CITY OF JORDAN

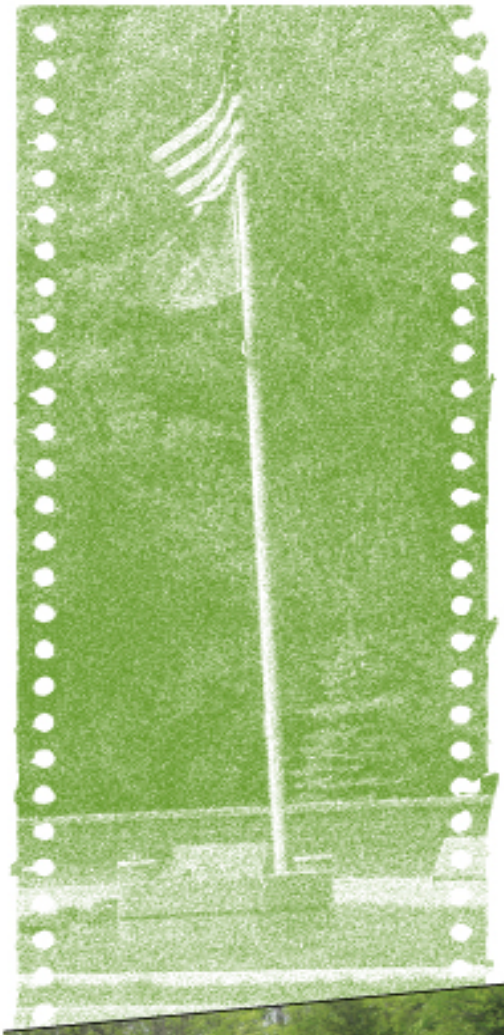
CITY OF JORDAN MASTER PARKS, TRAILS & NATURAL RESOURCE PLAN

MADE POSSIBLE BY THE COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS (CGO) PROGRAM

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC.

2010

COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the following for their participation and input in the process:

Jordan City Council: Mayor Pete Ewals, Council members Jeremy Goebel, David Hanson, Sally Schultz, Jeanne Marnoff, Mike Shaw, and Tanya Velishek

Jordan Park and Recreation Commission/CGO Committee: Jerry Langsweirdt, Donna Breeggemann, Margaret Knutson, John Glynn, Thomas Boncher, Pete Ewals, CGO EDA Representative Ray Sandey, Student Representative Bryant Baker.

Jordan City Staff: City Administrator Ed Shukle, Senior Planner Joe Janish, Public Works Director Dave Bendzick

Jordan Planning Commission: Rolf Hafslund, John Watkins, Jeanne Marnoff, Guy Beck, John Levar, Terry Jeffrey and Rob Mishica.

Jordan Economic Development Authority: Ray Sandey, Greg Sticha, Daryl Karsky, Dave Wolf, Mike Shaw, Velishek and Ron Jabs.

Jordan Middle School staff and students
Jordan High School staff and students

Mark Themig, Park Program Manager for Scott County
Andy Hingeveld, Associate Planner for Scott County
Jeanne Holler, Deputy Refuge Manager, U.S. Fish & Wildlife
Tamara Simonich, Operations Supervisor, MN Valley State Park, DNR

Andy Villella, City of Belle Plaine
Kristy Mock- City of Carver
Ken Ondich, City of New Prague

1000 Friends of MN staff: Sally Wakefield, Liz Boyer, Vanessa Morrell, and Allison Slaats.

Joanne Foust, Principal at Municipal Development Group, Inc.- Consulting Planner for the Master Plan.

In addition, the City would like to thank 1000 Friends of MN, who provided funding through a Community Growth Options program, through a grant provided by the McKnight Foundation, for the completion of this Master Planning process.

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Section 1. Introduction

Purpose:

Nestled in the Minnesota River Valley, Jordan is recognized for its natural resources including its bluffs and Sand Creek, historic resources including its Historic District in the downtown and active recreational parks including the Mini Met ball park and Lagoon Park.

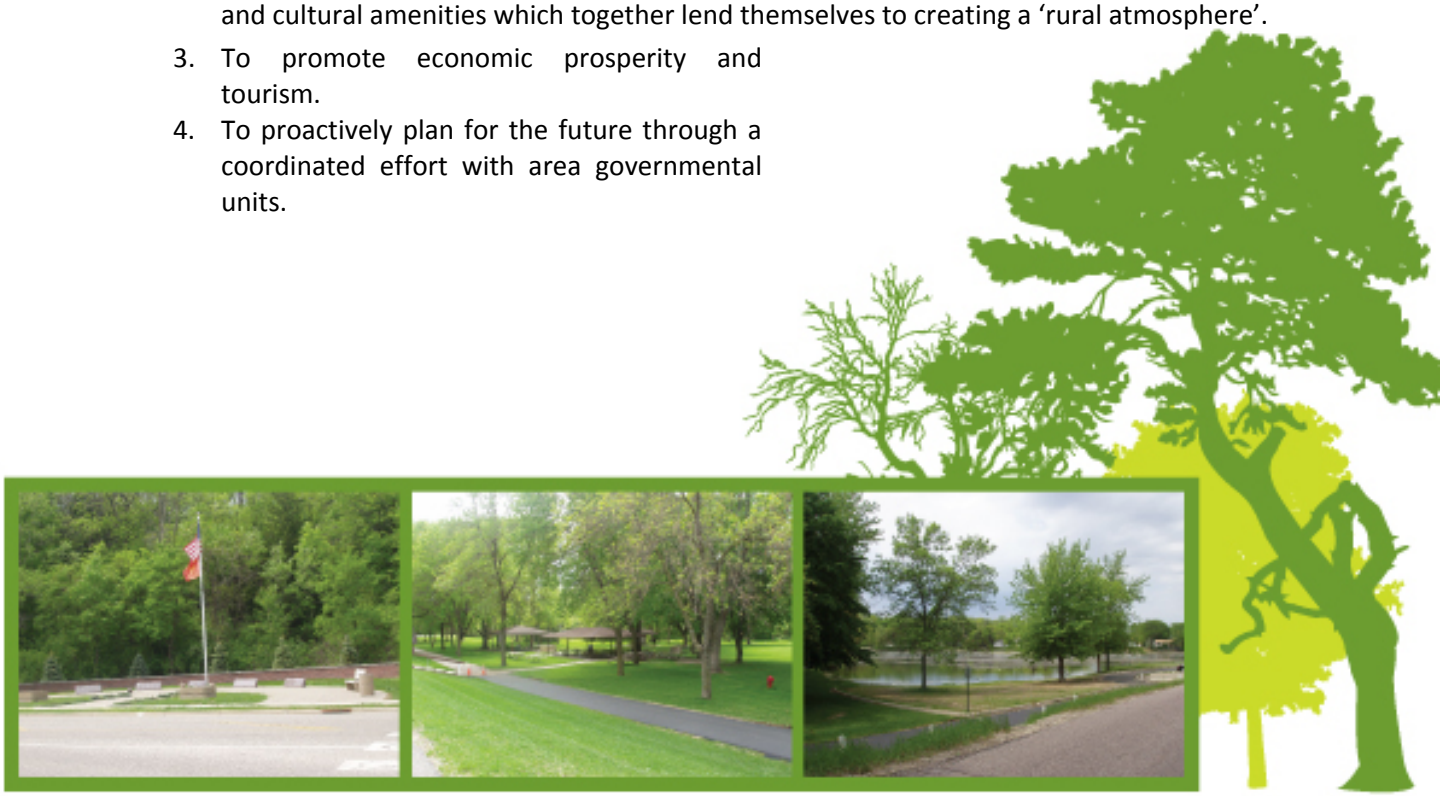
The 2008 Jordan Comprehensive Plan envisions Jordan as the "hub" for a regional park and trail system, with trails and/or a greenway system linking not only Jordan's current and future parks but also Scott County parks and trails, Carver County's trails and the MN Valley State Recreation Area. The Comprehensive Plan also envisioned the city capitalizing on its natural resources and building on its active recreational opportunities as a tourist destination.

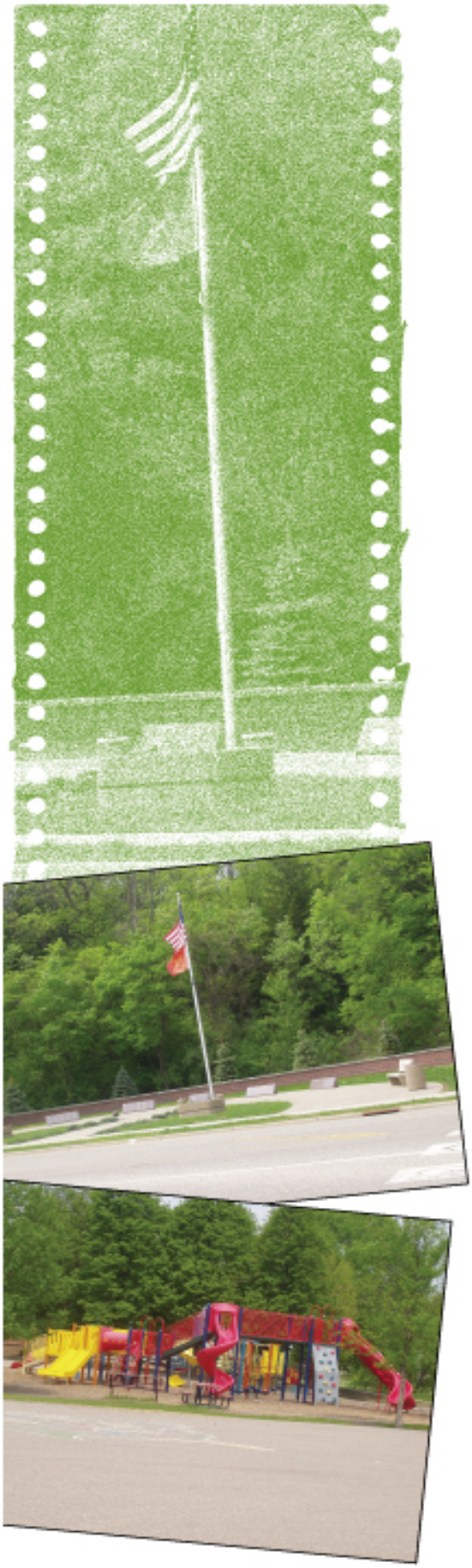
This Master Parks, Trails & Natural Resource Plan builds on the vision from the 2008 Comprehensive Plan by further defining future plans for parks, trails and natural resource systems within the City of Jordan and its anticipated 2030 growth boundary.

This Plan comprises the first formal "master plan" and provides a framework for how the community will proceed to carry out the plan. It is also an accumulation of information and a record of decisions.

The Master Parks, Trails & Natural Resource Plan has been developed for the following purposes:

1. To connect residents, employers/employees, and visitors in Jordan to nature and each other through an accessible, local system of parks, natural resource areas and multi-purpose trails/greenways.
2. To preserve, protect, maintain, or enhance Jordan's greatest natural resources, historic properties, and cultural amenities which together lend themselves to creating a 'rural atmosphere'.
3. To promote economic prosperity and tourism.
4. To proactively plan for the future through a coordinated effort with area governmental units.





Intent:

The intent of this Master Parks, Trails & Natural Resource Plan is to:

1. To protect quality public water resources, wetlands, wildlife habitat, trees and forests, water quality, quality agricultural land and steep slopes; and to assist in prevention of excessive erosion and flooding.
2. To recognize and plan for the lifecycle of parks.
3. To provide a general framework and goals for future property acquisition, development and preservation.
4. To provide a framework for balancing public access to trails and greenways allowing for enjoyment of natural resources and the need to limit access to preserve, protect, enhance, or maintain said resources.
5. To provide conceptual trail connections within the City and to county, regional and state trails and passive and active recreation facilities.
6. To provide a long-term, evolving plan that is implemented over time through a variety of funding sources and in cooperation with area governmental units and agencies.

Demographics:

- **Population and Housing**. The MN Department of Administration State Demographic Center estimated that the City of Jordan's population as of 2008 was 5,481, an increase of 1,648 residents or 41% from the U.S. Census Bureau 2000 population of 3,833. The Metropolitan Council System Statement projects a 2030 population of 13,500 with 5,200 households. The City, through its Comprehensive Plan is planning more aggressively for a population of approximately 15,000 and 6,000 households in the year 2030. Demands on parks and trail facilities will increase as the population is projected to increase by 140% to 177% over the next 20 years.

- **Age** distribution statistics indicate the City of Jordan had a median age of 29.2 years (2000 Census). This is younger than Scott County's median age of 32.7 years; the Minnesota median age of 35.4 years and the U.S. median age of 35.3 years per the 2000 Census. 36.3% of Jordan's population in 2000 was 19 years or under and 7.6% of the population 65 years old or older. As a result, demands for playground equipment and active recreational opportunities are likely to be greater.

The State Demographer's Office projects future population by age group at a county level to the year 2030. Within Scott County, all age groups 0 years to 44 years are projected to increase by over 35%. However, projections suggest that within Scott County age groups 65 to 69 years and 70 to 74 years are anticipated to be the fastest growing at 429% and 401.1% respectively. This will have an impact on the type of recreational amenities needed in parks in the future.

- **Gender.** 2000 Census information identifies a gender distribution of 49.8% female to 50.2% male within the City of Jordan, illustrating nearly the same female to male ratio of Scott County (49.5% to 50.5%). The ratio is similar to Minnesota (50.5% female to 49.5% male) and nation (50.9% to 49.1%

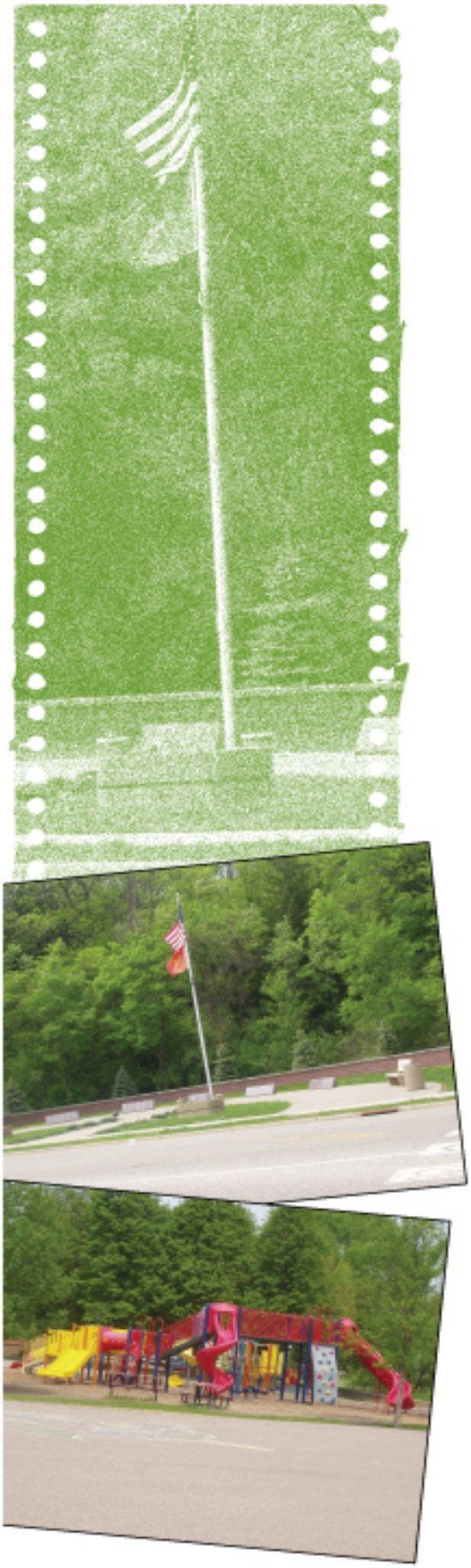
- **Income.** The Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 Income Guidelines places the 2009 Median *Family* Income in Scott County at $83,900, compared to a State Median Family Income of $72,900. While the area has a higher income level, it is important to plan for all, as approximately 4% of Jordan's population (156 people) were noted as living below the poverty level in 2000.

- **Employment.** The Minnesota Work Force Center estimates 75,028 people in the labor force in Scott County in May 2010, with 70,526 employed, resulting in a 6.0% unemployment rate. During this same time period Minnesota had an unemployment rate of 7.0% and the United States unemployment rate was 9.7%.

- **Travel Time to Work**. According to the 2000 Census, workers in Jordan traveled an average of 25.3 minutes to their place of employment. This is comparable to workers within Scott County which reported an average of 24.3 minutes for a commute time. The national mean travel time to work reported as a part of the 2000 Census was 25.5 minutes. As the community grows and additional employment opportunities become available, the community has expressed a desire to plan for trail connections to employment centers, as well as recreational areas, to decrease the average daily trips on roadways and offer an alternative to vehicular transportation.

Section 2. Executive Summary

To be developed…



Section 3. Vision, Values & Mission Statements

The Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Plan expands on the information gathered and compiled during the 2008 Comprehensive Plan process. It is important to incorporate the overall mission of the Comprehensive Plan and Guiding Principles of the Plan into this document.

2008 Comprehensive Plan

Guiding Principles

A number of the Guiding Principles of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan relate directly to Jordan's parks, trails and natural resources. These include:

- Preserve and promote the natural resources which make the City of Jordan unique, such as Sand Creek, the topography, wetlands and bluffs.
- Promote a high quality of life with functioning parks, trails and other recreational opportunities which not only serve a local purpose but serves as a "hub" for regional trails.
- Promote an atmosphere which captures the spirit of a small town Continue to provide a safe and wholesome environment for residents and businesses.
- Portray an attitude that encourages a vibrant business community
- Plan for a safe and efficient transportation system which addresses the long-term growth of the community while planning for connectivity of the City.
- Preserve and promote the Historic Downtown as a place for people to gather
- Promote a caring, learning environment with support for its education system.

2008 Comprehensive Plan Mission Statement

"The mission of the City of Jordan is to preserve our small town atmosphere, by promoting enhancement of our historic charm and family-oriented community, along the scenic bluffs of the MN River Valley.

We embrace planned growth that provides quality amenities and opportunities within our commercial, industrial and residential neighborhoods."

2010 Strategic Planning

The City of Jordan conducted Strategic Planning sessions with the City Council and each advisory commission in 2010. Tactical action steps for the implementation of short term (1-4 year) goals were also developed.

Mission Statements, values, and short and long term goals for the Park and Recreation Commission were developed, and approved by the City Council. These statements and goals follow.

This Master Parks, Trails & Natural Resource Plan will assist in the development of an action plan for the implementation of long term goals identified as a part of the 2010 Strategic Planning process as well as this Master Planning process.

Park & Recreation 2010 Mission Statement

To strive for quality and fiscally responsible recreation opportunities while recognizing the needs and wants of our community.

2010 Strategic Planning Goals

Short Term Goals (1-4 years)

- Regular maintenance
- Development of recreational opportunities in existing facilities
- Development of opportunities at new facilities
- Improvements
- Development of improved chains of communication
- Annual review of the Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Plan
- Fiscal empowerment and communication
- Engage more volunteers

Long Term Goals (5-10 years)

- Funding
- Return Recreation to City Control
- Multi-functional community facility
- Partnerships to develop regional trails
- Engage more volunteers

Vision

Jordan is a hub of recreational activities and opportunities that promotes the health and happiness of the community.

**2010 Strategic Planning Process*

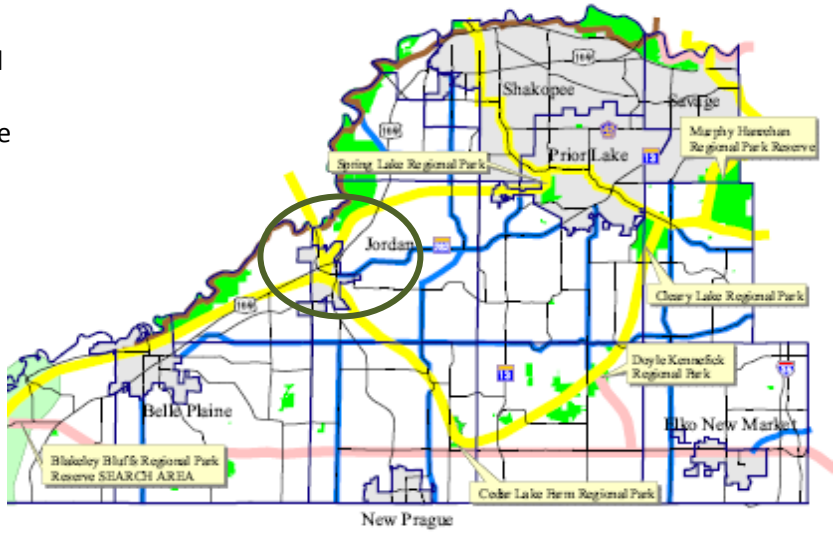
Values

- ✓ Stewardship
- ✓ Partnerships
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Services
- ✓ Visionary Leadership

Partnerships

As identified as one of the "values" of the Park and Recreation Advisory Commission, this Plan recognizes the importance of partnerships with other governmental units, the coordination of plans and collaboration on future improvements and grant applications to implement the Plan. The following agencies have been identified as partners in future parks, trails and natural resource planning and projects:

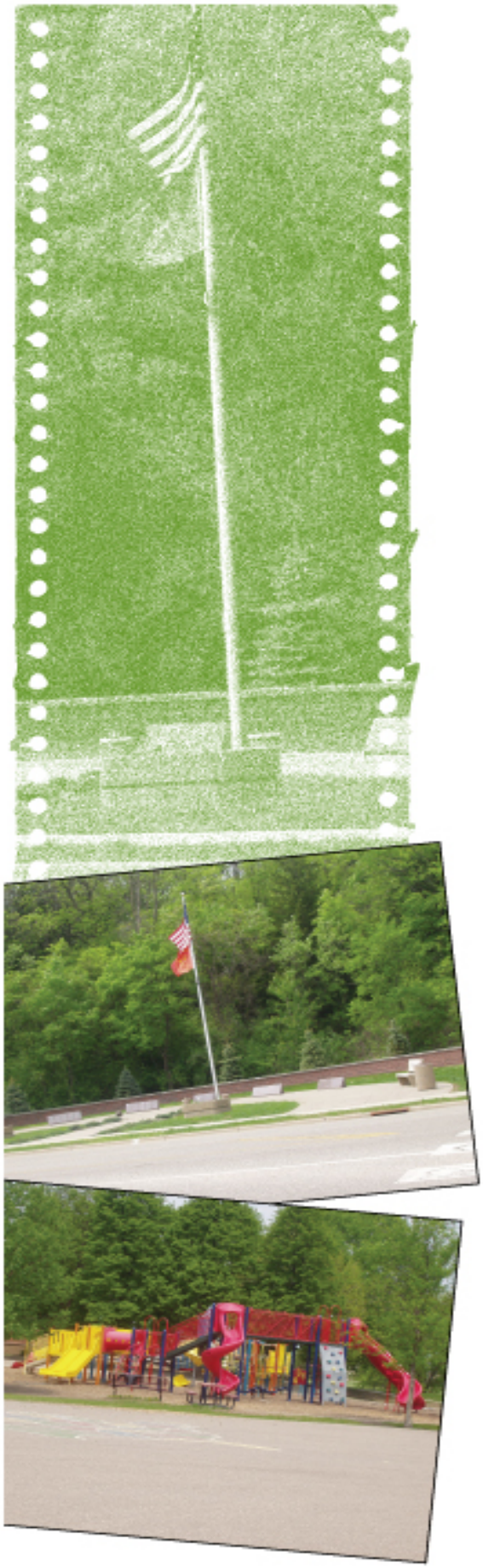
- US Fish and Wildlife
- DNR- MN Valley State Park
- Scott and Carver Counties
- Scott County Soil and Water
- Jordan School District/Community Ed
- Cities of Belle Plaine, Carver, New Prague, Prior Lake and Shakopee
- Sand Creek and Blakely Townships



Jordan as the Hub

Consistent with the "vision" for the Park and Recreation Advisory Commission, the following future regional trails have been identified within Jordan's and Scott County's 2008 Comprehensive Plans. Construction of these trails would result in Jordan serving as the hub for various *regional* trails:

- Trails along/near CR 9 to the City of Carver
- Trails along the Minnesota River south US Hwy 169 to Belle Plaine and the future Blakeley Bluffs Regional Park
- Trails south near Highway 21 (or general vicinity) to link to Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park north of New Prague
- Trails along the Minnesota River north to the MN Valley State Recreation Area and extending northeast to Spring Lake Regional Park
- A *county* trail has been identified extending east to Prior Lake.



Section 4. Public Input

The Master Park Planning Process began in November, 2009, as a part of the Community Growth Options (CGO) program offered through 1000 Friends of Minnesota. This process encourages citizen input and participation in local planning processes. It also encourages the development of plans with a regional impact and coordination with regional entities.

Consistent with the CGO process, the Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Plan was developed utilizing the following public input:

- Citizen input obtained during the City's 2008 Comprehensive Planning process
- A 2010 Strategic Planning Process completed by the City's Park and Recreation Commission and City Council
- Presentations provided by staff from the DNR, US Fish and Wildlife, Scott County and neighboring communities
- City Boards and Advisory Commissions and Council participation on a natural resource survey and GIS Analysis of Natural Resources
- Citizen input received as a part of an on-line survey
- Student input received as a part of an on-line survey
- Citizen input at an Open house
- Public hearing contributions

As a part of the planning process, an on-line "Parks, trails and natural resource survey" was completed. In attempt to obtain input from all age segments of the community, surveys were printed and delivered to the senior citizens group, and on-line surveys were completed as a part of a social studies class at the middle school and environmental science and biology classes at the high school.

Following is a summary of key comments received from the 81 participants, as a part of the survey.

When asked, as an open-ended question, what residents and students liked most about Jordan's parks, 75 participants responded. The number one response related to the cleanliness and well-maintained, followed by "Lagoon Park" or features at Lagoon Park, the waterfall, as well as a variety of other items ranging from flowers, accessibility, the skate park, etc.

In response to an open-ended questions asking for input on the one improvement they would like to see to Jordan's park and trail system, the number one response related to a need for more walking paths or trails and/or trail connections, followed by the need to add or update playground equipment, with remodeling or addition of restroom facilities (not portable restrooms) as the third most common response

Key Findings from the On-line Survey:

Parks and Open Spaces

- 55% of respondents noted they are "somewhat familiar" with Jordan's parks and trails, 30% are very familiar and 15% noted they are not familiar with the parks and trails.
- Most respondents indicated their source of information regarding the parks and trails are from walking or biking on the trails and visiting the parks or driving around the community. Less than 20% noted their source of information as maps or on-line information.
- The number one reason respondents provided for not using the parks and trails was a "lack of time" (47.5%), followed by "lack of trail connectivity" (45%) and "lack of awareness of what is available".
- 30% of respondents feel Jordan's parks and trails have a very important impact on the quality of life in Jordan, with 1/3 rating it as important, 11% indifferent, 21% noting they are somewhat important and 5% indicating they are not important to the city's quality of life.
- 60% of participants noted funding for improvements and replacement of equipment should be funded by city tax dollars, or tax dollars and a combination of event fees, parking fees and user fees.
- Parks most frequently visited include Lagoon Park, followed by Mini Met Ball Park and Bridle Creek Park.
- Most participants feel there are sufficient recreational opportunities for preschoolers and youth (to age 14) and for adults, with a need for additional recreational opportunities for teenagers as well as individuals with disabilities.
- A majority of respondents noted they feel safe using Jordan's parks, with the number one reason for safety concern relating to outdated playground equipment, followed by a lack of lighting.

Sidewalks and Trails

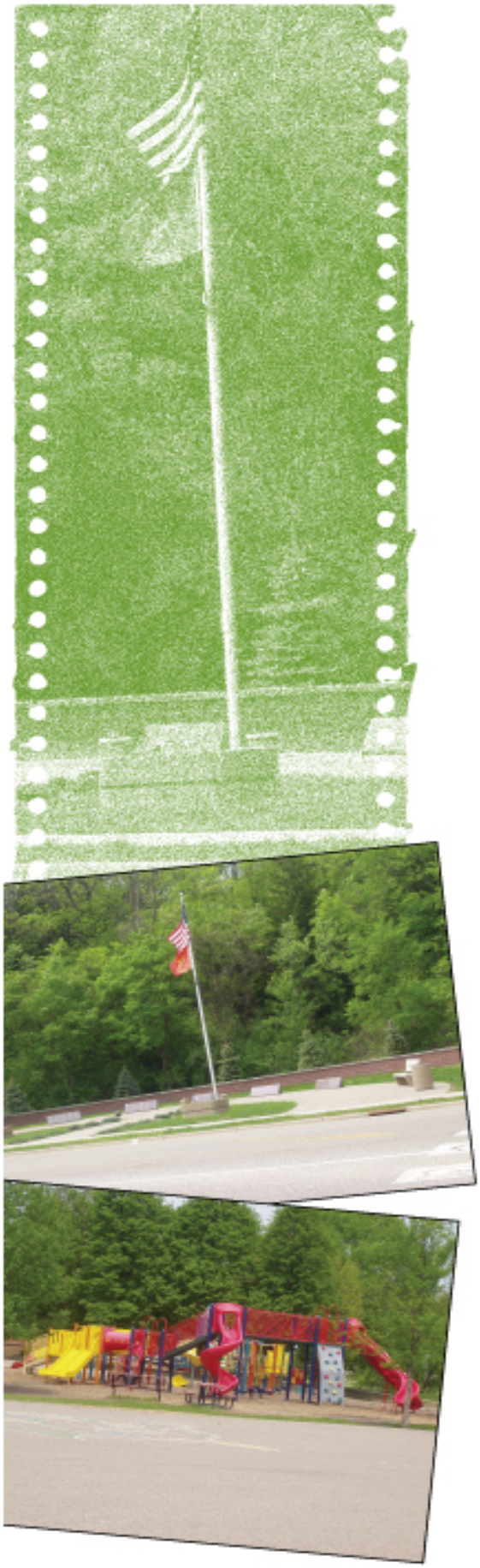
- Nearly ¾ of participants noted they have used Jordan's trail system in the past year, with a majority reporting use 1-5 times per month. The primary reason for using trails and sidewalks was noted as "recreation" followed by "health and exercise". Less than 10% report using sidewalks and trails to commute or run errands.
- Approximately ½ of participants report walking as their primary activity on sidewalks/trails followed by 25% who reported bicycle riding and 12% who use the system primarily for running.

- 40% of those who use the sidewalk and trail system note an average of 31 or more minutes per outing, with over 50% traveling an average 1 to 5 miles.
- Respondents expressed a desire for trail linkages to regional trail systems, city parks, downtown and highway commercial areas, natural resources and to educational facilities, with the link to a regional system the most requested.
- A majority of participants noted they feel safe on Jordan's trail system, with reasons for feeling unsafe reported as the need to use the shoulder of roadways, and need for trail connectivity and wider sidewalks/trails as the recommended improvements. 57% report the need to frequently walk on a street to access a sidewalk or trail.
- 47% recommended the development of on-street bicycle lanes, with 28% uncertain and 24% noting they did not support this.

Natural Resources

- Nearly one-half of participants find the preservation of natural resources "very important" as Jordan grows, with 27% noting it as "important". 7% feel the preservation is "not important".
- A majority of respondents rate the water quality in Mill Pond and Sand Creek in Jordan as "Fair" to "Good".
- Adults ranked "shoreland" and "ecological sites" as the most important natural resources in Jordan, while students ranked "wooded areas with significant trees" and "shorelands" as the most important.
- A summary of the on-line survey responses are found within the various sections of this plan, as well as in Appendix A.

In addition, the Park and Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, Economic Development Authority and City Council participated in survey ranking the importance of a variety of natural resources as they relate to future active and passive recreational areas. The results of this exercise are within the Natural Resources section of this plan.



Section 5. Park and Open Space Plan

Overview

Jordan's residents and businesses identify parks and recreational facilities as an important part of the quality of life in Jordan. Comments received as a part of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan underscore the importance of creating and sustaining parks, trails and recreational facilities, as a method of retaining the "small town" atmosphere and providing community gathering places.

Providing quality recreational opportunities begins with proper planning. To assure adequacy and maximum usability, recreation areas and facilities shall be developed with regard for the needs of the people and the area they serve. Proper planning must take into consideration a number of factors, including but not limited to, location of existing recreational areas (i.e. proximity to the area served, separation from incompatible land uses), adequacy of existing facilities, site planning for the location of future facilities, access to current and future facilities, provisions for recreation programs, changing demographics including not only an increased population but also an aging population, financing, maintenance and management of existing and proposed parks, trails and recreational facilities.

Planning future parks in Jordan and its growth area, cannot occur in a vacuum. It is important to include county and state recreational systems, in order to avoid duplication of services, and to plan for the regional "hub" of recreational.

This chapter defines classifications of local and regional parks and open spaces, provides an overview of existing parks and open spaces and evaluates and identifies potential future community parks.

The importance of natural resources within parks and open spaces and trails and greenways to connect these assets are further discussed within the Trails and Greenway Chapter and Natural Resource Chapter.

Classifications

The City of Jordan features a number of existing park and recreational facilities. Recreational facilities within the City can typically be described according to their type, population served and location. The following terms and descriptions shall be used to classify existing and future local, regional, state and federal recreational facilities.

'Neighborhood Parks' provide open space for passive recreation for all ages within a neighborhood, particularly for the elderly and families with young children. An ideal neighborhood park site is scenic or wooded and located a maximum of one-quarter mile, which is normal walking distance, from primary users. Suggested minimum size for this type of park is one acre. Site development should include sidewalks, benches, landscaping, and play features for preschoolers and youth. Trails should connect neighborhood parks with other parks and neighborhoods.

'Neighborhood Playgrounds' are usually provided in conjunction with education and institutional facilities and primarily serve the recreation needs of children ages 5 to 12. Individual neighborhood playground size is dependent on the types of activities it supports and the facilities it provides. Play features, ball fields, basketball and tennis courts, and open play fields are common components. The service area is highly variable, but it usually has a radius of one-quarter mile.

'Community Parks' typically serve several neighborhoods and are under municipal administration. Although size may vary, community parks are usually more spacious than neighborhood parks or playgrounds. In addition to the kinds of facilities provided at neighborhood parks, these parks may provide swimming pools, picnic areas, more elaborate play fields, restroom facilities and tennis courts. Community parks serve people of all ages and have an effective service area radius of one-half mile.

'City-wide Parks' may serve some or all types of a community's recreation needs. They can provide a wide range of activities for all age groups or may be very specific. In addition to some of the facilities provided by other types of parks, citywide parks may contain an area for nature study, hiking and riding trails, pond fishing, spectator sports and numerous other activities. However, in many small communities, a city-wide park is sometimes designated as such not because of its size and/or variety of recreation facilities, but because it is the only park available to the community.

'Specialized Recreation Areas or Special Use Facilities' may include but are not limited to historic sites, conservancy areas, open space, linear trails, boat launches and floodplains. Most specialized recreation areas have limited active recreation value, are not developed as multi-purpose recreation areas, or are not always available for use by the public. They may offer specialized programming and administration. Specialized areas are an important adjunct to a community and its park and open space program. Within Jordan, special use facilities include the Scott County Fairgrounds. Within Scott County, there are a number of boat launches and The Landing (previously the Historic Murphy's Landing", located in Shakopee.

'Regional Parks' An area of natural or ornamental quality for nature-oriented outdoor recreation such as, but not limited to picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping and trail use. Regional parks serve people of all ages and serve a regional population. Regional parks are generally 300+ acres in size, but may be smaller if there are quality natural resources. Within the Metropolitan Council area there are 49 regional parks and park reserves totaling 53,000 acres. The Metropolitan Council Regional Park System was established in 1974. Scott County is home to five of the regional parks.

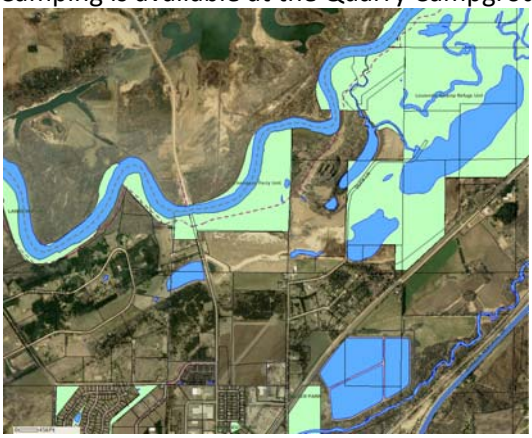
Park Reserves – An area with a diverse range of activities which provides scenic views and opportunities for hiking, picnicking and passive recreational enjoyment. Within Scott County, Blakely Bluffs Regional Park Reserve, south of Belle Plaine in Blakely Township, is proposed. The size of a park reserve is approximately 2,000 acres, with a majority of the area preserved in native landscape, protecting the natural environment. Murphy Hanrehan Regional Park Reserve is located in the northeast side of Scott County.

Existing Parks, Recreational Facilities and Open Space

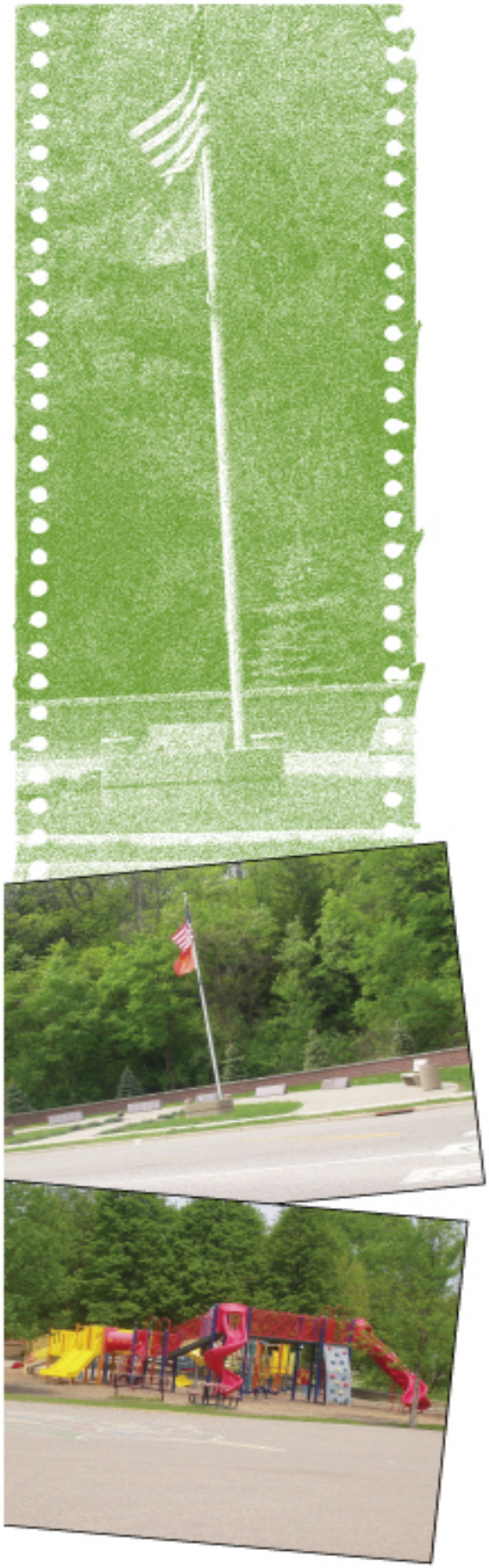
Federal Facilities - Within Scott County, there is only one federal recreational facility; a Waterfowl Production Area (WPA). This is located in Credit River Township, along the east side of Scott County. The site is 113 acres and is for public hunting.

State Facilities - The Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area is located near Jordan and extends north to Shakopee and south to Belle Plaine. The 4,805 acres in Scott County is located along the Minnesota River. Potions of the Lawrence and Belle Plaine units are also located in Carver County. This includes 35 miles of equestrian trail along the Minnesota River, with paved segments between Chaska and Shakopee and natural surface trails extending south to Belle Plaine. The state park features oak forests, savannah and sand dunes. Campgrounds are located along the Minnesota River, just south of the City of Jordan.

Camping is available at the Quarry Campground, Equestrian Campground and Pioneer Group Camp.

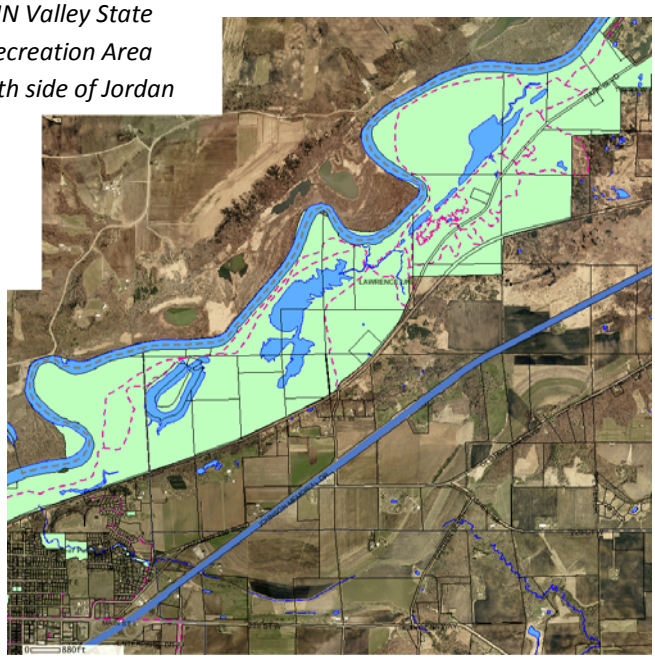


MN Valley State Recreation Area – North side of Jordan



Headquarters (Lawrence) is located between Jordan and Belle Plaine, along Township Road 57. This features an original building from the 1850s town of Lawrence, 25 rustic family campsites, eight walk-in campsites and one walk-in/canoe campsite. In addition, there are 47 miles for horseback riding, hiking and/or mountain biking. A group picnic area is also available.

MN Valley State Recreation Area South side of Jordan



The DNR also offers 18 Wildlife Management areas, totaling 1,677 acres in Scott County. These areas are primarily used from hunting.

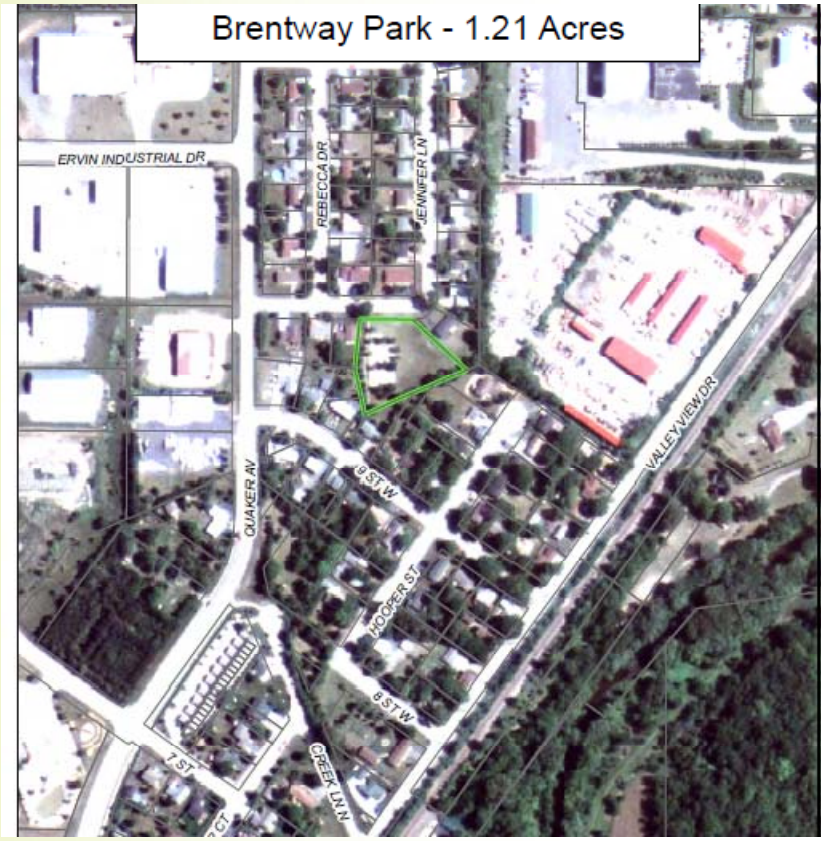
Regional Parks. Scott County Regional Parks include Murphy-Hanrehan Park Reserve, Clearly Lake Regional Park, Spring Lake Regional Park (not developed at the time of this plan), Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park (not developed at the time of this plan) and Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park (partially developed at the time of this plan). While none of these parks are adjacent to the City of Jordan, the proposed regional trail system leading to these parks connects to Jordan.

Jordan's Existing Parks

Recreation has been an important part of Jordan's history. Today there are thirteen (13) municipal parks and several additional school and private recreation areas in the City of Jordan. Following is a listing of the park and recreational facilities existing in the City of Jordan.

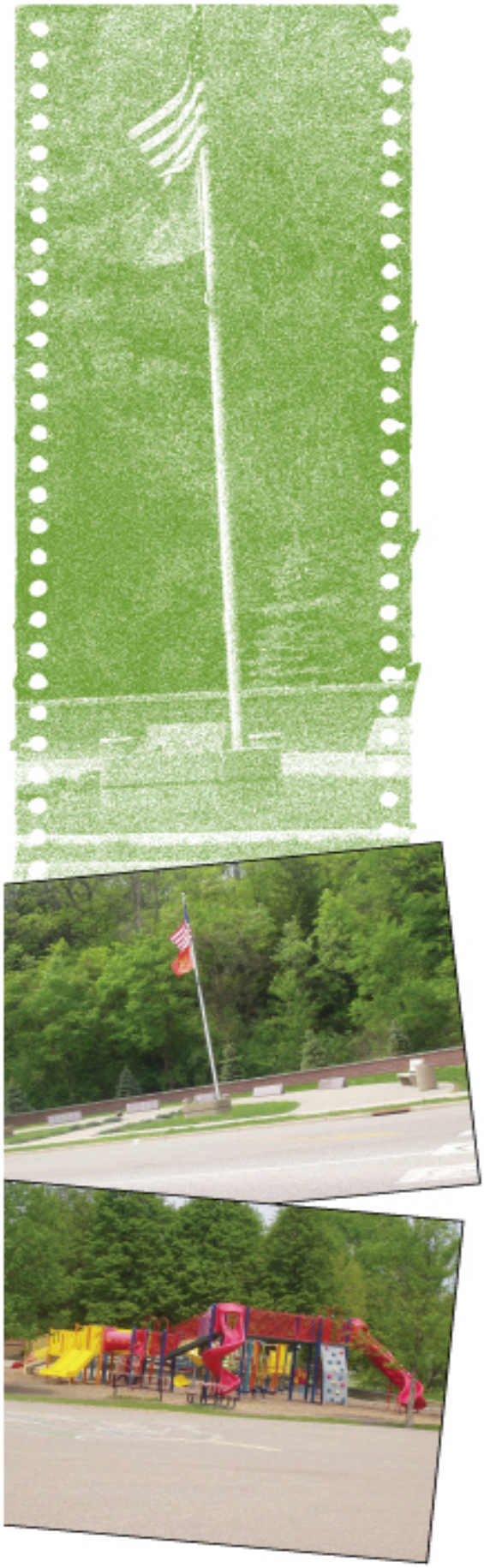
Jordan Park and Recreation Advisory Board members evaluated the physical condition of nine of the municipal parks, as a part of the 2008 Comprehensive Planning process. Each park was assessed by a minimum of two Park Board members. Their recommendations for improvements to the parks are noted following the summary of each existing park.

- **Brentwood Park (North of 9th Street and west of Hooper Ct.)** – Located in the northwest side of Jordan, Brentwood Park is a small grassy open area with playground equipment, which serves as a neighborhood park.

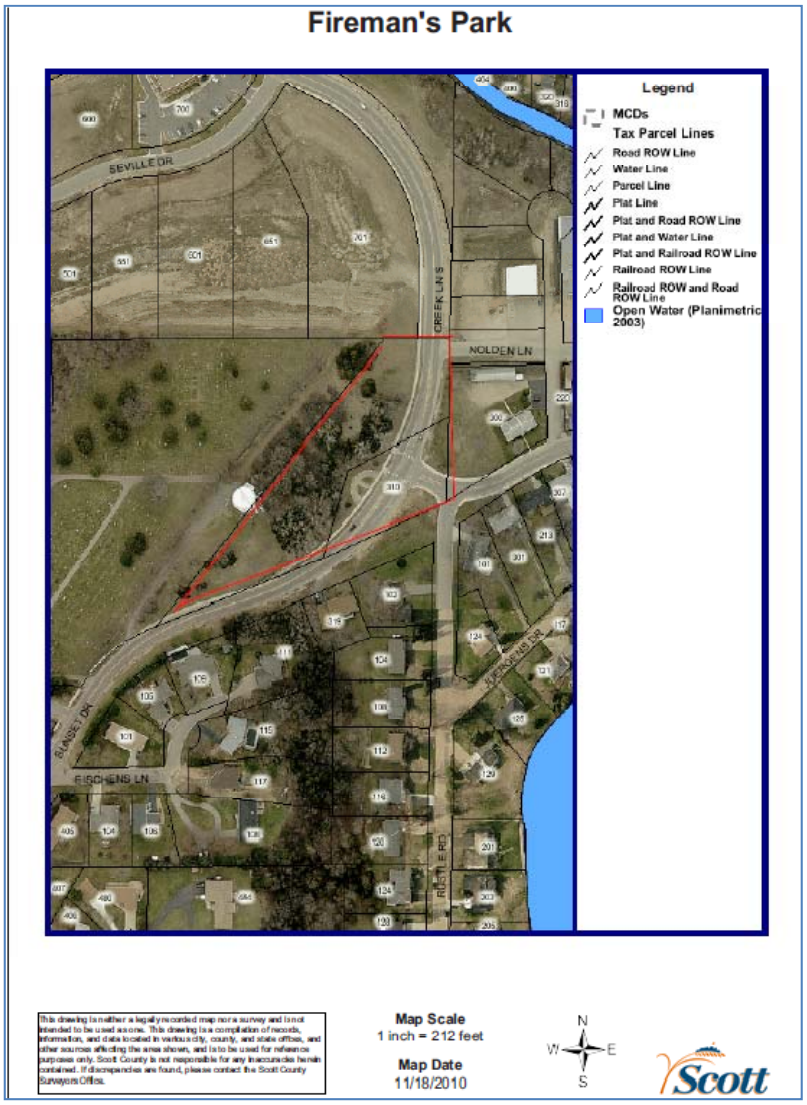


Bridle Creek Park – (Bridle Creek Drive) – is located on the south side of Jordan. This neighborhood park includes playground equipment, benches, a gazebo, picnic tables and a grill. The park is accessible via sidewalk, with no off-street parking available. The park includes a large open grassy area for recreational use as well as an adjacent storm water pond. Residents within this park have requested a full court basketball court be added. At the time of this Plan, fundraising activities were underway to support the construction.

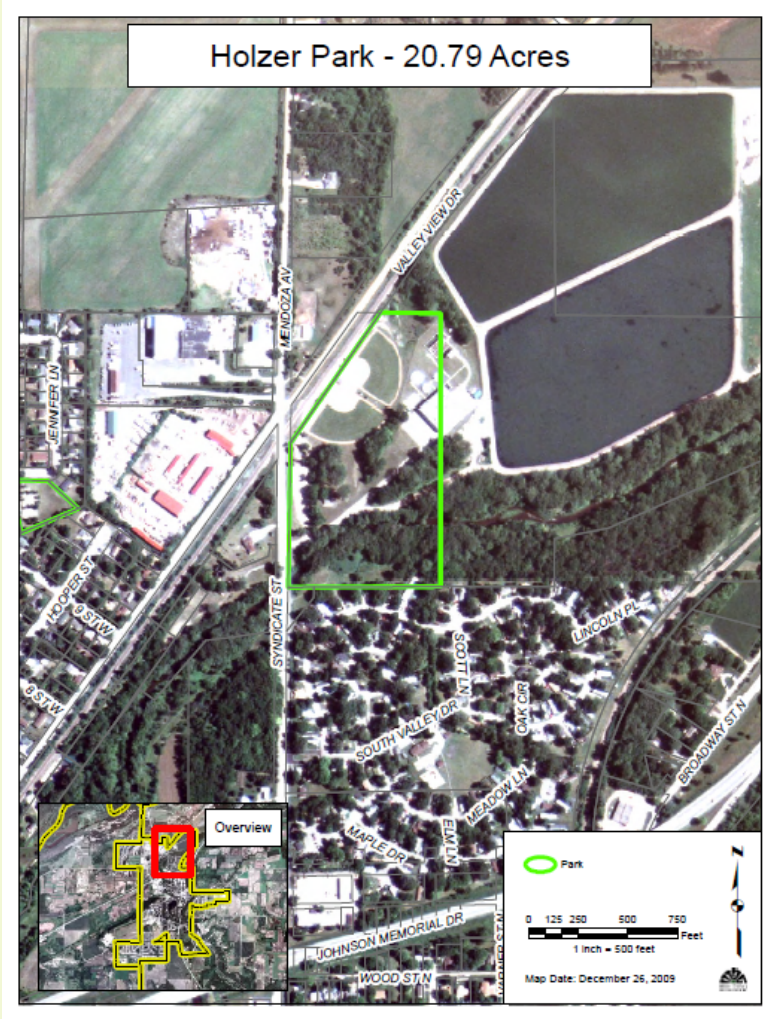
A private park also exists within the Bridle Creek Subdivisions. This park includes a small outdoor pool, play area and picnic table. Residents must be part of an association to utilize the facilities.



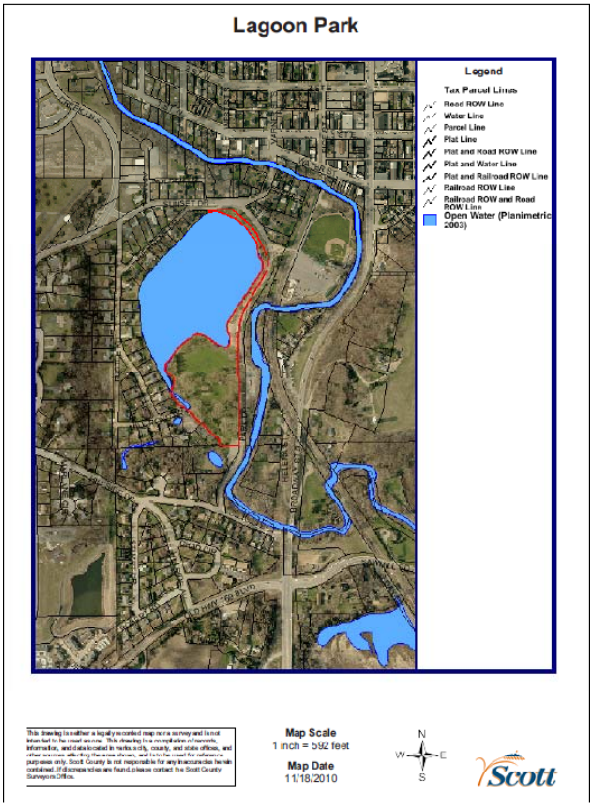
Fireman's Park – (Sunset Drive and Creek Lane) - This Specialized Recreation Area includes an American Flag, two benches and a number of memorial markers to recognize past fire fighters. A sidewalk provides access to the park. This park contains two parcels totaling 4.33 acres. No off-street parking is provided.

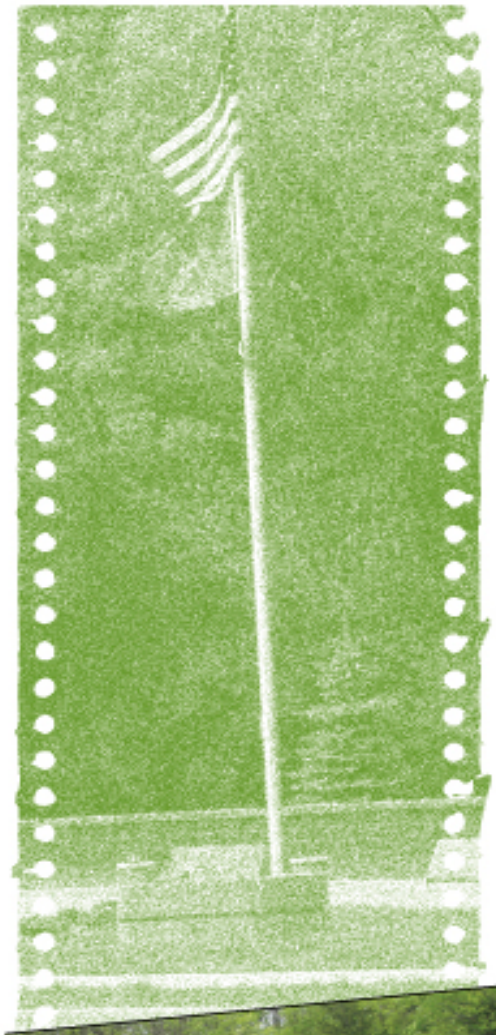


Jackie Holzer Park (West of Syndicate Street and south of Valley View Drive). This community park is located on the north side of Highway 169 and adjacent to Sand Creek. A gravel drive and gravel parking lot provide access to the park which features two softball fields, bleachers, a concession stand and restrooms, shelters and picnic tables. A large grassy open area and trees provide a natural setting in the remainder of the park. Future pavement of the driveway and parking as well as landscaping should be considered for this park.



Lagoon Park (Adjacent to Mill Pond, east of Juergens Circle) –This city wide park is centrally located in the City of Jordan. The 11.7 acre park features a wide variety of recreational amenities including four horseshoe pits, three shelters with numerous picnic tables, grills, a gazebo, playground equipment, two sand volleyball courts, Mill Pond and Sand Creek, a warming house, trails and benches, plumbed restrooms, off-street paved parking lots, water fountains, and open green space. This serves as a central city –wide park in which a variety of community events are held.





Mini Met Ball Park (west of Broadway/ Highway 21 and east of Rice Street). Baseball has been an important sport in the City of Jordan, with over 100 years of history on this site. The Mini-Met ballpark is considered one of the best amateur baseball fields in the state. The baseball field is used as the home field for the Jordan Millers, Ahlers, the Jordan high school baseball team and the Jordan Brewers. This has been the host site for amateur baseball tournaments.

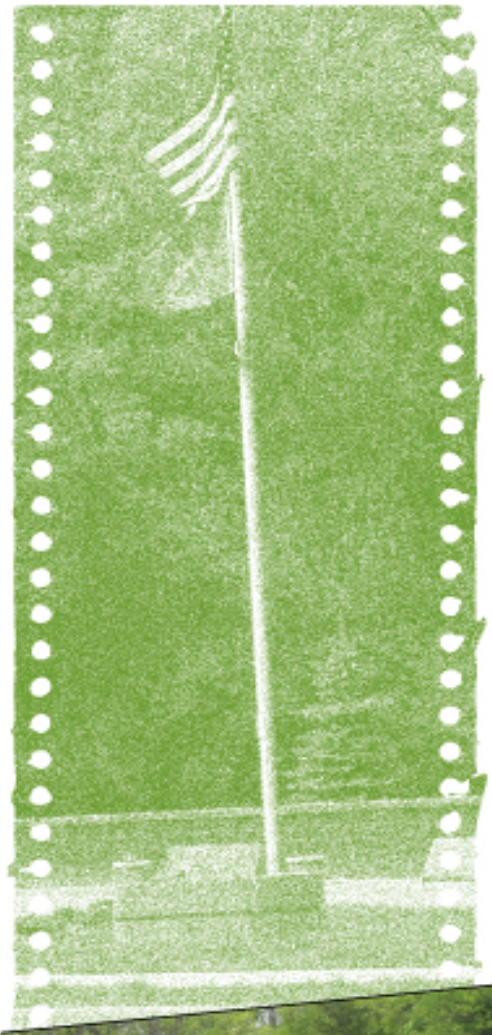
Mini Met Ball Park, a **community** park, contains a lit baseball stadium built in the 1930s, a skate park, an outdoor hockey rink which is also a ¾ court basketball court in the summer, a warming house, a concession stand, plumbed restroom facilities, paved parking lot and city storage buildings.

The City established a rain garden in this area. A trail links the Mini Met Ball Park and Lagoon Park, which are adjacent to one another but separated by the railroad track.

MNDOT Rest Stop. ***(East of 21, north of the Highway 21 bridge).*** This 3.5 acre park and ride location contains a gravel parking lot. This is a potential future trailhead location.

Pekarna Park ***(South side of Water Street, West Broadway)*** – This .77 acre park, located in the city's central business district, along Sand Creek, is a specialized recreation area which includes a gazebo, picnic table, benches, landscaping and streetlight. This downtown park serves as an entry way to the Mini Met Ball Park to the south. A sidewalk serves as access to the park with on-street parking.

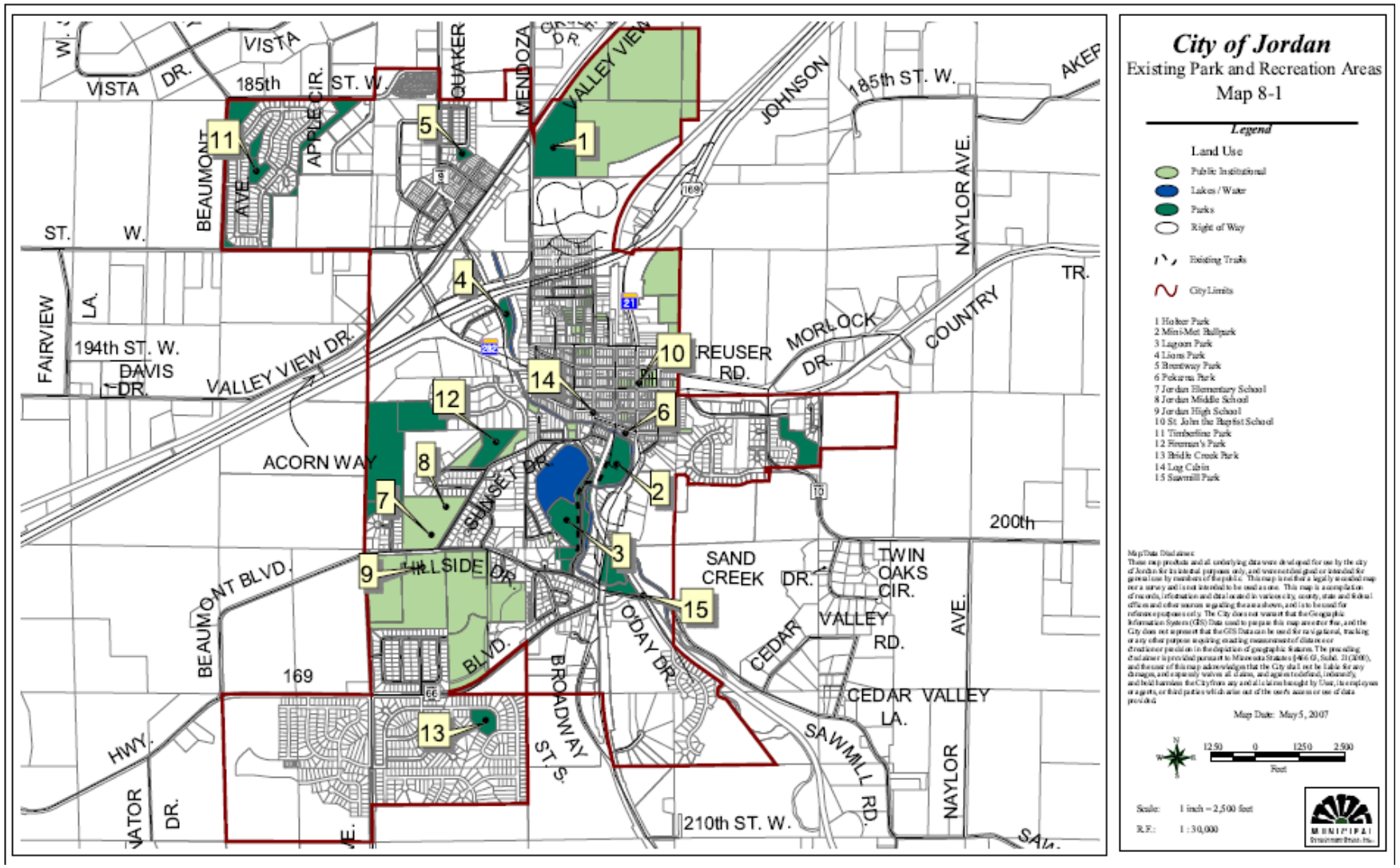
Riesgraf Lions Park (East of Creek Lane and southeast of Highway 169) – This Specialized Recreation Area is visible from Highway 169 and serves as a location for the community's park and ride. The park includes paved off-street parking for a park and ride, a picnic shelter, picnic tables, three grills, and three horseshoe pits. Additional landscaping could add to the aesthetics of this park.

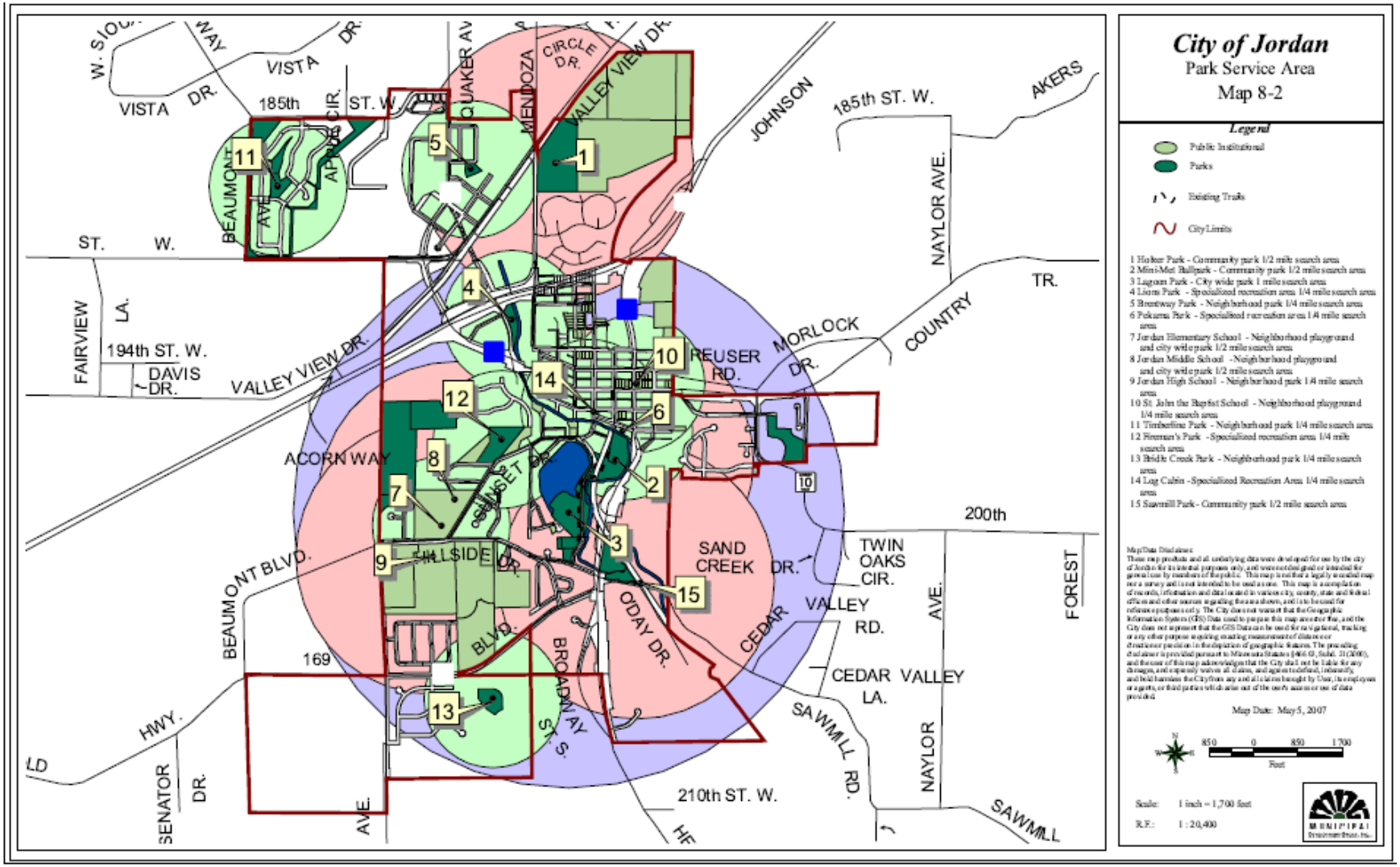


Sawmill Park – (East of Highway 21 and south of Sand Creek). **This two acre community park** was acquired by the City in 2006. A trail under Highway 21 links Sawmill Park to Hillside Drive which leads to Lagoon Park. This is one of the optional future regional trail routes being studied by Scott County.

Timberline Park- (Lodge Drive and Foxboro Way) – This neighborhood park, which serves Timberline Subdivision on the northwest side of the community, includes playground equipment, benches, picnic tables and a trail. Access is provided via a trail system, with no off-street parking provided.

The following maps illustrate the locations of Jordan's parks, as well as recreational areas provided by the school district. The map on the following page provides the service area coverage of each park, based on its classification.




City of Jordan
Park Service Area
Map 8-2
Legend
Public Institutional
Parks
Existing Trails
City Limits
1 Holker Park - Community park 1/2 mile search area
2 Mini-Met Ballpark - Community park 1/2 mile search area
3 Lagoon Park - City wide park 1 mile search area
4 Lions Park - Specialized recreation area 1/4 mile search area
5 Brentway Park - Neighborhood park 1/4 mile search area
6 Pokarna Park - Specialized recreation area 1/4 mile search area
7 Jordan Elementary School - Neighborhood playground and city wide park 1/2 mile search area
8 Jordan Middle School - Neighborhood playground and city wide park 1/2 mile search area
9 Jordan High School - Neighborhood park 1/4 mile search area
10 St. John the Baptist School - Neighborhood playground 1/4 mile search area
11 Timberline Park - Neighborhood park 1/4 mile search area
12 Freeman's Park - Specialized recreation area 1/4 mile search area
13 Bridle Creek Park - Neighborhood park 1/4 mile search area
14 Log Cabin - Specialized Recreation Area 1/4 mile search area
15 Sawmill Park - Community park 1/2 mile search area
Map Date: May 5, 2007
Scale: 1 inch = 1,700 feet
R.F.: 1 : 20,400
185th ST. W.
VISTA DR.
QUAKER AV
MENDOZA CIRCLE DR.
VALLEY VIEW DR.
JOHNSON
AKERS
NAYLOR AVE.
COUNTRY TR.
MORLOCK DR.
REUSER RD.
FAIRVIEW LA.
194th ST. W.
DAVIS DR.
ACORN WAY
SUNSET DR.
HILLSIDE DR.
BEAUMONT BLVD.
BEAUMONT AVE.
APROS CIR.
SAND CREEK DR.
TWIN OAKS CIR.
VALLEY RD.
CEDAR VALLEY LA.
CEDAR AVE.
ODAY DR.
BROADWAY ST. S.
SAWMILL RD.
SAWMILL
FOREST
200th
210th ST. W.
169
HWY.
SENATOR DR.

School Facilities

In addition to the City owned parks there is also a number of school facilities and playgrounds that are utilized for recreational activities. The City and the School District have a joint powers agreement and Joint Powers Board that assures dual use of facilities whenever feasible. These are not "municipal parks", however; the amenities are available to serve the public at limited times in which school or extracurricular activities are not underway. The facilities, especially the athletic fields, serve a much larger population than the corporate limits. Following is a brief description of other school recreational facilities.

- **Jordan Elementary School (Sunset Drive)** – The Elementary School includes two separate neighborhood playground areas, targeted for two separate age groups of elementary age children. The recreation area also includes one full and one half basketball courts, two grass softball fields, six four-square areas, sidewalks, and off-street parking. Restroom facilities are located inside the school and therefore not available to the general public.

- **Jordan Middle School (Sunset Drive) –** The Middle School's recreational area includes off-street parking, bicycle racks, eight tennis courts, a soccer field, one sand volleyball court, two full basketball courts, two softball diamonds, and a large grassy open area which could accommodate additional soccer fields or other fields. There is a portable restroom as well as indoor restrooms at the school.

Jordan High School (Hillside Drive) – The High School's recreational area includes the official and practice football fields, a track, concession stand behind the stadium seating, plumbed restrooms, three softball and one baseball field, and a batting cage. Off-street paved parking areas and sidewalks provide access to the recreational fields.

St. John the Baptist Catholic School (Broadway St. and 2nd Street East) – This neighborhood playground area includes two separate half-court basketball court areas within its parking lot, bench and playground equipment geared toward children aged 5 to 12 years. There is off-street parking and a sidewalk to access the play area. Restrooms are located within the school.

MN River Valley Education Center/Alternative Education Center – This neighborhood playground area includes one full basketball court and a picnic table. A paved parking lot services the recreational area and school. Restrooms are located within the educational facility.

Private Recreational Facilities

Bridle Creek 7-10th Addition – Private Park. (Prospect Point and Huntington Way) – A private neighborhood park was developed in 2006 as a part of the Bridle Creek 7th through 10th addition subdivisions. This private park, which is intended to serve those subdivisions, includes a small outdoor swimming pool, gazebo, small basketball court, benches and playground equipment. While this is owned and maintained by a homeowners' association and is not a part of the municipal park system, it provides recreational opportunities for residents in the southwest corner of the existing city limits.

Valley Green Park. This private parks serves residents within Valley Green manufactured home park. Facilities include playground equipment, basketball court and picnic shelter.

Scott County Fairgrounds, 7151 190th Street West. Located north of Highway 169 and west of CR 9, Scott County's Fairgrounds are located just northwest of Jordan. The fair, which originated in 1915, is held the end of July each year. This event draws crowds of 20,000 to 30,000 to Jordan for the annual event.

KOA Campground, 3315 West 166th Street, Jordan. This private campground includes cabins, hook-ups and tent sites, an indoor swimming pool, mini golf, and landscaped picnic areas.

Ridges of Sand Creek Golf Course, 21775 Ridges Drive. This 18-hole golf course, located just south of Jordan along Highway 21, opened in July of 2000. The golf course features scenic views of Sand Creek along the 18-hole course and a 40-station driving range.

Active Recreational Facility Needs

As a part of the 2008 Comprehensive Planning Process, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board reviewed existing facilities and future needs of the community. The following were derived from the National Recreation and Park Association and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration Standards with local standards applied:

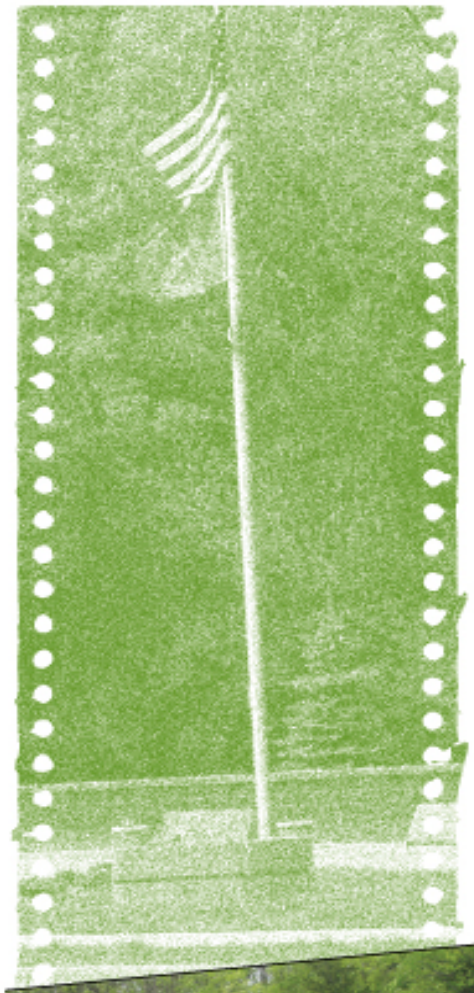
Type of recreational amenity needed	Estimated city population at the time of the "need"	Size of land/site required to accommodate the amenity
Baseball Diamond	One additional at this time and another additional at a population of 12,000.	3 to 3.85 acres
Softball/Youth Diamond	One additional, at this time	1.5 to 2 acres
Basketball	Need for youth basketball court at this time and one additional at a population of 14,000.	0.25 to 0.59 acre, Youth: 2400 to 3036 sq. ft, High School: 5040 to 7280 sq. ft
Volleyball	One or two additional at a population of 6,000.	4,000 sq. ft
Football Field	one additional at a population of 6,000.	1.5 acres
Soccer Field	Current need at this time.	1.7 to 2.1 acres
Play Equipment	Need to update existing playground equipment at this time and add in new parks	0.5 acre
Sliding Hill	Need at a population of 7,500	2-4 acres
Archery Range	Need at est. population of 7,500	0.65 acre
Horseshoe courts	Additional courts at a population of 14,000 p	0.1 acre
Swimming Pool	Possible need at a population of 10,000	1 to 2 acres
Off-Street Parking	Need at all non-neighborhood parks	300 S.F Per Car
Toilet Facilities		Varies
Lacrosse	Need at this time	110 yards x 60 yards or 6,600 square yards = 1.36 acres +
Disc Golf	Need at this time	One acre per hole, depending on terrain

Improvements to Existing Parks

Over the past ten years, the City of Jordan has made significant improvements within its parks, with over $450,000 in improvements and new construction. Following is a summary of improvements, the cost of the improvements and sources of funding.

Year	Park	Description	Cost
2010	Lagoon Park	Repairs to falls pathway and railing, fishing pier railing	$9,057
2009	Lagoon Park	Fishing pier	$4,000
2009	Mini-Met	Irrigation line	$3,171
2009	Mini-Met	Scoreboard	$4,063
2008	Lagoon Park	Concrete under all benches	$2,800
2008	Lagoon Park	Trails	$14,400
2008	Holzer	Shelter	$16,056
2007	Mini-Met	Grandstand	$1,068
2007	Lagoon Park	Hockey rink top railing	$2,351
2007	Holzer	Sprinkler system	$25,705
2007	Holzer	Bleachers	$5,500
2007	Holzer	Reseed and fertilizer	$1,000
2007	Holzer	Fence guard	$1,500
2007	Holzer	Ag lime	$2,730
2006	Lagoon Park	Skate Park	$39,029
2004-2006	Mini-Met	Paving and rain garden	$45,000
2004	Mini-Met	Turf	$3,500
2004	Mini-Met	Sprinkler system	$2,300
2004	Mini-Met	Outfield fence	$25,000
2004	Mini-Met	Re-lamp	$1,600
2004	Mini-Met	Electrical Upgrade	$22,700
2004	Mini-Met	Misc upgrades for State Tourney	$7,600
2003	Mini-Met	Police & Parks garage & storage bldg	$40,380
2002	Lagoon Park	Hockey rink	$90,622
2002	Mini-Met	Community Center demo & Mini-Met regrade	$38,500
2000-2001	Mini-Met	Restrooms	$42,256
	Total		**$451,888**

**Source: City of Jordan Public Works Department, 2010*



Expenditures by Park		
Lagoon Park	$	30,257
Mini-Met Site	$	237,138
Holzer Park	$	52,491
Hockey Rink	$	92,973
Skate Park	$	39,029
Total	**$**	**451,888**

Sources of Funds		
Park Dedication Fund	$	62,622
Park Equipment Fund	$	102,434
Park Budgets	$	181,594
City of Jordan Unallocated Fund	$	60,000
Donations Received	$	45,238
Total	**$**	**451,888**

*Source: City of Jordan Public Works Department, 2010

Future Improvements to Existing Parks

Jordan Park and Recreation Advisory Board members evaluated the physical condition of nine of the municipal parks, as a part of the planning process. Each park was assessed by a minimum of two Park Board members. The following improvements were recommended:

Bridle Creek Park

- Basketball, full court
- Parking lot on the west side of the park
- Turf improvements
- Permanent restroom facility
- Additional trees to provide screening and replace Ash trees

Brentwood Park

- Signage – Identification of the park is needed, especially from 9th Street.
- Improve accessibility to the park as there is no sidewalks leading to the park. Patrons need to walk on Valleyview Drive or CR 9
- Mulch rings on trees
- Parking lot expansion
- Trees, additional (not Ash)
- Restroom/Biff

Future Improvements to Existing Parks

Holzer Park

This park was developed in the late 1970s. As it is approaching 35 years of use, the Commission has recommended this park be revamped to revitalize the recreational areas. Improvements recommended include:

- Fencing
- Parking Lot Improvements with a turnaround island additional paving and striping
- A paved handicap accessible trail to the concession area.
- Trail access to the park
- Backstop Improvements
- Restroom Improvements
- Handicap Accessibility Improvements with the park
- Benches
- Playground equipment for youth
- Lighting of ball fields
- Concession stand repair
- Drinking fountain
- Additional trees along Syndicate St.
- Disc Golf Course

Lagoon Park

- Restrooms, additional on SE side
- Drinking fountain
- Playground equipment, updated and located in another area
- Connector trail segments to connect to CR 66 trail and downtown
- Waste and recycling containers

Lions Park

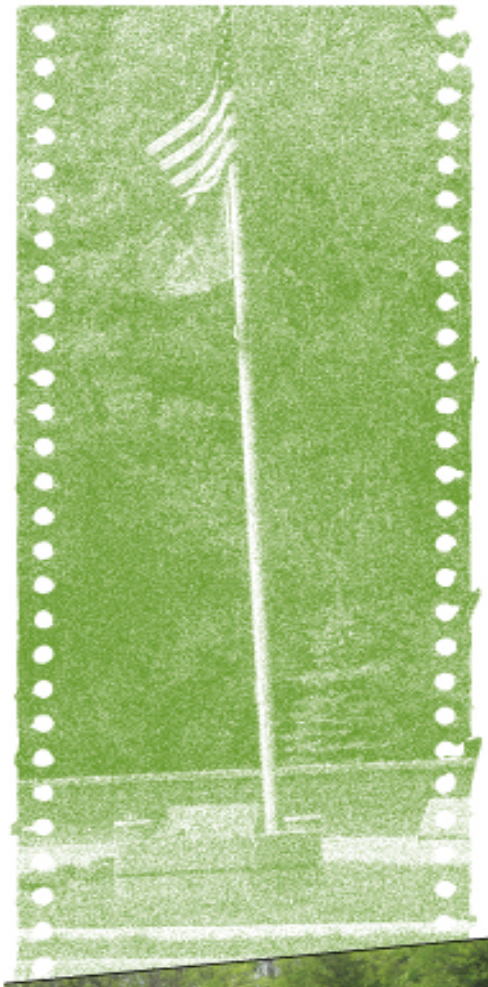
- Bicycle Racks
- Trees, to buffer Highway 169
- Lights in the Shelter
- Possible trail connection and trail head if this location is selected for an over/underpass

Log Cabin

- Potential site for a kiosk for community information

Mini-Met

- Designated trail connection to downtown



Future Improvements to Existing Parks

Sawmill Park

- Shelter
- Restroom
- Possible way-side rest or trail head

Skate Park

- Signage- replacement
- Security camera with audio in Skate Park
- Shelter, in Skate Park area
- Benches by Skate Park
- Prairie grass or flowers on the bank by the

Timberline Park

- Restrooms/biffs
- Signage – Identification
- Playground – additional swings, add play structures for other children (e.g. 6+ and 12+ years)
- Basketball or volleyball court
- Ice skating on the pond?
- Parking
- Garbage and recycling receptacles
- Additional trees to buffer park from industrial areas

Future Parks and Open Spaces

The Park and Open Space Plan is intended to assist in identifying gaps in the current park and open space system (areas not currently served) as well as identify high quality areas for both active and passive recreation in the future.

The City's combination of recreational activities, nearby golf course and existing parkland and open space provide residents and visitors with a variety of recreational opportunities. Parks are located so as to serve the needs of most residential areas of the City, however additional facilities would benefit residents in the southwest portion of the City. Additional park and recreational facilities and athletic fields are planned at this time include a large community park on the southwest side of the community which would serve the Bridle Creek and Arborview Subdivisions. A conservation easement is platted within Sawmill Woods Subdivision.

Search Areas. The City's Comprehensive Plan identifies park search areas for future community parks. This plan does not identify additional locations for smaller neighborhood parks, rather only those facilities which would serve a greater population and those within a ½ mile radius. Additional neighborhood parks and playgrounds should also be considered as residential neighborhoods develop.

The following guidelines shall apply to future park acquisition:

- Future parks should be designed of the appropriate size to accommodate a variety of the uses noted above, along with off-street parking.
- Future parks should generally be acquired at the time of platting of the property or adjacent property, or as the opportunity arises to acquire identified sites.
- Community parks should be at least 15 acres in size.
- Community parks should offer diverse resources to allow both active and passive recreational activities.
- Community parks shall be designed to be accessible via a collector road as well as a trail or greenway corridor.
- Master planning of community parks should be considered prior to development. The master plan would address the actual land to be acquired, the types and locations of facilities within each park, the cost associated with the development and the operations of the park.

Future Park Search Areas and Park Suitability GIS Model

The following map illustrates a need for community parks in the growth areas to the northwest, northeast, southwest and southeast sections of the City near 190th Street and Fairview, Zanadu and Akers, 282 East, Zanadu and 200th and Sawmill Woods. The circles on the map illustrate "approximate" locations for future community parks. The exact locations of the parks will be determined as annexation and development occur. The circles are depicted on the corners of quarter sections suggesting as platted, park land may be acquired as a part of dedication requirements. In addition to these community parks, additional neighborhood parks and specialized recreation areas are recommended and should be identified during the platting process.

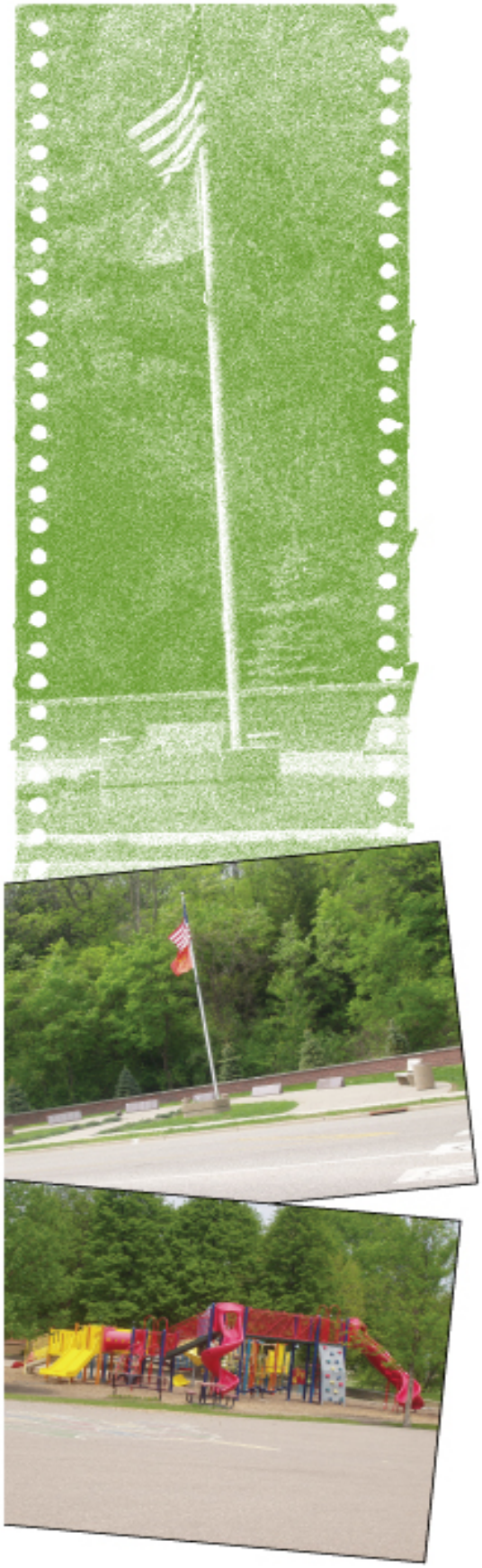
To help determine if these areas would be suitable for parkland, and if so, if the land contains natural resources that the City may wish to protect in a "passive park" or land that may be flat and suitable for active uses such as ballfields, playgrounds, etc. a GIS site suitability model was used. This model evaluates the six areas for the two types of park use; natural resource conservation and protection or "passive" parks and park enhancement, or "active" parks.

About GIS Site Suitability models

While GIS models do not make decisions, a well-designed model can help support making *better* decisions by making appropriate information clear and accessible. The results from the Jordan Parks GIS models highlight areas containing natural resources, proximity to roads and trails, and other criteria such as current land use – all landscape features that are key considerations in deciding where to place parks.

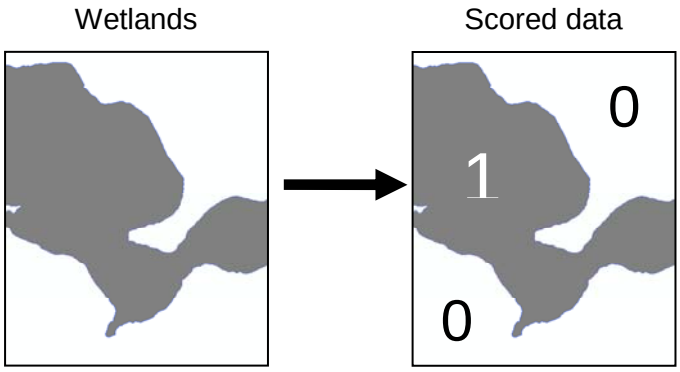
A model is a representation of the real world, and so a GIS model is a representation of geographic characteristics in the real world. In addition to creating a picture of existing conditions, a GIS model can add value by combining those characteristics in a meaningful way. This is the true value of a site suitability model – that it inputs *data* and it outputs usable *information*, thereby providing an effective tool for making decisions.

The geographic data layers that comprise the model include Steep Slopes, Water Quality; Rivers & lakes; Wetlands; Floodplains; Shoreland Overlay Areas; Ecological Diversity (plant life); Scenic Qualities; Tree Cover; Wildlife Habitat; Prime Agricultural Soils; Current development, proximity to major roads; and Jordan's Potential park search areas.

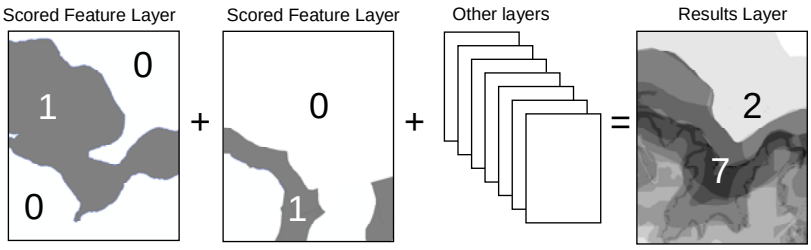


In a GIS model, each layer has an individual score and then the layers are combined together to provide total score in a results layer. The results layers in these models indicate the landscape suitability for either a passive or an active park.

The results layers in these models indicate the landscape suitability for either a passive or an active park. For example, a natural resource layer included in the model was wetlands. To combine this data with other layers in a meaningful way, the areas that are wetlands are given a score of 1 and areas that do not include wetlands are given a score of 0. This is a binary representation of a characteristic – it either exists or not, as shown in the figure below.



Once all the model layers have been assigned a score, they are combined together by adding up the values geographically. This means that each individual layer's value will be added to all the other layers where they coincide at the same point on the landscape. The results layer is the sum of all the input layers. The graphic below illustrates how this works.



Together these map operations of scoring and combining data layers is often called "cartographic modeling". Cartographic modeling is one of the strengths of a GIS and a robust tool helpful in performing complex analysis.

Jordan GIS Model Inputs

Two different GIS site suitability models were completed for this Park Master Plan. The first model scores areas for potential park areas with the purpose of natural resource conservation and protection or "passive" parks. The second model scores areas for potential park areas with the purpose of park enhancement, or "active" parks.

Most of the layers included in these two models were the same, but the scoring differed. The geographic layers and description of the layer scoring is provided below. The data sources and methodology to create the layers (if applicable) can be found in the appendix.

Park Protection/Conservation Model

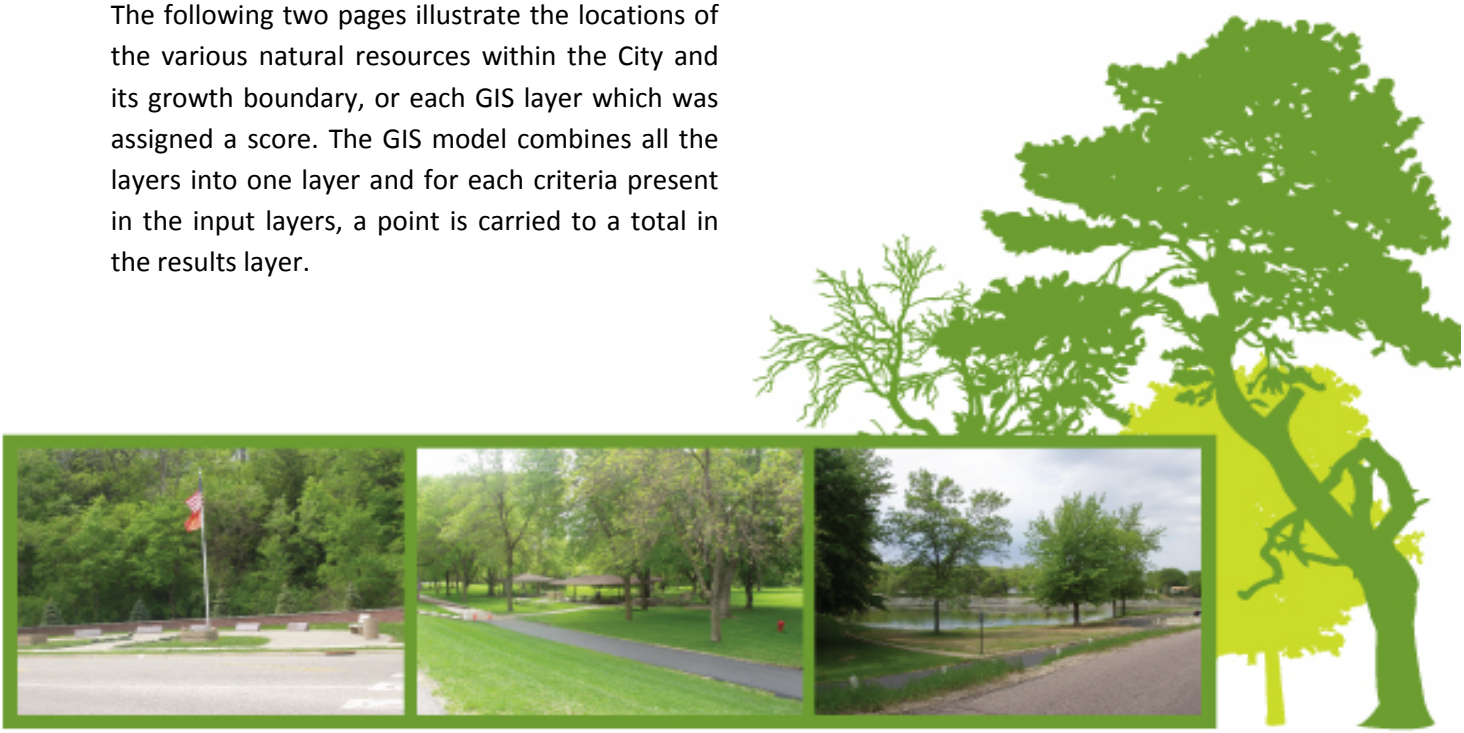
Input Layer		Scoring	Potential Points
1	Steep Slopes	If slopes (18%+ slope) are present, score is 1, or else 0	1
2	Water Quality	If water buffer (50 ft buffer of lakes, rivers & streams) is present, score is 1, or else 0	1
3	Rivers & lakes	If lake or river is present, score is 1, or else 0	1
4	Wetlands	If wetlands (excludes lakes and manmade areas) are present, score is 1, or else 0	1
5	Floodplains	If floodplain (100 & 500 year flood areas) is present, score is 1, else 0	1
6	Shoreland Overlay Areas	If shoreland area is present, score is 1, or else 0	1
7	Ecological Diversity (plant life)	If area is DNR-defined as ecologically regionally significant, score is 1, or else 0	1
8	Scenic Qualities	If area is considered scenic, score is 1, or else 0	1
9	Tree Cover	If tree cover is present, score is 1, or else 0	1
10	Wildlife Habitat	If are is within the DNR-defined Metro Conservation Corridor, score is 1, or else 0	1
11	Prime Agricultural Soils	If best prime agriculture soil is present, score is 1, or else 0	1
12	Potential park search areas	If area is within one of the potential park search areas, score is 1, or else 0	1
		Potential Total Score	12

Park Enhancement Model

Input Layer		Scoring	Potential Points
1	Steep Slopes or bluffs (12% slope)	If slopes are present (12%+ slope), score is 0, else 1	1
2	Water Quality	If water buffer are present, score is 0, else 50 ft buffer of lakes, rivers & streams	1
3	Rivers & lakes	If rivers or lakes is present, score is 0, else 1	1
4	Wetlands	If wetlands are present, score is 0, else 1	1
5	Floodplains	If 100 year floodplain is present, score is 0, else 1	1
6	Ecological Diversity (plant life)	If area is DNR-defined as ecologically regionally significant, score is 0, else 1	1
7	Tree Cover	If tree cover is present, score is 0, else 1	1
8	Prime Agricultural Soils	If best prime agriculture soil is present, score is 0, else 1	1
9	Development layer	If area is developed land, score is 0, else if has potential for park development, then 1	1
10	Adjacent to major roads	If area is within ¼ mile of major road (current and future roads), score is 1, else 0	1
11	Potential park search areas	If area is within one of the potential park search areas, score is 1, else 0	1
		Potential Total Score	11

Jordan GIS Model Results

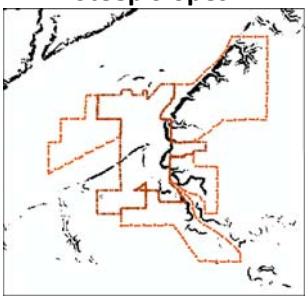
The following two pages illustrate the locations of the various natural resources within the City and its growth boundary, or each GIS layer which was assigned a score. The GIS model combines all the layers into one layer and for each criteria present in the input layers, a point is carried to a total in the results layer.



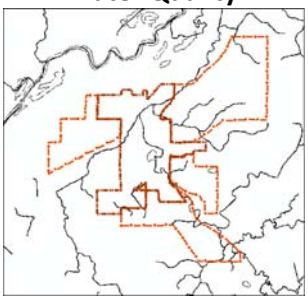
Park Protection/Conservation Model

0 1

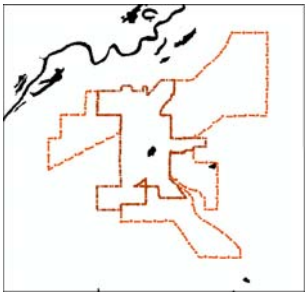
Steep Slopes



Water Quality

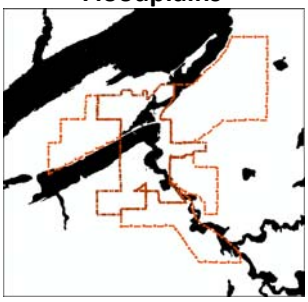


Rivers & Lakes

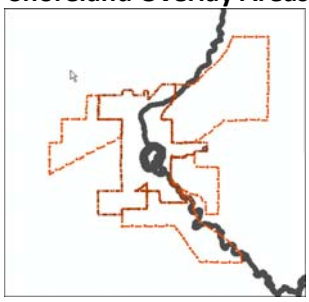


Wetlands

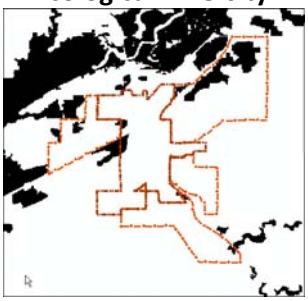
Floodplains



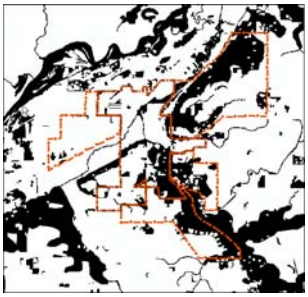
Shoreland Overlay Areas



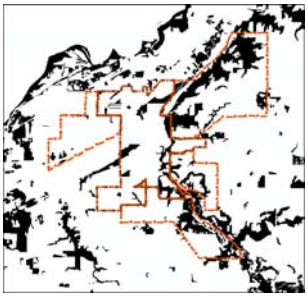
Ecological Diversity



Scenic Qualities

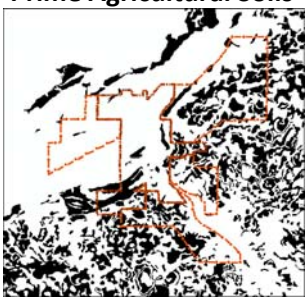


Tree Cover

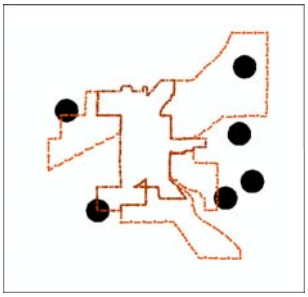


Wildlife Habitat

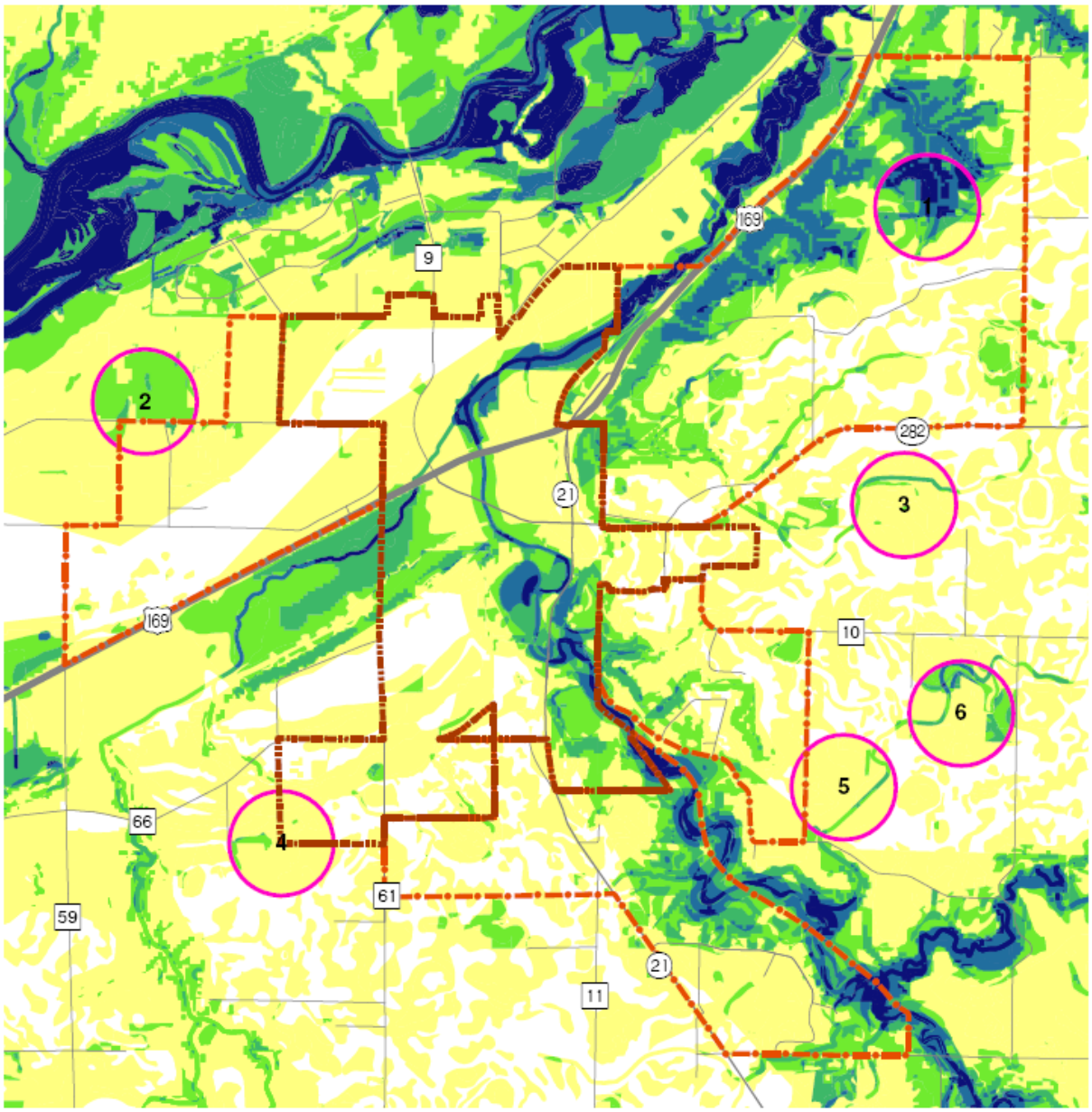
Prime Agricultural Soils



Park Search Areas



Protection/Conservation Park: Site Suitability Model Results



City of Jordan

Jordan Expansion Area

Potential Park Areas

Model Results: Protection Score

1 - 2

3

4

5

6 - 8

Major Roads

US Highway

MN State Highway

County Road

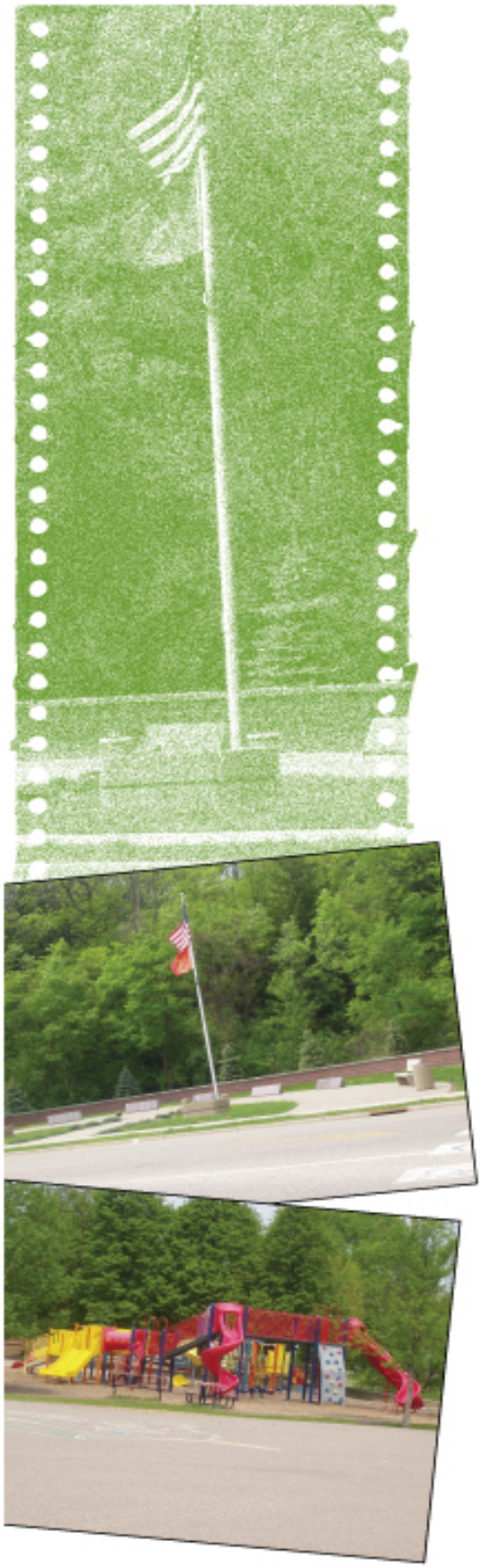
0 0.5 1 Miles

N

COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS

Map prepared by 1000 Friends of MN, TRC - October 2010

Data Sources: Metropolitan Council, MN DOT, MN DNR, Bolton-Menk



Protection/Conservation Model Results

The results of the Protection/Conservation model show that proposed park site #1 stands out as having more of the desired characteristics present than the other park areas. The results can be seen on the map where darker colors show that more input criteria are present. The other five park search areas are relatively similar in the model results indicating that none has a high number of the criteria selected for a park for protection and conservation, such as steep slopes and other natural features.

The highest number of points was 7 out of a possible total of 12 criteria. A summary of the acres in each point category for each park area is provided in the table below.

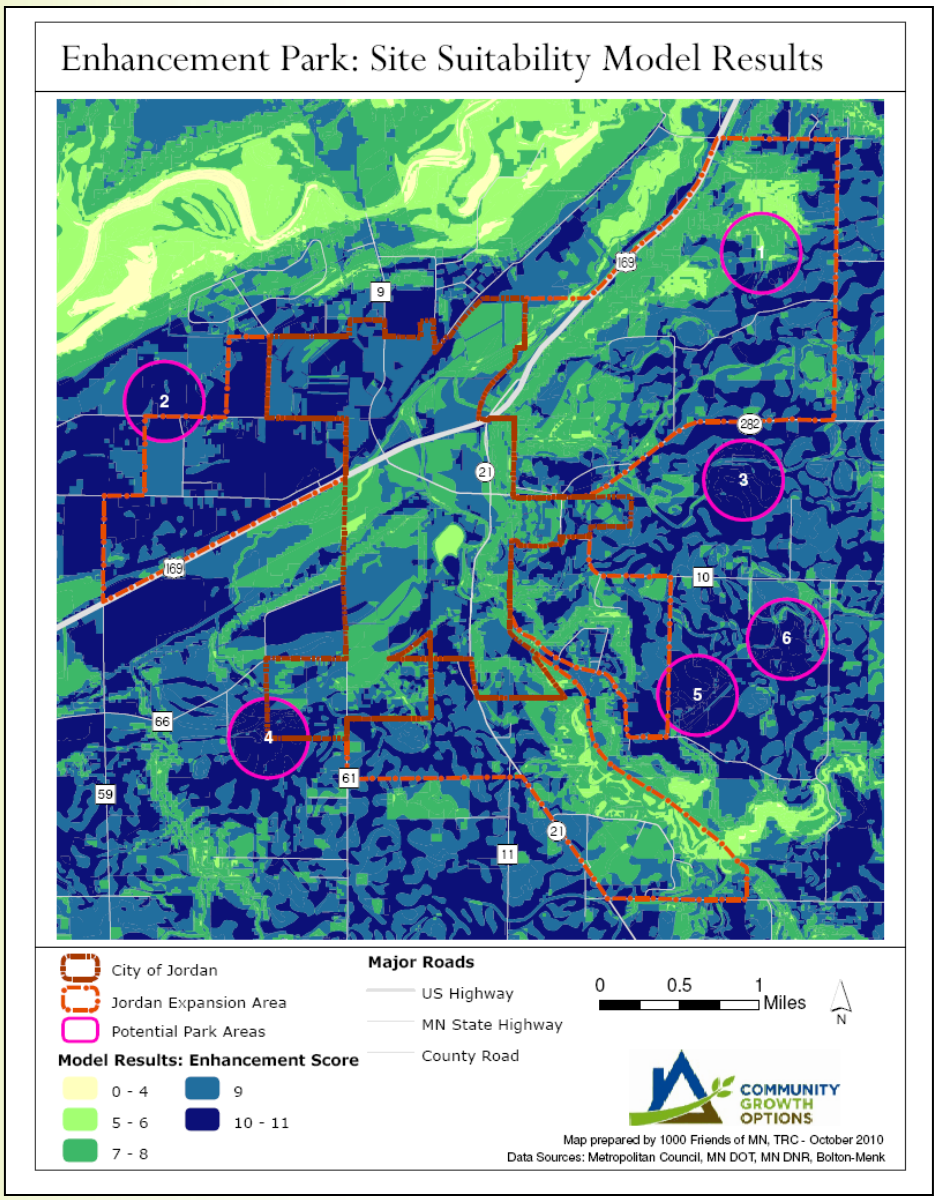
Potential Park Sites Acreage by Model Point Results

Total Points	Acreage Total by Site					
	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3	Site 4	Site 5	Site 6
1	3	0	48	66	75	48
2	24	41	66	53	41	35
3	24	80	5	6	6	24
4	29	4	5	0	3	13
5	46	0	0	0	0	5
6	51	0	0	0		0
7	2	0	0	0	0	0

Enhancement Model Results

The results of the Enhancement model show that five of the six park areas are relatively similar in the number of characteristics present. This result can be predicted by the inputs into the model, by a quick view of the geographic extent of the desirable characteristic for an active, or enhancement, park. The results viewed on the map show darker colors, meaning more criteria present in all of the parks except proposed park site #1. Site #1 has less desirability because it contains steep slopes, and other natural features that are less appropriate for an active park.

If we visually compare Sites #2 –#6, there is not much to differentiate them based on the criteria used. Even when the acreages in each point category are compared, there is no stand out differences between these five sites.



Potential Park Sites Acreage by Model Point Results

Total Points	Acreage Total by Site					
	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3	Site 4	Site 5	Site 6
1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	4	0	0	0	0	0
7	35	0	0	0	0	0
8	18	0	0	0	0	3
9	30	5	8	5	4	25
10	33	100	69	61	48	53
11	6	20	48	58	73	44

Model Results Summary

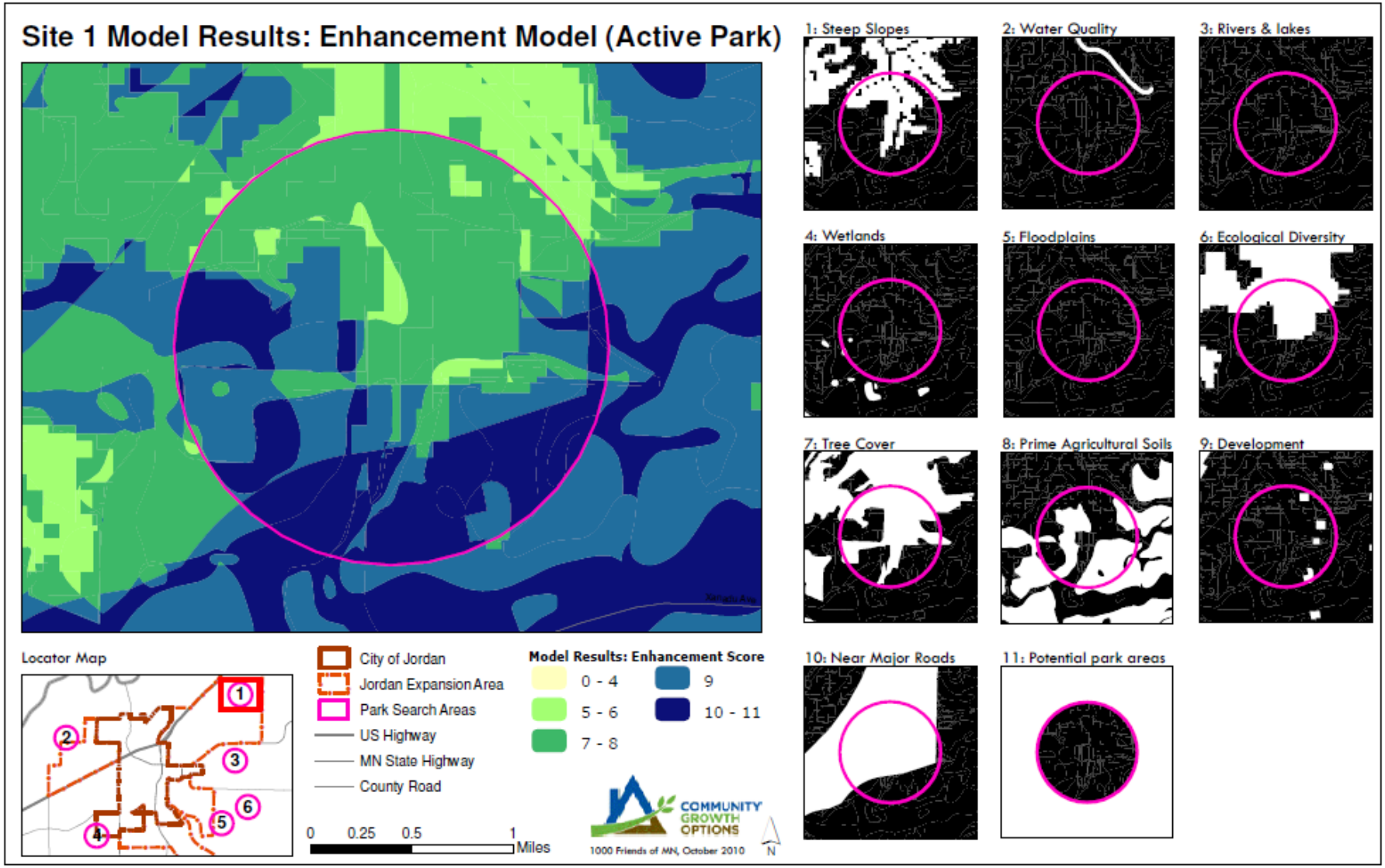
The results of the GIS model and analysis can be summarized as follows:

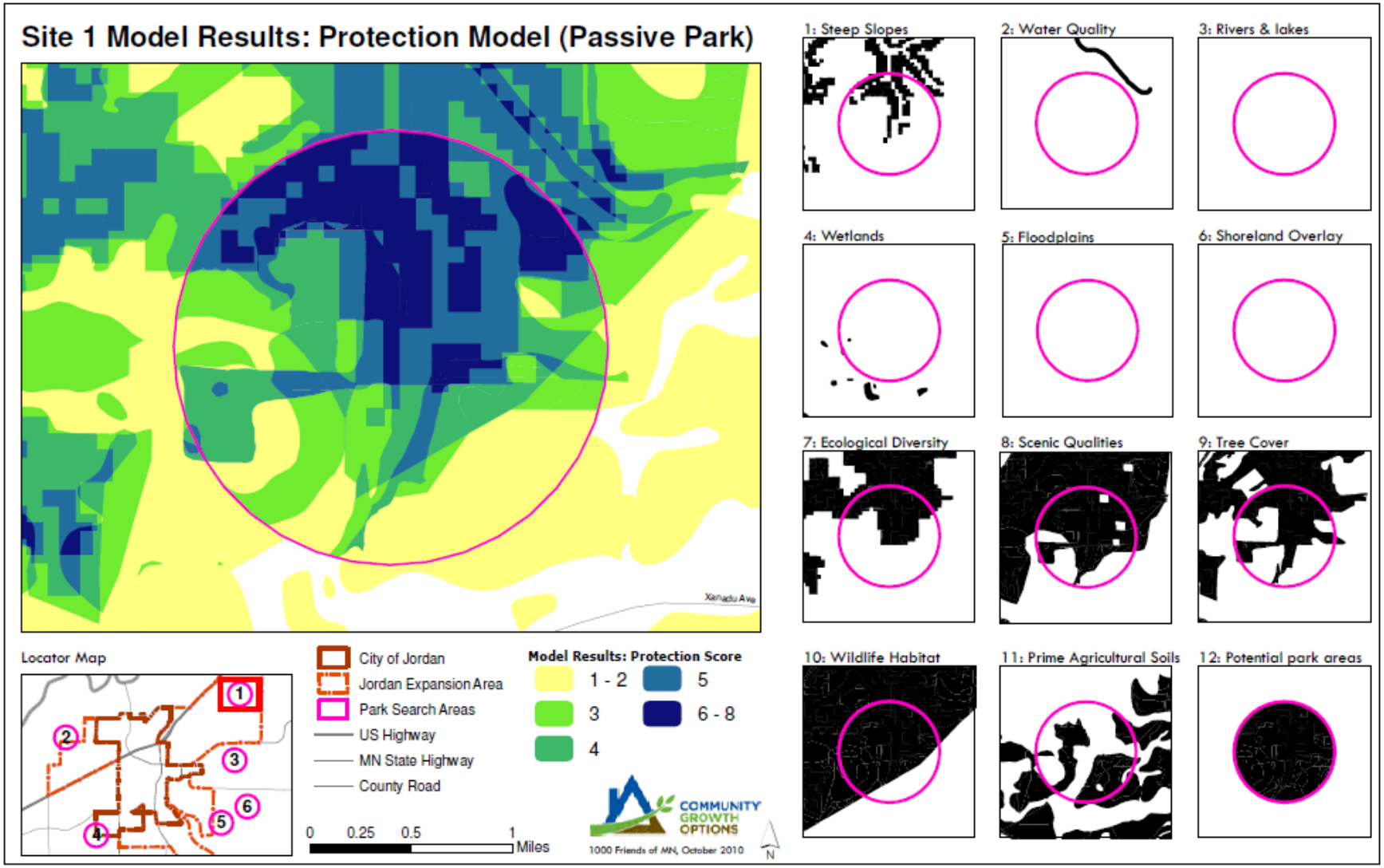
- Search Area Site #1 best meets the criteria for a protection/conservation or "passive" park. This area of high value was identified in the northeast section of the City of Jordan's growth area, southeast of Highway 169, north of Akers Lane and west of Xanadu, or Search Area #1. This area ranked high in natural resources with the following assets identified: steep slopes, ecological diversity, scenic quality, tree cover, wildlife habitat and prime agricultural soils.

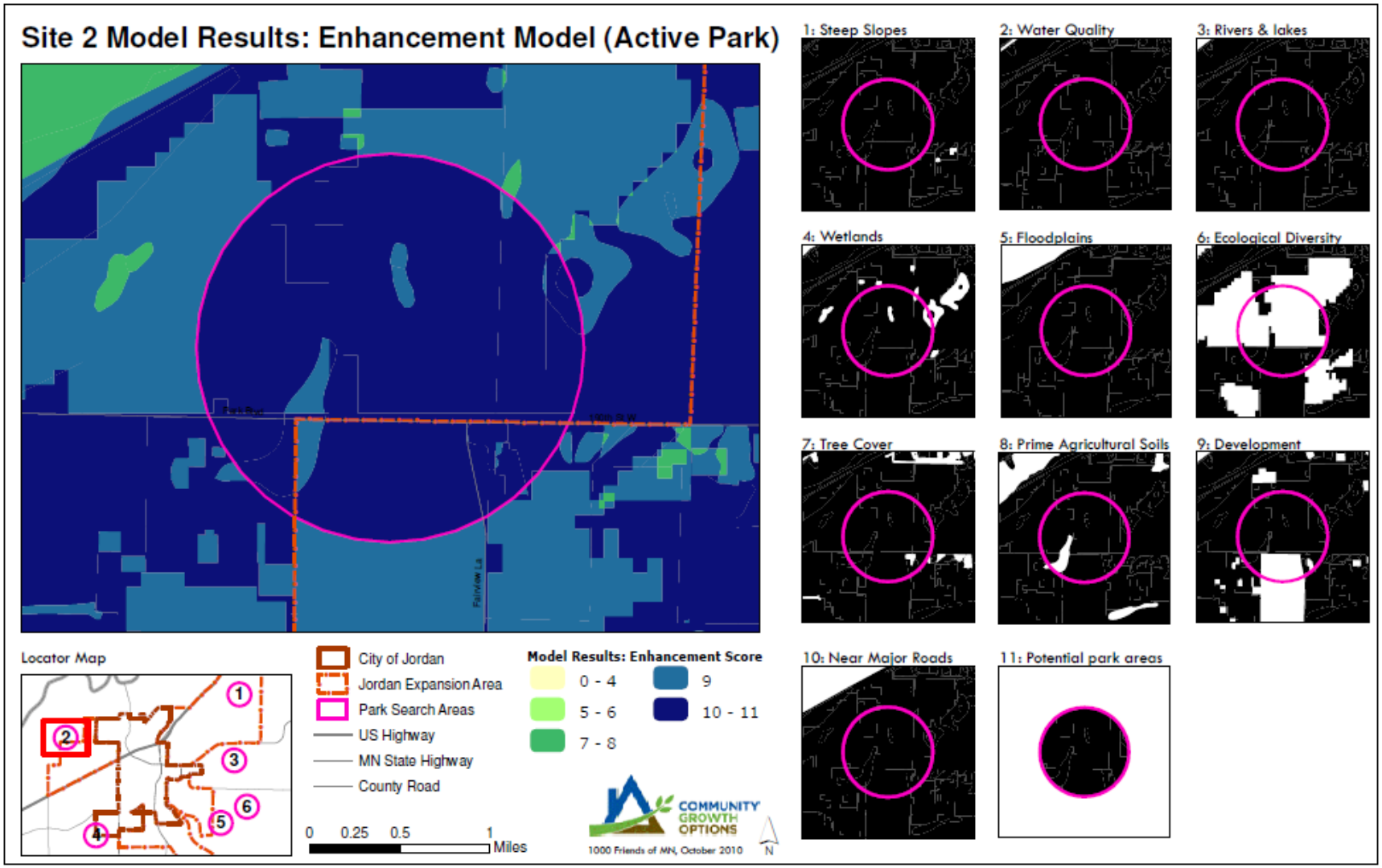
Search areas #2, #3, #4, and # 6 all score well based on the criteria for an enhancement or "active" parks.

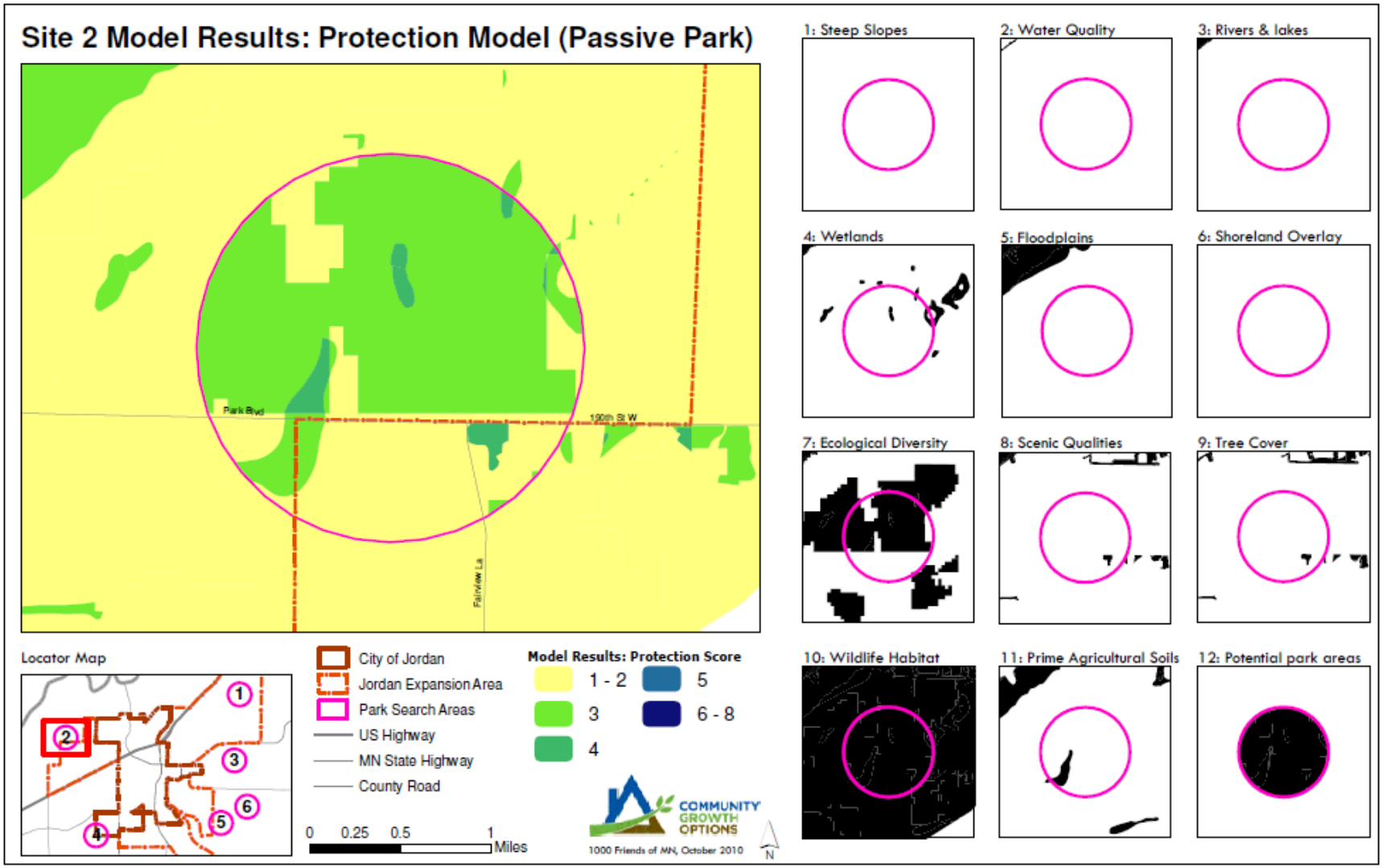
- Search Area #2, located north of 190th Street and Fairview Lane, appears to have the opportunity to include water and wooded areas on the perimeter of the park area, with relative flat topography for active uses. See the attached map and natural resource layers
- Search Area #3, located south of CR 282 (aka County Trail West) and west of Naylor Avenue includes some hydric soils and wetlands. To the southwest of the search area is a wooded area that may also be considered as a part of the search area, if passive recreation is also desired.
- Search Area #4, south of Old Highway 169 and east of Senator Drive is relatively flat, with a low value for natural resources
- Search Area #5, east of Naylor Avenue is sloped, but does not contain other natural resources of high value, making it suitable for active recreational uses. It has potential for passive recreational areas, if the search area and land to the southwest are included, as scenic qualities and wildlife areas are depicted in that vicinity. located on the east side of the growth area,
- Search Area #6, located on the southeast side of the growth area, couth of 20th Street includes a water body, forested area and hydric soils. Since this search are is relatively close to Search Area #5, this land may be more suitable for passive recreation/preservation, while Search Area #5 serves an active recreational use

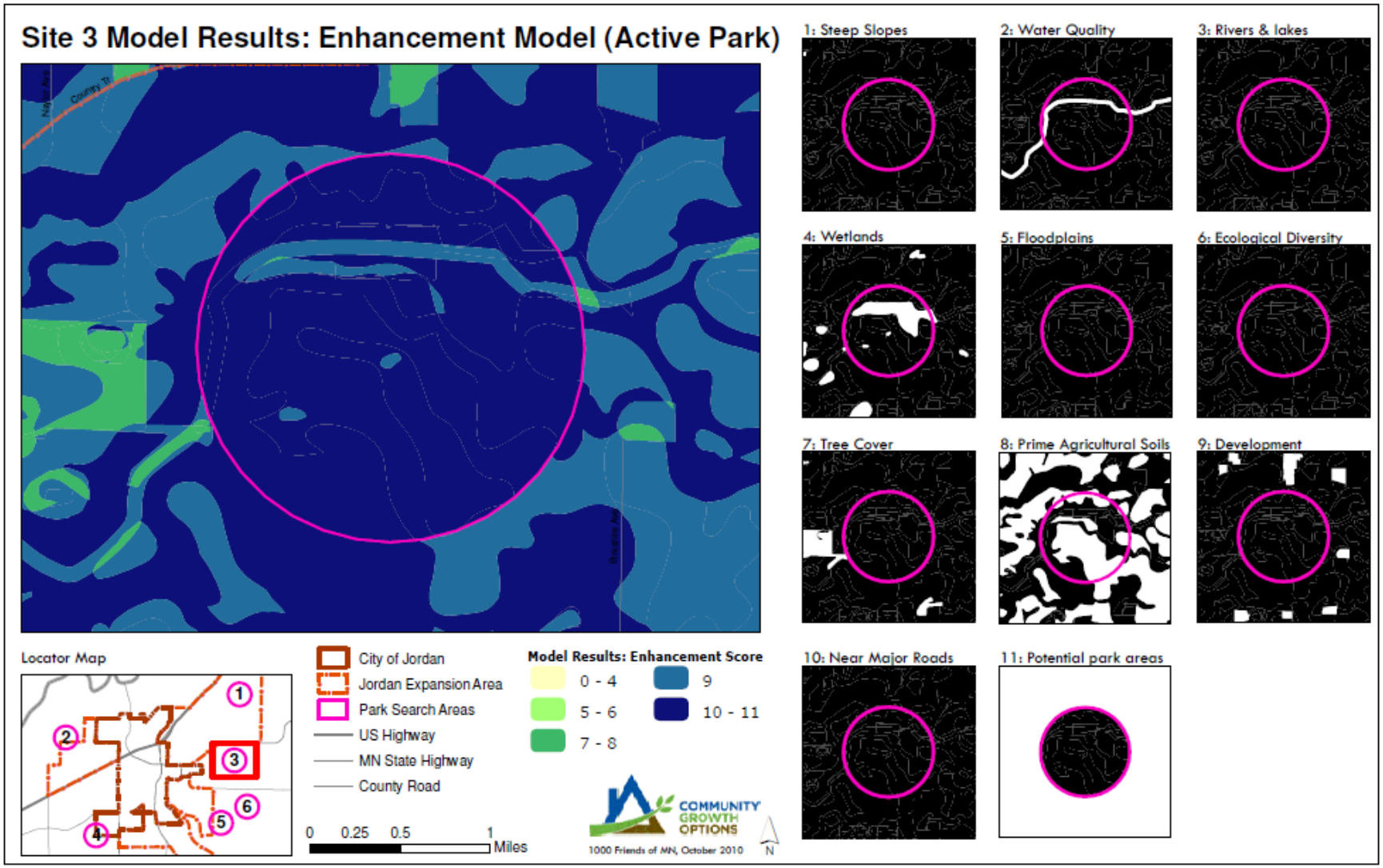
Following are a series of maps created with the GIS layer. The "Enhancement Maps" illustrate the layers in shades of blue for appropriateness for active uses. The "Conservation Maps" illustrate areas where natural resources layers exist. The darker the shade of color on the "Conservation Map" the more layers of natural resources that exist which the City should consider preserving.

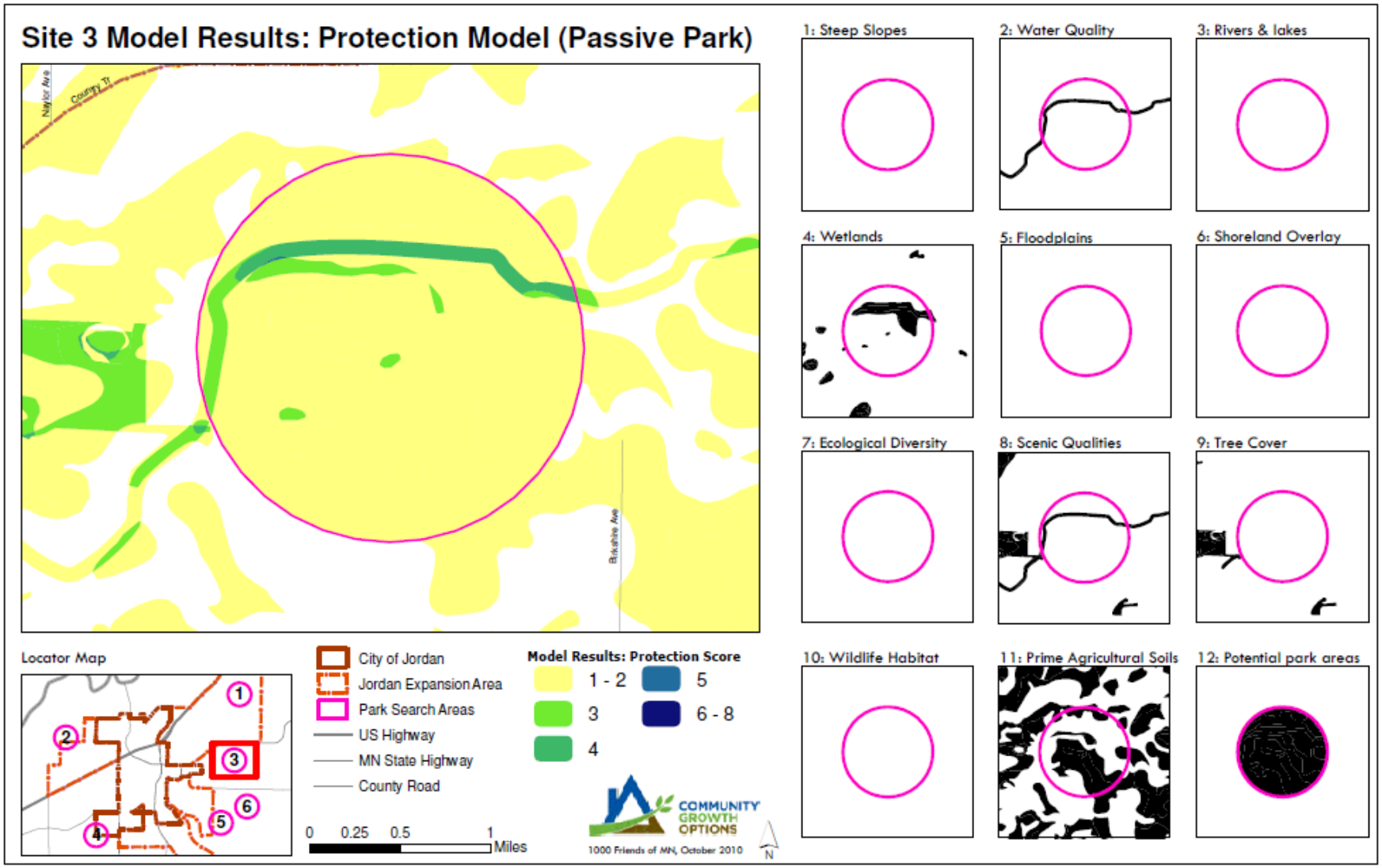

Site 1 Model Results: Enhancement Model (Active Park)
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Ecological Diversity
7: Tree Cover
8: Prime Agricultural Soils
9: Development
10: Near Major Roads
11: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
Model Results: Enhancement Score
0 - 4
5 - 6
7 - 8
9
10 - 11
0
0.25
0.5
1
Miles
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N

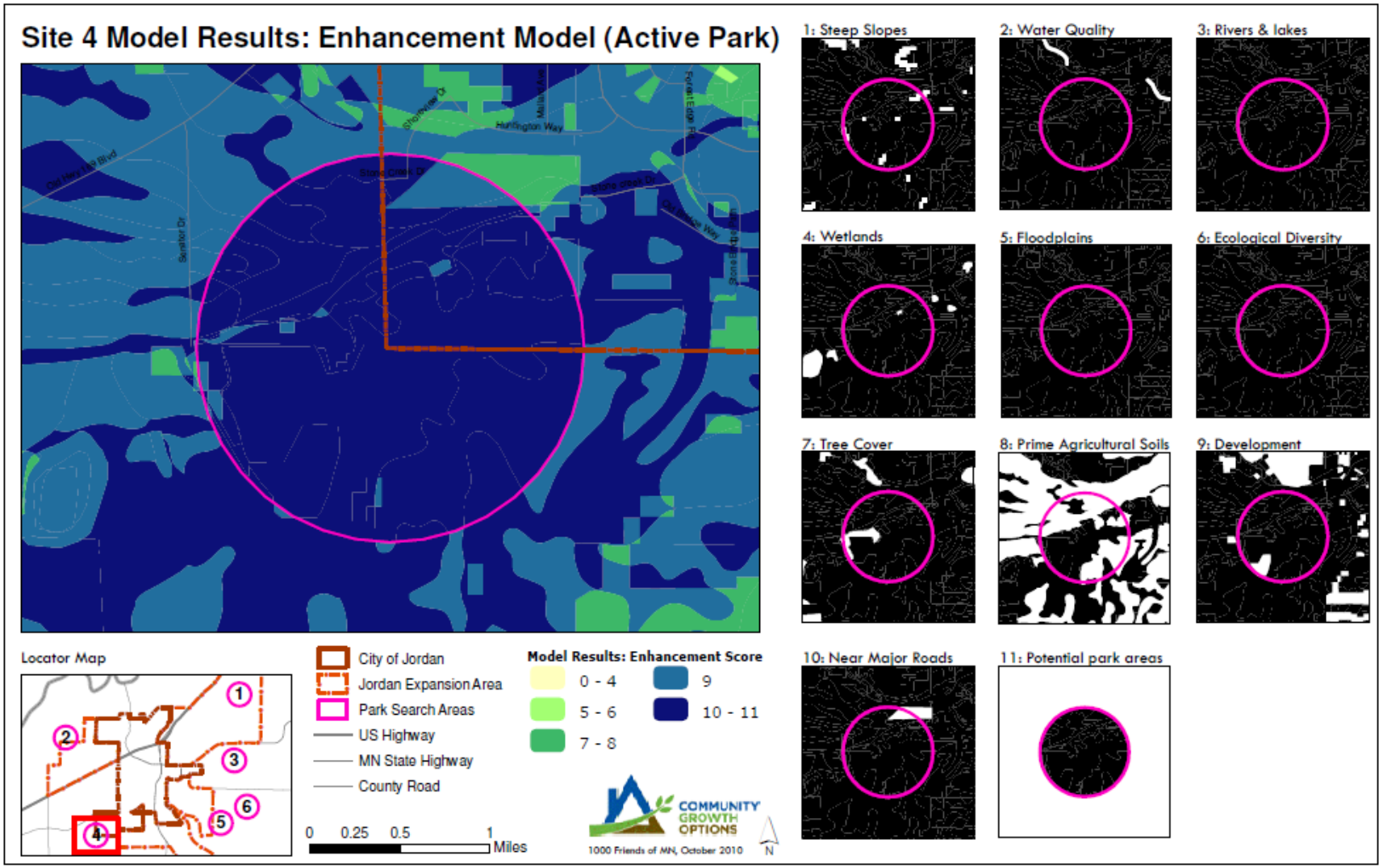

Site 1 Model Results: Protection Model (Passive Park)
Xanadu Ave
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Shoreland Overlay
7: Ecological Diversity
8: Scenic Qualities
9: Tree Cover
10: Wildlife Habitat
11: Prime Agricultural Soils
12: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
Model Results: Protection Score
1 - 2
3
4
5
6 - 8
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N

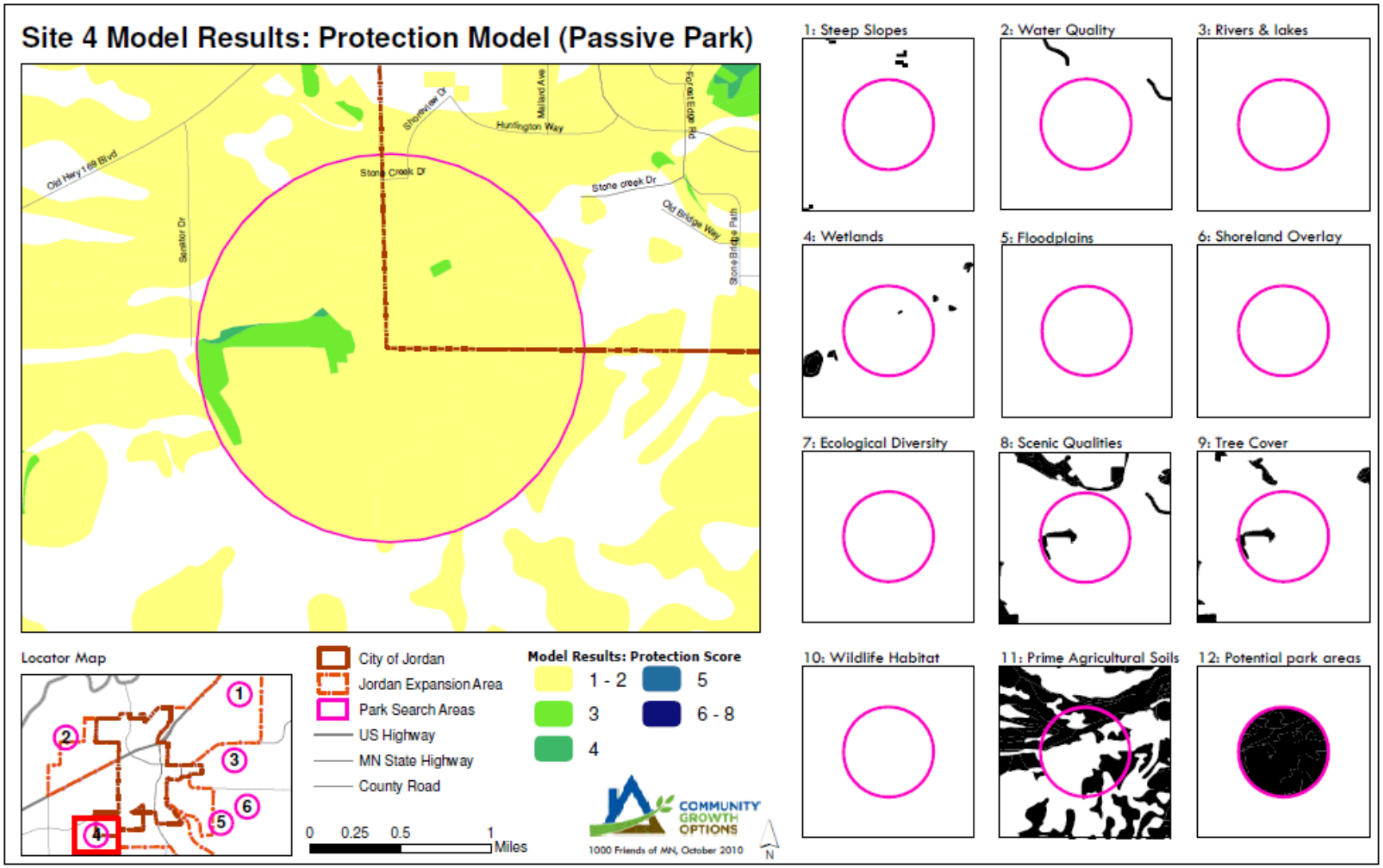

Site 2 Model Results: Enhancement Model (Active Park)
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Ecological Diversity
7: Tree Cover
8: Prime Agricultural Soils
9: Development
10: Near Major Roads
11: Potential park areas
Locator Map
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
Model Results: Enhancement Score
0 - 4
5 - 6
7 - 8
9
10 - 11
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N

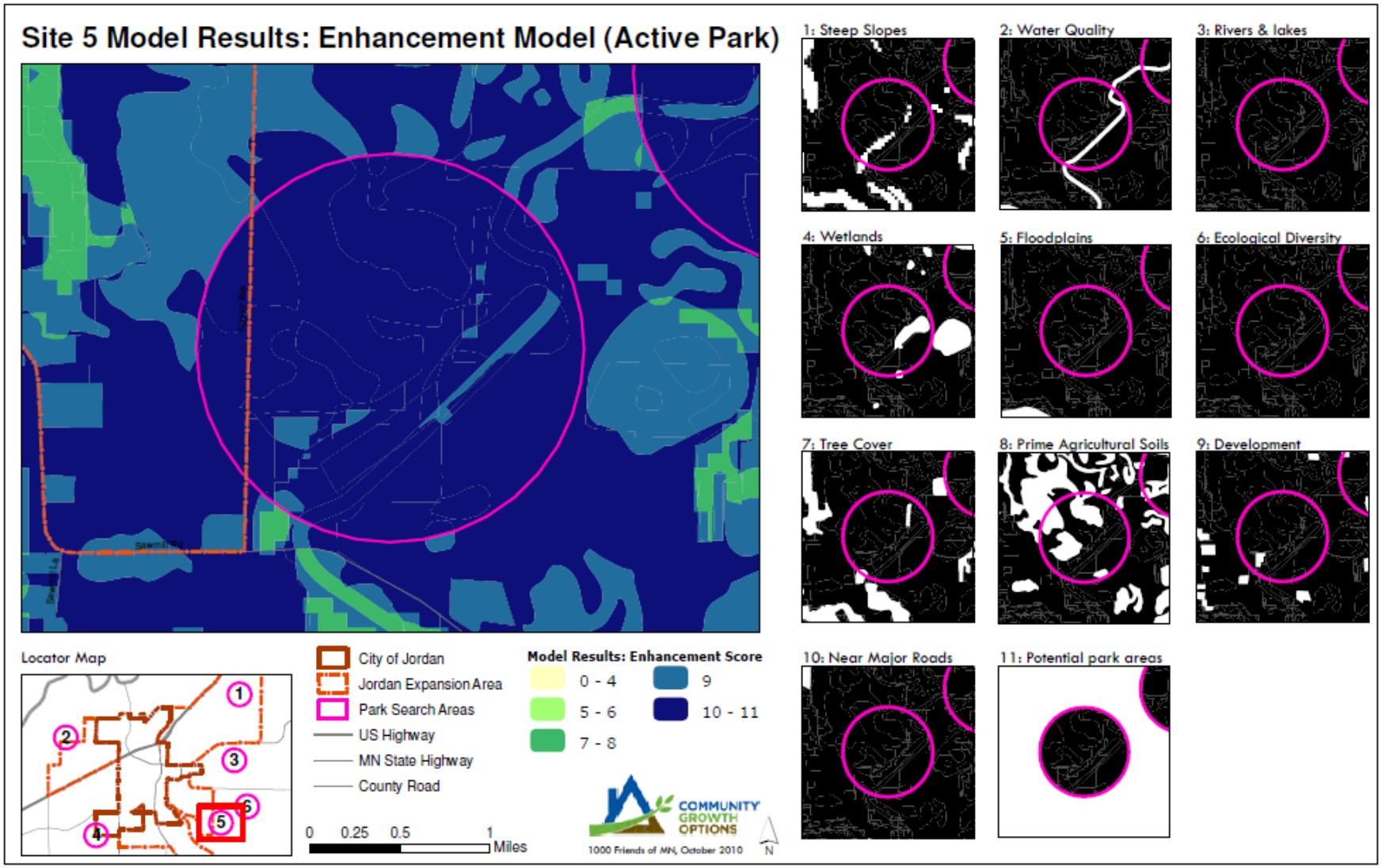

Site 2 Model Results: Protection Model (Passive Park)
Park Blvd
190th St W
Fairview Ln
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Shoreland Overlay
7: Ecological Diversity
8: Scenic Qualities
9: Tree Cover
10: Wildlife Habitat
11: Prime Agricultural Soils
12: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
Model Results: Protection Score
1 - 2
3
4
5
6 - 8
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N

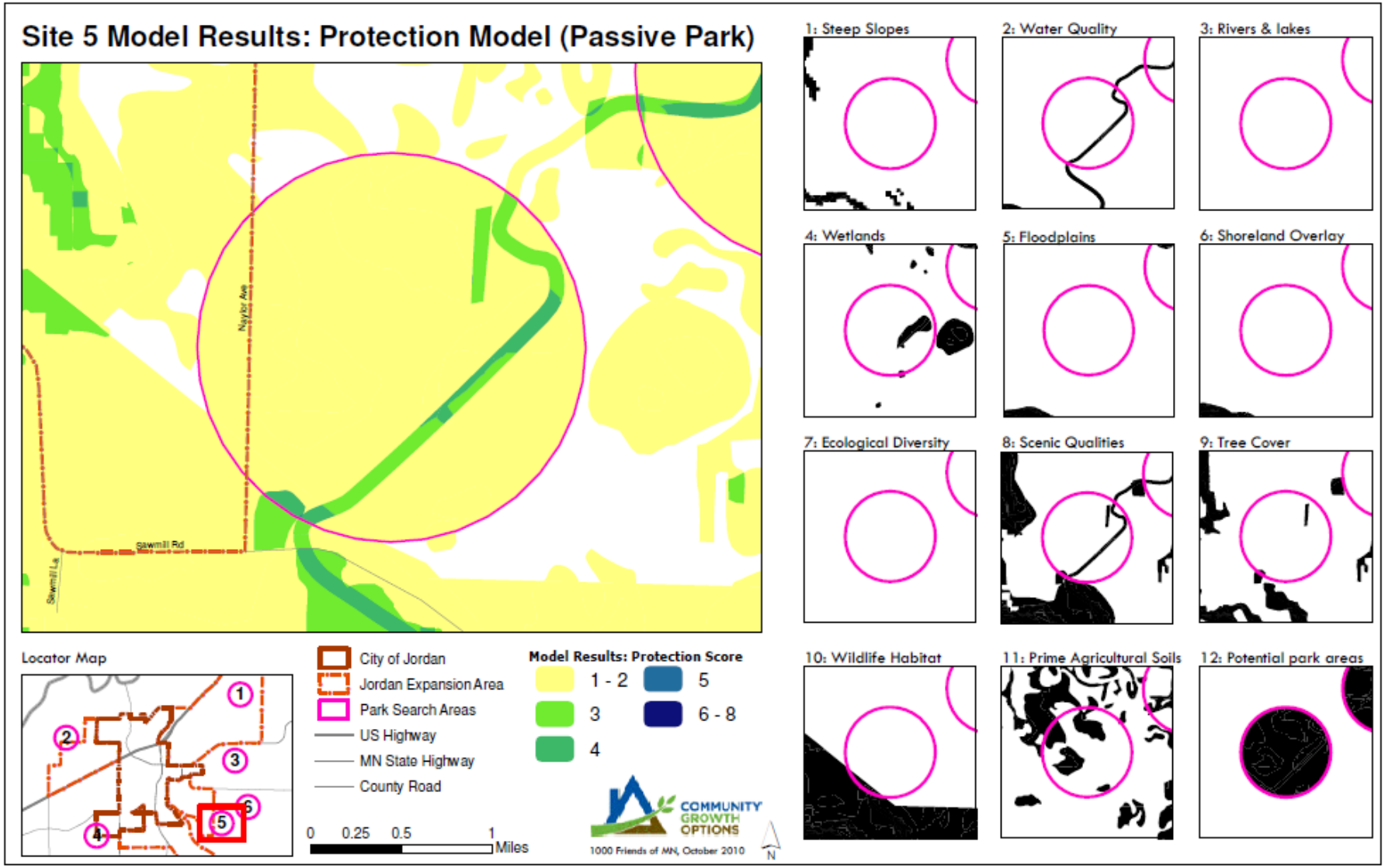

Site 3 Model Results: Enhancement Model (Active Park)
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Ecological Diversity
7: Tree Cover
8: Prime Agricultural Soils
9: Development
10: Near Major Roads
11: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
Model Results: Enhancement Score
0 - 4
5 - 6
7 - 8
9
10 - 11
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N

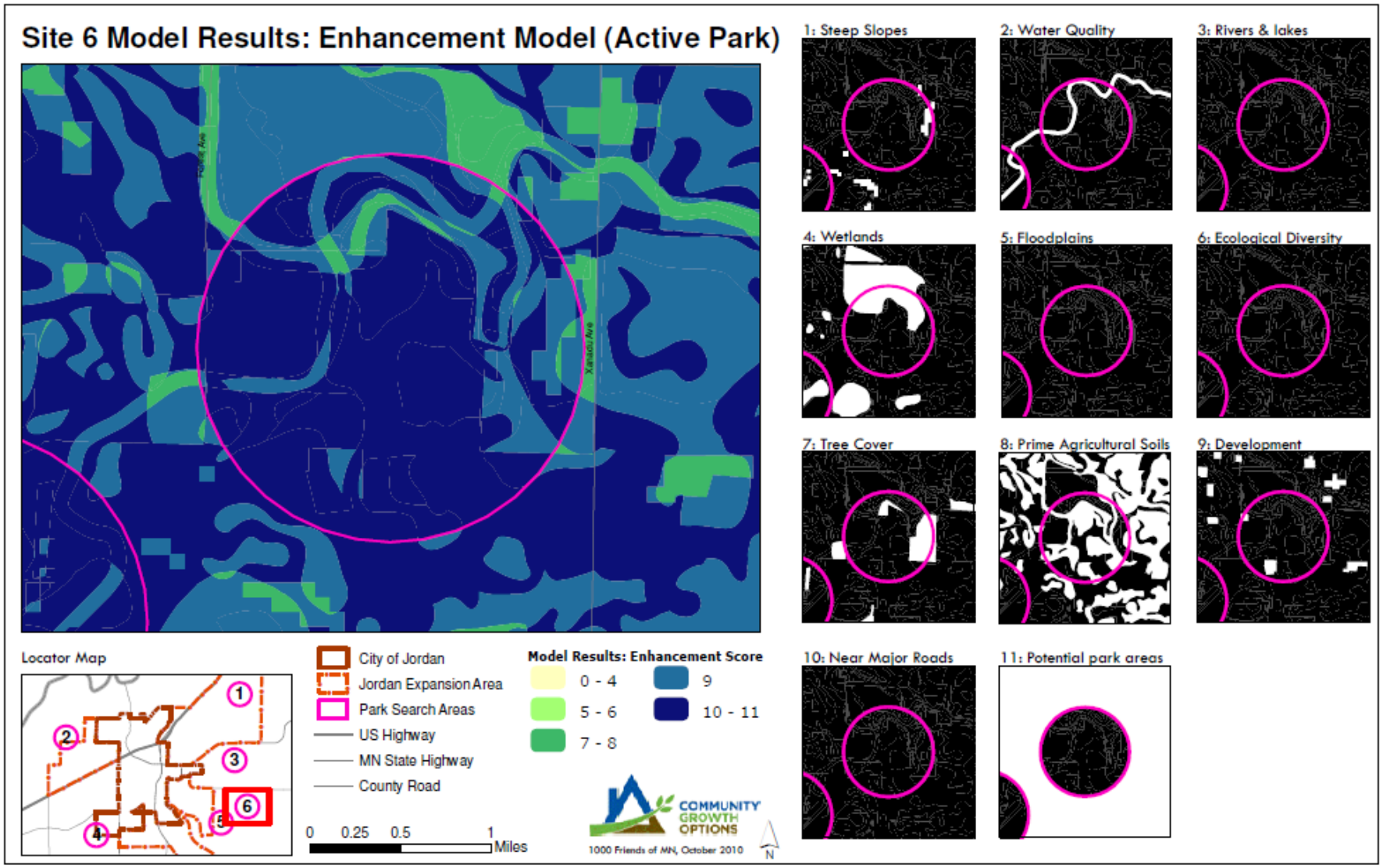

Site 3 Model Results: Protection Model (Passive Park)
Naylor Ave
County Tr
Birkshire Ave
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Shoreland Overlay
7: Ecological Diversity
8: Scenic Qualities
9: Tree Cover
10: Wildlife Habitat
11: Prime Agricultural Soils
12: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
Model Results: Protection Score
1 - 2
3
4
5
6 - 8
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N

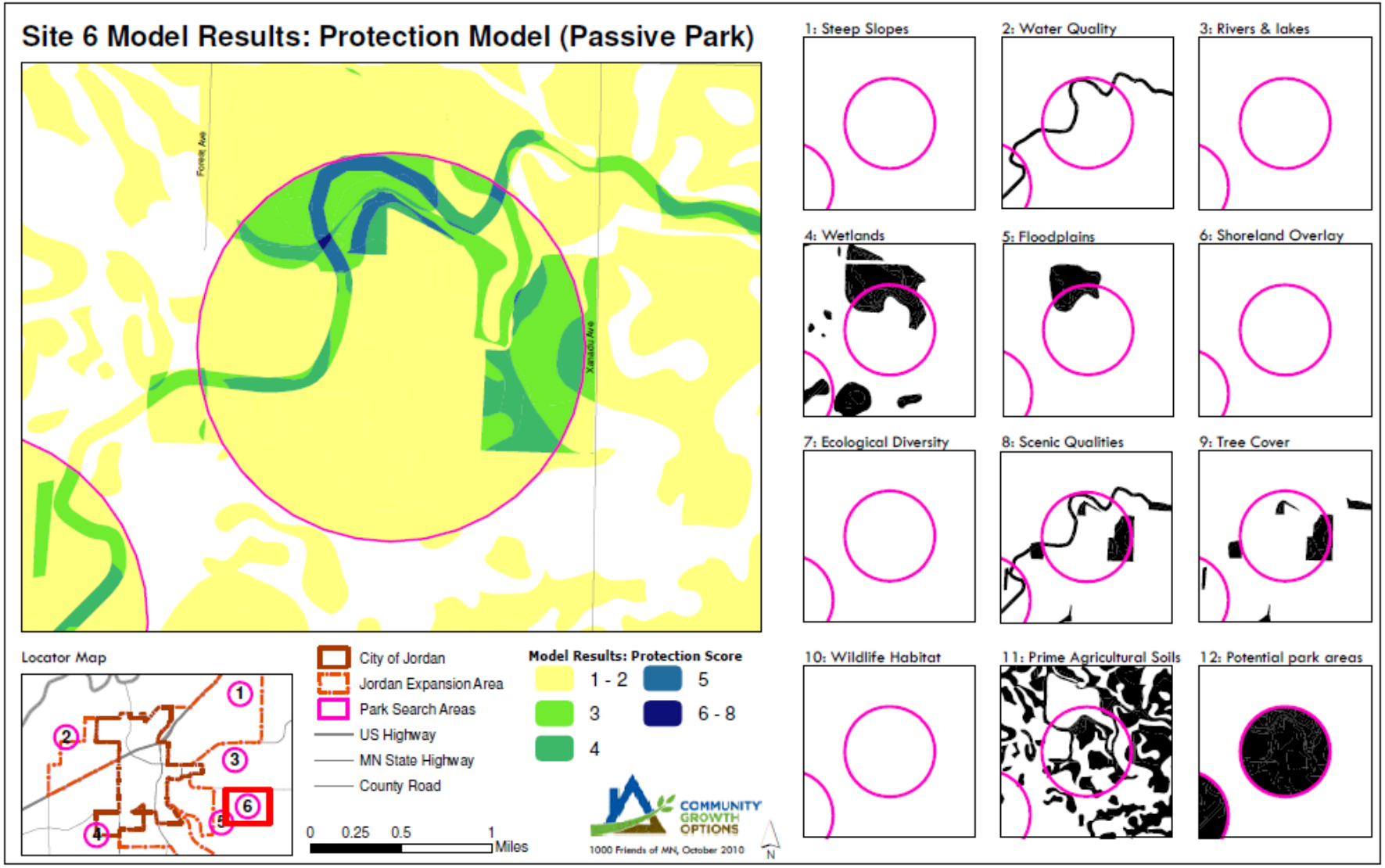

Site 4 Model Results: Enhancement Model (Active Park)
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Ecological Diversity
7: Tree Cover
8: Prime Agricultural Soils
9: Development
10: Near Major Roads
11: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
Model Results: Enhancement Score
0 - 4
5 - 6
7 - 8
9
10 - 11
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N


Site 4 Model Results: Protection Model (Passive Park)
Old Hwy 169 Blvd
Senator Dr
Shoreview Dr
Huntington Way
Midland Ave
Forest Edge Rd
Stone Creek Dr
Stone creek Dr
Old Bridge Way
Stone Bridge Path
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Shoreland Overlay
7: Ecological Diversity
8: Scenic Qualities
9: Tree Cover
10: Wildlife Habitat
11: Prime Agricultural Soils
12: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
Model Results: Protection Score
1 - 2
3
4
5
6 - 8
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N

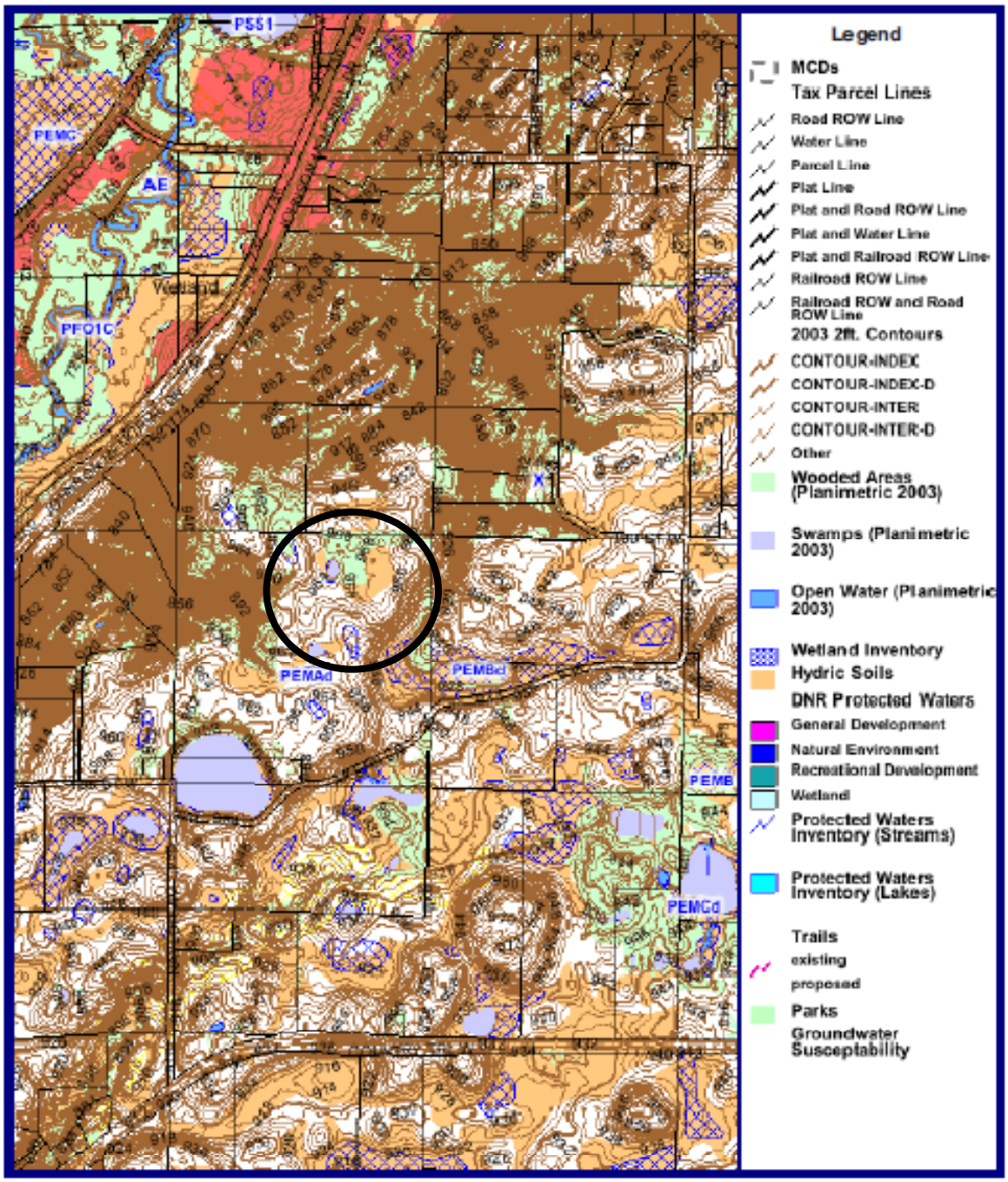

Site 5 Model Results: Enhancement Model (Active Park)
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Ecological Diversity
7: Tree Cover
8: Prime Agricultural Soils
9: Development
10: Near Major Roads
11: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
Model Results: Enhancement Score
0 - 4
5 - 6
7 - 8
9
10 - 11
0
0.25
0.5
1
Miles
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N


Site 5 Model Results: Protection Model (Passive Park)
Naylor Ave
Sawmill Rd
Sawmill Ln
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Shoreland Overlay
7: Ecological Diversity
8: Scenic Qualities
9: Tree Cover
10: Wildlife Habitat
11: Prime Agricultural Soils
12: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
Model Results: Protection Score
1 - 2
3
4
5
6 - 8
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N


Site 6 Model Results: Enhancement Model (Active Park)
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Ecological Diversity
7: Tree Cover
8: Prime Agricultural Soils
9: Development
10: Near Major Roads
11: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
Model Results: Enhancement Score
0 - 4
5 - 6
7 - 8
9
10 - 11
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N


Site 6 Model Results: Protection Model (Passive Park)
Forest Ave
Xanadu Ave
1: Steep Slopes
2: Water Quality
3: Rivers & lakes
4: Wetlands
5: Floodplains
6: Shoreland Overlay
7: Ecological Diversity
8: Scenic Qualities
9: Tree Cover
10: Wildlife Habitat
11: Prime Agricultural Soils
12: Potential park areas
Locator Map
1
2
3
4
5
6
City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Park Search Areas
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles
Model Results: Protection Score
1 - 2
3
4
5
6 - 8
COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS
1000 Friends of MN, October 2010
N

Park Search Area 1-Passive Recreational



This drawing is in either a legally recorded map or a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information, and data located in various city, county, and state offices, and other sources affecting the area shown, and is to be used for reference purposes only. Scott County is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained. If discrepancies are found, please contact the Scott County Surveyors Office.

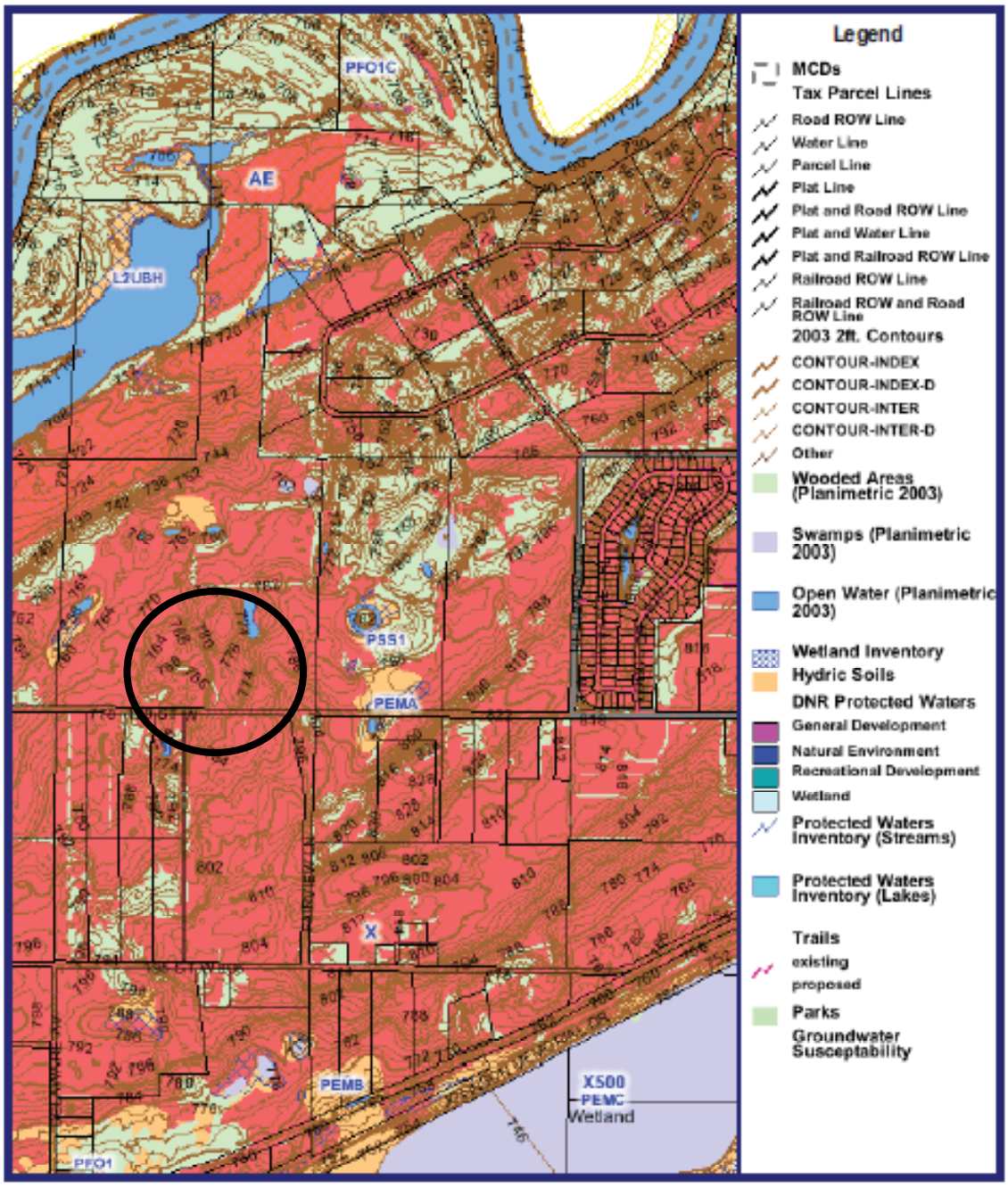
Map Scale
1 inch = 1497 feet

Map Date
7/22/2010

N
W E
S

Scott

Park Search Area 2-Active Recreational



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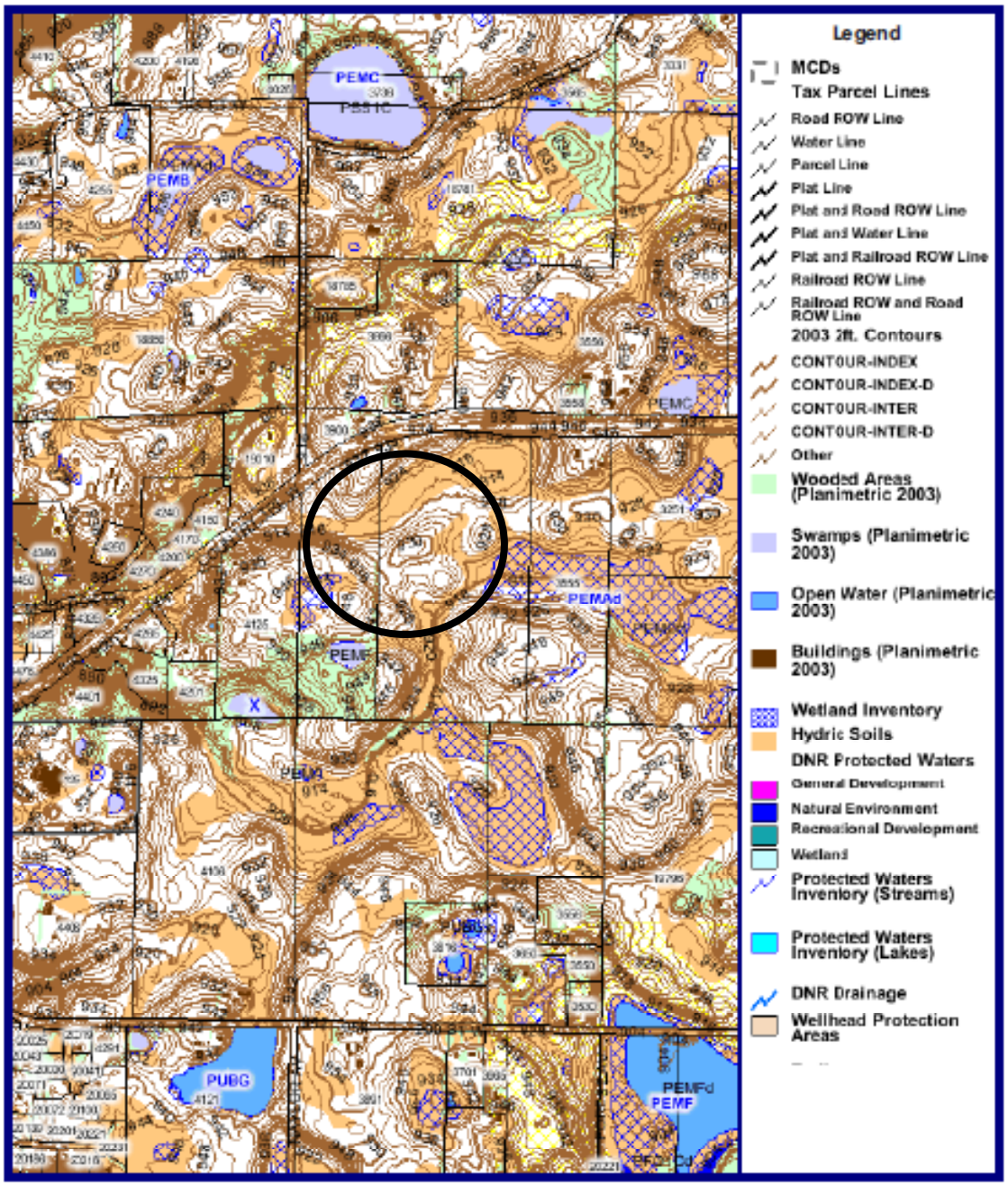
Map Scale
1 inch = 1497 feet

Map Date
7/23/2010

N
W E
S

Scott

Search Area 3 - East Side of Jordan



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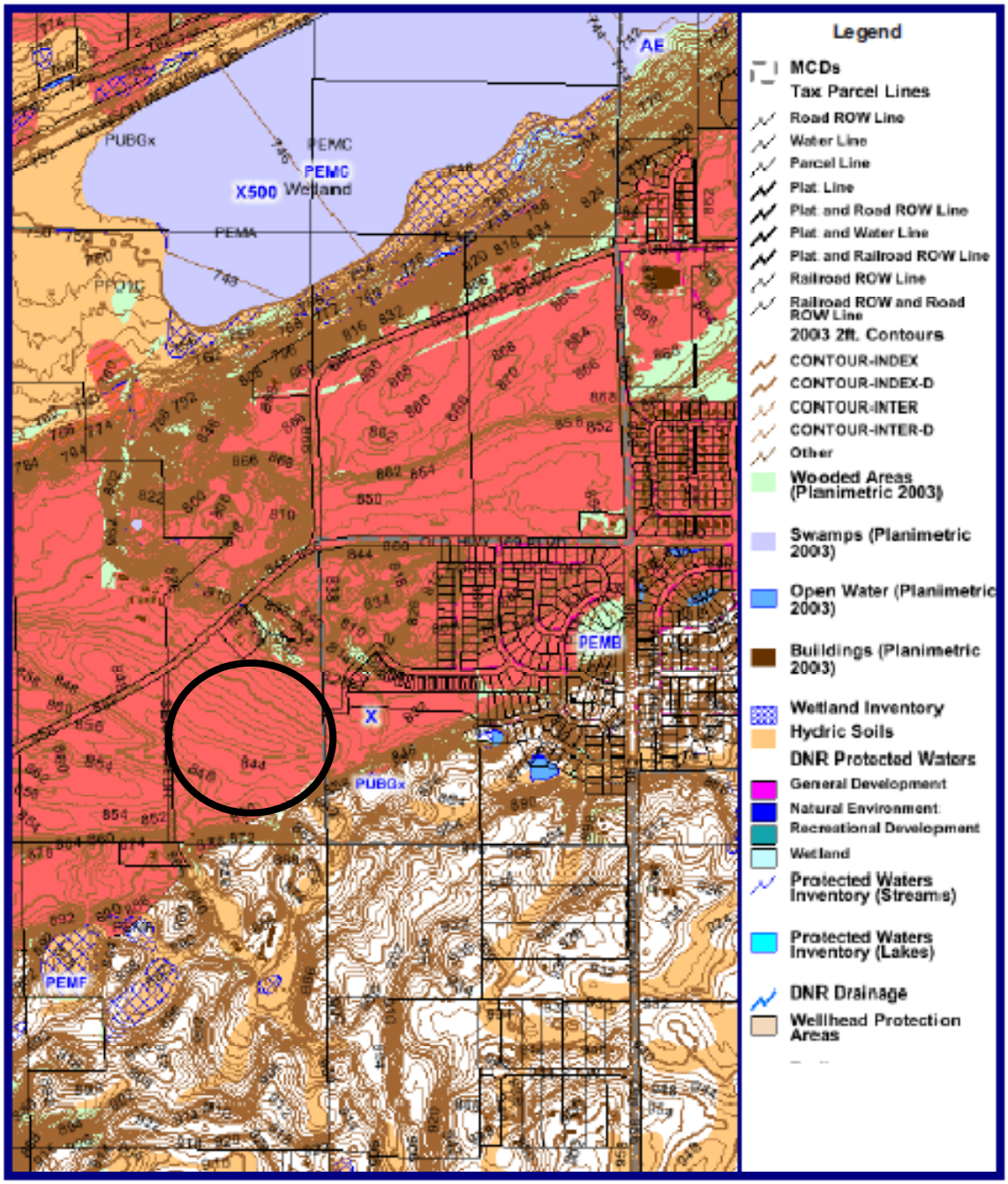
Map Scale
1 inch = 1237 feet

Map Date
7/23/2010

N
W E
S

Scott

Search Area 4 - SW Side of Jordan



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Map Scale
1 inch = 1237 feet

Map Date
7/23/2010

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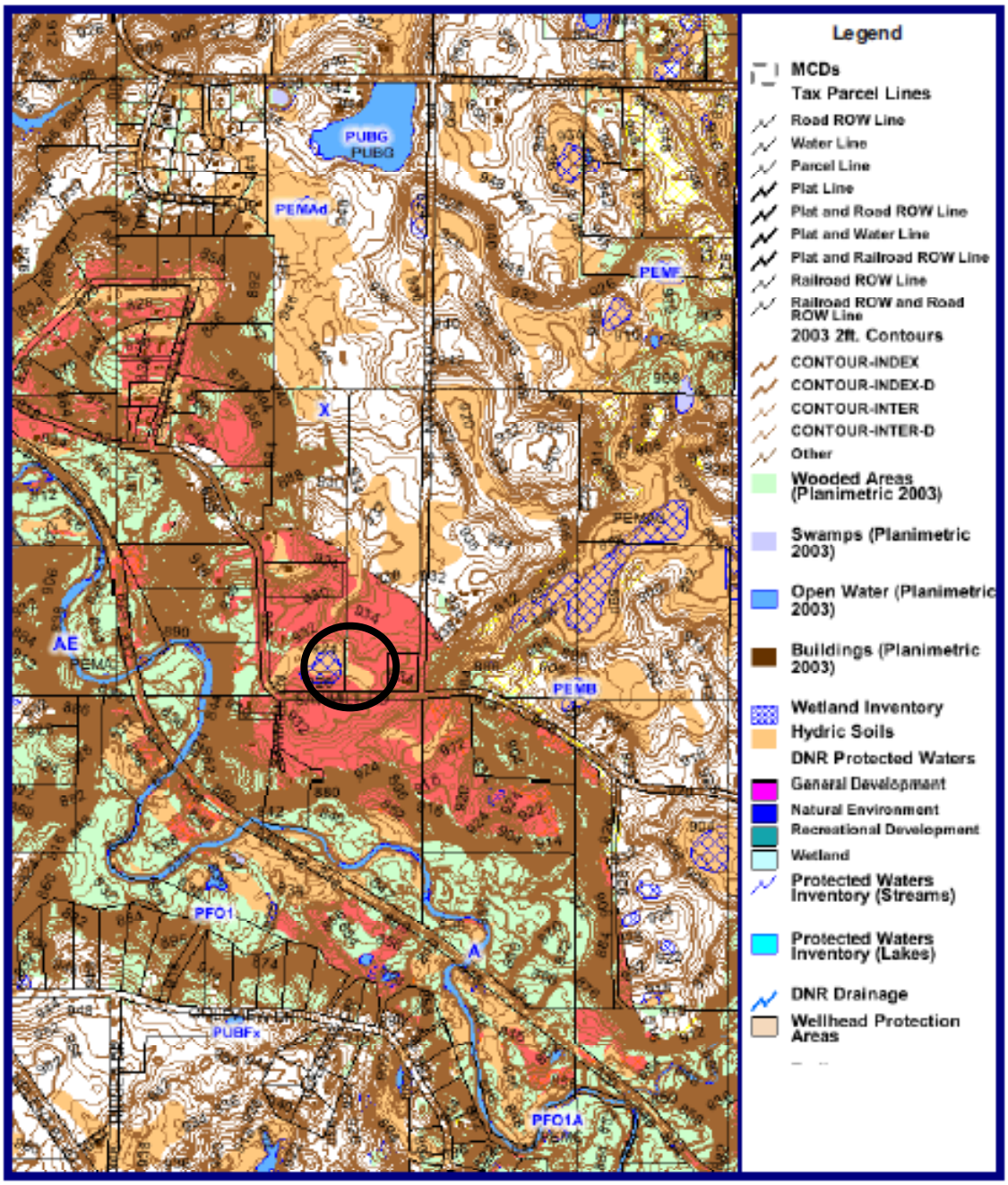
Search Area 5- SE Side of Jordan



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Map Date
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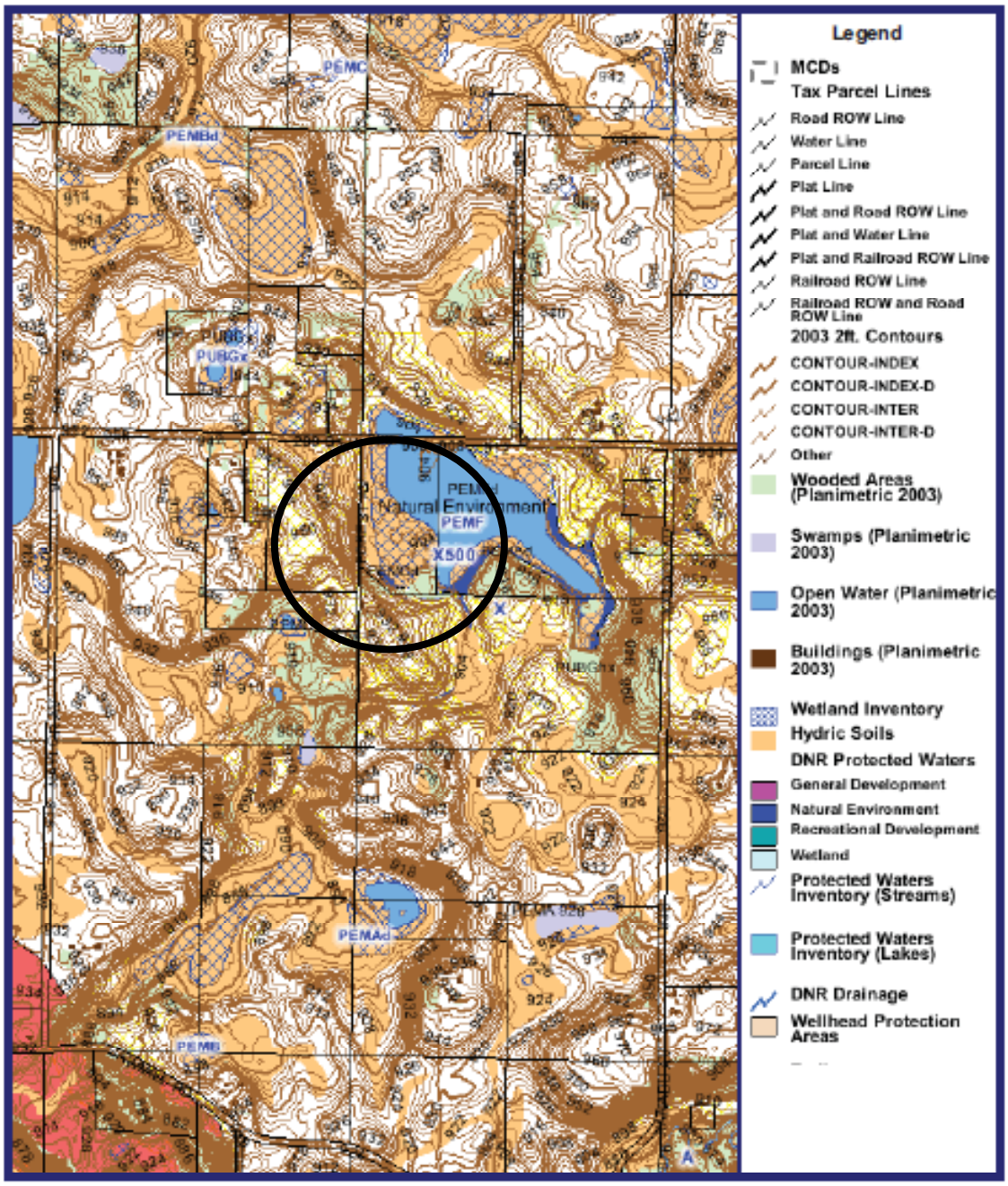
Search Area 6- East Side of Jordan



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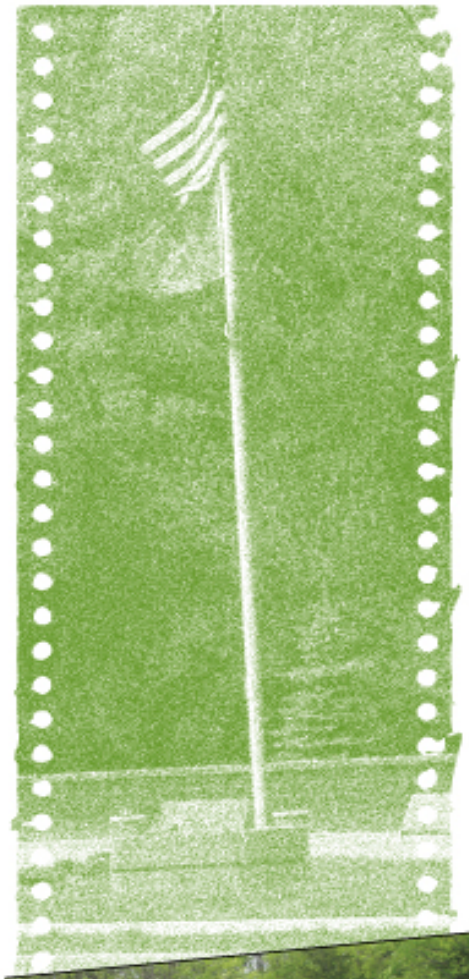


Section 6. Trail and Sidewalk Plan

Jordan's Existing Sidewalks and Trails

The City of Jordan currently includes 20.65 miles of concrete sidewalks and 3.95 miles of existing trails (bituminous) within the City of Jordan.

The City's existing trail system includes three main segments; (1) Trails constructed as a part of a "Safe Routes to School" grant, in 2009, (2) Trails around Hope Avenue Pond and along Hope Pond/Hope Avenue and (3) Trails that extend through Lagoon Park south and east under Highway 21 to Sawmill Park on the east side of the community. Existing sidewalks and trails are illustrated on the map on the following page.

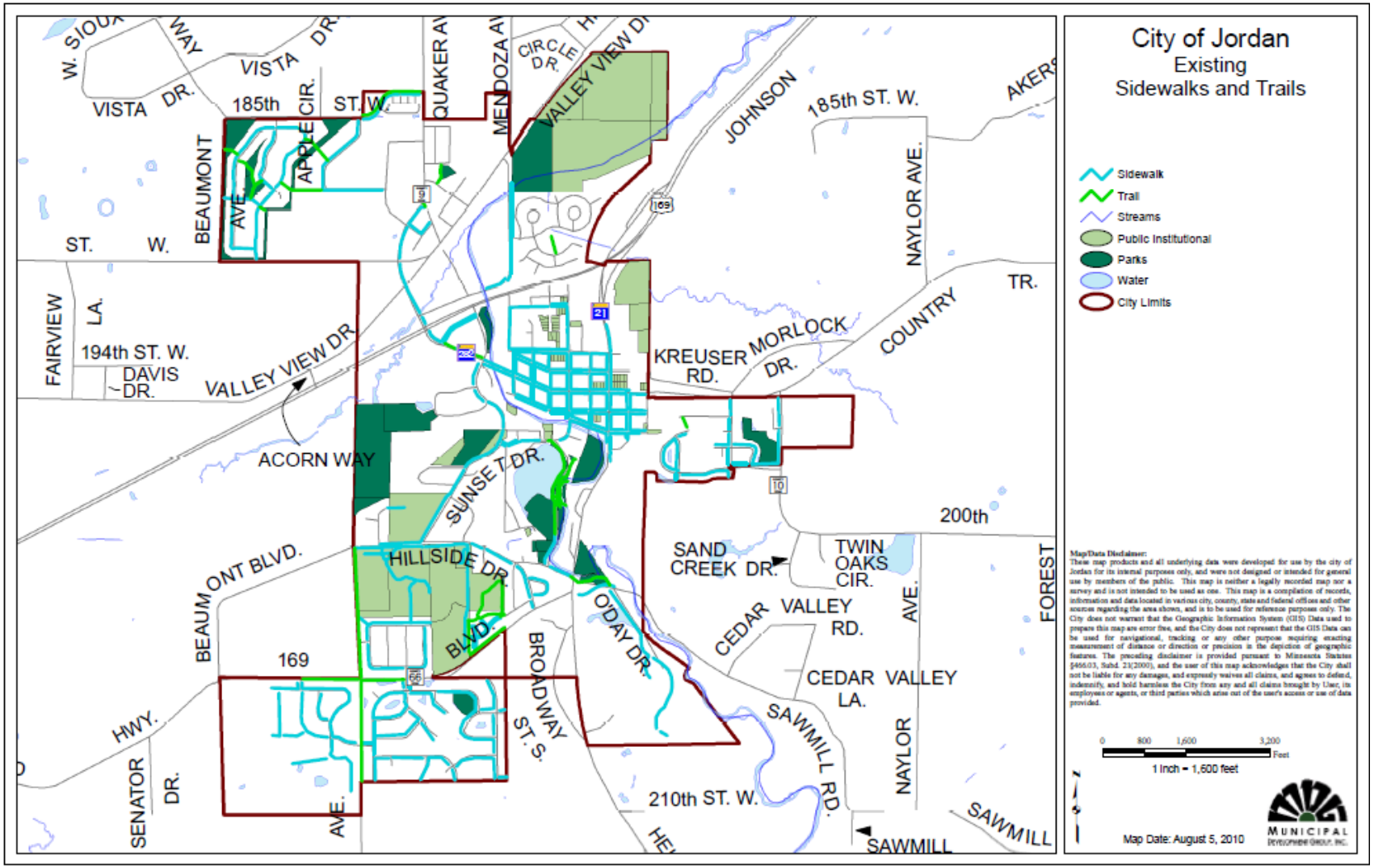
Sidewalk and Trail System Gaps

As expressed in the Park and Trail Survey, which was conducted as a part of the planning process, respondents expressed a desire for trail linkages to regional trail systems, city parks, downtown and highway commercial areas, natural resources and to educational facilities, with the link to a regional system the most requested.

Although there are nearly 25 miles of sidewalk and trails in the city, there are areas in which gaps in the pedestrian and non-motorized system exist. These gaps are identified on the map which follows the existing system. There are five primary areas with gaps:

- CR 66 (Old Highway 16)
- Sawmill Woods to the downtown
- Under or Overpass to connect Jordan on both sides of Highway 169
- Connect the residential and industrial area on the east side of the City, south of CR 282, to the downtown.

A trail is proposed along the north side of CR 66, which would connect the three primary trail systems. The majority of this non-motorized pedestrian system would be a bituminous trail, with a short segment of sidewalk along Hillside Drive.


City of Jordan
Existing
Sidewalks and Trails
Sidewalk
Trail
Streams
Public Institutional
Parks
Water
City Limits
Map/Data Disclaimer:
These map products and all underlying data were developed for use by the city of Jordan for its internal purposes only, and were not designed or intended for general use by members of the public. This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This map is a compilation of records, information and data located in various city, county, state and federal offices and other sources regarding the area shown, and is to be used for reference purposes only. The City does not warrant that the Geographic Information System (GIS) Data used to prepare this map are error free, and the City does not represent that the GIS Data can be used for navigational, tracking or any other purpose requiring exacting measurement of distance or direction or precision in the depiction of geographic features. The preceding disclaimer is provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §466.03, Subd. 23(2000), and the user of this map acknowledges that the City shall not be liable for any damages, and expressly waives all claims, and agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the City from any and all claims brought by User, its employees or agents, or third parties which arise out of the user's access or use of data provided.
0 800 1,600 3,200
Feet
1 Inch = 1,600 feet
Map Date: August 5, 2010
MUNICIPAL
DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC.
W. SIOUX WAY
VISTA DR.
VISTA DR.
185th ST. W.
APPLE CIR.
QUAKER AV
MENDOZA AV
CIRCLE DR.
VALLEY VIEW DR
JOHNSON
185th ST. W.
AKERS
BEAUMONT AVE.
ST. W.
NAYLOR AVE.
TR.
FAIRVIEW LA.
194th ST. W.
DAVIS DR.
VALLEY VIEW DR
KREUSER RD.
MORLOCK DR.
COUNTRY
ACORN WAY
SUNSET DR.
200th
SAND CREEK DR.
TWIN OAKS CIR.
HILLSIDE DR.
BEAUMONT BLVD.
O'DAY DR.
CEDAR VALLEY RD.
AVE.
FOREST
169
BLVD.
BROADWAY ST. S.
CEDAR VALLEY LA.
HWY.
SAWMILL RD.
NAYLOR
SENATOR DR.
AVE.
210th ST. W.
SAWMILL
SAWMILL

Sidewalk Gap Along Ervin Industrial Dr.

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Map Scale
1 inch = 323 feet

Map Date
8/24/2010

N W E S

Scott

Sidewalk Link Area East Jordan

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Map Scale
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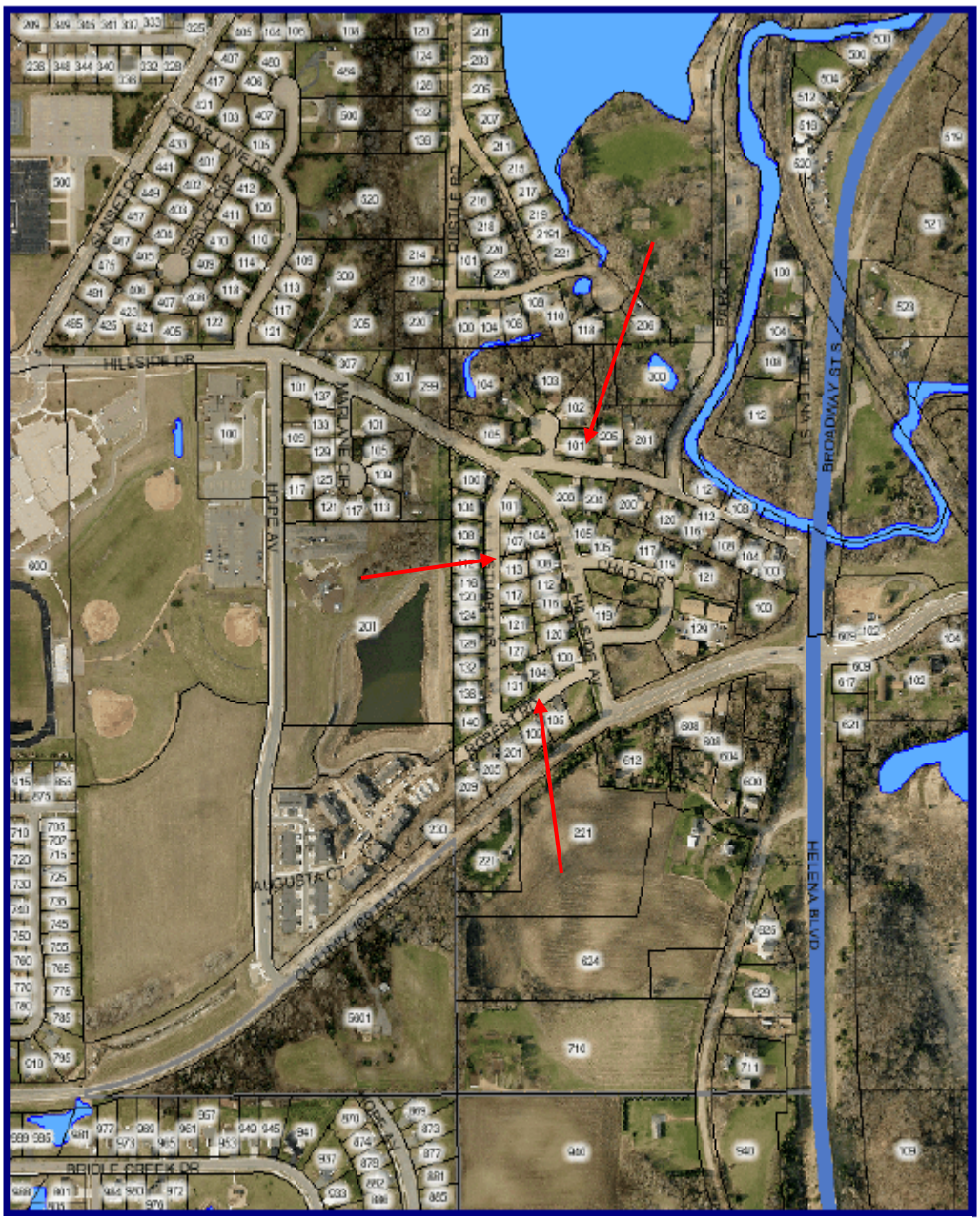
Map Date
8/24/2010

N W E S

Scott

CR 66/Hillside Avenue



Locations for sidewalk or trail extensions to connect CR 66 trail to Lagoon Park

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Map Scale
1 inch = 518 feet

Map Date
8/24/2010

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Bridges/Connectivity

In addition to gaps in the sidewalk and trail system, a safe pedestrian and non-motorized crossing is needed either over or under TH Highway 169. As a part of the planning process, the City Council authorized preliminary engineering to determine the feasibility of overpasses and underpasses for Highway 169 between CR 282 to Varner.

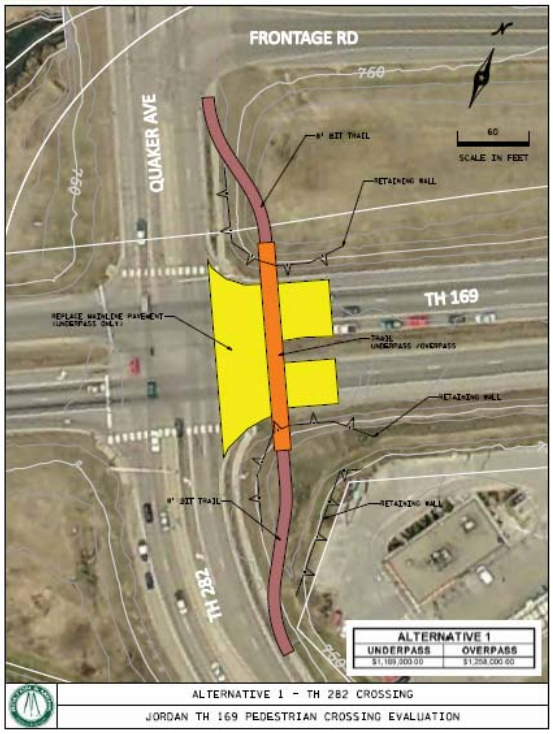
An "Alternatives Analysis Report T.H. 169 Trail Crossing" completed by Bolton & Menk is attached to this plan as Appendix A. The Report notes, *"The existing crossing of TH 169 is at-grade, located at the TH 282 intersection. TH 169 through Jordan carries approximately 23,000 vehicles per day. An at grade trail crossing of a trunk highway with this level of traffic presents significant safety concerns to both vehicular and pedestrian users, and significantly reduces the regional connectivity of the trail crossing.*

Pedestrians currently cross TH 169 in multiple locations in addition to the crosswalk at TH 282, jumping barriers and using makeshift trails along Sand Creek that are impassable much of the year. Developing a feasible pedestrian crossing of TH 169 will significantly increase pedestrian mobility and connectivity by linking the north and south portions of the city, and will increase safety to the traveling public and pedestrians in the region." [1]

A man-made trail/path is shown above, where pedestrians have created their own trail under the Highway 169 bridge adjacent to Lion's Park. As depicted above, on the right, this unofficial underpass floods with heavy rains, and is not a safe crossing as currently designed. Low clearance, unstable base and a lack of lighting also make this an unsafe crossing.

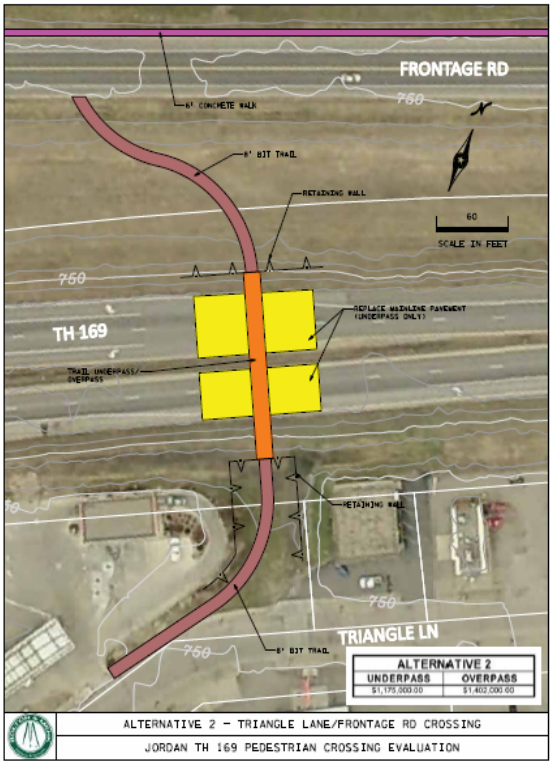
[1]Alternative Analysis Report -TH 169 Trail Crossing City of Jordan, Bolton & Menk November, 2010

The report analyzes five TH 169 crossing locations and includes cost estimates for both underpasses and overpasses at the locations. Following are maps of the potential sites, as evaluated by Bolton & Menk.

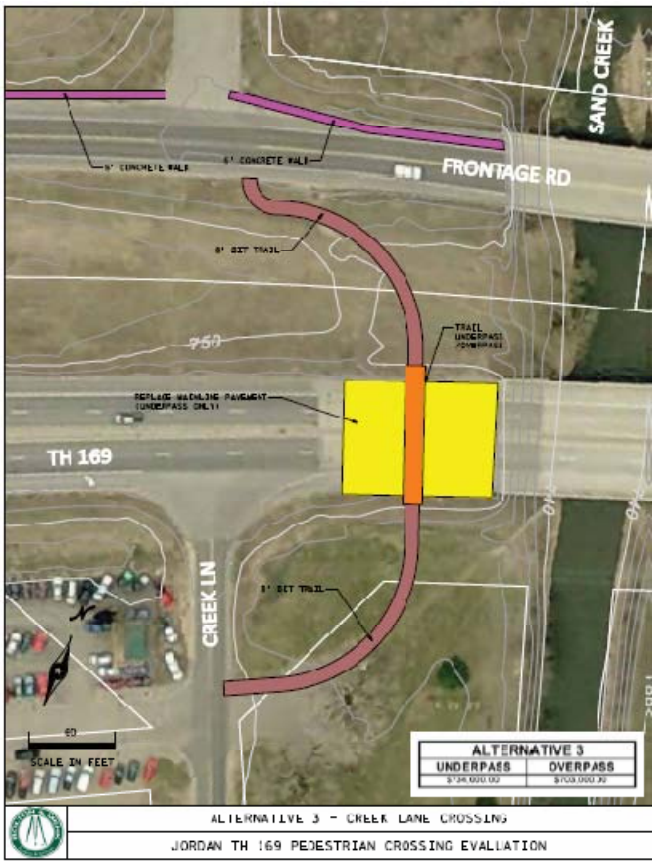


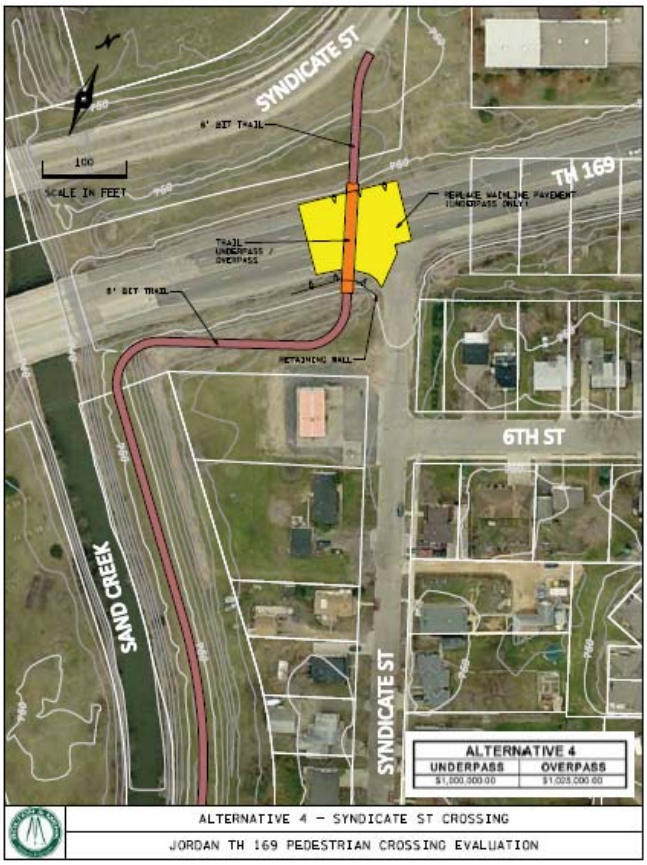
Alternative #1 (top) illustrates a possible underpass or overpass at the existing TH 282/TH 169 crossing.

Alternative #2 (right) illustrates a possible underpass and overpass at the Triangle Lane/Frontage Road Crossing.



Possible Trail Overpass and Underpass Locations – TH 169 Jordan



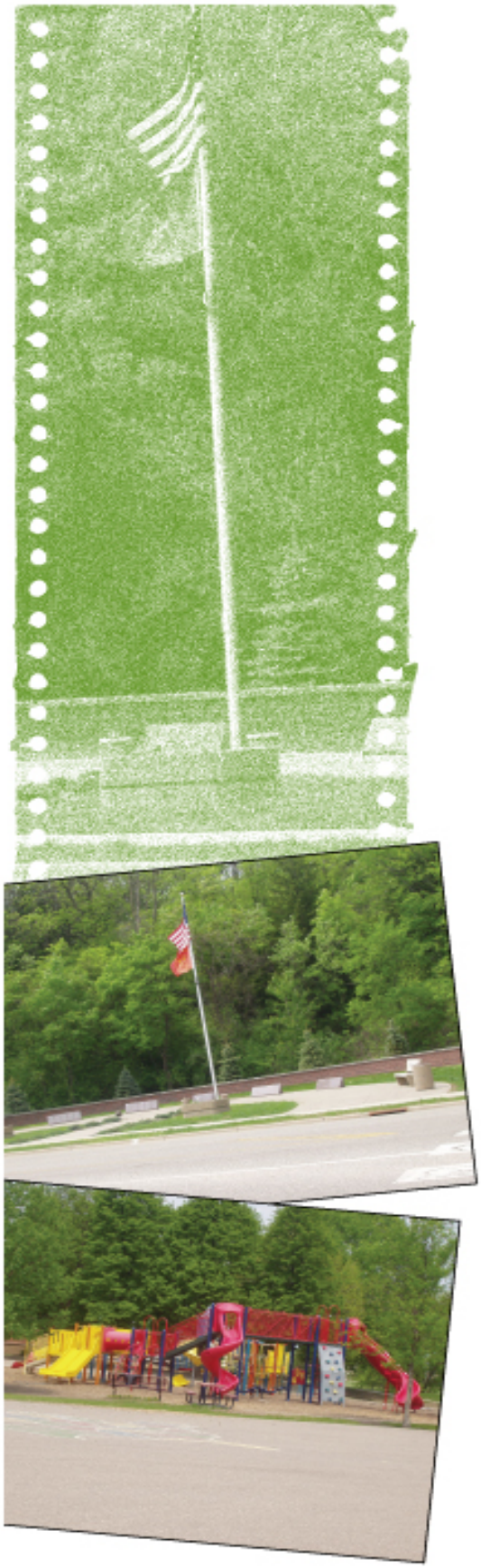


Alternative #3 (top left) illustrates a possible underpass and overpass at the Creek Lane Crossing.

Alternative #4 (top right) illustrates a possible crossing at Syndicate Street.

Alternative #5 (bottom left) illustrates a possible underpass and overpass at Varner Street.

These alternatives were analyzed as they relate to connectivity to residential and commercial areas, connectivity to local and regional trail systems, safety and cost. The Park and Recreation Commission and City Council have identified the following as top alternatives: ___TO BE DETERMINED__



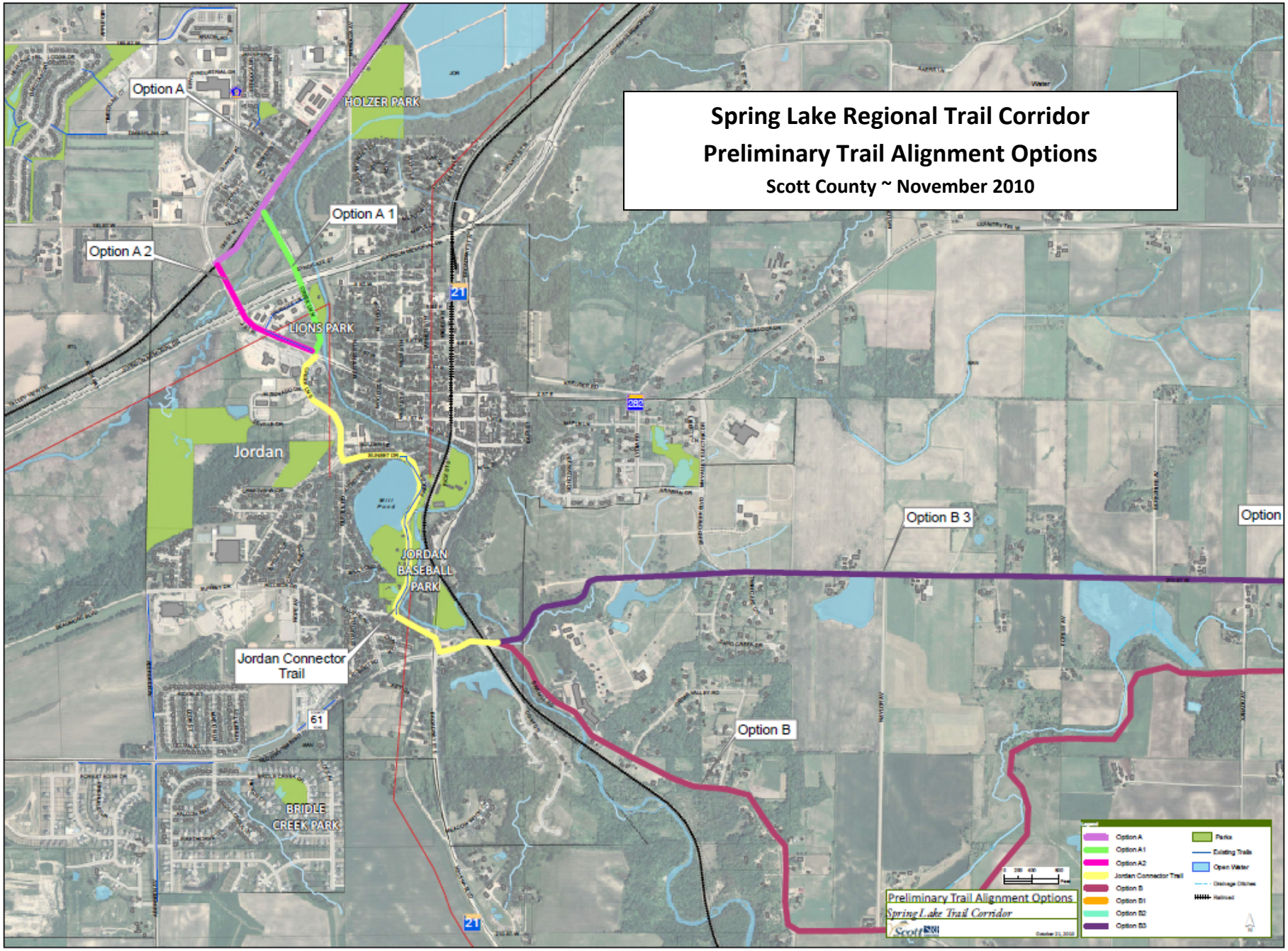
Regional Trails - Spring Lake Regional Trail Corridor

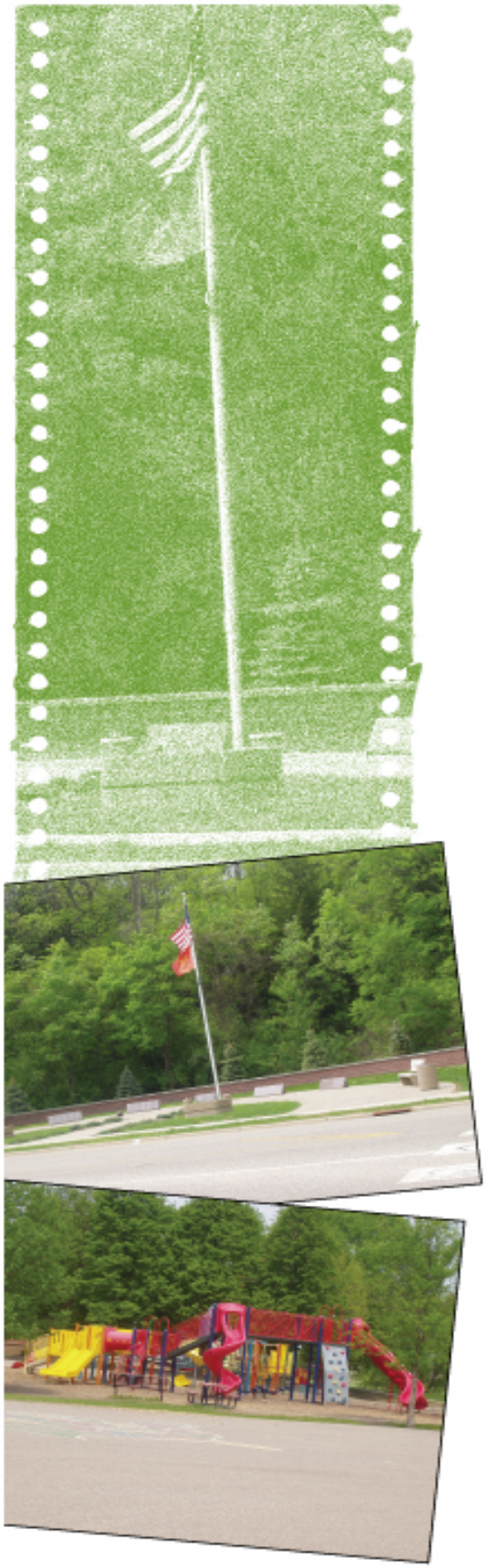
At the time of the development of this Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Plan, Scott County was also in the process of master planning the Spring Lake Regional Trail Corridor. Scott County and Metropolitan Council have identified an approximately ten-mile regional trail corridor that would run from Spring Lake Regional Park in Prior Lake southwest towards the Jordan and across the Minnesota River to the future Minnesota River Bluff and Ravines Regional Park search area in Carver County. This trail corridor will primarily travel through a rural setting before entering Jordan.

Attached is a map which illustrates the potential routes for the segment of this trail, as it extends through the City of Jordan. At this time, it is proposed the trail would enter/exit Jordan at the northwest side near Holzer Park, along Valleyview Drive/195th Street West and cross TH 169 at either Creekview Lane or 2nd Street West, consistent with the City's optional trail routes, providing access to the Triangle Lane commercial areas as well as Lion's Park.

The Spring Lake Regional Trail is proposed to extend south along Creek Lane South, Sunset Drive (past Fireman's Park) and to Park Drive which leads to Lagoon Park and the Mini-Met Baseball Park. This park may serve as a trailhead within the community. The trail is proposed to continue south to the existing trail along CR 66, utilizing the existing underpass under Highway 169 and connecting to the trail and sidewalk system in Sawmill Woods Subdivision.

It is recommended the City and Scott County continue to work closely on the future alignment of this regional trail and local trail development as they relate to the crossing of TH 169, trail head locations in Jordan and grant opportunities.


Spring Lake Regional Trail Corridor
Preliminary Trail Alignment Options
Scott County ~ November 2010
Option A
HOLZER PARK
Option A 1
Option A 2
LIONS PARK
Jordan
JORDAN BASEBALL PARK
Jordan Connector Trail
BRIDLE CREEK PARK
Option B 3
Option B
Preliminary Trail Alignment Options
Spring Lake Trail Corridor



Future Pathway Design

Trails or greenways should be designed with the following goals in mind (1) Safety – trails should be designed to protect non-motorized and motorized users (depending on the type of trail) from adjacent or crossing vehicular traffic, (2) Linkages - trails should provide links between local parks and recreational areas, regional trail systems, educational facilities and between residential areas and commercial areas, for shopping and commuting to places of employment (3) Natural Environment – when designing the trail system consideration should be given to protect the natural environment and natural features, and (4) Continuity – trails should be designed to be continuous systems with as few interruptions in user movement as possible.

Following are design guidelines suggested by the National Recreation and Park Association for the various types of pathways:

1. **Park Trails**

- Type I: These separate or single purpose trails are typically ten feet wide and hard surfaced for pedestrians, bicyclists and/or in-line skaters.

- Type II: These multi-purpose trails typically include a natural buffer; such as shrubs, trees or changes in topography, from adjacent uses on either side of the trail. A 50-foot right-of-way to accommodate the buffers is common with a ten foot paved surface.

- Type III: Nature trails are generally six to eight feet wide and are soft surfaced. Trail grades vary depending on the topography of the area in which they are located. Interpretive signage is common along nature trails.

2. **Connector Trails**

   Type I and II: These separate or single-purpose hard surfaced trails are designed for pedestrians or bicyclists/in line skaters. If designed for pedestrians only, an eight foot width is common. If designed for bicyclists/in-line skaters, a ten foot paved surface is recommended. The trails may be developed on one or both sides of the roadway and may include one or two-way traffic. The trail is typically separated from the roadway with a boulevard, grass and/or plantings.

3. **On-Street Bikeways or Bike Lanes:** Bike Lanes are typically designed as a five-foot lane adjacent to the driving lane. On-street parking may occur between the on-street bike lane and the curb or edge of the road. In essence each side of the roadway is divided into three sections (1) driving lane, (2) on-street bikeway and (3) on-street parking.

   On Street Bike Route: This bicycle route is typically designated with signage. On Street Bike Routes are typically paved shoulders along roadways.

4. **All Terrain Bike Trails:** Design and length vary depending on the topography in the area. These trails are generally a part of a larger regional park or natural resource area.

5. **Cross Country Ski Trails:** The design of the cross-country ski trail is dependent upon its intended use. The traditional diagonal skiing typically includes a packed groomed trail with set tracks. Skate-skiing designs include a wider packed and groomed surface. The length of the trails may vary. Cross-country ski trails may be designed to be used as equestrian trails during summer months.

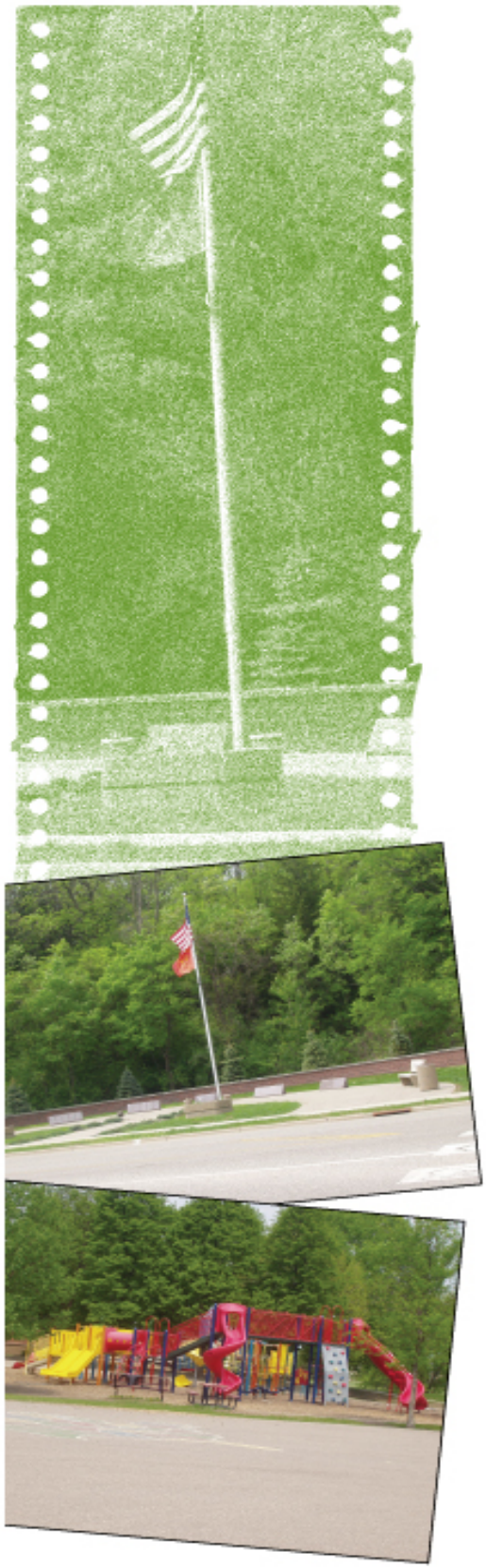
6. **Equestrian Trails:** These horseback riding trails, typically are designed with woodchips or grass surface. They are located in larger parks and natural resource areas where conflict with other trail users may be avoided. The length of an equestrian trail varies but is generally looped.

7. **A multi-purpose trail/greenway corridor** may serve several purposes or a singular purpose.

Future trail design should take into consideration the purpose of the trail (commuter, bicycle, multi-purpose, commuting, etc.). The location of the trail may be somewhat dependent upon the intended users and purpose of a trail. For example, a commuter trail may be constructed in road right- of -way, while a more recreational trail designed to access natural resources and take advantage of scenic overlooks such as bluffs in the northeast growth area of Jordan, may be designed away from roadways.

Existing trails and sidewalks within Jordan and the surrounding area have been categorized within the following table.

Classification	General Description	Description of each type	Existing Facilities
Park Trail	Multi-purpose trails located within greenways, parks and natural resource areas. Focus in on recreational value and harmony with the natural environment.	Type I: Separate/single purpose hard –surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters. Type II: Multi-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians and bicyclists/in-line skaters. Type III: Nature trails for pedestrians. May be hard or soft surfaced.	Trails within Lagoon Park, Mini Met Ball Park, Timberline Park
Connector Trails	Multi-purpose trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the community. Focus is as much on transportation as it is on recreation.	Type I: Separate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters located in independent R.O.W (e.g. old railroad R.O.W). Type II: Separate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrian or bicyclists/in-line skaters. Typically located within road R.O.W.	Trails along CR 66, Bridle Creek Subdivisions
On-Street Bikeways	Paved segments of roadways that serve as a means to safely separate bicyclists from vehicular traffic.	Bike Route: Designated portions of the roadway for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. Bike Lane: Shared portions of the roadway that provide separation between motor vehicles and bicyclists, such as paved shoulders.	None
All-Terrain Bike Trail	Off-road trail for all-terrain (mountain) bikes	Single-purpose loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas.	DNR Trails along the MN River in the Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area
Cross Country Ski Trail	Trails developed for traditional and skate-style cross-country skiing.	Loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas.	DNR Trails along the MN River in the Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area
Equestrian Trail	Trails developed for horseback riding.	Loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas. Sometimes developed as multi-purpose with hiking and all-terrain biking. These trails are developed so conflict can be controlled.	DNR Trails along the MN River in the Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area



Future Sidewalks and Trails

Existing sidewalks and trails should be incorporated into future trail and sidewalk planning activities. Proposed trails add 48.8 miles to the system. This includes regional trail segments that are in the growth area and may not be developed for 20+ year, and trails that may be developed as a part of a regional system versus as a city project.

Trails and sidewalks provide many benefits to a community including:

- Increased safety for non-motorized traffic
- Health and wellness
- Access to natural resources
- Economic development with links to the historic downtown
- Non-motorized commuting options

The Park and Recreation Commission is recommending an "Active Living by Design Philosophy" when reviewing future subdivisions, and developing parks and trails. To implement this philosophy, the Commission is recommending the City further pursue a "Complete Streets Policy" which addresses a system that is designed and operated to be safe and accessible for pedestrians, transit, vehicles, etc. A local Complete Street Policy would declare political support for a balanced approach to road construction.

Some of the concepts of "Complete Streets" include but are not limited to:

- Constructing narrower automobile lanes to help calm traffic and reduce construction and maintenance expense;
- Requiring the connectivity of sidewalks and trails as a part of Subdivision requirements;
- Addressing pedestrian crossings (e.g. Highway 282) and solutions such as bump-outs and medians;
- Expanding support for bicycling including bike racks in the downtown; and
- Improving access for people with disabilities.

Subdivision Ordinance Requirements

The City's current Subdivision Ordinance does include sidewalk installation requirements for new subdivisions as follows:

Sidewalks are required in the following locations:

- Commercial Areas and along all collector streets: Six (6) foot wide concrete sidewalks shall be located on both sides of the street.

- Industrial Areas: Six (6) foot wide concrete sidewalks shall be located on at least one side of the street with additional requirements for collector streets in industrial areas.

- Residential Areas: Six (6) foot wide concrete sidewalks shall be located on at least one side of all streets, except cul-de-sacs., with additional requirements for collector street requirements in residential areas.

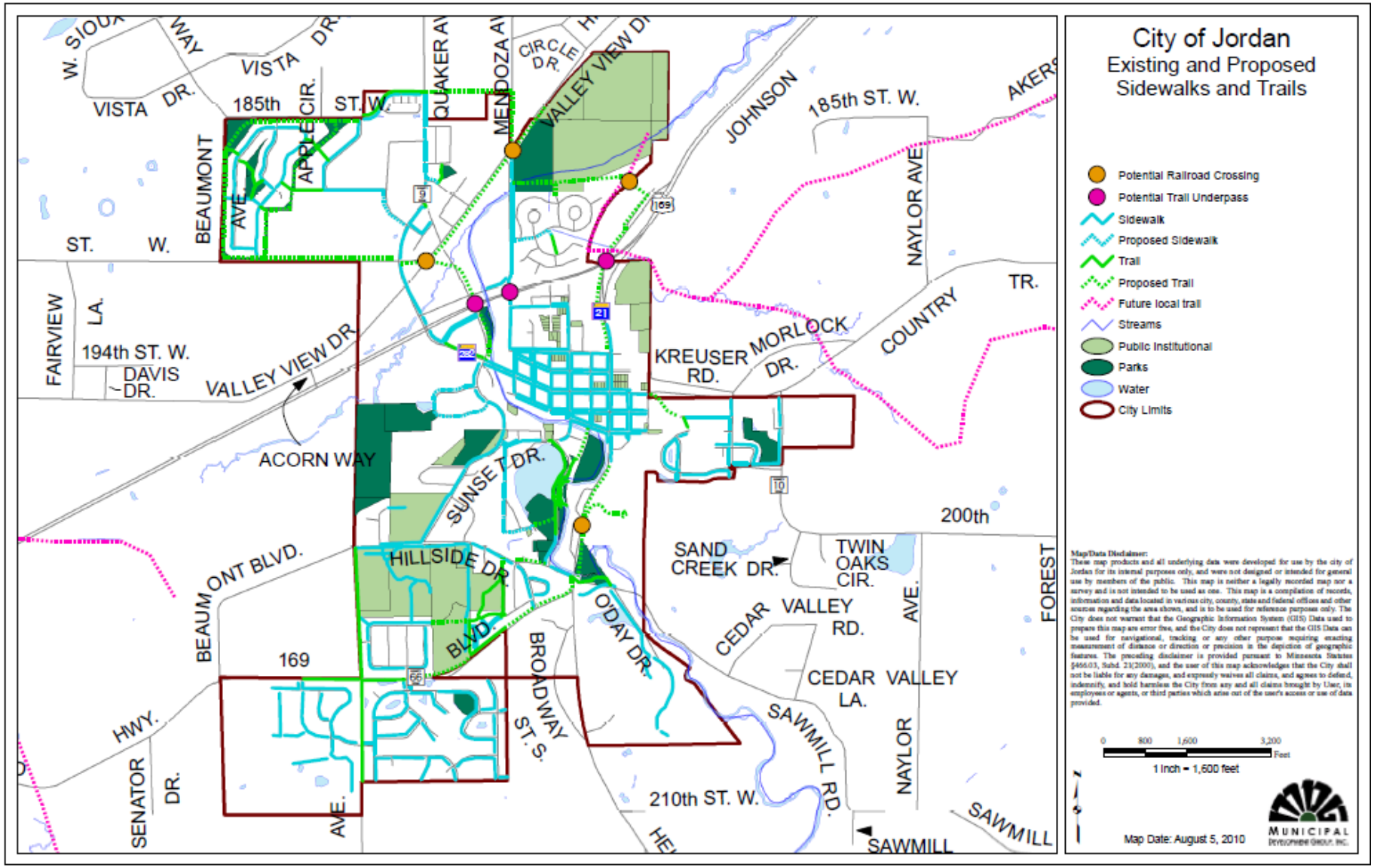
The Subdivision Ordinance also requires the installation of eight (8) foot wide trails, with a 25 foot right-of-way in areas designated by the City.

It is the intent of this plan to identify the primary trails which are needed for connectivity, to remove ambiguity when reviewing plat. Along with those areas identified on the future sidewalk and trail map, trails and sidewalks are recommended to provide connectivity to:

- Downtown and commercial areas
- Schools
- Existing and future parks
- Lineal trails in passive recreation areas or around natural resources and open spaces.
- Regional trail systems
- Residential areas

Collaboration with Other Entities

As future trails and greenways are a planned, it is important to coordinate plans with other entities such as MnDOT, Scott County, Carver County (County Road 9 connection), the DNR for connectivity to state parks, the school district (safe routes to schools), the township, landowners and developers.


City of Jordan
Existing and Proposed
Sidewalks and Trails
Potential Railroad Crossing
Potential Trail Underpass
Sidewalk
Proposed Sidewalk
Trail
Proposed Trail
Future local trail
Streams
Public Institutional
Parks
Water
City Limits
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0 800 1,600 3,200
Feet
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Map Date: August 5, 2010
MUNICIPAL
DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC.
W. SIOUX WAY
VISTA DR.
VISTA DR.
185th ST. W.
APPLE CIR.
BEAUMONT AVE.
QUAKER AVE.
MENDOZA AVE.
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FAIRVIEW LA.
194th ST. W.
DAVIS DR.
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ACORN WAY
KREUSER RD.
MORLOCK DR.
COUNTRY TR.
SUNSET DR.
200th
SAND CREEK DR.
TWIN OAKS CIR.
HILLSIDE DR.
BEAUMONT BLVD.
O'DAY DR.
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SAWMILL RD.
NAYLOR
HWY.
SENATOR DR.
AVE.
210th ST. W.
SAWMILL
SAWMILL

Section 7. Natural Resource Plan

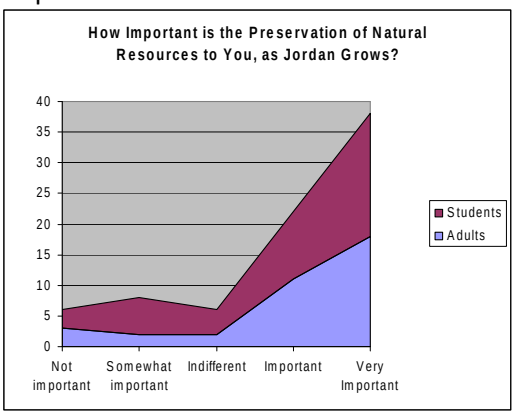
Overview

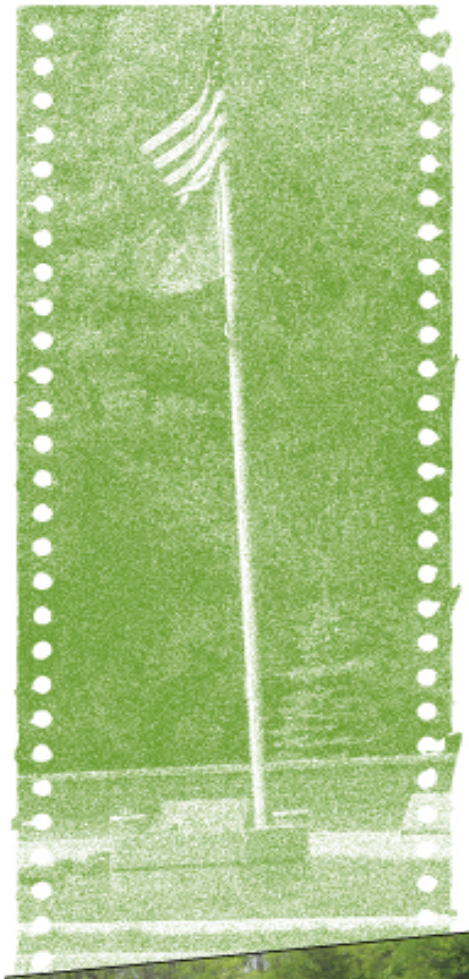
According to the Department of Interior, "Natural resources" means, "land, fish, wildlife, biota, air, water, ground water, drinking water supplies, and other such resources belonging to, managed by, held in trust by, appertaining to, or otherwise controlled by the United States (including the resources of the exclusive economic zone defined by the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976), any state or local government, any foreign government, any Indian tribe, or, if such resources are subject to a trust restriction on alienation, any member of an Indian tribe. "[1]

Natural resources within and around the City of Jordan provide the foundation for maintaining a high quality of life and are seen as one of Jordan's greatest assets. Located within the Minnesota River Valley Basin, the City is surrounded by beautiful steep slopes and bluff lines. Water resources, including the Minnesota River, Sand Creek, Mill Pond and wetlands are a part of Jordan's aquatic ecosystem. Distinctive wooded areas exist within the floodplain, moist sites and dry sites. Prime agricultural soils provide opportunities for the City to provide local food sources within its future park and open spaces.
This section identifies natural resources within the City and its growth area, identifies ways to incorporate these resources into park and trail plans and discusses ordinances in place as well as recommended programs to encourage environmental sustainability.

Public Input

The preservation of natural resources was identified as "Very Important" by a majority of youth and adults as a part of Jordan's Parks, Trails and Natural Resources Survey taken in 2010. The chart to the right depicts the level of importance "natural resources" as a general category ranked by survey respondents.





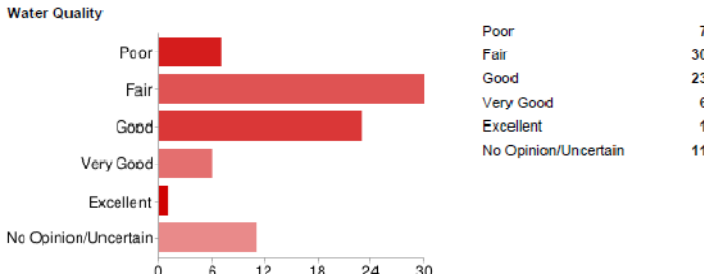
Within the survey, participants were asked to rate the quality and importance of various resources including water quality, wetlands, shorelands, steep slopes and forested areas. The results of the survey are contained within the information below.

Water Resources

Approximately 11% percent of the City's total land area is comprised of surface waters (public water inventory and national wetland inventory). Major surface water features within the City include Mill Pond and Sand Creek. Mill Pond, which has access through Lagoon Park, is a man-made lake which is classified by the DNR as a recreational development lake. In addition to Mill Pond and Sand Creek, there are several protected wetlands existing within and in close proximity to the corporate limits. Surface waters classified by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) are subject to shoreland regulations, which are summarized later within this Section.

The Clean Water Act requires states to biannually publish an updated list of streams and lakes that are not meeting their designated uses because of excess pollutants. The list is based on violations of water quality standards. Sand Creek was listed as a state impaired water in the 2004 Final TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) and the draft 2010 TMDL list. The Minnesota River (Sand Cr to Carver Cr) was placed on the list in 1998 and is also included on the draft 2010 TMDL list. Mill Pond is *not* listed by the MPCA as state impaired water.

Residents in Jordan were asked to rate the quality of water resources in the community. Of the 78 respondents, nearly one-half or 47% rated the water quality as poor or fair, 29% rated it as good, 9% noted it is very good or excellent with the remainder stating no opinion or uncertain.



Wetlands. In addition to rivers and lakes, wetlands are an important part of Jordan's water resources. Wetlands are valuable for storing essential surface waters, stabilizing surface waters to minimize the danger of droughts of floods and supporting wildlife habitat. Wetlands are also the primary method of recharging aquifers ensuring a continued water supply. Wetlands cleanse and purify surface water by removing nutrients and other contaminants from storm water runoff.

Wetlands identified as a part of the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) and Scott County Soils and Water District are identified on the attached map. Wetlands represent approximately 7.18% of the surface in the City of Jordan's future land use boundary or 758 acres of the 10,560 acres.

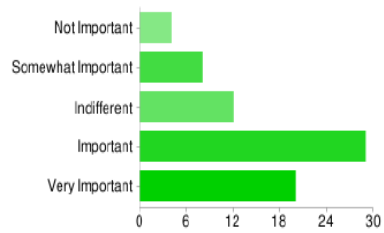
The Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Natural Resources are ultimately responsible for the overall protection of wetlands; however, the City is the local governmental unit responsible for implementing wetland protection measures and administers the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). The City has completed a Comprehensive Wetland Management Plan. Proper implementation of creek, bluff and wetland buffers in new developments is critical to maintain wetland functions within the City.

The functional value of wetland complexes have been well documented and include groundwater recharge, water filtration, natural habitat, and resting or nesting sites for migratory birds. Existing high and moderate quality wetland complexes within the study area are be suitable for preservation, protection, enhancement, and/or management.

As a part of the public input survey, participants were asked to rate the importance of wetlands in Jordan. Over one-quarter of the respondents rated the resource as "Very Important" with an additional 40% identifying wetlands as important.

Importance of Natural Resources - Wetlands

Not Important	4
Somewhat Important	8
Indifferent	12
Important	29
Very Important	20



Shoreland Protection

The City of Jordan has three areas which are considered to have “shoreland”; Mill Pond, Sand Creek and protected watercourses such as the large wetland on the southeast side of Highway 169.

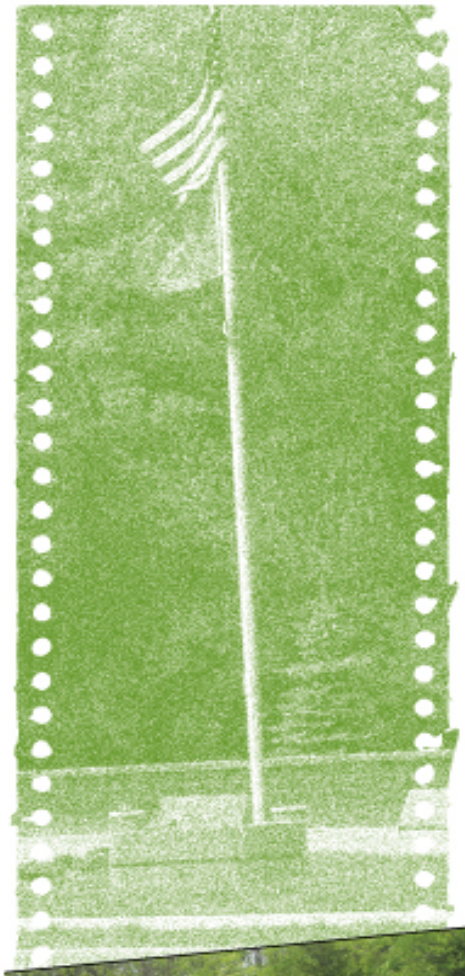
The City of Jordan adopted a Shoreland Ordinance in 2005 and classified waters, consistent with the criteria found in Minnesota Rule, and the Protected Waters Inventory Map for Scott County. Mill Pond, which is classified as a Recreational Development Lake, is a protected public water. Protected watercourses in Jordan include Sand Creek, which is classified as a tributary. Other protected watercourses in Jordan are illustrated on the Protected Waters Inventory Map for Scott County and are considered "Tributaries".

Per the Shoreland Ordinance, “Shoreland” means land located within the following distances from public waters: 1000 feet from the ordinary high water level of a lake, pond or flowage (or within 1000 feet of Mill Pond); and 300 feet from a river or stream, or the landward extent of a floodplain designated by ordinance on a river or stream, whichever is greater. The limits of shorelands may be reduced whenever the waters involved are bounded by topographic divides which extend landward from the waters for lesser distances and when approved by the commissioner (300 feet of Sand Creek and protected wetlands).

Attached are maps illustrating the locations of the water resources and the shoreland overlay districts.

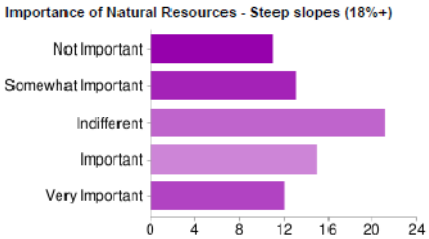
Steep Slopes

The City of Jordan recognizes the importance steep slopes play in the community as a natural resource. The topography within the City varies from 700 feet to over 900 feet in elevation. The steepest areas run in a north-south line parallel to Sand Creek's eastern bank. These areas play a vital role in protecting the community from floodwaters. Several other areas of moderate to steep slopes are scattered throughout the southern portion of Jordan, with another major slope line running southwest from the old town area past the north side of Mill Pond. These areas generally are of unique value to the community and function best if allowed to exist in a natural state or exist with limitation on development such that they will not be urbanized or irrevocably altered.



The City's Shoreland Ordinance, defines "Steep slope" as "land where agricultural activity or development is either not recommended or described as poorly suited due to slope steepness and the site's soil characteristics, as mapped and described in available county soil surveys or other technical reports, unless appropriate design and construction techniques and farming practices are used in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance. Where specific information is not available, steep slopes are lands having average slopes over 12 percent, as measured over horizontal distances of 50 feet or more, that are not bluffs."

As a part of the Natural Resource survey, residents and students were asked to rate the importance of the steep slopes in Jordan. Nearly 30% indicated they were indifferent. 37% noted they are important or very important, while 33% rated steep slopes as not important or somewhat important.



Not Important	11
Somewhat Important	13
Indifferent	21
Important	15
Very Important	12

The attached map, illustrates Steep slopes of 18% and greater and 30% and greater.

The City's Subdivision Ordinance restricts development on steep slopes. It states, "Slopes over 18% in grade shall not be developed. Development on slopes with a grade between 12 and 18 percent shall be carefully reviewed to insure that adequate measures have been taken to prevent erosion, sedimentation and structural damage. Slopes shall not be created in excess of 3:1, unless approved by the City Council. A slope greater than 3:1 may require additional structural stabilization."

Bluffs

The City recognizes the importance of protecting sensitive bluff areas from erosion which can reduce the stability of Jordan's steep slopes. Per the City's Shoreland Ordinance, "Bluff" means "a topographic feature such as a hill, cliff or embankment having the following characteristics:

- Part or all of the hill, cliff or embankment is located in a shoreland area.
- The slope rises at least 25 feet above the ordinary high water level of the waterbody.

- The grade of the slope from the toe of the bluff to a point 25 feet or more above the ordinary high water level averages 30 percent or greater.
- The slope drains toward the water body.

An area with an average slope of less than 18 percent over a distance for 50 feet or more is not considered part of "the bluff".

The City regulates development activity within the "Bluff Impact Zone" or the areas located within 20 feet of the top of the bluff, within the "Toe of the Bluff" or the lower point of a 50-foot segment with an average slope exceeding 18 percent and the "Top of the Bluff" or higher point of a 50-foot segment with an average slope exceeding 18 percent.

Development activities which may harm slopes and bluffs include removal of vegetation, regrading or creating tiers, or installation of retaining walls. These activities alter not only the physical characteristics but also the visual form.

Ecological Conditions

The DNR has prepared a map of **Regionally Significant Terrestrial and Wetland Ecological Areas.** Significant terrestrial and wetland ecological areas occur within and near to the corporate limits and future annexation areas primarily around the Minnesota River corridor and adjacent to tributary streams and creeks.

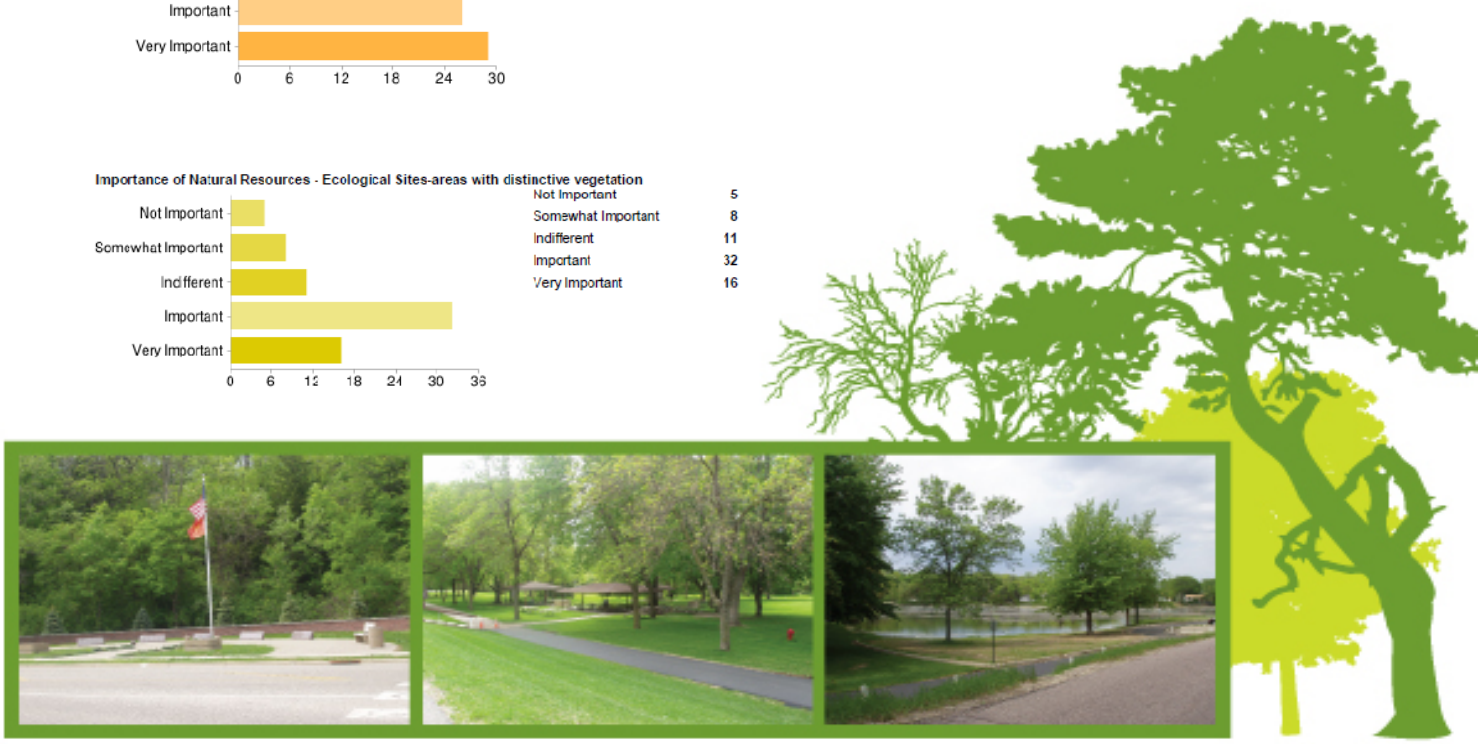
Biological survey and Metro Wildlife Corridor Areas. Metro Wildlife Corridor Focus Areas have been identified by the DNR and partner organizations. The Metro Wildlife Corridor Project is a partnership of several entities which establishes priorities, coordinates work by the partner organizations and focuses on areas with greatest regional importance for habitat. Using natural resource assessments and regional prioritization, the Metro Wildlife Corridor program works to protect and restore priority natural lands in core habitat areas; establish habitat corridors; create buffers for existing protected land; and, increase public access to nature-related recreation.

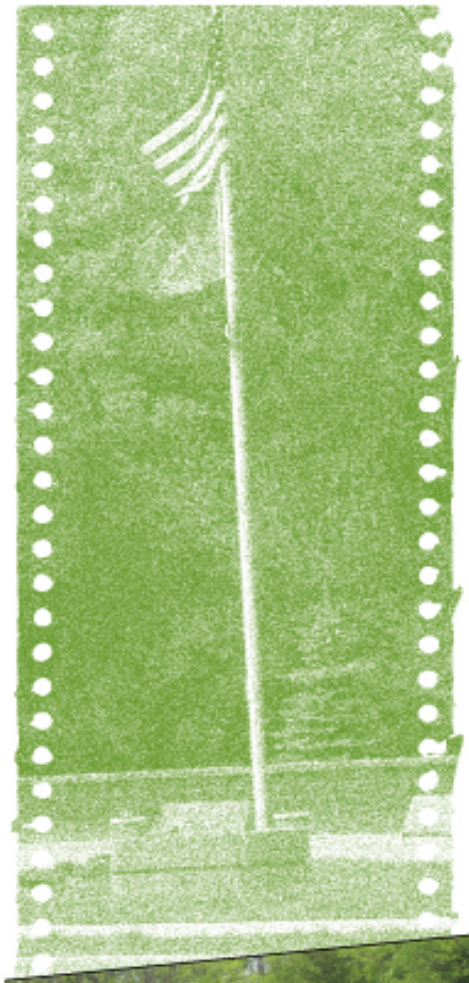
The focus areas shown on the following map identifies regionally significant upland and/or wetland habitat area and wildlife corridors that the DNR, along with public and private partners, are committed to preserving. Within the corporate limits of the City of Jordan there are distinctly wooded areas. In addition, several wooded areas exist within the townships in close proximity to the City, particularly adjacent to Sand Creek, adjacent to surface waters and adjacent to wetland communities.

As defined by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Scott County is within the "Big Woods" Ecological Classification. On dry sites common trees included oak, aspen and birch; moist sites were dominated by sugar maple, basswood, elm and ash. Pine trees were commonly interspersed with the deciduous trees. Where the forest canopy was broken/interrupted a dense layer of tall shrubs such as prickly ash, dogwood and the like were common. Beneath dense canopies the shrub layer was sparse or absent. Preservation of existing woodlands enhances the quality of life and preserves remaining biological diversity.

The Scott County Biological Survey identifies native plant communities within the County. Floodplain with Forest Silver Maple are identified on the NW area of the community, with Maple Basswood Forest and Oak Forest to the NE. Wet Meadow and Emergent Marsh are located on the south side of Highway 169. A Metro Wildlife Corridor Study identifies areas of ecological significance within the City of Jordan and adjacent townships. The areas are along Sand Creek and the Minnesota River.

Survey participants were asked to rate the importance of wooded areas with significant trees. Nearly 80% identified this resource as important to very important. Two-thirds of respondents identified ecological sites or areas with distinctive vegetation as important to very important.





The City in its Subdivision Ordinance defines a significant tree as, ""Significant Tree" – Any healthy deciduous tree (except Russian Olive, Cottonwood, Box Elder, Mulberry and Elm) having a diameter of six inches or greater, when measured two feet from the ground or a coniferous tree measuring four inches in diameter or greater, when measured two feet from the ground.

The Subdivision Ordinance requires surveys to identify tree cover and notes that "the Planning Commission may request the dedication of or preservation of any existing natural features in order to preserve any trees, groves, water courses, historic sites, vistas and similar irreplaceable assets which add value to all developments and to the City as a whole." The Subdivision Ordinance contains a Tree and Woodland Preservation section with detailed requirements. The purpose of the section is to ensure that the natural features within the City are protected and to minimize any adverse effects development might have on the environment. Subdivisions shall be planned in such a manner that the optimum number of significant trees shall be preserved.

Prime Agricultural Soils

Per the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service's Farmland Classification for Scott County, prime agricultural land is defined as any soil type which is classified as "All Areas are Prime Farmland." These soils meet a set of criteria defined by the USDA and contain the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for agricultural production. This classification does not include prime agricultural soils which may require additional modification, such as drainage or protection from flooding, as these soils must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if they fit the criteria of prime agricultural land.

Prime farmland, as a designation assigned by U.S. Department of Agriculture, is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is also available for these uses. It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce economically sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods, including water management. In general, prime farmlands have an adequate and dependable water supply from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, acceptable salt and sodium content, and few or no rocks.

They are permeable to water and air. Prime farmlands are not excessively erodible or saturated with water for a long period of time, and they either do not flood frequently or are protected from flooding.[1]1

Many of the environmental decisions about using a resource are based on the kind of soil and the ability of the soil to support that resource use. Attached is a map illustrating the areas of prime farm land in and around the City of Jordan.

Aggregate Resources

The locations of aggregate resources in Jordan have been identified, as illustrated in the *Minnesota Geological Survey Information Circular 46*. The attached Aggregate Resources map illustrates the location of aggregate resources in Jordan. The majority of resources remaining in Jordan consist of small scattered sites, including those which are underlying developed properties.

There are no former or active mining areas within the current city limits of Jordan. Within the proposed growth boundaries there are two sites. The Schmitt pits are located on the SW side of the community, along County Road 66. This is an active mining area. A proposed mining area is located within Sand Creek Township, off Valleyview Drive. An EAW has been completed with an interim use permit proposed to be acted on by Scott County in 2010.

To address aggregate resources in undeveloped areas, the Jordan's Zoning Ordinance contains guidelines for the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit to allow land reclamation and mining. The owners of parcels which contain aggregate resources may apply for a conditional use permit as a part of the development to mine or capture the aggregate resource prior to grading the site for future development. Wetland areas take priority over aggregate resources that may lie below the surface and will not be mined. It is recommended the City allow mining as an interim use, expand the requirements for mining and require a reclamation plan that addresses slope stabilization, re-vegetation, erosion and sedimentation control, surface and ground water protection and topsoil restoration.

Natural Resource Sustainability and Stewardship

In order to maintain natural resources for future generations, while recognizing the needs of today's generation, a sustainable management plan is needed to ensure biological systems remain diverse and prolific over time.

The City of Jordan is committed to preserving its natural resources as evidenced by its current programs and ordinances including storm water management, shoreland regulations, protection of steep slopes and bluffs, floodplain ordinances, tree and woodland preservation ordinances.

[1] ^ a b Soil Survey Staff (1993). "Soil Survey Manual". Soil Conservation Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 18. http://soils.usda.gov/technical/manual/print_version/complete.html. Retrieved 2006-08-30.

Stewardship

The US Environmental Protection Agency offers programs for communities for environmental stewardship. Among these include:

- Adopt your watershed program
- Partnerships with other environmental agencies
- Environmental Education programs
- Green Buildings
- GreenScapes
- Collaboration with schools and youth and
- Recycling and reuse initiatives.
- What you can do to Clean the Air

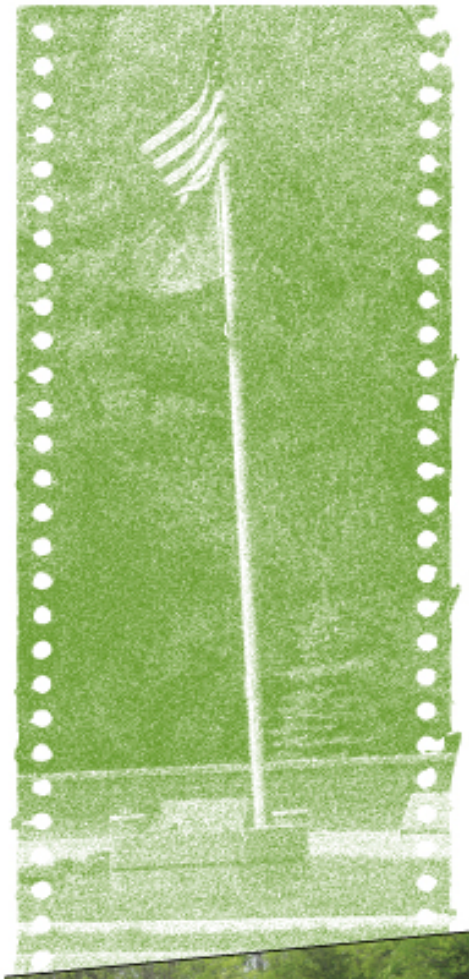
Given the high level of importance of natural resources in and around Jordan, Stewardship programs which assist in environmental sustainability are recommended. Local program may include:

- Installation of recycling bins in local parks
- Partnerships with the schools for environmental education, water testing, etc.
- Public education of the importance of the natural resources.

Sustainability

According to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the following list describes the key aspects of a sustainable community.

- **Acknowledges** that economic, environmental and social issues are interrelated and that these issues should be addressed "holistically."
- **Recognizes** the sensitive interface between the natural and built environments.
- **Understands** and begins to shift away from polluting and wasteful practices.
- **Considers** the full environmental, economic and social impacts/cost of development and community operations.
- **Understands** its natural, cultural, historical and human assets and resources and acts to protect and enhance them.
- **Fosters** multi-stakeholder collaboration and citizen participation.
- **Promotes** resource conservation and pollution prevention.
- **Focuses** on improving community health and quality of life.
- **Acts** to create value-added products and services in the local economy.



Natural Resource Areas Sustainability Policies, Goals and Objectives

Policy 1. Dedicate natural resource areas throughout the City and urban growth boundary to preserve open space and promote and maintain cultural activities, parks and recreation facilities.

Goal A. Develop a resource identification system to help prioritize open space, park and sensitive areas not already designated as floodplain or wetlands such as rock outcroppings and large stands of trees.

Policy 2. Manage and enhance the natural and manmade environments through natural resource protection to ensure continued use, enjoyment, and access for present and future generations.

Goal A. Create active programs associated with cultural, park and recreation assets to meet the needs of all residents and visitors.

Goal B. Strive to acquire public access to natural and manmade environments through dedication or the use of easements for trail purposes to connect these natural resources to the trails system.

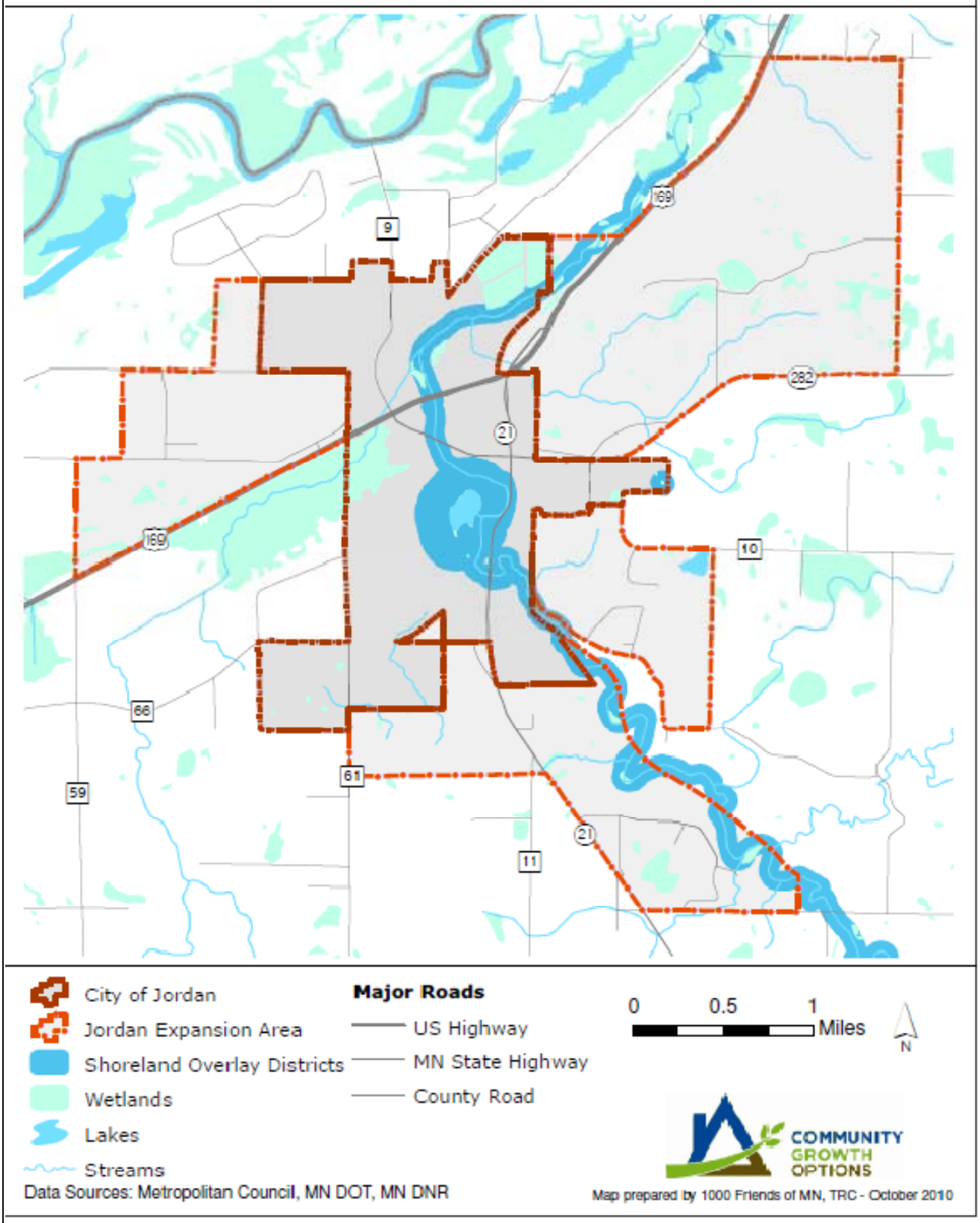
Policy 3. Encourage developments that incorporate and work with their natural surroundings while they preserve the various functions and integrity of our natural environment.

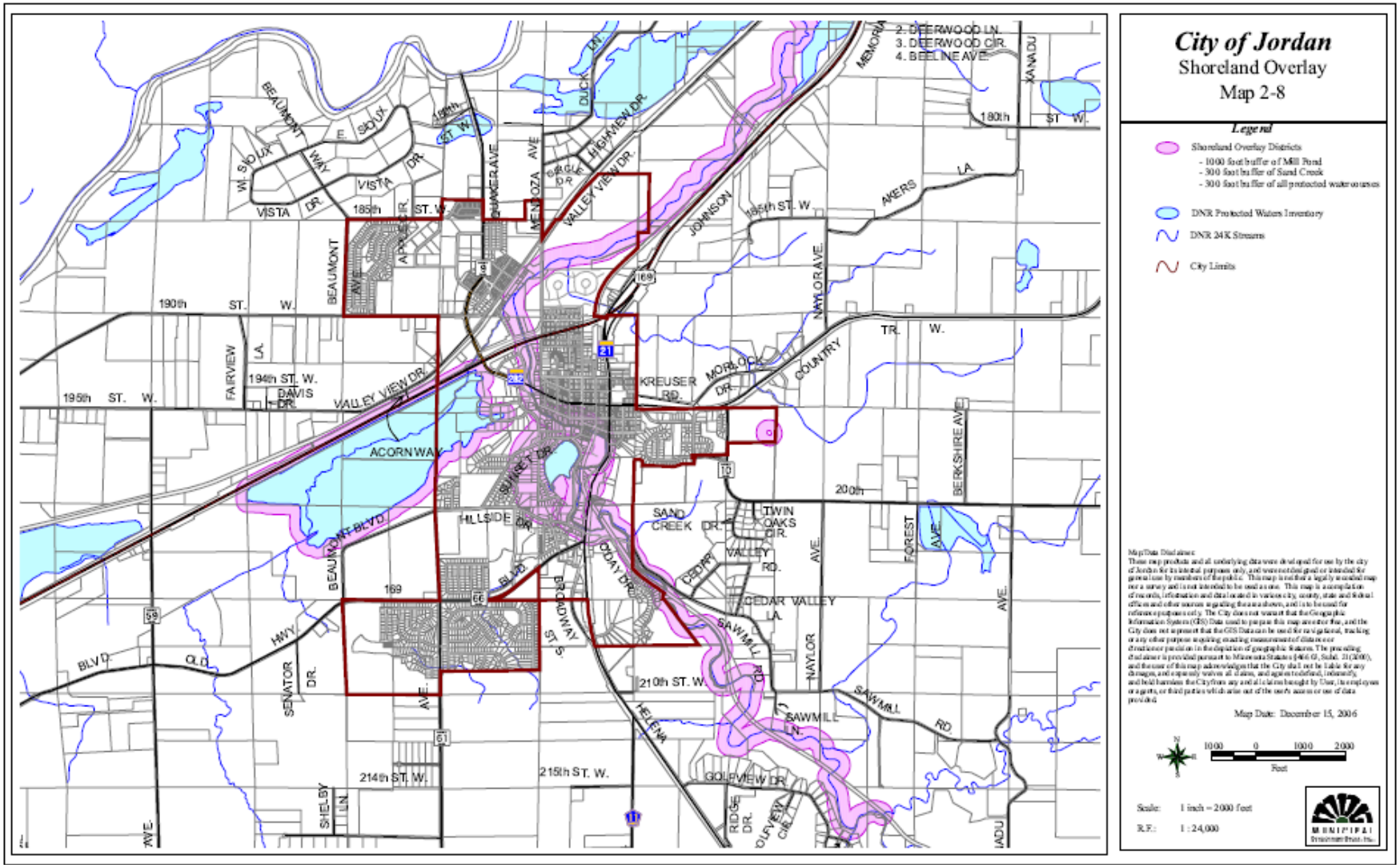
Goal A. Link the City's natural resource identification system to the development approval process.

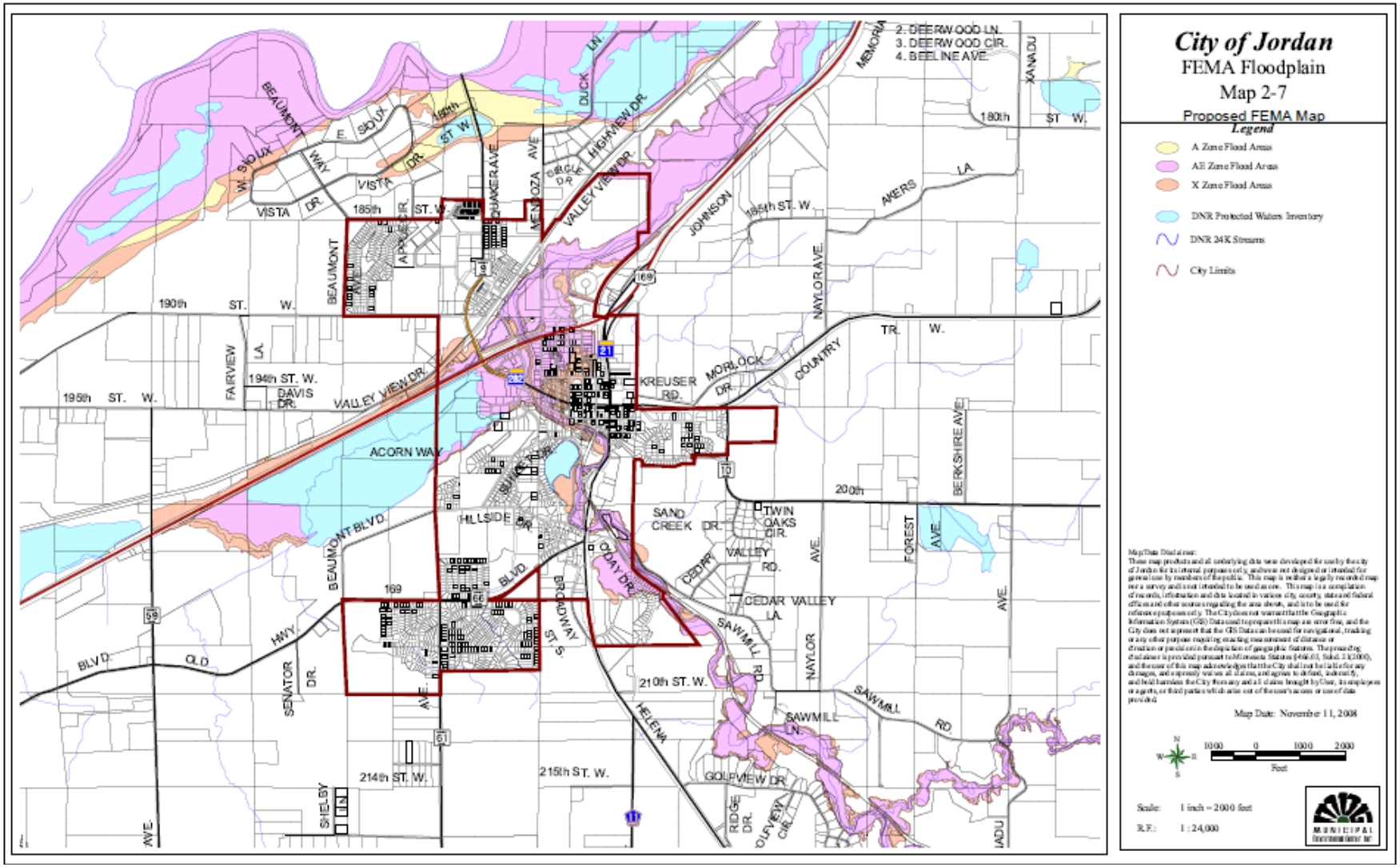
Goal B. Adopt zoning or performance standards for open space preservation as necessary to preserve natural features that meet the City's natural resource identification process.

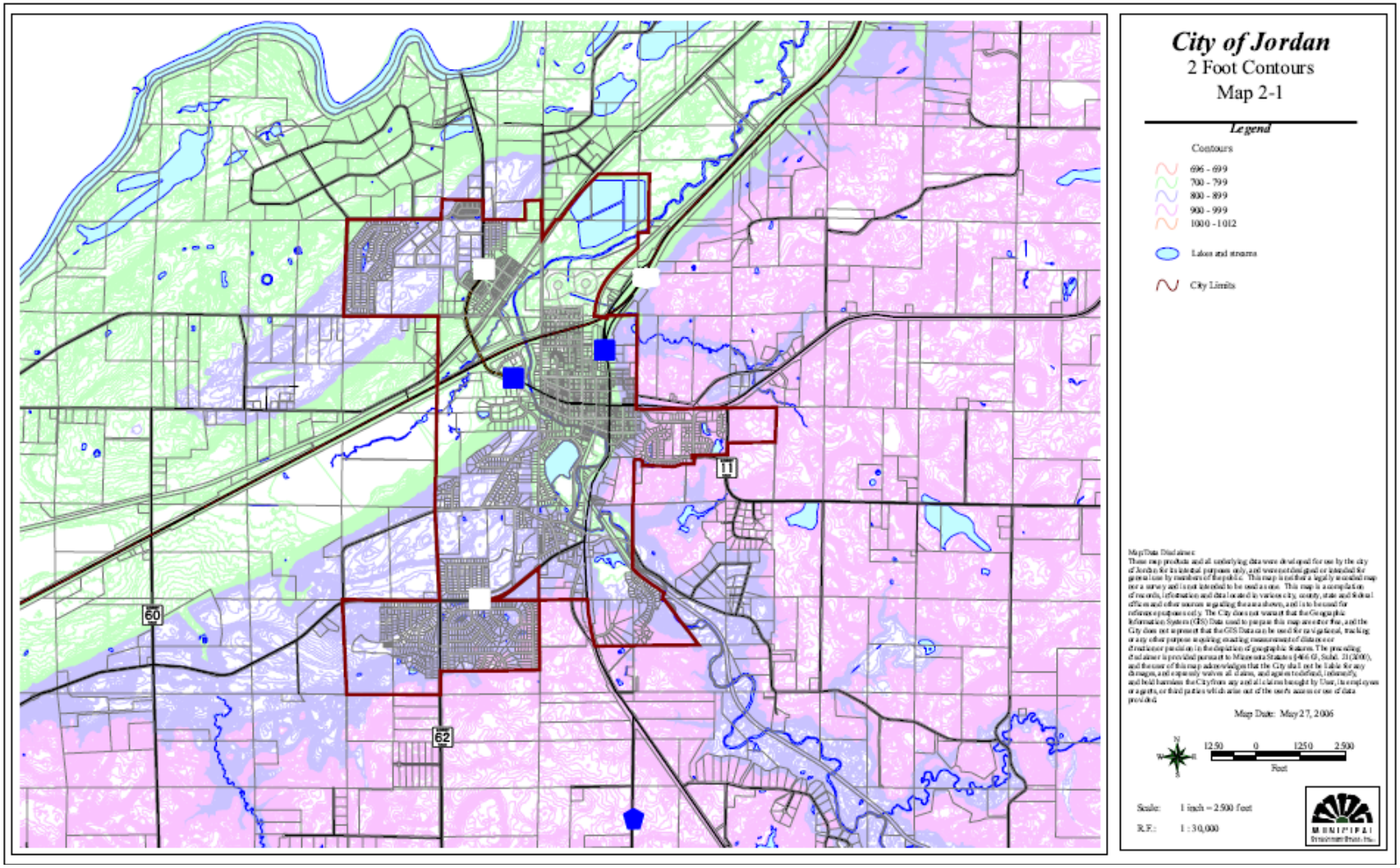
Goal C. Promote the use of planned unit developments during the approval process in order to ensure concentration of open space into more useable areas and the preservation of the natural resources of the site including wetlands, woodlands, steep slopes and scenic views.

Water Resources

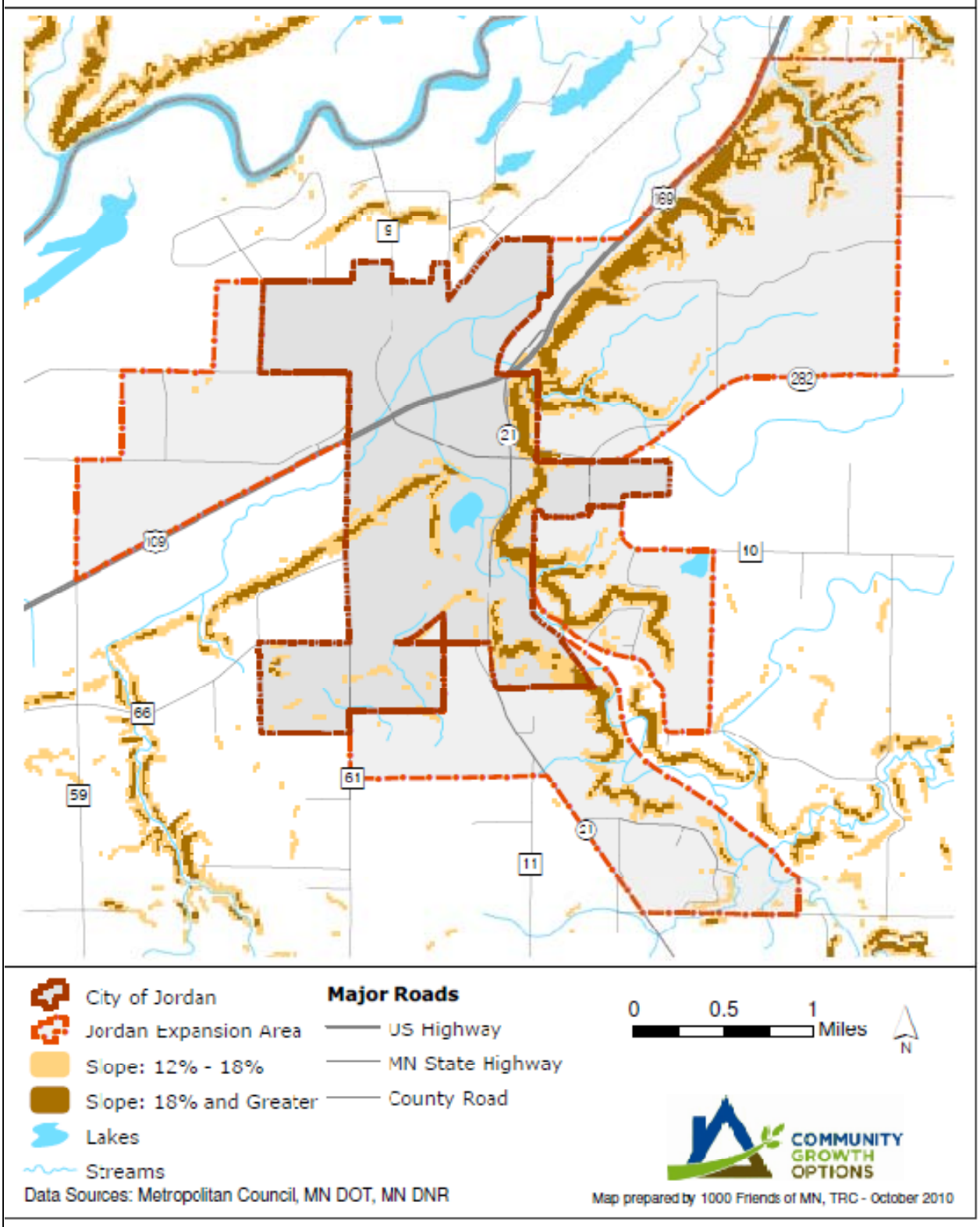



City of Jordan
Shoreland Overlay
Map 2-8
Legend
Shoreland Overlay Districts
- 1000 foot buffer of Mill Pond
- 300 foot buffer of Sand Creek
- 300 foot buffer of all protected water courses
DNR Protected Waters Inventory
DNR 24K Streams
City Limits
Map Date: December 15, 2006
Scale: 1 inch = 2000 feet
R.F.: 1 : 24,000
Feet
2. DEERWOOD LN.
3. DEERWOOD CIR.
4. BEELINE AVE.
VALLEY VIEW DR.
KREUSER RD.
ACORN WAY
HILLSIDE DR.
SAND CREEK DR.
TWIN OAKS CIR.
CEDAR VALLEY LA.
SAWMILL RD.
SAWMILL LN.
GOLFVIEW DR.
BEAUMONT BLVD.
BEAUMONT AVE.
BROADWAY ST.
HELENA
JOHNSON
AKERS LA.
NAYLOR AVE.
COUNTRY TR. W.
BERKSHIRE AVE.
FOREST AVE.
SENATOR DR.
SHELBY LN.
FAIRVIEW LA.
DAVIS DR.
VISTA DR.
W. SIOUX WAY
E. SIOUX
HIGHVIEW DR.
MENDOZA AVE.
DUCK DR.
MEMORIAL
XANADU
190th ST. W.
195th ST. W.
194th ST. W.
185th ST. W.
180th ST. W.
200th
210th ST. W.
214th ST. W.
215th ST. W.
169
21
232
19
59
61
11

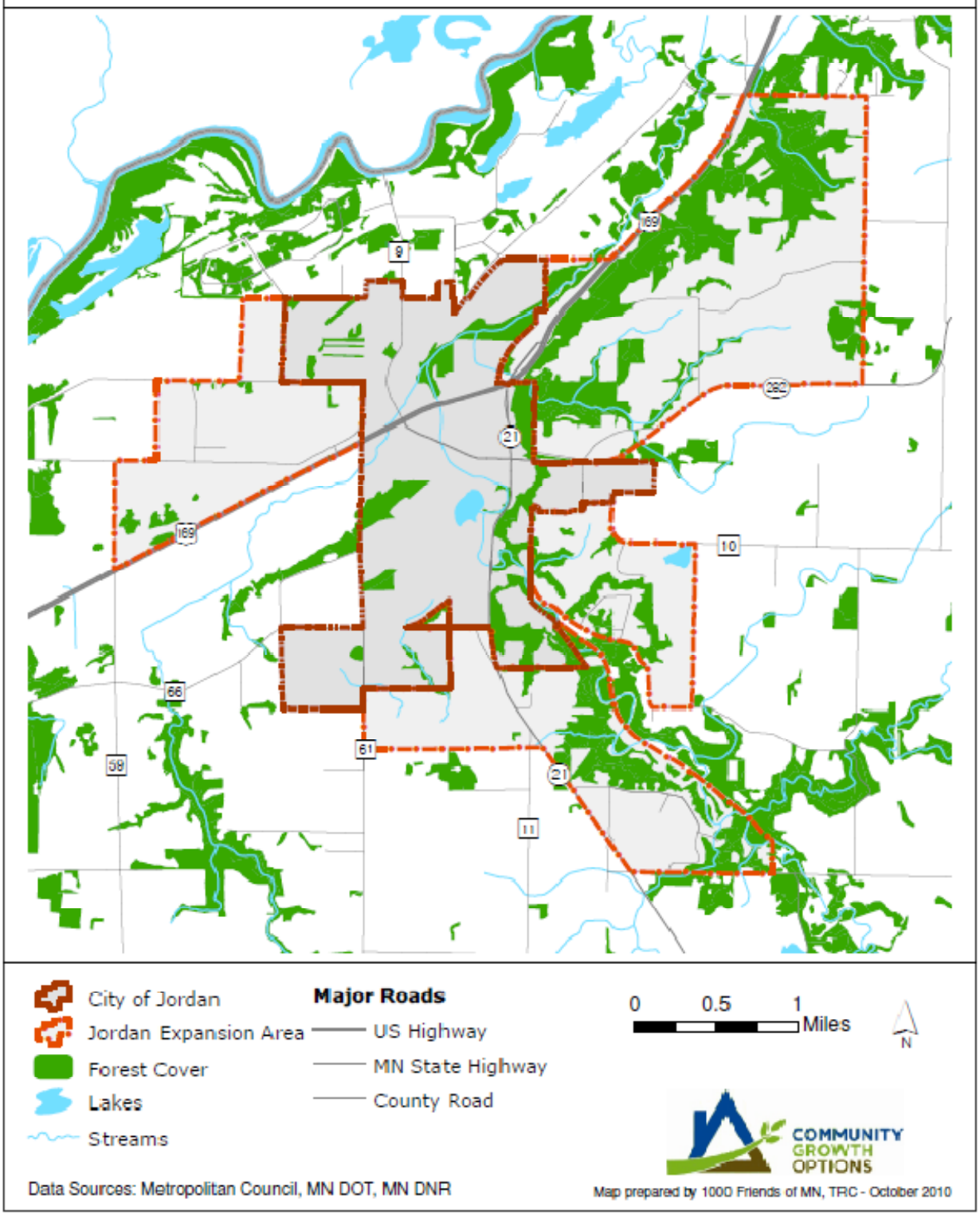

City of Jordan
FEMA Floodplain
Map 2-7
Proposed FEMA Map
Legend
A Zone Flood Areas
AE Zone Flood Areas
X Zone Flood Areas
DNR Protected Waters Inventory
DNR 24K Streams
City Limits
Map Date: November 11, 2008
Scale: 1 inch = 2000 feet
R.F.: 1 : 24,000
Feet
2. DEERWOOD LN.
3. DEERWOOD CIR.
4. BEELINE AVE.
BEAUMONT
SIOUX
VISTA
DR.
185th ST. W.
190th ST. W.
195th ST. W.
194th ST. W.
DAVIS DR.
FAIRVIEW
VALLEY VIEW DR.
ACORN WAY
HILLSIDE
BLVD.
BEAUMONT BLVD.
OLD
HWY.
SENATOR DR.
SHELBY
214th ST. W.
215th ST. W.
210th ST. W.
HELENA
BROADWAY
ST. S
QUAKER AVE.
MENDOZA AVE.
HIGHVIEW DR.
JOHNSON
KREUSER RD.
MORLOCK DR.
COUNTRY
NAYLOR AVE.
AKERS LA.
180th ST. W.
TR. W.
200th
BERKSHIRE AVE.
FOREST AVE.
SAND CREEK DR.
TWIN OAKS CIR.
CEDAR VALLEY RD.
CEDAR VALLEY LA.
SAWMILL RD.
SAWMILL LN.
GOLFVIEW DR.
RIDGE DR.
GOLFVIEW CIR.
MEMORIAL
XANADU
169
21
10
51
11


City of Jordan
2 Foot Contours
Map 2-1
Legend
Contours
696 - 699
700 - 799
800 - 899
900 - 999
1000 - 1012
Lakes and streams
City Limits
Map Date: May 27, 2006
12.50 0 1250 2.500
Feet
Scale: 1 inch = 2.500 feet
R.F.: 1 : 30,000
60
62
11

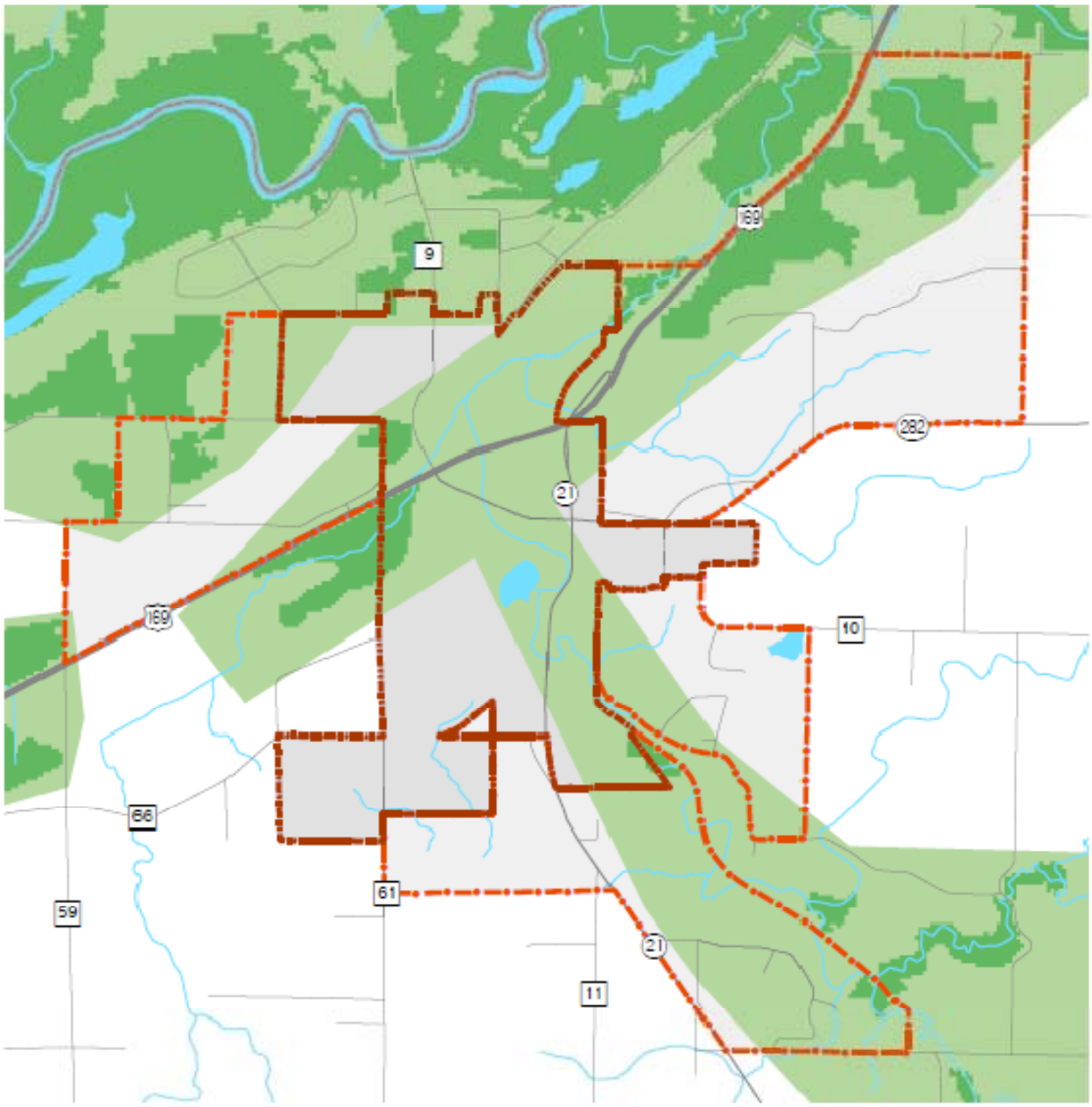
Steep Slopes



Forest Cover



Regionally Significant Ecological Areas and Corridors



City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Regionally Significant Ecological Areas
Metro Conservation Corridors
Lakes

Streams
Major Roads
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road

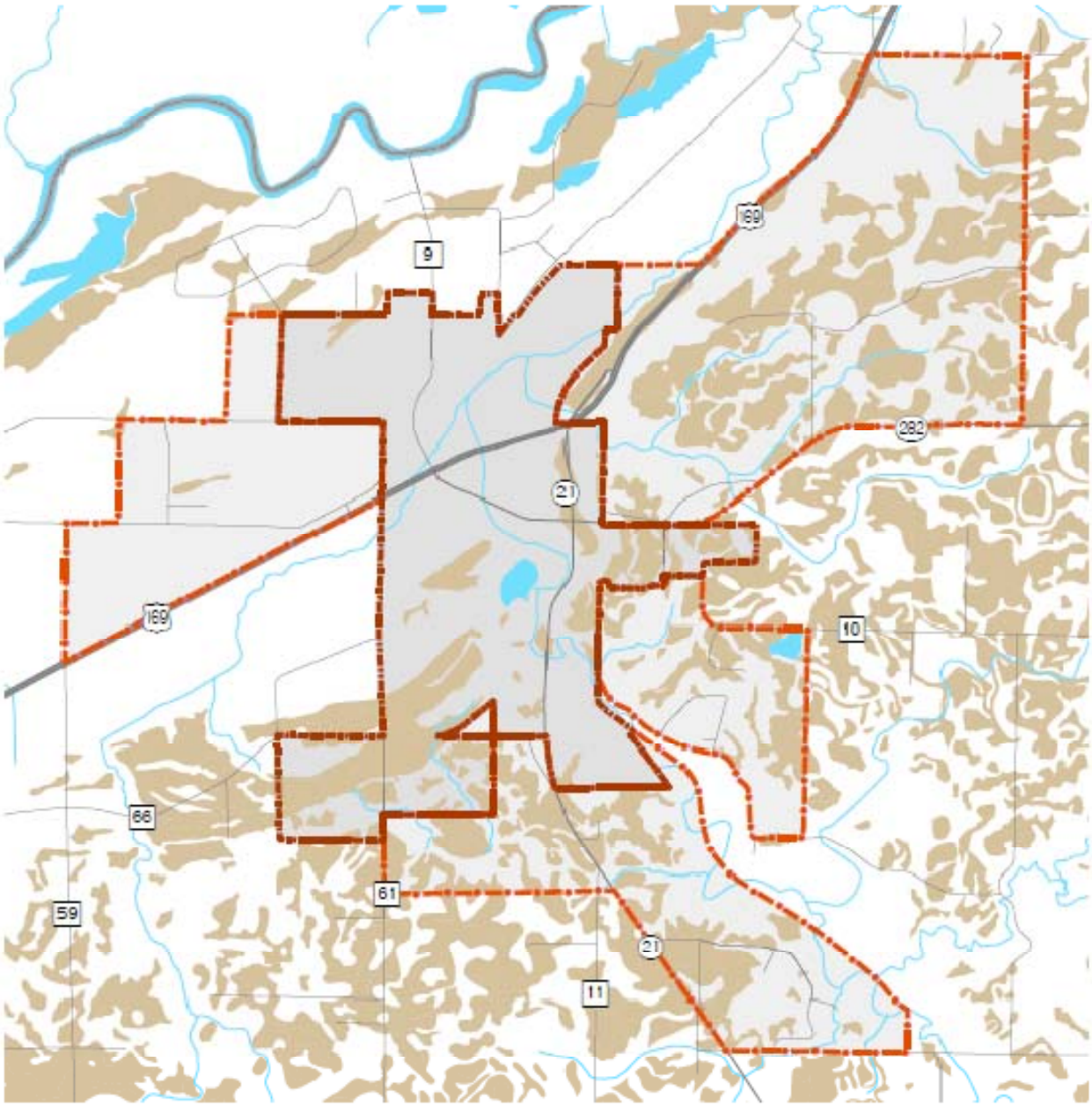
0 0.5 1 Miles
N

COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS

Data Sources: Metropolitan Council, MN DOT, MN DNR

Map prepared by 1000 Friends of MN, TRC - October 2010

Prime Agricultural Soils



City of Jordan
Jordan Expansion Area
Prime Agricultural Soils
Lakes
Streams

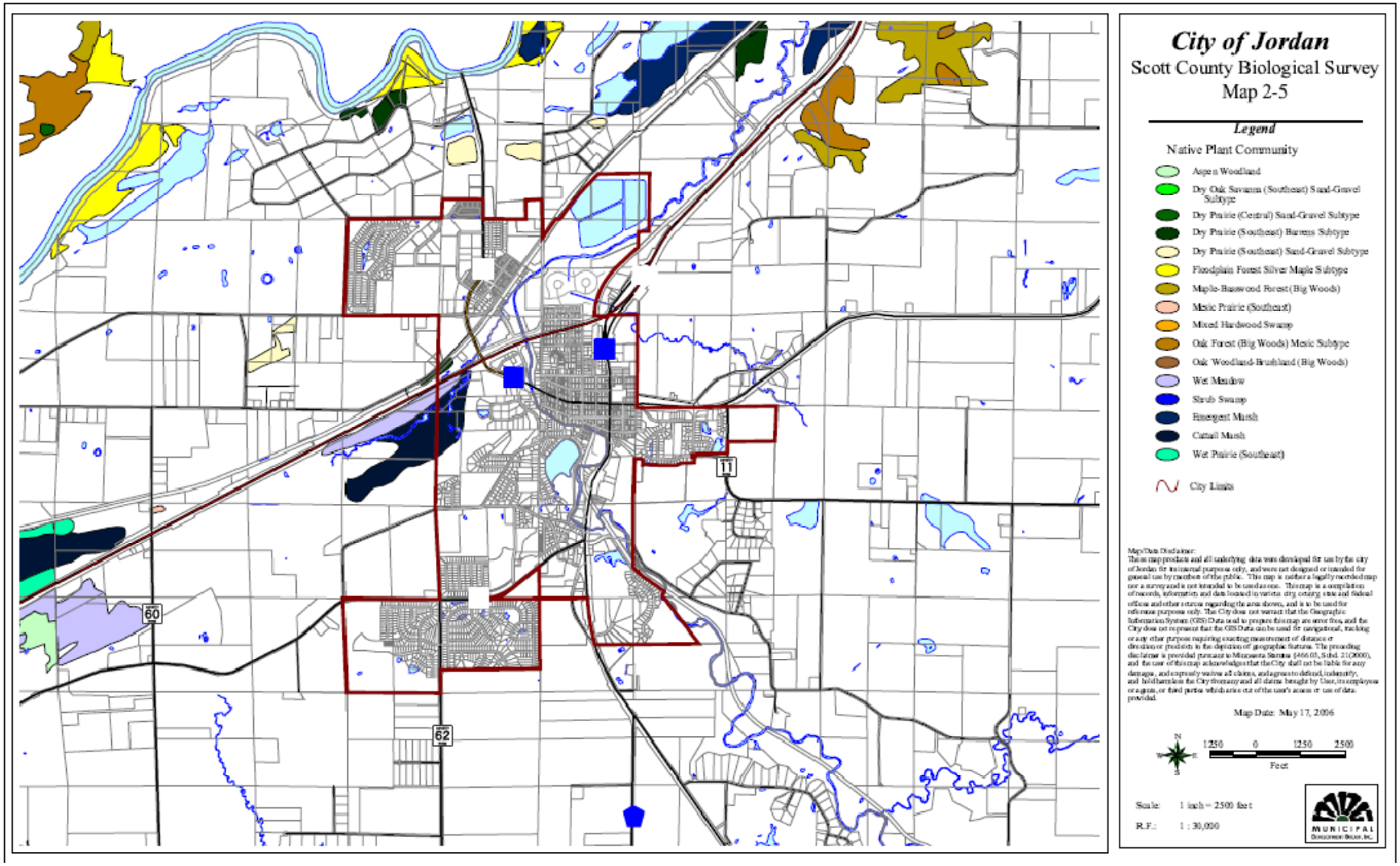
Major Roads
US Highway
MN State Highway
County Road

0 0.5 1 Miles
N

COMMUNITY GROWTH OPTIONS

Data Sources: Metropolitan Council, MN DOT, MN DNR, Scott County

Map prepared by 1000 Friends of MN, TRC - October 2010


City of Jordan
Scott County Biological Survey
Map 2-5
Legend
Native Plant Community
Aspen Woodland
Dry Oak Savanna (Southeast) Sand-Gravel Subtype
Dry Prairie (Central) Sand-Gravel Subtype
Dry Prairie (Southeast) Barrens Subtype
Dry Prairie (Southeast) Sand-Gravel Subtype
Floodplain Forest Silver Maple Subtype
Maple-Basswood Forest (Big Woods)
Mesic Prairie (Southeast)
Mixed Hardwood Swamp
Oak Forest (Big Woods) Mesic Subtype
Oak Woodland-Brushland (Big Woods)
Wet Meadow
Shrub Swamp
Emergent Marsh
Cattail Marsh
Wet Prairie (Southeast)
City Limits
Map/Data Disclaimer:
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Map Date: May 17, 2006
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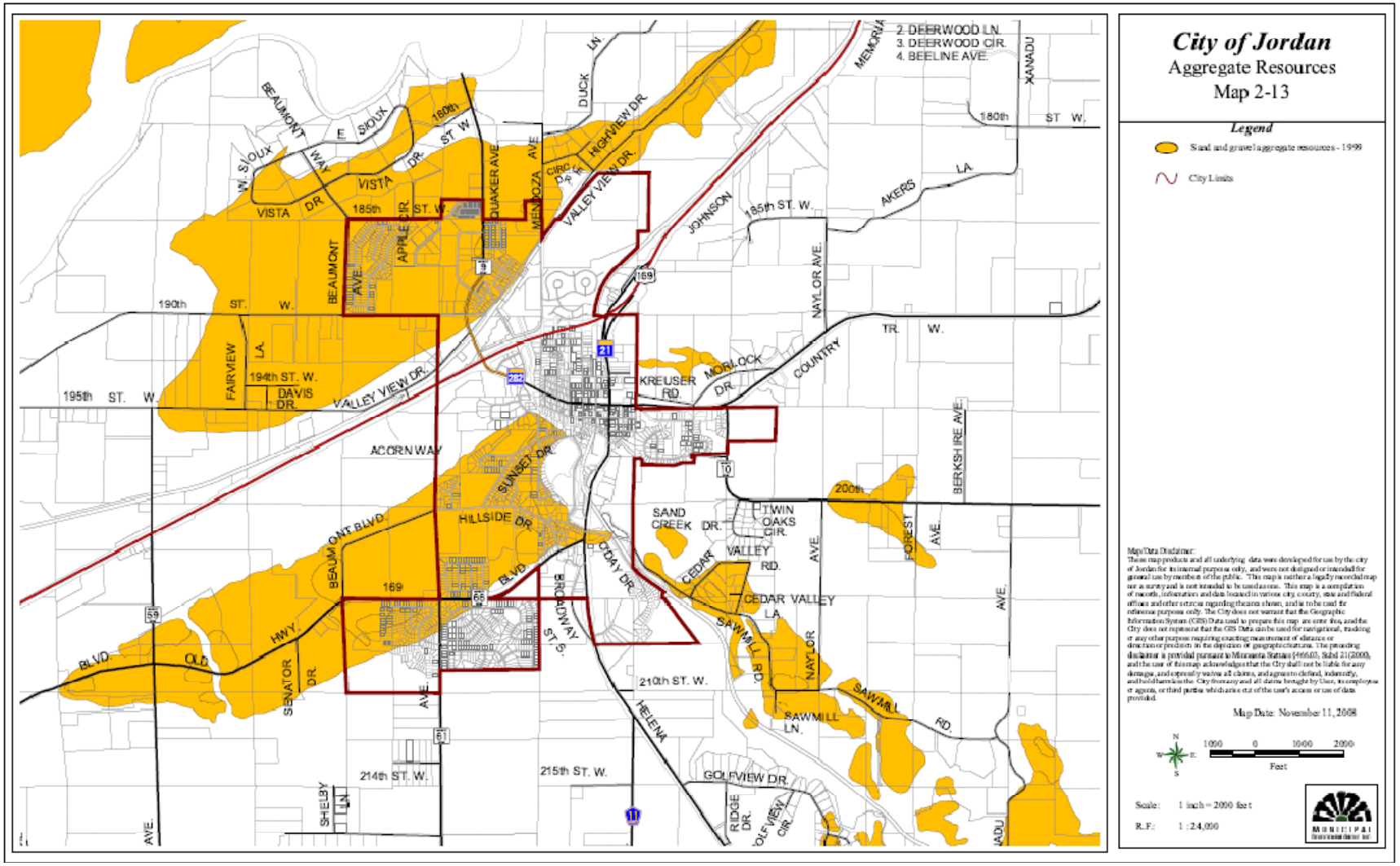
City of Jordan
Aggregate Resources
Map 2-13
Legend
Sand and gravel aggregate resources - 1999
City Limits
Map Date: November 11, 2008
Scale: 1 inch = 2000 feet
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2. DEERWOOD LN.
3. DEERWOOD CIR.
4. BEELINE AVE.
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W. SIOUX
VISTA
DR.
185th ST. W.
180th ST. W.
190th ST. W.
195th ST. W.
194th ST. W.
DAVIS DR.
FAIRVIEW LA.
APPLE CIR.
QUAKER AVE.
MENDOZA AVE.
CIRC. DR.
HIGHVIEW DR.
VALLEY VIEW DR.
DUCK LN.
JOHNSON
AKERS LA.
NAYLOR AVE.
COUNTRY TR. W.
KREUSER RD.
MORLOCK DR.
ACORN WAY
SUNSET DR.
HILLSIDE DR.
BEAUMONT BLVD.
OLD HWY. 169
SENATOR DR.
BROADWAY ST. S.
O'DAY DR.
SAND CREEK DR.
TWIN OAKS CIR.
CEDAR VALLEY RD.
CEDAR VALLEY LA.
SAWMILL RD.
SAWMILL LN.
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FOREST AVE.
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215th ST. W.
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RIDGE DR.
SHELBY LN.
MEMORIA
XANADU
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Section 8. Programs, Services & Administration

Programming, services and administration of a community's parks, trails and natural resources are important components in the overall use and enjoyment of the physical environment in a community. The City of Jordan has a number of partners in place to assist with programs to help residents and visitors enjoy the park and recreational assets the community offers.

Programming and Services

There are a number of programs in Jordan which encourage active living and use of Jordan's parks and trails. Community Education and Recreation Programs are coordinated by the Jordan School District's Community Education Program, through a Joint Powers Agreement with the City. Examples of youth programs include but are not limited to Kid's Company, foreign languages, Kids Camp, youth basketball, volleyball, track, tennis, football, T-Ball and baseball. Adult recreation includes but is not limited to golf lessons, yoga, volleyball, weight lifting and basketball. As a part of the Joint Powers Agreement the City of Jordan contributes funds annually toward recreational programming and cable commission. In addition, fees from patrons generate funds for the administration of these programs.

Park and Recreation Partners

The Joint Powers Agreement between the City and School District for Community Education programming is only one of the partnerships that is in place. The City has an opportunity to partner with various organizations for park and recreational programming and services. Collaborating with these groups may expand opportunities in the community.

Community Organizations.

Coordination with local organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, Commercial Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Lions Club, Church groups, Celebrate Jordan, Jaycees, Firemen, etc. has occurred in the past with programming as well as completion of improvements. In 2010 a Girl Scout Troupe painted a mural on a wall of the restroom facility in Lagoon Park. The organizations have conducted activities in the parks.

Property Owners.

Local residents are stakeholders of the facilities near their homes. Engaging homeowners in fundraising and providing input on the types of improvements in local parks will encourage more active use of the facilities. Identifying stakeholders who are adjacent to future parks and trail segments and including them in future planning will also provide the city with local knowledge of resources and buy-in on future projects.

Regional Partners

Adjacent Local Government Units

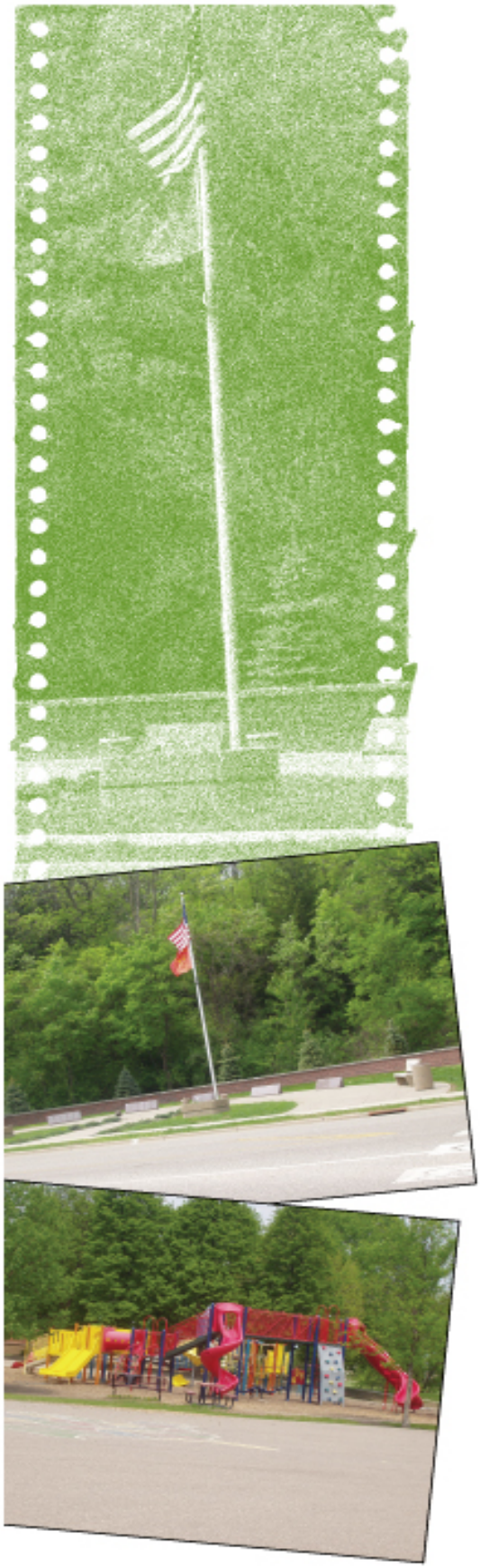
Future park search areas and regional trail connection extend into areas that are now a part of Sand Creek Township and St. Lawrence Township. Working with these governmental units and the municipalities of Belle Plaine, Carver, New Prague, Prior Lake and Shakopee are key to planning the future alignment and connectivity of the trails external to the City. Future park development is proposed to occur at the time property is annexed to the City.

Scott County Soil and Water

This organization, based in Jordan, has a 70+ year history of helping residents and businesses protect and preserve our land and water resources. This organization may be particularly helpful in the implementation of natural resource goals.

County Extension – 4H

The County Extension Office offers resources and workshops for families and youth on agriculture, gardening, environment and community. The County office is based in Jordan.



Scott County Watershed Management Organization

As a non-profit partner, the Scott County Watershed Management Organization (SCWMO) can receive funds from some private foundations for which the City is ineligible. Partnering with the WMO may increase the sources of funding available to implement the master park and trail plan.

Scott County

The City and County will need to collaborate and coordinate in order to implement both the County and City trails and greenways. Additionally, connections to several regional trails is envisioned within the Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Plan. Ensuring consistency in proposed routes, trail heads and Highway 169 crossing will also assist in implementation and the pursuit of grants. At the time of this Master Planning process, Scott County was also planning trail systems for this portion of the County. Continued coordination is essential to avoid duplication of efforts and to share in the planning process.

Carver County

Trail segments are proposed to extend north into Carver County. Coordination with the Carver County Park Office and their Comprehensive Park and Trail Plan is crucial.

Jordan School District

While the school district serves an area larger than the City limits, coordination with the School District is needed as recreational amenities and trails/sidewalks are shared by students and residents. Collaboration provides access to various grant programs such as the "Safe Routes to Schools". Placement of cross walks in high traffic areas leading to the schools also helps increase the walkability and safety in the community.

Joint use of playground equipment, tennis courts, and recreational areas often occurs in summer months, when school programs are not exclusively utilizing these areas. The City and School District have worked in coordination on the improvement of baseball fields in the past and is encouraged to continue this cooperative relationship.

Natural Resource education programs and applications for grants to support this curriculum are recommended to educate youth on the importance of Jordan's natural resources and the continued protection and improvement of these assets.

1000 Friends of Minnesota

The mission of 1000 Friends of MN is mission to conserve Minnesota's woods, waters and farms and encourage new development near existing communities. The organization provides technical assistance to communities and organizations to further their mission.

Met Council

The Metropolitan Council's adopted *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, includes the expansion of the metropolitan park system from the current 53,000 acres to almost 70,000 acres. In addition, the network of regional trails is proposed to expand from the existing 231 miles to 877 miles. The regional trails which are included in the City's Master Trail Plan are consistent with the Met Council's regional plan.

Grant programs such as the Surface Transportation, Bridge Improvement and Replacement Program, Congestion Mitigation Program and Transportation, Transportation Enhancement Funds are available for projects consistent with the Met Council and MnDOTs plans. Coordination with the Met Council and MnDOT are recommended.

State and Federal Agencies

Minnesota Department Natural Resources –MN Valley State Park

The MN Valley State Park includes camping and a natural surface trail, along the MN River. Funding through the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Constitutional Amendment provides opportunities to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for game, fish, and wildlife; to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater, with at least 5% of the fund spent to protect drinking water sources; and for arts, arts education, and arts access, and to preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage. The City should coordinate its future trail connections and recreational uses with the DNR.

MnDOT

The Minnesota Department of Transportation offers a number of park and trail grants including the Surface Transportation Program, Bridge Replacement Program, Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program and Transportation Enhancement Funds. Working with MnDOT to access these funding programs as well as enhance safety in the community is recommended.

US Fish and Wildlife

The Rapids Lake Education and Visitor Center is located approximately 4 miles north of Jordan along County Road 9/ Carver County Road 45. This is part of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge's Rapids Lake Unit, which is 1480 acres. It includes wildlife observation and photography, four miles of hiking trails, hunting of deer, waterfowl and small game and fishing. The City and school district may wish to coordinate educational programs for adults and youth through this center. In addition, future plans may include potential acquisition of additional land along the MN River Valley, depending on the willingness of sellers. Jordan should continue to communicate with the US Fish and Wildlife office to learn about their plans and coordinate types of trails, educational and recreational offerings.

Private Sector Partners

Businesses, local organizations and individuals may also play significant roles in parks and trails. Businesses can sponsor or host active living or recreational projects or events, make land donations, financial contributions, host fundraising events, and contribute to the management of recreational facilities through limited term agreements.

Program Partners Contact Information

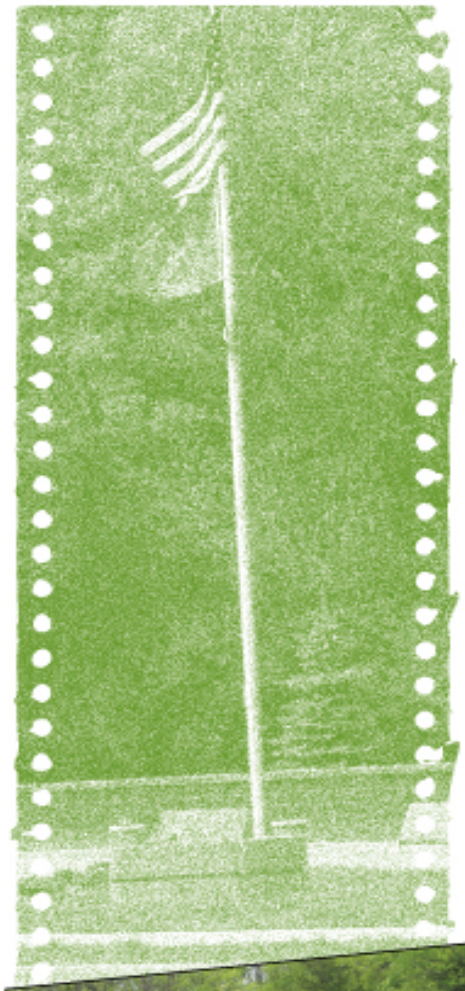
Jordan Community Education
500 Sunset Drive Suite A, Jordan MN 55352. (952) 492-6211

Jordan School District
Superintendent, Jordan Public Schools, 500 Sunset Drive, Jordan MN 55352.

City of Belle Plaine
PO Box 129, Belle Plaine, MN 5611. (952) 873-5553

City of Carver
PO Box 147, Carver MN 55315. (952) 448-5353

City of New Prague
118 Central Avenue N, New Prague MN 56071. (952) 758-4401



City of Prior Lake
4646 Dakota St. SE, Prior Lake MN 55372. (952) 447-9800

City of Shakopee
129 Holmes St. South, Shakopee MN 55379. (952) 233-9300

Sand Creek Township
Clerk, Sand Creek Township Board
St. Lawrence Township
St. Lawrence Township Board

Scott County
Scott County Government Center, 200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee MN 55379. 952-496-8475.
http://www.co.scott.mn.us

Scott County WMO
Scott County Government Center, Ste 114, 200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee, MN 55379. Contact Scott WMO Administrator: (952) 496-8054.

Scott County Extension Office (4H)
7151 190th St W Suite 100, Jordan, MN 55352-2104 (952) 492-5410 (phone)

Carver County
600 East 4th Street • Chaska, MN 55318 • County Park Office: (952) 466-5250. Email: parks@co.carver.mn.us

Carver County Watershed Management Organization
http://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/LWS/plan-water-mgmt.asp . Phone: 952.361.1825. Email: planning@co.carver.mn.us

Metropolitan Council
Metropolitan Council, 390 Robert St. North, St. Paul, MN 55101. 651-602-1000.
http://www.metrocouncil.org/parks/index.htm

Transportation Advisory Board
TAB Coordinator: (651) 602-1728.

MnDOT
Bicycle Pedestrian Unit. (651) 366-4162
Ehancement Funds. (651) 234-7773
Safe Routes to Schools. 651) 366-3833

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Trails and Waterways
500 Lafayette Road, Box 52, St. Paul, MN 55155
Trail Program Coordinator: (651) 259-5642.
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us

MnDNR Metro Greenways Program
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/greenways/index.html . Phone: 651.259.5835

MN Valley State Park DNR
Operations Supervisor

Minnesota Complete Streets Coalition
Ethan Fawley – Fresh Energy, Fawley@fresh-energy.org or 651-294-7141. http://www.mncompletestreets.org/

Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA)
http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/partners/for_communities.html
Phone: 952.442.2196. Email: derrick.johnson@mn.usda.gov

Three Rivers Park District
3000 Xenium Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55441. 763.559.9000

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Recreation Area, 3815 American Blvd East, Bloomington, MN 55425. Deputy Refuse Manager, 952-854-5900.
http://www.fws.gov/midwest/minnesotavalley/

Programs for Open Spaces and Natural Resources

Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program (www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca). RTCA is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. This program provides expertise and experience to help communities achieve on-the-ground conservation successes for their projects. RTCA assists with conceptual planning, organizational development, and capacity building but does not offer direct grants.

Minnesota Land Trust (MLT) (www.mnland.org). The MLT is a private, non-profit that promotes the preservation of open space and scenic areas in Minnesota specializing in working with private citizens and public agencies (including local governments) that wish to establish perpetual conservation easements on qualifying land. The MLT assists with defining land protection tools and methods.

Minnesota Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) (www.nature.org/minnesota). TNC is an international, private, nonprofit organization that protects land through acquisitions, gifts of land, management agreements, conservation easements, cooperation with state and local units of government, and enrollment of private land-owners in a volunteer registry program. TNC assists with defining land protection tools and methods.

Trust for Public Land (TPL) (www.tpl.org). The TPL is a national, nonprofit land conservation organization with regional offices in Minnesota. The TPL helps communities take action on parks and land conservation by providing objective advice based on extensive experience, the latest technology and analytical frameworks, and a proven approach to realizing parks and conservation goals.

The TPL provides many services, among them helping structure, negotiate, and complete land transactions that create parks, playgrounds, and protected natural areas. TPL serves as an independent agent, buying land from willing landowners and then transferring it to public agencies, land trusts, or other groups for protection. In some instances, TPL will protect land through conservation easements, which restrict development but permit traditional uses such as farming and ranching. TPL assists with land transactions involving conservation real estate.

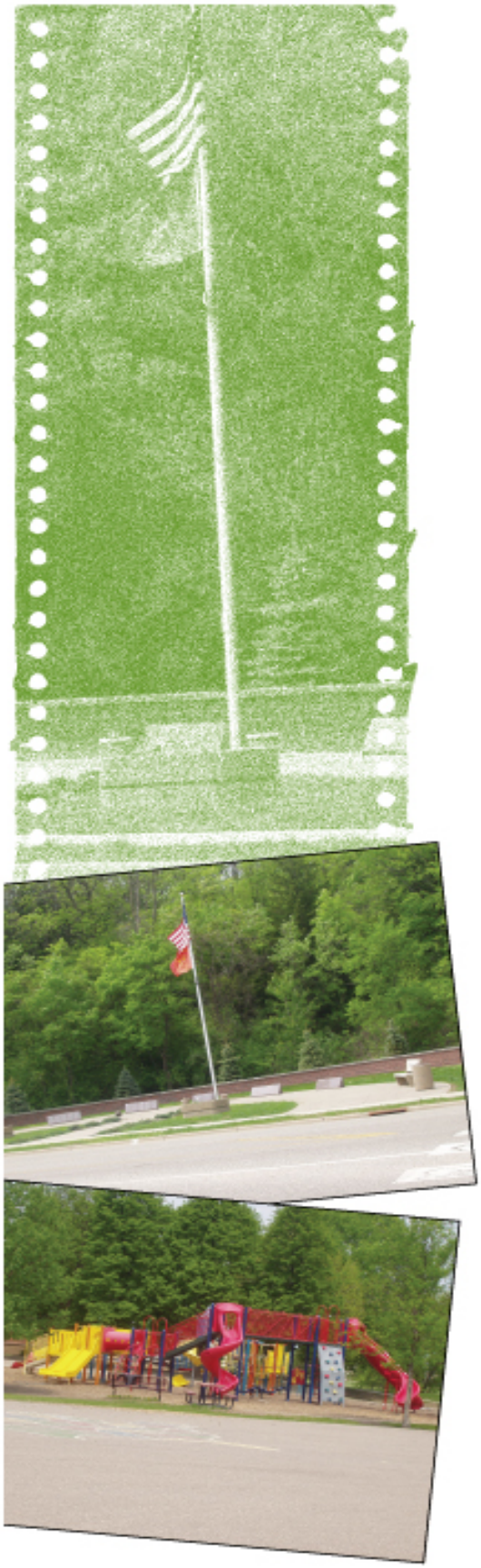
Administration

The City has appointed a seven member **Park and Recreation Commission**, with staggered two-year terms. The Park Commission meets monthly to plan for the development and redevelopment of Jordan's park and trail system. The Park and Recreation Commission is a recommending body to the City Council that provides on-going public input on the system. Specific duties of the Park and Recreation Advisory Commission are outlined in Chapter 2, Section 2.36 of the City Code**.** At this time the **Senior Planner** serves as staff to the Park and Recreation Commission.

The City of Jordan's **Public Works Department** coordinates maintenance of Jordan's Parks and trails. Proper care and management of park and trail facilities encourages park and trail use, improves the quality of life in Jordan and enhances the visual quality of neighborhoods and the City as a whole. Park maintenance tasks may occur on a daily, weekly, monthly, seasonal and/or weather related basis. These jobs include but are not limited to litter and garbage clean-up, mowing and trimming, preventive equipment maintenance and repair, facility repair and maintenance, painting, snow removal, trail maintenance, special event preparation among other items.

Park and Trail Funding

The City budgets for operational expenses through its annual budget process. The City currently utilizes user fees, donations from organizations and individuals, grant programs, county, state and federal funds, park dedication land and fees and the general tax levy to cover expenses relating to parks. Maintenance of parks is included in the general fund budget, while park dedication fees are tracked in a park dedication fund.



The City has completed over $450,000 of capital improvements within its park and trail system over the past 10 years. A complete list of these improvements is included in Section 5, Parks and Open Space.

Park Land Dedication Fund. The City has a dedicated fund for park acquisition. The purpose of all funds derived is to pay for all or part of the acquisition of parkland, park equipment and park improvements as established by the City Council. All revenues derived from the park land dedication fees are credited to the Park Land Dedication Fund.

Park Equipment and Improvement Fund. The City has a second fund for all funds for the purchase of park equipment and park improvements.

Park Land Dedication Ordinance**.** MN State Statute 462.358, grants cities the authority to, "require that a reasonable portion of the buildable land, as defined by municipal ordinance, of any proposed subdivision be dedicated to the public or preserved for public use as streets, roads, sewers, electric, gas, and water facilities, storm water drainage and holding areas or ponds and similar utilities and improvements, parks, recreational facilities as defined in section 471.191, playgrounds, trails, wetlands, or open space." Statutes required that, "If a municipality adopts the ordinance or proceeds under section 462.353, subdivision 4a, as required by paragraph (a), the municipality must adopt a capital improvement budget and have a parks and open space plan or have a parks, trails, and open space component in its comprehensive plan…"

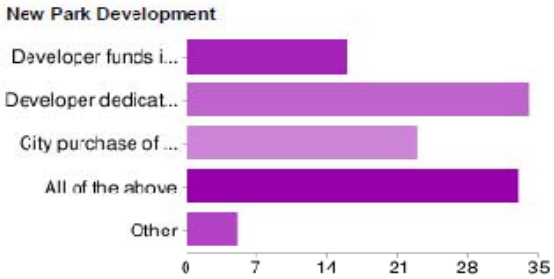
The City Subdivision Ordinance includes parkland dedication requirements. Proposed subdivisions are required to dedicate 10% of the gross area of all property being subdivided for parks, playgrounds, greenway trails, recreational areas, or public open space. The dedication is in addition to the property dedicated for streets, alleys, drainage ways, pedestrian ways or other public ways. Storm water ponding areas may be incorporated into a park but is not considered as part of the park dedication requirement. The City has the option of collecting fees in lieu of land.

The City's Comprehensive Plan does include a Park and Open Space component in its Comprehensive Plan. In addition, a capital improvement plan has been adopted by the City Council which includes park improvements and expenditures. This Master Parks, Trails and Recreation Plan identifies additional capital expenditures recommended for consideration in future capital improvement plans.

As a part of the Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Planning Survey, residents were asked for input on how the City should fund (1) on-going expenses (operational) relating to parks and trails; and (2) New Park Development. Relating to operational funding sources, the number one response was to include this within the city's budget, followed by event fees, user fees a combination of fees and increased community recreation fees. Residents suggested the number one source of funding for new park land acquisition be developer dedication, followed by a combination of developer dedication and city purchase through bonding or budgeting.

User Fee (bike passes for trail, etc)	13
Increased Community Recreation fees	10
Parking fee	3
Event Fees	22
City expense (funded by tax dollars)	37
All of the above	12
Other	20

People may select more than one checkbox, so per
may add up to more than 100%.



Developer funds improvement of the park	16
Developer dedication (donation) of land or fees	34
City purchase of land through bonding/budgeting	23
All of the above	33
Other	5

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages n
up to more than 100%.

Section 9. Implementation

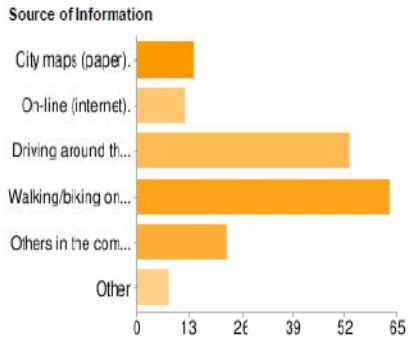
Jordan residents identify Jordan's parks, recreational opportunities and trails as having an important to very important impact on the quality of life in the community. (2010 Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Survey). In order to retain and expand on the recreational opportunities available in the community, six categories of goals have been developed with a number of recommendations on how to achieve these goals, as follows:

A. General Goals and Recommendations

1. **Adopt an Active Living by Design Philosophy and Culture**. This may be accomplished through the built environments such as the construction of additional trails as well as programs which encourage physical activity and healthy eating. Examples include promotion of local farmers markets, community gardens and promotion of riding bicycles versus driving in cars.

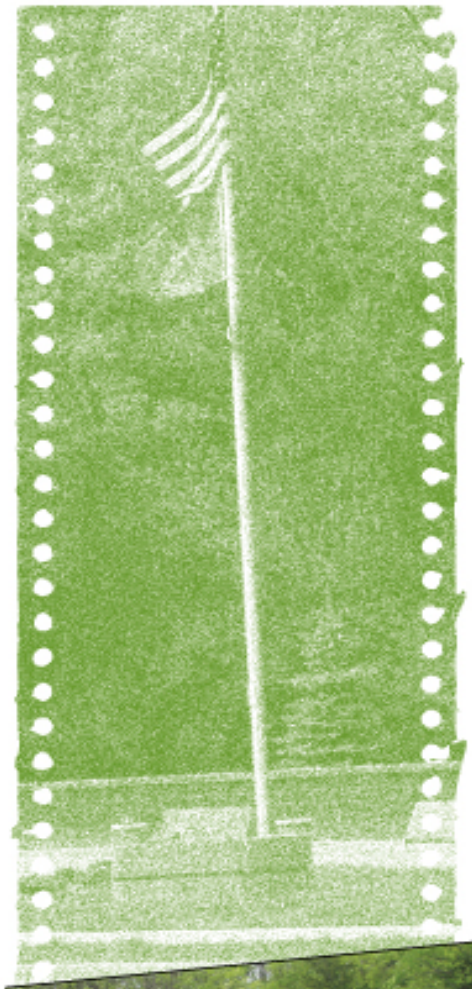
2. **Provide Recreational Opportunities and Resources for all Demographics**. This may be accomplished by improving handicap accessibility within parks and leading to trails and inclusion of recreational amenities within parks to serve all age groups. Recreational programs and activities for youth, families, young adults and seniors are also suggested.

3. **Build Partnerships with Local, Regional and State Agencies.** A list of potential local, regional and state partners is included within Section 9. It is recommended the City continue to coordinate future park and trail and natural resource projects with these organizations and agencies.



City maps (paper)	14
On-line (internet).	12
Driving around the community.	53
Walking/biking on the trails or visiting the parks.	63
Others in the community.	22
Other	8

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages up to more than 100%.



In order to educate the public on the resources available, the following recommendations have been prepared:

- **Develop Uniform Signage** to identify parks and trails. Along trails identify trails by names/loops and include signage to identify the direction and distance of each trail segment. Include signage directing trail users to key areas including parks, historic sites and key commercial areas.

- **Develop an education program** in coordination with the schools to promote the use of helmets for bicycle and skater safety.

- Download and **distribute fact sheets** on the benefits of trails and greenways offered by the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC), available online at: www.railstrails.org/whatwedo/railtrailinfo/benefits.html

- **Create brochures or fact sheets** containing information on Jordan's parks, trails and natural resources information. Distribute brochures to local businesses, residents and various constituencies as well as make them available at the Chamber of Commerce and on the city's web site.

- **Develop and disseminate press releases** for important milestones, such as significant funding secured, political and community approvals, and park and trail improvements.

B. Park and Open Space Goals and Recommendations

1. Continue to **expand programming** within parks, including but not limited to educational and recreational programs.

2. Review the **life cycle of parks** as they relate to the changing demographics and types of active and recreational uses available (e.g. lacrosse)

3. **Budget for and schedule improvements** within existing parks.

4. **Future parks** should be designed of the appropriate size to accommodate a variety of the uses including active parks designed for social interaction and activity as well as areas to reconnect with nature.

5. Future parks should generally be **acquired at the time of platting** of the property or adjacent property; however if opportunities arise to acquire land identified as future community parks, it should be considered.

6. **Community parks should be at least 15 acres in size**, should offer diverse resources to allow both active and passive recreational activities, and should be designed to be accessible via a collector road as well as a trail or greenway corridor.

7. **Passive parks** should be planned to protect areas of high environmental value and scenic areas.

8. The City should develop a Tree Replacement Policy to address the loss of trees within parks and boulevard areas.

9. **Master planning of community parks** should be considered prior to development. The master plan would address the actual land to be acquired, the types and locations of facilities within each park, the cost associated with the development and the operations of the park.

C. Trail/Sidewalk/Greenway Goals and Recommendations

1. **Construct a Safe Crossing over/under Highway 169**, coordinating the project with Scott County's Trail Plan and MnDOT and pursue grant programs to assist in the funding.

2. **Conduct a Walkable Community Assessment.** As recommended within the Carver Scott Statewide Health Improvement Program Community Active Living Intervention Assessment (SHIP), arrange a group of 20 to 30 citizens to walk the community and assess the walkability of Jordan including gaps in connectivity, crossings, handicap accessibility, etc.

3. **Provide Connectivity in Jordan's Sidewalk and Trail System**- Continue to budget for and construct segments of trails and sidewalks to complete systems and provide connectivity with essential links to schools, historic sites, parks and commercial areas.

4. Pursue the development of the trail system with Jordan serving as the **Regional Trail Hub.** Continue to coordinate regional trail development with Scott County and Carver County.

5. **Pursue a Complete Streets Policy.** Work with the Planning Commission and City Council to develop a Complete Street Policy for the City.

6. **Improve pedestrian crosswalks, with additional m**arked crosswalks on the pavement on Highway 282 and consider methods to reduce the distance to cross Highway 21 and traffic calming measures.

7. **Conduct a bicycle audit** to identify gaps in the existing system and potential safety improvements.

8. **Add bicycle racks to parks** and in or near the downtown.

D. Natural Resource Protection Goals and Recommendations

1. **Develop a resource identification system** to help prioritize open space, park and sensitive areas not already designated as floodplain or wetlands such as rock outcroppings and large stands of trees. Link the City's natural resource identification system to the development approval process.

2. Strive to **acquire public access** to natural and manmade environments through dedication or the use of easements for trail purposes to connect these natural resources to the trails system.

3. **Encourage developments** that incorporate and work with their natural surroundings while they preserve the various functions and integrity of our natural environment.

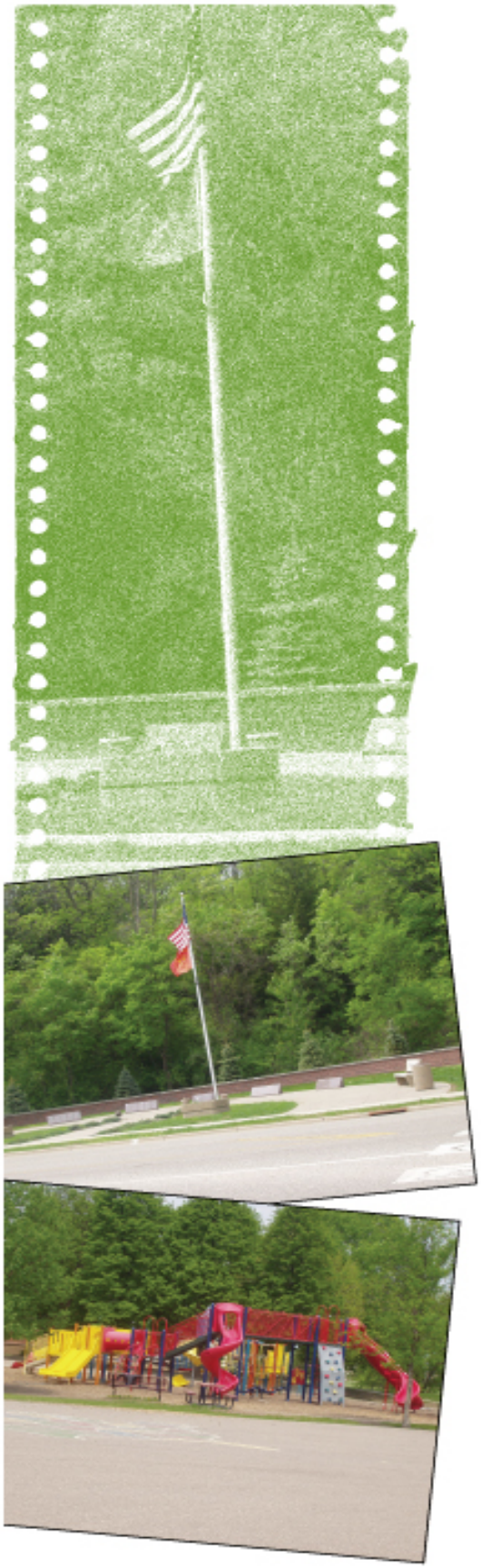
4. **Promote the use of planned unit developments** during the approval process in order to ensure concentration of open space into more useable areas and the preservation of the natural resources of the site including wetlands, woodlands, steep slopes and scenic views.

5. **Meet with organizations** that hold titles or easements donated to or purchased for natural resource protection such as: The Minnesota Land Trust, The Conservation Fund or the Nature Conservancy

E. Ordinance and Policy Recommendations

1. Consider amending the **Subdivision Ordinance** to reflect the intent of the Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Plan.

2. Review parkland dedication and fee in lieu of dedication standards for consistency with regional norms and the nexus between planned improvements and the dedication requirements



3. Review and update the Tree Preservation and Replacement Policy.

4. **Zoning Ordinance.** Incorporate conservation design conservation design overlay district in areas with high natural resource values and encourage principles and/or establish a planned unit developments.

F. Financial Planning Goals and Recommendations

1. **Update the Capital Improvement Plan** to include *future* trail facilities, pathways, sidewalks, and bike lanes as recommended in the Comprehensive Plan and this Master Park and Trail Plan.

2. **Update the Capital Improvement Plan** to include proposed capital improvements within *existing* parks, as noted below.

3. **Pursue grant programs** to assist with funding including but not limited to grants offered through MnDOT and the DNR.

4. **Land Acquisition Planning**. Identify areas which will be acquired through future park land dedication and areas which may need to be acquired with City funds. Begin budgeting for future land acquisition.

5. **Operations and Maintenance**. Prepare a management plan for City trail facilities, pathways, sidewalks, and bikeways. Operations and maintenance costs should be included in the annual budget.

The following table includes improvements which have been recommended by the Jordan Parks Advisory Commission. It is recommended the Park Capital Improvement Plan be updated to address these recommended expenditures.

Recommended Capital Improvements to Park System

Park	Estimated Cost	Sources	City Share
Bridle Creek Park			
Basketball Full Court	$17,500 concrete to $24,000 Sport Court	Donations, fundraising Grants & City Park Fund	$4,500
Parking lot on west side of park	$		

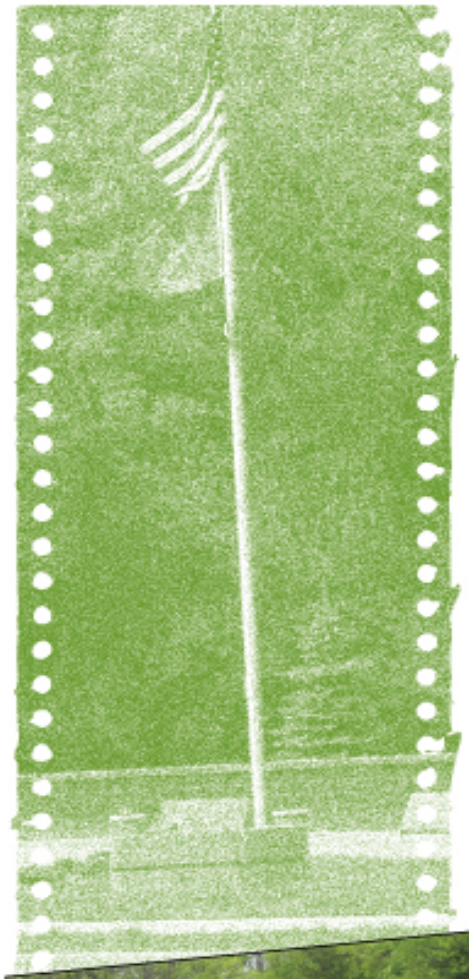
Park	Estimated Cost	Sources	City Share
Brentwood Park			
Signage – Identification			
Mulch rings on trees			
Parking lot expansion			
Trees, additional (not Ash)			
Restroom/Biff			
Portable restrooms			
Holzer Park			
Fencing	$3,015 to $23,190 (chain link to steel)		
Parking Lot Improvements			
Backstop Improvements			
Restroom Improvements			
Handicap Accessibility Improvements in park			
Benches			
Playground equipment			
Lighting of ball fields			
Concession stand repair			
Drinking fountain			
Additional trees along Syndicate St.			
Disc Golf Course			
Lagoon Park			
Restrooms, additional on SE side			
Drinking fountain			
Playground equipment-layout			
Lions Park			
Bicycle Racks			
Trees, to buffer Highway 169			
Lights in the Shelter			
Mini-Met			
Designated trail connection to Downtown			
Skate Park			
Signage- replacement			
Security camera with audio in Skate Park			
Shelter, in Skate Park area			
Benches by Skate Park			
Prairie grass or flowers on the bank by the Skate park.			

Recommended Improvements for a Park Capital Improvement Plan

Park	Estimated Cost	Sources	City Share
Timberline Park			
Restrooms/biffs			
Signage – Identification			
Playground – additional swings			
Basketball or volleyball court			
Ice skating on the pond?			
Total			

Proposed Trail and Sidewalk Improvements

Location	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funds	City Share
Over/Underpass TH 169			
	$703,000 to $1,402,000	State Grant, County, City	
Bridge to Mini Met	$100,000	Park Land Dedication Fund	
Bridge/Underpass TH 169	$		
CR 66 Trail Connections	$127,000	CR 66 fund	
Aberdeen Ave. to Hope Ave (2100 feet)			
From Electric Substation to Hillside Dr. (800')	$138,000	CR 66 fund	
Hillside Dr. to TH 21' (700')	$106,000	CR 66 fund	
From CR 66 to Hillside Dr. Along TH 21	$ 73,000	CR 66 fund	
On-Street Bicycle Lanes (to be reviewed upon completion of a Complete Street Policy)			
Sidewalk –Proposed connections 1.743 miles			
Trails			
Proposed local segments 48.8 miles			
Proposed County segments 89.9 miles			
Total			



The Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Plan is intended to be a guide for the development of parks and trails and protection of natural resources within the community. As events and circumstances within the community change, the Master Plan should be reviewed and updated, as appropriate. Amendments to the Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Plan should be considered if there have been significant changes within the community or opportunities arise which were not anticipated by the Plan.

Appendix A – To be attached at a future date

BOLTON & MENK, INC.

Consulting Engineers & Surveyors

Alternatives Analysis Report

T.H. 169 Trail Crossing

CITY OF JORDAN

City of Jordan, Minnesota

November 2010

BMI Project No. T17.102792