

## A RECREATION LIFESTYLE

*Wayne's residents enjoy access to a variety of park and recreation facilities, including the new Wayne Community Activity Center. Parks and recreation are a vital component of community life, therefore, it is essential that the city provide additional facilities as the community grows in order to maintain a high level of park and recreational services.*

### FACILITIES ANALYSIS

This chapter examines Wayne's existing park and recreation system. It covers all city-owned and operated recreation areas and any other park with public access. It considers:

- Current levels of service in the existing system.
- Service coverage to identify park and facility development needs.
- Condition inventory of existing parks.

The adequacy of park facilities is evaluated in three ways.

**Facilities by Classification.** Parks are classified into different categories to determine the level and area they serve.

**Facilities by Geographic Distribution.** The service radius of each facility is analyzed to identify geographical gaps in service.

**Facilities in Relation to Population Service Standards.** National standards for the provision of park and recreation facilities are applied to Wayne's present system.

### FACILITIES BY CLASSIFICATION

In order to systematically analyze the park system, major recreation and open space areas within each service area are classified as follows:

*Overall Park Space.* Excluding the 122 acre Wayne Country Club, developed parkland in the Wayne planning area covers about 42.2 acres,. Removing the golf course from the calculations provides insight into the city's overall park system. Although the golf course is a nice community amenity, it functions more as a commercial recreation facility that serves a small percentage of residents often excluding the city's youngest residents. Traditional park area standards set by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) suggest 10 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. With an estimated 2005 population of 5,569, Wayne contains about 7.6 acres of park land per 1,000 residents. If it is assumed that the city's year around population in 2005 was 3,572 (Table 1.6) then the city's level of service ranges between 7.6 acres per 1,000 residents to 11.8 acres. Parks and recreation facilities are community assets and amenities for which each community must decide the level of service and quality they wish to provide.

The park classification system developed by the NRPA is used to classify Wayne's facilities.

Table 5.1 lists Wayne's park facilities by category. These categories include:

*Mini-Parks.* Mini-parks generally address specific recreation or open space needs. Typically these parks cover less than one acre and have a service radius of less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile. Due to maintenance difficulties with multiple smaller sites and their small service area, most cities discourage the development of mini-parks. Wayne currently has a number of mini-parks including Nebraska Street, Ashley, and Vintage Hills Parks. Wayne should not plan for future mini-parks. Instead work to develop more neighborhood parks that can provide more services, serve more residents, and consolidate maintenance. These types of parks are described below.



*Neighborhood Parks.* Neighborhood parks are considered the basic unit of a community's park system and provide a recreational and social focus for residential areas. These parks desirably provide space for informal active and passive recreational activities. The typical service radius for neighborhood parks is between  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. Neighborhood parks adequate in size to accommodate the requisite facilities often contain at least 5 acres; between 5 and 10 acres is considered optimal. The core of Wayne's park system is the neighborhood park, which includes Viken, Swimming Pool, Sunnyview, and Bressler Parks. NRPA standards call for between 1 and 2 acres of neighborhood parkland per 1,000 residents. Wayne currently has about 12.2 acres of neighborhood parks, which translates into 2.2 acres per 1,000 residents. However, these are small neighborhood parks, not meeting the standard park size but instead ranging between 1 and 4 acres. This can limit the number of services provided in the park or overcrowd a park space with too many features.

*School Parks.* School facilities can help to meet neighborhood park needs, particularly when located in areas not served by a neighborhood park. The playgrounds of Wayne's elementary schools, which include Wayne Elementary School and St. Mary's Catholic School, often function as neighborhood parks.

*Community Parks.* These typically include areas of diverse use and environmental quality. Such parks meet community-based recreation needs, may preserve significant natural areas and often include areas suited for intense recreation facilities. Typical criteria for community parks include:

- Adequate size to accommodate activities associated with neighborhood parks, but with space for additional activity.
- A special attraction that draws people from a larger area, such as a pond or lake, ice skating rink, trails, special environmental or cultural features, or specialized sports complexes.

Community parks generally contain between 30 and 50 acres and serve a variety of needs. The typical service radius of a community park is approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to 3 miles. Traditional NRPA guidelines for community park areas call for 5 to 8 acres per 1,000 residents. Wayne has no community parks. This is a limiting factor during large community events such as Chicken Days, which is now held at Wayne State College. Based on NRPA standards, Wayne should have between 28 and 45 acres to support its total population or between 18 and 30 acres based on a year round population. The Softball Complex could function as a community park with a number of community recreation facilities; however it lacks the neighborhood park features including proper play equipment, shelters and picnicking areas to make it a true community park.



Table 5.1: Park System Analysis

Facility	Approximate Size (Acres)	Playground Areas	Playing Fields	Courts	Special Facilities
<b>MINI PARKS</b>					
Nebraska Street Park Nebraska and 10th Street	0.56	1		1	Water hydrant; picnic tables; basketball hoop
Ashley Park West 3rd St & Oak Drive	0.54	1		1	Drinking fountain; picnic tables; playground equipment; basketball hoop
Vintage Hill Park Claycomb Road & Brook Drive	0.3	1			Toddler park; Drinking fountain; picnic table;
Boy Scout Park/Roosevelt Park South Nebraska Street	1				
<b>TOTAL MINI PARKS</b>	2.4				
<b>NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>					
Viken Park 10th & Walnut Streets	1.2	1		1	Water hydrant; picnic tables; playground equipment; basketball hoop
Swimming Pool/Bacon Park 13th Street & Logan	2.4	1		1	Pool; pool house; shelter house; restrooms; water hydrant; picnic tables
Sunnyview Park Providence Road and Sunnyview Drive	1.9	1		1	Shelter house; restrooms; drinking fountain; grills; picnic tables; basketball hoop
Bressler West 9th Street and Lincoln Street	3.7	1		1	Band shell; restrooms; 2 shelter houses; water fountains; water hydrants; grills; picnic tables; basketball hoop
East Park 5th and Walnut Street	1.1	1		1	Shelter house; restrooms; drinking fountain; grills; picnic tables; basketball hoop
Lions Park West of the Airport	1.9				Owned and maintained by the Lions Club
<b>TOTAL NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS</b>	12.2				
<b>Specialty Parks</b>					
Community Activity Center	4.3			1	Community Activity Center building; multi-purpose field
Henry Victor South Main Street	2.2	1			RV hook-ups; play equipment; restrooms
Softball Complex	16.3			4	Softball fields; sand volleyball courts; rugby fields; concession stands; restrooms
Hank Overin Field	4.8			1	Regulation baseball field and bleachers
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL USE PARKS</b>	27.6				
<b>TOTAL PARK AREA</b>	42.2				



*Special Use Parks.* These cover a broad range of facilities oriented toward a single use, including cultural or social sites and specialized facilities. Wayne has a number of special use parks, including the multi-purpose space at the Wayne Community Activity Center, Henry Victor Park, the Softball Complex, and Hank Overin Field.

Table 5.1 summarizes Wayne’s parks and their facilities. Map 5.1 locates each park and school facilities.



Level of Service Analysis for Future Development

Table 5.2 identifies the future park needs for Wayne based on local and national standards. In 2005 Wayne’s total population was estimated at 5,569 with a core population of 3,572 that excludes the Wayne State Student population. Although the student population does not factor into the city’s future population projections, it does require park and recreation services. These services are an important community amenity that make a community an attractive place to live, work, attend school, and settle after graduation. Projections for future park needs are based on national standards and the city’s existing level of service, utilizing a 2025 population of 6,148.

Based on the city’s existing level of service Wayne will need to add an additional 4 acres of park land. However, based on national standards the city will need to add 20 acres of park land. Wayne should avoid future development of mini-parks and focus on the development of one large community park or the development of neighborhood parks that are approximately 10 acres in size. Locations for new park areas include:

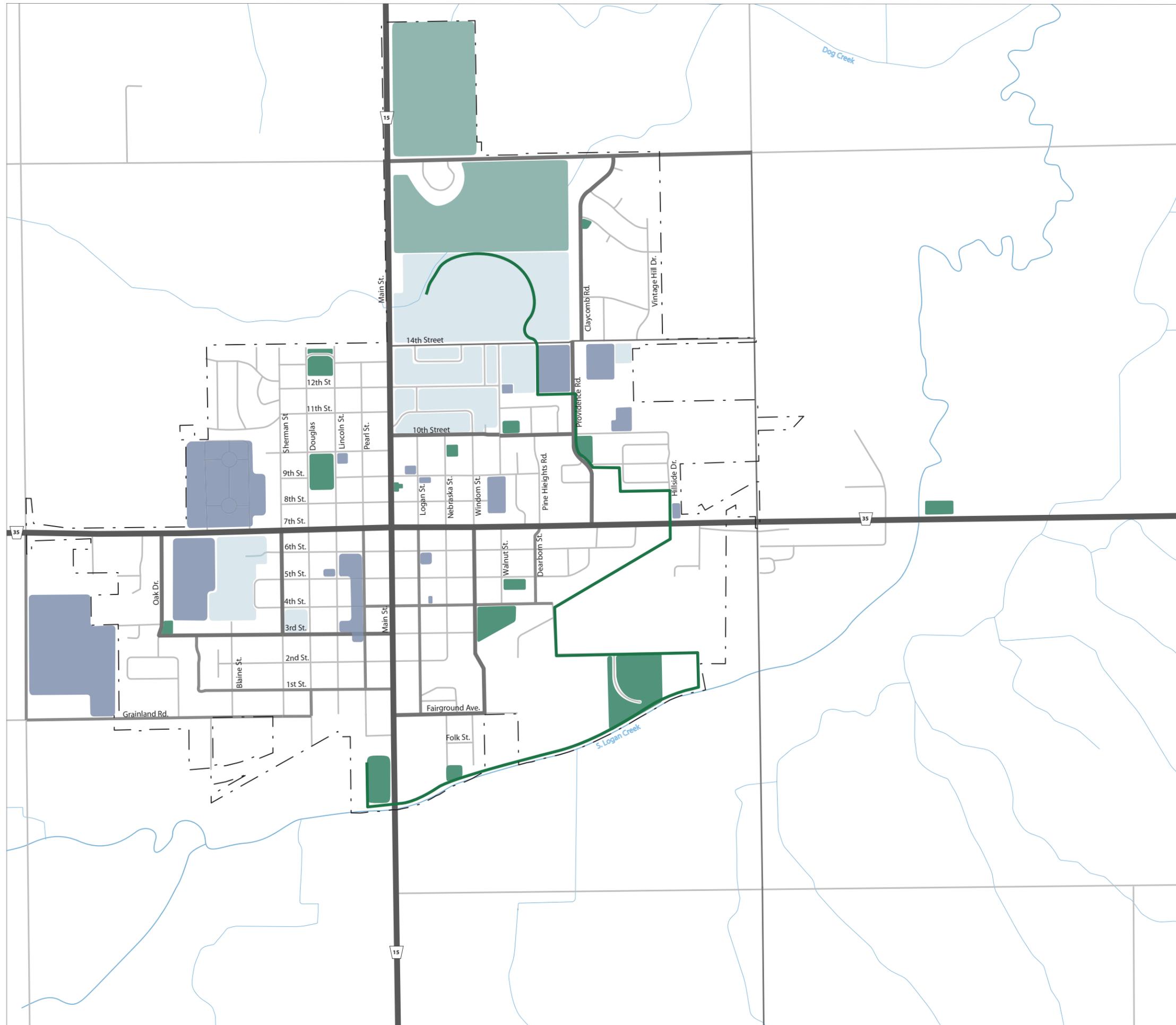
- A new neighborhood park in the Northeast
- A downtown commons area
- A neighborhood park separating existing and future development in the Northwest
- An open space area related the stormwater management in the Northwest

**Table 5.2: Future Parkland Needs, Wayne**

Park Type	Existing Acreage	Existing Acres per 1,000 Residents	Future Parkland Need Based on Existing Services	Additional Park Land	Acres per 1,000 Residents Based on NRPA	Future Parkland Needed Based on NRPA	2025 Surplus (Deficit)
Mini Parks	2.4	0.43	2.65	0.25	NA	NA	NA
Neighborhood Parks	12.2	2.19	13.46	1.26	1.5	9.22	-2.98
Community Parks	0	0	0	0	6.5	39.96	-39.96
Specialty Parks (excluding golf courses)	27.6	4.96	30.49	2.89	NA	NA	NA
Total Park and Recreation Area	42.2	7.58	46.6	4.4	10	61.48	-19.28

MAP 5.1

Wayne Comprehensive Plan  
**EXISTING PARKS AND  
PUBLIC FACILITIES**  
*Wayne, Nebraska*



Recreational Areas

- Park
- Golf Course

Trails

- Separated Pathway

Public Facilities

- Civic
- School

Streets

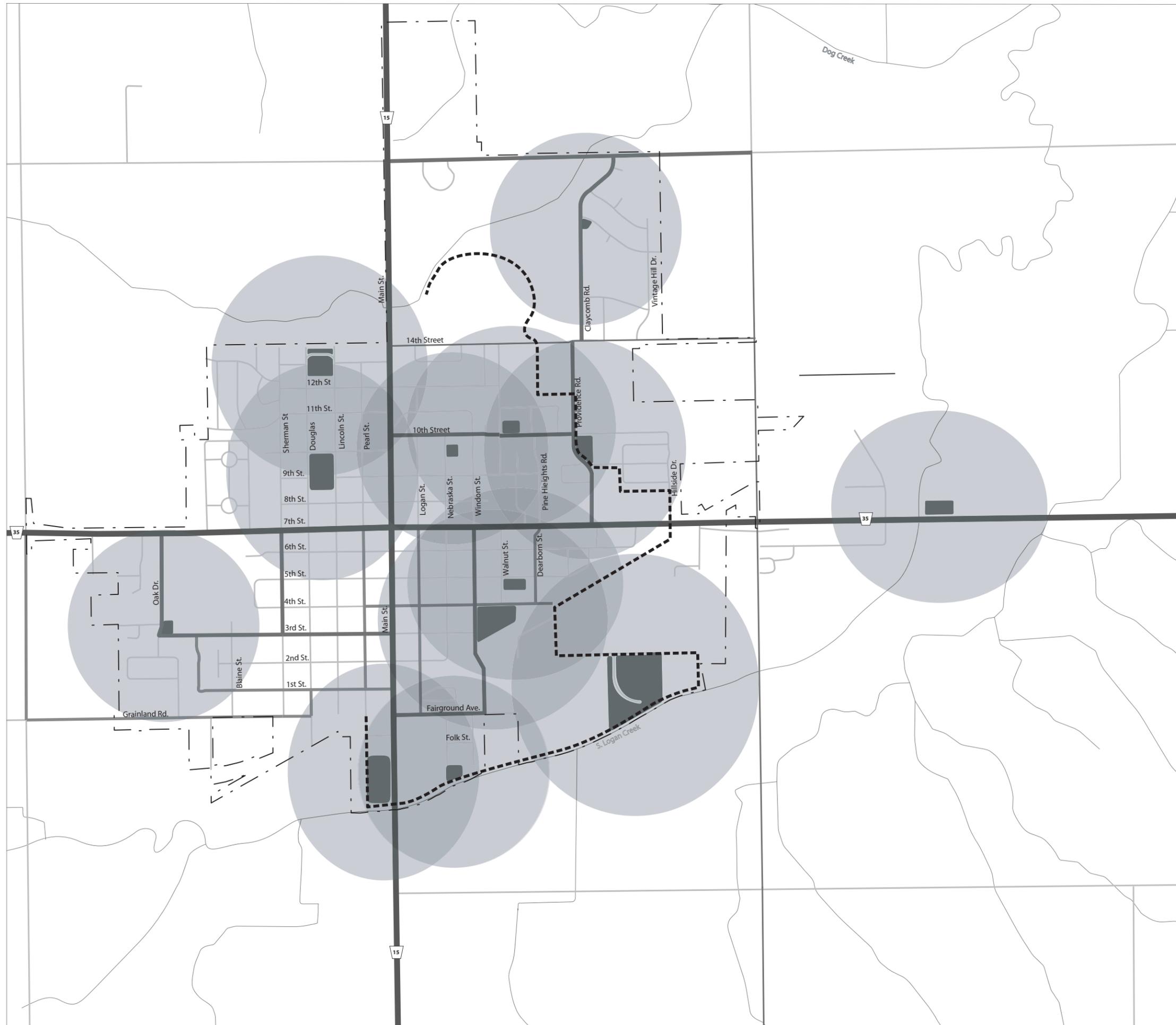
- Local
- Collector
- Minor Arterial
- Principal Arterial



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MAP 5.2

Wayne Comprehensive Plan  
**PARK SERVICE AREA**  
Wayne, Nebraska



Recreational Areas

- Park
- 1/4 Mile Radius

Trails

- Separated Pathway

Streets

- Local
- Collector
- Minor Arterial
- Principal Arterial



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## FACILITIES BY GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

Geographic neighborhood park service can be evaluated using the NRPA standard of a ¼ mile service radius for neighborhood parks. Map 5.2 illustrates a ¼ mile service radius for each park. The area between Sherman and Main streets, 7th Street and Grainland Road is the only area lacking easy park access under this analysis. The Elementary school does provide some park services to the area, but service to the area just west of Main Street is still limited. When the radii are extended out to a half mile this area is served; however access to parks such as Bressler and Hank Overin by pedestrians, especially children, is limited by 7th Street and Main Street. This type of physical barrier, along with others such as drainage ways, can isolate certain residential areas from parks that appear on a map to serve them.

Map 5.2 also shows a need for additional park service in future development areas. Both the Northwest and Northeast growth areas are outside the service radii of an existing park. For the Northeast, the small Vintage Hills Park would be inadequate for a residential area that could nearly double in size. At a half mile service radius, Swimming Pool Park and Bressler Park would provide park service to the very eastern edge of the Northwest development area. As development of this area expands, additional park and open space will be needed as an ideal transition between existing and future development.

## FACILITIES IN RELATION TO POPULATION SERVICE STANDARDS

### *Facilities in Relation to Population Service Standards*

An evaluation of Wayne's facilities based on quantitative national and state standards is summarized in Table 5.3. The standards utilized were devised by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). It is important to note that demand may be greater than the National Standard. This is often the case for facilities such as softball, baseball, and soccer fields. However, the NRPA standards are generally an adequate approximation of the surpluses and shortages of various facilities. Based on these standards Wayne will need to add 1 baseball field. Based on local standards the city will need to add:

- 1 basketball court
- 1 picnic shelter
- 1 playground

These standards are a beginning point for the city. Requirements for additional park land will result in the addition of more than just these minimum requirements. Any new neighborhood park will require a basketball court, picnic shelter and playground. These facilities should not just be added to existing parks making them overcrowded but should be placed in a new facility.

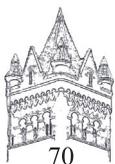
Often a community's greatest shortage comes in the un-quantified "practice" space. These can be unstructured open spaces that can be used for multiple purposes. The fields around the Activity Center provide this type of space but additional unstructured space should be programmed into any new neighborhood or community park. In addition to more traditional recreation facilities, many communities are also beginning to experience demands for less traditional facilities such as skate parks. Wayne has begun to address this through the conversion of the tennis courts at Swimming Pool Park. Other types of nontraditional activities have included rock climbing walls and Frisbee golf courses.



## Chapter Five

**TABLE 5.3: Park and Recreation Services in Relation to Population, Wayne**

Facility Type	NRPA Standard	Existing Quantity	2025 Need Existing Standard	2025 Need NRPA Standard	Comments
Baseball Fields	1 per 3,000	1	1	2	The city is slightly below the national standard and should consider additional facilities to meet both a local and regional need.
Softball Fields	1 per 3,000	4	4	2	The city currently exceeds national standards.
Basketball Courts	1 per 5,000	6 (half and full size)	7	1	The city currently exceeds national standards although there could be some demand for additional full size courts.
Football Fields	1 per 20,000	1 at Wayne High 1 at WSC	2	0	Wayne is adequately served.
Golf Courses	1 18-hole standard per 50,000	1	1	0	Wayne is adequately served.
	1 driving range per 50,000	1	1	0	Wayne is adequately served.
Horseshoe Pits	1 per 7,500	0	0	0	Although national standards do not require pits they are a nice feature within both neighborhood and community parks.
Picnic Shelter	1 per 2,000	5	6	3	The city is adequately served.
Playgrounds	1 per 2,000	9	10	3	The city will need to service any new neighborhood parks.
Running Track	1 per 20,000	1 at Wayne High 1 at WSC	2	0	Wayne is adequately served.
Soccer Fields	1 per 10,000	1 multi-purpose field 2 at WSC	1	0	The city's standard meets national recommendations. However, demand for soccer fields often exceeds these standards.
Swimming Pools	1 per 20,000	1	1	0	Wayne is adequately served.
Tennis Courts	1 per 2,000	4 at WSC	4	3	Wayne is adequately served.
Sand Volleyball Courts	1 per 5,000	2	2	1	Wayne is adequately served.



## PARK DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

The overall concept for Wayne's future park and greenway system:

- Allows the park system to grow with the city;
- Proposes new centers for recreation, which are integrated into the greenway system;
- Provides recreational facilities needed to meet community priorities;
- Envisions a linked park system, molding Wayne's future open space system into a green network that unites the community;
- Establishes a trail system linking major community features; and
- Provides an equitable mechanism for financing of new park facilities.

The components of this program include:

### **PARK SYSTEM EXPANSION GREENWAYS AND TRAILS URBAN REFORESTATION PROGRAM PARK SITE IMPROVEMENTS NEIGHBORHOOD PARK FINANCING**

#### **PARK SYSTEM EXPANSION**

*Wayne will need to provide new park and open space areas as growth occurs in order to maintain a high level of park and recreation service.*

All areas of the community should be served by a neighborhood park, establishing adequate service to all of the city's neighborhoods. Map 5.2 illustrates the proposed locations for future parks and open space in Wayne.

The majority of Wayne's future growth will occur to the north. In order to serve residential growth centers, the Wayne Plan proposes new neighborhood parks in the Northwest and Northeast. The two neighborhood parks supply about 20 acres of additional park space. The Northwest growth area could also include a small neighborhood green to assist in storm-water management and small green spaces that take advantage of the contours of the land. The proposed northeast park would serve the entire Vintage Hills area and would replace the existing mini-park in the Vintage Hills subdivision. An opportunity for a community common and green space is also identified for the downtown in Chapter 8. This space would provide an ideal location for large community events like Chicken Days.

A high quality neighborhood park is determined by both size and features. New neighborhood parks should include at least the following features/amenities:

- Picnic area with shelter
- Restroom with drinking fountain
- Toddler's playground (ages 2 to 5)
- Children's playground (ages 5 to 12)
- Informal ballfield
- Flat open practice area of 1 acre
- Two basketball courts
- Walking paths and sidewalks
- Lighting
- Tree planting and landscaping

#### **PROGRAM COMPONENTS: PARK DEVELOPMENT**

##### **Park System Expansion**

Greenways and Trails

Urban Reforestation Program

Park Site Improvements

Neighborhood Park Financing



## Chapter Five

### PROGRAM COMPONENTS: PARK DEVELOPMENT

#### Park System Expansion

Greenways and Trails

Urban Reforestation Program

Park Site Improvements

Neighborhood Park Financing



- Site furnishings

The floodplain should continue to be protected from development and utilized as a community greenway as opportunities arise. A portion of the Logan Creek floodplain could be used as unstructured open space for practice areas. Development of this type of site could be phased in over time. As demand for additional park amenities increases, the park could include more structured fields such as soccer and baseball. Placement of this park on the west side of the floodplain would increase the amount of park land in the southwest. The lack of neighborhood parks in southwest Wayne should also be addressed through the development of a trail and greenway system that connects neighborhoods and park sites around the city. The playground at Wayne Elementary will also continue to be an important recreation feature to the area.

### GREENWAYS AND TRAILS

*Wayne should develop a trail system that links destinations within the city and provides a quality of life amenity.*

Trail development has become a significant amenity to communities across Nebraska. This is no longer an amenity found only in the state's largest communities. As identified in "A Network of Discovery: A Comprehensive Trails Plan for the State of Nebraska," numerous communities with populations of 5,000 or less are developing or have previously developed trail systems. Trails are an amenity that many people now seek out. The benefits to trail development not only include recreation but also:

- Health and physical activity
- Transportation
- Economic and community development
- Improved community image and quality
- Historical interpretation and linkages
- Environmental education and preservation
- Corridor conservation for multiple uses

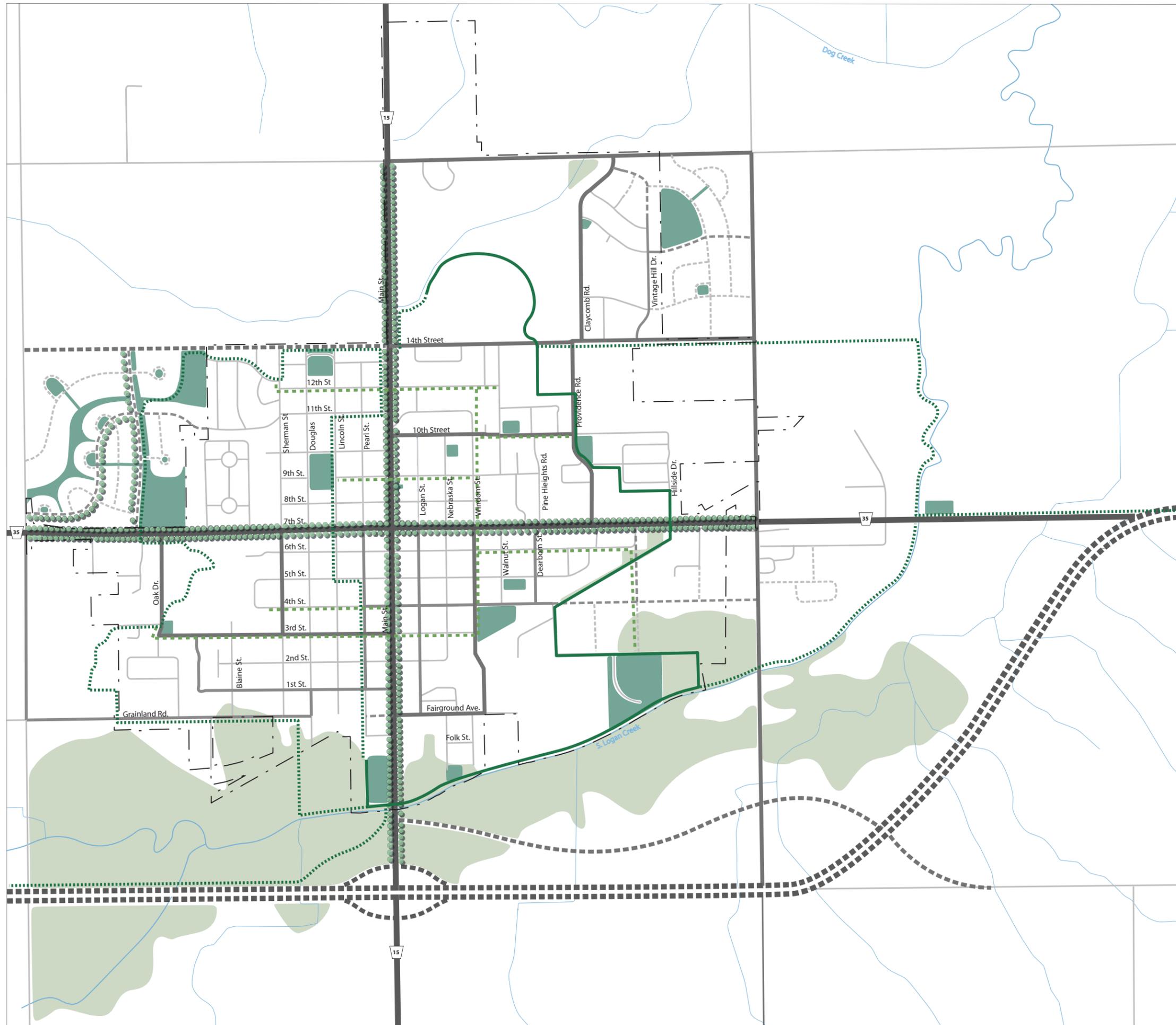
Wayne has completed the first phase in a looped trail system. Expansion of this system should include connections between community destinations, neighborhoods, and the looped system. A multi-purpose trail system should follow six basic principles:

1. *The system should be community wide.* Wayne's community destinations are spread out throughout the city, including the city's parks, schools, shopping, and recreation destinations such as the Activity Center. A city wide system not only provides access to all of these destinations, but fosters contact among all Wayne neighborhoods and helps visitors appreciate the city and its unique qualities.
2. *The system should benefit a wide variety of users.* Pedestrians and bicyclists are, and probably will continue to be, the dominate users of trails. Yet, opportunities in the Logan Creek Greenway can meet the needs of a wide variety of users. Trails can serve all types of people with many different interests and capabilities – seniors, children, families, people with disabilities, and visitors to the area. Indeed, new user groups and requirements are likely to emerge in the future.
3. *The system should have multiple benefits.* Recreation and physical activity continue



MAP 5.3

Wayne Comprehensive Plan  
**PARKS AND PATHWAY PLAN**  
Wayne, Nebraska



Recreational Areas

- Parks and Recreation
- Open Space

Trails

- Existing
- Proposed
- Separated or Off-Road
- Roadside Pathways

Streets

- Local
- Collector
- Minor Arterial
- Principal Arterial



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to be the fundamental values of trail development. We have become increasingly aware that health and physical activity benefits are no longer just “amenities.” Yet, trails have benefits beyond recreation and health. These benefits include community transportation, education, family experience, safety, and economic development.

4. *The system should create economic opportunities.* Trails are increasingly important to the effort of attracting residents and investments. The success of the national trail movement has caused people to expect their own communities to provide a quality trail system.
5. *The system must be strategic and sustainable.* In today’s economy, governments at all levels face serious financial limitations. While these limits affect capital development, the operational costs of trails must also be considered. Trails that are neglected or deteriorated do not serve the needs of the community and waste community resources. Wayne’s system must be strategic and focused on areas that will most efficiently meet both user needs and the overall goals of the city.
6. *The system should build on and enhance existing networks and efforts.* The city has completed the first phase in the development of a looped trail system. Future trail development should utilize and build off of this corridor.

Wayne’s trail system should be based on a network of on- and off-street trails throughout the community. On-street trails are designated by signs or painted bike lanes, while off-street trails involve a separate right-of-way, or widened sidewalks within the street right-of-way. The existing trail is an off-street trail. Wayne has outstanding community facilities that include the Activity Center and library, but the city does not currently have a trail system to link these facilities to one another and to the rest of the community. Connecting this network to parks, schools and other activity centers in the city will establish Wayne as a leader in providing recreation opportunities to its residents, students, and tourists from around the region. Identifying potential trail sites and prioritizing their development will assure that a premier trail system becomes a reality. The city has already initiated this process with the development of the Wayne Trails Plan. The trail plan, plus additional connectors, illustrated in Map 5.2, should include:

*Off-Street Trails*, providing exclusive paths separated from streets. Wayne’s initial trail plan is based on a system of off-street trails looping the city. The system utilizes the Logan and Dog Creek floodplains, former railroad right-of-way now owned by the city, and other available corridors. In addition to this plan, Map 5.2 shows the regional Highway 35 trail as identified in the comprehensive trails plan for the State of Nebraska.

*On-Street Trails*, providing trail facilities within the curbs of the street. These are signed, designated routes for pedestrians and bicycle use and are proposed for:

- 12th Street between WSC campus and the main community loop
- 11th Street/Lincoln Street/Pearl Street connecting WSC campus, Bressler Park, the Middle School and the trail head at Henry Victor
- 10th Street between WSC campus and the Providence Road Trail
- 9th Street connecting Bressler park with Windom Street
- 6th Street between Windom and the railroad trail
- 4th Street between the downtown, middle school and elementary/high school com-

### PROGRAM COMPONENTS: PARK DEVELOPMENT

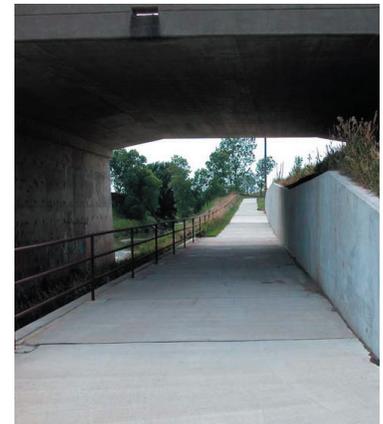
Park System Expansion

Greenways and Trails

Urban Reforestation Program

Park Site Improvements

Neighborhood Park Financing



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Park System Expansion

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- 3rd Street between Ashley Park and Windom Street
- Windom Street between WSC and 3rd Street
- A Southeast connector through the Southeast development area providing a more direct link between the Softball complex and 6th Street.

A community participation process should identify which of these routes should be upgraded to widened sidewalks.

### URBAN REFORESTATION PROGRAM

*The City should work with residents to preserve and expand on the city's existing street canopy.*

A good tree canopy provides aesthetic, economical, and environmental benefits to a community. It creates attractive neighborhoods and an appealing community to future residents and businesses. It also provides shade in the summer and wind breaks in the winter, lowering energy costs to residents. The city should develop a program that protects existing tree canopy and provides opportunity for new plantings. Through the development of a small city owned nursery, in an open space like Roosevelt Park, the city could establish a tree replacement program for all city owned property and provide trees to residents at reduced cost. The residential program would be specifically for street trees or trees planted in the right-of-way. Residents could select from a specified list of trees and the city would then plant the tree for the resident at a minimal cost to the homeowner.

### PARK SITE IMPROVEMENTS

*Wayne should implement a regularly budgeted, incremental program of park site upgrades.*

Continued investment in Wayne's existing park system will ensure its status as a major community asset. While a detailed park analysis would be based on user surveys and is beyond the scope of this plan, this section identifies preliminary needs at each park. Any improvement program should identify priority parks for improvement and a general budget to be spent every year on one or more of these parks. This should be done through a participatory process in the development of a community wide park and recreation plan.

Some common system-wide themes for Wayne's park system include replacement of obsolete play equipment at all parks, bringing all parks into compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, and connecting existing parks with a future trail system.

#### ***Park Site Improvement Program***

##### *Ashley Park*

- Removal of older and dangerous equipment.
- Routine maintenance.

##### *Bressler Park*

- Removal and replacement of old play equipment.
- Accessibility improvements to the park, bandstand, and restrooms.



## A Recreation Lifestyle

- General park master plan that consolidates play equipment and creates a uniform planting plan that improves the usability of the park and creates unstructured open space.

### *Swimming Pool/Bacon Park*

- Address drainage issues through the creation of open space.
- Update park features including play equipment and basketball court.
- Budget for renovation of the swimming pool as a medium range (5-10 years) priority.
- Identify skate park improvements through a community participation process.

### *East Park*

- Removal and replacement of old play equipment.
- Update restrooms.
- Routine maintenance to landscaping and shelter.

### *Hank Overin Field*

- Identify any opportunities for expanded parking.
- Re-grade infield to address any low spots.
- Identify picnic area.
- Dug-out improvements as funding allows.
- Routine maintenance.

### *Henry Victor Park*

- Improvement of site pads.
- Replacement of old play equipment and maintenance of existing equipment.
- Expand RV hook-ups to include water and sewer to each pad.
- Update restrooms.
- Accessibility improvements.

### *Nebraska Street Park*

- Replace old play equipment.
- Identify additional park amenities that would make the park more attractive to neighborhood residents and increase utilization.

### *Viken Park*

- Replace and remove old equipment.
- Identify a park amenity such as a full size basketball court, which could make the park more attractive to the neighborhood and increase usage.

### *Softball Complex*

- Address drainage issues for both fields and parking area.
- Identify additional features including play equipment and picnic tables that could expand the services of the park.
- The restroom and concession building is in poor condition and is not handicap ac-

#### **PROGRAM COMPONENTS: PARK DEVELOPMENT**

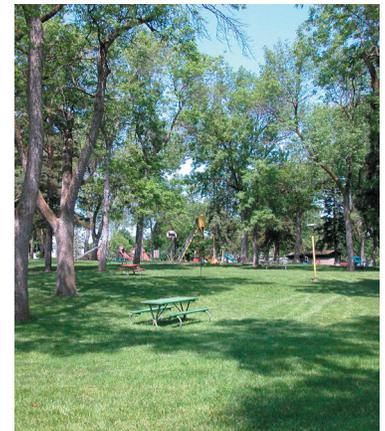
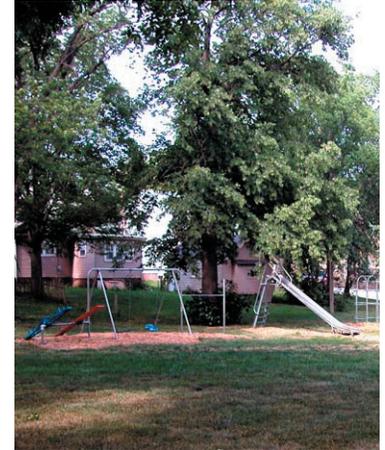
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cessible and should be replaced.

- Improve and expanding field lighting.
- Implementation of projects in the park improvement plan for the Softball Complex, including replacement of the restroom/concessions building and additional field lighting.
- Continue routine maintenance and planned upgrades.

#### *Sunnyview Park*

- Replace and remove any old equipment.
- Routine maintenance.

#### *Vintage Hills Park*

- Installation of portable shelter.
- Continue routine maintenance.

### NEIGHBORHOOD PARK FINANCING

*Wayne should implement a park financing mechanism to fund park acquisition and ensure that reservation of well-located and appropriately sized open spaces.*

A mechanism to finance community park acquisition is necessary to assure the reservation of well-located and appropriately sized open spaces. Neighborhood Park acquisition may take place through one of two devices: dedication of appropriate parcels by developers or a payment in lieu of dedication to acquire other park sites. An “impact fee” approach to park financing must trace expenditures to the direct benefit of those areas that pay the fee.

The obligation for land dedication (or payment in lieu of dedication) is a function of:

- Acres in the development;
- Development capacity established by the development’s zoning;
- Number of people per unit in Wayne, differentiating between single- and multi-family residences; and
- The city’s desirable level of service standard in acres of neighborhood parkland per 1,000 residents.

The park finance system should be implemented through the city’s land development ordinances. It provides an equitable way of financing acquisition of appropriate parks consistent with the principles of this Plan.

Other park and trail funding techniques include:

- **General Obligation (GO) Bonds.** GO bonds obligate general tax revenues toward retirement, and represent the highest level of security to bondholders. Issuance of GO bonds requires voter approval. These bonds typically form the core of park financing mechanisms, with proceeds used for a variety of rehabilitation and development purposes.
- **Transportation Enhancements (TE):** TE funds are appropriated through federal transportation legislation (currently SAFETEA-LU) for trails, corridor beautification, and enhancement. This program is administered through the Nebraska Department of Roads and provides 80% funding for approved projects. A special TE Advisory Committee, admin-



istered by NDOR, reviews trail applications for merit and consistency with the Nebraska State Trails Plan. Matching funds are typically provided through general obligation park bonds. The TE program has been responsible for the bulk of trails funding in Nebraska during the last ten years.

- **Surface Transportation Program (STP):** This is the primary federal road financing program, also appropriated through SAFETEA-LU and successor programs. STP funds may be used for trail facilities that are developed as part of a major transportation corridor.
- **Private Foundations and Contributions:** Foundations and private donors can be significant contributors to park development, especially for unique facilities or for major community quality of life features.



### PROGRAM COMPONENTS: PARK DEVELOPMENT

Park System Expansion

Greenways and Trails

Urban Reforestation Program

Park Site Improvements

**Neighborhood Park  
Financing**



Chapter Five

