



Department of Community Development

Proposed Amendments to the 2013 Recreation and Open Space Plan

IV. RECREATION INVENTORY

The recreation inventory was conducted using City of Portage records and approved development plans. For planning purposes, Suggested Facility Development Standards from the National Recreation & Parks Association as provided in the MDNR Guidelines (Appendix B) was used as a reference for comparison. Portage has a variety of park spaces and other public recreational trails and facilities. Numerous county, private and non-profit facilities are also found within the community and county and are briefly highlighted as part of the inventory segment. The City of Portage park system includes 17 sites with a variety of facilities. Sixteen of the sites are currently being maintained and available for public use and enjoyment. ~~The Eliason Nature Reserve was donated to the city in the summer of 2011. The city has retained a consultant to assist with a master plan for the Reserve with first phase development planned for the fall of 2013. In the summer of 2011 the city received through donation property to establish the Eliason Nature Reserve. In 2013 another parcel was added to the Eliason Nature Reserve for connection to Osterhout Road with first phase development planned for the spring of 2015.~~ The following information below presents an overview of recreation facilities by classification of recreation area. Being a former township that was incorporated into a city in 1963, park facilities tend to be larger and several are difficult to fit into the Appendix C classification found in the MDNR Guidelines (Appendix B). A chart depicting a detailed listing of activities found at each park site is provided in Table 4. Maps of each park facility are included at the end of this section.

A. PARK LAND AND FACILITY UTILIZATION

1. **Neighborhood Parks** – Portage has three parks which best fit into the neighborhood park classification. In addition to these two park facilities, Portage Public Schools have eight elementary school sites with large active and open space areas for public use that should be considered neighborhood park options.

Harbors West Park (3458 Summersong Path) – Located north of Milham Avenue, just west of Angling Road in the Harbors West neighborhood, Harbors West Park features play equipment, volleyball and basketball courts, a restroom/picnic shelter and a youth in-line hockey rink. Walkways and open play spaces are also provided. The park is popular for family events and youth team activities.

Size: 6 acres

Accessibility Assessment: 4

DNR Grant Inventory: None

Haverhill Park (6577 Hampton Street) – Nestled in the beautiful, tree-lined Haverhill neighborhood, this park offers basketball and tennis courts, open play areas with picnic tables, playground facilities, a youth in-line hockey rink and restrooms. Haverhill Park is adjacent to Haverhill Elementary school which provides additional recreational space for this heavily populated portion of Portage. Directly connected to the Northwest Bikeway trail, Haverhill Parks is a popular stopping point for trail users.

Size: 4 acres

Accessibility Assessment: 3

DNR Grant Inventory: #26-01564. Scope – picnic/restroom building, parking lot and

Eliason Nature Reserve (9501 Shaver Road) - The newest addition to the Portage Park system, the Eliason Nature Preserve was donated to the city in 2011 by Linda Eliason as a memorial to her late husband. [In 2013, another 18 acres was purchased to provide for access to Osterhout Avenue.](#) The property is a combination of upland and wetland ecosystems and contains a large segment of Bishop's Bog, bringing a majority of the bog under city ownership. A park master plan for the Eliason Nature Reserve ~~was being prepared in the fall of 2012~~ [has been prepared](#) with first phase development anticipated in ~~2013~~[2015](#).

Size: ~~123-141~~ acres

Accessibility Assessment: N/A, undeveloped

DNR Grant Inventory: None

5. **Special Use Parks** – These are public parks spaces created primarily for a single-purpose use.

Liberty Park (7619 South Westnedge Avenue) – Liberty Park was the result of an environmental and economic development initiative undertaken by the City of Portage. The park area cleans polluted storm water runoff from the South Westnedge Avenue drainage area and prevents pollutants from entering Portage Creek. This urban park features floral displays, a boardwalk and water features. A deck area overlooks Portage Creek and is a perfect spot for nature study.

Size: 3 acres

Accessibility Assessment: 5

DNR Grant Inventory: None

Millennium Park (280 Romence Road) – This high profile one-acre site on Romence Road is home to the first refrigerated outdoor ice skating rink in southwest Michigan. The city provides a staffed skate rental concession and warming house during the winter season. In the spring the park is transformed into a reflecting pond. Easily accessible by bicycle, Millennium Park is a pleasant respite in the shopping district. Restrooms and benches provide for a relaxed visit.

Size: 1 acre

Accessibility Assessment: 4

DNR Grant Inventory: None

Veterans Memorial Park (7801 South Westnedge Avenue) – The park is located near the Portage District Library next to the Portage Central Cemetery. Portage city representatives and the local veteran's organizations identified a piece of city property for a site to honor all veterans. The veteran's organizations of Portage built a memorial as a tribute to those who have served, and currently serve, in the United States military. Walkways and a tree arboretum are additional features found in Veterans Memorial Park.

Size: 1 acre

Accessibility Assessment: 4

DNR Grant Inventory: None

6. **Greenways** – Greenways tie park systems together and form a continuous park

environment. Portage has two greenways of significance.

Portage Creek Bicentennial Park – Previously discussed in this section, Portage Creek Bicentennial Park provides green corridor from the City Centre to the city limits at Kilgore Road for a distance of over 3 miles. The park highlights Portage Creek and protects a variety of wetland habitats while providing planned patron access for community use.

Portage South Central Greenway – A large segment of south central Portage has been set aside through the South Central Greenway (Map 7). With the recent addition of the Eliason Nature Reserve, in additions to West Lake Nature Preserve, South Westnedge Parks, Bishop’s Bog Preserve and Schrier Park, over ~~450~~470 acres of open space has been connected for this green corridor. Over 5 miles of trails and a variety of park facilities are located in the Portage South Central Greenway.

VIII. SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES

Short-term objectives have been developed by Parks Department staff and City Administration to meet the most obvious and pressing needs that have been identified through the Recreation and Open Space Plan and observation of current conditions. Short-term objectives are translated into project profiles reviewed annually by City Departments, Administration, Planning Commission and City Council. The city Capital Improvement Program (CIP) addresses needed capital improvements essential for the proper growth and development of the City of Portage.

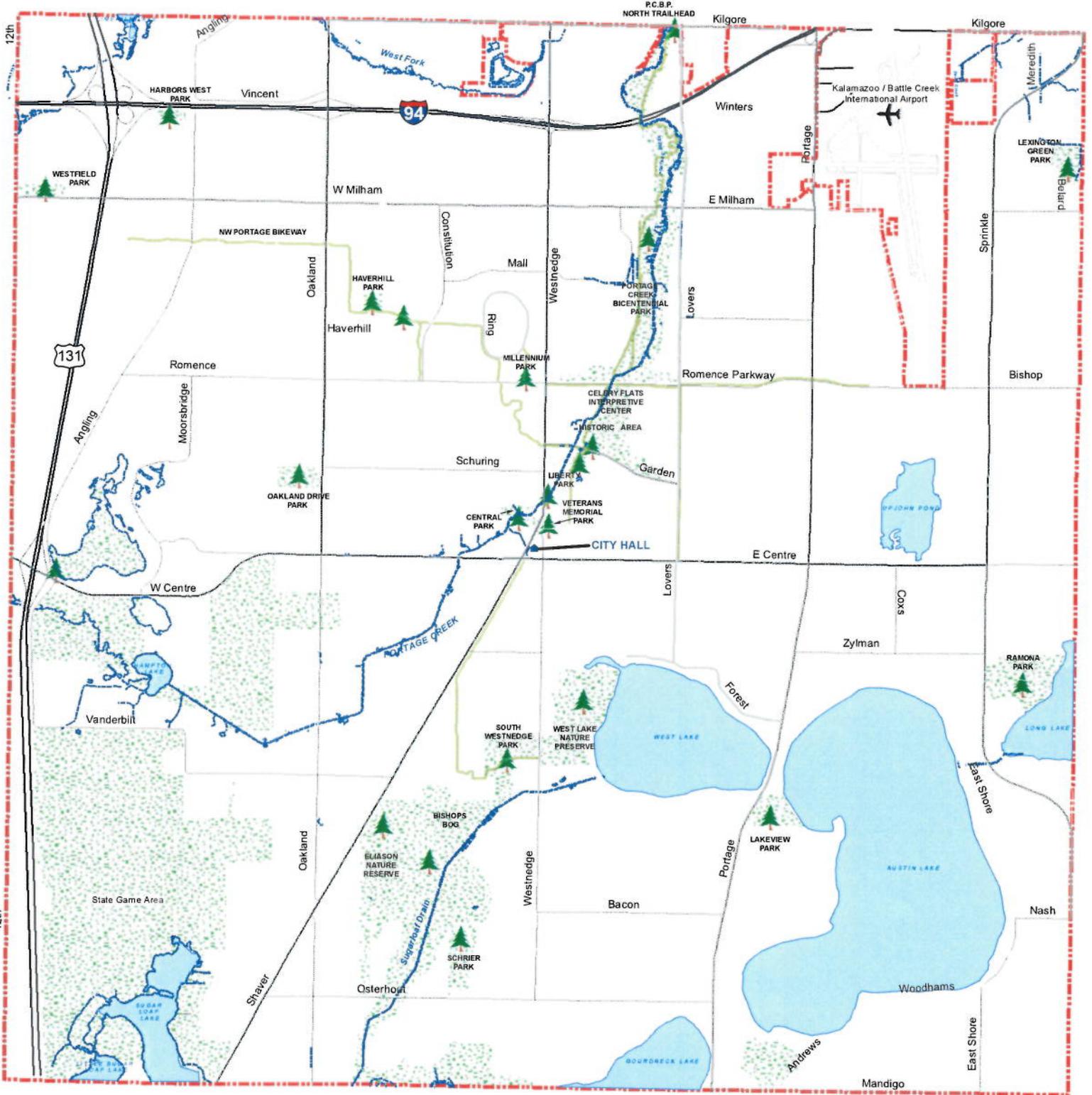
The ten-year review period of the CIP enables the Planning Commission and City Council to fully consider and program capital improvement obligations and needs over an appropriate planning period. The CIP is viewed as a continuous process whereby new information as to the needs of the community is presented on an annual basis. Each year project categories are updated, new projects incorporated and additional information utilized in the development of the recommended CIP and CIP budget.

FY ~~20123-2022~~ 2023 CIP project description information is available for review in this section.

Table 4
City of Portage
Park Facilities Inventory

PARK NAME	ACREAGE	Basketball Courts	Tennis Courts	Ballfields	Play Equipment	Shelters	Picnic Tables	BBO Grills	Restrooms	Canoe/Surrey Livery	Swimming Beach	Ice Skating	Walking/Nature Trails	Biking Trails	Soccer Fields	Limited Concessions	Tourist Attraction	Sledding	Volleyball	Fishing	In-line Hockey Rink	Floral Displays	Facility Reservation/Rental	Skate Park	Pickleball Court
		1 WESTFIELD PARK	12	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■						■				■				
2 HARBORS WEST PARK	6	■			■	■	■	■	■				■	■					■		■				
3 HAVERHILL PARK	4	■	■		■		■		■					■							■				
4 MILLENNIUM PARK	1								■		■	■	■			■	■						■		
PORTAGE CREEK BICENTENNIAL PARK	205																								
5A A—MILHAM ENTRANCE					■	■	■	■	■				■	■			■					■			
5B B—NORTH TRAILHEAD						■			■					■			■								
5C C—CELERY FLATS					■	■	■	■	■	■			■	■			■			■		■	■		
6 LEXINGTON GREEN PARK	23	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				■								■				■
7 RAMONA PARK	67	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		■				■	■	■		■	■			■		
8 LAKEVIEW PARK	26 24	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				■						■	■		■	■		
9 WEST LAKE NATURE PRESERVE	110				■	■	■	■	■				■				■					■			
10 SOUTH WESTNEDGE PARK	27 30			■		■	■	■	■					■	■	■	■				■			■	
11 SCHRIER PARK	52 56				■	■	■	■	■				■										■		
12 BISHOP'S BOG PRESERVE	140 152												■				■								
13 CENTRAL PARK	12				■	■	■	■	■				■				■			■		■	■		
14 OAKLAND DRIVE PARK	19 12	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				■		■			■	■						
15 LIBERTY PARK	3 2					■							■				■			■		■			
16 VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK	1						■						■				■					■			
17 ELIASON NATURE RESERVE	141 123	1.2 mile nature trail, additional development planned for 2015																							

Map 5 CITY OF PORTAGE NATURAL RESOURCES

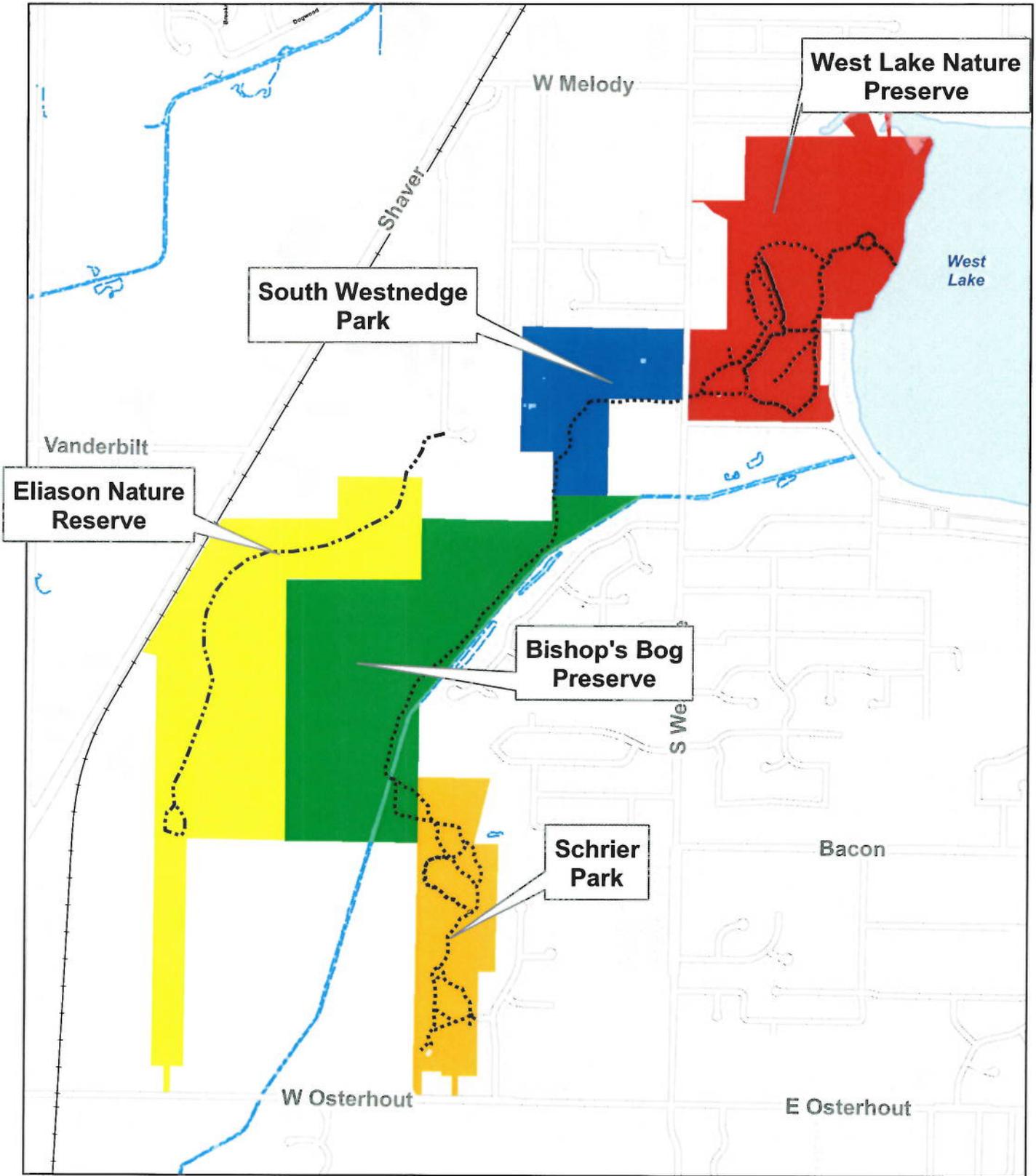


0 2,500 5,000 Feet

Natural Resources

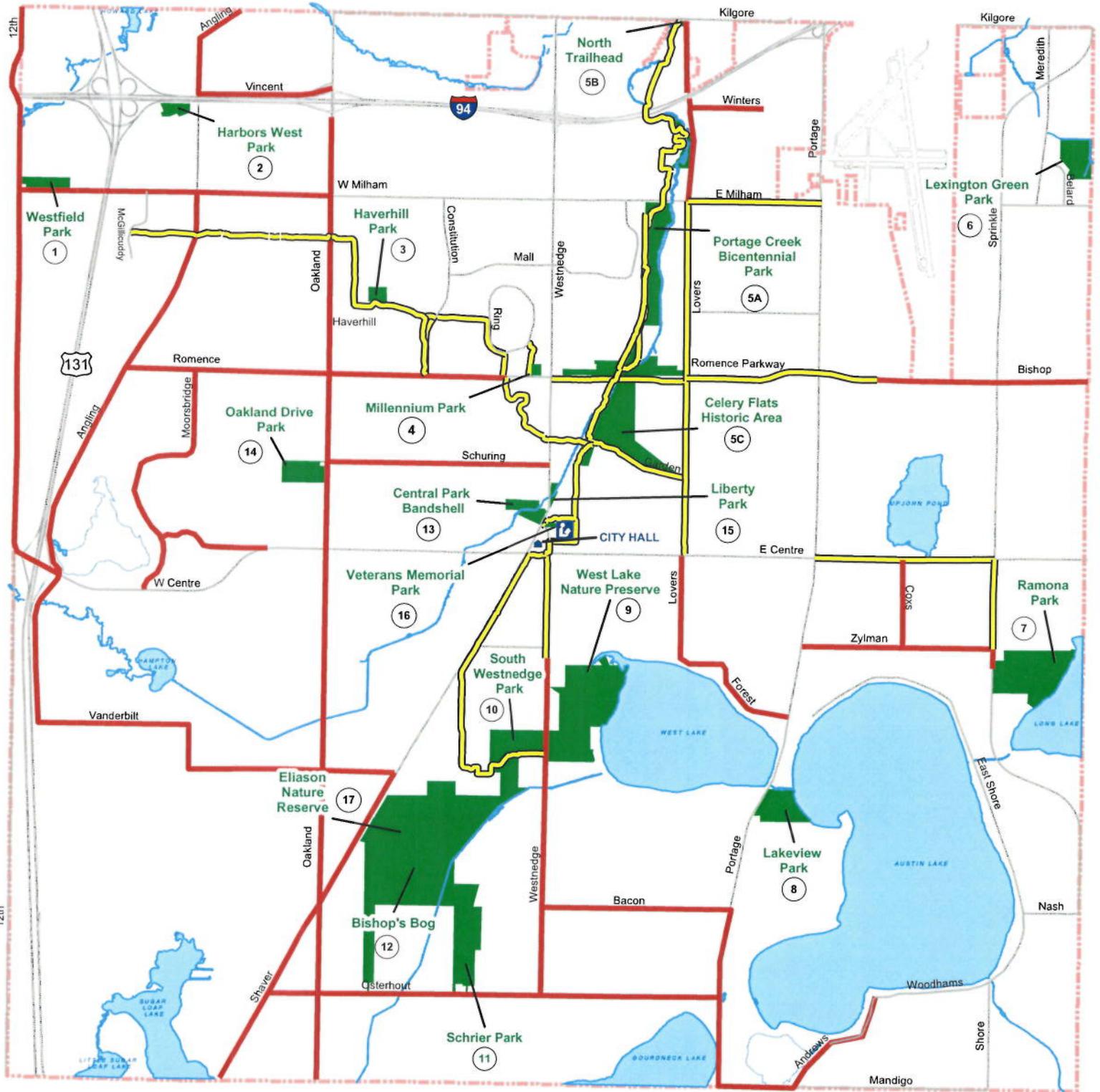


Map 7
CITY OF PORTAGE
PORTAGE SOUTH / CENTRAL GREENWAY



1 inch = 1,333 feet

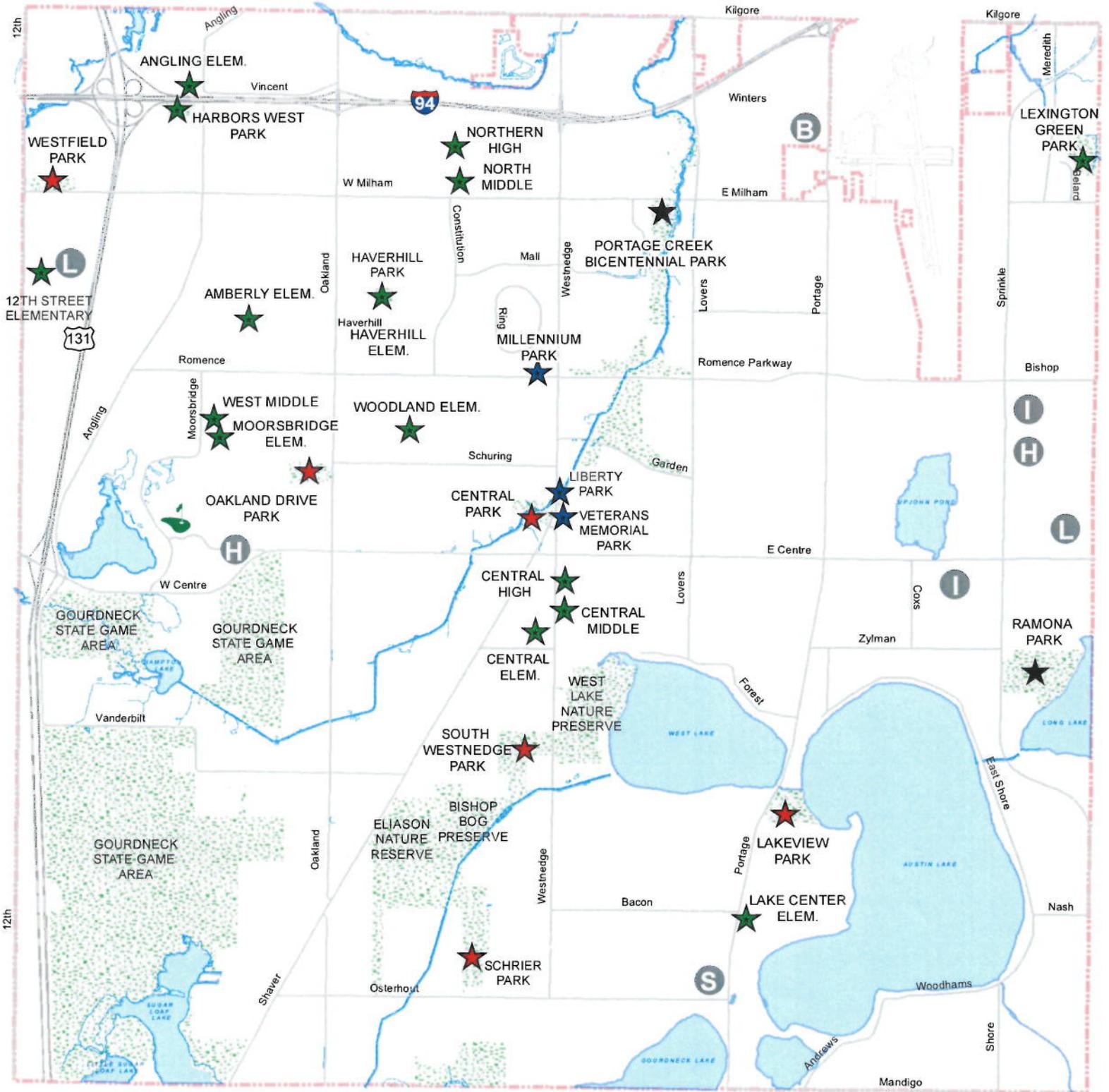
Map 8 CITY OF PORTAGE PARK SYSTEM AND BIKEWAYS / TRAILS



0 2,500 5,000 Feet

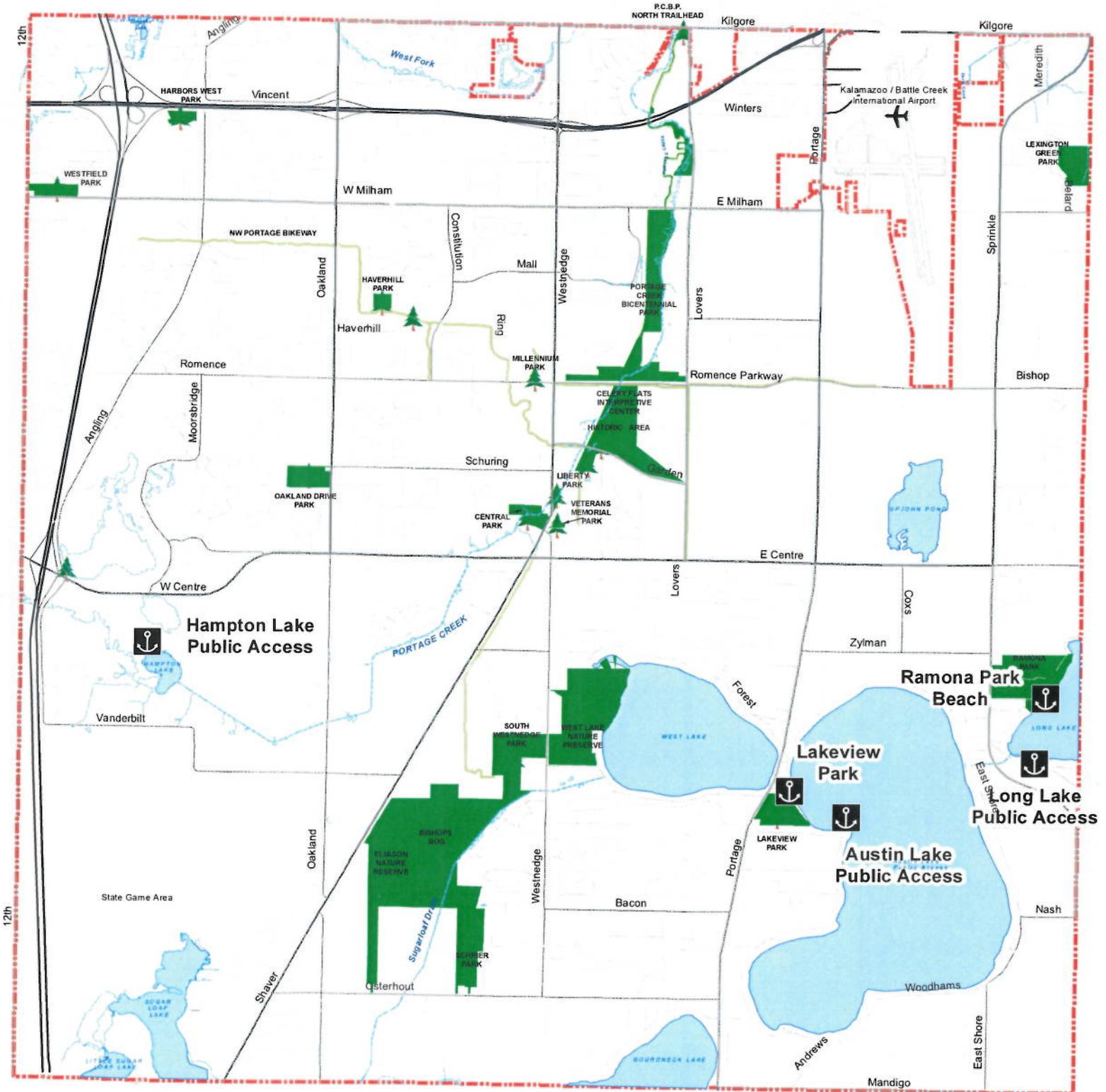
- Multi-Use Trail
- Paved Shoulder Bikeway
- Parks Property
- City Boundary

Map 9 RECREATION AREAS AND FACILITIES



	NEIGHBORHOOD PARK		GOLF COURSE		INDEPENDENT SOCCER FACILITY
	COMMUNITY PARK		BOWLING LANES		LITTLE LEAGUE DIAMONDS
	LARGE URBAN PARK		HEALTH/RACQUET FACILITY		SKATING CENTER
	SPECIAL USE PARK		WATER BODIES		OPEN SPACE PRESERVE

Map 11 CITY OF PORTAGE PUBLIC LAKE ACCESS POINTS & LAKE PROPERTIES



**Sugarloaf Lake
Public Access**

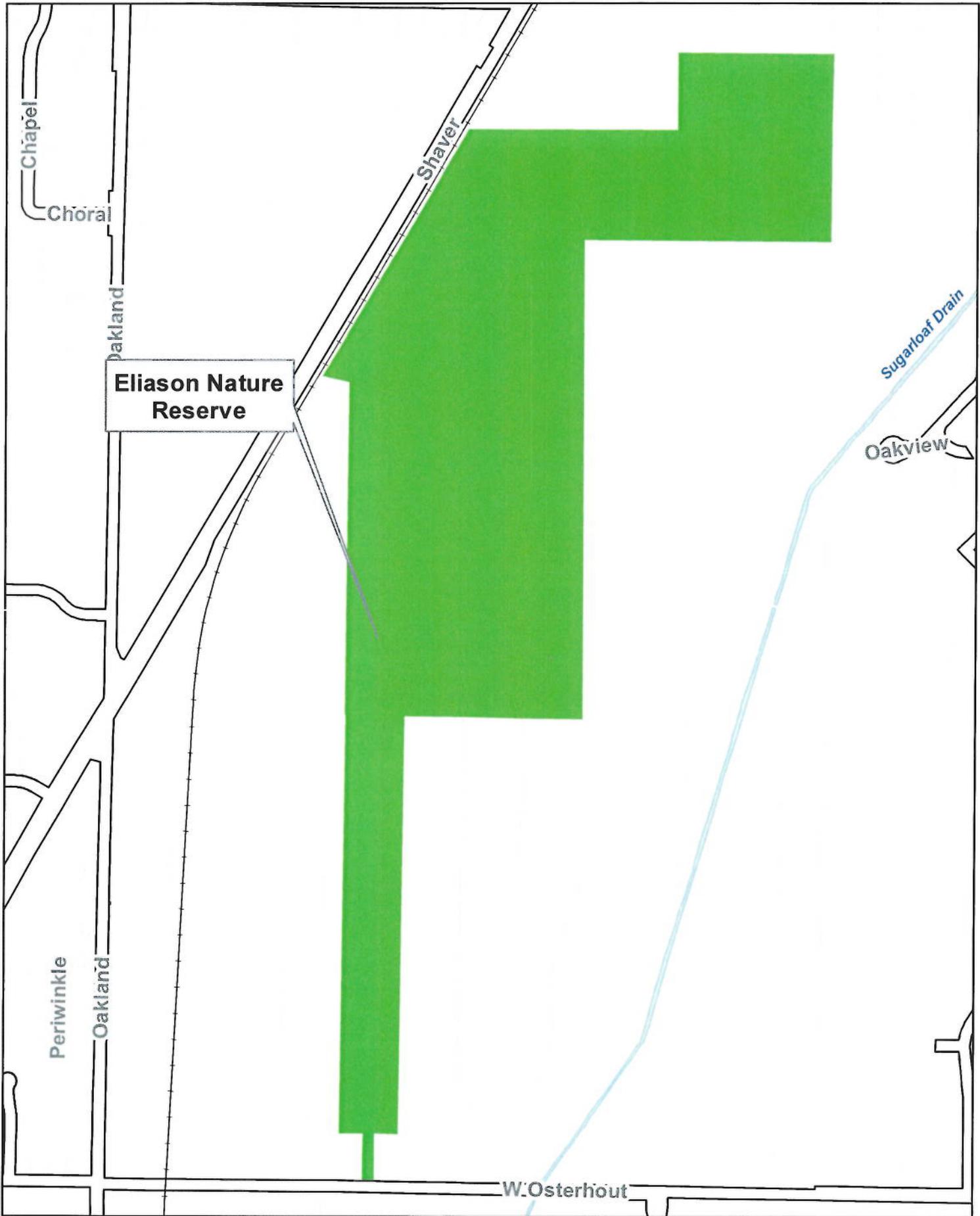
**Prairieview
County Park**



Legend

Public Access

0 2,500 5,000 Feet



17

ELIASON NATURE RESERVE



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation, and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Sidewalks and Bikeways

PROJECT NUMBER: 1

PROJECT TITLE: Bikeway Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2014-15: Paved shoulder bikeway overlays, upgrade signs and ongoing maintenance to exiting off road trails.

FY 2015-16, FY 2017-18, FY 2019-20, FY 2021-22, FY 2023-24: Continued work on bikeway trails and paved shoulder bikeways to include overlays, strip patching, sealing and striping. These projects are part of the "Natural Place to Move" initiative.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Several areas along the bikeway system require upgrades due to seasonal conditions, use, and construction projects. A coordinated preventative maintenance program is necessary in order to increase the usable life of bikeway facilities.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: The Portage bikeway system is heavily used for non-motorized transportation and recreational opportunities. Maintaining the integrity of the system will continue the viability of this resource.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: None.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation & Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Public Facilities

PROJECT NUMBER: 4

PROJECT TITLE: Senior Center Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2015-16: Architectural and electrical renovations and repairs identified in the 2013 building maintenance review to include emergency lighting upgrades, repairs to exterior wood surfaces and ceiling repair to restrooms and kitchen.

FY 2019-20: Continued preventive facility maintenance in accordance with 2013 review to include carpet and acoustical tile replacement. Interior and exterior facility painting and the replacement of parking lot asphalt and restriping also included in this phase.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Routine and preventive improvements are required to maintain appearance and efficient operation. Periodical upgrades are necessary to keep the Senior Center and parking lot in proper condition.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Protect and maintain the public investment in the facility to ensure that the quality and safety of the facility is maintained for citizens, city employees, and other users.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Use of the facility by the public has a direct correlation to the condition of the facility. The public and members defray the cost of operating the facility.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation, and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Public Facilities

PROJECT NUMBER: 8

PROJECT TITLE:	<u>City Centre Parking/Walkway Resurface</u>
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:	FY 2017-18: Milling, asphalt overlay, curb repairs, sidewalk repairs, and striping of the Police/Fire/Central Park parking lots.
PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED:	The City Centre public parking spaces, drives and walkways are used by hundreds of citizens and employees daily. It is essential to schedule preventative maintenance of asphalt lots and walkways to ensure the integrity of the surfaces and meet constituent needs.
PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT:	Provide appropriate access for citizens to public buildings and facilities.
OPERATING FUND IMPACT:	\$2,000 annual expenditure savings estimated for City Centre asphalt parking lots and walkways due to timely capital maintenance.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Community Development

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Public Facilities

PROJECT NUMBER: 9

PROJECT TITLE: City Centre Area Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Consistent with Portage 2025 Visioning Project, install the following public improvements within the City Centre Area (CCA):

- Replace existing street lights along South Westnedge Avenue, Shaver Road and Centre Avenue adjacent to municipal facilities with the shepards hook-style light fixture.
- Install pedestrian refuge island in South Westnedge Avenue near Liberty Park to facilitate pedestrian crossing of South Westnedge Avenue.
- Design and install CCA gateway signage

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: The CCA is the “identifying” center and heart of the City of Portage. The importance of the CCA has been documented over nearly 30 years in planning documents where the vision to establish an “identity” and a “downtown” has extended from the early focus of centralizing “civic” activities in the geographic center of the community in the 1981 Comprehensive Plan. Most recently, the citizen-based Portage 2025 Visioning Project identified goals for the CCA. The proposed improvements are also consistent with the 2008 CCA Plan.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Completion of these projects will help to identify and emphasize the importance of the CCA consistent with the Portage 2025 Visioning goals and 2008 CCA Plan.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Minimal maintenance costs are anticipated.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 1

PROJECT TITLE: Playground Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2014-15: Replacement of play structures and swing sets at Schrier Park and Lakeview Park (near picnic shelters). Through wear and age, safety hazards are present and replacement is necessary. These play structures were installed prior to 1992 and replacement parts are no longer available.

FY 2017-18: Replacement of play structures and swing sets at Ramona Park (playground at soccer fields), Central Park, West Lake Nature Preserve and swing sets at Haverhill Park. These play structures were installed prior to 1993.

FY 2022-23: Replacement of play structures and swing sets at Harbors West Park and Lexington Green Park to maintain safe play areas for the community.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Park play structures received intensive use. All playgrounds require upgrades to meet Consumer Product Safety Commission and American Society for Testing and Materials regulations in order to limit liability and maintain American Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. These improvements will further minimize future repairs and provide for safe and reliable play areas. Playground surfacing, edging and use zone expansion will be needed for several playground sites in order to meet current standards.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Extend the usable life of playground facilities. Improve safety for the community and maintain aesthetic appeal of municipal park areas.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Minimal effect.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 2

PROJECT TITLE: Eliason Nature Reserve Development

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2014-15: Phase I development to include construction of the central multi-use trail through the Reserve and development of the southern trailhead with an entry drive, parking and restrooms. The multi-use trail will complete a central trail through the Portage community from West Osterhout Avenue to East Kilgore Road, over seven miles in length.

FY 2016-17: Phase II development to include construction of nature trails and decking and park boundary fencing. The trails will connect to the Bishop's Bog Preserve trail enhancing linkage for park users.

FY 2021-22: Phase III to include acquisition of property for northern entry and development of north entry drive, parking, picnic shelter and play structure.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: A coordinated approach is necessary to ensure that the park property is developed according to the master plan. This park site provides opportunities for both wetland and upland opportunities. The various phases of the project are also part of the "Natural Place to Move" initiative.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: The Eliason Nature Reserve provides additional passive and active recreation opportunities, and preserves important natural features and open space for the growing community. Expansion of the trail system and provision of additional non-motorized facilities will enhance community quality of life.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: \$3,000 for litter removal, restroom cleaning, mowing and other yearly maintenance. Trail maintenance is estimated to be \$600 per year.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 3

PROJECT TITLE: Park Trail Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2014-15: Bridge decking replacement on Millennium Trail.

FY 2015-16 and FY 2018-19: Activities will include crack fill, heat treating and seal coating of park trails, Superdeck replacement and woodchip trail upgrades.

FY 2021-22: Asphalt trail repairs and bridge decking.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Park trails pass through uplands, forest and wetland areas. The trails must be resurfaced and maintained to ensure user safety and prevent damage to adjacent areas. Well-maintained and defined trails prevent encroachment into sensitive areas by the public. This project is identified in the Recreation and Open Space Plan.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Well-maintained trails protect the significant investment in these facilities while providing safe and aesthetically pleasing usage of city trail system.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: No impact.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation, and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 4

PROJECT TITLE: Court Resurfacing/Repair

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2015-16: Oakland Drive Park: color coating tennis and basketball courts. Ramona Park: reduction of one tennis court and removal and rebuild of two courts; upgrade perimeter gates and fencing and replace accessories as needed; repairs and crack sealing to concrete basketball court and new coating.

FY 2017-18: Lakeview Park court renovations to include: reduction of one tennis court, complete rebuild of remaining tennis court, removal of existing basketball court and replacement with smaller, concrete court. Upgrade of perimeter gates and fencing and replace accessories as needed.

FY 2018-19: Lexington Green Park: removal of inline court and complete rebuild of one tennis court; upgrade of perimeter gates and fencing and replace accessories as needed. Haverhill Park: removal of existing basketball court and replace with smaller concrete court.

FY 2023-24: Westfield Park resurface of tennis and basketball courts. Harbors West Park patching and recoating of concrete tennis and basketball courts.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: To provide court surfaces that are safe, playable and attractive, repairs, re-coating and resurfacing must be coordinated at regular intervals. Fencing, backboards, rims and tennis court posts need periodic replacing for safety and patron enjoyment.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Maintain and improve the quality of court recreation opportunities and provide a safe playing surface and conditions.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: None.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 5

PROJECT TITLE: Park Parking Lot/Walkway Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2015-16: Overlay Lakeview Parking lot and repairs to Stuart Manor/Hayloft Theatre drive and Parking lot. Continued repairs to failed asphalt in other park lots and walkways.

FY 2017-18: Renovate Westfield Park (west Parking lot) asphalt lots and overlay portions of the Ramona Park lots. Continued repairs to failed asphalt in other park lots and walkways and restripe parking lots at other parks.

FY 2020-21: Overlay remainder of Ramona Park Parking lots. Continued repairs to failed asphalt in other park Parking lots and walkways.

FY 2023-24: Overlay Bicentennial Park and Schrier Park Parking lots. Continued repairs to failed asphalt in other park Parking lots and walkways and restripe parking lots at other parks.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Regular, periodic upgrades of these surfaces will greatly extend the functional life. Parking lot lines and safety markings must be renewed on a regular basis to keep them functional.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Attractive, functional parking facilities enhance the use of city park facilities.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: No impact.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation, and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 6

PROJECT TITLE: Millennium Park Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2015-16 and FY 2023-24: Necessary retrofits of existing compressors and coolant package for the Millennium Park ice rink. Rebuild and update current compressors, valves, and piping, and replace with upgraded refrigerant system. Interior site improvements to concession and storage areas to include updated service area, skate storage and concession inventory storage.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: System requires repairs and upgrades due to normal wear and operation, and to remain compliant with changes to environmental regulations.

The Millennium Park ice rink is a valued recreation opportunity as the only outdoor ice rink in the area. The rink serves over 8,000 skaters a season from December through March.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Maintain and improve efficiency of Millennium Park ice rink coolant system. Reduce breakdowns, and cut energy costs to operate system. Enable service area to be more efficient and increase storage capacity

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Reduction of energy costs and system breakdowns.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 7

PROJECT TITLE: Ramona Park Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2015-16: Permanent repair of plumbing and drainage issues throughout the beach house. Repair concrete slab in beach house and add durable floor covering. Replace ADA ramp at beach to meet current standards. Replace roof on beach house. Upgrade restroom spaces to better meet codes and improve shower system for patron use.

FY 2022-23: Upgrade beach house and contact station mechanical and electrical systems, replace walkway handrails, replace fishing dock components as needed

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Ramona Park Beach attendance has increased significantly. The beach house requires renovations for on-going staff training, patron facility use and youth fishing programs. Planned improvements will create a more patron friendly facility by providing adequate and accessible restroom facilities, improved shower area, a first aid room and a service oriented beach house area. It will also provide a safer work place for staff by renovating the current facility to provide for improved storage of supplies and equipment.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Provide safe, top-quality facilities for the thousands of park visitors using athletic fields and waterfront facilities each year. Provides needed water recreation, rental and picnic facilities for residents of Portage and Kalamazoo County.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Minimal Impact

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation, and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 8

PROJECT TITLE: Celery Flats Historical Area Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2015-16: Improvements and enhancements to the schoolhouse, Hayloft Theatre, Grain Elevator, Stuart Manor, and Interpretive Center facilities are necessary in accordance with 2013 building maintenance review. Additional work will include the upgrade of brick landscaping, fence replacement/repair, park lighting, parking lot improvements and an ADA accessible ramp.

FY 2019-20: Exterior repairs and painting of all four historical structures and the Interpretive Center.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: The community supports the Celery Flats Area and proposed improvements and enhancements will encourage the full use of the park. As historical facilities continue to age, structures require periodic upgrades. Projects are included in the Recreation and Open Space Plan and the preventative maintenance study to ensure the integrity of these facilities.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: The Celery Flats improvements will provide cultural, historical and educational opportunities for current and future generations to enjoy.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Reduction of non-routine repairs.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 9

PROJECT TITLE: Dog Park Development

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2016-17: Development of a controlled access and fenced dog park facility as part of the park system. Dog park would include water stations, refuse disposal stations and asphalt pathways for accessibility.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: A dog park has been requested by a number of citizens and is an element of the Portage 2025 Visioning Report. As open space becomes less available off-leash dogs continue to be a nuisance in the community, particularly in city parks and school properties. Provision of a dedicated, controlled space for dogs to run and exercise will provide necessary alternatives.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Off-leash dogs are the number one resident complaint from yearly neighbor surveys of park properties. Providing a dedicated space will help to alleviate problems with dogs off-leash and excrement in public use spaces.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: \$500 for litter pick up and water station support.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:

Parks, Recreation, and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:

Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 10

PROJECT TITLE:

Schrier Park Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

FY 2016-17: Construct a Gazebo just north of the parking lot. Refurbish fireplace and chimney at enclosed shelter. Upgrade heating systems and install central air conditioning.

FY 2020-21: Schrier Park window and door upgrades and installation of kitchen facilities for group rental use.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED:

Improvements will provide additional picnic and storage space, while upgrading the heating systems and installing air conditioning will improve energy efficiency while improving usability. Security equipment will enhance visitor safety and protect investment in park facilities. The gazebo will be used for weddings and a picnic shelter adding usability to the area. Schrier Park improvements are identified in the city Recreation and Open Space Plan.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT:

Family and small groups will be able to utilize open-air shelter during inclement weather, and rentability of pavilion will be enhanced by shelter. Connecting facility to city utilities will provide dependable, economical, environmentally sound utilities.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT:

Estimated costs include: Water utility at \$800 per year. Security equipment maintenance at \$200 per year.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 11

PROJECT TITLE: Park Perimeter Fencing Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2016-17: Replace split rail fencing at Oakland Drive, Haverhill and Westfield Parks. Central Park chain link fence replacement.

FY 2018-19: Replace split rail fencing at Lakeview and Schrier Parks. Replace and repair the split rail and chain link fencing as necessary at other park facilities.

FY 2021-22: Replace split rail fencing at Ramona, West Lake Nature Preserve, and Lexington Green.

FY 2023-24: Replace split rail fencing at Harbors West and Portage Creek Bicentennial Parks.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Split rail fencing delineates park boundaries, prevents unwanted vehicular access, controls unwanted access to areas within parks and is an aesthetically pleasing element of city parks. In locations where additional security is necessary, chain link fencing is used for park boundaries or internal spaces. The wooden split rail fencing deteriorates from exposure to the elements and requires ongoing maintenance and replacement. Chain link fence also deteriorates over time and requires upgrading/replacement.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Each park should make a positive physical and visual statement to visitors. Attractive and safe fencing in all of the parks will help promote the positive image for public benefit.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: No impact.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 12

PROJECT TITLE: Park Restroom/Shelter Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2017-18: Structural improvements of the public restrooms and picnic shelters to maintain appearance and ensure quality facilities. Repainting, reroofing, of building and shelters, upgrade and addition of security lighting and camera systems. Repair to tile floors and walls. Parks would include Lakeview, Ramona, Lexington Green, and Portage Creek Bicentennial Park at West Milham Avenue, and Celery Flats.

FY 2022-23 Electrical and plumbing upgrades to all restrooms. Lakeview Park shelter replacement, and reroof shelters at Westfield, Harbors West, Westfield, and Oakland Drive Parks. Addition/replacement of shelter map cases, upgrade of signage, add electrical service to Westfield, Central, Lexington Green, and West Lake Park shelters.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Major remodeling is required at these structures to replace roofs, repaint inside and outside, replace doors, partitions and interior fixtures, and replace deteriorated walks and steps.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Park restrooms and shelters must be well maintained to enhance the quality experience patrons expect when visiting a city park.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: None.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation, and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 13

PROJECT TITLE: Central Park Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2019-20: Bandshell improvements to include painting and lighting upgrades. Improvements to the pavilion and playground are also needed.

PROJECT/JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Summer events are scheduled at the bandshell and required preventive maintenance to electrical and lighting are needed. To maintain the quality of the facility, the wall behind the bandshell will need to be renovated as well as the landscaping. The playground and pavilion facilities also require upgrades to meet needs of park patrons.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Continued development and improvement of the City Centre for expanded public use is essential to meet demands. The identified improvements will contribute to meeting the needs of the public.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Preventive maintenance upgrades - None.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation, and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 14

PROJECT TITLE: Lakeview Park Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2019-20: Continue development along waterfront areas to include large enclosed deck/pavilion on Austin Lake and a small deck and trails along channel. Replace the restroom facility with an upgraded building that meets current standards and will better serve intense use of park.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Development of lakefront area along Lakeview Park is identified in the Park Master Plan and City Recreation and Open Space Plan. Opening portions of the waterfront will enhance fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities. The existing restroom facility is the oldest in the system and outdated with respect to size and accessibility and needs total replacement.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Lakeview Park is a heavily used community park. These projects would improve recreation opportunities and properly emphasize the water attributes of waterfront areas.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Annual cost for deck/pavilion is estimated to be \$800.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 15

PROJECT TITLE: Softball Field Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2019-20: Replace unsightly or damaged chain link fence, repair field depressions/rises as needed, install emergency notification sound system, upgrade irrigation systems and other needed improvements on all eight softball diamonds at South Westnedge Park and Ramona Park.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: Approximately 3,000 participants and spectators visit these facilities each week from April through September. Periodic capital maintenance will protect the significant investment in this site as a result of the work completed in FY 2007-2008 and FY 2012-2013. Due to the softball fields being built on a landfill, periodic improvements may be necessary to address settling of subsurface material and earth. The Recreation and Open Space Plan identifies the need for these improvements.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Regular capital maintenance of softball facilities will provide a consistently high standard for the largest city adult recreation program. Capital maintenance will result in much safer and more playable fields.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Capital maintenance of softball facilities will decrease annual expenditures for infield and outfield maintenance and irrigation repairs by approximately \$2,000 per year.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROFILE

DEPARTMENT:
Parks, Recreation and Public Services

PROJECT CATEGORY:
Parks and Recreation

PROJECT NUMBER: 16

PROJECT TITLE: Picnic Support Equipment Improvements

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: FY 2019-20 and FY 2023-24: Activities will include the purchase and installation of uniform refuse receptacles, park benches and the replacement of park grills and picnic tables.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION/NEED: The quality of the experience a family or group enjoys when using a park or having a picnic relates directly to the condition of the support equipment. Attractive and functional tables, grills and refuse containers must be a part of the park environment.

PROJECT BENEFIT/IMPACT: Attractive, functional equipment will enhance the use of city park facilities.

OPERATING FUND IMPACT: Reduced annual maintenance cost.