

CITY OF STANLEY

OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN 2020 - 2025



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OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN

2020 - 2025

**Stanley... Live, Work
& Play Well!**

Prepared by:

City of Stanley Parks Committee & Plan Commission

with assistance by:

West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Adopted by Stanley City Council - October 6, 2020
Amended May 6, 2024 (see Appendix A)



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RESOLUTION NO. 2020-005

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE CITY OF STANLEY
OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN, 2020-2025
AS THE OFFICIAL OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN
FOR THE CITY OF STANLEY.**

WHEREAS, the City of Stanley, in cooperation with West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, has updated a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan for the City; and,

WHEREAS, this plan lists available outdoor recreation facilities and identifies foreseeable outdoor recreation needs for the City of Stanley; and,

WHEREAS, this plan identifies specific goals, objectives, policies, and recommendations for improving the recreational facilities and opportunities within the City of Stanley; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Stanley desires to maintain its eligibility for certain state and federal grant funding for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources requires that the City update its comprehensive outdoor recreation plan every five years to maintain such grant eligibility and to assure that the City's outdoor recreation planning goals, objectives, policies, and recommendations are current;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby adopts the City of Stanley Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2020-2025 as the current official outdoor recreation plan for the City of Stanley.

DATED, this 6th day of October 2020.

Approved: _____

Al Haas, Mayor

Attest: _____

Donelle Spaulding, Clerk-Treasurer

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SECTION I: PROCESS & GOALS

Introduction

Broadly defined, recreation is an activity or experience undertaken solely for the pleasure or satisfaction derived from it. Although recreational preferences may vary from individual to individual, recreation occupies a necessary and significant place in every person's life. It is important to provide a variety of parks and outdoor recreational facilities to offer opportunities for participation in a wide range of active and passive recreational pursuits.

The primary purpose of this plan is to provide direction for the programming, maintenance, and improvement of the City of Stanley parks and recreational trails to help satisfy the outdoor recreational needs of the current and projected population of the City.

Planning Process

A. DESCRIPTION OF PROCESS

Overall, this plan is intended to provide direction to the City of Stanley in the maintenance and development of parks and outdoor recreation facilities. This document ensures the continuation of an orderly procedure to identify facility maintenance needs and generally when improvements should take place.

The City of Stanley Plan Commission took the lead role in managing the development of this plan. This includes direction from the City Parks Committee, and facilitation support from West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC). These three entities comprise the project Steering Committee referenced throughout this document.

The Parks Committee served as the advisory group for the plan update and where appropriate, information was also gathered from additional City departments, staff, and stakeholders. An update to the City of Stanley Comprehensive Plan took place concurrently with this plan and any relevant information is therefore integrated into this document consisting of significant public input and review by the various committees involved.

The plan update process began in August of 2019 and involved planning and strategy meetings, interviews with stakeholders, and intensive data collection efforts summarized in the project timeline shown here.

PROJECT TIMELINE

OCTOBER 2019

- » Form steering committee to guide plan update and review materials.
- » Review of related plans for integration.
- » Update physical/demographic data and maps.

NOVEMBER 2019

- » Review and identify changes to previous plan.
- » Summarize progress on previous plan recommendations.
- » **MEETING 1** - Discuss process and approach, identify issues and opportunities, trends and goals. Discuss changes/needs for park facilities, policies, and recommendations.

DECEMBER 2019

- » Update park inventory/facilities data.
- » Develop updated goals and policies

JANUARY 2020

- » **MEETING 2** - Discuss plan goals, policies, and park improvements.
- » Interviews with stakeholders.
- » Develop detailed park inventory pages.

FEBRUARY 2020

- » Identify outdoor recreation issues and opportunities including local and regional opportunities.
- » Develop draft document for review.

MARCH - JUNE 2020

- » **MEETING 3** - Distribute draft document and discuss.

JULY - OCTOBER 2020

- » Finalize park inventory forms, projects, and strategies.
- » Incorporate edits/updates and finalize document.
- » Distribute final document and sample resolution for adoption.
- » Submit adopted plan to WDNR for acceptance.

B. PROCESS FOR ADOPTION

The final draft 2020-2025 City of Stanley Outdoor Recreation Plan was adopted by the City during properly noticed public meetings. All outdoor recreation planning meetings were properly noticed and provided additional opportunities for public input on the local recreational amenities, goals, and recommendations discussed in this document.

C. AMENDING THE PLAN

The City of Stanley Plan Commission and Parks Committee is responsible for providing recommendations to City Council to ensure implementation of the plan is consistent with the plan's goals, objectives, and policies.

Conditions, needs, opportunities, and recreational interests change. This plan may be amended as necessary to address changing conditions and any amendments should require formal approval of City Council after consideration of an advisory recommendation from the Parks Committee and the Plan Commission.

Any adopted plan revisions or amendments should be sent to the region's Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Community Services Specialist. Furthermore, the plan should be updated every five years to maintain grant eligibility for certain WDNR grant funding as discussed later in Section V.

SUMMARY OF PAST COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLANNING

This plan update illustrates the dedicated effort of the Parks Committee in actively maintaining and developing a strong recreation program within the City.

Previous City Outdoor Recreation Plans were consistently utilized to plan for and pursue grant dollars that have led to several successful projects throughout Stanley.

Maintaining this plan up-to-date will help ensure that park facilities are included in all planning and budgetary actions within the City and will help continue the success and momentum of the City Parks Committee to ensure that:

"The Best of Times Start in Stanley"



Goals & Objectives

Goals may be defined as general statements of desirable ends, while objectives are measurable statements of those goals. Objectives are not always specific, but should always be in harmony with stated goals. As community desires and needs change, goals and objectives must remain flexible to reflect the changing values and priorities of the community.

Upon adoption of this plan, the following goals and objectives below provide a sound basis for future outdoor recreation planning in the City of Stanley. In addition, the outdoor recreation plan shall serve to meet the varied recreation needs of residents and visitors while at the same time enhancing the City's natural, historical, and cultural resources.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

A. GOALS

- » Provide an integrated system of public, general-use outdoor recreation sites and related open space areas.
- » Develop and maintain a system of parks and recreation areas that offer a diversity of recreational opportunities for all.
- » Provide a system of public outdoor recreation sites that offer opportunities for individuals to become aware of natural resources through a variety of educational tools and programs.
- » Provide a mix of affordable, quality outdoor recreation facilities, programs, and amenities.

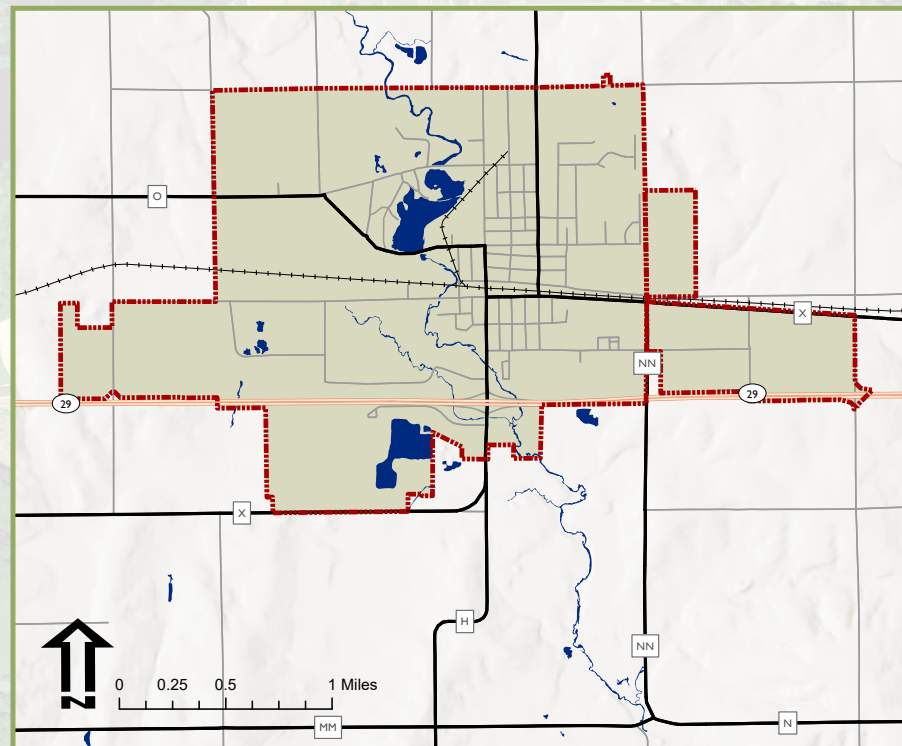
B. OBJECTIVES

- » Provide general-use outdoor recreation sites sufficient in size and number to meet the recreation demands of the resident population.
- » Plan strategies should recognize and reflect the unique roles and differences between local and regional parks to best meet resident recreation demands.
- » Analyze the current park system to identify gaps in outdoor recreational sites or the potential overlap of recreational service areas.
- » Provide opportunities for all residents to enjoy the community's parks, natural resources, and recreation areas.
- » Preserve and protect land uses adjacent to existing community parks and playgrounds, and consider acquisition of properties adjacent to existing parks as opportunities arise.
- » Coordinate public and private recreation programs to ensure maximum public benefit.
- » Provide access to, and adequate parking for, the use of recreational resources and amenities.
- » Be aware of demographic trends and provide for the recreation needs of changing population.
- » Provide for the periodic review and updating of the City outdoor recreation plan so that it will reflect the changing needs of the community and its residents.
- » Identify and improve access and mobility to park facilities and features as parks are developed or improved.
- » Undertake City-wide improvements to recreation signage, wayfinding and connections to existing trail networks.

SECTION II: CONDITIONS & TRENDS

Leisure time is an important component of people's lifestyles and quality of life whether they live in urban centers or sparsely populated rural regions of the country. Compared to a century ago, shorter working hours, more disposable income, earlier retirement, and longer life spans have led to an increased demand for leisure-time activities, including outdoor recreation.

Figure 1: *Context Map of the City of Stanley.*



Characteristics of the Planning Area

A. PHYSICAL SETTING

The City of Stanley is located in the southeast portion of Chippewa County. The City of Stanley is situated halfway between Green Bay and Minneapolis/St. Paul along Highway 29. The eastern portion of Stanley is bisected at County Highway NN by Chippewa and Clark Counties and the nearest Census Defined Urban Area is the City of Eau Claire, located 35 miles southwest of Stanley.

The topography of Stanley is considered to be mostly level with gently rolling farmlands around the City. Historically, the City and surrounding area was heavily forested and a dam was built where 4th Avenue crosses the Wolf River to form a log holding pond for a local lumber company. Today, the pond is known as Chapman Lake and represents a significant recreation attraction in Chapman Park. The north fork of the Wolf River continues to flow through the City today and also serves as an important recreational amenity for residents or visitors to enjoy.

Figure 2: *Regional Context Map.*



B. POPULATION & ECONOMY

According to more recent 2019 estimates by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), the City's current population is around 3,635 and is expected to remain constant for the next several decades. Since the 1930's, population in the City of Stanley remained relatively stable at around 2,000 residents. From 2000 to 2010 the U.S. Census reported an increase of 1,710 people which is mostly attributed to counting of the prison population housed at the Stanley Correctional Institution. The facility has an operating capacity of 1,500 and was purchased by the State of Wisconsin in 2001.

Some of the major employers in the City include the Stanley Correctional Institution, Stanley-Boyd Area Schools, Ace Ethanol, and Ascension Medical Center, to name a few. Strategically located halfway between Green Bay and Minneapolis/St. Paul the City is within close proximity to Interstate 94 with direct access to State Highway 29 and rail service provided by Canadian National Railroad.

Despite having several large employers in the City, according to the U.S. Census, nearly 90% of all employed residents work outside the City. This high level of employment outflow may indicate the preference of residents to live in the City for reasons related to quality of life and is worth exploring further as it relates to outdoor recreation needs or preferences.

Data Sources: Unless otherwise noted, sources of data in this section are from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

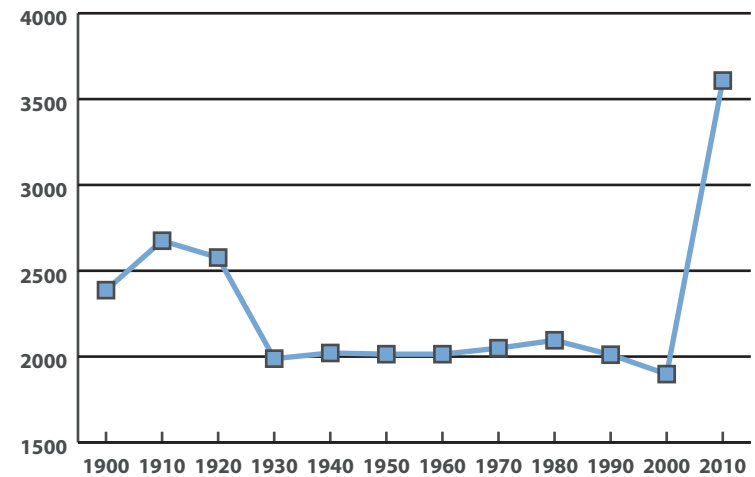


Figure 3: U.S. Decennial Census Historical Population for the City of Stanley 1900 to 2010.

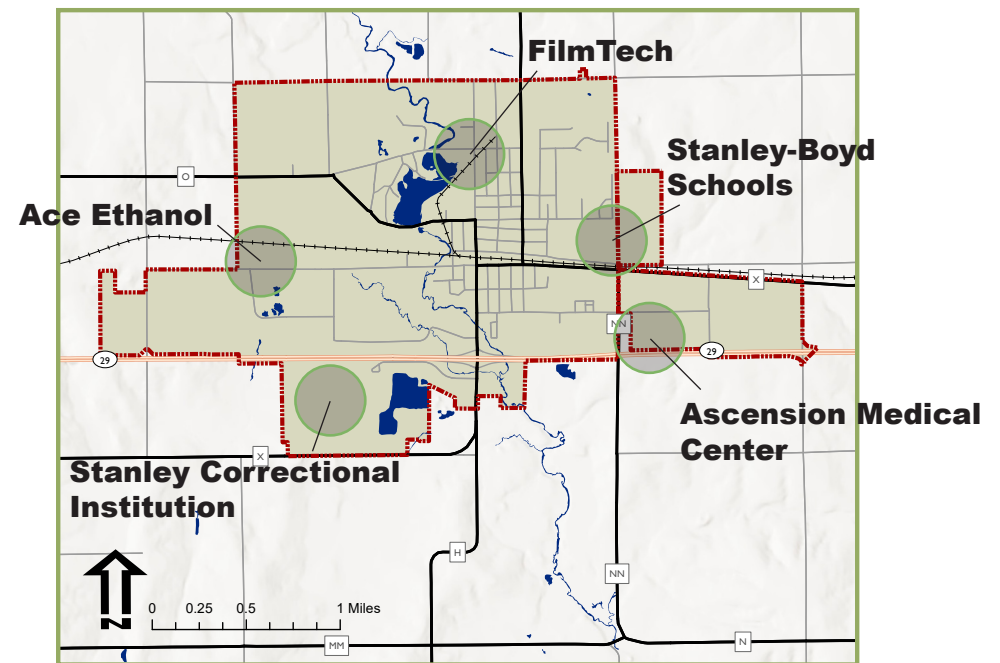


Figure 4: Major Employers in the City of Stanley.

C. AGING POPULATION

An important consideration for outdoor recreation planning is related to the aging population in the City. According to estimates by WCWRPC and DOA, the age group of individuals 65 and older in Chippewa County is expected to double by the year 2040, and will constitute a significant portion of the overall population (Figure 5). This transition in median age will have serious implications in the type of recreation, facilities, and improvements that are planned for the future.

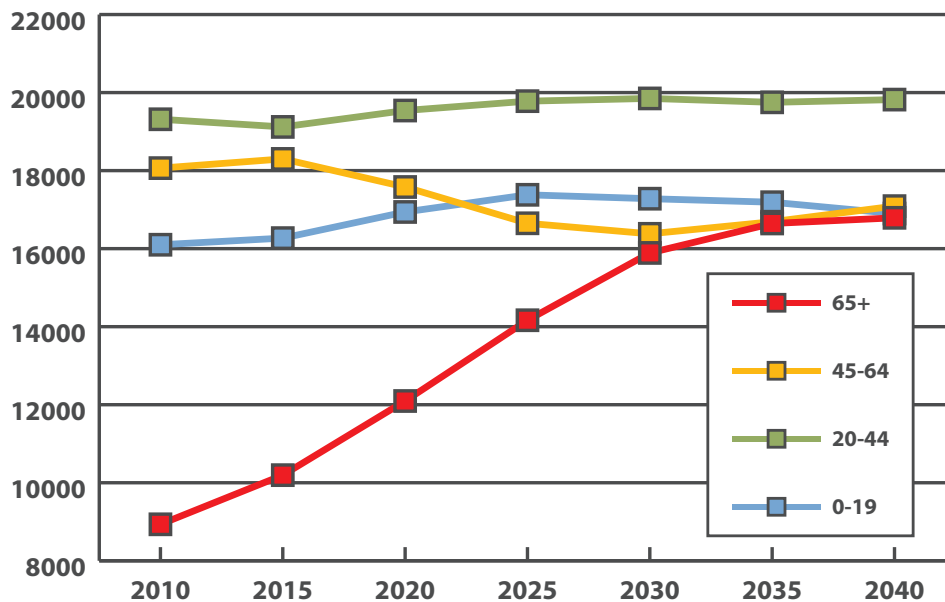


Figure 5: Chippewa County Age Group Projections 2010 to 2040.
Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration, 2014.

AGING IN PLACE

Given the aging population, a growing emphasis for many communities is to consider and advocate for designs that allow for “aging in place.” Aging in place is the ability to live in one’s own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably regardless of age, income, or ability level.

But more importantly, seniors and people should have access to the “right places” where they can live in an environment that is pleasurable and safe, and where they feel competent and in control.

This concept is not limited to housing design and construction, but includes housing affordability as well as other planning elements such as transportation options, access to goods and services, and outdoor recreation opportunities. The right place will nurture an “active” lifestyle and discourage social isolation.

D. LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT

The City of Stanley has experienced minimal overall growth over the last several years. Based on the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOA) Statement of Assessments, from 2011 to 2019 there were only an increase of 10 residential and 2 commercial improved parcels.

Residential land use accounts for the highest number of assessed acres in the City followed by Agricultural, Commercial, and Undeveloped land (Figure 6). While the City has a lot of vacant land available to accommodate new growth, some of the existing open space is comprised of Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) consisting of 100-year floodplain, wetlands, and steep slopes (slopes greater than 20%).

With limited growth pressure and undeveloped land in ESA, the Parks Committee has an opportunity over the next several years to partner with various recreation or user groups to help identify new or expanded recreation amenities not currently offered within City limits.

For example, regional recreation user surveys conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources identify hiking and biking as both popular and sought after activities by most Wisconsin residents. The City of Stanley has no single-track hiking or biking trails and with private support, could significantly improve four-season recreation opportunities such as fat tire biking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and nature trail hiking/running.

Demographic trends are an important source of study to developing a healthy mix of recreation opportunities in the City, and will have serious implications in the type of recreation, facilities, and improvements that are planned for the future.

Land Use

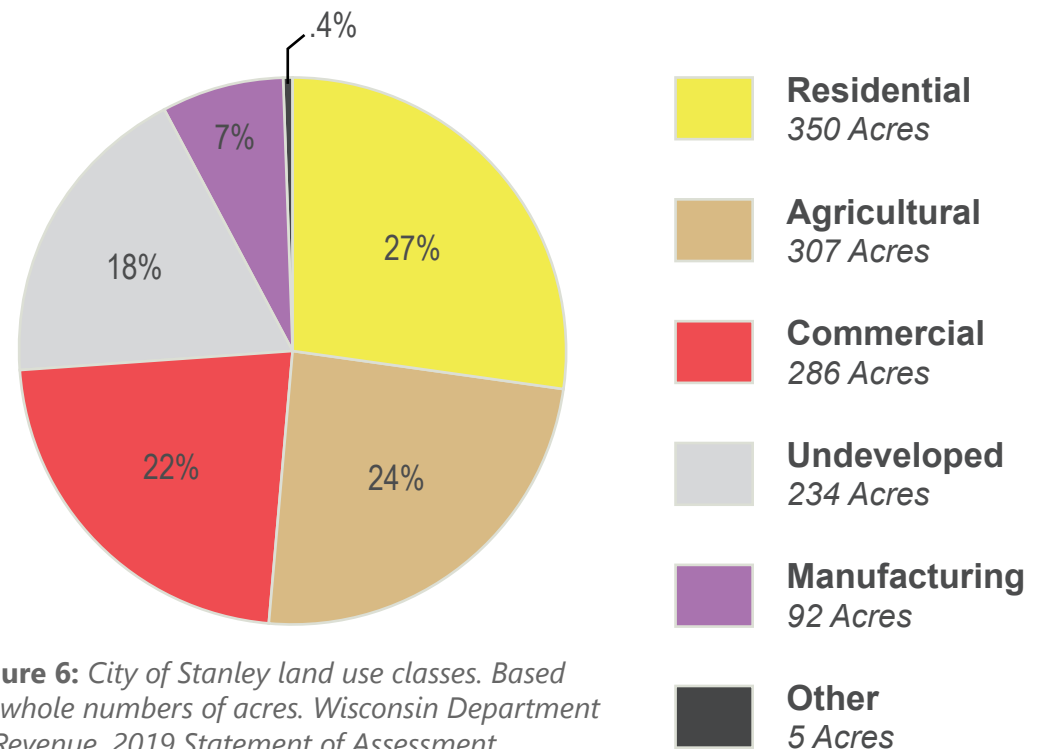
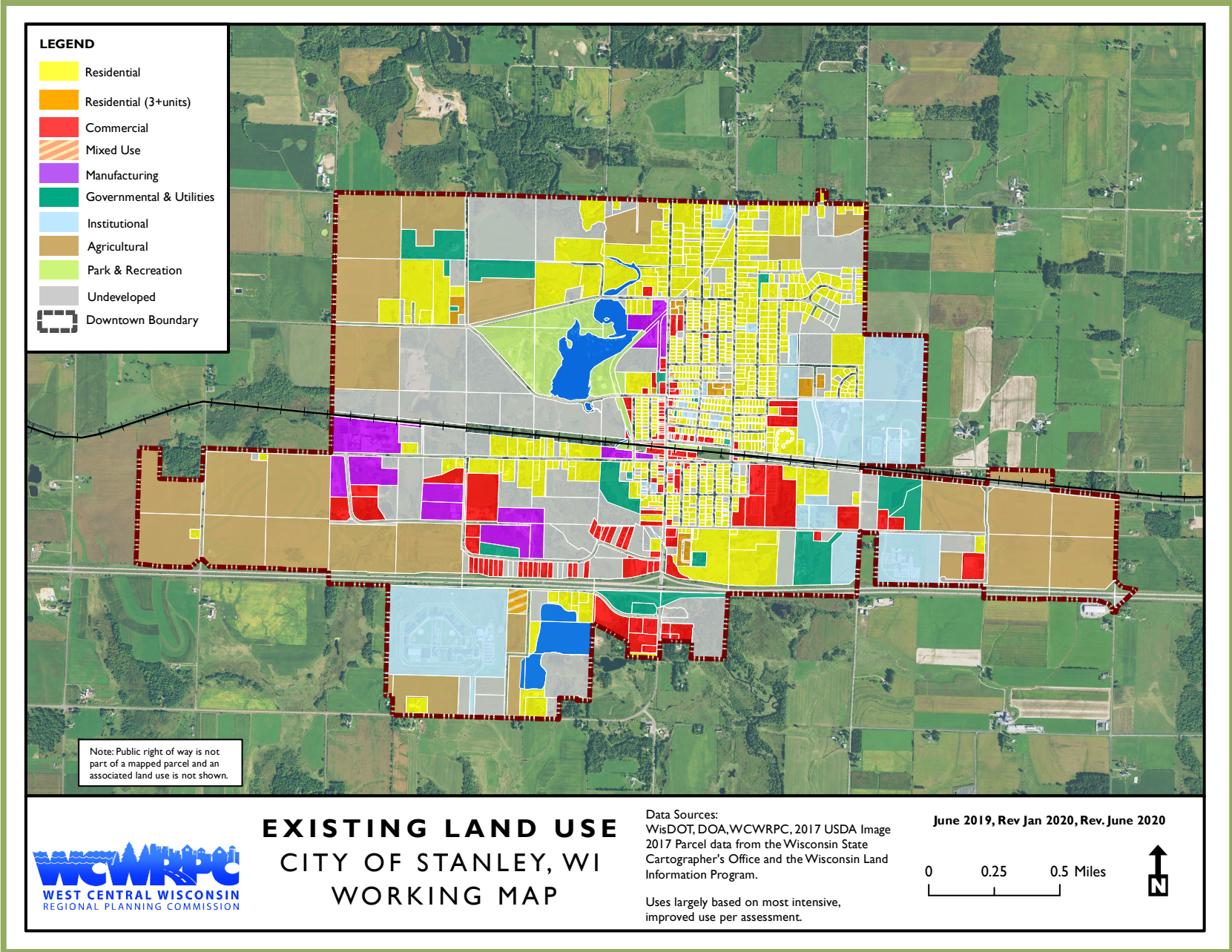


Figure 6: City of Stanley land use classes. Based on whole numbers of acres. Wisconsin Department of Revenue, 2019 Statement of Assessment.

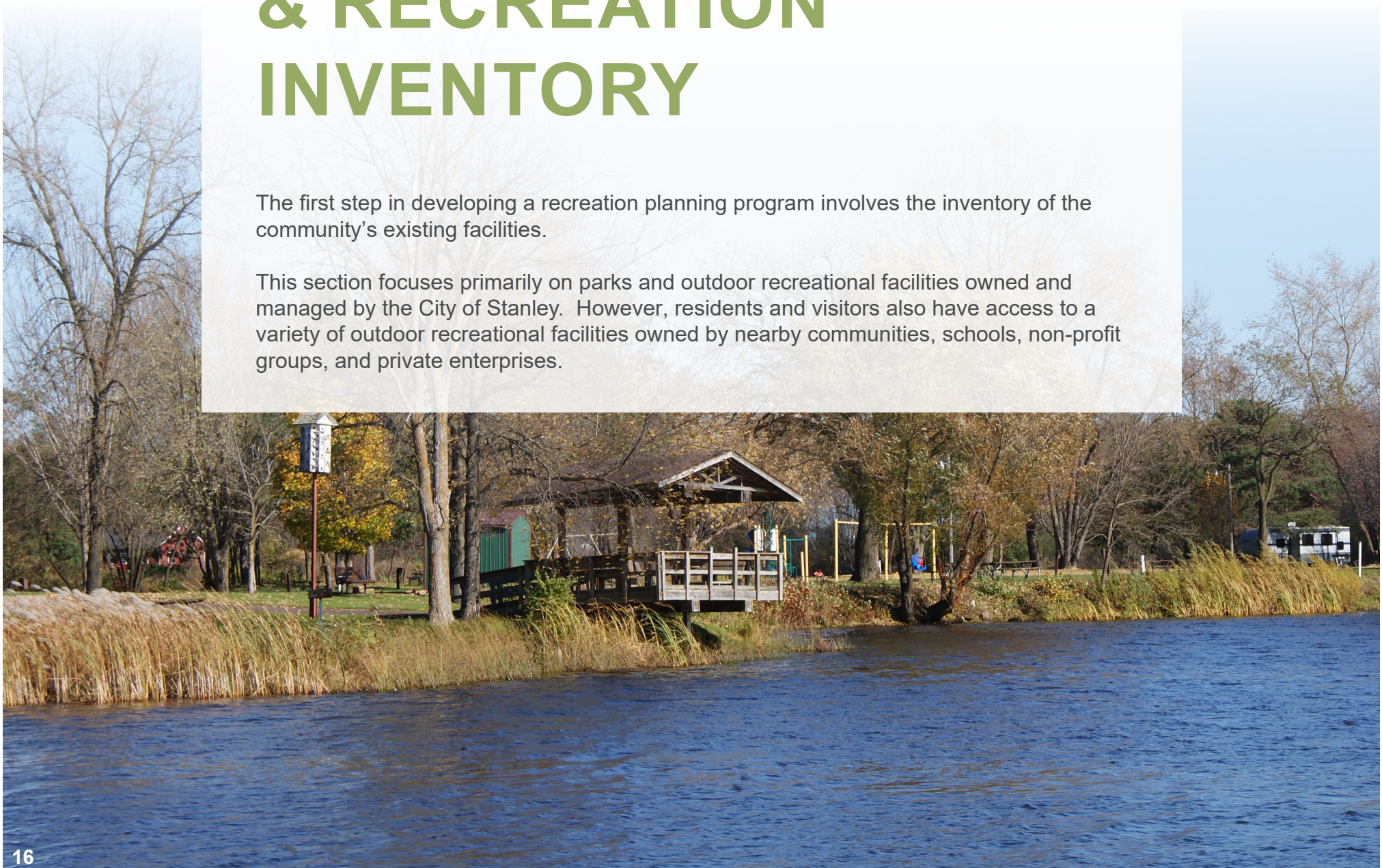
Figure 7: City of Stanley Existing Land Use Map.



SECTION III: PARKS & RECREATION INVENTORY

The first step in developing a recreation planning program involves the inventory of the community's existing facilities.

This section focuses primarily on parks and outdoor recreational facilities owned and managed by the City of Stanley. However, residents and visitors also have access to a variety of outdoor recreational facilities owned by nearby communities, schools, non-profit groups, and private enterprises.



Park & Recreation Facilities

Although people often travel to seek out unique recreation experiences, most day-to-day recreation activities occur near their place of residence. In the City of Stanley, residents are fortunate to have access to several well-developed parks, providing a diverse mix of recreation opportunities within close proximity to households located in the City.

A. EXISTING PARKS

Currently there are five parks that are owned and maintained by the City of Stanley. The combined acreage of these areas is around 98.7 acres of parkland available for public use that includes the following:

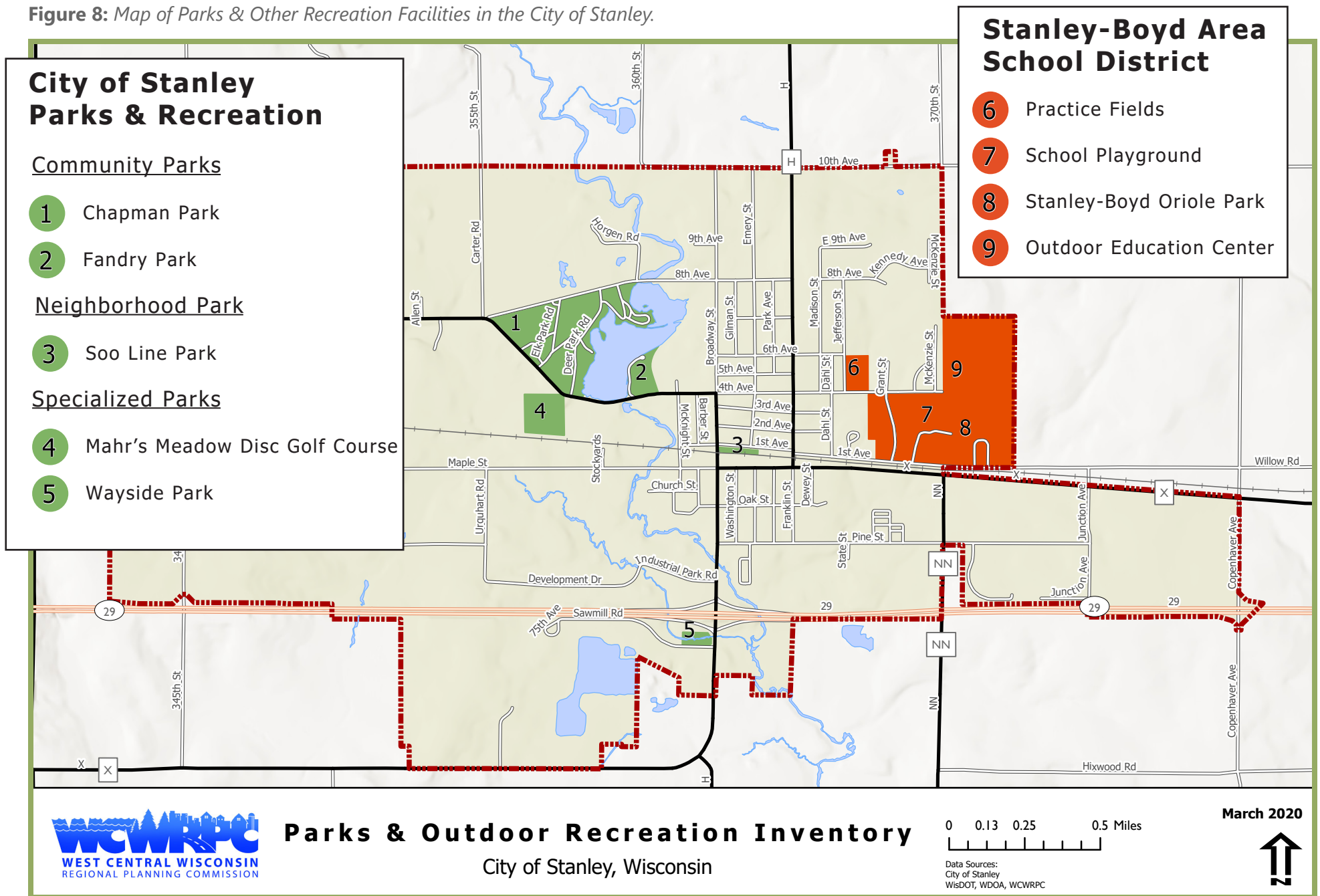
- » Chapman Park
- » Fandry Park
- » Soo Line Park
- » Mahr's Meadow Disc Golf Course
- » Wayside Park

Early on, the project steering committee identified maintenance of existing facilities as a top priority for this planning effort. As such, much of the analysis in this plan is focused on assessing the condition of existing facilities and equipment along with capital improvements to help improve access and connectivity to parks for residents and households within City limits.



Photo: Plaque affixed to play structure at Chapman Park.

Figure 8: Map of Parks & Other Recreation Facilities in the City of Stanley.



Park Facts & Figures

(#s based on total population, inclusive of correctional facility)



RESIDENTS
PER PARK: **727**

**National Average = 2,181*



ACRES OF PARK LAND PER
1,000 RESIDENTS: **27.2**

**National Average = 10.1*

**Source: National Recreation and Parks Association*

“High-quality outdoor recreation experiences available in Wisconsin contribute to our exceptional quality of life, reflected in sustained economic growth and in outdoor recreation traditions passed down through generations. From city riverwalks to expansive public forests, public recreation lands and facilities enhance our lives, draw millions of visitors, and support businesses large and small. The economic, social, and health benefits of outdoor recreation in Wisconsin far exceed our investment.”

*2019 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive
Outdoor Recreation Plan*

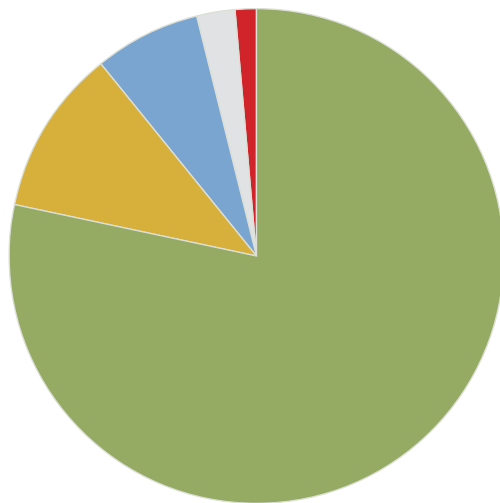


Figure 9: City of Stanley Park Acreages.



Chapman Park
77.5 Acres



Mahr's Meadow Disc Golf Course
10.7 Acres



Fandry Park
6.8 Acres



Wayside Park
2.6 Acres



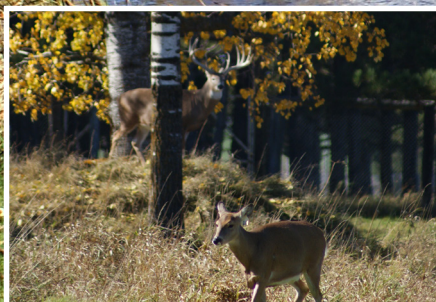
Soo Line Park
1.1 Acres

98.7
Total Acres of
Available Park Land

1

CHAPMAN PARK

This multi-recreational park is located on the shore of Chapman Lake on the west side of the City. There are several day-use facilities throughout the park which includes playgrounds, picnic pavilions, lakeside nature trail, basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts. There is a modern campground on the north end of the park with a nearby deer park and elk park for nature viewing. The park also features a rodeo arena, truck pull grounds, and concert stage for summer programming and events.



KEY FEATURES

- A** Campground
- B** Elk Park
- C** Deer Park
- D** Rodeo Arena
- E** Truck Pull Grounds
- F** Basketball Courts
- G** Tennis Courts
- H** Ball Field
- I** Playground
- J** ADA Fishing Pier
- K** Trail-head
- L** Chapman Lake
- M** Volleyball Court
- N** Picnic Pavilions



2

FANDRY PARK

Located east of Chapman Lake, this park offers several day-use recreation facilities. Visitors have access to a picnic shelter, playground equipment, grills, restrooms and little league ballfields. The park is also the site of the Stanley Veterans Memorial with a monument and an M60A3 tank. There is a walking trail along the edge of the park with several park benches provided on the shoreline of Chapman Lake.



KEY FEATURES

- A** Playground
- B** Picnic Pavilion
- C** Ball Fields
- D** Veterans Memorial
- E** M60A3 Tank
- F** Lakeside Path
- G** Chapman Lake

Chapman
Lake



3

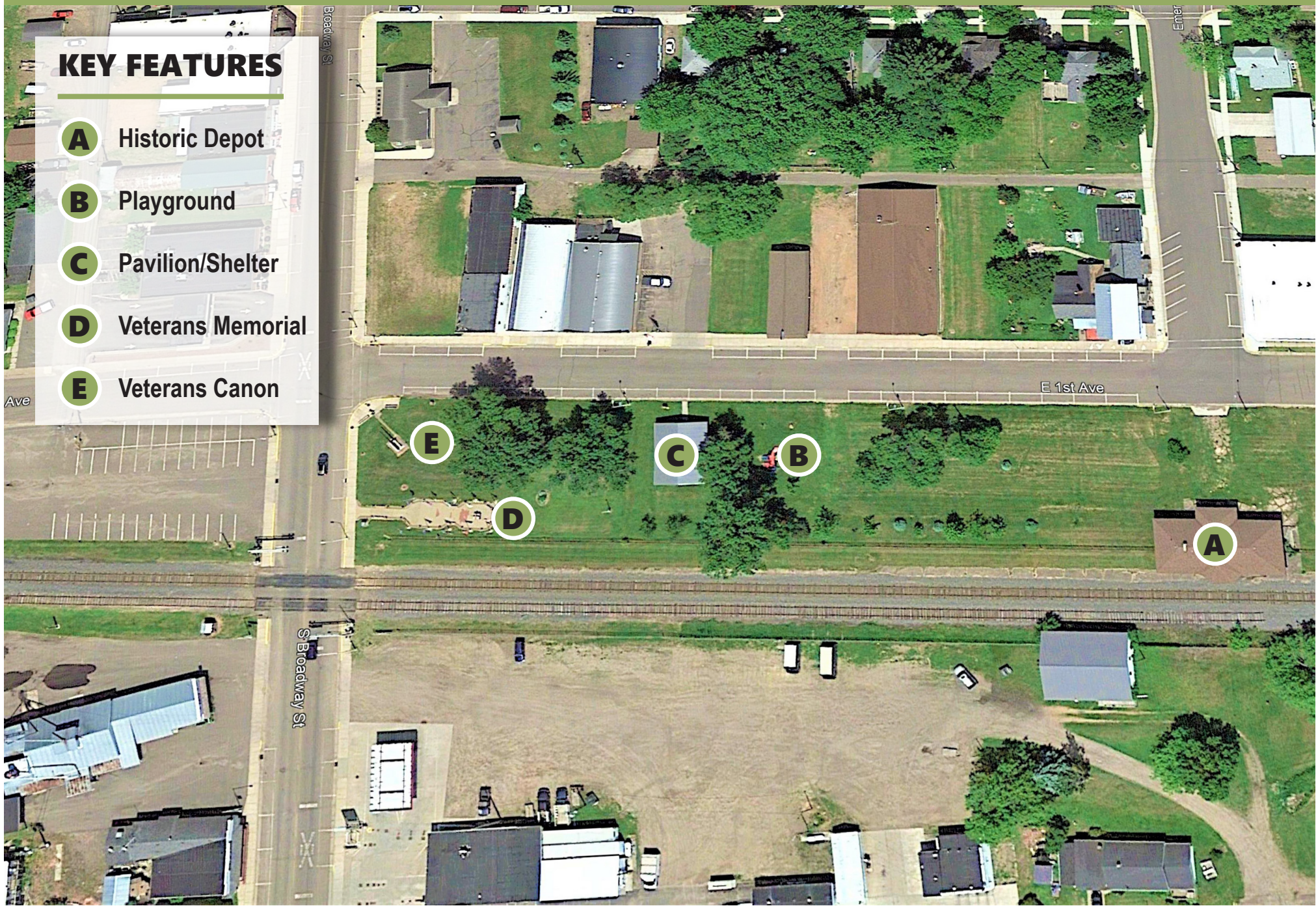
SOO LINE PARK

Soo Park is located in the heart of downtown Stanley. The park runs along the length of the train tracks at the site of the historic Soo Depot. Visitors have access to large open manicured grass with several shade trees for day use or picnics. There is a playground, covered pavilion, historic Veterans cannon and memorial site.



KEY FEATURES

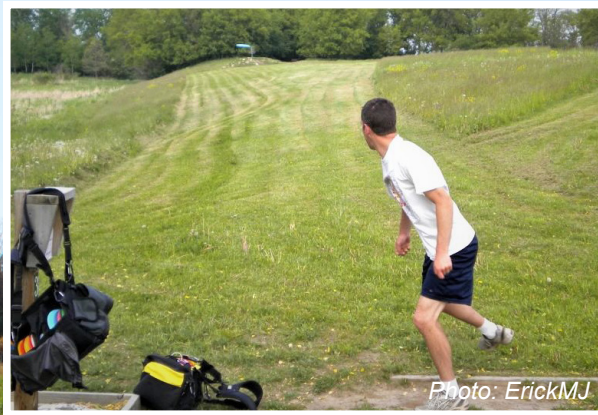
- A** Historic Depot
- B** Playground
- C** Pavilion/Shelter
- D** Veterans Memorial
- E** Veterans Canon



4

MAHR'S MEADOW DISC GOLF COURSE

Located south of Chapman Park, this disc golf course is a permanent 18 hole/basket course in mostly flat and moderately wooded terrain. Tee type is grass with both open and wooded holes - featuring a raised basket on #2 and #3 with one of the longest holes in Wisconsin at 675 feet.



KEY FEATURES

A Info/Message Board

B Parking

C 18 Hole Course



5

WAYSIDE PARK

Located directly south of Highway 29 - Exit 101, this wayside rest area features manicured grass and several shade trees for visitors and travelers. The rest area is ideal for those travelling with pets to walk leashed animals. There is also nearby food, gas, and restroom facilities.



KEY FEATURES

- A** Manicured Grass
- B** Shade Trees
- C** Nearby Private Facilities



B. PARK SERVICE AREA

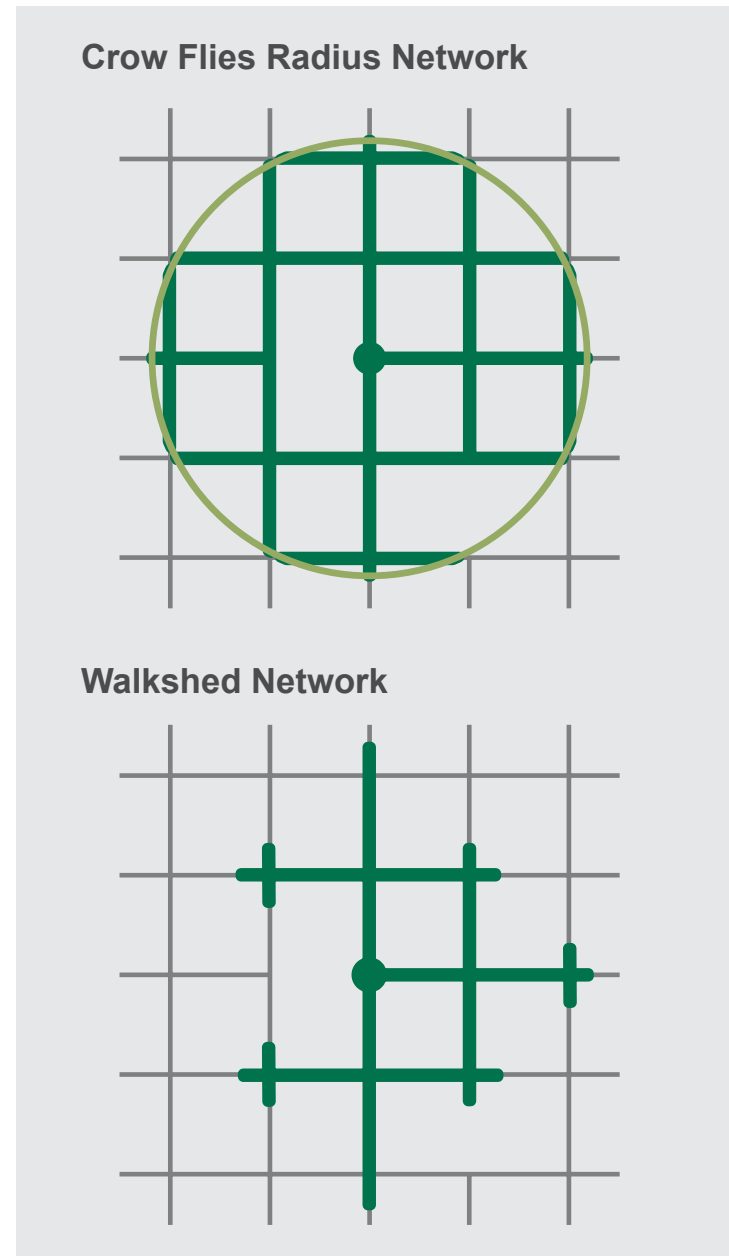
A walkshed analysis was used in this plan to assess the proximity of residential parcels to parks, and ultimately define the service area for existing parks in the City of Stanley. A walkshed is the network of streets within a defined walking distance of a specific location, such as a park. Walksheds are a more accurate way to identify actual walking routes and distances to destinations.

Unlike approaches that measure straight-line distance to a destination, walksheds attempt to consider gaps in the network where streets don't connect or where there may be physical barriers, cul-de-sacs, etc. (Figure 10).

Mapping walksheds on the street network helps identify individual street segments that pedestrians are likely to take to a specific destination within a given distance or travel time. Sidewalks or trails are also mapped in order to show existing connectivity between modes of transportation within a walkshed.

On average, a person can walk up to half a mile in 10 minutes, which is a commonly recommended distance for pedestrians to access available park land or open space in their community. Using the half-mile recommended service area and parcel data, all residential parcels and sidewalks are mapped to show which households are within the park service area for the City of Stanley.

Figure 10: *Walkshed illustration.*



Park Access for All Residential Parcels

Within Half Mile of Park
68%

Half Mile or Greater
32%

Based on the walkshed assessment, 68% of all residential parcels in the City of Stanley are within a half mile of a park. This leaves 32% of residential parcels where residents must travel a distance greater than a half a mile to access City park land (Figure 11).

A more detailed assessment of service area connectivity to City parks includes the mapping of all available sidewalks within the walkshed, shown on the following page (Figure 12). Additionally, all residential parcels with or without access to a sidewalk were mapped to further identify where there may be connectivity concerns for residential households in the park service area (Figure 13).

Figure 11: 3D Map of residential parcels in half mile walkshed of City parks.

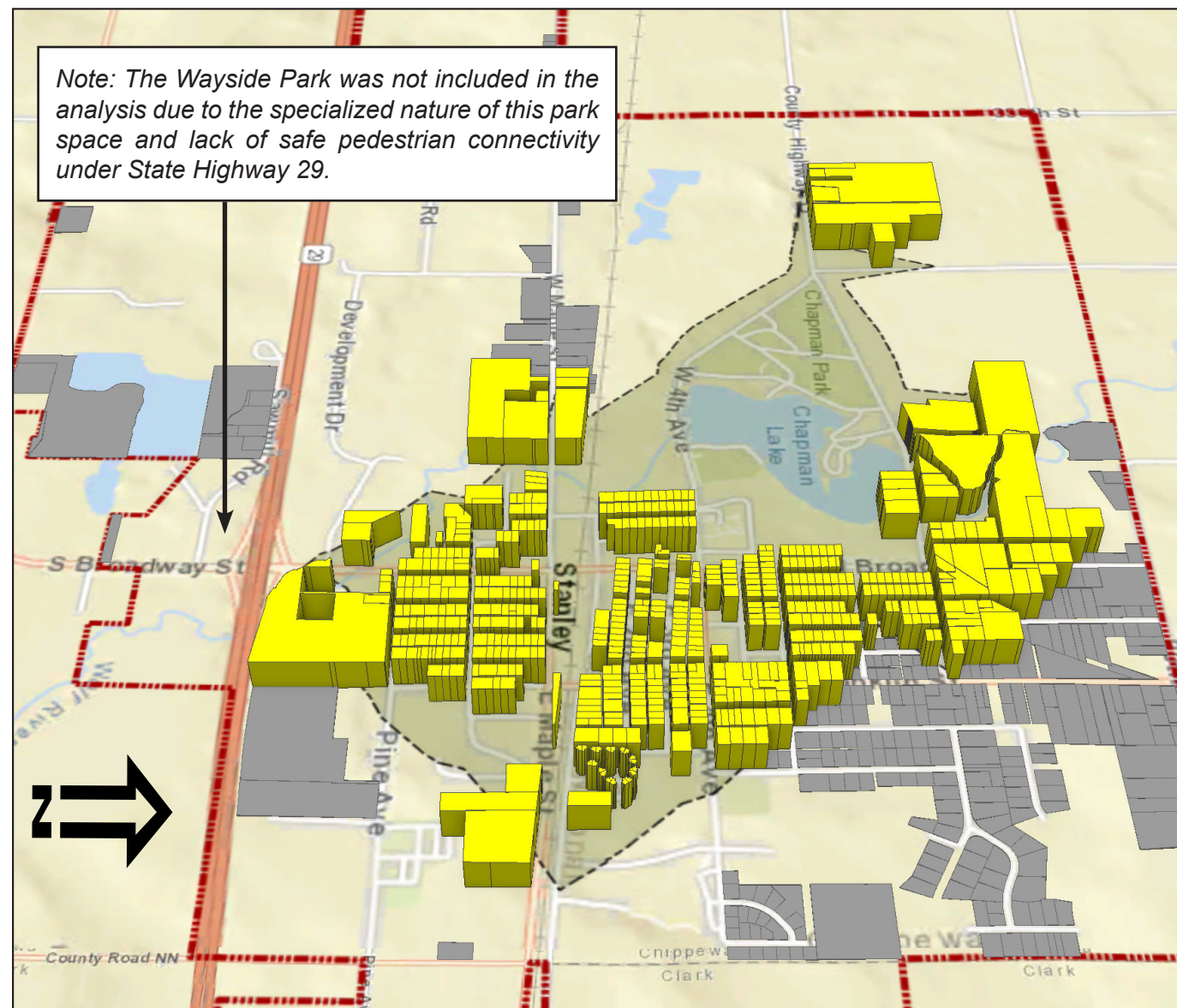


Figure 12: Map of parks, residential parcels, sidewalks, and the half mile park walkshed for the City of Stanley.

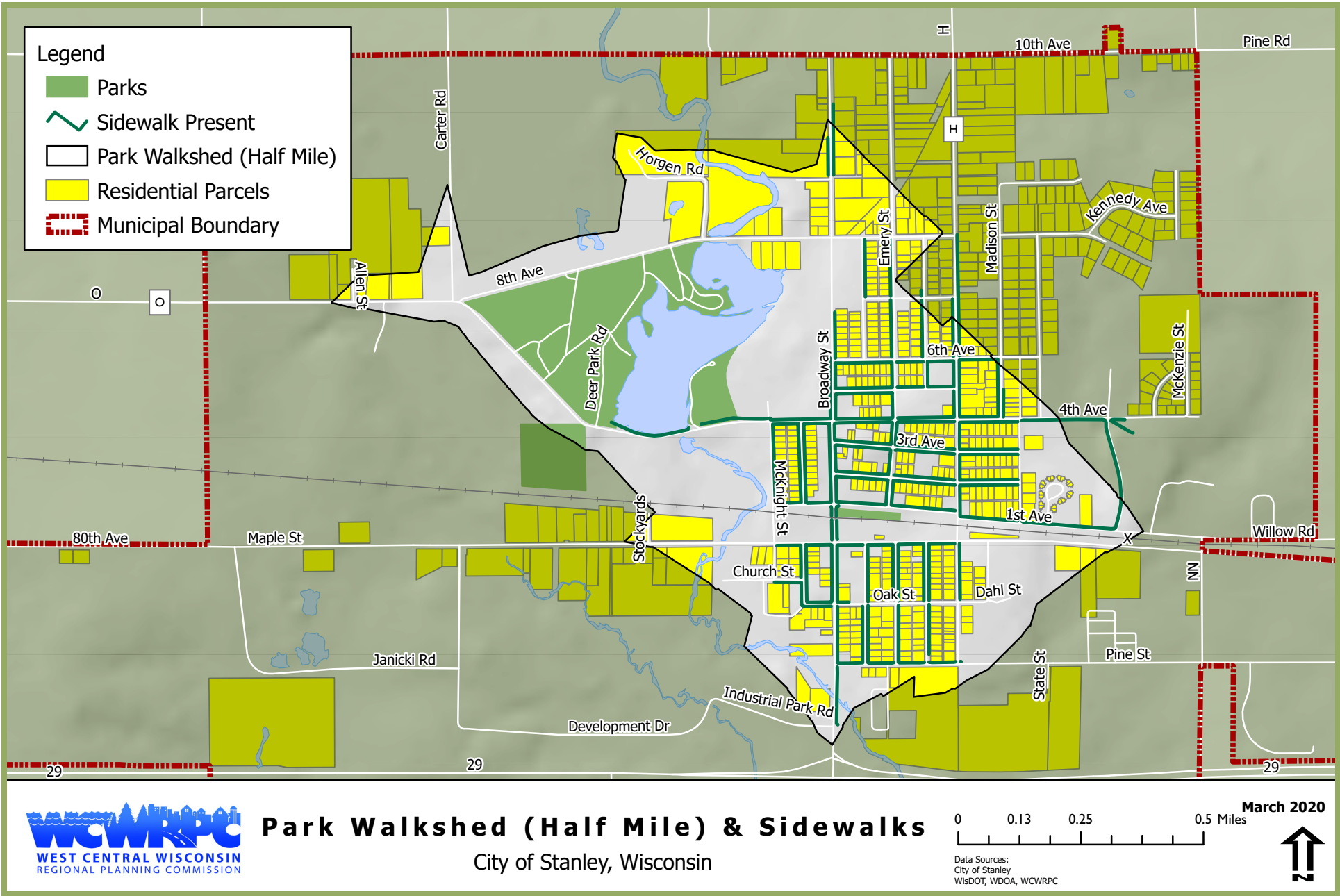
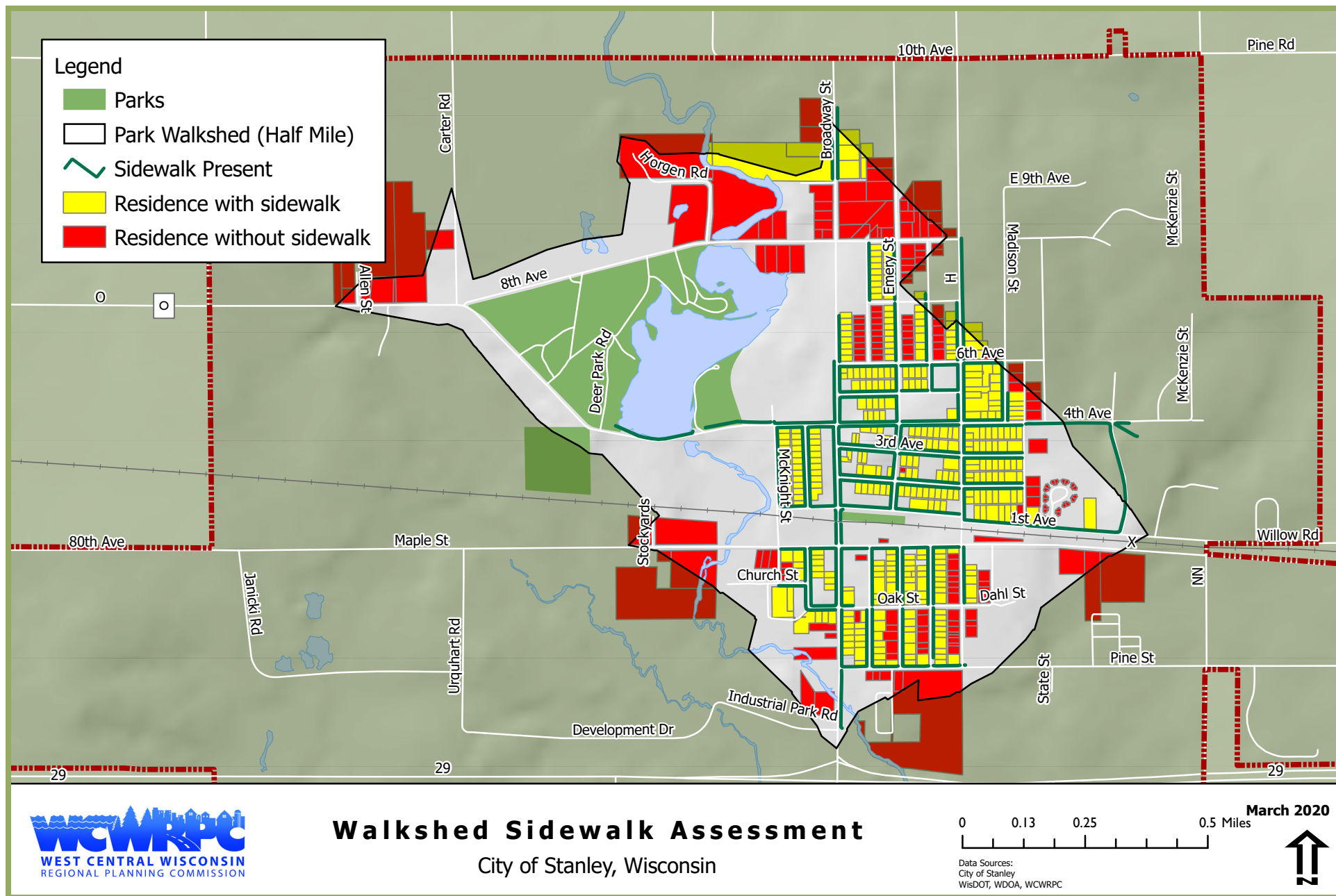


Figure 13: Map of residential parcels in half mile walkshed with or without sidewalks.



C. SCHOOL FACILITIES

School facilities are not included in the overall land acreage totals for public (City) recreation facilities because they are not accessible to the general public at all times and are not owned or maintained by the City.

However, the Stanley-Boyd School District consists of 112.6 acres of land which includes a playground, running/sprint track, outdoor education center, and practice fields available for public use during non-school hours.

No formal arrangement between the City and the schools exists for general public use of school playgrounds and athletic fields during non-school hours. It is recommended that the City and school district continue to coordinate activities, to the extent possible, so the recreation facilities under each jurisdiction can be beneficial to both.

STANLEY-BOYD
SCHOOL ACRES: 112.6



D. WALKING, HIKING & CYCLING

In the City of Stanley, there are hiking and biking paths found in Chapman park and east of Fandry Park, comprising around 0.5 miles of mostly separated paved pathway.

Walking, hiking, and cycling are increasingly popular outdoor recreation activities throughout the State of Wisconsin, indicating the need for designated trails and routes in the City and the region. The benefits of walking and bicycling include improved health, cleaner air, and greater social interaction among the community.

Those interested in hiking, cycling, or running in the City of Stanley utilize a mix of streets, sidewalks, paths, trails, or the running track at Oriole Park. A review of the online *Strava Heat Map helps identify the preferred routes of individuals tracking their activity types within the City. This can be a helpful planning tool when considering new routes, safety improvements, or pedestrian signage throughout the City.

An assessment of Strava users walking or running in the City shows the greatest intensity of routes along 8th Avenue, 4th Avenue, and around the running track at Oriole Park. Other areas of note are the intense use at Chapman Park, and throughout the extensive School District property and open spaces in the eastern side of the City.



Figure 14: View looking north on paved pathway at Chapman Park.

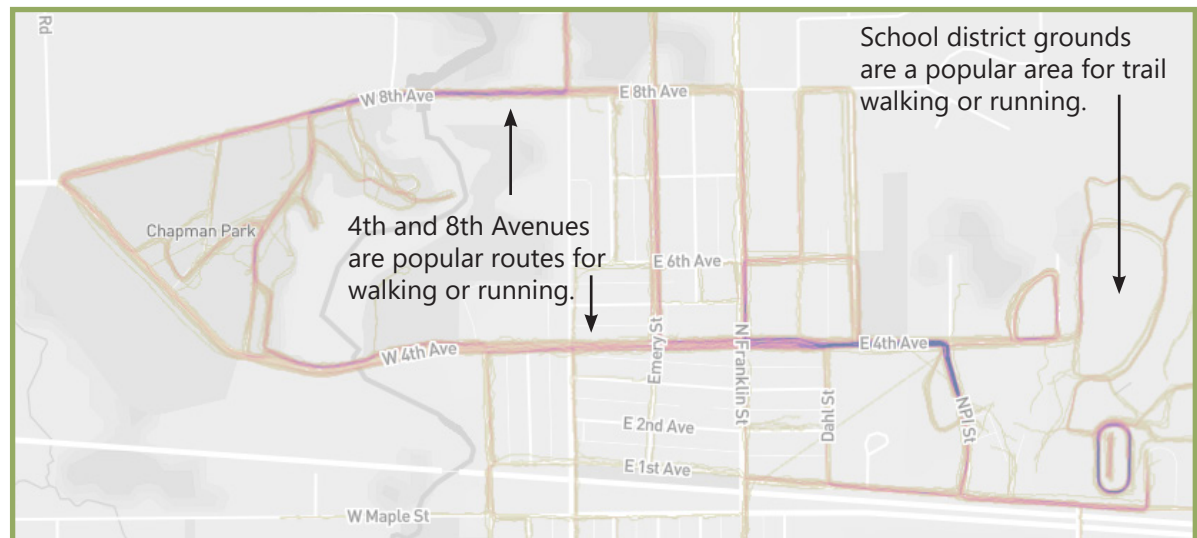


Figure 15: Strava Heat Map of individuals engaging in running or walking.

***Note:** Strava Heat Map is generated by application users who track their activity using a smartphone or tablet while engaged in the activity. The 'Heat' is produced through the aggregation of user activity over a two-year period.

A similar review of the Strava Heat Map for those interested in cycling shows the intense use along 4th Avenue and west along County Highway O towards Boyd, Cadott and ultimately Lake Wissota State Park. For those interested in longer distance cycling outside the City, in 2015 the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) assessed state and county highways based on their suitability for biking. These maps are available online at the wisconsindot.gov website for download.

By combining existing user data and assessing the current condition of streets, sidewalks, and trails, there are several options for future improvements or enhancements over the next several years. The City of Stanley is encouraged to consider where new sidewalks, trails, bike lanes or pedestrian signage may be installed. Doing so will help to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety and enhance the overall user experience as it relates to improving access to City parks, and providing an inclusive outdoor recreation experience for residents of all ages and abilities within the City.

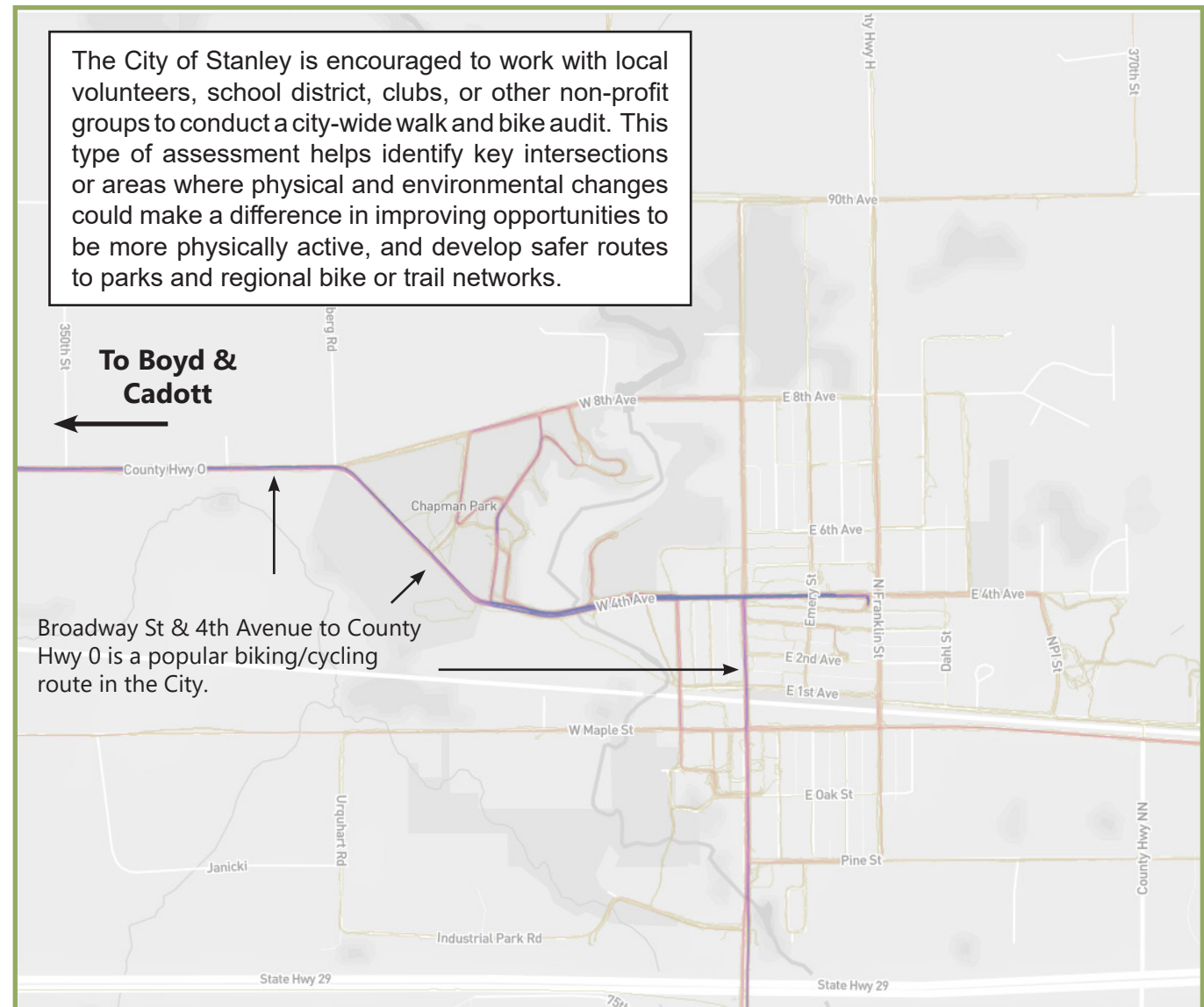


Figure 16: Strava Heat Map of individuals engaging in biking or cycling.

Certain local streets within the City of Stanley are open to snowmobile or ATV use for licensed machines and operators, as shown in the full map on the following page (Figure 18). Allowing use of the local road network, especially for snowmobile use, helps connect residents to hundreds of miles of recreational trails in Chippewa and Clark Counties as shown on the maps here.

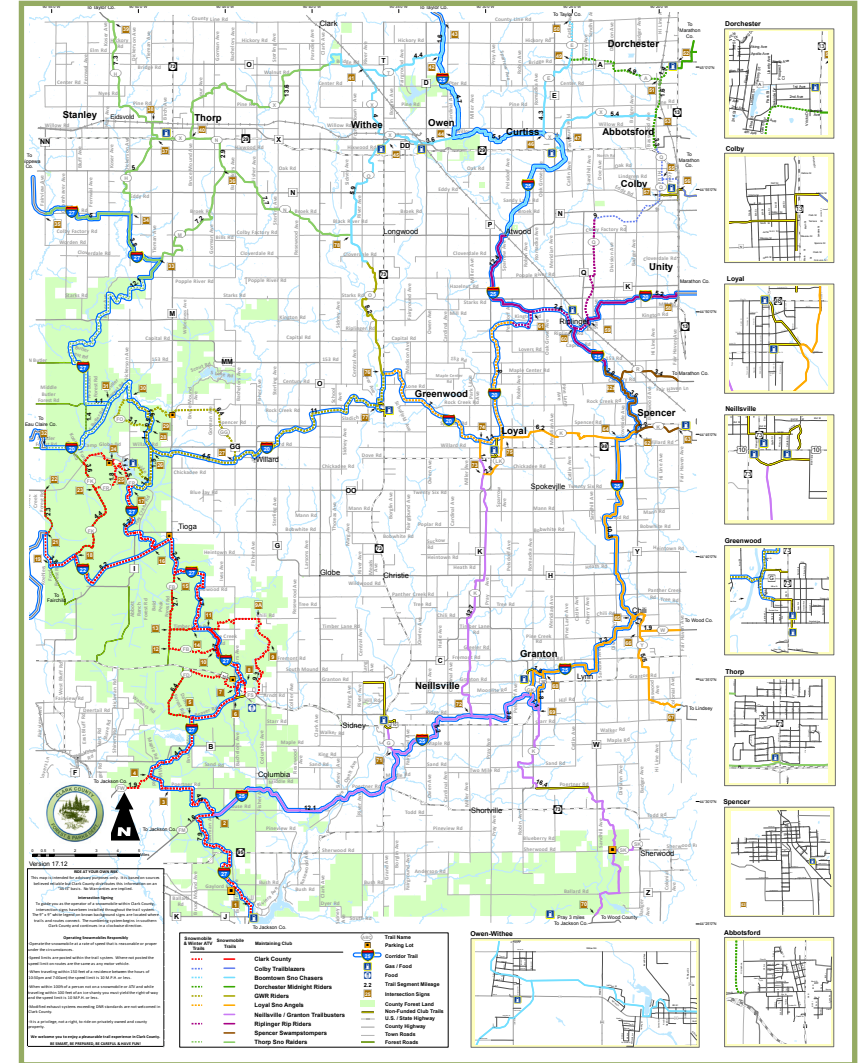
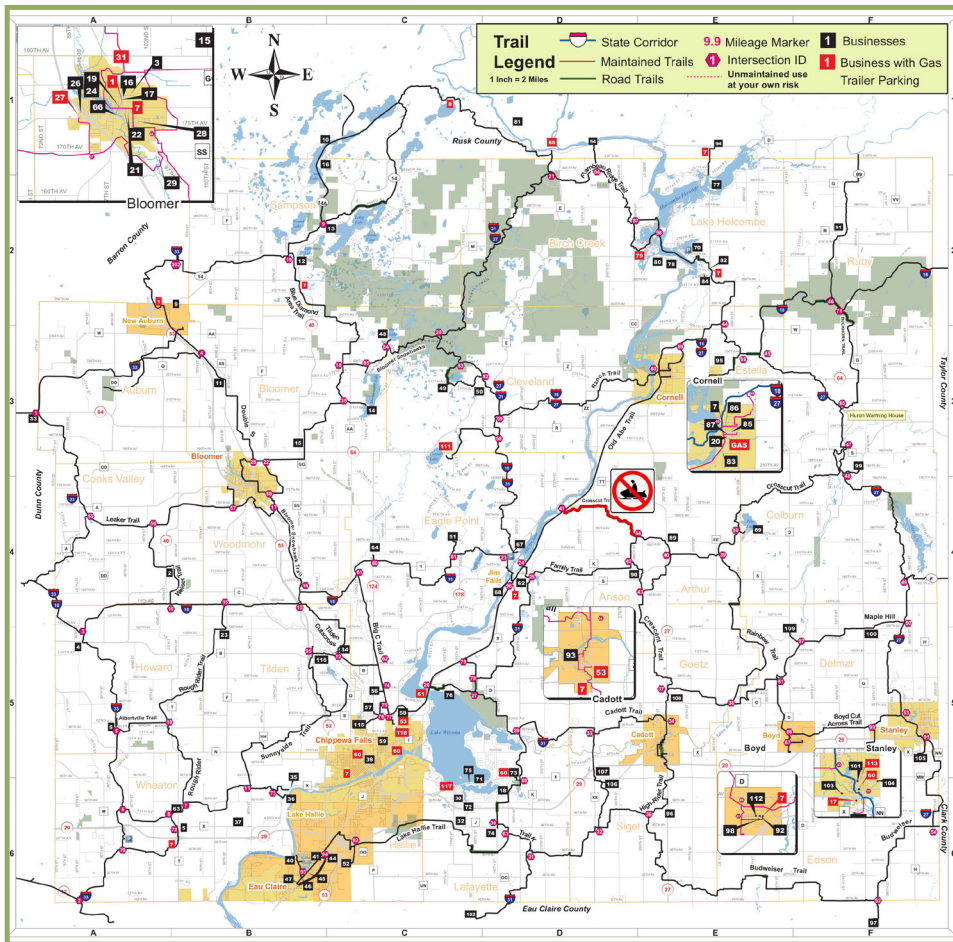
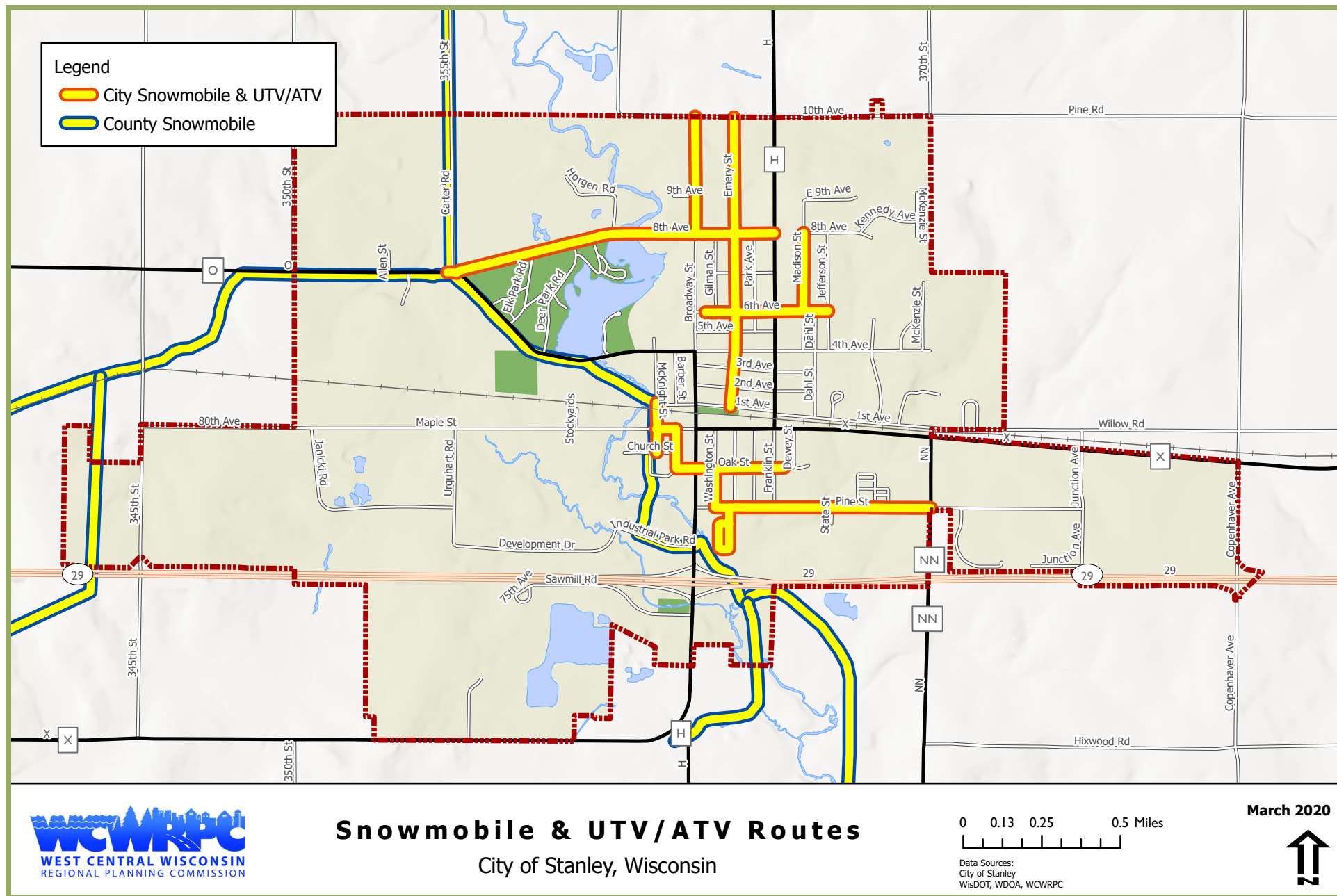


Figure 17: County Snowmobile & ATV/UTV maps like these are available online for both Chippewa and Clark Counties. Residents are encouraged to visit each respective County website for current available routes or trail openings/closures. Note: maps are not to scale.

Figure 18: Map of Chippewa County snowmobile routes and City roads open to snowmobiles and ATV/UTV's.



Regional Recreation Opportunities

The City of Stanley residents may also take advantage of a diversity of county, state, and other outdoor recreational facilities in the region. There are several Managed County Forests and State Parks within a two-hour drive for the residents of Stanley. These facilities offer abundant recreational opportunities which may be inappropriate or not found in the City such as hunting, horseback riding, ATV/UTV riding or shooting ranges.

There are also numerous unmapped recreational facilities which are operated by other nearby local communities or privately owned entities. Residents or visitors are encouraged to explore local or state tourism offices, or consult the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Public Lands Map (online) for more information.

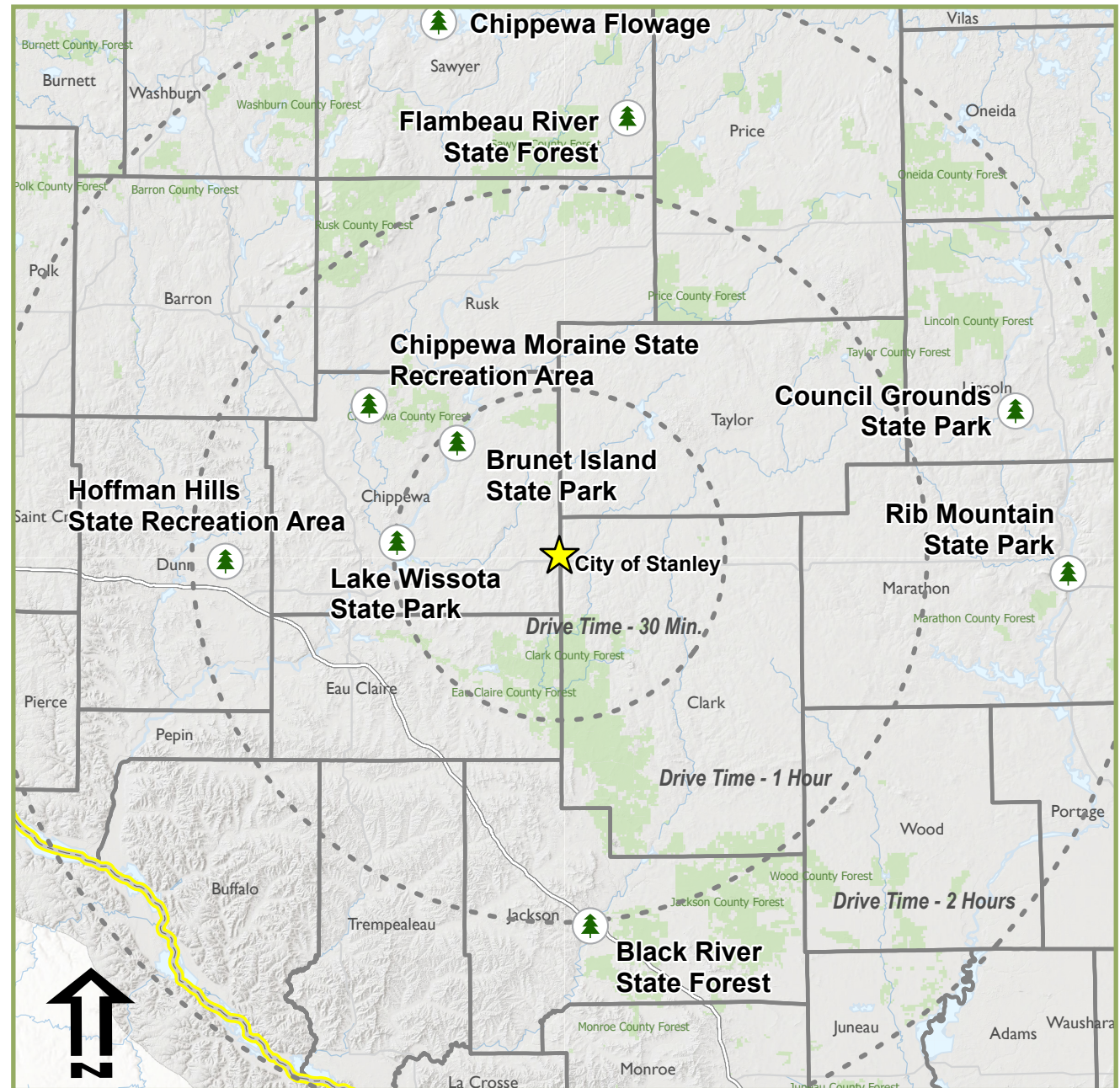


Figure 19: Map of drive times and Wisconsin State Parks in the region.

SECTION IV: OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS IDENTIFIED BY THE STEERING COMMITTEE

- Maintenance of Existing Parks & Facilities
- Funding Support for Chapman Community Building
- Trail around Chapman Lake
- Dredging of Chapman Lake
- Improved Wayfinding & Signage for Parks, Routes, or Trails
- Explore Dog Park & Community Garden Spaces
- Increased Promotion & Tourism Opportunities

Local, Regional, & Statewide Recreation Demands

A. CITY OF STANLEY RECREATIONAL FACILITIES DISTRIBUTION

The City of Stanley manages over 98.7 acres of public land used for recreational purposes in the City limits. The City's current population is about 3,641 residents (Wisconsin Department of Administration, 2019 Estimate) with a maximum of 1,500 who may be incarcerated at Stanley Correctional. This leaves a population of around 2,141 accessing public park land in the City. Based on the National Recreation and Park Association standard of 10 acres of public recreation land per 1,000 population, the City should have around 21 acres of public park land for its residents.

In terms of gross acreage, the City's supply of 98.7 acres of public park land greatly exceeds the minimum service standard of 10 acres per 1,000 residents, even for any anticipated projected population growth over the next several decades. However, despite having sufficient park land available, many of the recreation facilities are not solely used by residents inside City limits.

For example, Chapman Park is host to a number of events in the summer that draw thousands of visitors such as the Stanley Rodeo, Truck Pull, Watermelon Fest, Stanley Lion's Club 5k Marathon, and more. Additionally, there are several dozen acres that are unimproved or cannot be developed as multi-use recreation areas due to their location or specialized uses such as the Deer and Elk Parks, or Wayside Park.

Based on the assessment of current recreational facilities and demands in the City, the following factors are of greater importance with regards to the development or improvement of additional park facilities in the future:

- » Growing or changing recreational demands by residents and/or visitors are not being met with existing park facilities.
- » The geographic distribution of existing parks does not provide sufficient access for all residents.
- » Park amenities or specific uses are overly concentrated in a single area at such levels that use conflicts are created and/or the carry capacity of facilities and the natural environment are being exceeded.

B. OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS IDENTIFIED BY THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Based on meetings, discussions, and interviews with City departments, staff, and stakeholders, this section provides a list of potential outdoor recreation improvements identified by those involved throughout the planning process. As with all planning projects, staff time and funding will limit the number and scope of projects that can be addressed over the next five years. However, improvements or activities listed here are an important first step to identify public demands for outdoor recreation, in an effort to prioritize where to invest additional planning and resources of the City.

MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING PARKS & FACILITIES

The maintenance of existing parks and outdoor recreation facilities is the current priority of the City of Stanley and the Parks Committee. To help fund new facilities or improvements, the City should explore opportunities to work with volunteer groups, non-profits, etc. Responsible planning and partnerships will allow for the best use of public funds for outdoor recreation improvements in response to public demand.

EXPLORE DOG PARK & COMMUNITY GARDEN SPACES

The Steering Committee identified resident interests for an off-leash dog park facility along with areas where community gardens may be located. Regarding the dog park, other cities in the region have allowed dog parks to be developed at large stormwater retention sites where ponding is low-to-infrequent. Areas in the City of Stanley where a dog park could be considered include city-owned property in the southeast section of the City or areas south of Chapman and Fandry Parks.

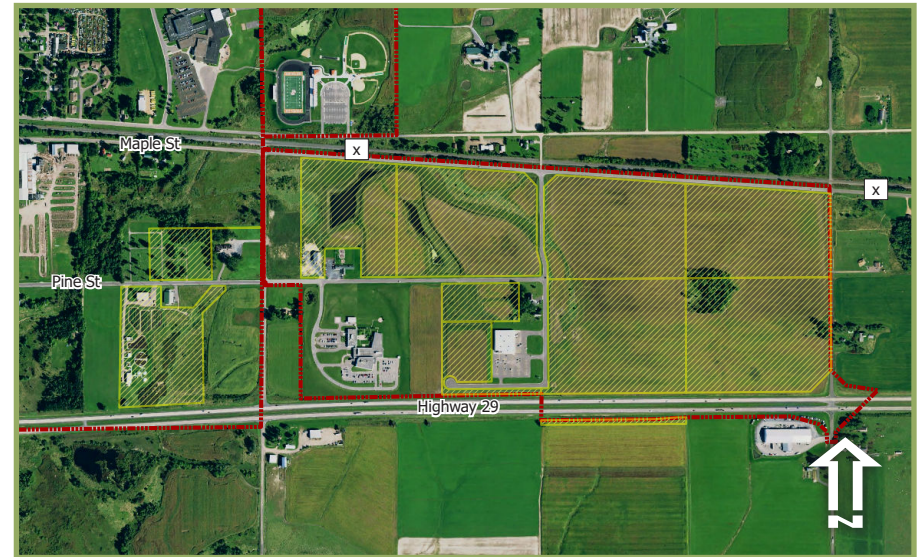


Figure 20: City-owned parcels in southeast Stanley.



Figure 21: Stanley-Boyd Outdoor Recreation Center surrounded by several acres of School District open space in northeast area of City.

Community gardens could be considered at similar sites and/or in the vacant city-owned lot adjacent to the D.R. Moon Memorial Library on 4th Avenue. Other options include a potential partnership with the School District to explore the development of community gardens near the Stanley-Boyd Outdoor Education Center.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CHAPMAN COMMUNITY BUILDING

In 2018, the already aging Community Building at Chapman Park collapsed due to intense winter weather conditions. A new building is currently being planned and the City continues to move the project forward. Along with providing significant benefit to everyday park users and larger planned community events, the building will also serve as a storm shelter for park and campground users during extreme weather events.

TRAIL AROUND CHAPMAN LAKE

There is currently a trail along the western edge of Chapman Lake. Previous ideas for trail expansion include construction of a trestle bridge near the northern edge of the lake to connect to the abandoned rail line near the eastern lakeshore and down into Fandry Park. The result would be a 1.1 mile loop around the lake. The City should continue to explore funding support and how to obtain the required easement from Canadian National Railroad and other owners to complete the project.



Figure 22: Community Building site at Chapman Park.

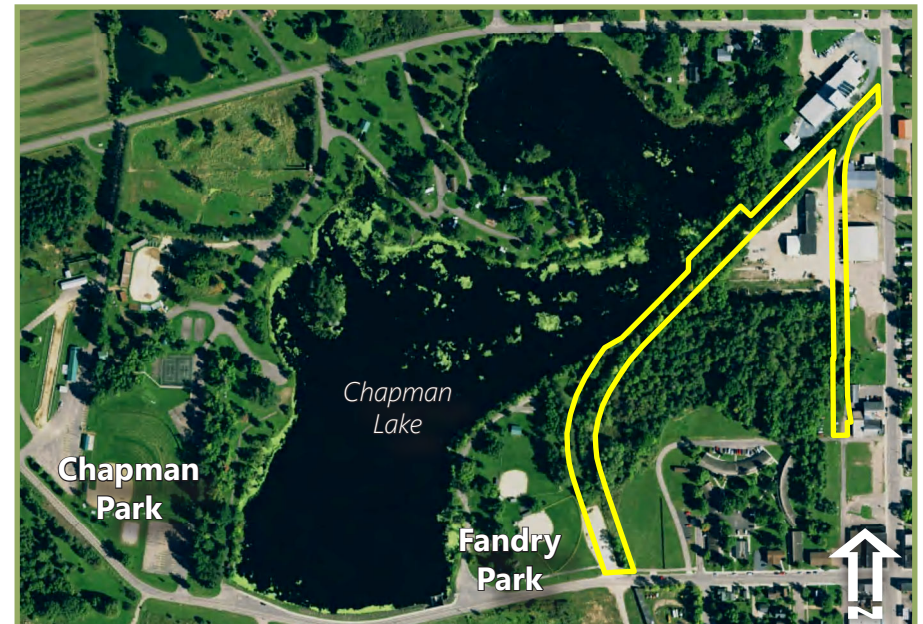


Figure 23: Abandoned rail right-of-way east of Chapman Lake.

EXPLORE ADDITIONAL PARK PROGRAMMING

With ever-changing recreation preferences and demands by residents, the Parks Committee should continue to explore new programming or uses within the existing parks to ensure that recreation areas and facilities are responsibly planned and reflective of the needs of the community. Park use has changed dramatically since they were first constructed, and current park user groups interviewed for this plan indicate parking as a major concern during larger events or gatherings.

Tools to help with future park programming may include the development or update of individual park master plans. These area focused plans allow the City to assess current and future recreational needs at the park, evaluate feasible options, develop a strategic action plan, and budget for long-term or phased-in development and improvements.

DREDGING OF CHAPMAN LAKE

Chapman Lake impoundment underwent a dam renovation in 2009-2010 which included some mechanical dredging and fish restocking. The City would like to complete additional dredging in the lake and should continue to seek partners and/or funding support to complete the project.

INCREASED PROMOTION OF RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Stanley should continue to identify ways to promote its outdoor recreation opportunities to area residents and the region. The City is fortunate to have significant park acreage, unique features, and highly diverse outdoor recreation opportunities that make Stanley an attractive place to live, work, and play.

Through the creative use of social media and website marketing, the City has the opportunity to share the diversity of its outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities inside the City that promote active, social, and healthy living.

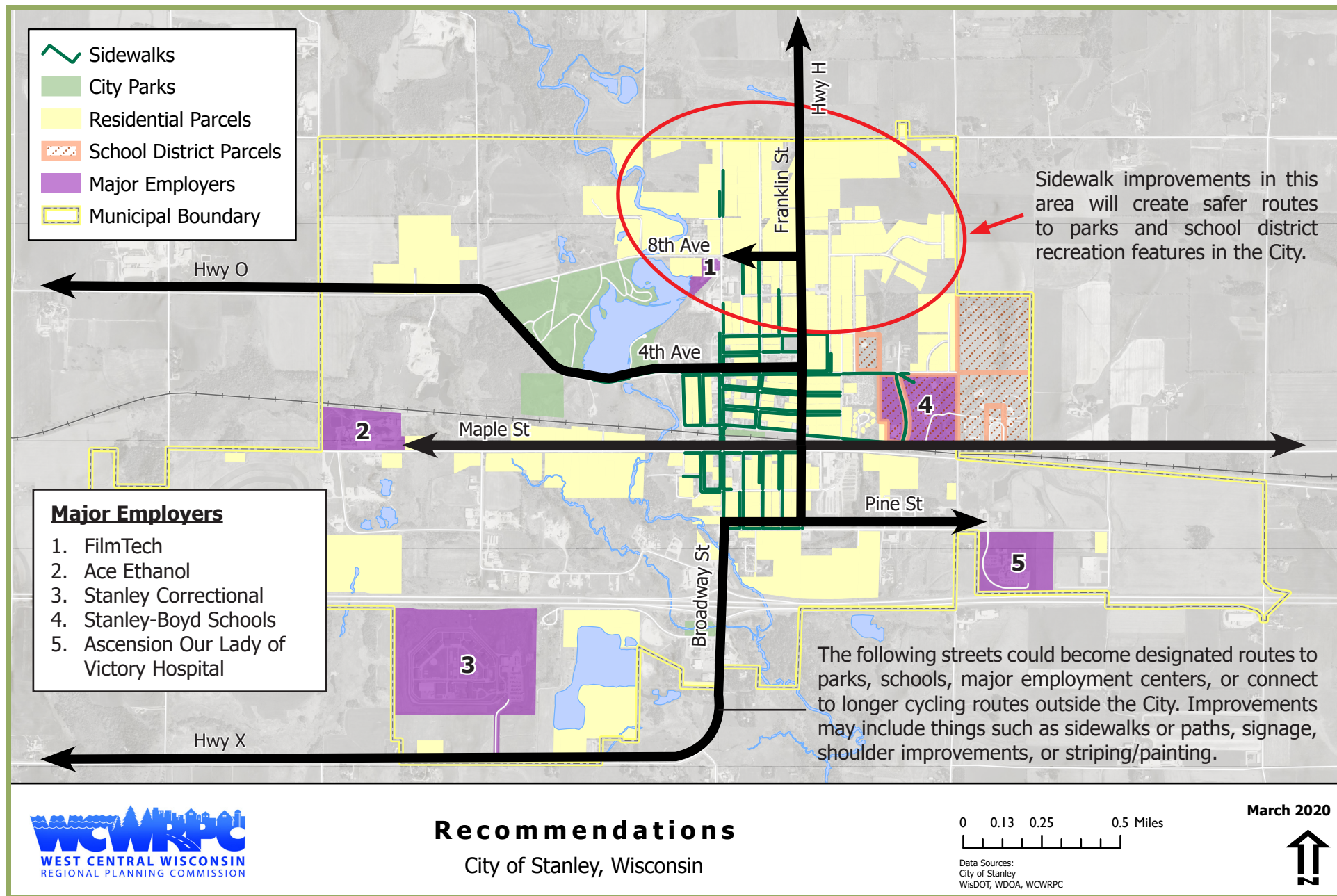
Similarly, recent findings show Americans typically visit local parks and recreation facilities more than twice a month, and nine in ten Americans agree that parks and recreation are important local government services (National Recreation & Parks Association). In the State of Wisconsin, nearly 85 percent of people consider high-quality park and recreation amenities as a principal factor when choosing a place to live. Also statewide, 66 percent of residents participate in outdoor recreation each year with 28 percent of recreation trips within 30 minutes of the participant's home (NRPA & Outdoor Industry Association).

IMPROVED WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE FOR PARKS, ROUTES, OR TRAILS

In addition to exploring new bike/hiking trails, the Steering Committee would like to improve connectivity between city-owned recreation areas, School District facilities, and areas of major employment. Potential future strategies to consider may include:

- new trail, path, or sidewalk construction and improvements;
- developing official route designations between recreation areas or areas of major employment; and/or
- improving overall recreation, trail, and route signage and wayfinding at entrances and major intersections in the City.

Figure 24: Conceptual map of potential route, wayfinding, and signage improvements in the City.



C. REGIONAL RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES ANALYSIS (ROA)

In June of 2018, The Department of Natural Resources released the Recreation Opportunities Analysis (ROA). This document compiles information and public input throughout the State of Wisconsin regarding:

- » Current recreation opportunities
- » Existing gaps and needs
- » Department-managed properties that may be well-suited to help address these needs

The ROA divides the State into eight regions; the same regions identified and used in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORP). Stanley is part of the Western Sands Region and received input from over 1,000 individuals regarding the opportunities and needs of the region. Some of the highlights from this report identifying high needs or requested improvements in the Western Sands Region include:

- » Hiking/walking/running trails
- » Bicycle trails - both paved and natural surface
- » Camping - rustic/quiet campgrounds
- » Horseback riding trails

Description of the Western Sands Region

The diverse landscape of the Western Sands Region provides outdoor recreation for those looking for a mix of developed recreation facilities. Much of what recreationists look for can all be found here—regional trail networks for various forms of trail use, large properties for migratory bird and big game hunting, state and county park properties with camping, picnic areas and hiking trails, as well as waterways for boating and canoe/kayak use.

Top 10 Activities Respondents Participate In Include:

- » Bicycling – surfaced trails
- » Bicycling – mountain biking, single track
- » Camping – tent
- » Camping – RV/pop-up
- » Canoeing/kayaking
- » Cross-country skiing/snowshoeing
- » Fishing – from a boat, canoe or kayak
- » Hiking, walking, and running on trails
- » Swimming
- » Wildlife/bird watching

D. STATE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN (SCORP)

Assessing the outdoor recreation needs of Wisconsin's residents and visitors is a major component of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). SCORP's are intended to evaluate outdoor recreation supply, demand, trends and issues. They are used to set forth ideas about recreation's future role in the state and serve as the blueprint by providing broad guidance to governments at all levels, communities, businesses and organizations on recreation needs and opportunities.

States are required to complete SCORP's every five years to be eligible for participation in the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State Assistance Program. Describing the supply and demand for outdoor recreation in the state as well as describing the criteria and system to distribute LWCF funds are required components of the SCORP. States have the flexibility to incorporate other topics in their SCORP that will help provide a better understanding of the needs and priorities unique to their outdoor recreation resources.

Primary actions for the 2019-2023 Wisconsin SCORP include:

- » Collect data on Wisconsinites' participation in outdoor recreation;
- » Conduct initial research on the efficacy and costs of different techniques to gather data on visitors (e.g., numbers, activities pursued, visitation patterns and satisfaction) to public lands;
- » Update data on the supply of outdoor recreation opportunities, with a focus on properties open to the public for nature-based outdoor recreation; and
- » Develop priorities for future recreation funding.

State of Wisconsin's Goals for Outdoor Recreation



1. Boost participation in outdoor recreation



2. Grow partnerships



3. Provide high-quality experiences



4. Improve data to enhance visitor experiences and benefits

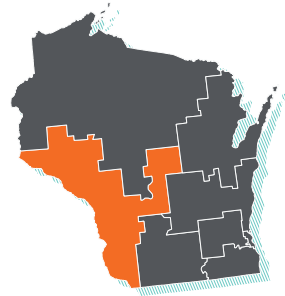


5. Enhance funding and financial stability

Regional Recreation Needs Identified in the Western Sands

- | | |
|---|---|
| » Bicycling – bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking | » Fishing |
| » Bird or wildlife watching | » Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking |
| » Camping - developed and primitive | » Horseback riding |
| » Canoeing or kayaking | » Hunting - big game |
| » Cross country skiing | » Picnicking |
| » Dog walking | » Snowshoeing |
| | » Swimming in lakes and rivers |

SECTION V: OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS



66%

of Wisconsin residents participate in outdoor recreation each year

Approximately

28%

of outdoor recreation trips in Wisconsin are close to home (taking place within 30 minutes of the participant's home)

Spending by state residents represents

71%

of outdoor recreation spending in Wisconsin

Out-of-state visitors to Wisconsin spend

\$5.2 BILLION

on outdoor recreation

RESIDENTS OF WISCONSIN'S 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SPEND



\$1.69 BILLION

ON OUTDOOR RECREATION EACH YEAR¹

WISCONSIN'S 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IS HOME TO AT LEAST



25 OUTDOOR COMPANIES

CAMPING, FISHING AND WATER SPORTS



ARE THE MOST POPULAR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES IN WISCONSIN'S 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Source: Outdoor Industry Association. Results report the economic contributions to the respective statewide economies from the outdoor recreation participants who reside within each congressional district.

Detailed Park Inventory Forms & Improvements

While previous sections of this plan identify general policies, long-term goals, and public input for enhancing City recreation opportunities, this section of the plan identifies specific features, amenities, improvement needs, and opportunities for existing facilities either owned, managed, or considered for capital investment by the City of Stanley.

Each park facility and the accompanying recommendations include cost estimates, potential partnerships, maintenance responsibilities, and suggested time frames for improvements. The cost estimates are a reasonable approximation and will vary based on site-specific characteristics and final design. The exact time-frame for implementation will also vary based on available resources, partnership opportunities, and other priority needs within the City when considering potential future improvements.

The inventory forms included here serve as a recommended capital improvement plan for park facilities. Consolidation of park information in this manner helps simplify future facility improvements, recognize accomplishments over time, and identify changes for future Outdoor Recreation Plan updates.

DETAILED FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION:

1. Chapman Park
2. Fandry Park
3. Soo Line Park
4. Mahr's Meadow Disc Golf Course
5. Wayside Park

PLEASE NOTE: *This section does not guarantee that all listed improvements will be made, but helps identify future priorities for City-owned facilities as citizen demand and funding is made available through allocation, grants, or partnership opportunities.*

1. CHAPMAN PARK

ADDRESS: 450 W & 4th Avenue, Stanley, WI 54768

PARK TYPE: Community/Regional

KEY FUNCTION: All Season Recreation

SIZE: 77.5 acres

PRIMARY USES

This is the City's largest all season recreation area with over a mile of City owned shoreline on the non-motorized and no-wake Chapman Lake.

KEY FEATURES

Park users have access to several sports and recreation facilities including a public campground, deer and elk park, rodeo grounds, and handicap-accessible lake docks and fishing pier.

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

» Chapman Lake	» Restrooms
» Playgrounds	» Volleyball Courts
» Tennis Courts	» ADA Lake Docks
» Basketball Courts	» Baseball Sporting Facility
» Campsites	» Rodeo Arena
» Walking Trails	» Tractor Pull
» Picnic Areas	» Cattle Barn



PLANS OR RECOMMENDATIONS

	COST ESTIMATE	TIME FRAME
Construction of new Community Center Building	\$1.5 Million	1-3 yrs
Pavillion and improved fishing access below dam at southern end of lake	\$100,000	1-3 yrs
Maintain existing park features/install new playground equipment and other park features as needed	\$50,000	1-5 yrs
Chapman Lake dredging	\$250,000	3-5 yrs
Develop/update Chapman Park Master Plan	\$5,000	3-5 yrs

AGREEMENTS/PARTNERSHIPS FOR USE, MANAGEMENT OR PROGRAMMING

This property is managed by the City of Stanley Public Works Department. The Deer Park is managed by Stanley's Sportsman's Club and the Rodeo and Truck Pull arena's are the responsibility of the SFBC, LLC.

2. FANDRY PARK

ADDRESS: 300 W & 4th Avenue, Stanley, WI 54768

PARK TYPE: Community

KEY FUNCTION: Baseball Fields/Veterans Memorial

SIZE: 6.8 acres

PRIMARY USES

This park is primarily used for youth baseball/softball leagues and Chapman Lake shoreline access.

KEY FEATURES

The area features picnic facilities, a playground, shade trees, and youth baseball/softball diamonds. Park users have access to several picnic tables and lakeshore benches, along with manicured grass throughout the park and the Stanley Veterans Memorial with a decommissioned tank and monument.

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- » Chapman Lake
- » Playground
- » Baseball Diamonds
- » Picnic Areas
- » Veterans Memorial
- » Picnic Shelter
- » Grills
- » Pit Toilets



PLANS OR RECOMMENDATIONS

	COST ESTIMATE	TIME FRAME
Acquire easement or purchase land from railroad to expand parking capacity	\$100,000	1-3 yrs
Acquire easement or purchase land from railroad for trail development around Chapman Lake	\$100,000	1-3 yrs
Trailhead and kiosk for Chapman Lake Trail	\$25,000	3-5 yrs
New playground equipment	\$50,000	5+ yrs
Construct new/permanent restroom facility	\$300,000	5+ yrs

AGREEMENTS/PARTNERSHIPS FOR USE, MANAGEMENT OR PROGRAMMING

This property is managed by the City of Stanley Public Works Department.

3. SOO LINE PARK

ADDRESS: Broadway St & 1st Avenue, Stanley, WI 54768

PARK TYPE: Neighborhood

KEY FUNCTION: Playground/Veterans Memorial

SIZE: 1.1 acre

PRIMARY USES

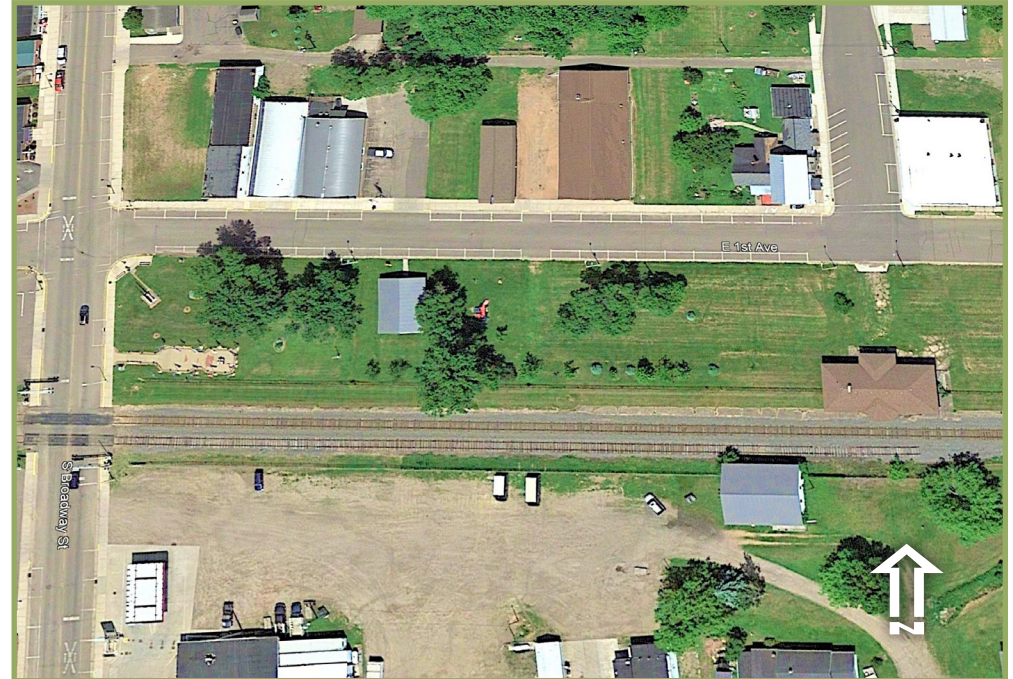
Located in the heart of downtown Stanley this park is primarily used for picnic and playground access.

KEY FEATURES

The area features a covered picnic pavilion, playground, shade trees, and access to the Stanley Veterans Memorial. Park users have access to several picnic tables and playground equipment, along with manicured grass throughout the park. The site also hosts the Stanley Veterans Memorial with honorary plaques, brick memorials, and a POW-MIA Memorial canon.

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- » Picnic Areas & Pavilion
- » Veterans Memorial
- » Playground
- » Shade Trees
- » Benches
- » Grassy Open Space
- » Historic Train Depot



PLANS OR RECOMMENDATIONS

- Trailhead and kiosk or landmark with historic description of Soo Line Depot
- Renovation of historic depot station

COST ESTIMATE	TIME FRAME
\$75,000	3-5 yrs
\$750,000	5+ yrs

AGREEMENTS/PARTNERSHIPS FOR USE, MANAGEMENT OR PROGRAMMING

This property is managed by the City of Stanley Public Works Department.

4. MAHR’S MEADOW DISC GOLF COURSE

ADDRESS: 437 W & 4th Avenue, Stanley, WI 54768

PARK TYPE: Specialized

KEY FUNCTION: 18-Hole Disc Golf Course

SIZE: 10.7 acres

PRIMARY USES

Located directly south of Chapman Park this area is primarily used for access to the 18-hole disc golf course.

KEY FEATURES

This disc golf course is a permanent 18 hole/basket course in mostly flat and moderately wooded terrain. Tee type is grass with both open and wooded holes - featuring a raised basket on #2 and #3. Mahr’s Meadow also has one of the longest holes in Wisconsin at 675 feet.

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

» 18-Hole Course

» Parking

» Information Board

» Open & Wooded Course

» Mach 2 Baskets

» Manicured Grass

» Shade Trees

» Adjacent to Fandry & Chapman Parks



PLANS OR RECOMMENDATIONS	COST ESTIMATE	TIME FRAME
Maintain or replace message board/kiosk	\$25,000	3-5 yrs
Install pit toilets	\$25,000	3-5 yrs
Four-season recreation trails (hike, bike, snowshoe, ski)	\$100,000	5+ yrs

AGREEMENTS/PARTNERSHIPS FOR USE, MANAGEMENT OR PROGRAMMING

This property is managed by the City of Stanley Public Works Department.

5. WAYSIDE PARK

ADDRESS: Corner of Sawmill Road & Broadway Street, Stanley, WI 54768

PARK TYPE: Specialized

KEY FUNCTION: Rest Area

SIZE: 2.6 acres

PRIMARY USES

This area is primarily used as a travel rest stop for visitors with leashed pets.

KEY FEATURES

Located directly south of Highway 29 - Exit 101, this wayside rest area features manicured grass and several shade trees for visitors and travelers. The rest area is ideal for those traveling with pets to walk leashed animals. There is also nearby food, gas, and restroom facilities directly to the south.

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| » Manicured Grass | » Adjacent to Exit 101 |
| » Nearby Food, Gas, & Restrooms | » Shade Trees |



PLANS OR RECOMMENDATIONS	COST ESTIMATE	TIME FRAME
Install new signage recognizing park name and amenities	\$25,000	1-3 yrs
Explore/install signage for wayside park at nearby gas station	\$25,000	1-3 yrs
Install benches and/or picnic tables	\$10,000	1-3 yrs

AGREEMENTS/PARTNERSHIPS FOR USE, MANAGEMENT OR PROGRAMMING

This property is managed by the City of Stanley Public Works Department.

Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities

A community's recreational programs and activities contribute to the life of a community. No physical or policy barriers should exist that keep people with disabilities from participating. The City of Stanley is committed to providing ample recreational options for persons with disabilities, but also recognizes that some trails and non-play areas may not be conducive to such improvements due to topography and other site factors.

When new recreational facilities or alterations to existing facilities and amenities are made, they **both must comply with Americans for Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.** It is the goal of the City of Stanley to implement appropriate guidelines and recommendations for existing and future recreation facilities.

Currently, not all park facilities, play equipment, and restrooms are fully accessible for persons with disabilities and comply with Americans with ADA standards. However, the City has made progress in improving such facilities, and continues to incorporate ADA standards into new or improved park facilities. Recent examples include the new playground at Stanley Elementray designed and constructed entirely with inclusive ADA playground equipment.

The City of Stanley will continue to incorporate Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) design standards into the development or expansion of city-owned parks and outdoor recreation facilities.

This includes the purchase of accessible playground equipment or other park features identified in Section V of this plan.



Figure 25: Stanley Elementary Playground.

Outdoor Recreation Resources & Funding

A. LOCAL RESOURCES

The City of Stanley will continue to identify and leverage a mix of funding resources and partnership support from a wide variety of potential sources for outdoor recreation improvements and maintenance.

City financial resources potentially include standard operating budgets and general fund dollars; capital improvements budgets; loans, bonding, and notes; user fees; and developer impact fees and contributions. Donations of volunteer time, dollars, or property from local residents, businesses, and partner organizations are becoming increasingly important. Successful partnerships with private organizations, clubs, and nonprofits demonstrates the City does not have to “do it all” on its own. The most appropriate mix of such funding sources for future outdoor recreation projects should be identified and incorporated into the five-year capital improvements plan.

Grant dollars from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (e.g. Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program), Federal sources (e.g. Recreational Trails Act, Land & Water Conservation Fund), or foundations have long been key to major park improvements in Wisconsin communities. Additional grant dollars are available depending on the nature of the activity or attributes unique to the site (e.g. historic preservation, acquisition of floodplain conservation).

B. GRANT PROGRAMS

Stewardship Local Assistance, Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP) Subprogram

Statute/Code: s. 23.09(20), Wis. Stats.; ch. NR 51, subch. XII, Wis. Admin. Code

Purpose: The ADLP program helps communities and organizations acquire land for public nature-based outdoor recreation and improve community recreation areas.

Allocation: Funds are allocated on a regional basis, proportional to population. Projects compete against other projects from their region.

Eligible Applicants: Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, and Nonprofit Conservation Organizations (NCO). NCOs may only apply for ADLP grants to support land acquisition projects.

Eligible Projects: Land acquisition and development projects that provide opportunities for nature-based recreation are eligible for ADLP grants.

Funding Priorities: ADLP funding priorities include projects that:

- » Support a local CORP;
- » Support multiple uses;
- » Are of regional/statewide significance;
- » Result in a first-of-a-kind facility for the applicant;
- » Involve two or more governmental agencies;
- » Provide accessible recreation opportunities; and
- » Have other priority characteristics specified in statute/code.

Stewardship Local Assistance, Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR) Subprogram

Statute/Code: s. 30.277, Wis. Stats.; ch. NR 51, subch. XIV, Wis. Admin. Code

Purpose: The purpose of the ADR program is to protect natural, agricultural, and forest lands that provide nature-based outdoor recreation by purchasing development rights and compensating landowners for limited future development on their land.

Allocation: Projects compete statewide.

Eligible Applicants: Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, and NCOs.

Eligible Projects: ADR grants may only be used to support projects that acquire development rights to support nature-based outdoor recreation.

Funding Priorities: The following types of property are given priority consideration for ADR grant funding:

- » Land with water frontage;
- » Land that provides a buffer between developed and natural areas;
- » Land that connects existing natural resource protection areas;
- » Land located within Department project boundaries; and
- » Land with other priority characteristics specified in statute/code.

Stewardship Local Assistance, Urban Green Space (UGS) Subprogram

Statute/Code: s. 23.09(19), Wis. Stats.; ch. NR 51, subch. XIII, Wis. Admin. Code

Purpose: The UGS program supports acquisition of land for open natural areas and community gardens within or in close proximity to urban areas.

Allocation: Projects compete statewide.

Eligible Applicants: Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, NCOs, sanitary districts, and public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts.

Eligible Projects: Projects that acquire land within or in proximity to urban areas that provides open space, protects unique natural features, and/or provides opportunities for community gardening are eligible to apply for UGS grants. Development projects are not eligible for UGS grants.

Funding Priorities: UGS funding priorities include acquisition of land that:

- » Preserves land on the natural heritage inventory database;
- » Implements elements of approved water quality plans or initiatives;
- » Has unique natural features;
- » Provides linear corridor connecting open natural areas;
- » Has water frontage;
- » Is of regional or statewide significance;
- » Provides area for community gardens; and
- » Has other priority characteristics specified in statute/code.

Stewardship Local Assistance, Urban Rivers (UR) Subprogram

Statute/Code: s. 30.277, Wis. Stats.; ch. NR 51, subch. XIV, Wis. Admin. Code

Purpose: The UR program helps restore and preserve the character of urban river corridors through the acquisition and development of land adjacent to rivers.

Allocation: Projects compete statewide. No applicant can receive more than 20% of the UR funds allocated in any fiscal year.

Eligible Applicants: Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, and NCOs.

Eligible Projects: Land acquisition and development projects that provide opportunities for nature-based outdoor recreation are eligible for UR grants.

Funding Priorities: UR program funding priorities include projects that:

- » Restore river corridors following dam removal;
- » Support redevelopment of brownfields;
- » Acquire land with unique natural or aesthetic values;
- » Acquire land that connects with previous land acquisitions;
- » Provide outdoor recreation opportunities for diverse urban populations;
- » Provide new or expanded access to urban waterways;
- » Support local/regional plans; and
- » Have other priority characteristics specified in statute/code.

Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Statute/Code: Land and Water Conservation Act (Public Law 88-578); ch. NR 50.06, Wis. Admin. Code

Purpose: The federal LWCF program supports development of high-quality outdoor recreation amenities in local communities.

Allocation: Projects compete statewide.

Eligible Applicants: Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governments, and school districts. NCOs are not eligible to receive LWCF grants.

Eligible Projects: Generally, all acquisition and development projects that are eligible under the ADLP, UGS, and UR Stewardship subprograms are also eligible for LWCF grants. In addition, projects that provide outdoor recreation facilities that are not exclusively nature-based, such as active sports facilities, are eligible for LWCF grants. Some exceptions apply, such as cases where the applicant intends to meet their match requirement with federal funds. Contact a regional Grant Specialist for details.

Funding Priorities: LWCF funding priorities include projects that:

- » Meet the needs of urban areas;
- » Provide recreation opportunities for diverse populations;
- » Acquire land in areas with limited outdoor recreation facilities;
- » Provide multi-use and multi-season facilities;
- » Enhance or preserve natural beauty;
- » Are proposed by applicants which have financial resources to adequately maintain and operate the project; and
- » Have other priority characteristics specified in law/code.

Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Statute/Code: Public Law 102-240; ch. NR 50.21, Wis. Admin.

Code Purpose: The RTP program provides funds to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both motorized and nonmotorized recreational trail uses. RTP grants are to be used on trail projects that further a specific goal or are included in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) or a local plan referenced in the SCORP.

Allocation: RTP grant awards may not exceed \$200,000 for individual projects submitted in the 2018 application cycle. Two-thirds (2/3) of the total RTP funding will be used for projects at the \$200,000 cap and the remaining 1/3 will be used for projects at the \$45,000 cap. However, applicants may receive multiple RTP grants for independent projects. Projects compete statewide within three project categories:

Nonmotorized (30%): Projects designed to benefit nonmotorized recreational trail use where motorized use would not be allowed.

Motorized (30%): Projects designed to benefit motorized recreational use; projects may also benefit some nonmotorized uses as long as motorized use is the primary intent.

Diversified (40%): Projects designed to benefit multiple uses; includes projects where motorized use would be permitted, but where motorized use is not the predominant beneficiary. Diversified projects are not required to have motorized use.

Eligible Applicants: Towns, villages, cities, counties, tribal governing bodies, school districts, state agencies, federal agencies or incorporated organizations are eligible to apply for funds. Incorporated organizations are those that are

incorporated under ch. 181, Wis. Stats., whose primary purpose is promoting, encouraging or engaging in outdoor recreation trails activities.

Eligible Projects and Funding Priorities: RTP funds may only be used on trails which have been identified in or which further a specific goal of a local, County or state trail plan included or referenced in a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. These include traditional trails as well as water trails recognized by the DNR (see <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/watertrails/> for more information about water trails). Eligible RTP projects, in order of priority, are:

- » Maintenance and restoration of existing trails;
- » Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages;
- » Construction of new trails (with certain restrictions on federal lands); and
- » Acquisition of property for trails in areas with limited trail opportunities.

Pre-award expenses are not eligible for reimbursement under RTP grants.

Below are examples of projects that are considered maintenance, rehabilitation, development, and acquisition:

- » Maintenance and restoration of existing trails;
- » Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages;
- » Construction of new trails (with certain restrictions on federal lands); and
- » Acquisition of property for trails in areas with limited trail opportunities.

Plan Conclusion

The outdoor recreation needs and recommendations identified in this plan are the result of significant public input and planning efforts made by the project Steering Committee. This plan provides guidance to elected officials and their designated boards and committees that will allow local officials to appropriate tax dollars for outdoor recreation facilities in an informed manner, and to integrate these recommendations into the City's capital improvement planning process.

The basis for plan recommendations include field inspection, analysis, public input, and discussions with community officials. It is recognized that not all of these plan recommendations will be achievable during the next five years, but the City has made several improvements recently, and continues to identify appropriate partnerships and funding sources for park related improvements.

All potential improvements listed in the preceding pages may not be eligible for funding under WisDNR Stewardship Local Assistance or Federal Land & Water Conservation programs, but a truly comprehensive analysis of a community's outdoor recreation facilities means that all areas in need of improvement are considered.

The City will continue to pursue grant funding for the implementation of many of these recommendations. However, partnering with residents, local businesses, special interest groups, and the Stanley-Boyd Area School District has also proven to be successful in the past and can significantly help address related costs for future improvements.

Although this plan focuses on the benefits of the park system to residents of the City, many of the outdoor recreation facilities included here have an important economic and tourism role of attracting regional visitors to the City. The quality of City park facilities, amenities, and programs play an important role in attracting and retaining residents, and contributes to the City's image as a vibrant community to live, raise a family, or start a new business.

These additional benefits should be considered, and if possible, quantified when considering significant park improvements or new facilities. While several recommendations requiring significant financial investment are identified in this plan, the City identifies that community dynamics and funding priorities are constantly changing. As such, this plan does not attempt to satisfy all recreational needs in Stanley, but instead focuses on providing citizens of the City and their guests with the best recreational program possible.

“I believe that there is a subtle magnetism in Nature, which, if we unconsciously yield to it, will direct us aright.”

-Henry David Thoreau



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APPENDIX A: PLAN AMENDMENT & ADOPTING RESOLUTION - MAY 2024

This amendment follows the process outlined in Section I.C of the City of Stanley Outdoor Recreation Plan (page 8):

AMENDING THE PLAN

The City of Stanley Plan Commission and Parks Committee is responsible for providing recommendations to City Council to ensure implementation of the plan is consistent with the plan's goals, objectives, and policies.

Conditions, needs, opportunities, and recreational interests change. This plan may be amended as necessary to address changing conditions and any amendments should require formal approval of City Council after consideration of an advisory recommendation from the Parks Committee and the Plan Commission.

Any adopted plan revisions or amendments should be sent to the region's Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Community Services Specialist. Furthermore, the plan should be updated every five years to maintain grant eligibility for certain WDNR grant funding as discussed later in Section V.

Purpose of Amendment

The City of Stanley is fortunate to have the support of several community organizations, all working to improve the lives of residents, employees, and visitors. The Stanley Community Association is a nonprofit group that focuses on creating community events and fundraising to support enhancements and improvements in the City and regularly coordinates with volunteers and local businesses to make outdoor recreation improvements to local parks and community spaces.

The Stanley Community Association recently embarked on the “Play Big Dream Bigger” campaign to raise funds in support of major outdoor recreation renovations and improvements at Chapman Park. With the support of the City of Stanley, this plan amendment reflects the City’s commitment to work with partners to raise the necessary funding in support of these projects which include a new ADA Accessible playground and community splash pad. This endeavor is meant to improve recreation access and opportunities, enhance the surrounding neighborhoods, boost property values, and improve amenities to help attract future residents.

The City of Stanley provides this amendment and adopting resolution to show its support of these newly identified projects, and to help secure the necessary outside funding support needed through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Outdoor Recreation Grant Programs. The following page highlights the amended projects and cost estimates for Chapman Park, followed by a plan amendment adopting resolution.

To learn more about the newly proposed park improvements, please visit the Stanley Community Association (SCA) website at:

<https://www.stanleycommunity.us/donate.html>



1. CHAPMAN PARK

ADDRESS: 450 W & 4th Avenue, Stanley, WI 54768

PARK TYPE: Community/Regional

KEY FUNCTION: All Season Recreation

SIZE: 77.5 acres

PRIMARY USES

This is the City's largest all season recreation area with over a mile of City owned shoreline on the non-motorized and no-wake Chapman Lake.

KEY FEATURES

Park users have access to several sports and recreation facilities including a public campground, deer and elk park, rodeo grounds, and handicap-accessible lake docks and fishing pier.

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

» Chapman Lake	» Restrooms
» Playgrounds	» Volleyball Courts
» Tennis Courts	» ADA Lake Docks
» Basketball Courts	» Baseball Sporting Facility
» Campsites	» Rodeo Arena
» Walking Trails	» Tractor Pull
» Picnic Areas	» Cattle Barn



PLANS OR RECOMMENDATIONS

	COST ESTIMATE	TIME FRAME
Construction of new Community Center Building	\$1.5 Million	1-3 yrs
Pavilion and improved fishing access below dam at southern end of lake	\$100,000	1-3 yrs
Maintain existing park features/install new playground equipment and other park features as needed	\$10,000	1-5 yrs
Construction of a community splash pad and new ADA accessible playground	\$1,000,000	1-5 yrs
Chapman Lake dredging	\$250,000	3-5 yrs
Develop/update Chapman Park Master Plan	\$5,000	3-5 yrs

AGREEMENTS/PARTNERSHIPS FOR USE, MANAGEMENT OR PROGRAMMING

This property is managed by the City of Stanley Public Works Department. The Deer Park is managed by Stanley's Sportsman's Club and the Rodeo and Truck Pull arena's are the responsibility of the SFBC, LLC. The Stanley Community Association is an active non-profit partner, working to secure funding and volunteer labor to support ongoing improvements and upgrades at Chapman Park.



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RESOLUTION NO. 2024-008

RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDMENT TO THE
CITY OF STANLEY OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN, 2020-2025

WHEREAS, the City of Stanley, in cooperation with West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, has a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan that was adopted on October 6, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, new public and private partnerships have identified additional recreation projects and opportunities which are not included in the comprehensive plan adopted in 2020; and,

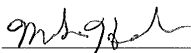
WHEREAS, an amendment to the plan has been prepared by the City of Stanley with support from West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission; and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, *Guidelines for Development of Local Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans* acknowledges that plan amendments are common and should be considered part of the planning process as they frequently represent good implementation or plan usage and should be acceptable for consideration by local decision-makers; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Stanley desires to maintain its eligibility for certain state and federal grant funding for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation facilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby adopts the attached amendment to the City of Stanley Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Dated, this 6th day of May, 2024.

Adopted: 

Mike Henke, Mayor

Attest: 

Nicole Pilgrim, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer

