PARK MASTER PLAN

PHASE I

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

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IVAN A. LEBAMOFF

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Phil Bennett, Assistant Superintendent of Recreation
H. James Haley, Business Manager
Angela Derheimer, Park Planner

JANUARY, 1974
MEMORANDUM OF TRANSMITTAL

TO: MAYOR IVAN A. LEBAMOFF
FORT WAYNE CITY COUNCIL
FORT WAYNE PLAN COMMISSION

The Fort Wayne Board of Park Commissioners, acting on behalf of the citizens of this community, hereby submits the Park Master Plan — Phase I.

The Park Board is aware that no plan is static. Planning is a continuing process and not an end in itself. As a Board, we are constantly looking to the future and the Master Plan will give us a guide to orderly growth.

We invite your comments and suggestions, to the end that we will be able to make our efforts more reflective of the needs, interests and desires of the people.

Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

President, Louis F. Njezer

Vice-President, Richard Allen

Commissioner, A. L. Berk

Commissioner, Alberta Robinson
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the entire Park Department Staff and especially the Office Staff, the Parkitecture staff, the Recreation staff, and the Maintenance and Operations staff, for their assistance in the preparation of this document. The planning staff from the City Plan Commission, Three Rivers Coordinating Council, the County Plan Commission, and the Department of Community Development and Planning were most cooperative in sharing their expertise with us. The Park and Recreation Subcommittee of the Citizens Advisory Board, the Coalition for the Environment, and many Neighborhood Associations supplied us with valuable citizen input. The continued support of these groups assures an ongoing planning and implementation process.

Angela Derheimer
EARTH

I turn my face to earth
And cry out that my freedom,
Yes, my very life
Now lie within the conscience
Of my fellowman — and mine.
We have been defiant.
With greedy hands and eyes
We’ve plundered and laid waste.
Like locusts, heedless and
Without plan, we’ve looted
Ravaged and defiled our home.
Betrayed the trust reposed in
Us to cherish and preserve.
Returning nothing, taking all.
We deepen, do not heal, the
Wounds in bleeding earth.
Inevitable disaster in our present course
No flower, no tree, no singing bird;
No beauty of the day or night.
A planet without any source
Of life, too soon returning
To the chaos whence it once was formed.
Our folly now must cease.
All false conceit and selfish grasping thrown aside.
Man turns his efforts to the cause of earth,
Else dies the earth — and man.

Margie Lee Johnson
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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

The reasons for developing a Park Master Plan are many and varied. The plan is a guideline for the future directions of land acquisition and development for this Park Department. It is an organized, democratic way of combining the efforts from citizens, staff members of this Department and staff members of many other local government departments, in defining the park needs of the community and determining how those needs should be met. The implementation of this plan will preserve open space and provide recreation facilities for the citizens of Fort Wayne to insure that they will have enjoyable experiences during their leisure time, now and in the future.

This plan is the first phase of a multi-phase process to develop a comprehensive open space and recreation plan. This phase deals with park or open space needs. Later planning reports will deal with recreational programs and Park Department operations. The rivers and riverbanks, which are the single most significant natural feature in Fort Wayne, will also be the subject of a planning report. It should be noted that although the emphasis in this document is on park and green space, some attention is given to facilities especially where it is germane to determining space needs.

With the increase in leisure time and recreational opportunities, along with increases in income and mobility, comes an increase in the demand for recreational facilities. It is the Park Department's responsibility and goal to provide an adequate supply of open space and recreational facilities to meet the future demands of its constituency, and to prevent the deterioration of the existing facilities and the overuse of the natural resources involved. Again, preservation and provision of open space is the major area of concern in this planning report.

The most important recreational experience of all is the kind people find in everyday life — Do the children have to be driven to school — or can they walk or cycle to school safely over wooded paths? Are there streams for an afternoon's fishing — or have they all been buried in concrete culverts? Are the woods all gone — or are a few left for a picnic or a stroll? Basically, the Park Department does not view leisure, recreation, open spaces etc. as something to be considered apart from the normal everyday living experience. It is central to the philosophy of this Park Department that the urban environment should enrich the people who live in it. It is a basic tenet that the urban environment need not be one of monotonous, uninterrupted concrete and buildings, but that this environment can and must be made more pleasing by providing visual, aesthetic relief. We believe that the Park Department exists to improve the social and mental health of the community and to provide the citizens of Fort Wayne with alternatives to work, noise, traffic and monotony.

In realizing these needs, one must not only be concerned with the present environment, but must give thought to the future. One must insure that adequate space and recreation is provided for future generations. It is a basic tenet of the Park Department that the unique natural features of Fort Wayne and its surrounding area not be lost but be preserved and maintained. To fulfill these desires this plan has established policies to accomplish the following:

(1) To save and preserve our major natural land and water resources including the rivers, river-lands, drainage patterns, large open spaces on the city periphery and smaller natural spaces within the City.
(2) To provide for a balance of active and passive activities.

(3) To promote, in conjunction with the Plan Commission, proper land use and growth patterns.

(4) To provide an opportunity for diversion and relaxation within convenient distance.

(5) To secure legislation making it possible to maintain a constant watch over the use of land within the jurisdiction in order to insure that development does not bring environmental degradation.

By following the guidelines established in this plan the future community growth will be shared so that recreation and open space are adequately planned for and a healthy environment is created. The greatest problem concerning open space is that land is becoming less available in the areas where it is needed the most, that is, where development and population growth are rapidly expanding. Then too, there are older more densely developed areas of the city which continue to need accessible open space. In addition, parks, open spaces and recreation areas are valuable contributions toward solving the present problem of urban sprawl. This plan establishes the direction, which if followed, will secure and preserve open space needed for recreational areas, for conservation of green areas, and as a contrast to an expanding man-made world, to serve the present and future citizens of this community.
CHAPTER 2
GOALS, POLICIES, & OBJECTIVES

History

The Fort Wayne Board of Park Commissioners was established in accordance with legislation passed by the Indiana general assembly in 1905. The following is a quotation from their 1906 and first annual report to the Mayor:

"But Fort Wayne cannot afford to shirk any of her responsibility to herself to provide additional park grounds for the betterment of social conditions and for the enjoyment and benefit of the citizens of greater Fort Wayne, soon to be realized from the healthy but extremely rapid growth our city is certain to make during the next ten years. There is nothing that would most surely or might more justly add to the credit of your administration, than to have it said that it was during your term of office, and largely by your aid, that additional park grounds were secured, while yet they could be at prices at which the city could afford to buy. The cities of the old world are tearing down great and expensive buildings by the block, that parks may be established in their stead. Scores of millions of dollars are being thus expended, where single thousands would have done in the early history of such cities. Nothing so favorably impresses the stranger within our gates and sends him from us to chant our praises, as public parks, paved streets, and good sidewalks."

These words, written sixty-eight (68) years ago, exemplify the concerns of the first Commissioners, in short, to acquire park lands while at a reasonable price for the betterment of the community. The same concerns are being expressed today, only more emphatically, because of the increase in demand for recreational facilities.

The purpose of this plan is to guide the Park Department in its future decisions and to inform the public on the problems and issues concerning open space and recreation.

The Ideal Park System

The State of Indiana Department of Natural Resources had prepared a comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the State. The Department has also prepared a recreation model for the State. The mission of local government in this model is to provide and develop Community Parks and Trails, Neighborhood Parks, and Block Parks. The Fort Wayne Park Board subscribes to this model and the plan herein has been formulated on the basis of this model. Generally, a Community Park has a service area with a radius of one mile, approximately a twenty minute walk; a Neighborhood Park has a service area of one-half mile, or approximately a ten minute walk; and a Block Park takes a five to ten minute walk and covers a service area of one-quarter mile radius. According to the model, each type of park can be defined as follows:

Community Park

Purpose: To provide an activity—dominated recreation area with a moderate amount of managed but undeveloped land that can sustain continued heavy use.

Undeveloped land: 20-40 percent of total park area.

Size: 100–300 acres

Facilities and Activities:

1. Picnicking
2. Golf
3. Winter Sports
4. Playground
5. Playfields
6. Trails
7. Water Recreation
8. Nature Study Area
Neighborhood Park

Purpose: To provide active and passive recreation facilities for all age groups within a walking distance of urban neighborhood residents.
Undeveloped land: 15–30 percent of total park area.
Size: 5–50 acres
Special features: May be developed in conjunction with school grounds if feasible.
Facilities and Activities:

1. Playground
2. Playfield
3. Recreation building
4. Swimming

Block Park

Purpose: To provide protected areas in residential areas for young children as well as space and activities for the elderly.
Undeveloped land: 10–20 percent of total park area.
Size: ½–5 acres
Facilities and Activities:

1. Playground
2. Shelter
3. Sitting Area
4. Small court area

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has provided planning guidelines for the development of facilities within parks and these standards and criteria have been used as a general guide in this planning document.

Goals, Objectives and Policies

The heart of the Park Plan is the goals, objectives and policies which it establishes. The goals set out the direction and mission of the Park Department. The objectives define specific, measurable milestones which, if achieved, will assure the department that it is carrying out its mission. The policies are additional guides to future decisions which, if followed, should further assure that objectives will be met.

Goals

The Park Department has three major goals that it will pursue:

1. To provide open space and places that meet human recreational need — physical, psychological and social.
2. To preserve areas that have significant natural ecological value.
3. To provide recreational facilities compatible with neighborhood needs.

Objectives

To implement these goals, the following objectives have been formulated:

1. To provide adequate open space within 15 minutes walking distance of every citizen.
2. To develop a comprehensive program for riverbank improvement that enhances the characteristics of the rivers, this city’s most prominent natural feature.
3. To develop procedures requiring percentage of land being developed be preserved as open space.

4. To encourage preservation of historic sites by coordinating efforts with agencies having the same interests, and to stimulate historic preservation whenever possible.

5. To encourage the zoning of prime agricultural lands, wooded areas, areas with unique natural features, and reclaimable land rendered useless by the extraction of mineral deposits, into permanent open space areas or limit usage of such areas for public recreation.

6. To concentrate on bringing areas deficient in open space up to acceptable standards.

7. To provide opportunities for participation in leisure time activities which meet the diversity of interests and needs of the people within the city; and, when these opportunities for participation involve the furnishing of special services or facilities, to provide a reasonable return on investment and expenses consistent with the value received by the participant.

Policies

In order to achieve these goals and objectives, the Board of Park Commissioners has established the following policies as guides to future action:

1. To maintain the high standard of excellence that this Park Department has established in keeping open space areas well tended and inviting for public use.

2. To establish a public partnership in recreation and provide for maximum citizen participation in decision making procedures.

3. To educate the individual in the worth of purposeful use of leisure time, and to encourage people to enjoy and conserve the natural environment.

4. To assist in the coordination of all recreation resources and to cooperate with all agencies, private, voluntary, and public, in providing the community with a functional, comprehensive park and recreation program.

5. To aid and assist in improving the quality of life and upgrading the state of the environment in the urban setting.

Open space enhances and protects the resource base — the air, water, soils, plants, and in turn, the animals. It can effect economic development decisions relating to tourism, development patterns, employment, and real estate values. The aforementioned goals, objectives and policies, are established to provide citizens with the proper place and space in which to enjoy leisure time. In addition, legal and administrative tools will be necessary to implement this plan and these are discussed in later chapters.
CHAPTER 3

INVENTORY AND DESCRIPTION
CHAPTER 3

INVENTORY AND DESCRIPTION

THE SETTING: THE FORT WAYNE AREA

The predominant physical features of the Fort Wayne area are its three rivers: the Maumee, the St. Joseph and the St. Mary’s. Water from most of the area drains into the Maumee River which is part of the Lake Erie watershed. The Maumee itself is formed by the confluence of the St. Mary’s and the St. Joseph Rivers which drain much of the southern and northern parts of the area respectively.

Topographical relief in the area ranges from level to rolling to strongly sloping. There are numerous depressions, some extensive. In most of Allen County the parent material of the present soil, that is the disintegrated and partly weathered rock from which the present soil was formed, was that deposited here by the glaciers which traversed the area during the ice age. This deposit, or glacial drift as it is called by geologists, consisted of silty and clayey material mixed with varying amounts of sand and gravel-to boulder-size, rock fragments. Because of this geological history, area soil conditions require that urban development be carefully planned in certain areas and curbed in others, allowing for park development in those areas unsuitable for structures. (A detailed description of Allen County soils is currently being produced by the Allen County Plan Commission and their findings will supplement this plan.)

Climate affects the amount of time used by people for their leisure. If winter is unseasonably warm as it is on occasion in the Fort Wayne area, the ice skating season on the natural ponds is cut short, and snowmobilers, sledding enthusiasts and ice skaters are forced to travel further north to participate in these sports. Further, cold weather in the area is usually not constant enough to sustain adequate natural snow for a ski slope or toboggan run. These activities must be sought further north from here, but are easily accessible within an hour or two travel time.

During the area’s summer months day-to-day changes in temperature and relative humidity make that season unpredictable. Usually the swimming season is adequate and may only be affected by an unusual number of rainy days. Rainfall, however, which averages about 35 inches a year, is fairly well distributed throughout the year with a slightly greater amount occurring in the spring.

The Existing Park and Recreation System

The existing park system of Fort Wayne has been classified below into Community Parks, Neighborhood Parks, Block Parks, a Trail System and Historical Points. This system is in accordance with the guidelines set by the Indiana Outdoor Recreation Plan. (The definitions for each of these particular park classes are to be found in the previous chapter under the section “The Ideal Park System.”)

The Fort Wayne Park Department presently provides its 183,000 constituents with 1187.83 acres of Community Parks, 413.88 acres of Neighborhood Parks and 66.18 acres of Block Parks. The total acreage figure (1667.89) shows that Fort Wayne provides 9.11 acres of parks for every 1,000 persons. Further, with regard to development versus non- (or un-) development or support area of existing park lands, 48% of all such park land is to be classed in the latter of these two categories. Chart I, “Summary of Existing Park Land Uses,” below shows all park land in each park class by land use acreage.
CHART I  SUMMARY OF EXISTING PARK LAND-USES

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<th>PLYGRD</th>
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<th>TENNIS</th>
<th>PICNIC</th>
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<td>Block</td>
<td>12.18</td>
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Parks

An inventory of existing parks can be found in the following Charts II, III, and IV-A, -B, and C which group all parks by classification and identify in abbreviated form the facilities provided in each. (A more detailed description of facilities in each park is located in the Appendix under “DETAILED PARK INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS.”) Following these charts, which are concerned with existing facilities in each park, can be found Chart’s V-A, B and C, showing land use and accompanying acreage figures for each existing park. Geographic location for all parks can be found on Map 1 (inside the back cover) by the corresponding symbol and number.
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<th>Camping</th>
<th>Ball Diamond Courts</th>
<th>Basketball Courts</th>
<th>Playgrounds</th>
<th>Archery</th>
<th>Ice Skating</th>
<th>Natural Open Space</th>
<th>Tennis Courts</th>
<th>Pool</th>
<th>Trails</th>
<th>Horseshoe Court</th>
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## Chart V - A

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<tr>
<td>Old Fort</td>
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<td></td>
<td>.20</td>
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<td>Orff Park</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.16</td>
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<td>Salon Plaza</td>
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<td>1.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seiling</td>
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<td>.18</td>
<td>.25</td>
<td>.17</td>
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<td>Sherman St.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>.48</td>
<td>.77</td>
<td>.85</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Club</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>.13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>.13</td>
</tr>
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<td>Turpie Playlot</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>.62</td>
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<td>1.62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wabash Playlot</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
<td>.22</td>
<td></td>
<td>.06</td>
<td></td>
<td>.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Central</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>.04</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>.09</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>.74</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL | 12.18 | 13.56 | 1.01 | 2.34 | 30.93 | 6.16 | 66.18 |
Park Strips

The following are park or boulevard strips that provide a green open space for such activities as strolling or walking a dog. The list below is only a representative one and shows only those strips with an area of a half acre or more. The cumulative area total for all such strips, that is including those strips with areas less than half an acre, is 50.67 acres. Those listed below can be found by corresponding symbol and letter on the Existing Facilities Map (Map 1) found inside the back cover.

A. Forest Park Boulevard  3.12 acres  
B. Hanne's Ford  .5 acres  
C. St. Joseph Boulevard  3.07 acres  
D. Thieme Drive  3.0 acres  
E. Edgewater Park Strip  15.4 acres  
F. Edgewater Park Strip Extended  2.0 acres  
G. Pontiac Place  2.06 acres  
H. Lafayette Esplanade  6.45 acres  
J. Indian Village Park Strip  1.98 acres  
K. Kensington Boulevard  2.99 acres  
L. South Wayne Avenue  1.17 acres  
M. Tacoma Avenue  .98 acres  
N. Harrison Street  1.26 acres  
O. Main Street  .36 acres  
P. North Highlands Boulevard  1.79 acres  
Q. River Forest Drive  .69 acres  
R. Northwood Boulevard  .56 acres  
S. Bluffton Road  3.65 acres  

Recreation Centers

Recreation Centers listed below are situated on property owned by the Park Department or on land owned by the Fort Wayne Community School System and provide supervised recreation programs for ten weeks in the summer and/or twenty-three weeks in the winter season or year round. Centers that have year round operation are McCulloch, Miner, The Club, and Hamilton Recreation Centers, all of which are owned by the Park Department. The remaining centers are school building where a few rooms or a gymnasium are used for Park Department sponsored recreation programs. Use of school buildings is limited to hours when school is not in session and programs vary from season to season. The number listed here with each center corresponds to the number inside the small red circle symbol on the Existing Facilities Map (Map 1) found inside the back cover.

1. Holland School  
2. Northwood Junior High School  
3. Northcrest School  
4. Price School  
5. Riverside School
6. Brentwood School
7. Glenwood Park School
8. Weisser School
9. Adams School
10. Bloomingdale School
11. Harrison Hill School
12. Abbet School
13. Southern Heights School
14. Hanna School
15. Maplewood School
16. Hoagland School
17. Forest Park School
18. Haven Community Center
19. Nebraska School
20. McCulloch School
21. Memorial School
22. South Wayne School

* McCulloch
* Miner
* The Club
** Hamilton

* No number is shown for this center since it is on Block Park property and is to be found under that symbol on Map 1. See Chart V-C above for map-symbol numbers.

** No number is shown for this center since it is on Neighborhood Park property (that of Hamilton Park) and is to be found under that symbol on Map 1. See Chart V-B above for map-symbol numbers.

Chart VI, "EXISTING RECREATION CENTERS," below shows all recreation centers operated year round with their accompanying land use acreages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAP #</th>
<th>PLYGRD</th>
<th>TENNIS</th>
<th>PICNIC</th>
<th>UNDEV</th>
<th>SPECIAL</th>
<th>PLYFLD</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Center</td>
<td></td>
<td>.00*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCulloch</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>.12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Center .26</td>
<td>.37</td>
<td>.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miner</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td>.22</td>
<td>Center .61</td>
<td>.47</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Club</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Center .13</td>
<td></td>
<td>.13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>.12</td>
<td>.22</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>.84</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*No acreage is shown for this center since such acreage is included with that shown for Hamilton Park on CHART V-B, "EXISTING NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS" above.

Private Facilities

The public agency having the responsibility to provide recreation facilities does not and should not have to shoulder the entire load. In fact, private interests account for many outstanding facilities in Fort Wayne and the vicinity. There are many fine golf courses, country clubs, swimming pools, tennis clubs, and special interest groups that work for the preservation
of open space and its proper use. Locally, Acres, Inc. is an example of one such organization. A reputable park and recreation system acquires its foundation with the cooperation and coordination of both private and public agencies.

The following is an illustrative list of private facilities that contribute to the recreation opportunities for Fort Wayne citizens. Again, these areas can be found by the number inside the small, red square symbol on MAP I, The Existing Facilities Map, to be found inside the back cover.

1. Elks Country Club
2. Club Olympia
3. Young Women's Christian Association
4. Lakeside Golf Club
5. Police Athletic League
6. Fort Wayne Country Club
7. Southeast Branch of Young Men's Christian Association
8. Fairview Golf Course
9. Orchard Ridge Country Club
10. Brookwood Golf Course
11. Canterbury Green Golf Course
12. Colonial Oaks Golf Course
13. Havenhurst Golf Course
14. Young Men's Christian Association
15. Racquet Club
16. Wildwood Raquet Club

Tri-State Area Facilities

The term "transfer of demand" refers to people traveling outside of study area boundaries to satisfy their recreation needs; and when determining the overall quantity of recreation need for such an area, it is an important factor that should be considered. For the Fort Wayne area much demand for recreation facilities is satisfied by the lake region of Northeastern Indiana. Due to the adequate highway facilities available, many popular recreation spots in this region are accessible within forty minutes driving time.

Specific areas in this class of outside-the-study-area recreation facilities include areas under both private and public ownership. Federal government areas include the Mississinewa, Salamonie, and Huntington reservoirs. State facilities within an hour drive include Chain-O-Lakes State Park, Ouabache State Recreation area, Pokagon State Park, Slocum State Forest, Salamonie River State Forest, Pigeon River Fish and Game Preserve, and Tri-County Fish and Game Preserve. Other preserve-type areas also in this category are Spurgeon Woodland Reserve, Bender Memorial Forest, Beechwood Nature Preserve, The Bog, and Hanging Rock.
DEMAND AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

CHAPTER 4

A visit to Seal Island is a treat for youngsters of all ages.

On the links at a Fort Wayne golf course.

The younger set—and a host of spectators—thrill to the races of the Soap Box Derby.
CHAPTER 4  
DEMAND AND NEED ANALYSIS

There is no single or simple way to determine the present or future open space needs of a community. While national and state park groups have established various formulas for determining open space needs, local factors always require that these be used with judgement if appropriate space needs are to be determined. Professional advice and assistance is essential but the Park Board also places a great deal of importance on the views of citizens. After a process of careful deliberation, the Park Board adopted an open space standard in conjunction with the New Haven Park Board, the Allen County Park Board and the Three Rivers Coordinating Council some time ago. This standard is used below to determine open space needs up to 1990. The conclusions reached by using this standard should be viewed in light of the discussion which follows on citizen views, space needs for facilities and spatial distribution of open space.

Population

The population of Fort Wayne and its growth up to 1990 is an important factor in making use of the Board’s open space standard in determining open space needs. A brief discussion of Fort Wayne population follows.

Chart VII shows population projections to 1990 broken down by four geographic areas. The projections were arrived at by using the straight line projection method. These figures were further verified by the use of the cohort-survival projection method.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHART VII</th>
<th>CURRENT POPULATION &amp; PROJECTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>183,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance of Urbanized Area (Excluding Adams Township)</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams Township Including New Haven</td>
<td>22,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL URBANIZED AREA</td>
<td>245,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Three Rivers Coordinating Council – 1973

The Fort Wayne population figures are for the corporate city limits as defined by the 1970 census. Annexations are assumed to be most probable within the urbanized areas defined by the bureau of census. Calculations for the “balance of urbanized area” included the closely settled territory of Wayne, St. Joseph, Washington, Aboite, Pleasant, Marion Townships and that portion of Adams Township within the corporate limits. These figures do not include that part of Adams Township under the jurisdiction of the New Haven Park Department. The complete study area includes the townships of Wayne, St. Joseph, Washington, Aboite, the northern half of Pleasant and Marion, and that portion of Adams within the corporate limits. (See Map 1)

The area of fastest growth has been St. Joseph Township with Aboite Township also developing rapidly. These areas are outside of the Fort Wayne Park Board’s service area but
within its 10 mile limit for land acquisition. Many census tracts within the city limits lost population to these outlying communities. While these suburbs are growing, the need for recreation facilities and open space grows also, but the areas are currently outside of the taxing district. Consequently, unless the private developer provides for some open space, the void in these areas will continue to increase.

Many factors affect the demand for recreation. Income, education, and socio-economic conditions definitely have a direct effect on participation, type, and location of recreational activities. The Economic and Demographic Data Book, that was completed for the community renewal program (CRP), provides the background information for a clearer perspective of the socio-economic make-up of the city population.

Open Space Needs

By adopting standards for parks or open space the Park Board is thereby able to specifically determine what it needs to do to carry out its missions and achieve its goals. Through the use of standards, the Board is able to calculate the need for additional open space in the years to come. The Fort Wayne Park Board, New Haven Park Board, and Allen County Park Board, under the direction of the Three Rivers Coordinating Council, have agreed to the following key acreage standards: for community parks the standard is eight (8) acres per 1000 population served. The standard for block and neighborhood parks is five (5) acres per 1000 population served.

While these standards are higher than those used in some communities it is felt that they approximate the local "demand" for open space. The standards are realistic, but cannot be easily attained without a strong commitment to achieve them. Use of these standards will provide the Park Department with a means of determining correctly what the park space needs of the community are in the coming years. The standards were not qualified as urban or suburban. They are the same in out-lying fringe areas because, even though some subdivisions supply their own recreation facilities, there is still a need for open space areas that are not developed with recreation facilities.

Using the population projections noted previously, and the adopted space standards as the indicator of demand, the formula-demand minus existing acreage equals the acreage needed-can tell us what the open space needs of Fort Wayne will be through 1990. Chart VIII presents a summary picture of Fort Wayne's park space needs.

Charts IX and X show the park space needs in terms of acres. It should be noted that the need is expressed in terms of accumulative need which assumes that no park space acquisition occurs from one year to the next. This is an unlikely event so that as acquisitions are made, the balance of need will be reduced. Chart XI shows the need in terms of incremental park units based on the determined acre needs in each park category to meet the ones required as the size of each park developed, will vary according to location and other specific conditions at the time of acquisition.

Several important conclusions can be drawn from the data in the charts. First of all, the data shows that Fort Wayne is in a catch-up position. That is, a significant proportion of the total space needs through 1990 is the immediate, 1973 need. The balance of the need beyond 1973 in the chart appears to be manageable with careful programming.
### CHART VIII - TOTAL ACRE NEEDS 1973 – 1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FORT WAYNE</th>
<th>COMMUNITY PARKS</th>
<th>Neighborhood &amp; Block Parks</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>276°T</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>603</td>
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<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>1006</td>
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</table>

### BALANCE OF URBANIZED AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Community Parks</th>
<th>Neighborhood &amp; Block Parks</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>1053</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

°T All numbers are expressed as running subtotals from year to year assuming no space acquisition.

### CHART IX - FORT WAYNE PARK ACRE NEEDS 1973 – 1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY PARKS</th>
<th>DEMAND</th>
<th>EXISTING</th>
<th>NEED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>1464°T</td>
<td>1188</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>1488</td>
<td>1188</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>1576</td>
<td>1188</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1736</td>
<td>1188</td>
<td>548</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEIGHBORHOOD AND BLOCK PARKS</th>
<th>DEMAND</th>
<th>EXISTING*</th>
<th>NEED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>627</td>
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<td>358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1085</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>458</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

°T All numbers are expressed as running subtotals from year to year assuming no space acquisition.

*Figures include areas in community parks and park strips that serve as block parts but not school or church playgrounds.

### CHART X - PARK ACRE NEEDS OF BALANCE OF URBANIZED AREA 1973 – 1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY PARKS</th>
<th>DEMAND</th>
<th>EXISTING</th>
<th>NEED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>320°T</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>464</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>648</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

22
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEIGHBORHOOD AND BLOCK PARKS</th>
<th>DEMAND</th>
<th>EXISTING</th>
<th>NEED</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>1975</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All numbers are expressed as running subtotals from year to year assuming no space acquisitions.*

CHART XI – NEEDS EXPRESSED IN POSSIBLE PARK UNITS 1973 – 1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FORT WAYNE</th>
<th>COMMUNITY PARK</th>
<th>NEIGHBORHOOD PARK</th>
<th>BLOCK PARK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

BALANCE OF URBAN AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>PARK</th>
<th>AREA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The scale of need for neighborhood and block parks in terms of acres according to the population standard is striking. Further, the need for block parks in terms of numbers is great and it is likely that this need will take a number of years of concerted effort to be fulfilled considering the instability of funding sources projections.

Finally, the park space needs for the balance of the urban area excluding Fort Wayne, is large. Should the city annex parts of this area at a rate greater than in the recent past, this will significantly increase the need burden on the Park Department.

The above park space needs as determined by existing Park Board standards should be viewed in light of several related issues. The balance of this chapter is devoted to a brief discussion of some of these issues.

**Citizen Input**

A park and recreation facilities user survey was mailed to 60,000 City Utilities customers. (An example of the survey form can be found in the Appendix.) Funds were not sufficient to
provide for the return postage, so the outcome of the survey relied heavily on vocal concerned citizens. Unfortunately, there were only 1,825 such people. However, we were able to determine some current trends in recreation. The ten (10) activities with the most participation, recorded in order, were bicycling, playground activities, horseshoes, tennis, baseball and softball, picnicking, driving for pleasure, visiting the Children's Zoo, basketball, and viewing floral gardens. In addition to the participation figures, the respondents assisted this department by expressing the need for various facilities in their particular neighborhoods.

In addition, numerous public meetings have been conducted and will continue to be conducted where citizens make their needs and desires known. Many suggestions at community meetings have dealt with park supervision problems, maintenance issues, and insufficiency of facilities. Taken together, the various forms of citizen input do not suggest any major changes in the amount of park space that is needed from now until 1990.

It should also be noted here that the Citizen Advisory Board has periodically reviewed the development of this plan, and their advise has been welcomed in modifying the contents of this planning document.

Needs By Activity

The need for park space in Fort Wayne has been calculated above by using space standards. Space standards arrive from the experience of many Park Departments around the country and reflect the space needed to provide for the most popular public recreational activities. In this section we will calculate the space needed in Fort Wayne for specific recreational activities per section. The purpose of this exercise is two fold. The data calculated here will be useful in comparing with the raw space needs as determined above but, perhaps, more importantly this information can be used by the Park Board in the coming years as a guideline in allocating space and providing facilities within new and existing parks for the various recreational activities noted.

We have used the Indiana Outdoor Recreation Plan formula plus a mobility factor in determining local demand, to calculate the acres needed for various recreational facilities in Fort Wayne. The formula is:

\[
\text{TOTAL DEMAND which is Participation rate(mobility factor (urbanized area population - Fort Wayne population) + Fort Wayne population)} = \frac{\text{ACRES OF FACILITIES NEEDED}}{\text{NUMBER OF DESIGN DAYS} \times \text{TOTAL DAILY CAPACITY}}
\]

We have used the seasonal participation rates as shown in Chart XII which were taken from the Indiana Outdoor Recreation Plan as based on research by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.
CHART XII – ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION RATES FOR FORT WAYNE 1973 – 1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BICYCLING</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWIMMING</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>12.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICNICKING</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAYFIELDS</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOLF</td>
<td>1.07</td>
<td>1.07</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: Indiana Outdoor Recreation Plan 1970

It should be noted in Chart XII that playfields represents activities that require basketball courts, softball diamonds, football fields, and the like. Participation rates for playground type activities were not calculated and following the practice of the State plan, a standard of 2 acres/1000 population will be used in our calculations.

Using our population projection, the total demand can be calculated and is shown in Chart XIII. The mobility factor used in determining demand was applied to all activities except playgrounds because playgrounds are neighborhood oriented and rarely used by non-city residents.

The mobility factor could not be ignored in determining both the demand and need for certain recreation facilities. Persons from outside the corporate limit taxing district also use Fort Wayne park facilities, and this had to be taken into account.

Picnic areas, golf courses, tennis courts, etc. are utilized by many non-city residents. This creates a greater use burden on the existing facilities. If the service of park and recreation facilities was limited to just city residents the needs would be obviously less.

An equitable system must be initiated to relieve the cost burden to city tax payers caused by non-resident use. (Discussed further under Source of Funds.)

CHART XIII – TOTAL DEMAND BY ACTIVITY 1973–1990 – FORT WAYNE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BICYCLING</td>
<td>717,216</td>
<td>765,204</td>
<td>942,264</td>
<td>1,098,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWIMMING</td>
<td>2,267,328</td>
<td>2,419,032</td>
<td>3,167,054</td>
<td>3,692,194.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICNICKING</td>
<td>902,304</td>
<td>962,676</td>
<td>1,204,004</td>
<td>1,403,644.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAYFIELDS</td>
<td>809,760</td>
<td>863,940</td>
<td>1,125,482</td>
<td>1,312,102.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOLF</td>
<td>231,360</td>
<td>246,840</td>
<td>340,262</td>
<td>396,682.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Design days is a variable in the equation which is an index of the number of play days in the year a recreational facility is used or which the actual activity is generally pursued. In all of our calculations we used 36 design days for each activity following the State plan. This number was arrived at by figuring a summer season to be 98 days between Memorial day and Labor Day. During the season there are 15 Sundays and 3 holidays which are made equal to
18 design days. Of the remaining 80 days three weekdays are made equal to 1 design day. Figuring in a loss of 20% (of days) due to bad weather, you arrive at 36 design days.

The final factor in the formula is total daily capacity. Total daily capacity for each activity is the product of the turnover rate times the capacity of the facility at any one time expressed as the number of people per acre. We have used the total daily capacity figures as established in the Indiana Outdoor Recreational Plan and these are shown in Chart XIV.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>TOTAL DAILY CAPACITY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BICYCLING</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWIMMING</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td>PICNICKING</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAYFIELDS</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOLF</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With this information it was then possible to calculate the acre needs for each recreational activity and these are shown in Chart XV. No predictions have been made as to how much land might be acquired for each activity from 1973 through 1990 and, therefore, the amount existing in 1973 was used in every case. The amount of need, therefore, is shown as a running total from 1973 – 1990. It is recognized that in all likelihood, acquisitions will be made in the coming years and the need amounts can be reduced accordingly. A few brief comments can be made for each activity.

The City Traffic Engineering Department is in the process of erecting the international signs that designate bicycle routes along City streets. In coordination with the Three Rivers Velo Sport Club, (the local bicycle group), the streets having the lightest traffic flows were chosen to be the best routes. These routes are generally used for recreational-oriented riding because they link some of the City parks together.

An asphalt path through Foster Park will soon provide the bicyclist with a scenic route along the St. Marys River. This path will eventually reach Tillman Park and tie the two parks together. This will be the only asphalt path in any of the parks and the majority of its users will reside in the southern portion of the City. Those living on the north side of the City need bicycle trails to supplement the street route which ends short of the northeast residential developments. A bicycle lane is being constructed in conjunction with the widening of St. Joe Road. This route will aid the north side bicyclist even more after it is connected to the street route.

All the above mentioned routes can be located on the existing bicycle route map (Map 4) found inside the back cover. However, these routes do not adequately serve the cyclist whose bicycle is his mode of transportation. A network of bicycle lanes is needed to serve those riding to their place of employment, or to shopping areas. Such a network is being investigated in a separate Bicycle Path Study.

In the area of playgrounds, the large need shown roughly parallels the space needs shown in Chart IX and Chart X for Block parks. If school grounds are taken into consideration, this deficiency is reduced.
Swimming is probably the water based activity in greatest demand in Fort Wayne. Locally private swim clubs and public facilities other than the Park Board's four pools supply the bulk of the swimming facilities. An inventory of private pools can be found in the Appendix.

The space devoted to picnicking appears to be more than adequate at this time, but additional tables and support facilities in natural settings are still needed.

The amount of existing space for playfields activities appears to be adequate for the present according to State standards. There is some need, however, to upgrade and better maintain some of the existing playfields.

In Chart XV, golf shows an excessive need in the future. Private facilities currently serve the bulk of the demand for golfing in the Fort Wayne area and unless the Park Board chooses to change this balance, additional space for golf is not recommended in the near future.

| CHART XV | ACRE NEEDS BY ACTIVITY 1973 – 1990 – FORT WAYNE |
| ACRE NEEDS |
| BICYCLING | MILES | MILES | MILES | MILES |
| DEMAND | 25 | 26 | 32 | 37 |
| EXISTING* | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NEED | -25 | -26 | -32 | -37 |
| PLAYGROUNDS | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES |
| DEMAND | 366 | 372 | 394 | 434 |
| EXISTING* | 38 | 38 | 38 | 38 |
| NEED | -328 | -334 | -356 | -396 |
| SWIMMING | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES |
| DEMAND | 31 | 33 | 44 | 51 |
| EXISTING** | 65 | 65 | 65 | 65 |
| NEED | +34 | +32 | +21 | +14 |
| PICNICKING | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES |
| DEMAND | 125 | 133 | 167 | 194 |
| EXISTING* | 130 | 130 | 130 | 130 |
| NEED | +5 | -3 | -37 | -64 |
| PLAYFIELDS | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES |
| DEMAND | 160 | 171 | 223 | 260 |
| EXISTING* | 165 | 165 | 165 | 165 |
| NEED | +5 | -6 | -58 | -95 |
| GOLF | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES | ACRES |
| DEMAND | 1997 | 2133 | 2941 | 3425 |
| NEED | -8 | -144 | -952 | -1436 |

*Only Park Department facilities are included in these figures.

**Park Department and private facilities, as shown in the Appendix, are included in these figures.
Need Areas

The acreage standards have determined how much space is needed for additional parks in Fort Wayne. In addition to the amount, however, there is the question of proximity of accessibility. The Park Board has the objective of providing open space within 15 minutes walk of every resident. In addition there are the service radius guidelines of one mile for a Community Park, one half mile for a Neighborhood park and one quarter mile for a Block Park. Needs based on geographic areas, therefore, is another important consideration in determining the total needs picture. Determining need areas in the city will also be a helpful guide to determining where new park acquisition should be made in the coming years.

Areas in the total study area which are not adequately served by parks were determined in the following way.

The service areas of existing parks were located on a map. This was accomplished by using the standards developed by the Indiana Outdoor Recreation Plan. A Community Park service area has a boundary of one mile in any direction, or a twenty minute walk, for those residing within the circle. A Neighborhood Park has a service area of one half of a mile or a fifteen minute walk, and a Block Park is generally a five or ten minute walk, or one fourth of a mile away from those residing in the service area.

The service area circles were trimmed to a more realistic view by taking any barriers to accessibility into account. These included major throughways and arterial streets, rivers, lack of sidewalks, corners without pedestrian crossing signals, railroads, and major obstructions; i.e. fenced industrial complexes. These obstacles reduced the service areas substantially in the case of some parks and insignificantly in other cases.

Neighborhoods were defined by existing park service areas, neighborhood associations, subdivision boundaries and by natural or physical barriers (rivers, arterial streets). The areas outside of any existing park service area were naturally void areas and, as neighborhoods, were also examined using census information. After these neighborhood boundaries were placed on a map, each one became a small study area. The density of the neighborhood was examined as well as the number of people per age group. The environmental and structural conditions of neighborhoods as defined by the Community Renewal Program survey were also instrumental in evaluating neighborhood needs.

The proximity to existing park areas or the absence of open space made the need areas apparent. Some neighborhoods, for example, have a dense population but few nearby recreation facilities to accommodate them. The Recreation Staff also helped determine where these need areas were located with their knowledge of how far children traveled from home to participate in programs at certain playgrounds.

Map 1 shows the general need areas for each classification of parks. The need areas have not been assigned a priority at this time. It is rather proposed that as the plan is implemented, citizens will help to establish priority on space acquisitions. It must be noted that the need areas are based on existing population and existing residential development. Therefore, these represent our present day or catch-up needs. Because of the extent of these needs it is improbable that the Park Board will be in a financial position in the immediate future to acquire open space in areas where future residential development is likely, although this is preferable to continually playing catch-up. The lack of a clearly established annexation policy, makes this issue that much more complex.
CHAPTER 5

FUTURE PROGRAMMING

The needs of the community have been outlined to the year 1990. In order to meet these needs it will be necessary to undertake major new programs. Three types of programs are proposed here through 1980: Land acquisition and development, facility expansion and facility renovation. Each of these programs are discussed below.

Land Acquisition And Development

The previous chapter on needs analysis shows that Fort Wayne's park needs are large both in terms of acres and number of new parks. The idealized situation would suggest that the Park Board needs new parks according to Chart XI. Because the scale of need pointed out in Chart IX is so large, it would be unrealistic to propose such an ambitious undertaking. It was felt that a more reasonable program needed to be defined so that the Park Board could adopt the program and make every effort to implement it. Many factors were taken into consideration in defining the recommended program, including contributions from the recreation and maintenance staffs, who provided insight into what each neighborhood's needs were, voids areas outside existing service areas, barriers to accessibility, population by age group, citizen views, and the like. It was felt that the program had to recognize the greatest need in the smaller park categories.

What is done in the inner city neighborhoods, with dense populations of carless, low-income families who are not familiar with the city beyond their neighborhood in many cases, much less beyond the city boundaries, is quite different from what needs to be done in the affluent suburbs where leisure facilities abound.

The following 1974–1980 acquisition and development program is proposed as two recommendations:

Recommendation A:

To acquire and develop one (1) neighborhood park per year, a neighborhood park being an area consisting of approximately 10 to 50 acres, 20-40 percent to be left undeveloped, and located within twenty minutes walking time of the users of the service area. Location depends on the availability of open space in the area chosen as one of great need based on population figures, proximity of other facilities and socio-economic factors.

Scope: The purpose of a neighborhood park is to provide active and passive recreation facilities for all age groups within a walking distance of all residents in the service area. Facilities may include, but need not be limited to the following:

- Landscape areas
- Shaded sitting areas
- Areas for elderly
- Hard Surface courts
- Ballfields
- Playlots
- Picnic area
- Shelter building
- Court games

Expected results: Providing an attractive green space within the neighborhood with facilities for unorganized outdoor activity. The importance of this type of park increases in proportion to the population density and therefore the need for open space in the neighborhood increases. With an average of 30 acres or so per neighborhood park, this would represent an addition of better than 200 acres of park land by 1980.
Recommendation B:

To acquire and develop three (3) block parks per year, a block park being an area consisting of approximately ¼ to 5 acres, 10-30 percent left undeveloped, located within 5 minutes walking time of all users of that service area. Flexibility in selecting these individual sites should be anticipated on the basis of site conditions and the character of the neighborhood. Two (2) of the three (3) block parks being acquired and developed in 1974 are located in the West Central neighborhood as defined by the HUD Neighborhood Development Program.

Block parks have proven to be an effective means to improve the urban environment, especially in the more densely populated neighborhoods.

Two basic requirements stand out for a successful block park. First; active participation of the residents is essential, both to overcome limitations of resources and to ensure that the people to be served by these facilities assume a vital role rather than being the passive recipients of another social program. Second; block parks can only make a substantial contribution if they are closely spaced one to the other. Neither of these objectives are easily obtained but they deserve substantial effort.

Scope: Facilities that may be considered for a block park include, but need not be limited to the following:

- Pre-school play area
- Supervision area
- Elderly area
- Buffer, turf, and shaded area

Expected results: An increase of these small areas in close proximity to young children, mothers and elderly. The Park Department's greatest deficiency exists in the lack of these high use areas that should be very accessible to local residents. With an average of 3 acres or so for each Block Park, this would represent an addition of up to 75 acres of park land by 1980.

Circles and triangles were used to define the above areas on Map 1. They are called Need (Proposed) Areas. The three different sizes of block park symbols designate the relative availability of land. Urban and suburban conditions being different the suburban need area symbols are larger because of more available open space and a need to preserve as much open space land as possible.

Facility Expansion

The following expansion and improvements of existing facilities is proposed. The selections of specific locations for the following improvements were made by the Park Board and the Park Department staff. Many of the projects have been under consideration for several years, but the lack of funds has impeded their progress.

McCormick Park Place (Adams School Playground)

Scope: Shelter
- Landscaping
- Ball diamond
- 4 picnic tables
- 3 grills
- Swinging park benches
- Lighting

Expected results: To provide an open air shelter, landscaping, picnic facilities and a ball diamond in an area deficient of these facilities.
Senior Citizen Center

Construction of a new building (first preference) or purchase and remodel an existing building (second preference) to be used as a Senior Citizens Center.

Scope: Recreation-education activities at the center may include a broad spectrum of activities.

Expected results: To provide older people with a specific facility that caters to their needs and interests. The center will provide the individual with opportunities for personal enrichment in the arts, languages, music, dramatics, nature, sports and games, dance and crafts.

Street Tree Program

A program to plant street trees in the area between the curbs and sidewalks, or within dedicated right of ways of city streets in all new additions never planted before and six (6) inner city areas needing replacement planting.

Scope: Plans are to plant 8-10 foot trees in the center of park strips according to requirements as stated in City Ordinances. Estimate of required number of trees to plant all subdivisions is 8,000 trees and to plant six (6) inner city areas needing replacement planting.

Expected results: This program would complete the street tree planting plan for the entire City. A street tree program adds beauty and graciousness and a feeling of welcome to streets that otherwise are purely functional. Street trees add dollars to the value of property and improves the quality of the environment in the City for its residents and visitors.

Basketball Court Expansion

Scope: Plans are to light three (3) existing basketball courts each year starting with Memorial, Miner, and Kettler Park. Also planned is the construction of two (2) courts per year in existing parks void of courts. New courts to be constructed in 1974 would be located in Foster and Lawton Parks.

Expected results: The demand for more basketball facilities is high. Lighting existing courts will extend the hours of play during evening hours and helps keep the children off the street.

Tennis Court Expansion Program

Scope: Phase I Hard surface four (4) existing clay courts in Foster Park, 1974.
               Phase II Hard surface four (4) hard surface courts in Shoaff Park, 1975.
               Phase III Add four (4) hard surface courts in McMillen Park, 1976.
               Phase IV Add two (2) hard surface courts in Lions Park and hard surface two (2) existing clay courts in Rockhill Park, 1977.

Expected results: To provide more facilities to meet the demand for tennis. It is essential that the courts be lighted in order to increase the playing time. With the additional 20 courts provided by this project more tennis leagues can be accommodated, more and better instructional programs can be provided, the junior programs can be expanded, and more citizens can be accommodated for leisure time and play.
Development of Tillman Park

The project will develop 70 acres of land known as Tillman Park into a community park to serve all citizens.

Scope: The plan will provide an activity dominated recreation area with a moderate amount of managed undeveloped land that can sustain continued heavy use. Recreational activities and facilities for all age groups will include 1.1 miles paved access roads, 1.2 miles of bike and hiking trails, 2 lighted softball diamonds, 2 lighted baseball diamonds, 2 football fields, ice skating facilities, boat dock, 3 public restrooms and timber areas for nature and picnicking. Also a District Maintenance Complex will be located in the park.

Expected results: This former landfill site will provide picnic facilities, ball diamonds, and open space, all of which are in demand.

Bicycle Trail

A bicycle trail system will be established consisting of a street route along low use streets that connect most major parks and with bicycle paths going through some of the parks. (See Bicycle Trail Map, Map 4, inside back cover.)

Scope: Phase I and II are completed. Phase III calls for the completion of the street route as well as the construction of an asphalt path from Foster Park to Tillman Park. Phase IV contains the purchase of right-of-way for completion of a trail from Shoaff Park to the By-Pass and also for the implementation of that trail and sign installation. In addition, Phase IV calls for purchase of right-of-way for Franke Park route to Vesey Park and for Edgewater Park Strip route to the By-Pass. Phase V is the construction of an asphalt bike path for Franke Park route and for a Edgewater Park Strip route. Phase IV will connect these bicycle routes with the proposed river bank paths.

Expected results: The asphalt paths (one five miles, the other four miles long) will help meet the demand for bicycling that the street routes alone cannot satisfy. Together the two systems should help alleviate some of the demand for more trails from this rapidly growing sport.

Other Expected Results: 1. To establish approximately 15 miles of bicycle routes along city streets.

2. To provide approximately 17 miles of scenic bike trails within the parks and along river banks.

Facilities Renovation

The renovation of the following facilities, and the development of new ones, is vital to maintaining up-to-date facilities. These particular projects were chosen because of the heavy usage given the facilities causing rapid deterioration or because of the demands of the neighborhood citizenry, or the complete lack of available facilities. The list is by no means complete, but additions would be financially unrealistic.

Hanna Homestead Park

Scope: Combination basketball court and ice rink
Landscaping
Remodeling of shelter
Recreational equipment
Lighting
Expected Results: To provide for renovation and expansion of existing facilities to convert this park into one that serves children up to mid-teen age groups and families in the immediate neighborhood.

**Reservoir Park**

Scope: Construct shelter  
Landscaping  
Dredge pond

Expected Results: To provide more recreational utility with a combination ice skating shelter and recreation facilities for neighborhood use.

**Study Park**

Scope: Acquisition of land  
Site preparation  
Landscaping  
Seven picnic tables  
Grills  
Tot lot  
Shelter  
Multi-purpose courts and lighting

Expected results: To provide additional picnic facilities, a tot lot, an open shelter, and tennis courts.

**Reservoir Park Pavilion**

Facility: Two story structure. Each level can be used as a separate unit or jointly.

Purpose: As a warming shelter (lower level) and a drop-in center (upper level) during ice skating season. Upper and lower during playground season. In between seasons used as a building for the needs of the community.

Activities: Special interest classes  
Club meetings  
Neighborhood meetings (approximately 30 per level)  
Staff meetings — orientation of new leaders

A Drop-In Center: (Winter only) Supervised — Upper Level — Pool, Table Tennis, Table Games, Music, Tournaments

Summer Playground Program: Arts & Crafts  
(Lower Level) Special classes  
Rainy day activities

(Upper Level) Pool, Table Tennis, Table Games, Tournaments

**Franke Park**

Scope: Phase I  
Realign entrance road at Sherman Street to create a safer and more attractive approach to the park. The construction of a new east-west access road between prime picnic ground area and the game field and to remove the old existing road. Start to convert primary and secondary power distribution wires to underground service and to add water and sewer lines as required.
Phase IV  The core area improvements include picnic facilities, a playground area, new restrooms and a picnic shelter.

Phase V  Acquire the low land west of the park. Approximately 40 acres of land would be involved in the acquisition.

Expected results:

Phase I  Uncongested traffic flow and more accessibility to the park will be obtained by the improvement of the roads and entrance.

Phase IV  The development of the core area should primarily support the picnic demands of 150 tables, three shelters and three public toilets.

Phase V  Land acquisition adjacent to the park would meet the demand for open space.

Franke Park Day Camp Longhouses (2)

Scope: Each Longhouse will be approximately 40’ x 100’ and will attach directly to the Nature Lodge on the North and South sides respectively. The Nature Lodge was built with these planned additions in mind. Because of the nature of their intended use the Longhouses will be only semi-finished inside and will not be heated. These are to replace the Longhouse which was destroyed by fire in 1971.

Expected results: The Longhouses are badly needed for storage and program materials and supplies now stored in trailers and temporary buildings. They will serve as operational headquarters for the camp staff, leaving the main Nature Lodge free for classes, nature study, project work, and other programming.

The addition of the Longhouses will provide shelter for campers on rainy days without disturbing planned activities in the Nature Lodge. They also will be utilized year around as sleeping quarters for all overnight groups using the camp facilities.

City Utilities Campground Restroom and Shower Facility

Scope: The proposed facility containing restrooms and showers could serve a maximum of 150 people. There are currently 43 camp sites in City Utilities Park with sanitary facilities that are outdated and unsightly and have a definite bearing on the number of people using the camp ground. The new facility would serve other users of the park also. In order to construct this building a sewer main must first be installed through the park.

Expected results: 1. To bring the park up to date and remove any unsightly facilities that bring discredit to the park.
2. To increase participation in the park.
3. To meet the objective for clean, hygienic facilities for a much demanded activity — camping.

A study is in progress to determine local benefit of this facility.

Swinney Park Tennis Center

Scope: Four tennis courts and lighting

Expected results: To provide for the increased demand for tennis facilities.

Hamilton Park

Scope: Basketball court

Expected results: Relieve the present crowded facility by providing another basketball court.
Franke Park Children’s Zoo

Recent successful fund raising has made the construction of the African Veldt (Phase I of the Zoo Master Plan) a reality, with a planned completion scheduled for 1975.

Additionally, the plan includes a much needed education center (including zoo administration offices). Long range improvements incorporate a primate building and small animal building (for birds, reptiles, and small mammals).

The anticipation cost of the education building is $138,000. The primate building and small animal building will cost approximately $500,000 each.

Outdoor Theatre Reconstruction — Franke Park

Reconstruction of the Outdoor Theatre in Franke Park which was heavily damaged by fire in December of 1972. Remaining foundation, basement, and audience seating areas will be retained and utilized as the basis for reconstruction.

Scope: Rebuild stage, walls and roof
       Turntables
       Scene shop, dressing rooms, and rehearsal area
       1500 additional seats

Expected results: Traditional programs will be continued. Increased seating will provide for more incentive for rental use. The planned improvements and additions for the facility will allow year-around use instead of only 12 weeks.

The feasibility of this project is being studied by a Citizens Advisory Committee. Alternatives may be presented at the conclusion of this study.

Swinney Park

Scope: Basketball court

Expected results: To provide a basketball facility in an area void of courts.

McMillen Park

Scope: Heating the indoor ice rink

Expected results: A more comfortable atmosphere provided for skaters and spectators.

As a result of a staff analysis the following projects need to be done also, but are not high priorities at this time.

1. Light all existing basketball and tennis courts.
2. Construct a new playground shelter in Packard Park.
3. Winterize pavilions for recreational programs use the year around.
4. Improve park roads.
5. Improve restroom facilities in the parks.
6. Improve garden areas in Swinney Park (Jaenicke Gardens), Foster Park and Lakeside Park.
8. Additional greenhouse space and a Horticulture Conservatory.
ACTION PROGRAM

CHAPTER 6
CHAPTER 6
ACTION PLAN

Implementation Policy

It is evident that the Park Board is faced with a challenge in meeting the future needs of Fort Wayne. Recreational needs are expanding at a rate greater than the population. In Chapter 4 the needs were defined and in Chapter 5 a program to begin to meet the needs was recommended. It is clear that only through a concerted effort will it be possible for the Park Board to marshal the resources necessary to carry out this plan. Increases in the Park Board budget are imperative, but will not come easily. The need for outside funding is clear. Clear also is the need for priorities.

Because of the importance that priorities will have in implementing this plan, the Board of Park Commissioners will make citizen participation a vital element of its project planning process. The Board feels that each citizen, including those of low income and minority groups, must have an effective and meaningful opportunity to advise what need areas should be addressed first. This Board will develop and strengthen the bonds of communication and cooperation with citizens and build trust and understanding between themselves and citizens.

In implementing this future program identified in this plan, the Board expects to work with the Citizen Advisory Board’s subcommittee on Parks and Recreation. The Park department has already had several discussions with the CAB subcommittee in developing this plan. The Department will continue meeting with this committee and hopes that they will assist in establishing year-to-year priorities for acquisition and development for the “need areas” commencing with the 1974 fiscal year. The following is a proposal submitted to the committee to request their assistance in the ongoing planning and programming process.

1. All comments and suggestions aired during the meetings between the parks and recreation committee of the Citizens Advisory Board and the Park Department have been recorded and it is agreed that the committee’s suggestion to use the neighborhood associations as the best localized form of citizen participation will be implemented.

2. To continue to meet with neighborhood associations concerning a park in their neighborhood prior to and during the acquisition and development procedures.

3. To work closely with the citizen participation staff of the Department of Human Resources on a continuing basis for coordinating meetings with the Citizens Advisory Board, neighborhood associations, and other various interest groups to provide an ongoing planning process.

4. After January 1, 1974, this Department will initiate meetings with the Citizens Advisory Board in coordination with the citizen participation staff, to establish priorities for the “need areas” for acquisition and development for the 1975 budget year. These “need areas” are defined in the Park Master Plan but cannot realistically be given priority assignments until time for the budget to be reviewed for the coming fiscal year. The suggested criteria for establishing these priorities is as follows. The highest priority will be given to the “need area” with the highest population density and the furthest distance away from an open space recreation area. The lower priorities will be “need areas” of the lowest population and areas that are close to open space recreation facilities.
Resources for Implementation

There are a number of types of resources potentially available to the Park Board in addition to money. Land does not always need to be acquired on a fee simple basis. Opportunities for a lease, easement, or license arrangements need to be explored further. Described below are resources that need to be considered by the Park Board in carrying the programs recommended in Chapter 5.

School Facilities

School property is used by the Park Department. Cooperative planning between the School Board and the Park Board exists. A resolution of understanding has been adopted.

In part it says, “The Fort Wayne Community Schools and the Board of Park Commissioners mutually agree that in the acquisition and planning of school, recreation or park areas, whether acquired jointly or independently, each will inform the other, as far in advance as practical, of its plans for acquisition and development of sites. It is understood that neither Board is obligated to conform to the desires of the other, but every effort will be made wherever and whenever possible to reach a mutual agreement.”

“The mutual desire to better serve the citizens of Fort Wayne, the Board of Park Commissioners and the Fort Wayne Community Schools support and encourage the development of school sites and park sites adjacent to each other within the community. These facilities have the same general radius of service and the general purposes complement each other. By combining a school and a neighborhood park on one land area, portions of the school building may serve the community needs and indoor recreational requirements, and portions of the park may serve as facilities for the school recreational program as well as community needs.”

“It is the intent of the two Boards that every effort will be made to have the individual facilities complement each other. It will be expected from the executive officials that there will be cooperative planning and presentation of proposals to the individual Boards for general agreement and ratification.”

In addition, the Fort Wayne Bible College, St. Francis College, Indiana Institute of Technology, Concordia Senior College, and Indiana-Purdue Regional Campus provide facilities for the students and the public. Cooperative programs enable more people to participate in more activities.

Information concerning future school sites will have a definite influence on some of the selected sites for future parks or playgrounds. Enlargement of cooperative programs is desired in order to provide even more opportunities for use of joint facilities the year around.

Bike, Hike Routes/Urban Trails

The demand for trails or paths for hiking or bicycling has increased substantially, and current trends indicate the need for these type of facilities will continue to increase.

Trails benefit many types of users, elderly persons looking for safe places to stroll, families enjoying a jaunt on their bicycles, the hiker seeking a challenging and adventurous trip, and children on their way to school.

According to the Department of Natural Resources, Railroad Rights-of-Way as potential bicycling and hiking trails should follow certain criteria. Their geographical location should be in close proximity of a populated area and the primary source of users. The physical measurements should be at a minimum, 25 miles long and 50 feet wide with a developed riding surface eight feet wide. Physical features and aesthetic qualities should provide enough variation for an interesting hike and some gently rolling topography. Points of interest along the trail and proximity to service facilities are two criteria based on the interests of the hiker and his convenience. Well planned access points are essential in avoiding congested road crossings. Areas of further study for the feasibility of a trail system include potential connection to other trails, maintenance complications and management, and the preliminary study required for development.

A trail from Fort Wayne to Fremont, Indiana, along the Penn Central railroad tracks would be an excellent route. The possibility of such a trail is being studied by the Department of Natural Resources and would be a tremendous contribution to fulfilling the needs of the Fort Wayne area. The State should continue trying to develop their concept of a trail system. Proposed bicycle trails were discussed in Chapter 5.

Rivers/Riverbanks

Cleaning up the rivers and their banks would provide opportunities for hiking and biking as well as other forms of recreation. Attention should be focused on the rivers for aesthetic reasons alone. Little water-based recreation can be achieved without major improvements to these water resources.

Some of the problems are: silt deposits, sewage, trash dumping, high bacteria levels, odor, unsightly conditions, low summer water levels, eroding banks, poisoning effects to wildlife and the difficulty in enforcing laws that regulate these problems.

It is most important at this time for a separate study to be conducted on the waterways within the city. These problems must be identified, alternate solutions considered, and priorities and direction be established.

Flood Plains

Because of the beauty of their natural setting, areas adjacent to water bodies are often attractive for parks, playgrounds, golf courses, picnic areas, game preserves or other public uses. Recreation is one of the very few appropriate uses for flood plain. Flood plain zoning would aid in the prevention of developing these areas that should remain open space.

C.B.D.

The Fort Wayne Central Business District offers some unique possibilities in terms of recreation and open space areas as related to center City activities and image. The Central Business District has a relationship to the river property in the near downtown area where the St. Mary’s River and the confluence of St. Mary’s and St. Joseph Rivers become the North and Northeast boundaries of the C.B.D. This river area is the historic center of the city but until recently, was neglected. Within the past few years, plans for an Old Fort Restoration have been prepared for a portion of this river area to recognize the historical heritage of the city.
This project, coupled with a change in attitude of the people towards environmental improvements of natural features, such as the rivers, has begun to reverse the past trend of industrial use of riverbanks. One aid in reversing the deterioration pattern of the C.B.D. is recognition and utilization of the impact provided by the rivers along the North boundary of the C.B.D. Utilization of natural resources is imperative in future planning activities, so that the transition between hard (C.B.D.) and soft (open space) areas can begin to be correlated. Because of the internal forces and structure of the C.B.D., the north river boundary is an ideal location of a large Central City open space in which civic activities can occur.

The concept of a centralized hub for recreation facilities offers some interesting items for the C.B.D., revitalization, and the city as a whole. This idea warrants further indepth study.

Sanitary Land Fill Sites

At this time the Three Rivers Coordinating Council is exploring the possibilities of sanitary land fill sites and their ultimate use as public open space. The comprehensive county-wide solid waste master plan developed by the Three Rivers Coordinating Council provides valuable data for determining the feasibility of using these areas for recreational purposes, whether they be active or passive.

City Owned Property

Property owned by Fort Wayne Community Schools, the Board of Public Works, Fort Wayne Housing Authority, and other public agencies provide open space, park and playground sites. Some sites, as shown on the Potential Open Space/Park Areas map, could succeed in providing recreation facilities or open space for the neighborhood involved if only during peak seasons. Some of the locations are not suited for recreation use. Feasibility of the acquisition and development of these properties will be thoroughly explored to see if they fit the needs of the community before seeking to acquire private property.

Renewal Programs

Redevelopment and urban renewal programs provide the greatest opportunity for acquiring land for block parks in the central city where the need is great but there is little available open space. The current Neighborhood Development Programs for the East Central and West Central neighborhoods both call for parks in their development plans. This Department will work closely with all Project Area Committees in planning their respective parks. The exact area is shown on the Potential Open Space/Park Areas map found inside the back cover.

Historical Sites

Plans for the restoration of Old Fort Wayne are in process and are recognized as a valuable contribution to historic preservation. Visiting such a site is considered a form of recreation with similar impact as that of the Children's Zoo.

Years of research by dedicated members of the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society, along with professional historians, have provided the foundation upon which plans for the restoration of the fort are based. Visitors will have an opportunity to see more than static displays at the fort. They will observe functioning activities that existed at the time the Fort was viable.

Many of Fort Wayne's historical sites are located in or near a park area and attractive markers describe the particular site or event being acknowledged.
Prime Open Space Areas

The Allen County Plan Commission is in the process of developing a comprehensive master plan.

Included in that plan is an extensive study of land use and soil type and quality within the county. The results of the study will assist in determining the location of land that should be preserved as prime agricultural land and as open space. By implementing this plan, the County Plan Commission will be able to guide urban growth to areas suitable for development. As a result of this plan, proper zoning regulations will curb residential development of prime agricultural lands. In addition, land unsuitable for development or agriculture will provide the Park Department with the opportunity of choosing open space sites that have been thoughtfully and systematically planned.

Source Of Funds

Even by making prudent use of every non-monetary resource available, it is clear that the Park Department will need substantial sums of money to undertake the programs recommended in this plan. The major sources of funds are local taxes, State and Federal funds and gifts.

Many generous gifts have been made to the Fort Wayne Park Department in the past. Bequests and gifts have averaged well over $100,000 annually. It will be necessary for the Park Board to continue to rely on this source of funds for acquisition and development, and in fact to pursue this area in a vigorous and diligent manner. The recent establishment of the Fort Wayne Allen County Park Foundation should be helpful. Although independent of the Fort Wayne Park Board the foundation should be an effective vehicle for attracting gifts of all sizes and allocating them to the priority open space needs of metropolitan Fort Wayne. State and national foundations are an additional source of funds which need to be more systematically pursued.

It appears that we are in a transition period relative to State and Federal Funds. Some of the traditional categorical funding programs are now being phased out in favor of block grants or revenue sharing programs. Although some categorical programs are continuing for fiscal '74, they are at greatly reduced amounts. Funds from these programs should still be sought but the success here will be difficult. The advent of the revenue sharing approach means, that in total, less federal dollars are available to cities around the country, but that each city is guaranteed a set amount and can plan on this basis. The allocation of these funds will depend upon local discussions and local priorities with the local chief executive having prime responsibility. As a result of this plan the Park Board is in an improved position to demonstrate its needs, and to seek a share of revenue sharing funds in competition with the other needs of the community. To date, General Revenue Sharing is a reality and the Park Board has already received some funds from this source and it should continue to seek additional monies in the coming years. Some form of Community Development Revenue Sharing is likely in the near future and park programs are potentially qualified for these funds. The Park Board should be in a position to effectively seek funds from this source when and if the legislation is approved. State beautification and historical funding programs, although small, should not be ignored.

Regardless of the future success the Park Board may have with the above resource area it must continue to rely on local taxes for its basic means of support. The local tax dollar is already stretched thin in the face of the rising costs caused by inflation and the ceiling placed on local taxes by the current State tax program. The Park Board is faced with two realistic alternatives. It must press its case in a most effective way to gain a large share of the budget of the City of Fort Wayne.
Secondly, the Park Board needs to look within its traditional budget allocations and make sure that its own priorities are clearly established and that funds are allocated on this basis. A reordering of priorities may be necessary in order to carry out some or all of the programs recommended in this plan. The fee scheduled for park facilities should be continuously examined to make sure that they are realistic in the face of the total mission of the Board. This is where the voice of the community must be heard and its judgment closely followed.

Use of park and recreation facilities by citizens living outside the Park Department taxing district creates a greater financial burden on local tax payers. Facilities which are self supporting, i.e., Children’s Zoo, have no impact on this problem; however, the facilities where the use cannot be feasibly controlled or a fee cannot be feasibly charged are more prevalent.

Maintenance costs are primarily effected by this situation, supported totally by the Fort Wayne property tax; but the acquisition and development of new parks is also impacted.

A non-resident fee structure, a broadened tax base and annexation plans are all being studied for possible means to alleviate this problem.

Chart XVI is a suggested five year capital improvement program. The capital improvement program indicates the scale of financial commitment that must be made if the park needs, identified herein, are to be met.

### SUGGESTED 5 YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

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<td>Acquire and Develop Three Block Parks Per Year</td>
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# Suggested 5 Year Capital Improvements Program

Cost Estimates 1974 – 1979

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<td>Construction Two Longhouses at Franke Park Day Camp</td>
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<td>Senior Citizen Center</td>
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Recommendations

The plan is meaningful only to the degree of commitment and extent of implementation that is afforded the plan, that is, the degree to which it is recognized and followed in the day-to-day decisions that will eventually shape and mold the final development.

This plan will complement the Outdoor Recreation for Allen County Plan and the Master Plan for New Haven. Continuing cooperation is required among the Fort Wayne, New Haven, and Allen County Park Boards.

The following is a composite of recommendations originally made in this study. They were amended, and/or additions were made by the Coalition for the Environment and the Citizens Advisory Board Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation, who suggested the order of priority.

1. In order to carry out the land acquisition program, as proposed in this plan, it is imperative that a source of funding for this program be required. Putting off a land acquisition program will mean increased costs and available land will be put to other uses to the detriment of the open space program and the community at large.

2. The Fort Wayne City Plan Commission should aid the implementation of this Plan:
   (a) By securing legislation and or ordinances that require a significant amount of land to be left as open space by developers of large or small housing, apartments, and mobile home developments.
   (b) By securing more areas to be designated as “historical boundaries” for historic preservation purposes.
   (c) By adopting a land use policy that aids this plan in sound, environmentally safe, urban growth.

3. Coordinated overall land use planning with the County Plan Commission.

4. To aid in implementing this plan, it is urgent that the Agencies concerning themselves with transportation planning make use of the amendment to the Highway Act of 1973 as found in the Appendix. This amendment encourages the promotion of bicycle lanes, etc., and use of federal funds for bicycle transportation planning.

5. A detailed study of the riverbanks should be conducted to complement this plan. It should be concerned with solving erosion and water quality problems, and investigating the possibility of the use of riverbank areas for recreational purposes, such as hiking and biking trails, or picnicking.

This phase of the Master Plan is a guide for acquisition and development. Because of the ever changing recreation patterns, financial conditions, and needs of this community, the plan should be reviewed and updated yearly. Planning procedures and the implementation of plans must be a continuous process to insure a quality park and recreation system.

There is no time for delay in executing the policies and recommendations stated herein. Phase II of the Master Plan, which could concern recreation facilities, operations, programs, and program development, should commence as soon as possible.
APPENDIX

Amendment to the Federal Highways Act of 1973
Park General Fund 1950 – 1975
Detailed Park Inventory and Analysis
Private Swimming Pool Inventory
Private Golf Course Inventory
Park & Recreation Facility User Survey Sample Form
User Survey Results
Park Land Growth
Block Park Growth Projection
Neighborhood Park Growth Projection
Community Park Growth Projection
Bicycle Transportation

Sec. 126 (a) Chapter 2 of title 23, United State Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"217. Bicycle transportation

(a) To encourage the multiple use of highway right-of-way, including the development, improvement, and use of bicycle transportation on or in conjunction with highway right-of-way, the States may, on Federal-aid-highway projects, include to the extent practicable, suitable, and feasible, the construction of separate or preferential bicycle lanes or paths, bicycle traffic control devices, shelters and parking facilities to serve bicycles and persons using bicycles in conjunction or connection with Federal-aid-highways. Sums apportioned in accordance with paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (6) of section 104 (b) of this title shall be available for bicycle projects authorized under this section and such projects shall be located and designed pursuant to an overall plan which will provide due consideration for safety and contiguous routes.

(b) For all purposes of this title, a bicycle project authorized by subsection (a) of this section shall be deemed to be a highway project, and the Federal share payable on account of such bicycle project shall be that provided in section 120 of this title.

(c) Funds authorized for forest highways, forest development roads and trails, public lands, development roads and trails, park roads and trails, parkways, Indian reservation roads, and public lands highways shall be available, at the discretion of the department charged with the administration of such funds, for the construction of bicycle routes in conjunction with such trails, roads, highways, and parkways.

(d) No motorized vehicles shall be permitted on trails and walkways authorized under this section except for maintenance purposes and, when snow condition and State or local regulations permit, snowmobiles.

(e) Not more than $20,000,000 of funds authorized to be appropriated in any fiscal year may be obligated for projects authorized by subsections (a) and (c) of this section, and no State shall obligate more than $1,000,000 for such projects in any fiscal year."

(f) The analysis of chapter 20, title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following: "217. Bicycle Transportation."

DETAILED PARK INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

(The following parks can be located on the map according to their respective numbers found in the following narrative.)

COMMUNITY PARKS

1. Shoaff Park 169.48 acres Community Park
   Picnic facilities
   Two pavilions
   18 hole - par 3 golf course
Golf club house
Camping area and camp shelter
One lighted ball diamond
Two hard surface tennis courts
One Basketball court (hard surface)
Three parking areas (approximately 280 cars)
1.3 mile of river with one boat ramp (St. Joseph River)
One soccer field
Archery range
Playground facilities
Fishing lake (children under 15 years of age)

This Community Park serves the northeast section of Fort Wayne with facilities that provide active recreation as well as passive open space. The park caters more to the needs of adults rather than young children. The natural features of the park provide the visitor with an enjoyable scenic experience. The St. Joseph River, woods, and natural landscape enhance the beauty of the park and are its major points of interest. The park is in a residential area but at the present time it is not developed as greatly as the area southeast of the park. In general, most visitors do not walk, but drive to the park.

2. Buckner Farm 144.8 acres Community Park
Buckner Farm is undeveloped at this time.

3. Franke Park 282.39 acres Community Park
Maintenance Building and Storage Area
Three pavilions
Natural History Museum
Nature preserve and hiking trails
Day camp program and Nature Lodge
Open Air Theatre
Two clay tennis courts
Three small ball diamonds
Toboggan and sledding areas
Playground apparatus
2.2 mile trail
13-acre Shoaff Lake - fishing (children under 15)
Natural ice skating area
Picnic facilities
Football and rugby field
Indoor and outdoor archery ranges
Children’s Zoo (31.5 acres)
Three horseshoe courts
Soap-Box Derby track
Seven parking areas (approximately 860 cars)
Tree nursery

Franke Park, which has its own Development Plan, contributes to the well-being of the city with its acclaimed Children’s Zoo. This clean, well-kept facility is a delight for all ages, and has acquired a renowned reputation. The general character of the park is one of passive recreation with the zoo being the most predominant and attention-drawing feature. A drive-through
African Veldt is also in the process of being opened. The core area of the park contains the main picnic space and supports the public activity centering around the zoo, museum, Shoaff Lake (pond), and Spy Run Creek. Other areas are principally wooded and steeply sloped and are used for trails and nature study.

Because of its unique features this park serves many more people than its service area would indicate. All age groups are served by the many and varied activities offered.

4. Maumee Park 109.92 acres Community Park
Mauume Park has not yet been developed.

5. Foster Park 243.09 acres Community Park
18 hole golf course
Three pavilions
Four clay tennis courts
Three hard surface tennis courts (lighted)
3.4 mile trail
Three horseshoe courts
Playground apparatus and tot lot
Archery range
Three ball diamonds
Picnic facilities
One football field
Nature and hiking area
Floral gardens and tree nursery
Golf club house
Three parking areas (approximately 200 cars)
Log Cabin Historical Site
4.5 mile of river (St. Mary’s River)
Bicycle Trail

Foster Park is kept in beautiful condition the year around and provides facilities for the neighborhood to the east of the park. The St. Mary’s River and Bluffton Road provide a barrier to those residing to the west and north of the park. The park is visited by many who come by car to observe the floral gardens and drive along the river. Facilities serve the young (tot lot); the active young (tennis, golf, and playfields); families (pavilions); the passive enthusiast (trails and natural areas); and the elderly enjoy the elaborate floral displays.

6. McMillen Park 168.15 acres Community Park
25-meter swimming pool and shelter
Eight ball diamonds (Two lighted)
Two football fields
One soccer field
Two hard surface tennis courts
18 hold golf course (Nine lighted holes)
Golf Course club house
Indoor ice skating shelter
One pavilion
Playground apparatus
Twelve professional horseshoe courts
One U-control model plane track
Picnic facilities
One playground shelter
Three parking areas (approximately 650 cars)
Two basketball courts (lighted)

This Community Park receives an excessive amount of use the year around. It lies in a very populated area and, in addition, it draws residents from neighboring areas to use the golf course, pool, and ice rink. This park serves all age groups and offers many diverse activities. The small natural area that is left will be preserved. The greatest threat to the good condition of this park would be overuse by more participants than it should properly handle.

7. Tillman Park
   70.0 acres
   Community Park

Tillman Park is undeveloped at this time.

**NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS**

1. City Utilities
   43 acres
   Neighborhood Park

   Two ball diamonds
   Two lighted ball diamonds
   Camping Sites (43 sites)
   Playground apparatus
   Pavilion
   Boat ramp (St. Joseph River)
   Tag football
   Basketball court
   Horseshoe court
   Hard surface play area

   The City Utilities Park provides playfields for area residents, and the use of the ball diamonds is heavy during the summer season. A trailer park provides the only public municipal camping service to area campers. The park serves the northeast section, but the surrounding area is business oriented and therefore the park serves no adjacent neighborhood. The St. Joseph River creates a barrier to people residing to the South. The direction of the park is toward active rather than passive recreation.

2. Vesey Park
   15.2 acres
   Neighborhood Park

   One hard surface basketball court
   Picnic facilities
   One small ball diamond
   Bridle Trail
   One parking area (approximately 15 cars)

   This small neighborhood park provides its area residents with a few facilities for activity but the park is basically open space flood plain on Spy Run Creek. Neighborhood residents have appreciated the quiet and solitude afforded by this natural area.
3. Lions Park

14.35 acres

One pavilion, playground shelter combination
Playground apparatus
One ball diamond
Two hard surface tennis courts
One hard surface basketball court
Two horseshoe courts
Picnic facilities
One parking area (approximately 24 cars)

Lions Park serves its neighborhood on a capacity basis without making the park look over developed. Those seeking activity can find it here, whether it be tennis or just a walk in the park.

4. Hamilton Park

16.5 acres

One pavilion year around recreation center combination
Playground apparatus and tot lot
Two horseshoe courts
Picnic facilities
One lighted ball diamond
One small ball diamond
Three hard surface tennis courts *lighted*
One parking area (approximately 28 cars)
One hard surface game area
One hard surface basketball court
One football field

Hamilton Park is a well-rounded neighborhood park that serves all age groups. It offers a scenic view for the surrounding residents, as well as the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports.

The Lyre Coffeehouse provides entertainment in the evenings for the neighborhood youth and offers them a place to meet in a relaxed atmosphere. Although a tot lot is provided, the park is oriented more for older children and is mainly used by them. The pavilion provides activities for older citizens when not used as the Coffeehouse.

5. Lawton Park

39.33 acres

One playground shelter
One playground apparatus
One swimming pool and bath house
One hard surface basketball court
Greenhouse
Tool rooms
Repair shops and garages for Department use
Chrysanthemum gardens
Four ball diamonds
One football field
Three horseshoe courts
Picnic facilities
Offices
Lawton Lodge
Two parking areas (approximately 110 cars)
Lawton Park is located just north of the Central Business District and is sandwiched between two main thoroughways, restricting accessibility. Swimmers using the Lawton Pool generally arrive by car because of the natural and physical barriers surrounding the park. The park's floral displays add to the beautiful condition of the park and attract many who enjoy a colorful stroll.

A centralized maintenance complex is housed here providing shops, office space, and equipment storage for the Park Maintenance Division.

6. Lakeside Park
   23.81 acres
   Neighborhood Park

   One pavilion
   One ice skating shelter and playground combination
   Three hard surface tennis courts (lighted)
   Playground apparatus and tot lot
   Natural ice rink
   Picnic facilities
   One small ball diamond
   One hard surface basketball court (lighted)
   Rose Gardens
   Fishing lake (children under 15)

   Lakeside Park has two distinct areas that serve the area. The eastern portion of the park is occupied by the rose gardens. This area is the scene of many weddings because of its beautiful scenic arrangements, and visitors from all over the city visit the gardens to enjoy their beauty. A small pond enhances the park and serves as a buffer between the gardens and the facilities occupying the western portion of the park. Those facilities serve the neighborhood as well as the surrounding area, so the equipment is beginning to show signs of its overuse. Overcrowding is also a frequent problem during the nice weather.

7. Bloomingdale Park
   9.65 acres
   Neighborhood Park

   Open space flood plain on the St. Mary's River.

8. Guildlin Park
   8.17 acres
   Neighborhood Park

   One boat ramp
   1 mile of river (St. Mary's River)
   Open space flood plain

9. Rockhill Park
   27.77 acres
   Neighborhood Park

   One pavilion, playground shelter combination
   Playground apparatus and tot lot
   One ball diamond
   Two horseshoe courts
   Picnic facilities
   Two clay tennis courts
   One hard surface basketball court
   One parking area (approximately 24 cars)

   This neighborhood park serves a densely populated area located south of the park. Rockhill park is bounded on the north by a main arterial road that separates it from any convenient access.
from the north. This park offers the neighborhood an adequate supply of facilities for their recreation needs.

10. West Swinney Park 48.24 acres Neighborhood Park

   One softball diamond (lighted)
   One swimming pool and bath house
   Picnic facilities
   Playground apparatus
   Floral gardens
   Two parking areas (approximately 60 cars)
   Storage barn
   .4 mile of river (St. Mary’s River)

11. East Swinney Park 46.30 acres Neighborhood Park

   Five clay tennis courts (lighted)
   Four hard surface tennis courts
   One tennis center
   Museum (Historical)
   Natural ice skating area
   Ice skating shelter
   Playground apparatus
   One small ball diamond
   One boat ramp
   Seven horseshoe courts
   Three parking areas (approximately 150 cars)
   Two hard surface shuffle board courts
   Fishing lake (children under 15)
   .8 mile of river (St. Mary’s River)

Due to encroachment, the service area of Swinney Park has been reduced. Also, the St. Mary’s River, the New York Central Railroad, and the General Electric industrial complex limit the accessibility to this park. The neighborhood is served by its outstanding facilities, such as the tennis center, but the park is by no means, frequented only by the nearby residents. The floral displays and lovely landscape of Jaenicke Gardens attract many people but the Junk Spillway stream that flows through the park detracts from these displays and is an environmental nuisance. This park floods during spring rains.

12. Memorial Park 42.00 acres Neighborhood Park

   One pavilion
   One playground shelter
   Playground apparatus and tot lot
   One ball diamond (lighted)
   Swimming pool and bath house
   Picnic facilities
   Two clay tennis courts
   Three hard surface basketball courts (lighted)
   Two parking areas (approximately 20 cars)
Memorial is a multi-purpose park area that offers all types of activity to all age groups. The park is fairly accessible to the neighborhood it serves; the primary barriers being Washington Blvd. and Maumee Ave. The rest room facilities need to be updated, but, other than that, the park is in good physical condition. The function of this park is to serve more than just the surrounding neighborhood and it does this by offering such a variety of activities while preserving some green open space in an area surrounded by commercial and industrial properties.

13. Reservoir Park

Natural Ice Rink  
Ice shelter  
Hard surface basketball court  
Playground apparatus  
Sledding hill

The existing park was once a part of the city's water supply system. The tall concrete reservoir was partially demolished and filled in, leaving a 60-foot tall hill. The main topographic features of the park are the hill and a large pond with an island connected to the mainland area by a foot bridge. The pond covers about 40% of the park area and provides an ice skating area during winter months. The features which deserve attention are the landscape and the lack of facilities for activity that the neighborhood has demanded. The shelter is in poor condition. These deficiencies will be corrected soon with the help of an Open Space Grant received through HUD. A new pavilion serving as a drop-in recreation center and warming shelter will be built, a tot lot will also be available. The pond will be dredged to improve the water quality and some landscaping will enhance the beauty of the park.

14. McCormick Park

One pavilion  
One playground shelter  
Playground apparatus  
One hard surface basketball court (lighted)  
Two horseshoe courts  
Picnic facilities  
Three clay tennis courts  
One small ball diamond  
One parking area (approximately 10 cars)

McCormick Park is located in a densely populated neighborhood which tends to lead to overuse of the park. The park is in fairly good condition and accessible to the people in its service area.

15. Psi Ote Park

One playground shelter and tot lot  
Playground apparatus  
Picnic facilities  
One ball diamond  
One hard surface basketball area
Psi Ote Park serves the Indian Village and surrounding neighborhoods. The facilities are adequate for the time being, but any demands from an increase in population would over-tax the system. This park is accessible on foot.

16. Indian Village Park  
   10.5 acres  Neighborhood Park
   One pavilion
   Picnic facilities
   Parking area (approximately 20 cars)
   One storage building
   .4 mile river (St. Mary’s River)

   Indian Village Park provides an open space area along the St. Mary’s River, but its main purpose is providing picnic and group meeting facilities. The area is bordered by the river on one side and a heavily traveled street on the opposite side. Therefore, the open space is a visual relief and is not activity oriented.

17. Weisser Park  
   20 acres  Neighborhood Park
   One pavilion, year-around recreation center combination
   One ball diamond
   Four lighted tennis courts (one hard surface)
   Playground apparatus and tot lot
   Five lighted horseshoe courts
   Picnic facilities
   One football field
   Four hard surface basketball courts (lighted)
   One parking area (approximately 7 cars)

   Weisser Park provides some open space in a moderately dense residential area. The park receives excessive use from the neighborhood children and if not properly maintained, could deteriorate. The beautiful trees and open space give the area some relief from the harsh urban environment. Nearly every age group is served in an active or passive capacity, although this park caters more to activity oriented programs.

18. Kettler Park  
   6.25 acres  Neighborhood Park
   One pavilion, playground shelter combination
   Playground apparatus
   One small ball diamond
   Picnic facilities
   One football field
   Two horseshoe courts
   One hard surface basketball court
   One hard surface shuffle board court
   Two hard surface tennis courts

   This small park is unique because it is a multi-purpose area with a wide range of activities available. The park also has some open space and a small wooded area that lends itself to a pleasing environment.
19. Waynedale Park 8 acres  Neighborhood Park

One pavilion, playground shelter combination
Playground apparatus
Two hard surfaced basketball courts (lighted)
Two hard surfaced tennis courts (lighted)
Horseshoe courts

The Waynedale area is void of other park space so Waynedale Park cannot handle the demand put upon a park of its size. This park is in need of some rejuvenation in order to provide the people in the area with a more well-rounded facility.

**BLOCK PARKS**

Block Parks have proven to be an effective means to improve the urban environment, especially in the more densely populated neighborhoods.

The following is the inventory of block parks, most of which have the purpose of serving the small children within walking distance or providing a small area of open space for passive recreation.

1. Brookview 11.62 acres Block Park
   Scenic open space on both sides of Spy Run Creek.

2. Griswold .57 acres Block Park
   Playground apparatus

3. Klug Park 1.96 acres Block Park
   One playground shelter
   Playground apparatus and tot lot
   One hard surface basketball court combination
   One horseshoe court

4. Williams Park .74 acres Block Park
   Floral display

5. Sherman St. Playground 2.10 acres Block Park
   Hard surface basketball courts (lighted)
   Playground apparatus
   Playground shelter

6. Boone St. Playlot .34 acres Block Park
   Playground apparatus

7. Roosevelt Park 1.50 acres Block Park
   Playground apparatus
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<td>.4 mile or river (St. Mary’s River)</td>
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<td>McCulloch Center and Playground</td>
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<td>One hard surface basketball court (lighted)</td>
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<td>Playground apparatus</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
18. Wabash Playlot  .28 acres  Block Park
   One hard surface basketball court

19. College St. Park  .87 acres  Block Park
   Not yet developed

20. Jones St.  .5 acres  Block Park
   Future park site, now used for garage and storage.

21. West Central Playlot  .09 acres  Block Park
   One hard surface basketball court
   Playground apparatus

22. McCulloch Park  4.07 acres  Block Park
   One band stand
   Picnic facilities
   Playground apparatus
   Horseshoe courts

23. Bass Playground  .52 acres  Block Park
   One playground shelter
   Playground apparatus
   One hard surface basketball court (lighted)

24. Brackenridge Playground  .38 acres  Block Park
   One hard surface basketball court (lighted)
   Playground apparatus

25. East Central Playlot  .60 acres  Block Park
   Playground apparatus
   Small ball diamond
   Hard surface basketball court

26. Seiling Park  .60 acres  Block Park
   One hard surface basketball court
   Playground apparatus

27. Adams School  4.61 acres  Block Park
   Not yet developed.

28. Justin Study Park  3 acres  Block Park
   One playground shelter
   Playground apparatus
Picnic facilities
One hard surface basketball court

29. Miner Playground  .46 acres  Block Park
   One playground shelter
   Playground apparatus and tot lot
   One small ball diamond

29a. Miner Center  1.30 acres
   One playfield and Recreation Center

30. Bunche School Playground  4.26 acres  Block Park
   One ball diamond
   One basketball court — Hard surface
   Playground apparatus

31. The Club  .13 acres
   Recreation Center

32. Bowser Playground  .92 acres  Block Park
   One playground shelter
   Playground apparatus
   One hard surface basketball court

33. Packard Park  4.5 acres  Block Park
   One playground shelter
   Playground apparatus and tot lot
   One softball diamond (lighted)
   Two horseshoe courts
   Picnic facilities
   Three hard surface tennis courts
   One hard surface volleyball and basketball court
   One football field

34. Turpie Playlot  .62 acres  Block Park
   Playground apparatus

35. Lafayette Esplanade Playground  1.8 acres  Block Park
   One playground shelter
   Playground apparatus
   One hard surface game area
   Three tennis courts
36. Brewer Park
   4.45 acres
   One hard surface basketball court
   One ball diamond

37. Little Turtle Memorial Park
   Historical Point
   Memorial to Chief Little Turtle who was defeated by
   General "Mad" Anthony Wayne

38. Orff Park
   .02 acres
   Historical Point
   Site of an aqueduct of the Wabash-Erie Canal

PRIVATE SWIMMING POOL INVENTORY*

Average acreage per pool — 2.5 acres

1. Winchester Woods
2. Candelite Apartments
3. Caribe Colony Swim Club
4. Gardenview North Apartments
5. Versailles on the Lake
6. Avalon Summer Sports Club
7. Pocahontas Swim Club, Inc.
8. Woodcrest Terrace Apartments
9. Foster Park Apartments
10. Southtown Villa Apartments
11. Club Olympia
12. Fairview Court Apartments
13. Mill Run Apartments
14. Three Rivers Apartments
15. Turtle Creek Apartments
16. Paulette Place Apartments
17. Regency Park Apartments
18. Parnell Park Apartments
19. Victoria Square
20. Colonial Trace Apartments
21. Williamsburg Apartments
22. Anthony Estates
23. Centlivre Village
24. Casselwood Apartments
25. Shamrock Chateau
26. Courts of Woodhurst

*Listing limited to Board of Health permit records.
PRIVATE GOLF COURSE INVENTORY

Effective acreage = 8.5 acres per hole

(Each course listed has 18 holes)

1. Havenhurst Golf Course
2. Canterbury Green
3. Colonial Oaks
4. Huntertown Golf Course
5. Elks Country Club
6. Brookwood
7. Fort Wayne Country Club
8. Orchard Ridge Country Club
9. Fairview Golf Course
10. Lakeside Golf Course
Your Fort Wayne Park Dept. will plan recreation facilities for future generations. We need your help to ensure that your wishes and plans are considered. Please check each answer or provide the information needed. Kindly return the form to the Park Dept., 1 Main St., in one week. The results of the survey will be published at a later date. Thank you for your assistance.

1. What is your age?  
2. What is your sex?  
3. I now live inside the city limits:  
   - Northeast  
   - Northwest  
   - No Central  
   - Central City  
   - So West  
   - So East  
   - So Central  
4. I live outside the city limits:  
   - Northeast  
   - Northwest  
   - Southwest  
   - Southeast  

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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>A. Now participate</th>
<th>B. Would participate if facilities were available</th>
<th>C. Facility location is convenient</th>
<th>D. Park and Recreation facility hours are convenient</th>
<th>E. Would be willing to pay a user fee for this activity</th>
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WHAT DO YOUR CITY PARKS NEED? WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST IF ANSWER TO 3C OR 3D IS NO? PLEASE COMMENT ON BACK OF THIS SURVEY.
USER SURVEY RESULTS

MOST POPULAR ACTIVITIES

1. BICYCLING
2. PLAYGROUND ACTIVITIES
3. SWIMMING
4. TENNIS
5. BASEBALL & SOFTBALL
6. PICNICKING
7. DRIVING THROUGH THE PARKS
8. ZOO
9. BASKETBALL
10. VIEWING FLORAL GARDENS
The following Park Land Growth chart summarizes the amount of existing park acreage previously acquired. It also points out what the demand for park land should be, according to acres per population standards.
The following graphs indicate the existing number of block, neighborhood, and community parks; and how many parks there should be, by year, using an acreage per population standard.

(The Block, Neighborhood, and Community Park Graphs)
BLOCK PARKS
RANGE: 1/4 TO 5 ACRES

ESTABLISHED STANDARD: 5 ACRES PER 1000 POPULATION

AVERAGE COST OF A 1/2 ACRE BLOCK PARK:
- LAND ACQUISITION: $5,000.00
- DEVELOPMENT: $6,000.00
- TOTAL PER SITE: $11,000.00

KEY
EXISTING: __________________________
NEEDED: __________________________
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

RANGE: 10 TO 50 ACRES

ESTABLISHED STANDARD: 5 ACRES PER 1000 POPULATION

AVERAGE COST OF A 20 ACRE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK:

LAND ACQUISITION $100,000.00
DEVELOPMENT $175,000.00
TOTAL PER SITE $275,000.00

KEY
EXISTING: ________________
NEEDED: ________________
COMMUNITY PARKS

RANGE: 70 TO 250 ACRES

ESTABLISHED STANDARD: 8 ACRES PER 1000 POPULATION

AVERAGE COST OF A 100 ACRE COMMUNITY PARK:

- LAND ACQUISITION $500,000.00
- DEVELOPMENT $800,000.00
- TOTAL PER SITE $1,300,000.00

KEY
EXISTING:
NEEDED:
Map 1
Existing Facilities/
Need Areas
Map 2
Potential Open Space/
Park Areas
DURING ITS TWO CENTURIES AS A CENTER OF MIDWESTERN
COMMERCIAL AND SETTLEMENT, FORT WAYNE HAS OPIED MUCH
OF ITS HERITAGE TO THE THREE RIVERS WHICH COURSE THROUGH
IT FROM THE EARLIEST INDIAN BARNES TO THE CONTINUING
INDUSTRIAL AND CULTURAL PROGRESS. THE ST JOSEPH, ST.
MARVY AND THE MAUMEE HAVE PLAYED INTEGRAL ROLES. WE
ARE PLEASED TO SAY THAT IT IS NOW POSSIBLE FOR ANYONE WITH A
BOAT TO TRAVEL THE SAME STREAMS WHERE SO MUCH HIS-
TORY WAS MADE. THE THREE RIVERS HELPED DETERMINE THE
CITY'S FUTURE, AND THEY PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN MAKING
FORT WAYNE THE GREAT AND GROWING CITY IT IS TODAY.
NAVIGATION CHART & HISTORICAL SITES

Important:
These navigation routes were established following the 1964 river clean-up program. Due to the possibility of debris floating down from upstream and the fluctuation of water elevation, the city of Fort Wayne cannot assume any responsibility for damage or injury.

- Navigate With Care -
Map 4  
Bicycle/Hiking Routes
KEY

- Existing Park Route
- Existing Street Route
- Proposed Park and Riverbank Route