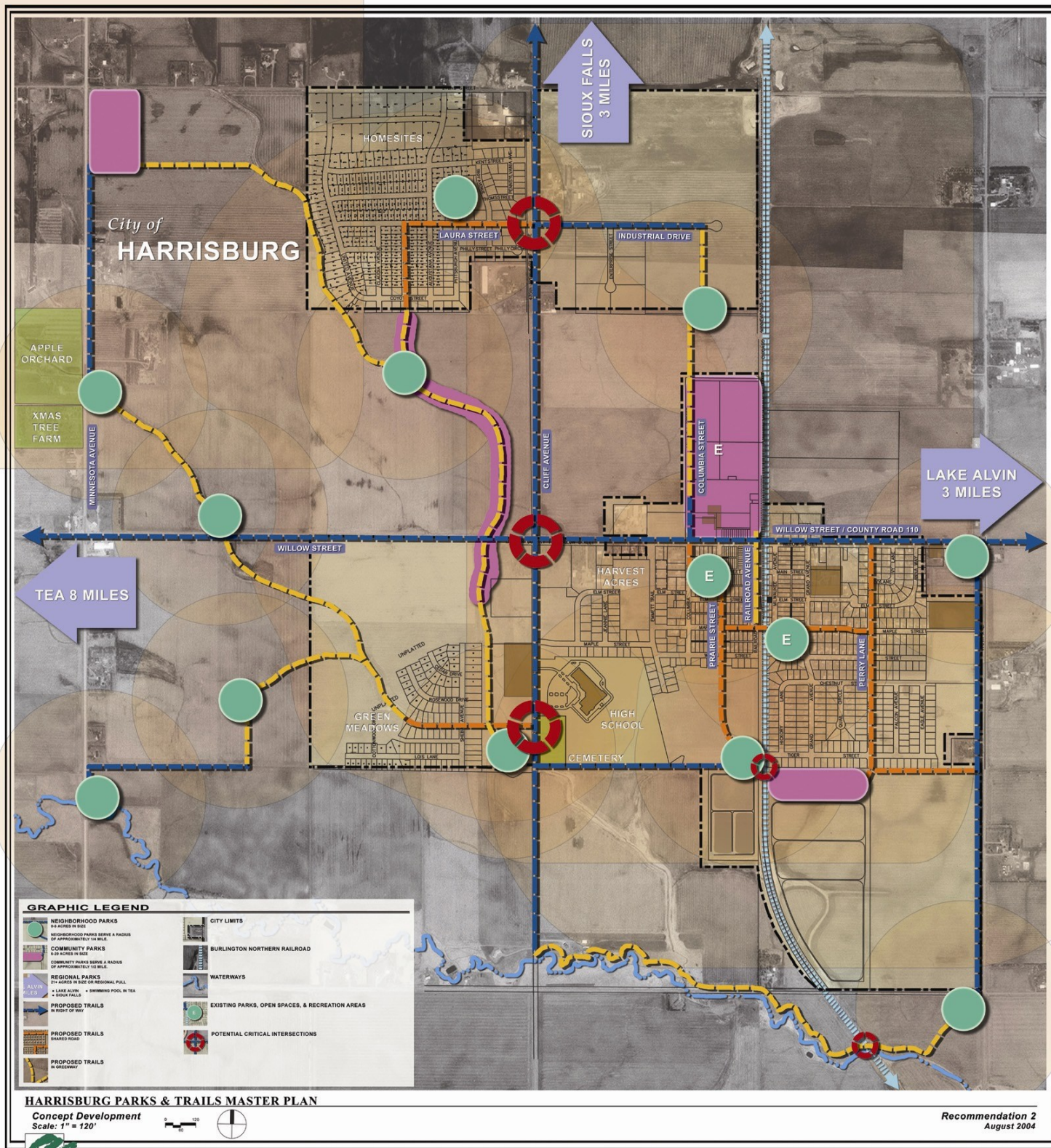
Because of the proximity of this park to the proposed Community Nature-Type Park, it would be appropriate to include amenities or opportunities to expand upon the more passive, environmental nature of the area. Amenities that would enhance the environmental experience of the area may include

- Educational/interpretive signage about flora, fauna, environmental process, etc.
- Areas for organized education: nature walks, wetlands investigation, boy scout/girl scout/FFA educational opportunities.

It is recommended that trail alignments be planned to connect this Neighborhood Park to the Cemetery and other Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks in the area.

Inclusion of Additional Neighborhood Parks

As an alternative to "Recommendation 1", "Recommendation 2" indicates additional neighborhood sized parks in and outside the current City limits west of Cliff Avenue. Specifically, there are four (4) additional Neighborhood Parks shown in Recommendation 2. Because of the elimination of the Regional Sports Park, Recommendation 2 offers these additional Neighborhood Parks to fulfill the needs of neighborhoods that may develop and become part of Harrisburg. This would provide an opportunity for small, more specialized Neighborhood Parks to offer a variety of recreational choices for the community. While up-front costs for planning and implementation of these parks may be reduced, annual maintenance budgets will need to be adjusted to allow for the increased manpower and financial support these additional parks will require. As with all other Neighborhood Parks, it is recommended that planning for the components and amenities in this park wait until further indication of development in the surrounding area is known. It is also recommended that trail alignments be implemented to connect these Neighborhood Parks to each other and to other parks, trails and open spaces in the community.



Howard R. Green Company

This section of the Harrisburg Parks and Trails Master Plan recommends steps or phases to undertake in order to make the plan a reality. Depending on funding opportunities, availability of resources, and support/schedules of the County, the State, the City, community members, developers, and property owners, many of the phases could be combined into one project; or some of the larger recommendations could be split into several projects. It is also recommended that these phases be re-evaluated annually to identify current priorities each year. The recommendations for implementing this Master Plan are based on input received during the stakeholder meetings, information gathered from City representatives and Council Members, as well as other information gathered during the stakeholder meetings.

Phase 1-

Whether done as one project, or split into several different projects, the following are recommended park sites, trails, open spaces, etc. that would have the most immediate benefit to the community of Harrisburg. These projects are recommended as Phase 1 - and should be seriously considered for planning and implementation in the next 1 to 3 years.

Neighborhood Park in the Harrisburg Homesites Development

Due to the schedule of the development in the area, and the fact that the property developer is willing to work with the City of Harrisburg to create whatever kind of park/open space the community desires, it is recommended that planning for this Neighborhood Park be one of the first projects implemented. It is recommended that the City start with the preliminary recommendations in this Master Plan and work with a Landscape Architect to facilitate a park planning process that includes input from the housing development as well as other community members and stakeholders to identify exactly which amenities should be housed in this park. From this information a schematic design and final design for the park can be created, opinions of costs generated, and the park can be implemented as resources and funding become available.

Improvements and Updates Implemented at Ellis Larson Youth Park

Several times during the stakeholder meetings and input sessions, participants talked about improving upon what is currently in the community before adding new features to the parks and trails in Harrisburg. The two City parks are beginning to show their age, and many of the community children are going elsewhere for recreation due to outdated, inappropriate, or damaged equipment. For these reasons, it is recommended that improvements be made to equipment and structures in Ellis Larson as part of the Phase 1 Master Plan implementation. It is recommended that Harrisburg use the information from the park inventory section of this report to identify equipment that is in need of repair or replacement. The next step would be for the City to work with a consultant and a committee of community stakeholders to identify what types of new equipment, features, fields, and/or structures would be appropriate for this park. Issues to consider are accessibility, age-appropriateness, current trends in recreation, and feasibility.

Improvements and Updates Implemented at Hugh Robinson Park

Several times during the stakeholder meetings and input sessions, participants talked about improving upon what is currently in the community before adding new features to the parks and trails in Harrisburg. The two City parks are beginning to show their age, and many of the community children are going elsewhere for recreation due to outdated, inappropriate, or damaged equipment. For these reasons, it is recommended that improvements be made to equipment

and structures in Hugh Robinson Park as part of the Phase 1 Master Plan implementation. It is recommended that Harrisburg use the information from the park inventory section of this report to identify equipment that is in need of repair or replacement. The next step would be for the City to work with a consultant and a committee of community stakeholders to identify what types of new equipment, features, fields, and/or structures would be appropriate for this park. Issues to consider are accessibility, age-appropriateness, current trends in recreation, and feasibility.

Design and Implementation of Trail Alignment from Harrisburg to Lake Alvin

Taking advantage of existing recreational features is very important to the initial success of this Master Plan. As mentioned in previous sections, there are two major recreational opportunities within a short distance from Harrisburg. One of these attractions is Lake Alvin, 3 miles to the east of the City. Because this recreational opportunity already exists, providing safe access to it for the community of Harrisburg would be a huge immediate benefit, without having to recreate the opportunity. For this reason, it is recommended that the implementation of a trail from Harrisburg to Lake Alvin be included in Phase 1 of the Master Plan implementation. It is recommended that the City work with a consultant, the community and county, as well as any other pertinent government agencies to identify an appropriate alignment to get citizens safely from Harrisburg to Lake Alvin.

Design and implementation of additional projects in and around Lake Alvin should be coordinated with the State Park Staff as well as the DNR, County and other integral parties. Projects that were mentioned in the description of the Lake Alvin Regional Park opportunities should be developed and implemented according to the schedule set by the State Park. Priorities as to which projects are implemented first should be discussed among the 125 surrounding communities, State and County agencies, and others who frequent the Lake.

Design and Implementation of Trail Alignment to Sioux Falls along Cliff Avenue

Taking advantage of existing recreational features is very important to the initial success of this Master Plan. As mentioned in previous sections, there are two major recreational opportunities within a short distance from Harrisburg. One of these attractions is Sioux Falls, 3 miles to the north of the City. Because this recreational opportunity already exists, providing safe access to it for the community of Harrisburg would be a huge immediate benefit, without having to recreate the opportunity. For this reason, it is recommended that the implementation of a trail from Harrisburg to Sioux Falls along Cliff Avenue be included in Phase 1 of the Master Plan implementation. It is recommended that the City work with a consultant, the community and county, as well as any other pertinent government agencies to identify an appropriate alignment to get citizens safely from Harrisburg to the many recreational opportunities available in Sioux Falls.

Design and Implementation of Trail Segments to Connect Users from Intersection of Cliff Avenue and Industrial Drive to Willow Street at the Elementary/Middle School

Safe transportation and connections to the various recreational opportunities within the community were mentioned several times during the input sessions for this Master Plan. With new housing developments springing up in several different areas of the community, it is important that safe transportation routes be provided to get children and community members from their homes to the

parks, schools and other recreational opportunities within the City limits. One area in particular that was discussed during the stakeholder meetings was a safe connection from the Harrisburg Homesites Development to the Elementary/Middle School. It is recommended that a trail alignment be studied, designed, and implemented as part of Phase 1 of this Master Plan. The City should work with a consultant as well as representatives from the community to identify the most appropriate route to connect these two areas of town.

Southeast Community Park #1

The site recommended by this Master Plan as Southeast Community Park #1 is property currently owned by the City of Harrisburg. It has already begun to be established as a wetland re-vegetation site, and currently has several species of plants and animals that contribute to its environmental nature. It is recommended that improvements be made to this park, such as parking, walking paths, and signage to begin enhancements to the park and the community. Once initial steps are taken, the community will begin to recognize the park as a benefit and use it for education, reflection and other passive uses. Future plans, plantings, signage, etc. should take place through community groups and volunteer organizations working with the City of Harrisburg. Development of this park will add a community recreation area to the south side of the community during the Phase 1 implementation projects.

Phase 2-

Whether done as one project, or split into several different projects, the following are recommended park sites, trails, open spaces, etc. that would benefit the community of Harrisburg and build upon projects completed during Phase 1 recommendations. These projects are recommended as Phase 2 - and should be considered for planning and implementation in the next 3 to 5 years.

Improvements and Updates at the Elementary/Middle School Complex

Because the Harrisburg School system has already implemented some improvements to the Elementary/Middle School Complex: new play equipment, organized sports fields, lighted regulation ball fields, etc.; it is recommended that the City of Harrisburg work with the school system to build upon the recreational features that are already present. For example, the City and School system could share in the design and implementation of ADAAG accessible pads, platforms, and paths to the play equipment and ball fields, trails could be implemented to and throughout the school yard, and infrastructure improvements could be made to existing ball fields and stadiums. Because these fields and playgrounds are used by both the school and the entire community, improvements should be a shared venture between the two.

Southeast Community Park #2

The second parcel of property making up the remainder of the Southeast Community Park is the site that used to be the wastewater treatment lagoons. It is recommended that during the Phase 2 implementation, this property be converted into the park described earlier in this Master Plan. This would complete the southern Community Park, and become a recreational 'anchor' on the southeast side of town. This would also provide additional recreational opportunities in conjunction with the 'nature park' which was recommended for implementation in Phase 1. Specifically, it is recommended that the City work with a consultant to identify what needs to be done to make the property suitable for recreational development. It may also be necessary to work with environmental agencies to identify any ecological remediation that may be necessary. As with other projects, it is recommended that the City work with a

committee of community members and area neighborhood representatives to determine what recreational features and amenities should be designed into the park.

Grain Elevator Greenbelt Trail

Once the grain elevator stops production, it is recommended that the City of Harrisburg work with a consultant and a committee of community stakeholders to determine the recreational opportunities and features to include in this linear park. This would create a 'backbone' for many of the proposed trail segments that are recommended by this Master Plan, and would be an excellent trailhead park for the community.

Neighborhood Park near Water Tower

With the development of trail segments connecting the northwest area of town to the Elementary/Middle School, and improvements made to the school complex, development of the Neighborhood Park near the community water tower would complete the recreational development near the school and industrial site. This would also be a good opportunity for Harrisburg to develop a destination-type park to attract people from surrounding communities - such as a spray park as mentioned earlier in this report. More decisions need to be made regarding ownership of the property identified by this Master Plan, as well as discussions with a consultant and representatives from the community as to what recreational features should be developed as part of this park. Once these decisions have been made, more information will be available to determine the extents of this Neighborhood Park.

Southside Neighborhood Park at 476th Avenue and City Limits

Development of this park in Phase 2 will allow for the City of Harrisburg to grow, and this park will provide a southeastern gateway into the community. This park will also be a trailhead for the future development of trails along Nine-Mile Creek. By implementing this park prior to the trail segments, the infrastructure, parking, and other resources will already be in place once the community decides to pursue implementation of the trail segments. It is recommended that the City work with a consultant and a committee of community members to identify specific features to include in the development of this park.

On-Street Trail Along Laura Street in Harrisburg Homesites Development

Development of on-street trails in this development would allow for safe transportation for this neighborhood to the other recreational opportunities in Harrisburg. Specifically, an on-street trail on either or both sides of Laura Street would connect the community from the proposed neighborhood parks west of the Homesites Development, into the development, and on to the critical crossing at Cliff Avenue and Laura Street. It would also provide a connection from the proposed Neighborhood Park in the Homesites into the network of the trail system.

Southern Trails/Nine-Mile Creek Trail Loops

Working with local DNR and County agencies, as well as community members and consultants, it is recommended that the City identify appropriate alignments and, once funding can be attained, implement trails and associated greenbelt areas along the southern border of Harrisburg along Nine-Mile Creek. Not only would this provide the community of Harrisburg with an extensive creek side trail system, it would be a recreational draw for surrounding communities as well. This Nine-Mile Creek trail system would also connect several of the aforementioned southside Community and Neighborhood Parks.

Phase 3 -

Whether done as one project, or split into several different projects, the following are recommended park sites, trails, open spaces, etc. that would benefit the community of Harrisburg and build upon projects completed during Phases 1 and 2 recommendations. These projects are recommended as Phase 3 - and should be considered for planning and implementation in the next 5 to 10 years.

Proposed 40 Acre Regional Sports Park

Design and implementation of this proposed regional sports complex may need to be adjusted depending upon when property becomes available, and when funding is available. If at all possible, it is recommended that the City work with private property owners and developers to implement this Regional Park project as a shared-use venture. Implementation of the park may need to occur in several phases in order to make the costs more manageable for all the parties involved. It is recommended that the City work with a consultant, private property owners/developers, community representatives, and representatives from local organized sports leagues in order to prepare a plan for the park that meets the needs of Harrisburg and surrounding communities.

Westside Community Greenbelt Park

Development of the Westside Community Greenbelt Park should be reserved for Phase 3 so that there is ample opportunity for housing to develop surrounding the proposed greenbelt, and ample opportunity for the City to acquire property and necessary permits/easements for implementation of the linear park. This would also allow time for the community to work together with the City to identify an appropriate alignment for the trail component of this park, as well as options for crossing major roadways. It is recommended that the design of any roadway crossings, be they at-grade or underpasses, involve not only City representatives, but a consultant, and representatives from local DNR, South Dakota DOT, County, and other environmental agencies.

Neighborhood Park near Cemetery at City Limits and Cliff Avenue and Adjacent On-Street Shared Use Trail

Development of this Neighborhood Park would provide another southern gateway into the community at Cliff Avenue. By waiting until Phase 3 to implement this park, more visitors and travelers will be commuting to and through Harrisburg thus providing the 'audience' for this gateway. The adjacent on-street shared use trail should be developed as part of this Neighborhood Park to allow for ease of access from the housing developments on the west side of Cliff Avenue to the neighborhood park, and on to the High School, Cemetery, and other recreational opportunities on the east side of Cliff Avenue.

Eastside Neighborhood Park at Willow and 476th Avenue

Development of the Eastside Neighborhood Park during Phase 3 of project implementation will allow time for the trails leading to and from Lake Alvin to get established. This will also allow some time for word to get out to the surrounding communities about the excellent trail system in Harrisburg, and increase the amount of recreational trail traffic into the community. Once the tourist/recreational base is planted, the need for this trailhead park becomes more valid. This will also build upon the increase in recreational trail users and begin to draw them into downtown Harrisburg and the amenities it can provide.

On-Street Shared Use Trails near Downtown Harrisburg

In order to connect to the various recreational parks and trails as they develop in Harrisburg, the on-street shared use trails should be planned and implemented in conjunction with the Community and Neighborhood Parks they connect. For this

reason, some of these on-street trails may need to be developed earlier or later in the Phasing of this Master Plan. It is recommended that the City work with representatives from the developments and neighborhoods to identify specific on-street trail routes to implement. Lane markings and signage would be necessary once the alignments have been determined.

Phase 4 -

Whether done as one project, or split into several different projects, the following are recommended park sites, trails, open spaces, etc. that would be a long-term benefit to the community of Harrisburg and build upon projects completed during previous phases. These projects are recommended as Phase 4 - and should be considered for planning and implementation in the next 10 to 15 years. Because these projects occur in the long-range plan for Harrisburg's parks and trails, it may be necessary to add, delete, or otherwise alter some of these projects sites based on development of property and housing and the future City limits of Harrisburg.

Neighborhood Park near Country Apple Orchard on Minnesota Avenue

As the City of Harrisburg grows and it's limits begin to move westward, this Neighborhood Park has the potential to be a Northern Gateway along Minnesota Avenue. It's proximity to the existing Country Apple Orchard can help to define many of the elements that may reside in the park. It is recommended that the City work with a consultant and representatives of the community to design the components of this park.

Neighborhood Park West of Harrisburg Homesites Development

Design and implementation of the components of this park should be done only after housing and commercial property has developed in this area. Design of the park and its components should be done with the City and representatives from any housing or commercial development that occurs surrounding the proposed park.

Right-of-Way Trail Connecting Cemetery to Southside Community Parks

Design and implementation of this trail connection should not be undertaken until all the Southside Neighborhood and Community Parks are identified and planned. This will allow the most current information to determine alignments for the trail segments to connect the cemetery to the parks. It is recommended that the City work with representatives from the community to identify the most appropriate alignment for this trail segment.

Right-of-Way Trail along 476th Avenue from Southeast City Limits to Willow Street

This right-of-way trail segment would complete several recreational trail loops on the eastside of Harrisburg. It would also connect several of the Southside parks and trails into downtown Harrisburg and on to Lake Alvin to the East.

Northwest Greenbelt Trail

This proposed Greenbelt Trail would be a linear recreational element for the northwest portion of Harrisburg and would connect the Neighborhood Parks proposed in this area of town. Design and implementation of this greenbelt should not occur until development has taken place in this area of town, and design of the Neighborhood Parks has been determined.

Because specific components for each of the parks and trails mentioned in this Master Plan have not been determined, it is difficult to associate an opinion of cost for the implementation of the parks and trails. The items listed below indicate an estimated range of costs for specific park components, based on list prices, constructed projects, and retailer information. These costs are based on 2004 prices, and should be re-evaluated annually to account for inflation. It is recommended that an opinion of probable cost be determined during the design phase of each of the aforementioned projects to more accurately determine construction costs for the projects.

Range of Costs for Park Components

Zero Depth Splash Park	\$85,000 - \$200,000
Skate Park/Skateboard Park	\$40,000 - \$250,000
Basketball Court (Concrete Base)	\$27,500 - \$50,000
Tennis Court (Concrete Base)	\$32,000 - \$60,000
Site Furniture	
Bench	\$500 - \$1500
Litter Receptacle	\$500 - \$1500
Bike Rack	\$500 - \$1500
Recreational Trail	
On-Street Shared Use Trail	\$35-\$40/ Linear Foot
Off-Street R.O.W. Trail	\$60-\$75/ Linear Foot
Off-Street Greenbelt Trail	\$85- \$100/ Linear Foot
Pre-fabricated Play Structure	\$12,500 - \$65,000
Fitness Area/Playing Field	\$10,000 - \$20,000
Gazebo	\$15,000 - \$20,000
Bandshell	\$25,000 - \$50,000

HARRISBURG PARKS AND TRAILS MASTER PLAN SURVEY

Please answer ALL of the following questions as best possible. Once complete, please mail to the address listed at the end of the form, or drop it off at the City Administration Building, 203 Prairie Street. Please return no later than June 24, 2003.

A. How long have you or your family lived in Harrisburg?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 Year | <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 Years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-5 Years | <input type="checkbox"/> Over 10 Years |

B. Have you or your family visited or used any public parks and recreational facilities during the last year?
(For location information – see map on following page.)

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

C. Please use letters A-C in the blank boxes below to identify how many times you or your family visited the following Harrisburg and surrounding facilities during the past year. If you did not visit any of the following facilities, leave the box empty.

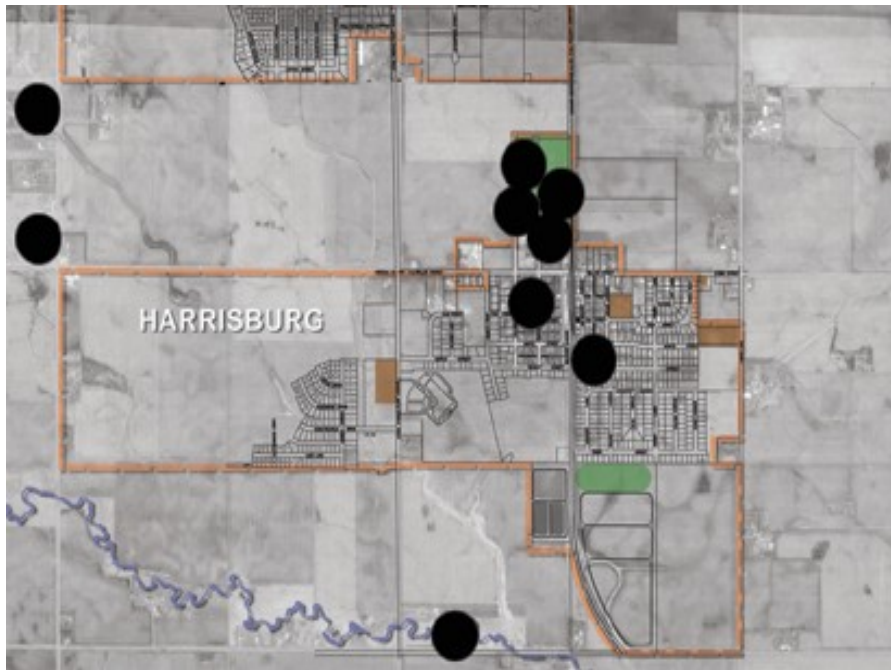
A = 1-4 Times

B = 5-10 Times

C = More than 10 Times

GENERAL AMENITIES:	
	Swimming Pools/Spray Park
	Golf Courses
	Picnic Areas/Shelters
	Outdoor Basketball Courts
	Playgrounds
	Soccer Fields
	Softball/Baseball Fields
	Library
	Lakes and/or Ponds
	Cemetery

HARRISBURG PARKS AND NEIGHBORING PARKS/OPEN SPACES	
	Football Stadium
	Hugh Robinson Park
	Ellis Larson Park
	Baseball/Softball Fields
	Middle School Playground/Blacktop Area
	Tee Ball/Coach Pitch/Soccer Field
	Lake Alvin State Park
	Sioux Falls Parks
	Sioux Falls Trail System
	Nine-Mile Creek
	Country Apple Orchard
	Christmas Tree Farm
	Spring Creek
	Prairie Glen Golf Course
	Spring Creek Golf Course
	Others: Please List



HARRISBURG PARKS AND TRAILS

- 1 Football Stadium
- 2 Hugh Robinson Park
- 3 Ellis Larson Park
- 4 Baseball/Softball Fields
- 5 Middle School Playground
- 6 Tee Ball/Coach Pitch Fields
- 7 Nine-Mile Creek
- 8 Country Apple Orchard
- 9 Christmas Tree Farm

D. Which of the following City, County, State Parks or other Recreational Areas have you visited within the last year?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Alvin State Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Beaver Creek Nature Area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Big Sioux Recreation Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Newton Hills State Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spirit Mound Historic Prairie | <input type="checkbox"/> Union Grove State Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Others: Please List | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

E. What attractions or activities have drawn you to use the Parks you marked in D?

- F. How do you or your family spend your leisure time per week? (Please check (√) only ONE block to the right of each item.) Examples are given in parenthesis.

By Attending	Over 21 Hours	11-20 Hours	6-10 Hours	1-5 Hours	No Time At All
Attend City Park and Recreation Programs and Facilities (e.g., Parks, Community Centers, Cemeteries, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attend Activities by Sports Organizations (e.g., Softball, Soccer, Little League, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attend Membership Organizations (e.g., Fitness Clubs, Sports Clubs, Country Clubs, YMCA, YWCA, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attend Privately Operated Entertainment Centers (e.g., Movies, Arcades, Indoor Golf, Sports Contests, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attend Youth Development Activities (e.g., Scouts, Campfire Girls, Boys & Girls Club, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attend Church Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swimming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hunting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gardening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watching T.V.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking, Jogging or Running	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicycling, Rollerblading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bird Watching & Nature Appreciation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socialization with Friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adventure Outdoor Activities (e.g. Rock Climbing, Kayaking, Repelling, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internet Use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ice Skating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Learning (e.g., Educational Classes, Seminars, Conferences)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relaxing & Reflection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please Specify):					
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>