



GODFREY

Comprehensive Parks & Open Space Plan



2022

Photo by Marty McKay



Acknowledgments

Acknowledgments

Special thanks to the residents, Village of Godfrey and their leaders and stakeholders, for without their insight, support and enthusiasm, this report could not have been completed. With gratitude to Metro East Park and Recreation District for their generous support through their grant program to assist communities.

Village of Godfrey Elected Officials & Administrators

Mayor Michael J. McCormick
Rich Beran, Village Engineer
Chris Logan, Director of Parks & Recreation
Todd Schubert, Past Director of Parks & Recreation

Park Board

Trish Holmes - Chairperson
Mike Walters - Member
Karen McAtee -Trustee & Member
Norma Glazebrook - Member (deceased)
Ford Green - Member
Max Heinz - Member
Rob Hasse - Member
Mark Lorch - Member
Steve Thompson - Member
Ed Lindsay - Member
Craig Rathgeb - Member

Project Team

HeartLands Conservancy (HLC)
MECO-Heneghan Engineers, LLC (MHE)

The proposed improvements/developments identified in the Godfrey Comprehensive Parks & Open Space Plan were reviewed by MECO~Heneghan Engineers, LLC and determined to be feasible. MECO~Heneghan Engineers, LLC developed the opinion of probable construction costs in conjunction with HeartLands Conservancy. The Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan for Godfrey was done separately from this project and MECO~Heneghan Engineers, LLC was not part of that project.

Cover Photos: HeartLands Conservancy



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Executive Summary

The 2030 Plan

The purpose of this document is to describe and illustrate the community's vision for the open space, parks, and trails for the Village of Godfrey, Illinois, and to enable the Village, elected officials, and residents to make informed decisions about future green space options and enhancements over the next decade. The plan was developed to address the needs of the Village's increasing population and the connectivity of neighborhoods, trails, parks, and facilities. The plan capitalizes on the existing assets of the area while providing a strategy for the future open space system as well as the social vitality of parks and recreation for Godfrey.

The plan suggests the use of public/private partnerships to put the plan into action, increasing community vitality, and to further develop the identity for Godfrey. The changes and improvements outlined in this document will require careful coordination so that the Village may successfully continue the ongoing development and expansion of the park system. Recommendations on where to locate future parks were presented to the Parks & Recreation Department.

Funding for this plan was provided by the Village of Godfrey and the Metro East Parks and Recreation District (MEPRD) grant program.

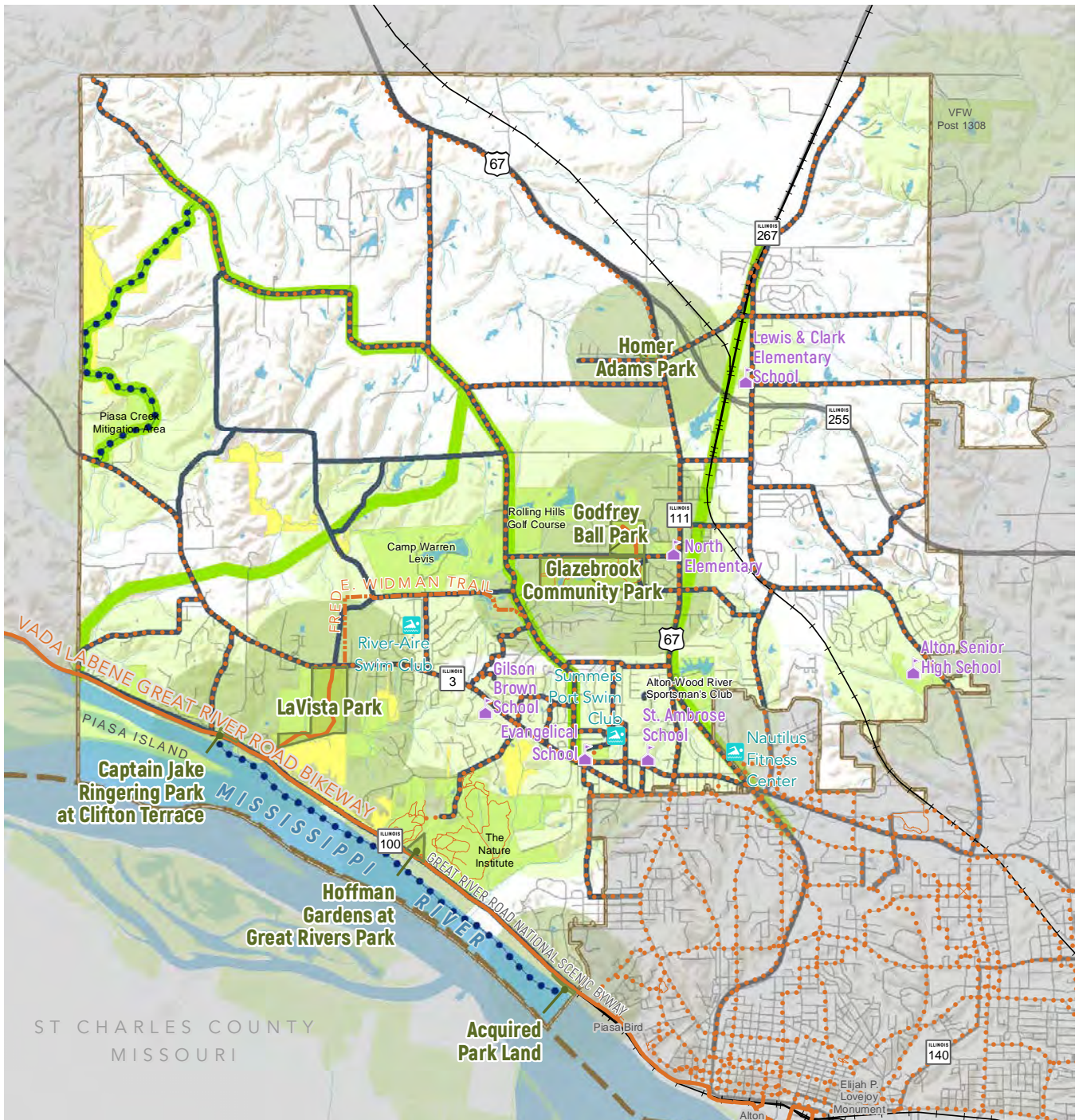
The study was completed using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology. GIS uses spatial information (maps) combined with database capabilities to store, display and analyze layers of information. All of the data used in this analysis is available to the public and is held by the Village of Godfrey.

Plan Organization

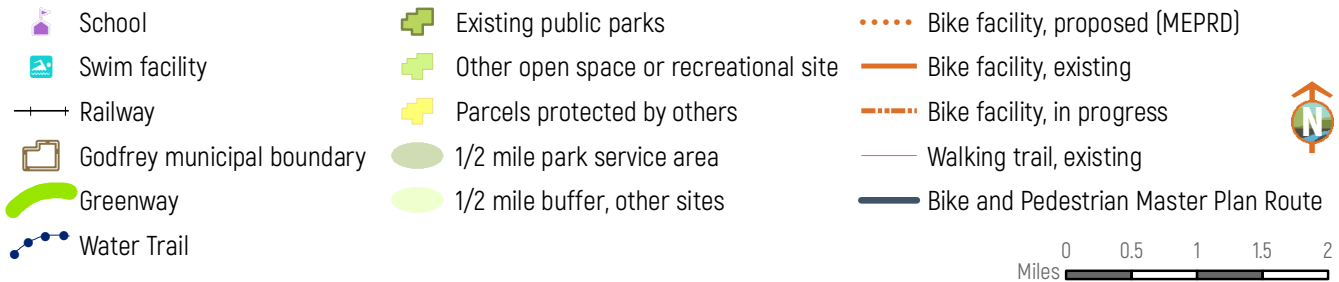
The plan first provides a summary profile of the Village's characteristics, which helps to inform potential future community needs. Using this profile, residents developed a vision and goals for a community-wide parks and open space system. Based on that vision the plan addresses the parks and open space system at two scales.

First, an Open Space Framework Plan provides the over-arching concepts that guide trails, parks, and open space development in the village while taking into account the natural resources of the area. The second scale is the Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan organized by a set of guiding principles, which provides detailed goals and recommendations for the new locations, features, and programming for the Village's park system, which build on the framework. Finally, an action strategy is outlined and linked to related funding opportunities.

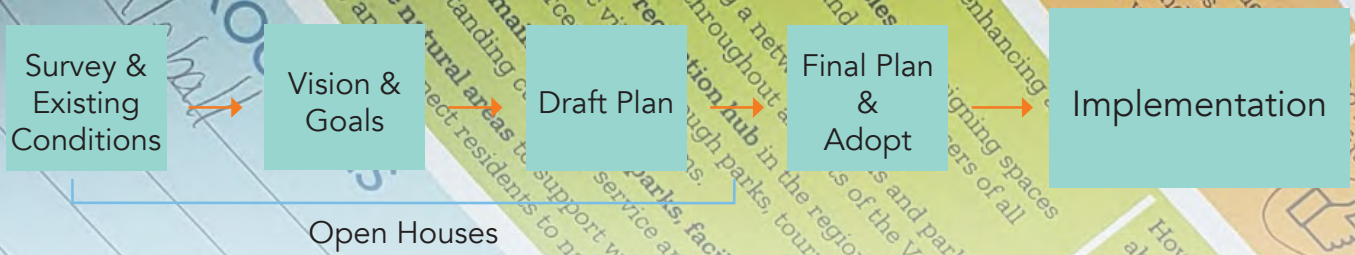
Vision: To enhance and preserve quality of life in Godfrey, the Village maintains a well-connected and diverse park system which provides a variety of recreation opportunities and programs for residents of all ages and abilities. Parks, outdoor recreation, sports, events, and other programming are a vital part of Godfrey's culture and draw visitors to the Village.



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Godfrey Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan 2020-2030



1 Planning Process

Purpose

A Parks and Open Space Plan is a document based on analysis and public engagement that will guide park and recreation development, acquisitions, administration, programs, and resources over the next 5 to 10 years. Through the planning process, the Village is able to:

- Assess current recreation facilities and identify recreation needs in the community;
- Predict future demand and evaluate feasibility options;
- Develop a strategic plan of action; and
- Identify potential costs and sources of funding.

Planning Process

HeartLands Conservancy worked closely with Village of Godfrey staff, the Village Park and Recreation Board and a Community Advisory Committee appointed by the Mayor.

The Committee met several times throughout the planning process to guide the development of the Plan. The Park Board received updates from the Project team and staff throughout the process.

The planning process included: surveying existing conditions; conducting community outreach and engagement (outlined in the next section); creating a vision, goals, and framework; and developing a comprehensive parks and open space plan with strategies for implementation and funding.

Simultaneously, the project team and staff began research effort to find and document relevant and successful case studies from comparable communities.

The community participation by residents, community leaders, business owners, elected officials, and Village staff brought many issues and ideas to the table and guided the development of the plan. The appointed Community Advisory Committee and Park Board held meetings throughout the process. In addition, there were Village Board of Trustees presentations by the team and staff, stakeholder interviews, and periodic review and input from the Village staff. In the course of the interviews and meetings, the community shared their perceptions of the opportunities and challenges of the area and their vision for the future of the park system.

Previous Plans

The Village of Godfrey's last Parks and Recreation Plan was completed in 2004 and updated in 2014. Since its creation and update most of the goals in the plan have been achieved. Some of the achievements include: adding a lighted baseball complex, a lighted soccer complex, trails, and expanding Glazebrook Park.

In 2016, the Village created and adopted the Godfrey Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan. The plan included recommendations for creating neighborhood connections to parks, schools, and existing trails. It outlined an entire system of trails, sidewalks, and on-road facilities to make all parts of the Village accessible by bike or foot. The plan also identified several ways to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety through improved street crossings and programs.

Recommendations, goals, and alignments from Godfrey's Comprehensive Plan and future land use have been incorporated into this plan.



Walking in the Park



Paddling in Piasa Creek



Cycling the Great River Road & resting at Park



Native Plantings & Playground at Homer Adams Park

Community Engagement

The results of community engagement, combined with data analysis, set the framework for the plan. Primary issues and opportunities identified during the public engagement and analysis process include:

- Creation of a village center, similar to a traditional downtown with public space;
- Acquisition and development of park land, recreation facilities, and passive open space;
- Need for quality green space and parks in new neighborhoods;
- Forest preservation areas and habitat linkages;
- Stormwater management and the need for combined green space and green infrastructure;
- Protection of scenic views and bluffs;
- Connection of parks and destinations to neighborhoods via trails and pedestrian and bicycle facilities; and
- Capital resources for needed improvements, staff, and stewardship.

Advisory Groups

Throughout the planning process the planning team met with the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) comprised of residents appointed by the Mayor, as well as community stakeholders.

The CAC provided insight on the opportunities and challenges through a SOAR exercise, the community survey, vision and goals, the framework, and the draft plan. SOAR analysis is a strategic planning technique which helps participants focus on the current **strengths** and **opportunities**, and create a vision of future **aspirations** and the **results** they will bring. The results from the CAC meeting are on page 9.

The team also gave regular updates to the Park Board, which met monthly on the 2nd Friday at 8:30 am.

Stakeholder Interviews

The planning team conducted stakeholder interviews to understand the community's diverse perspectives. The team interviewed Village staff, Park Board members, stakeholders, and park visitors. Through these interviews the team gained a better understanding of how residents and users of Godfrey view the park system and vision for the future.

Some common themes from stakeholder interviews:

- The development of Glazebrook Park is a great community asset, but attention should be given to the other parks as well;
- La Vista park is seen largely as a natural area. Most feel additional built infrastructure and recreation features are not needed at the park;
- The Village needs additional park space on the East side of Godfrey Road;
- Clifton Terrace Park, as well as other areas, have a rich and interesting histories that should be celebrated;
- The Great River Road (The Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway) and connection the Mississippi River are undervalued and underused by Godfrey's residents and visitors;
- Parks and recreation should be financially sustainable, producing income through youth recreation programs and tournaments and have continue partnerships with other organizations;
- Because Godfrey is a more recent community, there is no traditional town center. Discussions about creating a Village-center-type development are ongoing;
- For festivals and community events, Glazebrook Park has filled the need and provides adequate outdoor space; and
- There is interest in the community to build an indoor recreation center.

Discussion Summary

During the CAC meetings issues and ideas were discussed openly. In one meeting, a SOAR (strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, and Results) worksession began to categorize these into opportunities to explore during the planning process. The resulting workboards are to the right.

The majority of trail-related comments were to create more passive recreation opportunities and low impact trails within parks, to create more bike trails, and to develop neighborhood connections to the trail system.

Comments related to natural resource areas included more effort to preserve larger tracts of woodland and streams; and to create better connections and ecological corridors among them. Water resources were also brought up frequently, with comments including providing additional buffers to wetland and streams and improving access to the Mississippi River. Commonly heard recreation-use topics throughout the planning process was expansion of pickleball courts, ball fields, soccer fields, and an indoor facility or recreation/community center. Neighborhood parks and playgrounds were desired as well as sidewalk connectivity to larger parks.

In addition to specific topics, a number of miscellaneous comments were gathered on concerns and issues related to the park system. These were categorized and are presented in this plan. There appeared to be a strong perception that the Village has a need for more adequate resources (including human capital/staff or volunteers), to plan, maintain and develop existing and future park lands. Several revenue producing strategies were discussed.

Expanding and strengthening partnerships was often mentioned as a critical measure in carrying out future programming and management goals.

There were also several suggestions heard throughout the process regarding the importance of connecting existing public lands through a network of "green infrastructure" that would provide habitat and travel corridors for pedestrians, bicyclists, and wildlife.

Finally, a sense of development pressures on the central Village led to several discussions on the importance of prioritizing neighborhood parkland acquisition over potential development projects over the next five to ten years in order to meet the Godfrey's growing needs.

Strengths

What are our assets? What are we doing really well? What are you most proud of? What makes us unique? What do we have that is better than everyone else?

- Nice walking trails
- Natural beauty
- Kid friendly
- Many activities throughout year for all ages
- Disc Golf Course - one of the nicest, top 10 stl.
- Partnerships:
 - Dist. 11 (School) - Gyms
 - Lewis and Clark CC - tennis, swim/rec
 - Rolling Hills Godfrey Open Golf Tourn.
- Friendly and attentive service from staff
- Programs for small children for learning sports
- Lighted ballfields for league and tournament play
 - Allow later start, accommodate more schedules
- Turf soccer fields:
 - Expanded Seasons, longer play, less weather dependent.
 - Attract many users
- Rental Pavilions (Homer Adams, Glazebrook)

The Village of Godfrey Community Advisory Committee (CAC) provided insight on the opportunities and challenges through a SOAR exercise. These are the results.

Opportunities

What are some things we need? What do we want to add or improve in Godfrey Parks? How can we better serve residents?

- More Sidewalks
- Make more handicap accessible
- More trail/sidewalk connections from neighborhoods to parks
- Restroom facilities (LaVista)
- Tennis Courts
- Pickleball
- Install Gaga pit-Glazebrook
- Build upon Summer Day Camp
- More events, disc golf tournament?
- Park on east side of Godfrey
- More pocket parks, neighborhood parks
- Increased Communication and Awareness:
- Education on facilities available through partnerships (LCCC) - tennis, swimming
- Awareness and Promotion of all parks ("Hidden Gems", not only Glazebrook)
- Improved Signage at entrances
- Google Map navigation, directional signs updated and accurate for all parks
- New website?
- More Social Media posts and interaction
- Rec. Center, for bad weather, younger children to play in winter.
- How would we fund? -Rec tax? What rate?

Aspirations

How do you imagine your parks system looking in the future? What do we want to achieve?

- Profitable Park System
- Economic Stability
- Lots of tournaments, bringing in visitors, hotel stays, food - increased tax income.
- Bike Trail Connectivity between parks and neighborhoods
- Diverse Events held annually (Craft Fair, Wine dine jazz, Vendor income)
- Tour de Godfrey Bike Ride
- Cohesive Marketing Strategy
- Great Social Media Presence - Active engagement with followers
- Easily usable website
- Expand exposure to all parks - whole parks system
- Attract and retain families - residents
- Recreate in Godfrey (not Edwardsville)
- New Amenities for all ages and abilities: Splashpad, All Inclusive Playground, Tennis and Pickleball Facilities

Results

What are the tangible outcomes? What can we measure to see if we are achieving our aspirations?

- Number of Park Visitors:
 - Glazebrook visitor numbers increase to 400,000 per year in 5 years. (250,000 now)
 - Measure visitors at all parks.
- Recognition/Accolades: Godfrey Parks in Top 3 Riverbend Destinations
- More Tournaments --> Increased sales/dining/hotel tax revenue
- Increased park revenue
- Increase participation in youth leagues
- Build Partnerships with other Communities (i.e. Riverbend Baseball/Softball Leagues)
- Increase in park acreage
- More mile of trails/sidewalks
- Increased Community Sponsorships for sport complexes - involve more local businesses

Public Workshops

June 17, 2021 First Public Workshop

The first meeting was held at the Homer Adams Park pavilion. Attendees reviewed community survey results and provide additional input on how parks and recreation in Godfrey should evolve over the next 5-10 years.

Also, at this meeting the Glazebrook Park Expansion Plan was available to review. Phase 1 construction is scheduled to be complete by June 2022.

The most common requests at the meeting were:

- More pickleball courts;
- Walkability/path connectivity to and between parks;
- More programs for seniors;
- Need for a dog park in the community; and
- Support of Glazebrook Park Expansion Plan.

October 7, 2021 Second Public Workshop

The second meeting was held in the meeting room at Godfrey Village Hall to review the draft plan and phasing recommendations. Attendees prioritized recommendations from highest to lowest priority. They also reviewed amenity recommendations for each park(see below) and the conceptual framework for the entire park system.

The most common requests at the meeting were*:

- A large rural dog park;
- Walkability/path connectivity with trees to and between parks and neighborhoods; and
- More restrooms and playgrounds.

* See chart on the facing page.





Community Survey results were presented at the June Open House.



October Open House exhibits were interactive for residents.

The Village of Godfrey held an Open House in June of 2021. The draft vision, goals, and guiding principles were presented for feedback. The analysis of the existing conditions and the results of the Community Survey were on display for review and discussion. More of the meeting's summary on page 10.

The Village of Godfrey held an Open House in October of 2021. The framework, draft plan, vision goals, and recommendations for each park were presented.

The work board is below. Attendees were in agreement with the recommendations. They placed stickers to demonstrate their support.

PARKS & RECREATION DRAFT MASTER PLAN		Review the Draft Recommendations Chart. Use the stickers to add your opinions to the chart.						
DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY								
	Glisbrook Park	Homer Adams Park	Captain John Ringier Park at Clifton Terrace	La Vista at Gladys Levis Allen Park	Hoffman Gardens at Great Rivers Park	Godfrey Ball Park (Leased)	Linnex Park along the River	New Eastside Neighborhood Parks
Restroom	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Need It!	Want It!	Has It!	Need It!	Need It!
Young Children Playground	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Need It!	Want It!	Want It!	Want It!	Need It!
Concessions	Has It!	Not needed here.	Want It!	Want It!		Has It!	Want It!	
Walking Trail	Has It!	Not needed here.	Has It! Make it Better!	Has It!	Has It!		Need It! Make it Better!	Need It!
Neighborhood Connections	Has It! Make it Better!	Need It!	Make it Better!	Need It!	Want It!	Has It!	Want It!	Need It!
Bike Rack or Fix-it Station	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Need It!	Need It!
Benches	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Has It!	Need It!	Need It!
Sports Equipment or Ballfields	Has It!	Not needed here.	Not needed here.	Has It!	Not needed here.	Has It!	Not needed here.	Need It!
Broadband, WiFi Hotspot	Has It! Make it Better!	Need It!	Need It!	Need It!	Need It!	Need It!	Need It!	Need It!
Increase Beautification	Has It! Make it Better!	Has It!	Need It!	Make it Better!	Has It!	Make it Better!	Need It!	Need It!
Special Event Space	Has It! Make it Better!	Not needed here.	Make it Better!	Make it Better!	Make it Better!	Not needed here.	Need It!	Need It!
Pavilions/ Picnic Shelters	Has It! Make it Better!	Has It!	Make it Better!	Make it Better!	Make it Better!	Not needed here.	Need It!	Need It!
Water Access	Has It!	Not needed here.	Need It!	Not needed here.	Not needed here.	Not needed here.	Need It!	Not needed here.
Public Art or Memorials	Has It!	Has It!	Need It!	Has It!	Has It!	Not needed here.	Need It!	Need It!
Dog Park	Want It!	Want It!	Not needed here.	Not needed here.	Not needed here.	Not needed here.	Not needed here.	Want It!

Community Survey

The Community Survey for the Plan was available online from October 5, 2020 to November 16, 2020. The summary is detailed on the following pages.

The survey link was shared through social media, web page, and Village email distribution lists.

The survey consisted of seven sections:

- Park Usage
- Facility Conditions
- Park Access
- Programming
- Communications
- Recreation Center
- Park and Recreation Values

Six hundred twenty-eight (628) surveys were collected during this time.

Sixty-two percent (62%) were submitted by people in households with children under the age of 18 living at home; while 32% of responses were submitted by senior citizen households.

Ninety-six percent (96%) of respondents are white or Caucasian.

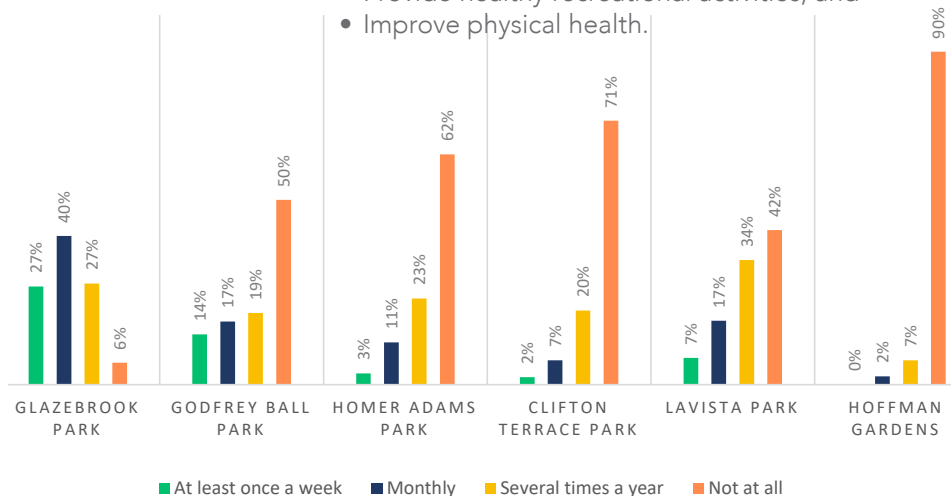
Generally, respondents were satisfied with the parks and park amenities provided by Godfrey Parks and Recreation. Respondents identified interest in increased communication, exploring the addition of an indoor recreation center, and improving and expanding existing parks and programs.

The survey also found that Glazebrook Park is the most visited of all parks in Godfrey.

The full survey summary is in the appendix.

In the past year, how often have you or a member of your household visited these Godfrey Parks?

Glazebrook Park is the most visited park among survey respondents with 67% of them visiting the park at least once a month. Godfrey Ball Park, LaVista Park, and Homer Adams Park, respectively, are the next most visited Parks. Hoffman Gardens is the least visited park, with 90% of respondents never visiting.



Survey Highlights

The most common reasons reported by respondents for visiting Godfrey parks were:

- Walking trails 75%
- Exercise 64%
- Playgrounds 49%
- Relaxation 45%
- Youth sports 43%
- Other popular answers included walking dog(s), playing Pokemon Go, and nature viewing activities.

When asked which of the benefits listed were the most important to the respondent's household, providing healthy recreational activities was the most commonly chosen benefit, followed by improved physical health and improved quality of life in the community. The majority of respondents said the Parks and Recreation Department should consider providing more adult programs, especially exercise classes. Softball leagues, kickball, badminton, and pickleball leagues ranked highly as other programs to be considered. Popular 'other' answers included: volleyball, disc golf leagues or tournaments, soccer league, and other intramural activities.

The majority of respondents said the Parks and Recreation Department should consider providing more senior programs, especially fitness classes. Bingo and health/wellness presentations ranked highly as other programs to be considered. Other popular answers included: pickleball, walking groups, disc golf, and traditional golf.

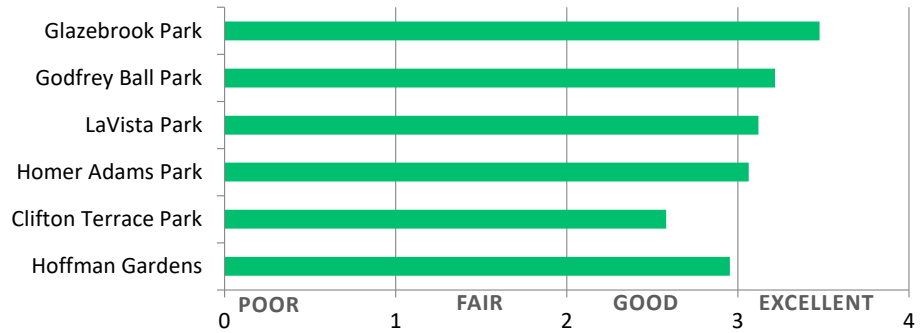
Survey respondents were asked to rate how strongly they agree with the values of parks, natural areas, and recreation facilities. The values to which respondents most strongly agreed were:

- Improve quality of life in the community;
- Provide healthy recreational activities; and
- Improve physical health.

How would you rate the overall condition of facilities at each park?

Respondents were asked to rate the overall condition of facilities at each park on a scale from one (poor) to four (excellent). The chart to the right illustrates the average rating for each park.

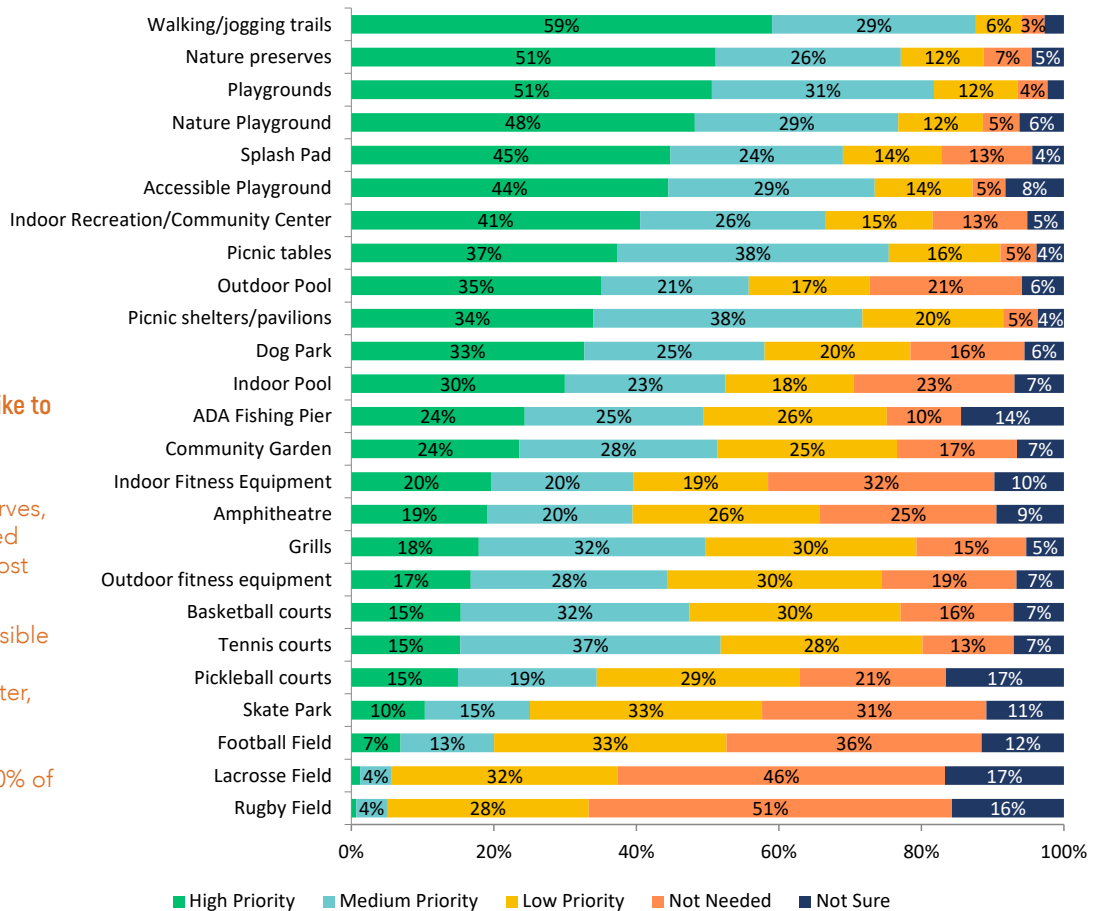
'Unsure' responses were not included in the average. About 50% of respondents were 'unsure' about facilities Homer Adams and Clifton Terrace Parks, while 84% were 'unsure' about facilities at Hoffman Gardens. The average rating for most visited parks is excellent.



What amenities would you like to see added to our parks?

Walking/jogging trails, playgrounds, nature preserves, and splash pad were ranked as a high priority by the most survey respondents.

In addition to these, accessible playgrounds, an indoor recreation/community center, picnic tables, and shelters were ranked as high or medium priority by over 60% of respondents.





2 Village Profile

Godfrey is known throughout the Riverbend Region as a community where residents have a high quality of life and access to good schools and recreation opportunities. Situated along the Mississippi River, the Village's unique natural landscape features - including grand river bluffs, forested valleys, streams, and rolling hills-provide exceptional recreation opportunities.

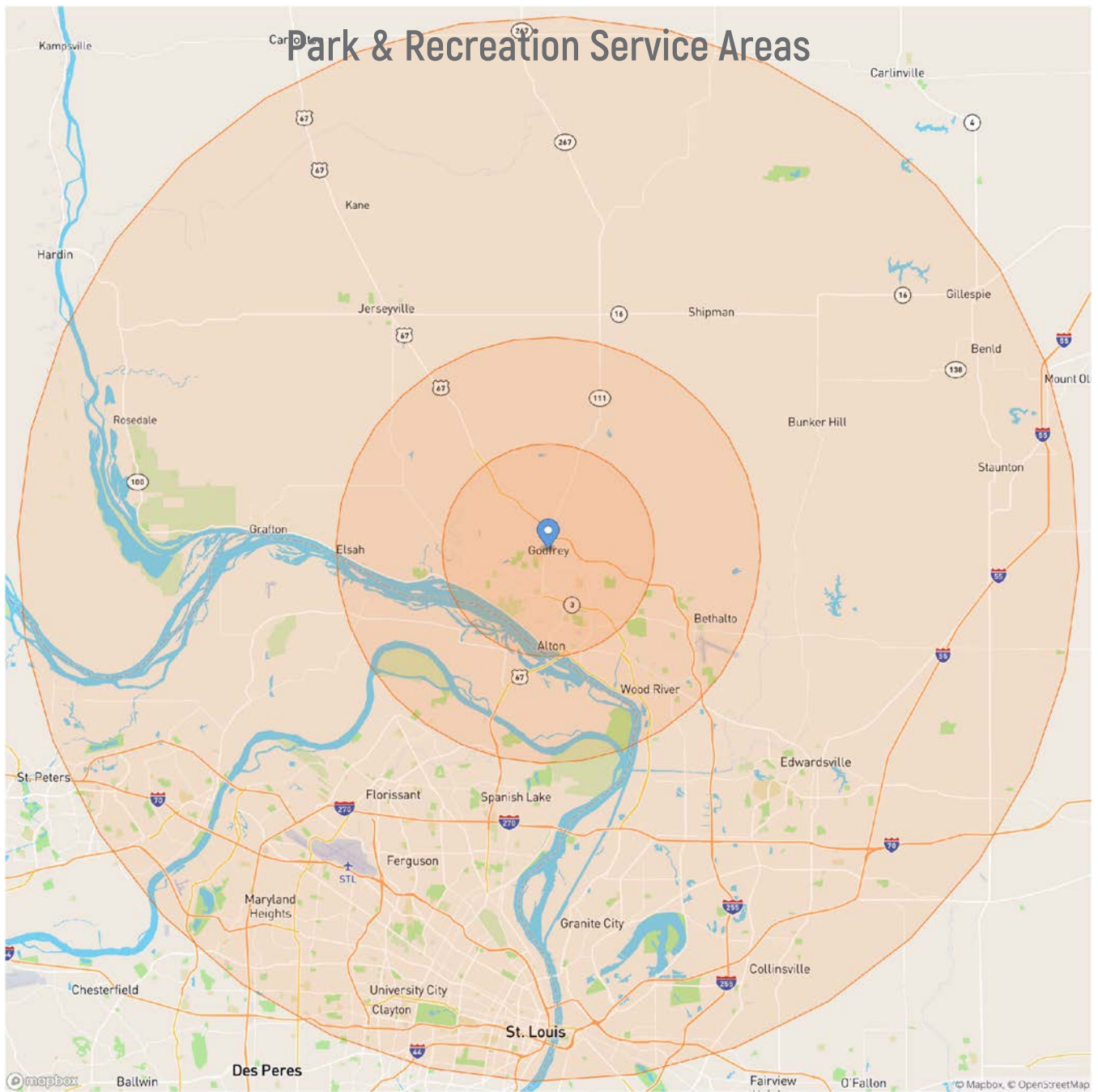
Within its parks Godfrey provides trails, sports fields, picnic shelters and playgrounds, and natural areas that support a wide variety of recreation opportunities. Godfrey's unique landscape and history are represented in park features along the Great River Road for residents and visitors to enjoy. Through its Parks and Recreation Department the Village is also able to provide park events and programs throughout the year. The Village of Godfrey is a relatively young municipality with a rich background. Native Americans were prominent in this region for hundreds of years. In the early 1800s European settlers began to set up homesteads. The current Village of Godfrey was incorporated in 1991 and is comprised of several historic communities including Monticello and Rocky Fork.

Godfrey's history is filled with pioneering spirit, bustling early American business, and leaders of the anti-slavery and Underground Railroad movements. Since the beginning, a college has been near the heart of Godfrey, starting with the Monticello Seminary, later called Monticello College, and since 1970, Lewis & Clark Community College.

The Village of Godfrey spans over 36 square miles. It includes the entire northwest corner of Madison County, north of Alton, from the Mississippi River to just east of Illinois Route 111 and Interstate 255. Surrounding communities include Alton, Elsay,

Brighton, Jerseyville, and Bethalto. Further information on demographics and characteristics are on the following pages .

Alton and Godfrey have intertwining boundaries and the residents often use facilities and amenities in both communities. The majority of Godfrey's population resides in the most densely populated area just north of Alton. This area has many commercial developments along Godfrey Road surrounded by residential subdivisions, schools, and churches. It is also where Lewis & Clark Community College is located. A new town center will be at Godfrey Road and Stamper Lane. Outside of this commercial corridor, the landscape is mostly rural with forest, farm fields, and low-density housing.



Age Breakdown

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Total Population	43,721		104,957		1,136,468	
9 & under	4,987	11%	11,833	11%	134,083	12%
10 to 19	4,929	11%	12,403	12%	137,892	12%
20 to 29	4,637	11%	12,440	12%	176,005	15%
30 to 39	5,412	12%	12,954	12%	151,900	13%
40 to 49	5,161	12%	12,860	12%	130,393	11%
50 to 59	6,171	14%	15,149	14%	150,857	13%
60 to 69	6,235	14%	13,886	13%	134,709	12%
70 & over	6,187	14%	13,433	13%	120,629	11%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B01001

Community Demographics

With a 2020 population of 17,180, it is the 149th largest Village in Illinois. Godfrey is currently declining at a rate of -0.64% annually and its population has decreased by -4.46% since the most recent census, which recorded a population of 17,982 in 2010, which is Godfrey's highest population.

The average household income in Godfrey is \$90,326 with a poverty rate of 7.06%. The median rental costs in recent years comes to \$951 per month, and the median house value is \$148,300.

The median age in Godfrey is 48.7 years, 44.3 years for males, and 52.1 years for females.

According to the most recent ACS, the racial composition of Godfrey is:

- White: 93.62%
- Black or African American: 4.30%
- Two or more races: 0.93%
- Asian: 0.68%
- Other race: 0.39%
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.07%
- Native American: 0.00%

For additional information, the demographic profiles can be found in the appendix.

Demographic Methodology

First, a geographic information system (GIS) analysis calculates the project's radius(es). The GIS analysis then identifies the 2019 US Census Bureau Block Groups that intersect the project's radiuses. Then, the GIS analysis calculates the percent of each Block Group within each radius distance (overlap). Next, the overlap percent is multiplied by the demographics for each Block Group. Finally, the radius demographic estimate equals the sum of the overlap multiplied by the demographics for all Block Groups that intersect a radius.

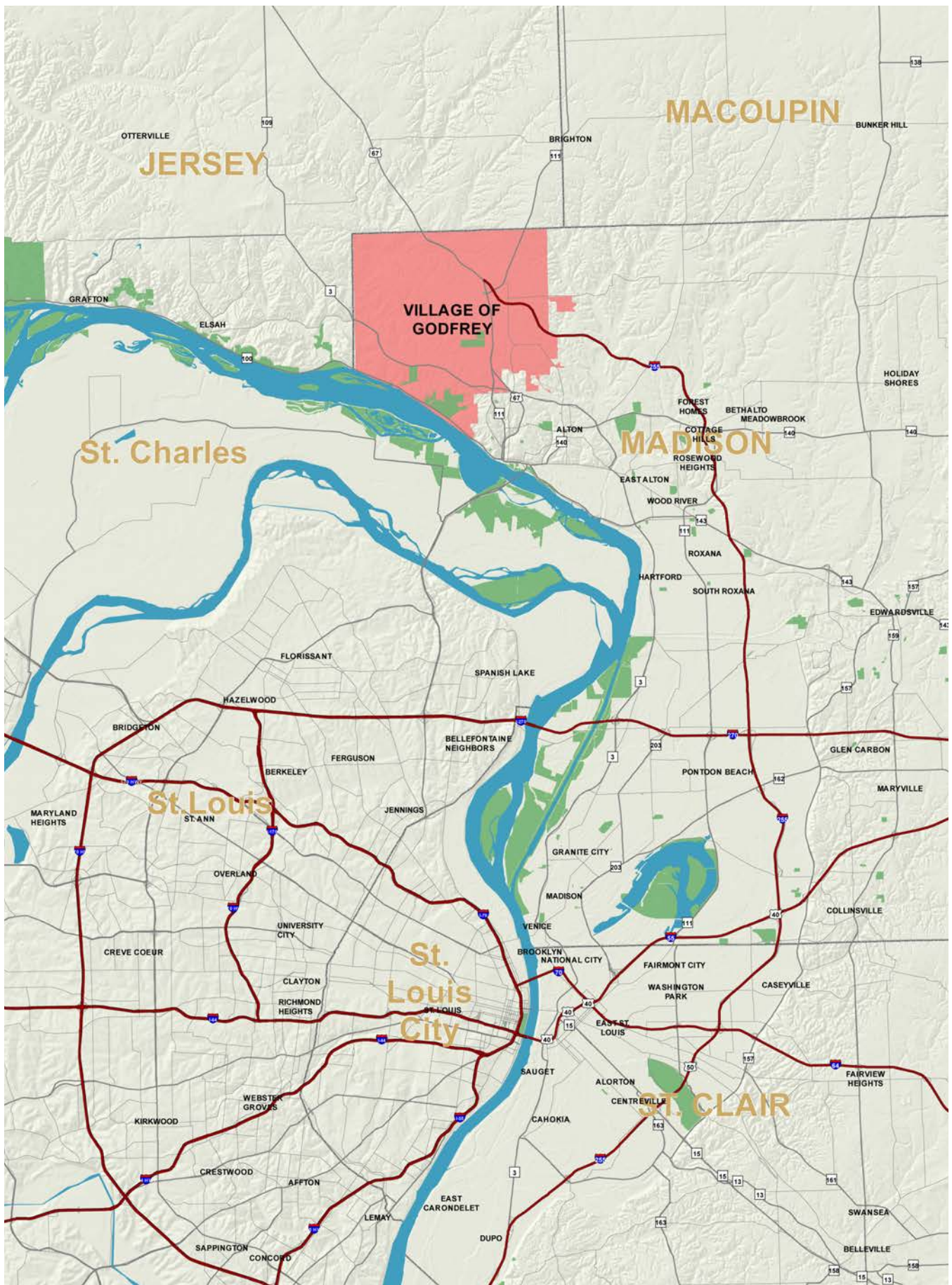
The benefits of this methodology are that it allows for:

1. The use of the most current data for small area geographies from the US Census Bureau;
2. The estimation of demographics for radius distances using dissimilar shaped Census Block Groups; and
3. Data comparability

(because estimates for small radiuses and large radiuses use the same methodology, geographies and datasets).

This methodology assumes that the population is equally distributed throughout a Block Group. This assumption can result in unlikely estimates for small radiuses (i.e. 1 mile) in rural areas with low population densities and thus, large geographic area Block Groups.

Prepared by Cubit www.cubitplanning.com

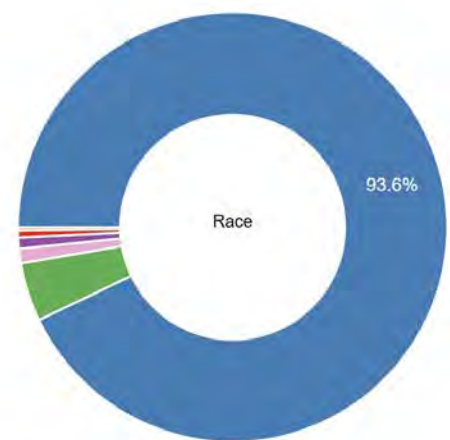


Godfrey Population 2000-2021

Year ▼	Population	Growth	Annual Growth Rate
2021	17,180	-110	-0.64%
2020	17,290	-110	-0.63%
2019	17,400	-110	-0.63%
2018	17,510	-101	-0.57%
2017	17,611	-57	-0.32%
2016	17,668	-27	-0.15%
2015	17,695	-46	-0.26%
2014	17,741	-84	-0.47%
2013	17,825	-73	-0.41%
2012	17,898	-60	-0.33%
2011	17,958	-30	-0.17%

Population by Race

Race	Population ▼	Percentage
White	16,458	93.62%
Black or African American	756	4.30%
Two or More Races	164	0.93%
Asian	120	0.68%
Some Other Race	68	0.39%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	13	0.07%



■ White
 ■ Black or African American
 ■ Asian
 ■ Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
 ■ Some Other Race
 ■ Two or More Races

Godfrey Median Age

48.7 44.3 52.1



Total



Male



Female

Godfrey Adults

There are 14,372 adults, (4,186 of whom are seniors) in Godfrey.

Godfrey Sex Ratio

Female 9,030 51.37%

Male 8,549 48.63%

7.06% Overall Poverty Rate

8.55% Male Poverty Rate

5.65% Female Poverty Rate

Poverty in Godfrey

The race most likely to be in poverty in Godfrey is Multiple, with 18.90% below the poverty level.

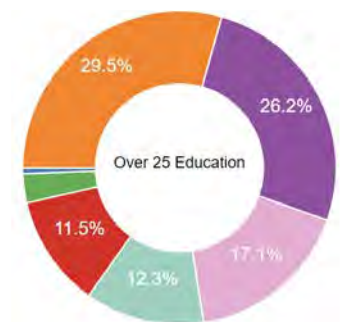
The race least likely to be in poverty in Godfrey is Hispanic, with 2.93% below the poverty level.

The poverty rate among those that worked full-time for the past 12 months was 0.27%.

Among those working part-time, it was 12.88%, and for those that did not work, the poverty rate was 9.31%.

Education Attained

Education Attained	Count	Percentage
Less Than 9th Grade	63	0.47%
9th to 12th Grade	384	2.86%
High School Graduate	3,521	26.22%
Some College	3,963	29.51%
Associates Degree	1,548	11.53%
Bachelors Degree	2,299	17.12%
Graduate Degree	1,650	12.29%



■ Less Than 9th Grade ■ 9th to 12th Grade
■ High School Graduate ■ Some College
■ Associates Degree ■ Bachelors Degree
■ Graduate Degree



3 Vision & Goals

Overview

The vision and goals work together to ensure the plan meets the Village of Godfrey's mission for the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Park & Recreation Department Mission:

We actively care for all parks, provide quality recreation programs, and work to connect all residents to parks and recreation opportunities in order to maintain a beautiful and thriving community.

Vision

The Vision statement describes the desired future role, character, and importance of the park and recreation system. In addition, the committee felt that beginning to brand the vision and its corresponding goals would establish a foundation from which their plan could emerge.

To enhance and preserve quality of life in Godfrey, the Village maintains a well-connected and diverse park system which provides a variety of recreation opportunities and programs for residents of all ages and abilities. Parks, outdoor recreation, sports, events, and other programming are a vital part of Godfrey's culture and draw visitors to the Village.

Guiding Principles

The Principles provide greater guidance on the specific manner in which to realize the vision. They are intended to be broad, inclusive statements that are not time specific, and serve to guide the policies and direction of Godfrey's Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan. These were developed and vetted by the staff, Community Advisory Committee, and shared throughout the planning process.

- Promote Godfrey's position as a recreation hub in the region to increase tourism and economic vitality through parks, tournaments, special events, natural resources, and programs.
- Connect people to parks by providing access to a network of trails and parks throughout all parts of the Village.
- Expand accessible and inclusive opportunities by designing spaces and events that foster a sense of comfort and safety for users of all ages, abilities, cultures, and interests.
- Activate all parks and facilities in the Village by enhancing and promoting under-used parks.
- Conserve and restore natural areas to support wildlife, promote ecological function, and connect residents to nature and the outdoors.
- Manage, administer, and maintain quality parks, facilities, and programs through outstanding customer service and stewardship.

NAME _____

PLAN

vision, goals, needs

Do you like this vision for the future?

How do you feel about these goals?

Comments:

PROGRAMS

Pickleball

DESIGNATED FACILITIES

Pickleball courts!!

OVER

specific comments to the map using post-it notes.

ceat

Plan 9

1. Create all parks and facilities in the Village by enhancing and promoting under-used parks.

2. Expand accessible and inclusive opportunities by designing and events that foster a sense of comfort and safety for users of all ages, abilities, cultures, and interests.

3. Connect people to parks by providing a network of trails and parks that provide access to green space throughout all parts of the Village.

4. Promote Godfrey's position as a recreation hub in the region to increase tourism and economic vitality through parks, tournaments, special events, natural resources, and programs.

5. Manage, administer, and maintain quality parks, facilities, and programs through outstanding customer service and stewardship.

6. Conserve and restore natural areas to support wildlife, promote ecological function, and connect residents to nature and the outdoors.

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 tion opportunities and programs for residents of all
 s. Parks, outdoor recreation, sports, events, and other
 are a vital part of Godfrey's culture and draw visitors

designing and
 spaces for users of all
 the Village.
 to
 and draw visitors

How do you feel about these goals?

Comments:

Do you like this vision for the future?

Comments:

ceat



4 Needs Assessment

Overview

A village-wide parks system should connect existing parks to civic and educational facilities using bike paths, trails, and tree-lined shaded sidewalks. This infrastructure would also help manage stormwater and provide safe access throughout the village for pedestrians and bicycles.

Many well-intentioned municipalities are consuming open space at alarming rates – subsequently leaving little room for parks, conservation, and open space planning. This plan makes every effort to forecast the future needs of the Village relative to parks, playgrounds, and open space as a critical component of planning and resiliency - both environmental, social and economic.

As an economic driver and key indicator, recreational amenities and open space are key in the ongoing growth and development of the Village. To meet this criteria, parks should be evenly distributed so that all residents have access within one-half to one mile of home. Some parts of the Village are substantially short of small-scale usable and convenient recreation and open space. To alleviate this, acquisition opportunities within the current boundaries should be evaluated throughout the Village. Partnerships with schools, and institutions can also assist in access and often offset costs if an agreement can be reached for sharing amenities.

Recreation is an important aspect of a residents' experience within their community. Offering activities and programs for all ages is essential for current and future growth, as well as retention and attraction of residents. For many young adults, access to outdoor recreation is a determining factor when deciding where

to live and raise a family. For seniors, providing a variety of options for recreation and exercise often attracts retirees and supports multi-generational programming.

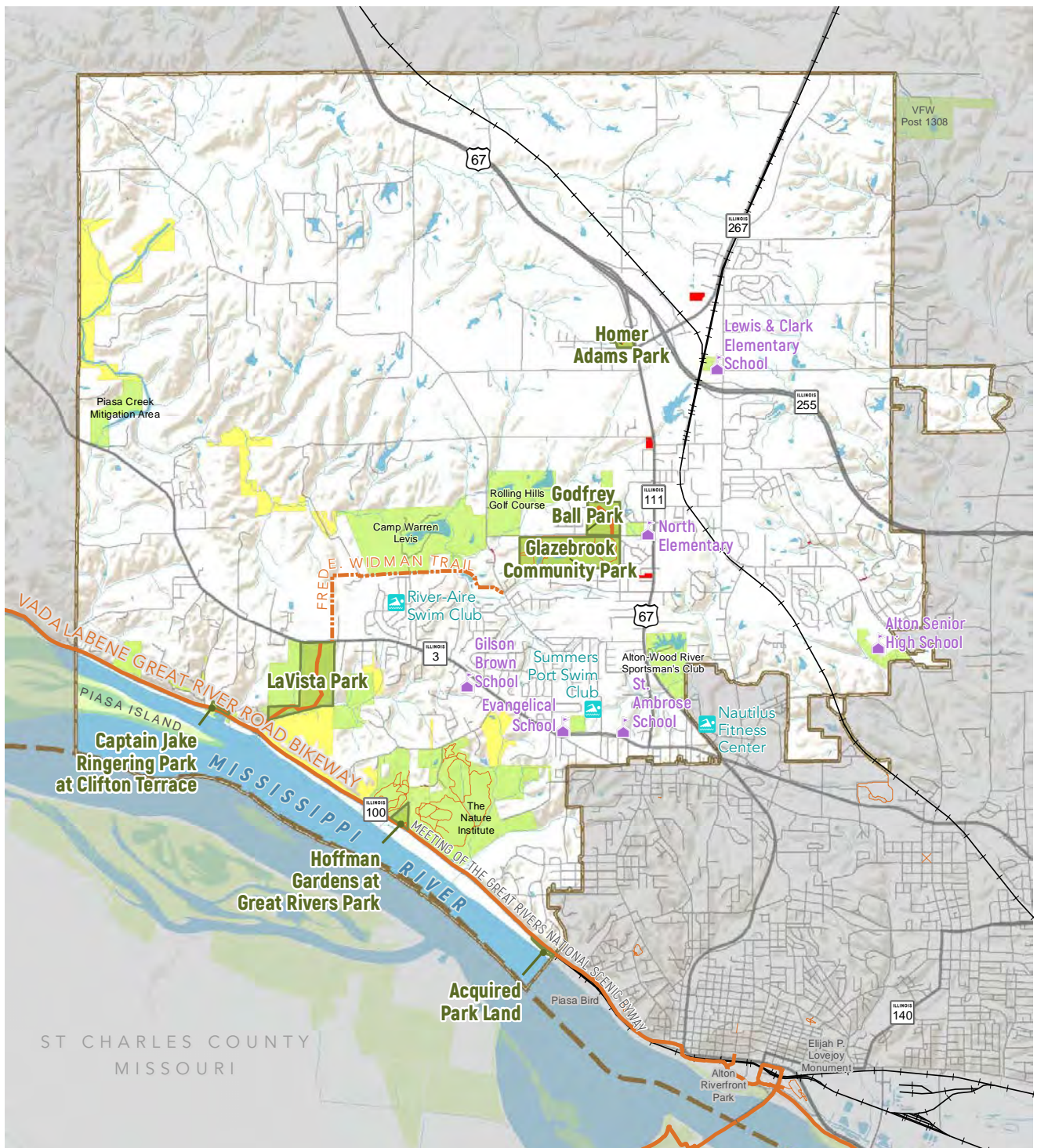
Adding trails to connect parks and open space to neighborhoods and schools would be a huge asset to the community. In this vein, the collaborative partnerships with neighboring Alton is beneficial to both communities fiscally and qualitatively, providing active and passive recreation to all residents.

Make Changes as Village's Needs Change

As the population changes, parks and open space can be acquired/redeveloped to meet community needs and to accommodate appropriate levels of service and scale, including: mini parks; neighborhood parks; community parks; recreational facilities; and access to trails and greenways.

When appropriate, priority parcels adjacent to or contiguous with wetlands, water bodies and streams, forested areas, and parks should be considered. Additionally, particular parcels within the land use categories such as Mixed Use, Commercial, Medium Density and High Density Residential should also be considered to provide public areas, gathering spaces, greenspace, and passive recreational opportunities for visitors and residents.

The proposed open space framework in the next section will not only enhance the quality of life for residents and the vitality and connectivity of Godfrey, but will also provide corridors for alternative modes of travel and link neighborhoods, schools, and growth centers.



ST CHARLES COUNTY
MISSOURI



Existing Parks, Recreation & Open Space Godfrey 2021

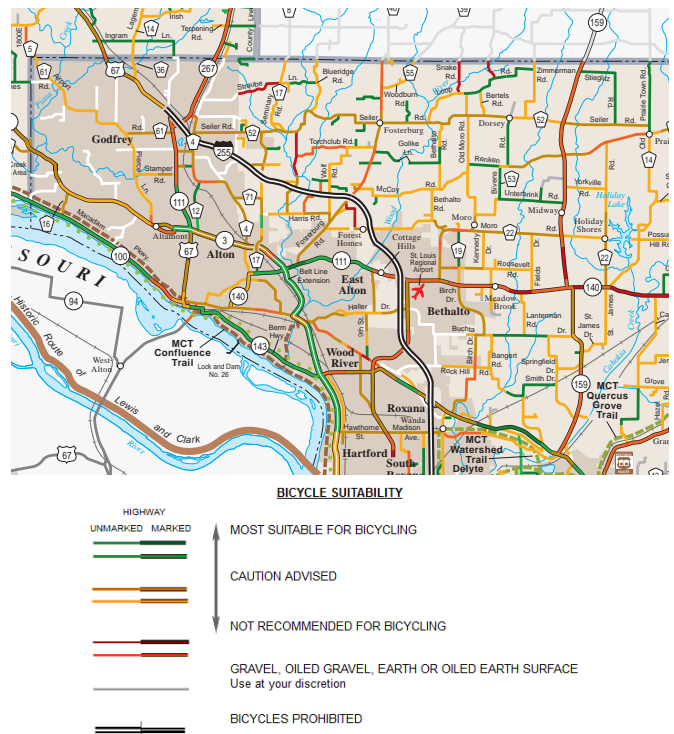
Service Area/Walking Distance

The Trust For Public Land is a national organization which advocates that quality parks and green spaces are a fundamental requirement for sustaining healthy, equitable, resilient communities.

Their tool, ParkServe(R), can be used to assess park access. According to ParkServe(R) **only 11% of Godfrey residents live within a 10-minute walk to a park.** The tool also helps identify areas where adding a park will increase access.

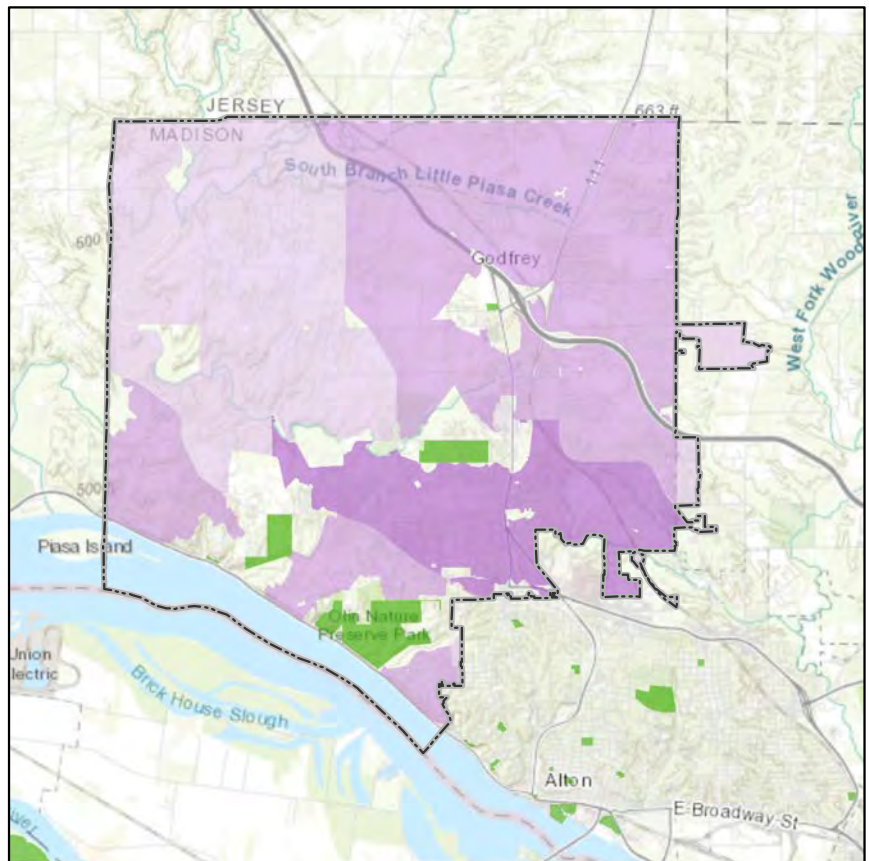
In the map below, the parks are green while all areas within a 10-minute walk of the park are not shaded. The purple shades are neighborhoods outside of the 10-minute walk zone. The deeper the purple, the more residents there are, and the greater impact adding a park or a trail connection to an existing park will have on improving access.

This map helps to designate areas of need and where to concentrate and prioritize acquisition of new park land.



Legend

- City Boundary
- Parks
- Priority areas for new parks
 - Very high priority
 - High priority
 - Moderate priority

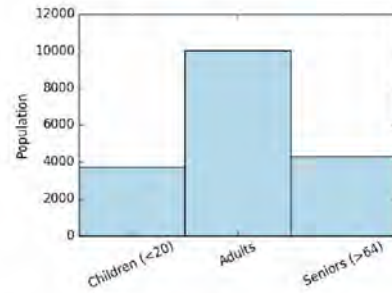


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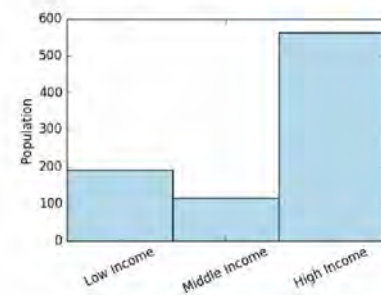
Population	Served
Total Population	2,056

Age	Served
Children (less than age 20)	3,698
Adults (age 20 to age 64)	10,015
Seniors (age 65 and up)	4,284



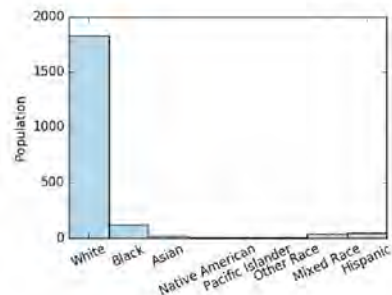
Household Income	Served
Low income	192
Middle income	115
High income	564

(Generated From Regional Median Incomes)



Race/Ethnicity	Served
White*	1,829
Black*	120
Asian*	18
Native American*	5
Pacific Islander*	1
Other Race*	1
Mixed Race*	35
Hispanic	46

* Excludes those that report Hispanic origin (which is captured separately from race by the U.S. Census)



Demographic information is derived from ESRI 2020 Demographic Forecast Block Groups data.

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Operations and Staff

For fiscal year 2020/2021 the Parks and Recreation Department operating budget was \$605,304 out of the Village's \$14,800,000 budget. The Department expected to bring in \$242,150 in revenue from recreation programs including sport enrollment fees and sponsorships. The Department expected another \$423,000 in grant revenue for facility improvements.

The Parks and Recreation Department is staffed by:

- Director of Parks and Recreation (FT)
- Recreation Supervisor (FT)
- Director of Maintenance (FT)
- Office Support (PT)
- Various Seasonal Positions (PT)

Existing Programs and Events

Godfrey Parks and Recreation hosts a variety of youth programs. These programs are provided to residents, and the cost to participate varies. Current programs and enrollment numbers are listed below. Fall Baseball/Softball was a new program added in 2020. Spring Soccer is a new program added in 2021. The decline in enrollment numbers and canceled programs can be attributed, at least in part, to the COVID-19 pandemic. See the chart on page 27.

Below on this and the facing page is the NRPA assessment results in the Dashboard based on data provided by the Village. The comparison is provided as median, lower, and upper quartile values within a national database. The population used in this database was 2021 at 17,900.

AGENCY PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

Operating Expenditures per Capita



Year	My Agency	#	Lower Quartile	Median	Upper Quartile
2021	\$179.81	430	\$54.01	\$101.05	\$194.03
2020		583	\$53.17	\$91.75	\$164.64
2019		500	\$48.53	\$87.33	\$164.40
2018		525	\$45.97	\$82.04	\$150.03
2017		455	\$42.90	\$77.39	\$141.43
2016		459	\$45.29	\$79.44	\$163.33

Operating expenditures per acre of parkland



Year	My Agency	#	Lower Quartile	Median	Upper Quartile
2021	\$13,696	402	\$4,094	\$8,828	\$20,440
2020		509	\$4,084	\$8,385	\$21,501
2019		427	\$4,113	\$8,404	\$21,035
2018		438	\$3,567	\$8,136	\$20,334
2017		385	\$3,319	\$7,196	\$16,566
2016		397	\$3,189	\$8,142	\$19,188

Total revenue to total operating expenditur...



Year	My Agency	#	Lower Quartile	Median	Upper Quartile
2021	8.75%	392	10.06%	24.12%	45.60%
2020		539	10.09%	22.02%	39.92%
2019		458	13.73%	27.44%	48.90%
2018		489	12.50%	27.65%	47.14%
2017		416	12.26%	25.98%	42.20%
2016		415	14.95%	30.74%	50.41%

Additional events are held throughout the year. These events are held at Glazebrook Park.

- Summer Day Camp
- Great Godfrey Corn Maze
- Fall Corn Fest
- Family Fun Fest
- Snowflake Festival
- Arbor Day Celebration
- Big Truck Day
- Movies in the Park

Community Partnerships

The Village of Godfrey partners with other organizations in the community to share resources and provide programs to residents. Alton School District #11 allows the village to use gymnasiums for indoor sports programs such as volleyball and basketball. Lewis and Clark Community College rents baseball fields to the Village and also allows the public to use school facilities such as pickleball and tennis courts and the indoor swimming pool. Other partnerships should be explored for further programming options.



Year	My Agency	#	Lower Quartile	Median	Upper Quartile
2021	\$15.73	397	\$5.64	\$22.49	\$58.06
2020		541	\$5.98	\$19.09	\$52.63
2019		460	\$7.08	\$23.89	\$57.00
2018		494	\$6.86	\$21.67	\$51.21
2017		418	\$5.67	\$17.18	\$44.93
2016		418	\$7.29	\$22.10	\$56.86

Village of Godfrey Parks & Recreation current programs and enrollment numbers

Program	2019 Enrollment	2020 Enrollment
Youth Basketball	180	155
Cheerleading	41	44
6 vs 6 Volleyball	91	30
Youth Soccer (Spring)	Not Offered	Not Offered
Youth Baseball/Softball (Summer)	579	391
Tennis Clinic	72	51
Youth Baseball/Softball (Fall)	Not Offered	435
Youth Soccer (Fall)	331	152
Volleyball Clinic (Fall)	69	Canceled
Rookie Sports (3-5 year olds)	300	174
Daddy Daughter Dance	233	Canceled
Mother Son Bowling	47	Canceled

3 Pillars of the NRPA

National Recreation & Park Association

Originally preserved for their aesthetic beauty, parks have evolved into critical public spaces that enable communities to become healthier, more prosperous, and socially connected. Careful management and planned activities have positioned local parks and recreation departments as essential component of modern life by helping mitigate the growing trend of obesity, improving the economy, and providing environmental benefits through conservation.

By following the National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) three pillars of Conservation, Health and Wellness, and Social Equity, the Village of Godfrey Department of Parks and Recreation can continue to provide resources and services that create quality of life improvements for its residents.

These three pillars are summarized here. More information can be found on NRPA.org



Conservation

Parks and public lands serve an essential role in the preservation of natural resources and wildlife habitat, protecting clean water and air, and providing green spaces for current and future generations to enjoy. The ability to preserve these essential connections is critical to the quality of life for Americans, and as such, the mission of parks and recreation departments at all levels should support the conservation of our natural resources. Clean, green, and accessible parks and open spaces benefit everyone in the community.

Parks and recreation professionals are the champions in protecting and managing open space for the common good. The preservation of our national resources not only improves the quality of life in our communities, but also provides substantial economic benefits such as reducing health care costs, cleanses air and water pollution, and improving social equity. Park and recreation facilities and programs also enhance the value of conservation by educating the public about their values, connecting young people to nature and the outdoors, and coordinating environmental stewardship with other public and nonprofit entities.

Through careful planning, stewardship, and public engagement, the community can continue to be a leader in conservation and build upon the benefits of its parks and open spaces. These benefits include:

- Providing carbon-reducing sustainable landscapes that cleanse air and water, replenish aquifers, reduce storm water runoff, and protect wildlife habitat;
- Offering the public access to safe, affordable, and healthy ways to experience and appreciate nature; and
- Contributing significantly to the economic wellbeing of communities through energy and resource conservation and providing many economic benefits to communities derived from outdoor recreation.



Recreation can be many different activities.



Students planting a community outdoor classroom for all.

Health & Wellness

Due in large part to a growing trend of poor nutrition, sedentary lifestyles, and overall unhealthy habits, America is in the midst of a serious health crisis that is affecting adults and children. Parks and recreation agencies have become leaders in fighting many of these challenges by enhancing the physical environments in which we live and improving the overall health and wellness of our communities.

More and more evidence has shown that parks and recreation actively contribute to healthier communities and are a critical solution for our nation’s health epidemic. Through facilities, natural amenities, and programs, they encourage and promote healthy habits for people of all ages, socioeconomic backgrounds, and ethnicities.

Communities can work toward improving the health and wellness of its community by offering collaborative programs and policies that:

- Help reduce obesity and incidence of chronic disease by providing opportunities to increase rigorous physical activity in a variety of forms;
- Provide a connection to nature which studies demonstrate relieves stress levels, tightens interpersonal relationships, and improves mental health;
- Aid in reducing hunger in America and increasing access to nutritious food options; and
- Foster overall wellness and healthful habits, such as becoming tobacco-free and engaging in enrichment opportunities that add balance to life.

Social Equity

The philosophy of social equity and access is a core pillar of every parks and recreation department. Having access to programs, facilities, places, and spaces – regardless of skin color, age, income level or ability – is a right, not a privilege, for people nationwide. Social equity is a critical responsibility of every public park and recreation agency and the professionals who operate them.

The inclusive nature of parks and recreation cultivates community ties through programs and services which connect people more deeply to the community. This sense of community connection improves quality of life and makes our communities more livable and desirable for residents and businesses.

Upholding social equity is one of the core means of assuring the value of parks and recreation for future generations. By continuing to improve upon the social equity and universal access to its parks and recreation opportunities, the community will enjoy many benefits, including:

- Public enjoyment and engagement. Where parks and open space are plentiful and recreation services strong, residents enjoy the closest attachment and engagement within their communities; and studies indicate higher levels of local gross domestic product and economic wellbeing;
- Quality recreation time with family and friends. Parks and recreation services provide a space and a reason to partake in enjoying quality time, relaxation, and fun among family members and friends, thus strengthening the social and familial bonds that provide balance and satisfaction in life;
- Improvement of mental and physical health. Parks and recreation can reduce the impacts of chronic diseases, especially in such vulnerable populations as children, seniors, and the under-served; and
- Measurable decreases in rates of crime and other detrimental activities. Communities are safer as a result of a wholesome atmosphere created by well managed parks and recreation services in communities through healthy activities and programming for all people.

Parks & Open Space Needs Assessment Methodology

While there is not one single industry standard on the topic of open space allowances, those most widely accepted by local governments come from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Within the NRPA guidelines are recommendations for a broad cross-section of recreational spaces: from neighborhood parks to nature preserves. The designated spaces can be broken down into two broad categories: local and regional open space.

Locally, cities and municipalities should account for three distinct types of recreational space: mini parks, neighborhood recreation and community parks. Regional open space includes both Village-scale parks and natural reserve or preservation areas.

Each category, and its correlating recommendation, is detailed below:

Mini Parks 2500 square feet up to 1 acre.

Recommendation: ¼ to ½ acre/1,000 residents

Sometimes referred to as “tot-lots”, these local facilities are utilized primarily by parents and young children. While they are typically small in size, sustainable communities emphasize their placement and frequency within residential neighborhoods easily accessed on foot by families, about 1/4 mile range.

Neighborhood Park & Recreation 5 to 10 acres

Recommendation: 1 to 2 acres/1,000 residents

Recently, highly populated areas have trended toward the consolidation of programmed recreational areas (soccer or baseball field complexes, for instance). This open space typology suggests that communities are best served by more fewer, large organized open space. Parks and sports fields throughout the various neighborhoods at 1/2 mile walking distance tend to result in more healthy and happy children than destination complexes typically placed beyond pedestrian access. This typology includes playgrounds and active recreation spaces (skate parks, sports fields, etc.) used by older children and young adults.

Community Parks 25 acres or more are preferred

Recommendation: 5 to 8 acres/1,000 residents

These are areas of diverse environmental qualities that can include both active and passive recreational uses. While portions of these areas may be loosely programmed with components discussed within the neighborhood recreation typology, there are often larger, more natural areas that present a large-scale green space, pasture or water feature for more passive recreational activities.

Regional Parks

Recommendation: 5 to 10 acres/1,000 residents

These areas are typically selected for their natural or ornamental beauty and are capable of hosting large-scale recreational activities such as hiking or boating. While not necessarily designated as such, natural preserves can sometimes be utilized in this manner if use is strictly governed.

Natural Reserve

Recommendation: Varies per community

These are areas preserved because of their rich habitat, ecologic uniqueness, or aesthetic beauty. Recreation in these areas is typically limited to passive only and sensitively governed (nature observation, hiking, etc). Godfrey is connected to tremendous resources: the greatest river on the continent, the Mississippi, bluffs, the ravines, and creek and stream tributaries.

Defining Park Characteristics

Neighborhood Park Characteristics

- 0 to 10 acres
- 1 mile service area
- Incorporated within or adjacent to residential areas
- Partnerships with neighborhood associations, homeowner associations, businesses, churches, and organizations for maintenance

Community Park Characteristics

- 20 to 50 Acres
- 2 mile service area
- Service large portions of the community
- Should offer support services such as restrooms, concessions, and parking
- Accessible by trail, sidewalk, and street networks
- Accommodate active/passive recreation activities
- Parking size will vary based upon components

Natural Park & Area Characteristics

- Acres vary
- Protected natural resources with limited improvements for people to explore nature.
- Partnerships with community organizations

School/Institution/Private Joint-Use Facilities

- Though joint-use agreements, Village residents have access to select facilities.

Specialty Parks

- Dog Parks
- Stormwater Parks

The NRPA Park Acreage Metric

Park Category	Recommended Ratio (NRPA)	Recommended Distribution by Population 17,900	Existing Park Acreage in Godfrey	Projected 2030 Population Needs in Godfrey
Mini-Park/Pocket Park	0.25 to 0.5 acre per 1,000 residents	4.5 - 9 acres	3 acres	9 acres
Neighborhood Park/Recreation	1 to 2 acres per 1,000 residents	18 - 36 acres	24 acres	36 acres
Community Park	5 to 8 acres per 1,000 residents	90 - 144 acres	213 acres +42 Leased	144 acres
Regional Park	5 to 10 acres per 1,000 residents	90 - 180 acres	0 acres	180 acres**/**
Subtotal		202.5 - 369 acres	278 acres	369 acres
Natural Reserve	Varies by community	TBD		1205 **
Total		202.5 - 369 acres + *Natural Reserves	278 acres	1577 acres

The population used above is 2020 count at 17,180.

* Often for smaller communities these are shared in the region or these are privately owned facilities open to the public.

** This indicates that the Village does not own or operate these facilities. However within the boundaries of the Village these facilities are privately owned/managed and open to the public with fee-based memberships.

***This facility is available through an educational institution or non-governmental organization (NGO).

AGENCY PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

Acres of Parks per 1,000 Residents



Year	My Agency	#	Lower Quartile	Median	Upper Quartile	
2021		13	423	5	11	18
2020		529	5	10	18	
2019		445	5	10	18	
2018		449	5	10	18	
2017		406	5	10	18	
2016		413	5	10	18	

Operating expenditures per acre of parkland



Year	My Agency	#	Lower Quartile	Median	Upper Quartile
2021	\$13,696	402	\$4,094	\$8,828	\$20,440
2020		509	\$4,084	\$8,385	\$21,501
2019		427	\$4,113	\$8,404	\$21,035
2018		438	\$3,567	\$8,136	\$20,334
2017		385	\$3,319	\$7,196	\$16,566
2016		397	\$3,189	\$8,142	\$19,188

Assessment Calculations

Park Land

Within its service area, the Parks and Recreation Department currently manages a total of over 270 acres at seven sites. These parks can be separated into classifications to help Village staff in implementing policies by providing parameters for design and development, maintenance and operations, and future funding and acquisition opportunities.

Recreational Facilities

The NRPA provides guidelines for assessing the adequacy of specific recreational facilities such as ball fields and tennis courts. The facilities referenced are for "Open to the Public" municipal amenities. Therefore these would be in addition to private membership clubs or facilities. These guidelines are presented in

the table to the right. Other uses to consider that have emerged in recent local trends are sand and hard court volleyball, biking/walking trails, and indoor facilities for seasonal and senior activities.

The Village's residents and staff express a higher desire for pickleball and soccer fields than expressed in the NRPA standards. This is due to the current trends of the region. As the trends change over time it is certain that the demand for services will change and be modified by the Village.

It is the intent of the plan to demonstrate the projection of services needed according to the recommendations. Further detailed plans for specific parks and lands will be administered by the Director of Parks and Recreation to determine their placement within the Village limits, according to land availability and need. At that time detailed design, landscape guidelines, and recommendations should be reviewed and implemented.



The NRPA Facilities Guidelines

Recreation Facilities	Recommended by Population	Suggested needs for current estimated Population 17,900	Existing Park Acreage Distribution	Projected 2030 Population Needs
Baseball Fields	1/5,000 residents	3 to 4 fields	4+***	4+
Soccer Fields	1/10,000 residents	1 to 2	3+	2+
Football Fields	1/10,000 residents	1 to 2	1***	2
Basketball Courts	1/2,000 residents	9	1/2	8-9
Tennis Courts	1/2,000 residents	9	0**	8-9
Multi-purpose Courts	Varies by community 1/2,000 residents	9	0**	8-9
Swimming Pool	1/20,000 residents	1*	0**	1**
Golf Course	1/50,000 residents	1*	0**	1**
Golf Driving Range	1/50,000 residents	1*	0**	1**
1/4 mile 400 meter track	1/20,000 residents	1*	0***	1**
Archery Range	1/50,000 residents	1*	1**	1**

The population was 2020 count at 17,180. For this chart, the population of 17,900.

* Often for smaller communities these are shared in the region or these are privately owned facilities open to the public.

** This indicates that the Village does not own or operate these facilities. However within the boundaries of the Village these facilities are privately owned/managed and open to the public with fee-based memberships.

***This facility is available through an educational institution or non-governmental organization (NGO). Partnerships should be developed.

Village of Godfrey Parks & Recreation Existing Facilities/Amenities

	Acres	Restrooms	Picnic Shelters	Concessions	Tables	Grills	Seating	Playground	Water/ Fishing	Baseball/ Softball	Soccer	Basketball	Walking Trail	Natural Area	Community Garden	Bike Rack	Vandalism Trail Access	Other
Glazebrook Park 1401 Stamper Lane	40	3	3	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	2	Yes		4		Yes	Yes		Yes		
Glazebrook Park East 1401 B Stamper Lane	80	1	1	1	Yes		Yes	1		4	4	Half Court	Yes			Yes		
Godfrey Ball Park 908 Stamper Lane	42	1		1			Yes			4						Yes		
Homer Adams Park 6810 Godfrey Road	4	1	3		Yes	Yes	Yes	1							Yes	Yes		
Captain Jake Ringing Park at Clifton Terrace	3	1			Yes		Yes	1					Yes			Yes	Yes	
LaVista Park 2421 West Delmar	93				Yes		Yes						Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Disc Golf
Hoffman Gardens at Great Rivers Park	9				Yes		Yes						Yes			Yes	Yes	
Planned Park Great River Road	+3.5																	Future Park
The Nature Institute***									Yes					Yes				
Camp Warren Levis***									Yes					Yes				
Glazebrook Expansion		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		

Existing Park Facilities & Amenities Planned Park or Potential Partner Facilities & Amenities



4 Framework

Overview

The Open Space Framework provides a broad direction for mutually supportive and integrated public, private, and community projects to create a well-connected and diverse park system. The Open Space Framework organizes park system in relation to natural resources and future growth for optimal impact for the community.

Building upon the community's vision and goals, this framework creates sustainable natural resource connectivity supported by a healthy built environment by balancing economic, community and environmental imperatives.

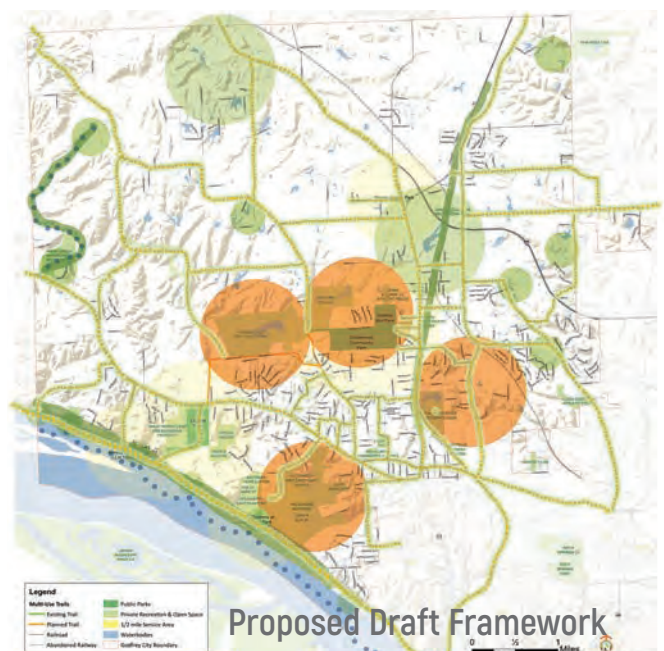
The built amenities in the proposed framework should cater to the needs of the residents that live nearby. Multiple options were developed to resolve these issues and provide a system of open space for the regional sites as well as the Village as a whole. These options are shown on the diagram as opportunities conceptually and shall be used as a planning tool only. Further strategies are in the Plan's recommendations.

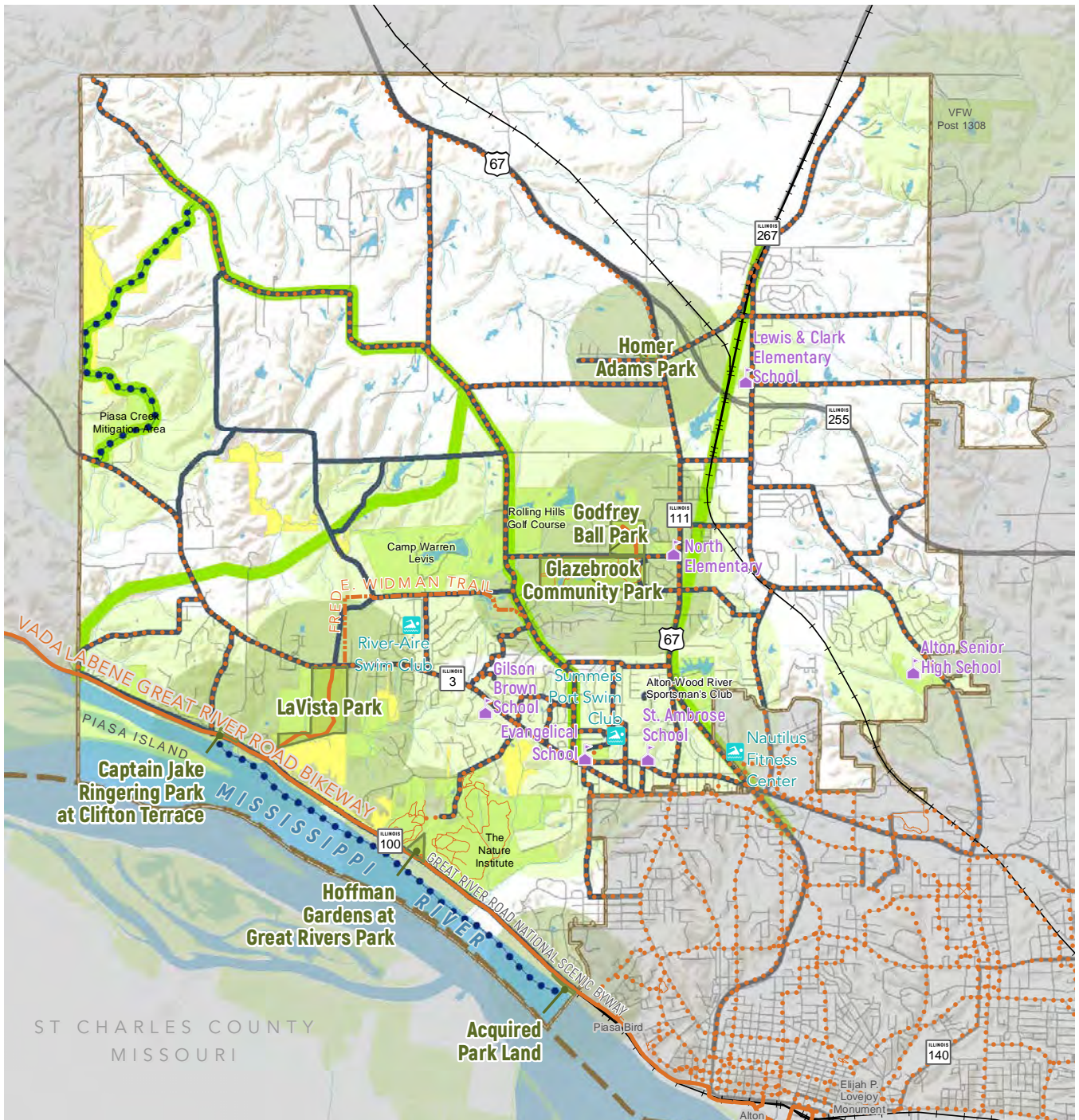
Additionally the framework calls for greenways connecting and complementing the trail system connecting the new and existing parks. The proposed greenways (buffers) along waterways are the most valuable for conservation purposes. Assisting in the conservation of these areas, they can be protected or restored under public or private ownership.

Creating greenways along trails can reduce the need for traditional parks on develop-able land while providing multiple ecological and recreation benefits on land that is poorly suited to development, such as floodplains and bluffs. In some cases, these major greenways follow creeks and tributaries, with

















the exception of a rail-to-trail concept eventually connecting Godfrey's town center into downtown Alton.

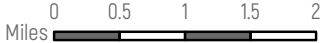
The greenways are significant not only for their aesthetic and recreation value, but also for their ability to reduce the impacts of stormwater runoff from the proposed development. The major greenways, as planned, will maintain wildlife habitat, protect water quality, and support essential functions of the drainage system. All streams should be buffered with trees and/or native plant at least 50 to 65 feet on each side. Conserving the areas as recommended will offer excellent habitat value, stormwater management benefits, and recreational opportunities. For example, Piasa Creek could become a water trail for kayaking and canoeing.



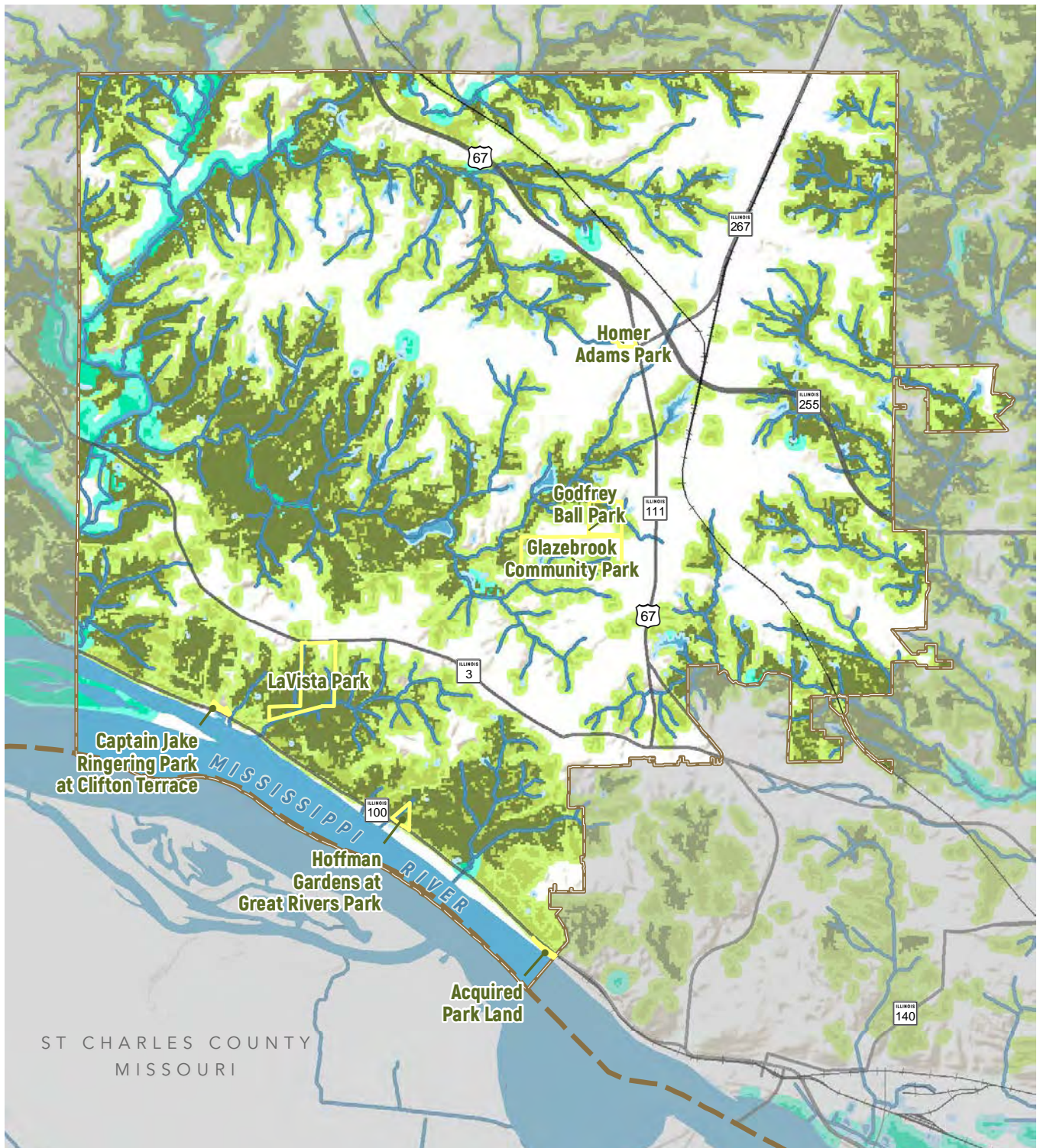


ST CHARLES COUNTY
MISSOURI

-  School
-  Swim facility
-  Railway
-  Godfrey municipal boundary
-  Greenway
-  Water Trail
-  Existing public parks
-  Other open space or recreational site
-  Parcels protected by others
-  1/2 mile park service area
-  1/2 mile buffer, other sites
-  Bike facility, proposed (MEPRD)
-  Bike facility, existing
-  Bike facility, in progress
-  Walking trail, existing
-  Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan Route

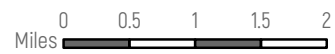


Godfrey Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan 2030

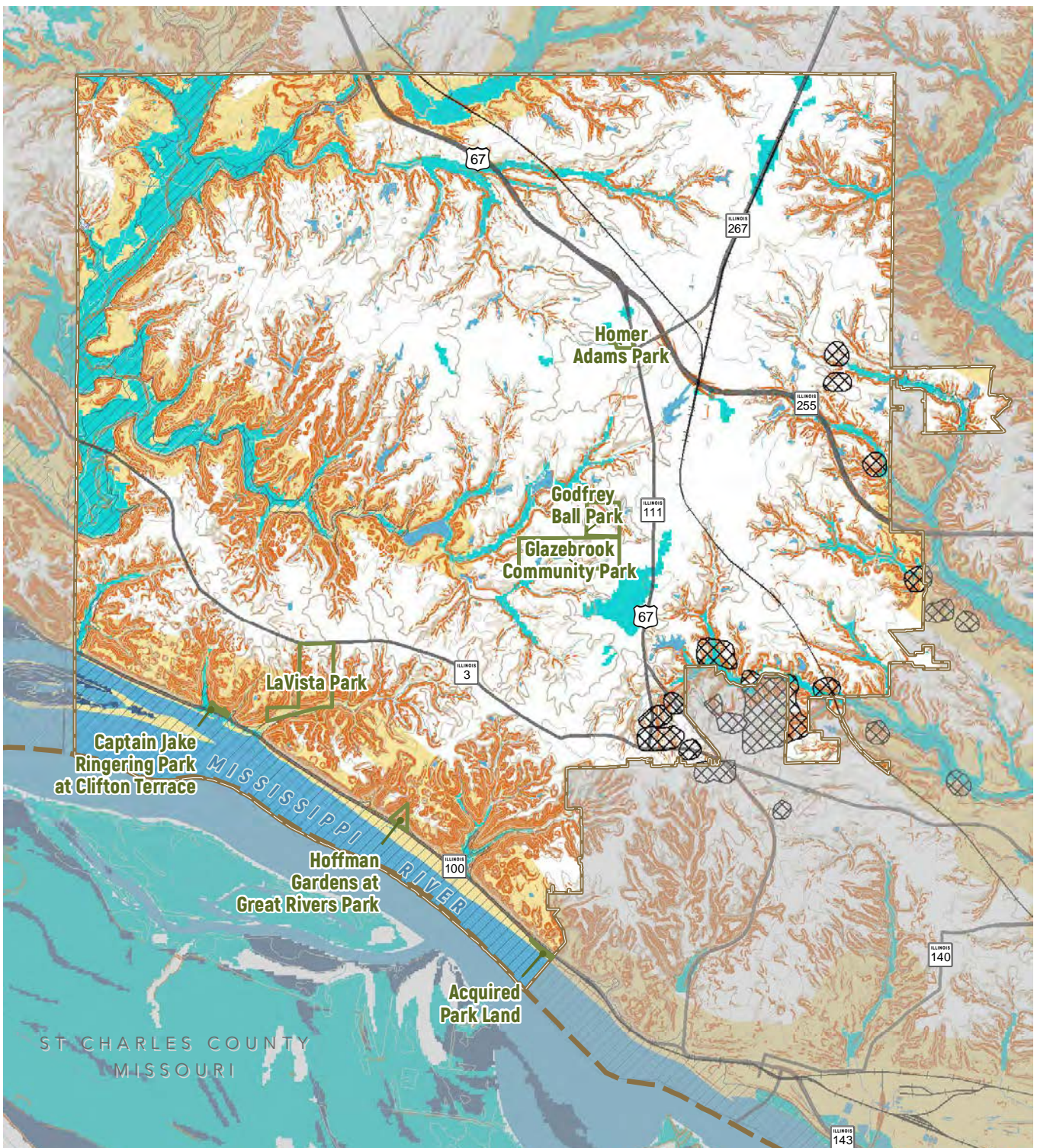


ST CHARLES COUNTY
MISSOURI

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Godfrey municipal boundary | Forest core (>10 acres) | Water with 50' buffer |
| State boundary | Wetland | Wetland buffer (300') |
| Existing public parks | Forest | Forest buffer (200') |



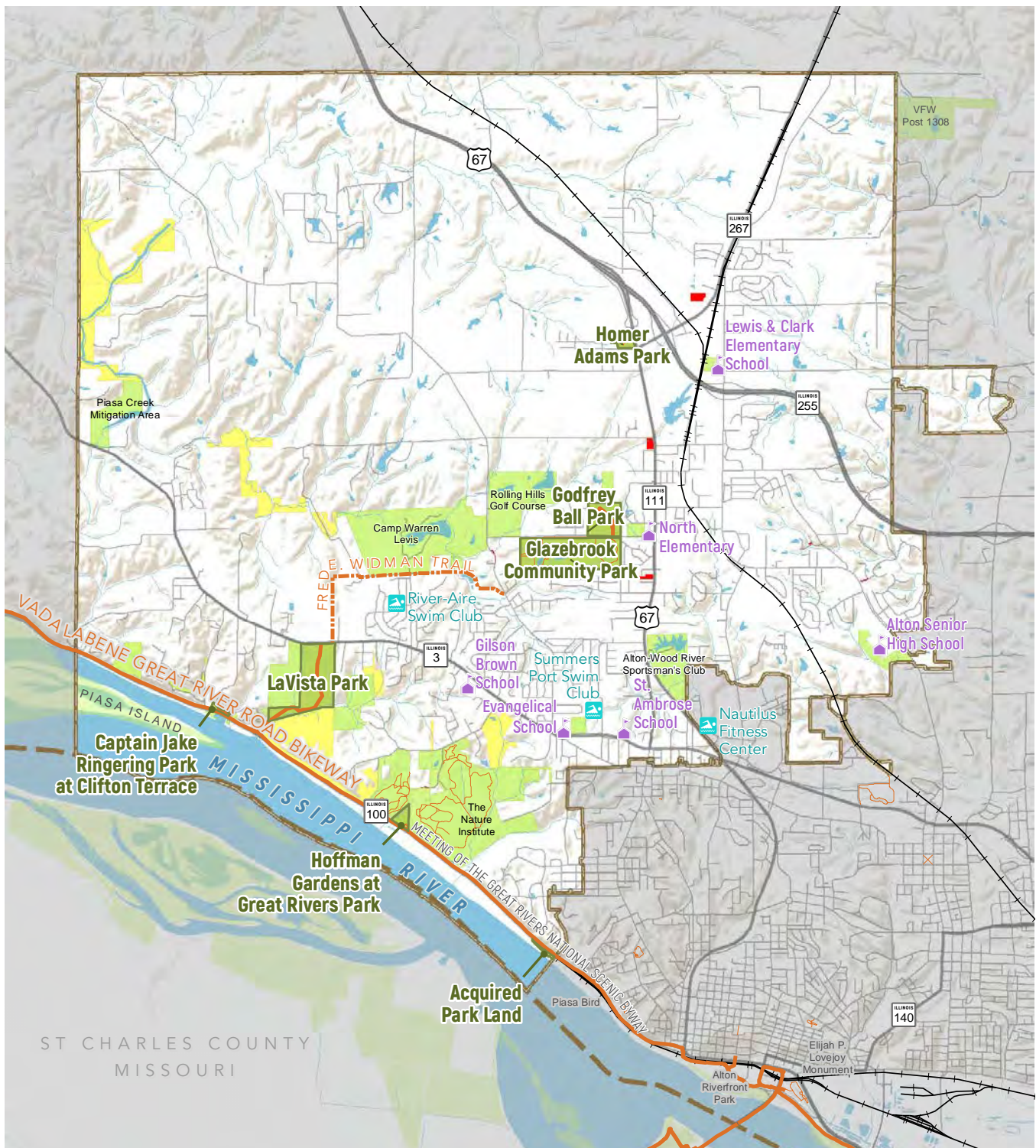
Existing Conditions for Godfrey Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan



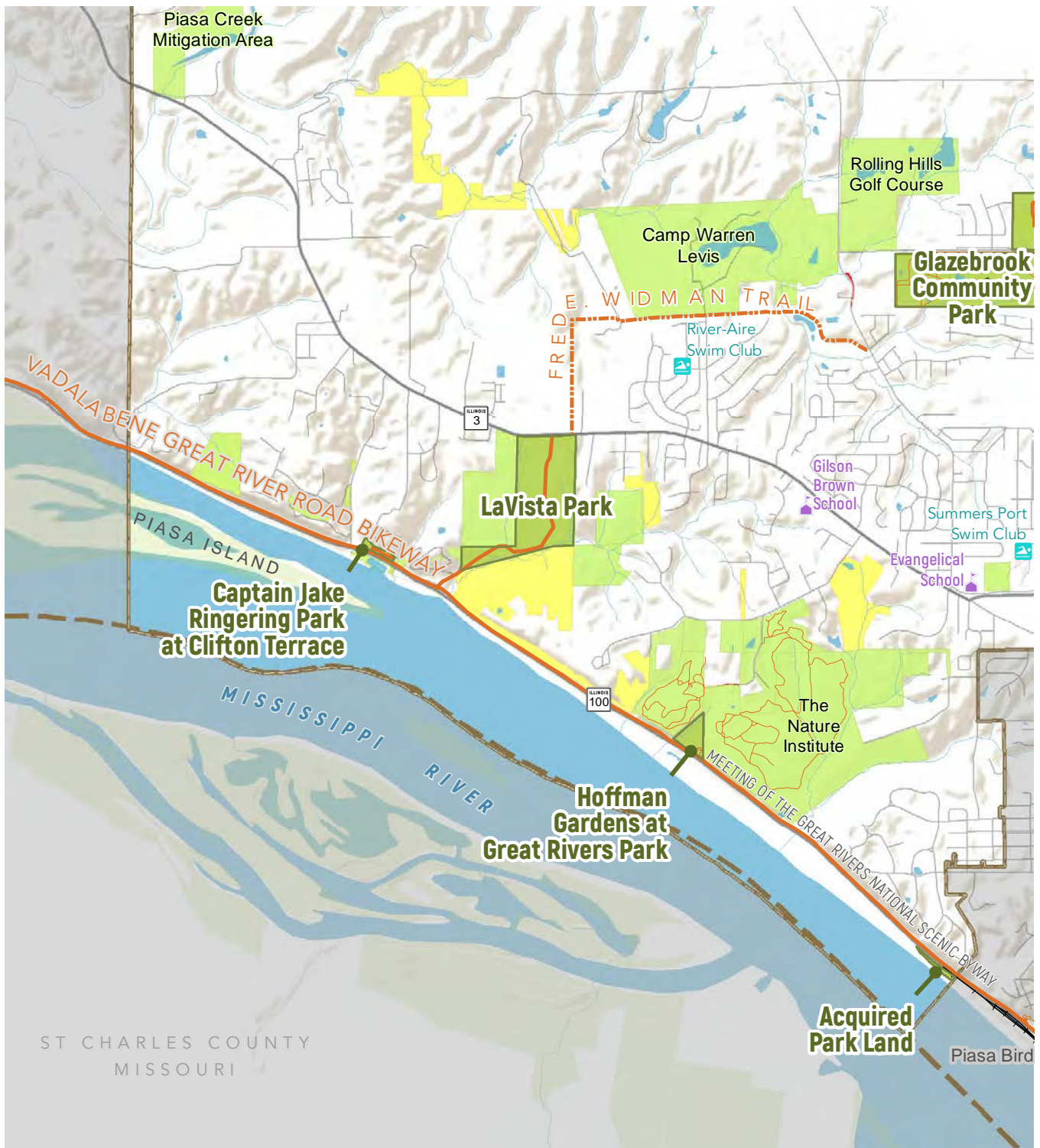
- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Godfrey municipal boundary | Flood Hazard Area | Hydric soil |
| State boundary | Undermined area | Partially hydric soil |
| Existing public parks | High archaeological potential | Water |
| Slopes >15% | | |



Existing Conditions [Geomorphology] for Godfrey Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan



Existing Facilities for Godfrey Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan



ST CHARLES COUNTY
MISSOURI



River's Edge Area Existing Conditions for Godfrey Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan



5 Strategies

Overview

The recommendations presented here are the results of the community survey, input from the first open house, meetings with the Advisory Committee, Village Staff, and Stakeholder Interviews.

These strategies should be considered a general guide for planning, future acquisition, and development of the park system, with more specific decisions being carried out within day-to-day operations of the Village of Godfrey Parks and Recreation Department.

Strategies & Recommendations

In more detail than guiding principles, strategies generally identify efforts that should always be a part of ongoing work programs and efforts of the Parks Department. However, it should be noted that park acquisition, development and management decisions are often based on opportunity, partnerships and willing sellers rather than priority; listed priorities should not be used as justification against pursuing projects not included under this section.

Many of these strategies will benefit from multiple entities coming together and leveraging resources. Partnerships with cooperating agencies, organizations, and volunteer organizations can be strengthened and supportive. Where appropriate, initiate discussions to consider working with other public agencies and private organizations to provide services, activities, or facilities that serve local residents and attract visitors from the region or state. All collaborations should be formalized through written memorandums of agreement.

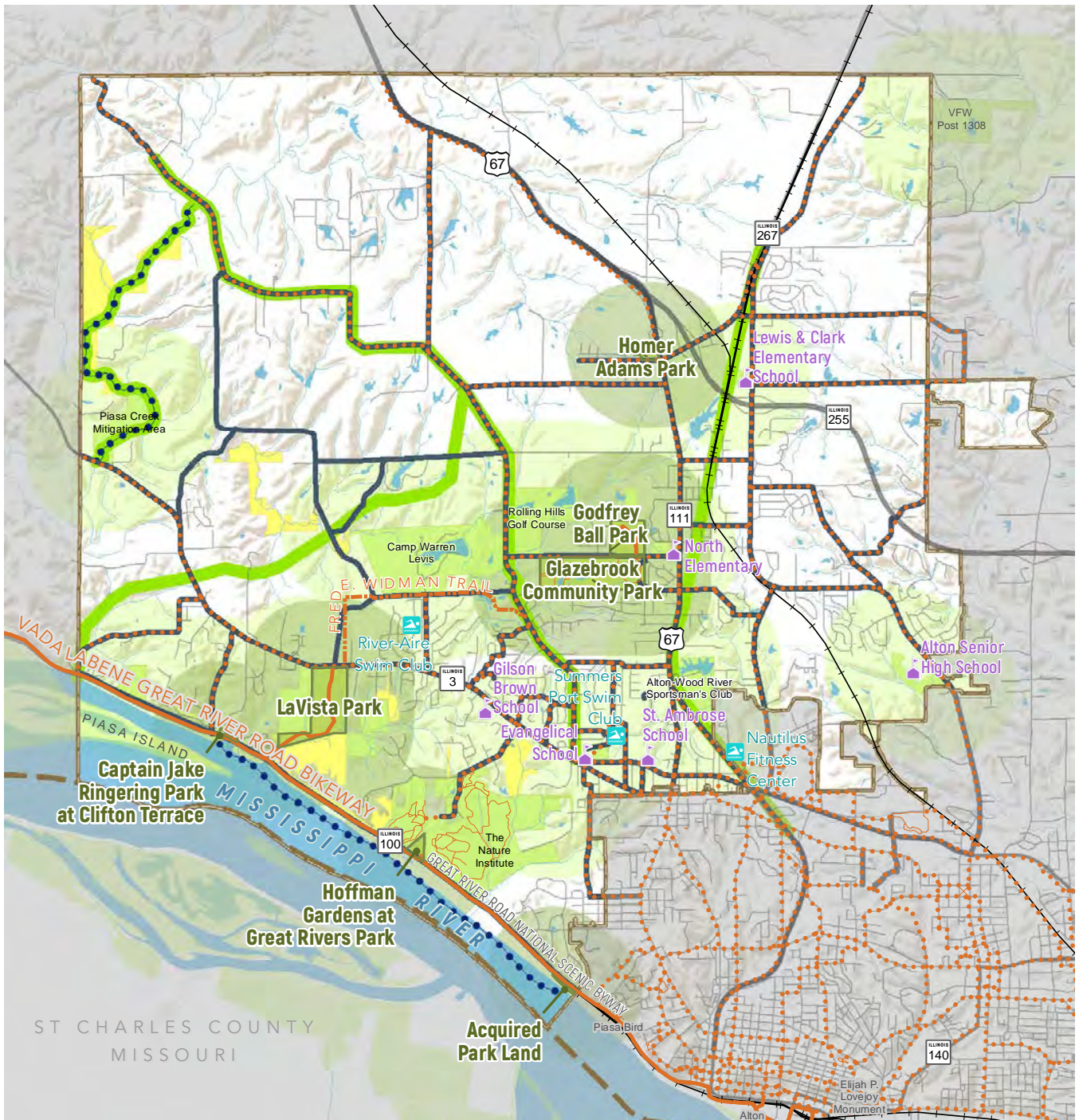
Strategies are themed by the following:

- **Vibrancy**
- **Inclusivity**
- **Connectivity**
- **Vitality**
- **Natural Resources**
- **Stormwater**
- **Stewardship**

















In further detail, recommendations are more specific statements that provide guidance for future park planning, programming, development, management and land acquisition decision-making processes.

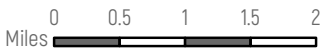
The recommendations were compiled to complement best practices and reflect current park operation, planning, and land acquisition procedure and practices. They provide priorities developed by the Village staff, stakeholders, and residents; and recommendations culminated from case studies, databases, and research.

Topics include active and passive recreation, multi-use trails, historic resources, natural resource planning, land acquisition, operations and maintenance, partnerships, planning, development and management.



ST CHARLES COUNTY
MISSOURI

-  School
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-  Bike facility, in progress
-  Walking trail, existing
-  Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan Route



Godfrey Comprehensive Parks and Open Space Plan 2030



Photo by Marty McKay



Strategy:

Vibrancy



Long fields can support many types of active recreation.

Strategy: Vibrancy

Embrace and strengthen Godfrey's role as a regional recreation hub and destination at the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.

Recommendations:

1. Enhance the rivers' edge as a destination and attraction as linear park along the Mississippi River and bluffs.

- a. Brand the area along the River Road and the trail as a "linear park" or "greenway" with plenty to do and see.
- b. Create a linear park where new amenities are appropriate or where there is a unique feature.
 - i. Enhance existing parks and Village-owned land along the Mississippi River into trailheads and areas of interest.
 - ii. Work with Illinois Department of Transportation, local and state legislators, and Madison County Transit to make needed improvements to the Vadalabene Trail and formalize trail maintenance agreements.
 - iii. Investigate new passive recreational opportunities with a water trail along the Village's river's edge. Include kayak/canoe water access points at existing parks for paddlers.
 - iv. Program the park with events throughout the year.
- c. Develop and preserve places for migratory birds to nest and roost along the Mississippi Flyway and for safe bird-watching areas.

2. Promote ecotourism to support economic vitality.

- a. Promote the diverse recreational opportunities Godfrey has to offer.
- b. Develop and promote all-season recreation activities. Add a photo showing the phone/camera prop up station for selfies.

- c. Build destination stations/scenic viewpoints at Godfrey's scenic areas. Partner with non-governmental entities to add viewpoint amenities at their facilities.
- d. Capitalize on the existing Great River Road tourism. The Mississippi Riverfront is a great resource for the Village of Godfrey.
- e. Consider adding a water taxi or ferry stops to connect to other communities along the rivers. Explore partnership to implement.
- f. Partner with adjacent communities to host special events or seasonal interest events.
- g. Promote migratory bird watching seasons and eagle watching.

3. Expand Godfrey's brand as a major regional recreation destination through marketing and communications.

- a. Grow partnerships with Tourism Bureaus to promote Godfrey as a regional destination.
- b. Create and implement a cohesive marketing strategy for recreation and ecotourism that couples with the Village's brand and economic plans.
- c. Increase communication, awareness, and promotion of all parks, trails, and natural resource partners.
- d. Promote all of Godfrey's parks, particularly those that are less known.
- e. Increase the Parks and Recreation Department's digital media presence.
 - i. Develop a new website with greater mobile device responsiveness and user interface.
 - ii. Continue to increase social media presence and actively interact with followers.
 - iii. Build "selfie stations" at parks and scenic points for social media posts by others.
- f. Conduct an audit of consumer mapping application data. Review Google Maps, OpenStreetMap and the Metro-East Park and Recreation District web mapping application to ensure that boundaries, names, and facility types are presented accurately, and request edits from each provider as necessary.



Natural areas and open space can support many activities.



Protected natural resources can be an economic driver, too.

- g. Create a uniform and cohesive look for signs in all Godfrey Parks. Improve park entrance signs and wayfinding systems.
- h. Promote Godfrey's unique history and cultural sites:
 - i. Woodland and Mississippian Culture;
 - ii. Native American, Underground Railroad, Pioneer settlers' homesteads, etc;
 - iii. The Sam Vadalabene Trail; and
 - iv. The National Meeting of the Great Rivers Scenic Byway.

4. Promote active living and attract regional tournaments to Godfrey.

- a. Redesign athletic facilities for greater operational flexibility, environmental quality, participant and viewer comfort/convenience, and aesthetic character:
 - i. Provide flexible long fields that accommodate a variety of ball fields (i.e., soccer, football, lacrosse) for seasonal overflow.
 - ii. Accommodate and encourage outdoor winter recreation (cross country skiing in parks, walking/hiking, birdwatching, etc.) Provide indoor programming along with corresponding adequate support facilities and amenities (indoor soccer, volleyball, classes, etc.).
 - iii. Design new athletic fields to meet typical daily and seasonal multi-purpose programming needs.
- b. Renovate, replace or add new active recreation facilities and amenities to meet contemporary standards and codes.
 - i. Redesign and program overused spaces to reduce physical damage.
 - ii. Redesign underused active spaces over time to achieve the best use as described per park recommendations or trends.
 - iii. Ensure the facilities and amenities are ADA compliant.
- c. Provide ballfield clusters with public amenities for a more cost-effective, efficient, family-oriented design, which is more attractive to park users and spectators.

- i. Increase edge landscaping to minimize the visual impact of backstops and dirt infields
- ii. Provide shade for spectators and teams. Consider trees to frame expansive, open space.
- iii. Add all-season restrooms.
- d. Increase capacity of the park system, programming, and opportunities.
 - i. Hire seasonal and additional full time staff to develop and manage active recreational tournaments and field scheduling.
 - ii. Update user-friendly scheduling software on a frequent basis. Cross train all staff.
 - iii. Update website capabilities.
- e. Create new programming opportunities.
 - i. Host more regional and local sports tournaments for all ages and abilities.
 - ii. Encourage weekend and daytime use to ball fields through the permitting section, either by marketing strategies, such as lower rates for daytime use, or by attracting new users, such as youth leagues, which prefer these hours.

Active Recreation vs. Passive Recreation

Passive recreation refers to recreational activities that do not require prepared facilities like sports fields or pavilions. Passive recreational activities place minimal stress on a site's resources; as a result, they can provide ecosystem service benefits and are highly compatible with natural resource protection.

Active recreation refers to a structured individual or team activity that requires the use of special facilities, courses, fields, or equipment.

Essentially, the U.S. EPA gives the definitions above, with two further points of emphasis:

- 1) passive uses can't require prepared (and maintenance intensive) facilities; and
- 2) passive uses are relatively low impact to the site's resources.



Vadalabene Trail

Extending 20 miles from the Piasa Park in Alton to Pere Marquette State Park, the Sam Vadalabene Bike Trail is a multi-use path that runs parallel to the Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway along IL Route 100, as well as the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. Godfrey's segment is 4.4 miles.

The trail was named after Sam M. Vadalabene, a member of the Illinois Senate. Construction began in 1979. The trail was built and is owned by the State

of Illinois and in 2006 it was designated as a National Recreation Trail.

According to Godfrey Bicycle and Pedestrian Survey, over half of Godfrey's residents never use the Vadalabene Trail and 35% don't even know where it is located. Factors keeping them from using it include; lack of connections to the center of Godfrey, deteriorating trail conditions, and the close proximity to traffic.

Recommendations

- Parking
- Trailheads along the route
- Places to rest and enjoy the view
- Regular maintenance
- Interpretive and wayfinding signs
- Selfie stations
- Marketing
- Tourism opportunities
- Connections to neighborhoods

Existing Facilities & Amenities

Some sections are paved multi-use trail, others run along the wide shoulder of the highway. Nearly five miles of the trail are within the Village of Godfrey, connecting three of Godfrey's parks (Clifton Terrace, LaVista, and Hoffmann Gardens at Great Rivers Park) and the trail to La Vista Park. Through Godfrey, the trail is paved and separated from the highway.

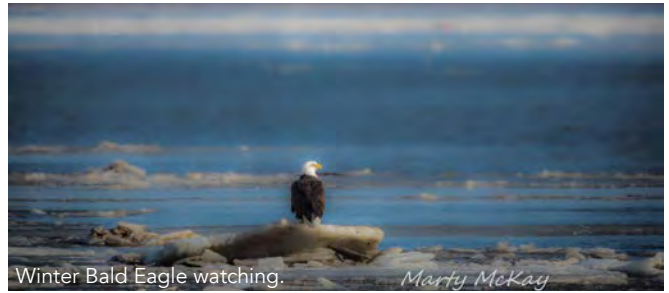
At the north end, the trail connects to Pere Marquette State Park through Grafton and to Calhoun and St. Charles Counties via the Grafton and Brussels Ferries.

At the south and eastern end of the trail, connections can be made through Alton to both the Confluence Trail and the Katy Trail. This connects to the vast regional trail system of Madison County Transit and to the St. Louis Riverfront.

Amenities are provided by existing parks, communities, and businesses along the route.



Protected natural resources can be an economic driver, too.



Winter Bald Eagle watching. Marty McKay



The Mississippi Bluffs along the Great River Road. Marty McKay



Walkers often take the trail as part of a loop. Photo: R. MacNamara



Cyclists on the Great River Road and Sam M. Vadalabene Trail.



Captain Jake Ringering Park at Clifton Terrace

Captain Jake Ringering Park at Clifton Terrace is a beautiful 3-acre park located on the Meeting of the Great Rivers Scenic Byway along the Mississippi River. Captain Jake Ringering Park at Clifton Terrace is a rest stop on the state-owned Vadalabene Bike Trail.

Clifton Terrace is a historic area of Godfrey originally settled in the early 1800s. In 1837, Clifton comprised of a store, schoolhouse, ten dwelling houses, blacksmith shop, and a population of 67 people. By 1874, the land

in the area was terraced and Clifton earned its new name – Clifton Terrace. The Clifton Terrace Hotel was established and vineyards were planted to make wine for the patrons. The hotel became a favorite resort for visitors from Alton and St. Louis. It consisted of 300 rooms, a pavilion, pool, and bowling alley. The hotel offered swimming, boating, bowling, and billiards. A wine cellar was located in a cave behind the hotel. After the death of hotel founder, Louis Stiritz in 1909, his daughters continued to operate the hotel until 1934, when it was sold to Mike Whitford.

Today the site of the former hotel is a public park. All that remains of the hotel operation is the wine cellar entrance, locked behind a wrought-iron gate. The property across the highway from the park is owned by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

In 2019, Clifton Terrace Park was renamed in honor of Capitan Jake Ringering, a Godfrey firefighter who died in the line of duty.

Recommendations

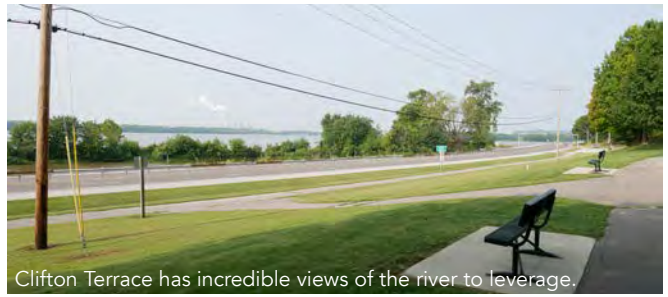
- New pavilion
- Historical interpretation of Clifton Hotel and vineyard
- Improve signage and wayfinding
- Waterfront nature trail
- Fishing pier
- Kayak/canoe launch
- Partner with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to add recreation access on the riverfront across the road from park
- Selfie station

Existing Facilities & Amenities

- Prairie remnant
- Memorial trees
- Informative kiosk
- Restroom facilities
- Eagle watching during the winter months
- Playground



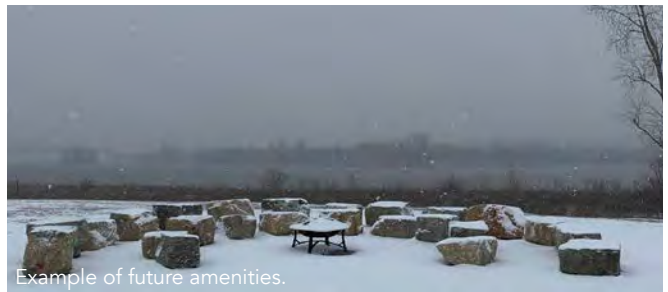
- Captain Jake Ringiering Park at Clifton Terrace
- Bike facility, existing
- Walking trail, existing



Clifton Terrace has incredible views of the river to leverage.



Cycling and rest stop.



Example of future amenities.



Clifton Terrace visitors and seating



Clifton Terrace playground



La Vista at Gladys Levis Allen Park

LaVista Park is named in honor of local philanthropist Gladys Levis-Allen, the founding president of Great Rivers Land Trust. She was dedicated to preserving the bluff land along the River Road so that it is not lost to commercial development. The Levis family, who formerly lived on what is today park property, referred to the family land as “La Vista”.

Recommendations

- Expand connectivity. Encourage large trail loops village-wide.
- Use nature-based solutions to prevent erosion.
- Develop active reforestation plan and tree inventory.
- Expand when and if possible with willing partners and sellers.
- Increase education and interpretive opportunities.
- Install four-season restrooms.
- Encourage winter disc golf tournaments.
- Increase biodiversity of woodland plants.
- Monitor and remove invasive plant species
- Create beneficial wildlife habitat.
- Avoid broad spraying or using pesticides.
- Add places to rest and sit under the tree canopy.
- Discourage off-trail mountain biking.
-

“La vista” can be translated from Spanish to “the sight,” or in the park’s context, as “the view” in reference to the park’s scenic mile-long trail between the bluffs on Illinois Route 3 down to the Great River Road, also known as Illinois Route 100.

The park has a conservation easement held by Great Rivers Land Trust, to preserve the forest, conservation, and scenic value. The Village of Godfrey has owned the park since 1999.

Existing Facilities & Amenities

- Multi-use trail (able to connect to the riverfront)
- Varied topography
- Natural setting in a forested area
- Native plant community garden
- Picnic tables and benches
- Disc Golf



- LaVista Park
- Bike facility, existing
- Bike facility, in progress



La Vista has a healthy tree canopy to maintain and manage.



La Vista provides visitors many activities. Photo: Marty McKay



Community gardens help biodiversity and healthy activities.



La Vista has walking trails that can create a loop to the River's Edge.



This hut and seating area are a popular spot at La Vista.



Hoffman Gardens at Great Rivers Park

Hoffman Gardens at Great River Park was built in honor of the Village of Godfrey's first Mayor, Lars Hoffman, and his family. The park is tucked into the bluffs and beautifully landscaped. It includes several interpretive displays about the Village's history.

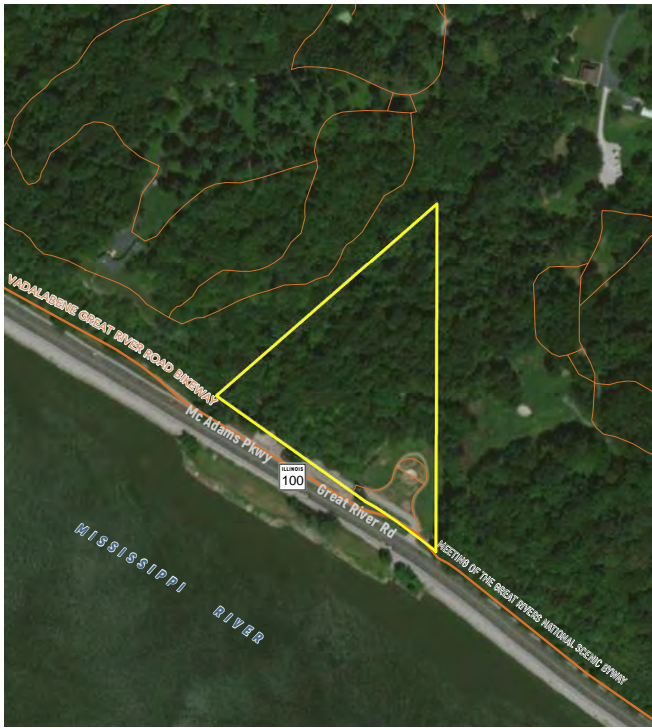
The parks acts as a resting point along the Vadalabene Trail. It is also the home of the Great Rivers Land Trust office. This is a past location of the Piasa Bird bluff painting.

Existing Facilities & Amenities

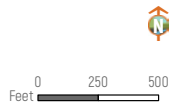
- Scenic views
- Benches
- Picnic areas
- Gardens
- Interpretive site
- Bluff Wall

Recommendations

- Day rent garden for wedding ceremonies, photography sessions, small parties, etc.
- Explore potential river access for fishing and/or kayak/canoe launch/resting spot.
- Protect the bluffs and tree canopy.
- Remove invasive plants. Decrease mowing through native plantings.
- Investigate bluff edge stream erosion and stabilization.
- Investigate parcel across the roadway for access to water, an overlook, future water taxi, etc.
- Improve signage and wayfinding. Increase educational signage.
- Consider small events.



- ▭ Hoffman Gardens at Great Rivers Park
- Bike facility, existing
- Walking trail, existing



As part of the River's Edge, this park can play a key role.



Evening lighting provides opportunities for activities.



Increase more native seasonal color in the Hoffman Gardens



Explore the opportunities this park offers to begin Godfrey's River's



Future River Road Park

In 2021, a 3.5-acre parcel between the Great River Road and the Mississippi River was donated to the Village. Located at the entrance to Godfrey, the future park is intended to be used as a place for passive recreation. The property is currently undeveloped.

The undeveloped riverfront park sits at the southern edge of Godfrey. This park will be ideal to act as a gateway for the entrance to Godfrey.

Existing Facilities & Amenities

None. Site is newly acquired and under review.

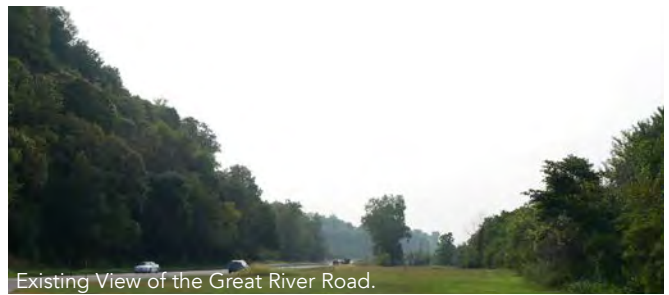
The park should be developed to serve passive recreation needs and support the improvement of amenities along Godfrey's River's Edge concept.

Recommendations

- Develop Master Plan for best use.
- Create a Godfrey River's Edge gateway.
- Develop a Trailhead with parking and bike facilities and a restroom (composting?)
- Consider solar energy if needed.
- Provide river overlook and access, e.g. Fishing Pier
- Avoid night light pollution.
- Install public art pieces
- Install amenities:
 - Trash & Recycling Cans
 - Picnic tables, benches, and seating
 - Shade
 - Wayfinding & Interpretive Signs
 - Selfie Station



- Acquired Park Land
- Bike facility, existing
- Godfrey municipal boundary



Existing View of the Great River Road.



The Spirit of Peoria uses this river corridor. PC: GRGR



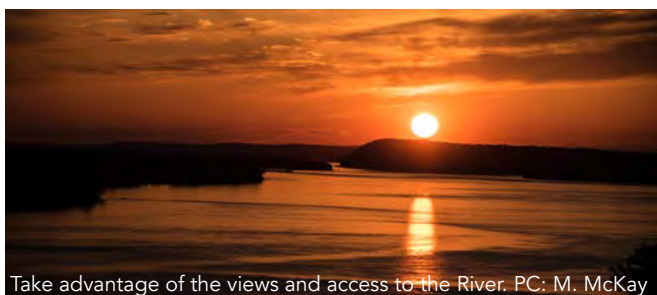
Example of future amenities.



Encourage more use of the trail. Photo Ryan O'Donnell



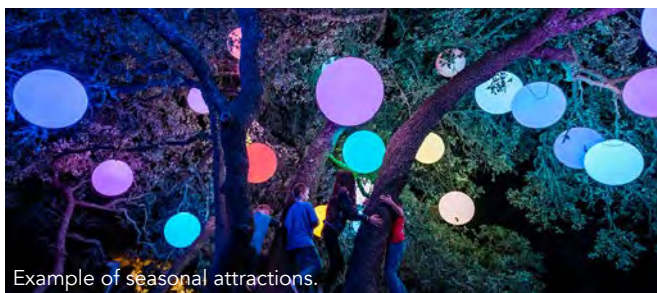
Explore activities for all seasons.



Take advantage of the views and access to the River. PC: M. McKay



Outdoor Education opportunities.



Example of seasonal attractions.



Investigate river access for small crafts.



Strategy:

Inclusivity



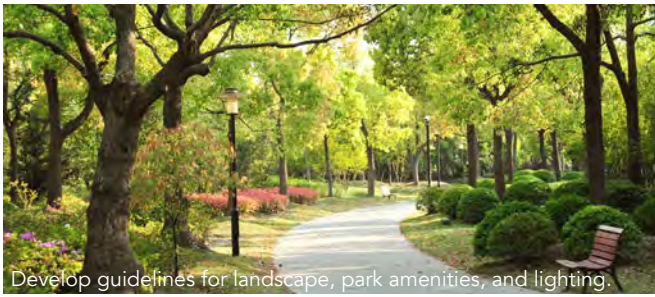


Strategy: Inclusivity

Foster a sense of comfort, confidence, and safety for users of all ages, abilities, and cultures within the Village's park and recreation facilities and programs.

Recommendations:

1. **Provide safe on-street connections and crossings where necessary to link pedestrians and bicyclists to the park system.**
 - a. Connect, improve, and require more crosswalks on streets within or connecting to parks.
 - b. Ensure that amenities and pedestrian facilities are ADA compliant.
 - c. Provide tree canopy shade along sidewalks and paths wherever possible to provide pedestrian and park user comfort.
2. **Continue to provide high-quality programs for people of all ages.**
 - a. Continue and improve upon beloved community events and festivals.
 - b. Consider adding more diverse, revenue-generating events annually, such as an Arts and Craft Fair, a Wine and Jazz Festival or event.
 - c. Continue hosting sport tournaments and events that bring visitors and revenue to the Village.
 - d. Continue the Tour de Godfrey Bike Ride and encourage other rides that bring visitors to the Village.
 - e. Consider new sport events, such as a disc golf, gaga ball, or adult kickball tournament.
 - f. Expand programming, events, and partnerships to reach a wide variety of people, activity levels, and interests (see survey)
 - g. Provide more programs focused on senior residents.
 - h. Grow staff or develop partnerships to increase capacity for Summer Day Camps for young children.
3. **Design sustainable, accessible, safe, and easy-to-maintain park amenities, entrances, and connections that enhance sense of place and user experience.**
 - i. Continue youth sports programs for all ages.
 - a. Connect the park system to future planning and design efforts, including arterial streets (especially on Stamper Lane) and developments, including the proposed town center.
 - b. Include native plants in landscaping choices to reduce maintenance costs. Choose native plants that are appropriate in formal landscape settings, such as coneflowers, prairie dropseed, and flowering dogwood.
 - c. Provide an appropriately wide buffer between active recreation areas and the residential edges adjacent to parks.
 - d. Ensure that all pedestrian park entrances and shared-use paths are ADA-accessible, visually appealing and welcoming from the surrounding neighborhoods.
 - e. Work with public transit providers to ensure public transit connects to the park system.
 - a. Whenever possible, place utilities underground or in utility corridors, to maintain order of location, safety for users, and overall aesthetics.
 - b. Provide appropriate lighting along trails, entries, roads and in parking lots.
 - c. Provide adequate safety zones of separation between athletic fields and paths.
 - d. Examine building codes for development requirements for dedicated recreation space and trail connections.
4. **Develop a cohesive directional sign and wayfinding system.**
 - a. Update existing and install new information boards with official park rules, a park map, and additional information such as upcoming events, contact information for rental reservations and volunteer opportunities.
 - b. Name and clearly mark park roads.
 - c. Place wayfinding signs around parks to direct visitors to fields, parking, and future amenities.



Develop guidelines for landscape, park amenities, and lighting.



Provide activities for all ages. PC: Shutterstock

5. Develop a unifying and distinctive palette for park furnishings and lighting.

- a. Use high-quality finishes and fixtures that are low-maintenance and durable.
- b. Consider a variety of landscape lighting methods.
- c. Create a branded gateway entrance at major entrances to all the parks.
- d. Use directional shades on fixtures to orient light downward to prevent light pollution, particularly in ecologically sensitive areas.
- e. Consider pedestrian-scale light fixtures that promote the Dark Skies Initiative, on paths and trails. Larger, taller scale lighting should be reserved for main arterial roads and entrances.



Provide activities for all ages and abilities.



All age activities with TNI & Hayner Library. PC: TNI



Create cross-programming with private facilities. PC: Rolling Hills



Consider Public art as signage and wayfinding.



Expand all-age activities like a Gaga Ball tournament.



Photo by Bryan Werner, Metro East Park Recreation District

Strategy:

Connectivity





Implement the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan. PC: Shutterstock

Strategy: Connectivity

Develop a Village-wide connected network of multi-use trails and greenways to link neighborhoods, parks, schools, recreational facilities, neighborhoods, businesses, and areas of future growth.

Recommendations:

1. Develop and enhance a network of connected trails and greenways.

- a. Add greenway corridor components as part of the trail network, including waterways, new and existing rights-of-way for railroads or utility lines, trails, paths, scenic roads, and village sidewalks, arterials, and boulevards.
 - i. Create green corridors throughout Godfrey with appropriate native plantings in public right of ways.
- b. Create new greenway alignments based on the land use map from the Godfrey's Comprehensive Plan
- c. Develop a wayfinding (directional) and interpretive sign plan for the parks system, especially along designated routes that link destinations, neighborhoods, recreational facilities, and schools.
- d. Provide identification, interpretive, and wayfinding signs on all existing and future trails.
- e. Connect the village-wide trail network to places of interest, including the future Town Center. Sidewalks, bicycle lanes, shared lanes, shared-use paths, and directional signs are examples of connection opportunities.
- f. Provide opportunities for passive recreation activities in forested areas, wetlands, waterways, and greenways, including walking, hiking, picnicking, and compatible activities. Sensitive ecological areas may need activity restrictions.

- g. Provide habitat and safe migration corridors for wildlife where possible.

2. Investigate potential greenway and water trail along Piasa Creek.

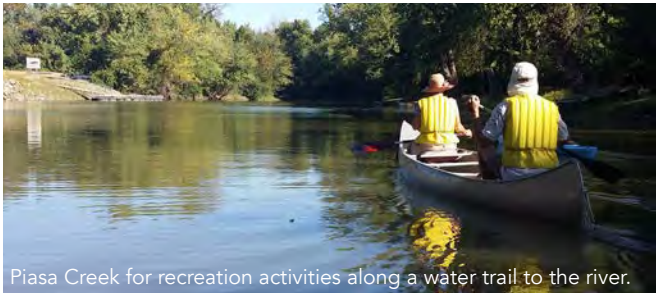
- a. Establish a 50 ft. riparian buffer for the creek to help stop streambank erosion.
- b. Work with Jersey County and property owners to establish trail and access along the creek's entirety.
- c. Create passive recreation opportunities with water trails for non-motorized boats, such as kayaks, canoes, small boat launches, minimal parking, etc.

3. Investigate a future rail-to-trail greenway and shared-use path through the center of the village.

- a. Explore a partnership with Madison County Transit.
- b. Connect the greenway to neighborhoods and business corridors.
- c. Provide places for resting and trail amenities.
- d. Consider the connection of the greenway to the Lewis and Clark Recreation Area in Alton/Wood River.
- e. Provide trailhead at Lewis and Clark Recreation Area.

4. Continue to implement the recommendations of the Godfrey Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan so that all areas of the Village are accessible by pedestrians and/or bicyclists.

- a. Implement the Godfrey Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan recommendations for major thoroughfares. Top priorities are: Godfrey Rd., Pierce Ln., Humbert, Stamper, Glazebrook - LaVista Connector Trail, W. Delmar, and the Vadalabene Trail.
- b. Develop long-term plans to implement lower priorities: neighborhood connections and shared streets landed in the middle and longer recreational trails.
- c. Shift priorities as opportunities arise due to financing, acquisition, or road and right-of-way improvements.



Piasa Creek for recreation activities along a water trail to the river.



Provide safe on-street connections and crossings.



Provide activities for all ages and abilities.



Many ways to connect through a greenway. PC: Ryan O'Donnell

What to Focus on First in the Godfrey Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan

Below is a breakdown of short to long term goals for implementation from the plan.

Short Term

- Appoint a Bicycle and Pedestrian committee to assist with implementation.
- Adopt a Complete Streets Ordinance.
- Work with IDOT to improve intersection crossings along major roads particularly Godfrey Rd and Delmar.
- Improve crosswalks under Godfrey's jurisdiction.
- Identify any right-of-way that might be needed to implement the recommended facilities.
- Create a timeline for filling sidewalk gaps on Godfrey, Delmar, Tolle, and Pearl.
- Begin discussions with County to create strategy for resurfacing of Humbert Rd to include Bike Lanes and sidewalks.
- Shared Streets require a minimum of paint and signs. Incorporate these improvements into the Village and/or County capital improvement

schedule so they may be installed at the same time the roads are resurfaced.

- Talk with local legislators about the condition and safety of the Vadalabene Trail. Emphasize the increased benefit the trail could bring to the region, in terms of promoting health, tourism, and boosting the economy, if funding were appropriated to properly maintain and improve the trail.
- Continue to acquire funding and develop the Glazebrook - LaVista Connector Trail.

Medium & Long Term

- Work with engineers and appropriate jurisdictions to refine planned facilities.
- Apply for grants for right-of-way acquisition and facility implementation.
- Implement a streetscape design on Godfrey Road using branding elements, building planned facilities, and limiting driveways. Apply for East-West Gateway's Great Streets Initiative.
- Develop village-wide wayfinding system for pedestrians and bicyclists using branding elements.

The Godfrey Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Recommendations

This Plan is adopting the recommendations in Godfrey's Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan. They follow the guiding principles (below) that were created during that planning process:

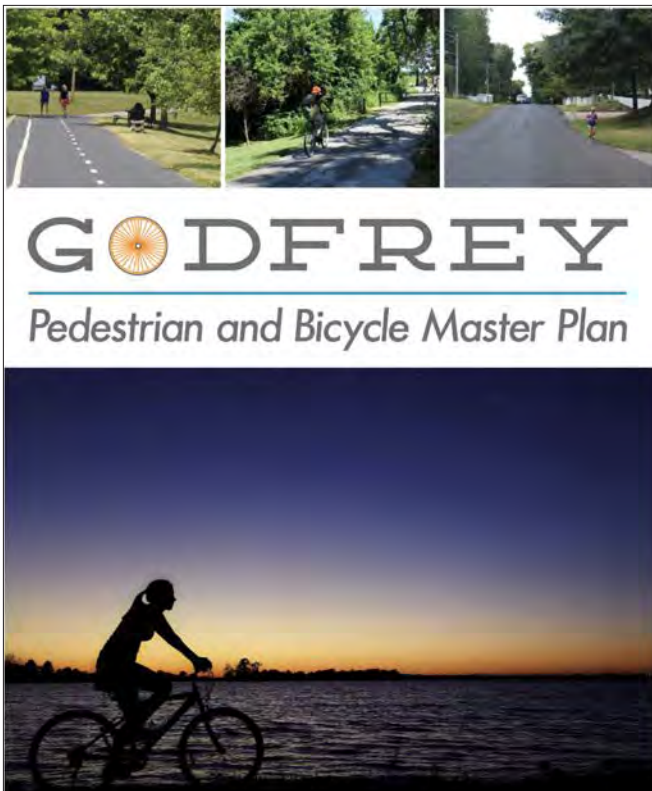
- Safety for All Street Users
- Connect to the Regional Network
- Connect Neighborhoods
- Provide Recreation Opportunities
- Promote Economic Development and Tourism
- Create Complete Streets

The plan recommends implementing various policies and initiatives in addition to physical infrastructure improvements to create a supportive walking and biking community.

In the prioritization matrix, major thoroughfares, such as Godfrey Rd., Pierce Lane., Humbert, Stamper, Glazebrook - LaVista Connector Trail, W. Delmar, and the Vadalabene Trail, rose to the top priorities. Neighborhood connections and shared streets landed in the middle and longer recreational trails fell to the bottom of the list.

There are a number of resources that can aid the Village in creating a welcoming environment for walking and cycling:

- League of American Bicyclists (bikeleague.org)
- Ride Illinois (rideillinois.org)
- Cycling Savvy (cyclingsavvy.org)
- Trailnet (trailnet.org)
- National Center for Bicycling & Walking (bikewalk.org)
- National Center for Safe Routes to Schools (saferoutesinfo.org) Information and resources still available online but not updated.
- Safe Routes to School National Partnership (saferoutespartnership.org)
- International Walk to School Day (iwalktoschool.org)
- National Bike to School Day (walkbiketoschool.org)
- Yield to Life Driver's Education Program (yieldtolife.org)
- Commute By Bike: Commuting 101 (<http://www.commutebybike.com/cats/commuting-101/>)
- AARP Livable Communities (www.aarp.org/livable-communities)





Facilities approved and adopted as Godfrey's Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan

Prioritization

In the Godfrey Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan, there are a total of 70 recommendations for improving walking and biking in the Village. Once implemented, the facilities will cover over 70 miles. The table below groups facility recommendations together by geographical location and priority. A combination of sources was used to create a “prioritization matrix” Through inter-jurisdictional cooperation, the Village can achieve a 20-year implementation timeline.

	Street Name/Label	Recommended Facility	Miles	Feet	Jurisdiction	Priority Score
1	Godfrey Rd	Buffered Bike Lanes, Sidewalks, and Streetscape	3.3	17,165	IDOT	111.5
2	Pierce Lane	Shared-use path	3.0	15,984	Godfrey	109.3
	W Delmar Ave (Pierce to Ridgedale)	Shared-use path	0.1	498	IDOT	75.3
3	Humbert Rd	Bike Lanes & Sidewalks	5.6	29,500	Madison	98.7
4	Stamper Lane	Shared-use path (Widen existing sidewalk where there is no path to accommodate pedestrians and cyclists for the entire length of the street.)	1.3	6,861	Godfrey	97.7
5	Glazebrook to LaVista Trail	Shared-use path	0.5	9,073	Private	97
6	W Delmar Ave (Stanka to Pierce)	Bike Lanes & Sidewalks	3.1	16,520	IDOT	94.3
7	Great River Road/Vadalabene Trail	Shared-use path	4.4	23,457	IDOT	93.5
8	Godfrey Rd (north of IL Rt. 111)	Shared-use path	3.1	16,546	IDOT	86.5
9	Humbert Rd (north of Bethany Lane.)	Shared Street	1.5	8,001	Madison	85.7
10	W Delmar Ave. (west of Stanka)	Wide paved shoulder	1.5	7,929	IDOT	85.3
11	Iroquois (LaVista to Vadalabene)	Shared Street	0.1	720	Godfrey	82
12	W Homer M Adams Pkwy	Shared-use path	3.0	15,858	IDOT	80.9
13	Clifton Terrace Rd	Bike Lane w/ Climbing Lane & Sidewalk	0.8	4,309	Madison	75.6
14	Levis Lane	Shared-use path	1.0	5,294	Godfrey	74.5
15	W Delmar Ave (east of Ridgedale)	Shared Lane & Sidewalk	0.7	3,700	IDOT	74.3
16	Robinhood	Shared Street	0.2	1,033	Godfrey	74
	Lafayette to Glazebrook	Neighborhood Connection	0.0	221	Godfrey	70
	Pardee to Glazebrook	Neighborhood Connection	0.0	142	Godfrey	65
17	Airport Rd (Godfrey to Pierce)	Bike Lanes & Sidewalks	1.5	7,885	Madison	69.4
18	Ridgedale Dr	Shared Street	0.1	706	Godfrey	69
	Chouteau St	Shared Street	0.4	2,070	Godfrey	60
	Juniper Ave	Shared Street	0.1	266	Godfrey	60
	Melrose Ave	Shared Street	0.1	444	Godfrey	60
	Holland St	Shared Street	0.8	3,982	Godfrey	55.2
	Logan St	Shared Street	0.4	2,006	Godfrey	55
19	Martin Luther King Dr (Godfrey)	Shared-use path	0.9	4,881	IDOT	68.5
	Martin Luther King Dr (Alton)	Shared-use path	2.4	12,422	IDOT	68.5
20	Tolle Lane	Bike Lanes & Sidewalks	0.5	2,747	Godfrey	64.9

21	Lars Hoffman Crossing	Bike Lanes & Sidewalks	0.6	3,242	Godfrey	64
22	Seiler Rd	Shared Street	1.8	9,751	Madison	63.8
	Wenzel Rd	Shared Street	1.7	8,972	Godfrey	54
	Bethany Lane (rural area)	Shared Street	0.7	3,480	Godfrey	50.3
	Bethany Lane (residential area)	Shared Street & Sidewalks	1.3	6,888	Godfrey	53.3
	Bethany Lane (Montclair to Humbert)	Bike Lanes & Sidewalks	0.1	676	Godfrey	41.3
23	Boy Scout Lane	Shared Lane & Sidewalks	0.6	3,037	Godfrey	61.2
24	Castlegate Lane	Shared Street	0.2	1,130	Godfrey	60
	Primrose Lane	Shared Street	0.1	421	Godfrey	55
	Summerfield Lane	Shared Street	0.3	1,321	Godfrey	55
	Thorndale Dr	Shared Street	0.2	830	Godfrey	55
25	Biscay Dr	Shared Street	0.3	1,370	Godfrey	60
	Dadrian Dr	Shared Street	0.5	2,465	Godfrey	60
	Longview Ave	Shared Street	0.2	1,100	Godfrey	60
26	Preis Lane	Shared Street	0.2	1,300	Godfrey	60
	Greenwood Lane	Shared Street	0.4	2,343	Godfrey	60
	Enos Lane	Shared Street	0.8	4,167	Godfrey	50
	Meadow Lane	Shared Street	0.1	615	Godfrey	50
	Morkel Dr	Shared Street	0.5	2,478	Godfrey	50
27	Airport Rd (east of Pierce)	Shared Street	4.2	22,286	Madison	59.4
	Davis Lane	Shared Street	1.7	8,726	Godfrey	54
28	Robinhood to Glazebrook	Neighborhood Connection	0.1	764	Private	59
29	N Alby Rd	Bike Lanes & Sidewalks	1.6	8,361	Madison	58.5
30	Stanka Lane	Shared Street	1.3	6,985	Godfrey	57
31	Montclair Ave (Godfrey to Redwood)	Wide paved shoulder	1.0	5,534	IDOT	55
32	Pearl St	Shared Lane & Sidewalks	0.5	2,779	Godfrey	52.4
33	Saint Ambrose Dr	Shared Lane & Sidewalks	0.2	1,164	Godfrey	52
34	Castlegate - Rt 3 Connection	Neighborhood Connection	0.1	416	Private	51
35	Englewood	Shared Street	0.2	1,270	Godfrey	50
	Lakeside	Shared Street	0.2	1,071	Godfrey	50
36	Doral - Crestwood	Neighborhood Connection	0.0	199	Godfrey	46
37	Meyer to Paris	Neighborhood Connection	0.1	611	Private	45
38	Morkle - Evangelical	Neighborhood Connection	0.3	1,623	Private	45
	Preis - Evangelical	Neighborhood Connection	0.0	199	Private	45
39	Bachman Lane	Shared Lane & Sidewalk	0.5	2,404	Godfrey	41.1
	Roach Rd	Shared Lane & Sidewalk	0.9	4,993	Godfrey	41
40	Englewood to Godfrey Rd	Neighborhood Connection	0.3	1,422	Godfrey	41
41	Enos Lane	Neighborhood Connection	0.0	105	Private	35
42	Potential Future Trails	Potential Future Shared-use Trail	3.2	17,159	Private	35
	Potential Future Trails	Potential Future Shared-use Trail	0.9	5,001	Private	35
	Potential Future Trails	Potential Future Shared-use Trail	0.7	3,831	Private	35
	Potential Future Trails	Potential Future Shared-use Trail	1.4	7,487	Private	35



Photo by Marty McKay



Strategy:

Vitality



Consider water access points and rentals. PC: Shutterstock

Strategy: Vitality

Provide park, open space, and recreation opportunities in sufficient quantity and variety to effectively serve the future needs of Godfrey.

Recommendations:

1. **Establish and regularly update master plans and guidelines for all parks and facilities in the park system.**
 - a. Develop master plans for all new and existing parks, greenways, natural resource areas, and trails, including detailed cost estimates for funding. Review master plans at regular intervals and update if needed, typically every 5 to 7 years.
 - b. Design facility plans to be flexible for the diversity in age, skill, and interests of Godfrey's park system users.
 - c. Ensure all amenities and facilities are planned and sited to be ADA compliant.
2. **Promote increased use of passive open space for outdoor recreation.**
 - a. Update, and expand service and support facilities/amenities throughout the park system for passive space users including: comfort stations with security information, bicycle parking, park information, and maps.
 - i. Improve existing and provide new public safety features along park edges such as crosswalks, yield signs, stop signs, lighting, and signs.
 - b. Create environmental educational sites in the community in conjunction with the newly reconstructed habitats and native plants. Include gardens, pollinator areas, bird watching areas, or sanctuaries.
 - i. Use natural areas and buffers to teach people about proper habitat management practices to protect natural resources.
 - c. Incorporate natural open spaces as "outdoor classrooms" for educational and interpretive programming, offering first-hand opportunities to observe wildlife and plant species.
3. **Increase the diversity of park and facilities types available in Godfrey: neighborhood, community, and regional/special-use .**
 - a. Increase the number of neighborhood and community parks that provide direct connections to existing neighborhoods.
 - i. Prioritize the areas of Godfrey identified as deficient in quality park and space.
 1. Plan for community park north of Airport Road.
 2. Develop future neighborhood parks on the east side of Godfrey Road.
 3. Consider dedication of neighborhood or community-scale public spaces within business corridors and commercial complexes.
 4. Create parks within neighborhoods.
 - b. Acquire land for park space and recreation amenities for future growth of Godfrey.
4. **Increase neighborhood-scale parks within future developments. Encourage developers to participate in the development and stewardship of new parks and open space.**
 - a. Review village development ordinances to require a) dedication of land to parks, sidewalks, and trails, or b) fee-in-lieu of dedication to be used for land acquisition of high-quality parcels for open space. This should be in addition to stormwater management requirements.
 - b. Require any new development to provide safe connections to adjacent existing or planned parks and trail systems. Provide incentives (e.g., amended development standards, reduced fees) for developers to conserve ecologically sensitive or important open space.
 - c. Work with Homeowners Associations (HOAs) and neighborhood associations to identify and support parks in existing neighborhoods through public-private partnership.



Disc Golf is a 4-season activity. PC: Shutterstock



Flexible events and pop-up vendor opportunities. PC: Shutterstock

5. Provide a dog park in a location that is sensitive to the level of users, noise, and management necessary to be successfully maintained and operated with little nuisance to neighbors.

- a. Follow state and local standards, regulations, and requirements.
- b. Maintain a high standard for safety and cleanliness for all users and their dogs.
- c. Provide fenced, separated areas for multiple dog sizes or energy levels (i.e., passive vs active).
- d. Engage dog owners and potential users in the design of the dog park. Reflect on comments provided during community outreach.
- e. Consider amenities for the comfort and safety of the residents and dogs.



Provide park connections for all ages and abilities.

6. Consider a new community center/facility for programming, amenities, classes, and events in an existing park (e.g., Glazebrook Park Expansion Area) or in a new park in the proposed Town Center.

- a. Conduct a feasibility study; if a business model can be successful then proceed with recommendations.
- b. Determine appropriate use of the building, such as programming, recreation, classrooms, gathering hall/auditorium, restrooms, catering capabilities, offices for current and expanded staff, flex space, age appropriate interior exercise rooms, and exterior play areas.
- c. Provide more revenue opportunities through vendors, rentals, and venues to reduce overhead for the Parks Department.
- d. Design facility to function as an ecologically sensitive and energy efficient building.



Develop master plans for each park with public engagement. HLC



Neighborhood Park example by MCSA Group



Case Study: The Rec in Fairview Heights PC: BND.com



Expand all-age activities for passive recreation. PC: Shutterstock



Homer Adams Park

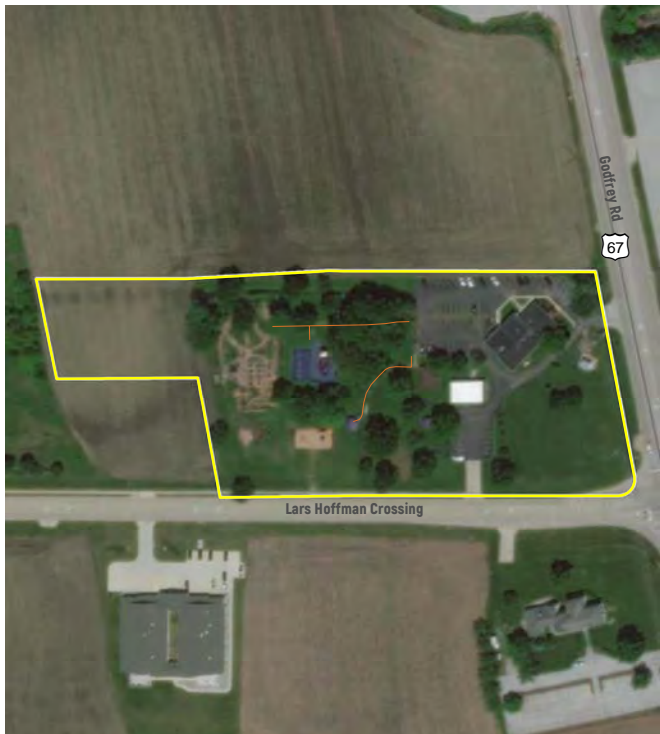
Homer M. Adams was a prominent land developer and business man in the greater Alton area. In 1974, Adams bought and donated this land to Godfrey Township to build a new township office. The back of the property was developed into a park and named after Adams in 1980. Today the site is home to Godfrey Village Hall, Parks and Recreation, and Police Department.

Existing Facilities & Amenities

- All season restrooms
- Large pavilion
- Small pavilions (2)
- Picnic tables and grills
- Large playground
- Community Garden cared for by local Master Gardeners.

Recommendations

- Improve signage and wayfinding.
- Improve neighborhood connections.
- Improve ADA Accessibility.
- Increase educational and interpretive signs.



Homer Adams Park
 Walking trail, existing

0 250 500
Feet



Increase community volunteers & education.



Maintain play for multiple ages and abilities.



Excellent pavilions for rentals. Increase pavilions in other parks.



Continue partnerships with U of I and Master Gardeners.



Inclusive swings



Existing facilities in Homer Adams Park.



Existing natives at Homer Adams Park. Expand areas in more parks.



Expand community garden as needed.



Glazebrook Park & Expansion

Robert E. Glazebrook Park was added to the Village of Godfrey's park System in 1999. Originally only the west 40 acres were acquired and developed in to a community park. A few years later, in 2001, the Village acquired an additional 80 acres of adjacent land to expand the park to its present day size. Glazebrook park is the largest park in the Village of Godfrey. The variety of sports fields, recreation areas, and large gathering spaces have made it one of the most popular places in Godfrey. With its expansion it will have a regional draw.

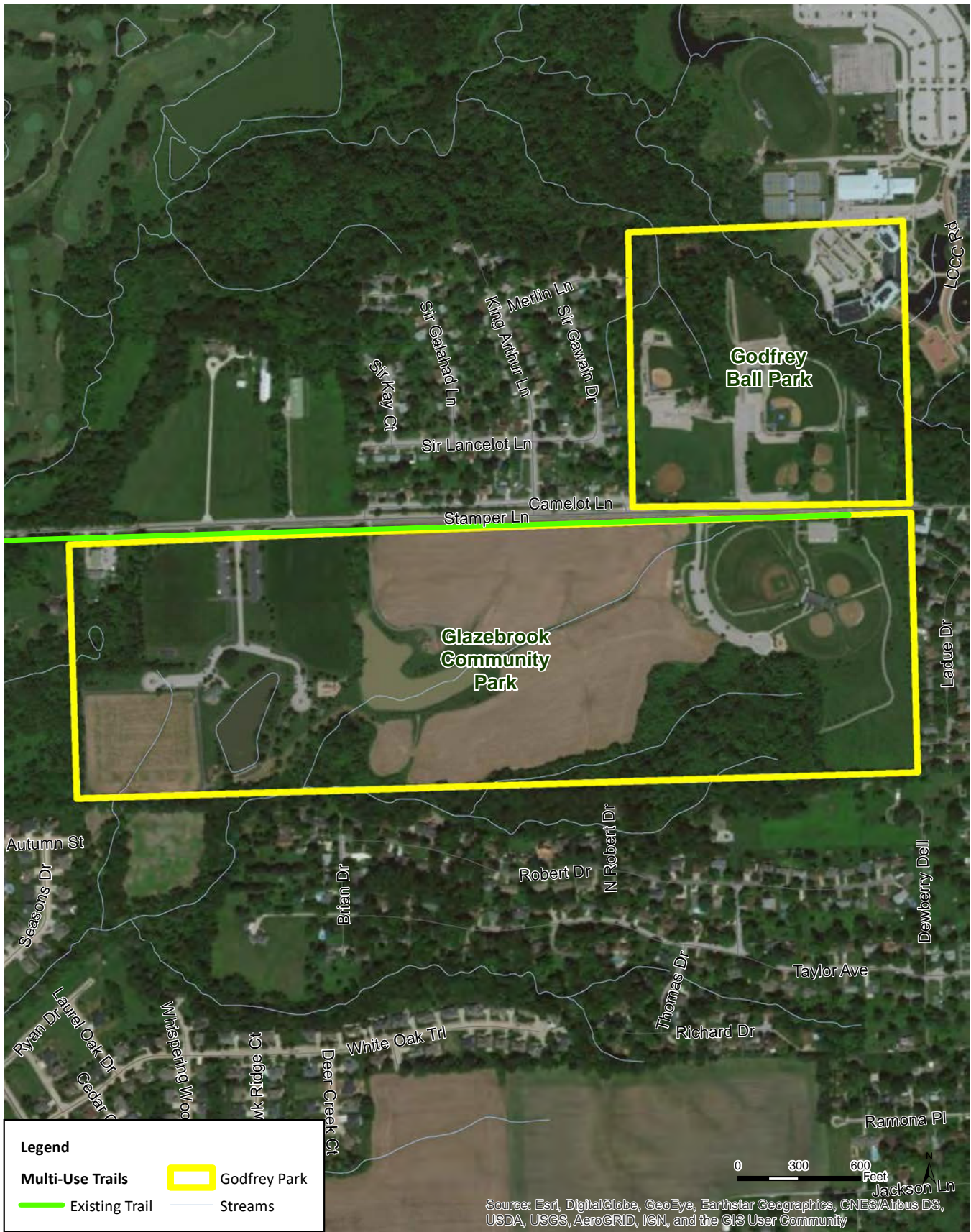
The Village hosts many events, sports tournaments, and festivals at the park throughout the year.

Existing Facilities & Amenities

- West side (original park): Concessions, soccer fields (lighted), pavilions, playgrounds, walking path, fishing lake, gazebo, corn maze.
- East Side (Baseball Complex): 4 baseball fields (lighted), playground, concession, walking path, basketball half court.
- Site of the Parks Recreation Department maintenance shed.
- Memorial trees planted throughout both sides of the park.
- A trail along Stamper Lane connects both sides of the park.
- The center of park remained farmland for almost 20 years after the Village purchased the property. Phase 1 expansion to developed the center of the park will be complete by June 2022.

Recommendations

- Consider the following amenities for future park expansion phases:
 - Amphitheater with restrooms, food truck area, playground;
 - Bocce ball;
 - Horseshoes;
 - Walking paths;
 - ADA Fishing Pier;
 - Tennis/Pickleball Combo Courts;
 - Lighting for sports fields and courts;
 - Dog Park;
 - Memorials and Public Art;
 - Multi-use path/road connecting entire park; and
 - Biodiverse signature landscapes for weddings.
- Reinvigorate the Corn Maze. Incorporate cover crops to improve soil nutrients and rotating maze locations to improve the Maze's sustainability.
- Complete a detailed feasibility study for a Community Recreation Center in Glazebrook Park to understand cost of building and operating an indoor recreation center in Godfrey.
- Review options for recreational center with spaces for vendors, revenue, and programming.
- Add trail lighting and high-quality security cameras to increase safety and discourage vandalism.
- Publish an online map of the park walking trail. Create trailhead and wayfinding in the park.





Glazebrook Park Expansion Phase 1 Recommendations

- Additional park entrances, roads, and more parking options.
- Sidewalks and paths
- Concession/bathhouse with attached pavilion.
- Expandable Splash Pad
- Inclusive playground
- Gaga Ball Pit
- Fitness Station Area
- Pavilion
- Eight pickleball courts
- Multi-purpose long field
- Green Infrastructure
- Long Ballfields for lacrosse, rugby, soccer, and football
- Expansion of Memorial Tree Program
-



Proposed splash pad



Proposed inclusive playground



Pickleball has exploded in popularity. PC: Shutterstock



Glazebrook Park Expansion Future Phases

- Dog Parklet Option
- Amphitheater
- Bocce Ball and Horseshoe Courts
- Additional playgrounds, pavilions, and walking paths
- ADA Accessible Fishing pier
- Veteran's Memorial
- Lake Fountains for aeration & beautification
- Indoor Recreation and Community Center
- Signature Landscape and Water Feature
- Circuitous interior park road
- New additional entry off of Stamper Lane
- Additional Neighborhood connections.
- Preserve existing trees and increase with new native hardwood and flowering trees.
- Stabilize stream banks.
- Increase native plantings in formal setting.

New Park Recommendations: Land Acquisition & Development

Community-wide recreation parks are usually several hundred acres in size and provide a mix of natural and developed park land areas. The goal is to provide large, regional-scale parks that attract users from several communities.

In response to public input, forecasted residential growth, and lack of parks within the region, Glazebrook Park Expansion Phase 1 and future phases should be able to accommodate immediate needs over the next one to five years.

One new large park site is proposed in the northwest quadrant of the Village should development continue to push north. Ideally, this park would be sized to provide for multiple active recreation and passive uses and contain a mix of natural resource features.

This plan recommends exploring future development of smaller river edge parks as recreation areas / trailheads, and a dog exercise area in the central portion of the Village, neighborhood parks within each neighborhood and new development, as well as expanding existing parks where possible.

Areas of need or opportunity have been identified within the framework. Additionally, recommendations have been made to work in partnership with Camp Warren Levis and The Nature Institute. They are perfectly placed in the center of the community to provide quality green space, programming, and education for Godfrey's residents of all ages. As with other small lots around the Village, publicly or privately owned, they should be utilized as mini-parks, tot lots, and neighborhood parks for gatherings, gardening, BBQs, access to nature, play, and stormwater management.

To leverage and address the needs of many areas that are landlocked, all publicly owned lands should be under consideration for use to increase green space initiatives. This could be as simple as planting more trees, a demonstration garden, interpretation, benches, playground, public art, or shared recreational facilities. More specific park development recommendations are identified for each existing park for the purpose of being able to apply for a variety of grant programs. See specific recommendations in Proposed Landscape Guidelines for New and Existing Parks.

With exception to land acquisition, the range of amenities and special use of the green space will vary. Specific costs must be detailed after the land has been acquired and has gone through a public planning process to finalize its design. Due to the wide variety of landscape characteristics, supply chain availability,

and timelines of construction, the potential range per acre from a general sports field to general park to a highly cultivated landscape park varies widely per acre respectively, not including design/construction contingencies.

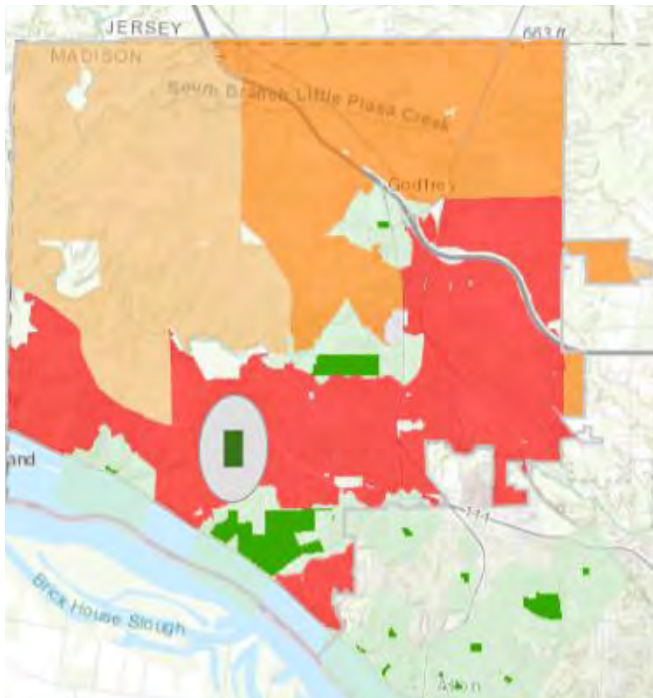
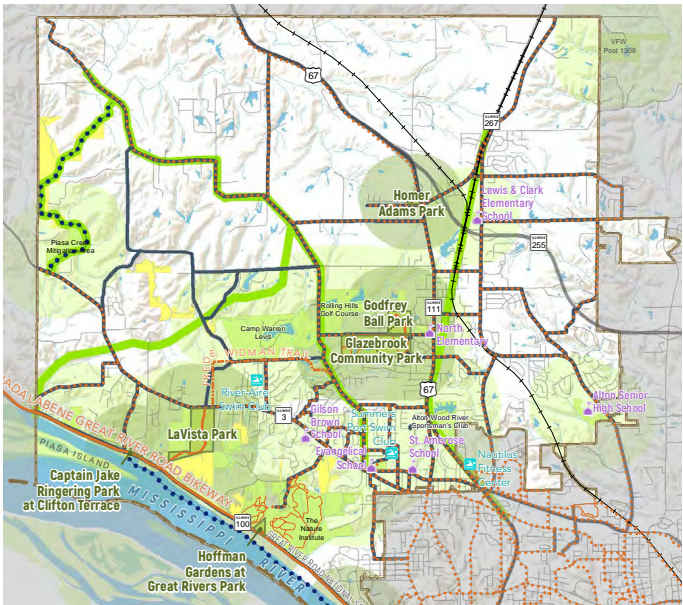
Priorities

- Use the framework provided for exploration of future park sites to meet projected needs.
- Develop a system to develop and restore newly-acquired lands.
- Plan for the development of a conservation fund or endowment.
- Complete a feasibility study and explore sites for a future Community (Recreation) Center.
- Develop new active and passive parks providing direct connections to existing neighborhoods.
- Participate in Great River Road Bluff protection and conservation and management with partners: Great River Land Trust, The Nature Institute, private land owners and other agencies and NGOs.

Recommendations

- Actively cooperate with and leverage monies from federal and state agencies, local governments, and community organizations in acquiring land on a continuing basis.
- Identify properties of high interest and proactively contact the owners. Work with willing sellers/donors and treat all landowners fairly and equally when pursuing lands identified in the Plan.
- Participate and assist in the removal, sale, or conversion of incompatible buildings located on recently acquired properties.
- Support existing deed restrictions that carry mitigation requirements for any parkland that is relinquished.
- Evaluate donations of land to the Village on the following:
 - Consistency with needs identified in the Plan.
 - Proximity to existing parks.
 - Maintenance and development costs.
 - Special environmental or cultural qualities.
 - Acceptance of land donations for resale, with proceeds used to purchase other park and resource land.
 - Participate in discussions regarding the impact, if any, of removing lands from tax rolls.
 - Complete a programmatic study for new facilities.

- In relinquishing Village-owned parks for purposes other than preservation or recreation, take into account the following factors:
 - The long-term impacts on parks and recreational use throughout Village.
 - An equitable exchange of land.
 - Dedication of revenues for additional park lands or improvements.
 - Action being consistent with local and regional plans.
 - Total costs and benefits of land ownership.
 - Possible deed restrictions placed on property being relinquished.

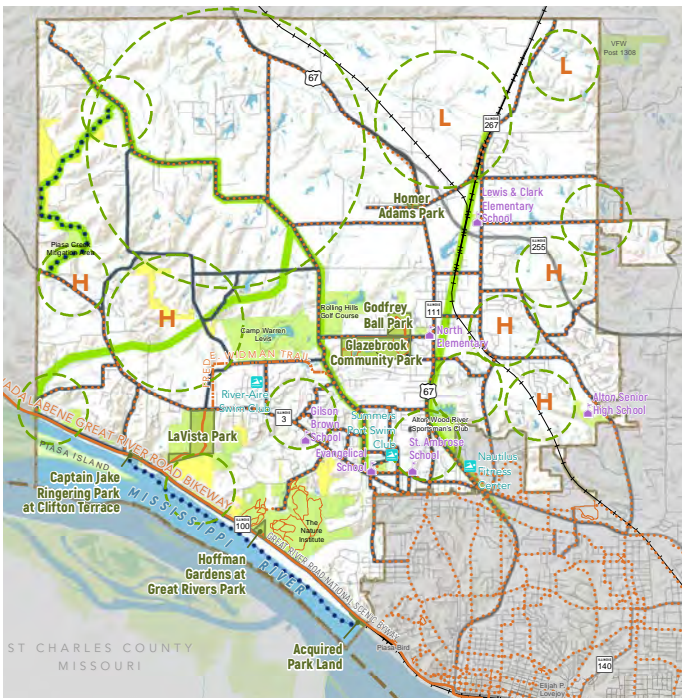


Godfrey Population within 10 minute walk of a park (1/2 mile): 3,454 (21% of 2019 Population)

Map on Left: (Source: ParkServe) Darker Red indicates higher priority for park need.

Map on Upper Right: Godfrey Comp Parks & Open Space 2030 Plan without proposed area for parks.

Map on Lower Right: 2030 Plan w/ proposed area for parks. Areas in need of Park Land by need: high (H) and low (L). (However do to opportunities, conservation, and land acquisition, park land may be acquired at any time determined appropriate by the Village. The Village growth boundary should be taken into consideration.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Swim facility Railway Godfrey municipal boundary Greenway Water Trail Existing public parks Other open space or recreational site Parcels protected by others 1/2 mile park service area 1/2 mile buffer, other sites Area in need of park land Bike facility, proposed (MEPRD) Bike facility, existing Bike facility, in progress Walking trail, existing Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan Route 	<p>Miles 0 0.5 1 1.5 2</p> <p>Areas in need of Park Land by need: high (H) and low (L).</p>
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Photo by HeartLands Conservancy



Strategy:

Natural Resources



Native plant buffers assist in biodiversity & stormwater management

Strategy: Natural Resources

Protect, restore, and steward natural resources to support wildlife, preserve ecological function, manage stormwater, and connect residents to a healthy environment.

Recommendations:

1. **Protect important natural areas, forests, streams, and water bodies, especially along the Mississippi River bluffs and Piasa Creek corridor.**
 - a. Follow Best Management Practices for protecting Piasa Creek as outlined in the Piasa Creek Watershed Plan, including riparian buffers.
 - b. Coordinate with Great Rivers Land Trust (GRLT) and their work in the Piasa Creek Watershed, including land preservation through acquisition from willing sellers or donors and conservation easements on public and private lands.
 - c. Explore passive recreation opportunities along Piasa Creek. For example, a shoreline trail with trailhead, small boat launches, and minimal parking.
2. **Conserve and protect important natural areas and sensitive landscapes.**
 - a. Protect the quality of the watershed, bluffs, and waterways of the Village of Godfrey.
 - b. Protect the bluffs which are ecologically sensitive areas. Preserve areas identified by the State of Illinois as Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) sites, biologically significant streams, and Illinois Nature Preserves and Land and Water Reserves.
 - c. Conserve and actively steward forests and open spaces of 10 acres or greater.
 - d. Remove invasive plant species, conduct selective timber harvests, and incorporate passive recreation uses that are compatible with timber management objectives in Godfrey's forests.
 - e. Increase the publicly-owned acreage of forests, tree canopy, and wooded lots.
- f. Adopt a reforestation program to ensure the propagation and sustainability of native tree species.
3. **Plant resilient, native landscapes that increase biodiversity and demonstrate conservation best practices while also creating beautiful public spaces and streets.**
 - a. Develop landscape principles for all parks.
 - i. Develop a comprehensive landscape plan for each park that incorporates the diverse needs of each park, such as formality, space, use, character, seasonal interest, and soils. Avoid a single planting theme for the entire park.
 - ii. Create a combination of formal and informal park landscapes with signature landscapes, as well as managed natural areas.
 - iii. Create variety throughout each park. Reduce the size and height of path edge plantings to match the more intimate pedestrian scale as opposed to the larger size required for vehicles.
 - iv. Incorporate a diversity of tree types and species.
 1. Evaluate the approved tree species list. Remove non-native or invasive species and encourage use of a variety of native tree species. Consider hardiness, seasonal interest, and longevity.
 2. Work with a certified arborist to conduct tree inventory and assessment. Evaluate trees for susceptibility to health issues, like Emerald Ash Borer. Create a tree management plan for treating or removing trees in fair or poor condition, as well as for identifying locations to plant new trees.
 3. Continue Memorial Tree Program
 4. Emphasize simplicity and cost effectiveness to maintain formal or regular landscapes with lower-level maintenance budgets.



Partnering to care for natural resources PC: Eric Wright



Removal of invasive species is key to managing open space.

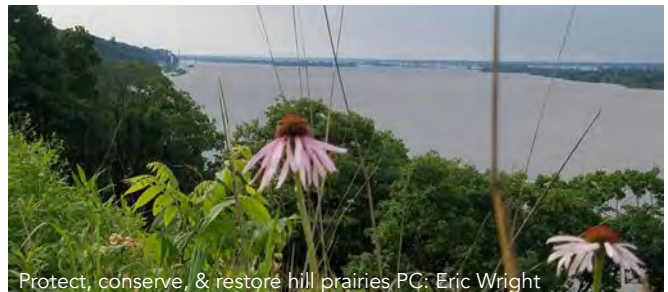
- b. Encourage and expand native plantings, urban forestry, and biodiversity.
 - i. Designate certain future planned streets as green boulevards, neighborhood greenways and urban forest corridors.
 - ii. Provide space in the parks system or vacant village-owned parcels for permanent or temporary use as community gardens, propagation areas, pollinator gardens, or rain gardens where appropriate.
 - iii. Improve biodiversity using native plants to support a variety of wildlife in the park landscape system. Require a certain percentage of landscapes in parks to be planted in native plant species and prohibit planting invasive species in parks.
- c. Avoid landscape plants that may cause issues for the ecosystem, maintenance, or park users.
 - i. Use plants in a way that are compatible with surrounding uses and that will not adversely affect park functions due to height, width, foliage, etc.
 - ii. Avoid highly toxic plants in park settings, especially near areas of high user activity.
 - iii. Minimize areas for hiding to discourage unwanted activities.
 - iv. Keep densely planted areas away from paths and seating areas.



Trees and plantings as neighborhoods buffers. PC: Shutterstock



Improve water quality for recreation & habitat. PC: Marty McKay



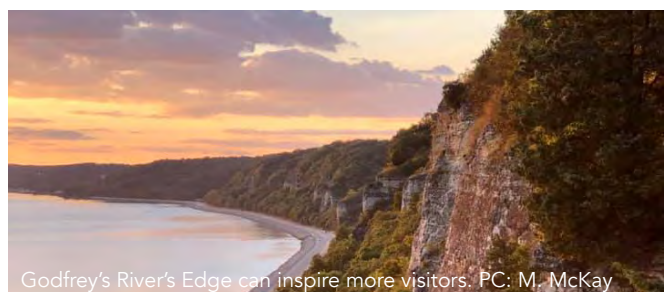
Protect, conserve, & restore hill prairies, PC: Eric Wright

4. Create and establish neighborhood buffers.

- a. Install biodiverse landscape buffers around the edges of the park and between active and passive recreation areas.
- b. Create mixed native plant buffers by combining a variety of evergreens and deciduous trees and shrubs resulting in a visually appealing all-season screen.
- c. Decrease maintenance over time by using landscaping requiring infrequent mowing to provide habitat benefits, bird watching, and better stormwater infiltration.



Between Alton & Grafton, Godfrey makes the connection. PC: GRGR



Godfrey's River's Edge can inspire more visitors. PC: M. McKay



Photo by Marty McKay

Strategy:

Stormwater





The Mississippi River Alton Pool PC: Marty McKay

Strategy: Stormwater

Apply stormwater (green infrastructure) best management practices (BMPs) to Village park and open space properties to decrease runoff; increase water quality and absorption; and decrease erosion and pollutants.

Recommendations:

1. **Use green infrastructure to help manage stormwater .**
2. **Assess the need for a stormwater park or other green infrastructure through a comprehensive stormwater/green infrastructure study and implementation plan.**
3. **Follow Best Management Practices for protecting Piasa Creek, its watershed, and the surrounding area as outlined in the Piasa Creek Watershed Plan.**
 - a. Protect and manage natural areas.
 - i. Support and use green infrastructure to protect forested areas, bluffs, wetlands, and other water bodies in parks and Village right-of-way.
 - ii. Create partnerships and management agreements with responsible entities long-term management and maintenance of natural areas.
 - iii. Create nature-based features to improve water quality and decrease erosion.
 1. Contour buffer strips, which are narrow strips of perennial plants that slow surface runoff and trap sediment, significantly reducing erosion and removing pollutants from the runoff.
 2. Ponds, which store stormwater, allow sediment to settle, and allow nutrient uptake by aquatic organisms.
 3. Riparian buffers, which are planted zones along stream or lake banks that protect the stream channel.
 - b. Support best management practices in neighborhoods and throughout the community.
 - i. Consider stormwater parks, bioswales, and detention basins to increase water management and access to park space.
 - ii. Encourage use of pervious pavement, which allows stormwater to filter into the ground instead of running off.
 - iii. Encourage rain gardens, which temporarily store and infiltrate rainwater, significantly slowing the flow of water, improving water quality, and providing wildlife food and habitat.
 - iv. Encourage rainwater collection and reuse for park landscaping, using rain barrels or cisterns as collection system options.
 - c. Create policy to support stormwater management.
 - i. Protect high-quality natural areas and critical habitat.
 - ii. Establish no-development buffer zones (such as a 150-foot setback) to protect sensitive natural areas.
 - iii. Limit development and land disturbance near water bodies.
 - d. Improve and protect the forest and tree canopy
 - i. Improve and expand forest stands, which manages forest species composition (including removal of invasive species), to increase infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide long-term wildlife habitat.
 - ii. Increase tree planting (e.g., on streets, in parks, in landscaping), to filter stormwater, reduce air temperatures, and improve beautification.
 - iii. Conserve forest cores, especially those of 10 acres or more.
 - iv. Reforest holes within the forest and tree canopy.
 - v. Remove and replace all invasive species (e.g., callery pear) as soon as possible.
 - e. Continue the memorial tree program and mapping. Expand into natural areas.



Salt tolerant natives used next to road. PC: Prairie Moon Nursery



Continue education & outreach about water. PC: HLC



Simple detail for stormwater runoff BMP. PC: Victoria, CA



Trees and plantings as neighborhoods buffers. PC: Shutterstock



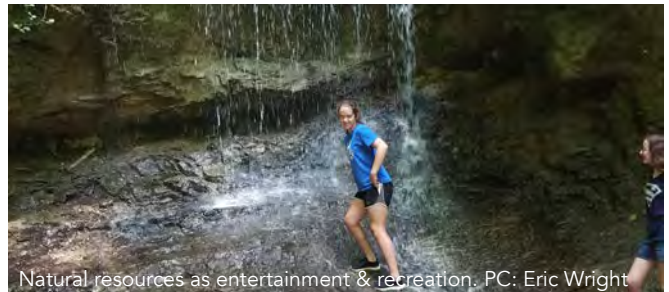
Improve water quality for recreation & habitat. PC: Camp w. Levis



Improve water quality for recreation & habitat. Shutterstock



Encourage native plant pollinator gardens.



Natural resources as entertainment & recreation. PC: Eric Wright



Water quality is important to fragile wildlife.



Plant trees everywhere to improve property values & water.



Education & experience with water. PC: BSOA Camp Warren Levis



The River's Edge will experience floods. PC: Marty McKay



Photo by Marty McKay

Strategy:

Stewardship



Whispering Winds

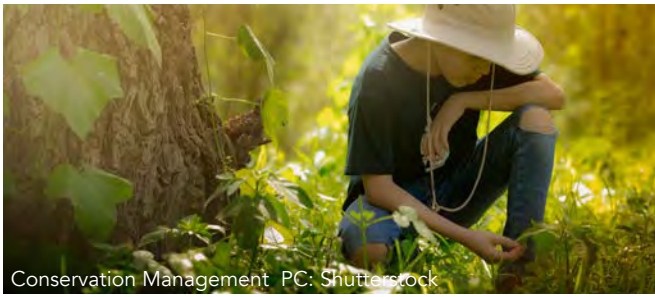


Strategy: Stewardship

Manage, administer, and maintain quality parks, facilities, and programs through outstanding customer service and stewardship.

Recommendations:

1. **Develop a new Operations, Management, and Maintenance Plan to sustain and grow the capacity of the Village's Park and Recreation Department.**
 - a. Build capacity for operations as park acreage and the number of developed trails and park areas increase. Identify strategies to carry-out fundraising, grant writing, maintenance, programming, restoration, and operations of the parks and recreation system.
 - b. Complete a detailed plan for the continued maintenance and management of all parks that recognizes the projects and changes that will occur as a result of increased facilities, increased trails, and the Plan's implementation.
 - c. Develop modes of care for the various types of parks, greenways, natural resources, and public space, as well as operating procedures.
2. **Develop a business plan for all parks facilities, vendors, events, pop-up venues, and seasonal concessionaires.**
3. **Build capacity in the Parks and Recreation Department full and part time staff.**
 - a. Provide Professional development for all levels of staff.
 - b. Provide resources to assist in excellent service for the park users and efficiency and ease for the staff.
 - c. Provide cross-training in program areas
 - d. Provide additional seasonal staff in maintenance and program scheduling.
 - e. Consider Professional Development and training in all areas of interest and expertise needed to assist park users: recreation, hospitality, customer service, project management, scheduling software, etc.
4. **Develop financial policies and programs to plan, implement, and steward parks and recreation facilities.**
5. **Continually evaluate program and usage fees for park and recreation amenities to ensure a balance between providing amenities and services and covering maintenance and service costs for the Village.**
6. **Explore options for a maintenance endowment fund and/or a Friends of Godfrey Parks not-for-profit to help offset the costs of new park amenities and maintenance needs.**
7. **Leverage partnerships to increase opportunities for recreation in the Village of Godfrey.**
 - a. Continue joint planning and operating programs with other public agencies, civic partners, and private/not-for-profit organizations to provide facilities and programming for special activities and a variety of age groups that serve local residents and attract visitors from the region or state (e.g., soccer and baseball league tournaments).
 - b. Partner with other organizations to leverage funding opportunities, such as grants, sponsorships, and donations.
 - c. Develop cross-programming with other facilities.
 - d. Explore potential new partnerships to expand programs and to leverage resources and facilities:
 - i. Boy Scouts of America's Camp Warren Levis
 - ii. Private swim clubs
 - iii. Open to the Public Recreation and Sports Clubs
 - iv. The Nature Institute
8. **Encourage greater public participation in the park and recreation system.**
 - a. Develop volunteer programs that identify tasks, provide supervision, support, and educate to help maintain or develop specific facilities and natural areas.
 - b. Engage local professional organizations and volunteers to provide neighborhood-level beautification activities and programs.



Conservation Management PC: Shutterstock



Educate youth about the importance of stewardship. PC:HLC

- c. Consider creating access to professional or volunteer horticulturalists (e.g., Master Naturalists, Wild Ones) and arborists for on-going care.
- d. Formalize a community service stewardship program.
- e. Engage park users to evaluate existing and futures programming, future amenities, and other services.



Monitor species an dbiodiversity. PC: Shutterstock

9. Increase the diversity of park and recreation system financing for maintenance and operating needs to match user interests and increase facility services.

- a. Encourage and cooperate with federal and state agencies, local units of government, and community organizations in financing, management, and acquisition of recreation and natural resources as appropriate.
- b. Apply for grants and matching funds from federal, state, and local municipal governments.
- c. Request donations and matching funds from corporate and private donors.
- d. Work with partners on recreation and open space projects maximizing public dollars invested.
- e. Continually monitor and apply for grants from agencies and foundations.
- f. Use existing and future park facilities and amenities to generate more capital and maintenance funds.
 - i. Increase the number of pavilions to rent to park users.
 - ii. Increase the number of tournaments and club usage fees.
 - iii. Consider wedding venues for rentals or locations for revenue.
 - iv. Develop year-round fee-based programming.
 - v. Hold outdoor events with fee-based VIP access.
 - vi. Hold revenue events in the parks: Food Truck Rally, car shows, etc.
 - vii. Connect with new leagues to create more revenue for existing or new facilities.



Improve water quality through conservation & habitat. Shutterstock



Stewardship through volunteerism. PC: HLC



Monitor water quality & erosion. PC: HLC



Use materials as sustainability as possible. PC: HLC



5 Implementation

Overview

Implementation of the plan begins with adoption of the plan by the Village Board of Trustees. The Park Board will be responsible for this process and as well as overseeing plan implementation. All projects should be reviewed, approved, and monitored by the board using this plan as a guide. This plan outlines a long-range vision for the expansion and transformation of Godfrey's park and recreation system. It focuses on retaining a balance between active and passive recreation. It strives to conserve and enhance the beauty and quality of the park system while satisfying the needs of all park users. The key to the implementation is for the community to be vigilant using the Plan and the resources it provides. The implementation will be ongoing from now through 10 years. It is a stepped plan to fulfill the vision and goals of the community. Improvements need to be made in a manner that is responsive to the needs the plan is addressing.

Anticipating trends, looking for opportunities, monitoring implementation and development, and evaluating and adjusting the vision and plan are all part of taking ownership of a plan. Continuous improvement requires a feeling of ownership, pride, and success. Therefore, the community should set a high priority on improvements supporting public investment. This provides the first step to encourage volunteerism, donations, private improvements, and reinvestment.

To implement this plan, seeking funding options is a necessary and vital step towards success and managing the implementation of new amenities and improvements to existing facilities.

Furthermore, a series of funding partnerships and voluntary programs need to be developed to not only leverage the public funds but also solicit increased participation by the community in the implementation of the plan.

Funding will often determine or shift the order of projects purely due to availability of options and mandated restrictions on the funds received. Along the path, some key projects' costs can increase significantly. Costs grow due to inflation, risks, liability, and in the worst case, if emergency repairs and services are needed. It is best to create endowments for maintenance and dedicated funds for capital projects.

Management & Maintenance

The Parks and Recreation Department currently administers, operates, programs, and maintains the overall Village of Godfrey park system. During the planning process, the need and support of more staff was noted. Additionally, the continued support of interested individuals and groups involved in the ongoing implementation of this plan became clear.

This plan should be considered a general guide for future acquisition, planning, and development of the park system, with more specific decisions being carried out within day to day operations of the Village of Godfrey Parks and Recreation Department. As park acreages continue to increase and number of developed trails and park areas rise, it will become critical to identify successful strategies to adequately carry out on-going fundraising, grant writing, maintenance, programming, restoration and operations of these lands.

PC: TNI

It is recommended in this plan that the Parks & Recreation Department undertake the task to complete a detailed plan for the continued maintenance and management of parks that recognizes the changes that will occur in the park system as a result of the Plan's implementation.

Governance Recommendations

The Village and Park Board should continue to govern and oversee the implementation of the park and recreation system. It is further recommended to encourage ongoing resident involvement in the implementation and to ensure this ongoing participation, the Plan calls for the establishment of an ad hoc Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) to support the Parks Board. The Village can grow support through the Implementation Advisory Committee comprised of volunteers, residents, and businesses. The Implementation Advisory Committee's purpose will be to assist the implementation of this Plan, ensure that the intentions and goals of this plan are achieved, and to keep the public informed on progress of this plan by acting as liaison.

The objective of this committee is to monitor and review projects to determine compliance with the Plan's vision. The Committee cannot revise the plan, but can submit recommendations for revisions to the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Park Board.

It is recommended that the Community Advisory Committee appointed for the planning process can shift into the role of the Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC). Replacement members can be appointed by the Mayor as necessary.

Leveraging & Partnerships

Implementation begins with adopting the plan, but is dependent on a continued long-term commitment to achieve the vision. This commitment to the Plan should be maximized through public/private partnerships. The Village should work with stakeholders and private and public partners to move this plan forward. For the plan to be successfully implemented, all groups must work together toward the established goals.

The ultimate implementation of the plan will occur through a number of means including: marketing, public relations and community outreach; raising funds from public (federal, state, and local) and private sources (residents, business owners, developers); proactive focused direction in implementing the plan or doing so through other entities; and the managing projects.

The Implementation Advisory Committee

The IAC membership should consist of residents and representatives of the following:

- Neighborhood Organizations
- Members of the Park Board
- Community Service Organizations
- Not-for-Profit Organizations
- Neighborhood Schools
- Parks & Recreation Department
- Planning/Economic Development
- Public Works
- Nature-based Organizations
- Service-Based Organizations

The IAC shall meet often as it deems necessary, to review, discuss, and approve proposed projects that are consistent with the goals and principles of the Plan. The Parks Director shall establish time frames for review procedures to ensure that the project approval process does not unduly slow the implementation process for the Park Board. At each step of the process, the Director of Parks & Recreation, Park Board, or the Mayor may seek public input if deemed necessary.

IAC Responsibilities

- Monitor implementation of and compliance with the Plan and provide ongoing community input regarding the restoration and creation of parks, recreation, and open space.
- Assist in reviewing significant modifications to the Plan, including those requested by the Village, outside agencies, donors, funders, volunteers, and partnering organizations.
- Assist in partnership development.
- Constitute a part of the public review process for major park projects in addition to the public entities.
- Keep the public informed and advised of matters relating to the Plan.
- The IAC is not authorized and shall not have power to amend or change the Plan, but may recommend changes to the Plan for consideration to the Director of Parks and Recreation, the Park Board, and the Mayor.
- The IAC shall meet as determined necessary.

Implementation Projects

In addition to the individual priorities, strategies, and projects listed in this plan, the following projects are recommended. The projects were determined based on the community support, needs assessment, general level of funding sources available, and the potential for available resources.

The projects are listed in order of anticipated resource availability.

TIMELINE

On-going Tasks

- Explore public/private funding partnership(s).
- Explore partnerships and investigate opportunities in cross-programming, shared facilities and amenities, and resources.
- Apply for grants for land acquisition, right-of-way acquisition, engineering, and construction.
- Seek funding for capital projects.

Year 0-1

The initial task of the Village needs to focus on moving quickly from planning to implementation to capitalize on the interest and community participation developed during the planning process. The following tasks need to be completed as soon as possible:

- Appoint Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC).
- Implement priority maintenance projects with existing parks. Phase in Dark Sky initiatives.
- Complete new capital budget plan for Parks and Recreation Department, including allocation for additional staff.
- Find funding for Glazebrook Expansion Phases 2 & 3 to increase capacity and revenue opportunities. This includes ballfields in Glazebrook Park Expansion.
- Develop phased acquisition plan for future parks for immediate and future needs. Work with other village and county departments as they work on projects for future roads, planned acquisitions, etc. Monitor lands for sale in or adjacent to future right-of-ways.

- Strengthen and grow volunteer programs.
- Continue to implement high-priority pedestrian routes, crossings and connections from the Godfrey Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan.
- Begin detailed Master Plans for existing and new parks. Explore reforestation and beautification plans for all village parks through a detailed landscape plan for each park. Support use of native plants and trees.
- Improve and complete circuitous path systems in existing parks.
- Work with Public Works Department, property owners, and Parks Department to connect neighborhoods to parks and to trails.
- Review existing maintenance plan. Develop Operations, Management and Maintenance Plan process. Reclassify parks and landscapes based on new modes of care as necessary.
- Review need for conservation overlay or zoning ordinances and/or Low Impact Development Ordinance to assist in preserving forests, bluffs, and other natural resources.
- Begin a stormwater and green infrastructure planning process to improve stormwater management practices.
- Develop the new large parks for active recreation, nature trails, and reforestation programs. Allow pop-up vendors and concession stands to generate revenue at tournaments and events.
- Install Wifi in larger parks, initially. Then expand wireless through other parks.
- Investigate Tree City USA Program.
- Continue, reinvigorate, and increase number of special events.
- Begin a feasibility study for a multipurpose community/recreation center or facility.
- Investigate land parcels for neighborhood parks on the east side of the Village as highest priority; investigate parcels on north edge as opportunities arise from willing sellers/donors.

Years 1-5

- Review, continue, and increase number of special events. Increase revenue opportunities for the Parks Department at special events.
- Identify quality land parcels to acquire and seek land donations for the community to develop new parks and open space.
- Create a common theme of signs and landscaping from park to park to help identify immediately each facility as a Godfrey Park.
- Develop signature landscapes within Glazebrook Park and expansion area.
- Complete new business plan for the Parks and Recreation Department, including active recreation.
- Continue to increase connectivity for bicyclists and pedestrians to navigate safely from parks to schools, to businesses, and to neighborhoods.
- Follow best practices and guidelines provided to ensure healthy and biodiverse landscapes in all parks.
- Conduct a tree survey for all parks to gauge health, hazard, and longevity of trees.
- Develop a reforestation plan, including adding seasonal color, evergreens and natives. Use memorial trees to offset costs.
- Allow neighborhoods/volunteer groups to take over care for formal plantings. With the guidance of the Village and the Park and Recreation Department, this lowers the cost of maintenance on high modes of care areas.
- Seek funding for proposed Recreation/Community Center including revenue generating amenities.
- Increase type and number of parks, varying them in size and unique character within the ranging from pocket parks within developments/neighborhoods to recreational facilities and fields.
- Develop park and special events plaza at Town Center.

Years 5-10

- Re-evaluate staffing needs.
- Continue to seek parcels and land donations for parks of varied scale and character and best use for the community to develop new parks and green infrastructure.
- Program (new or shared) public facility for events, meetings, classes, and off-season indoor events and activities.
- Reevaluate Plan recommendations for acreage needed according to actual trends, population, current parks and usage.
- Conduct a facilities review for capital maintenance and projects.
- Conduct a special fundraising campaign for capital projects.
- Review trail amenities and connectivity. Continue to partner on maintenance and management.
- Complete a community recreation facility to house the Parks and Recreation Department, staff, programming, meetings, and classrooms.
- Review current active and passive recreation trends and locate within the park system where possible.
- Review need for a water park/pool facility.

Years 10-20

- Continue and complete recommendations from Years 1-10.
- Update this plan.
- Evaluate park system to address needs and trends.
- Develop a strategic plan for the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Update ordinances and policies.

Engineering Recommendations

The following is a list of recommended engineering services as individual projects develop and move forward:

- Aiding the Village with assessing and selection of various new sites for expansion of parks and recreation. This work should consist of site visits, evaluating site based on existing mapping, site accessibility, and possible environmental conditions.
- Assistance in further evaluation of critical existing park/recreation facilities and infrastructure for expansion of parks and recreation facilities. This includes road access, parking, water, sanitary sewer, and storm drainage.
- Develop topographic surveys on existing parks and new sites.
- Develop schematic plans for park expansions and new sites.
- Assist in developing more detailed Opinion of Probable Costs based on schematic plans.
- Assist in developing projected estimated annual operations and maintenance cost information. Estimates for design costs will also be included.
- Determine probable permitting issues with areas selected for expansion of park and recreational facilities and new sites.
- Attend future public meetings if required for additional public input during the project initiation phase.
- Investigate potential drainage improvement to minimize future flooding in various regions of Godfrey.
- Assist with the Community/Recreational Center Case Study Plan.
- Develop construction plans for individual park improvements or new sites.
- Assist in developing detailed Opinion of Probable Costs based on construction plans.
- Assist in attaining permitting for park improvements.
- Construction engineering services for individual park improvements.

Godfrey's Comprehensive Parks & Open Space Plan Certification

The proposed improvements/developments identified in the Godfrey Comprehensive Parks & Open Space Plan were reviewed by MECO~Heneghan Engineers, LLC and determined to be feasible. MECO~Heneghan Engineers, LLC developed the opinion of probable construction costs in conjunction with HeartLands Conservancy. The Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan for Godfrey was done separately from this project and MECO~Heneghan Engineers, LLC was not part of that project.

Recommendations for Engineering

The recommendations made in this plan should be used as a framework for developing more detailed design-engineering plans during subsequent implementation and construction.

Specifically, projects that are to be built by the Parks Department internally or hired out through a contractor must be vetted. This includes, but not limited to the recommended greenways, routes, and trails

The Pedestrian and Bicycle plan was developed to be consistent with the bicycle facility design material and typical sections in the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT's) Bureau of Design and Engineering Manual. It also reflects the guidance presented in the American Association of State & Highway Transportation Official's (AASHTO's) Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities and the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) have created the Urban Bikeway Design Guide and Urban Street Design Guide for use in cities.

These three documents are the current standard acceptable reference information for developing bicycle facilities. These documents should be consulted in the design-engineering/implementation phase.

Prioritization Table (page 97)

Existing amenities are the darkest shade. The lighter the shading, the less of a priority the amenity is according to public input. If updates are planned, the anticipated date is noted.

Opinion of Costs

The opinions of probable construction cost shown in the tables on the following pages were developed by identifying major pay items, to determine a rough order of magnitude cost. Additionally pay items for specific amenities have been assigned approximate lump sum price ranges based on the anticipated construction cost. It should be noted that planning-level cost opinions include an approximate 20% to 50% contingency to cover items that are undefined or are typically unknown early in the planning phase of a project. Pay item price ranges are based on 2022 dollars and were assigned based on historical cost data. It should be noted that these costs may not adequately consider the widely varying costs associated with the current COVID-19 Pandemic environment. In addition, materials and labor may be unavailable or unpredictable in the post-Covid pandemic era.

The cost opinions do not include land acquisition costs, easement and right-of-way acquisition; permitting, inspection, or construction management; engineering, surveying, geotechnical investigation, environmental documentation, special site remediation, cost escalation, inflation; or the cost for ongoing maintenance. A cost range has been assigned to all items; however, these costs can vary widely depending on the exact details/specifications and nature of the work. The overall cost opinions are intended to be general and used only for planning purposes. MECO-Heneghan Engineers, LLC has no control over the

availability of labor, equipment, or materials, market conditions, or the Contractor’s method of pricing. The opinions of probable construction cost is made on the basis of the consultant’s professional judgment and experience. The consultant makes no guarantee or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding the ultimate bids or negotiated cost of the work. Construction cost will therefore vary based on the ultimate project scope, actual site conditions/constraints, schedule, and economic conditions at the time of construction.

As the Village moves forward in developing park improvements, proposed project costs should be re-evaluated with the additional information and requirements available at the time. The proposed projects should also be reviewed for cost effective strategies, such as in-house builds, design/builds bids, and multiple bids.

As funding allows the highest priority projects should be pursued.

In the meantime, to understand the magnitude of potential increases, staff may adjust for inflation by using the conversion rates given at www.usinflationcalculator.com.

For specific stormwater management and green infrastructure initiatives, features may be estimated for an opinion of probable cost through an additional valuable resource: the Green Values National Stormwater Management Calculator, available online at http://greenvalues.cnt.org/national/cost_detail.php. This site includes information on construction costs, maintenance costs, and component lifespan.

Proposed: High Med Lower Date of update	Glazebrook Park	Homer Adams Park	Captain Jake Ringer Park at Clifton Terrace	La Vista at Gladys Levis Allen Park	Hoffman Gardens at Great Rivers Park	Godfrey Ball Park (Leased)	Linear Park along the River	New East side Neighborhood Parks
Restroom	2022							
Young Children Playground	2022							
Concessions	2022							
Walking Trail								
Neighborhood Connections								
Bike Rack or Fix-it Station								
Benches	2022							
Sports Equipment or Ballfields	2022							
Broadband, Wifi Hotspot								
Increase Beautification								
Special Event Space								
Pavilions/ Picnic Shelters	2022							
Water Access								
Public Art or Memorials								
Dog Park								

Opinion of Cost for New/Future Parks by Type

Future Mini Park	
Type:	Mini Park
Approx. Size:	2,500 sf to 1 acre
<u>Quantity Needed:</u>	6-8 depending on size throughout the Village
<u>Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):</u>	Master Plan (\$20k) Small Parking Area 10-20 spaces (\$75k-\$150k) Picnic Area (small) (\$125k-\$175k) Signage (<\$10k) Trash / Recycling Receptacle (<\$5k) Bike Rack or Fix-It Station (<\$5k) Trees (10-15) (<\$10k) Landscape Plantings (<\$5k) Benches (4) (<\$15k) Small Play Area (\$200k-\$400k)
Order of Magnitude Total: \$470,000 - \$795,000	

Future Neighborhood Park	
Type:	Neighborhood Park
Approx. Size:	5 to 10 acres
<u>Quantity Needed:</u>	2-3 primarily on the east side of the Village
<u>Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):</u>	Master Plan (\$35k) Parking Area 25-50 spaces (\$200k-\$250K) Picnic Area (group) (\$200k-\$250k) Signage (<\$20k) Trash / Recycling Receptacle (<\$10k) Bike Rack or Fix-It Station (<\$5k) Trees (20-25) (<\$15k) Landscape Plantings (<\$10k) Benches (8) (<\$25k) Lighting (\$150k-\$300k) Multi-Use Trail 1 mile (\$180k-\$260k) Large Play Area (\$400k-\$700k)
Order of Magnitude Total: \$1.3mil - \$1.9mil	

Future Community Park

Type: Community Park
Approx. Size: 25 acres or more preferred
Quantity Needed:
 1 in the future northeast quadrant of the Village
Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):
 Master Plan (\$45k)
 Parking Area 50-100 spaces (\$400k-\$500K)
 Multiple Picnic Areas (group) (\$400k-\$500k)
 Signage (<\$40k)
 Trash / Recycling Receptacle (<\$20k)
 Bike Rack or Fix-It Station (<\$10k)
 Trees (25-50) (<\$25k)
 Landscape Plantings (<\$30k)
 Benches (16) (<\$45k)
 Lighting (\$200k-\$400k)
 Multi-Use Trail 3 mile (\$360k-\$520k)
 3 Multi-Use Natural Turf Fields Large (\$450k-750k)
 Large Play Area (\$400k-\$700k)
Order of Magnitude Total: \$2.0mil - \$3.6mil

Future River Road Park

Type: Neighborhood Park - River's Edge
Approx. Size: 3.5+ acers
Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):
 Develop Master Plan for best use. (<\$20k)
 Create a Godfrey River's Edge gateway.

 Develop a Trailhead with parking, bike facilities and a restroom. (\$500k-\$750k)
 Consider solar energy if needed
 Provide river overlook and access, e.g. Fishing Pier (\$150k-\$250k)
 Avoid night light pollution
 Install public art pieces (<\$25k)
 Install Amenities:
 a) Trash & Recycling Cans (<\$10k)
 b) Picnic tables, benches and seating. (\$10k-\$20k)
 c) Shade (\$10k-\$75k)
 d) Wayfinding & Interpretive Signs (\$10k-\$25k)
 e) Selfie Station (<\$5k)
Order of Magnitude Total: \$740,000 - \$1.2mil

Opinion of Costs for Existing Parks

Vadalabene Trail	
Type:	Multi-Use Path
Approx. Size:	20 miles
<u>Existing Amenities:</u>	
Multi-Use Path	
<u>Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):</u>	
Parking (\$100k-\$250k)	
Trailheads along the Route (<\$25k)	
Places to rest and enjoy the view (\$15k-\$25k)	
Regular Maintenance (\$50k-\$100k)	
Interpretive and Wayfinding Signage (\$10k-\$25k)	
Selfie Stations (<\$5k)	
Marketing (<\$5k)	
Connections to Neighborhoods (\$50k-\$150K)	
Order of Magnitude Total: \$270,000 - \$585,000	

Captain Jake Ringering Park at Clifton Terrace	
Type:	Neighborhood Park - part of River's Edge
Approx. Size:	3 ac.
<u>Existing Amenities:</u>	
Restrooms	
Playground	
Memorial Trees	
Information Kiosk	
Bike Rack	
Benches	
Pavilion / Picnic Shelter	
Prairie Remnant	
<u>Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):</u>	
Pavilion (\$75k-\$125k)	
Historical Interpretation of Clifton Hotel and Vineyard (<\$15k)	
Improve Signage and Wayfinding (\$10k-\$25k)	
Waterfront Nature Trail (\$150k-\$250k)	
Fishing Pier (\$50k-\$100K)	
Kayak/Canoe Launch (\$50k-\$100K)	
Partner with IDNR to add recreation access on riverfront across from park (>\$250k)	
Selfie Station (<\$5k)	
Broadband Wi-Fi Hotspot (<\$10k)	
Order of Magnitude Total: \$615,000 - \$880,000	

LaVista at Gladys Levis Allen Park

Type: Community Park/Natural Resource

Approx. Size: 93 ac.

Existing Amenities:

- Multi-Use Trail
- Bike Rack / Fix-it-Station
- Native Plant Community Garden
- Picnic Table and Benches
- Disc Golf

Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):

- Expand Connectivity, Encourage large Trail loops Village-wide (\$200k-\$400K)
- Nature-based solutions for Erosion Protection (\$75K-\$150k)
- Develop active reforestation plan and tree inventory (<\$20k)
- Expand when and if possible with willing partners and sellers
- Increase education and interpretive opportunities (\$15k-\$25k)
- Install four-seasons restrooms (\$100k-\$200k)
- Monitor and Remove invasive plant species (\$5k-\$7k per acre)
- Create beneficial wildlife habitat, especially birds (\$10k-\$20k)
- Avoid broad spraying or using pesticides
- Add places to rest and site under the tree canopy (<\$15k)
- Discourage off-trail mountain biking (<\$10k)

Order of Magnitude Total: \$450,000 - \$847,000

Hoffman Gardens at Great Rivers Park

Type: Neighborhood Park - part of River's Edge

Approx. Size: 9 ac.

Existing Amenities:

- Scenic Views
- Benches
- Picnic Area
- Gardens
- Interpretive site
- Bike Rack

Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):

- Day rent garden for wedding ceremonies, photography sessions, small parties, etc. (NA)
- Explore potential river access for fishing and/or kayak/canoe launch/resting spot (<\$20k)
- Protect the bluffs and tree canopy (<\$20k)
- Remove invasive plants. Decrease mowing through native plantings. (<\$5k-\$7k per acre)
- Investigate bluff edge stream erosion and stabilization (<\$25k)
- Investigate parcel across the roadway for access to water, an overlook, future water taxi, etc. (<\$20k)
- Improve signage and wayfinding. Increase educational signage (\$15k-\$25k)
- Consider small events (\$5k)

Order of Magnitude Total: \$130,000 - \$150,000

Homer Adams Park

Type: Neighborhood Park - Parks & Rec. Department

Approx. Size: 4 ac.

Existing Amenities:

Restrooms

Tot Lot / Small Play Ground

Bike Rack / Fix-it-Station

Benches

Pavilion / Picnic Shelter

Public Art or Memorials

Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):

Improve Signage and Wayfinding (<\$15k)

Improve neighborhood connections (\$50k-\$150k)

Improve ADA Accessibility (\$35k-\$65k)

Dog Park (\$150k-\$200k)

Wi-Fi/Broadband Access (\$5k-\$10k)

Order of Magnitude Total: \$255,000 - \$440,000

Glazebrook Park

Type: Community Park

Approx. Size: 120 ac.

Existing Amenities:

Soccer Fields (natural turf)

Soccer Fields (artificial turf & lighted)

Pavilions

Playgrounds

2x Concession Building

Restrooms

Fishing Lake

Walking Path (paved)

Gazebo

Corn Maze (seasonal)

4x Baseball Fields (lighted)

Basketball (halfcourt)

Parks and Recreation Dept. maintenance building

Memorial Trees Planted throughout

Glazebrook Park Continued

Recommendations (Order of Magnitude Cost):

Phase 1 - Under construction - See Village for detailed plans

- a) Inclusive Playground
- b) Splash Pad
- c) Concession w/ pavilion & Restrooms
- d) Pavilion
- e) Fitness Area
- f) Additional Parking and entrances
- g) Multi-purpose long fields
- h) 8x Pickleball Courts
- i) Sidewalks & additional walking paths

Approximate Construction Cost Total: \$3.1 million

Future Phases

- a) Dog Park (\$125k-\$175K)
- b) Amphitheater (\$200k-\$300K)
- c) Bocce Ball and/or Horseshoes (<\$20K)
- d) Additional Inclusive Playgrounds (\$400k-\$600K)
- e) Walking Path (\$150k-\$300k)
- f) Additional Pavilions (\$50K-\$120k)
- g) Fishing Pier (\$50k-\$100k)
- h) Veteran's Memorial (<\$25k)
- i) Lake Fountains (<\$20k)
- j) Indoor Recreation and Community Center (\$10mil-\$15mil)
- k) Signature Landscape and Water Feature (\$250k-\$350K)
- l) Circuitous Interior Park Road (\$200K-\$300k)
- m) Additional Neighborhood Connections (\$50k-\$100k)
- n) Preserve existing trees and increase with new native hardwood and flowering trees (\$10k-\$15k)
- o) Stabilize Stream Banks (\$75k-\$150K)
- p) Increase Native Plantings in formal setting (<\$50k)
- q) Additional Parking and Drive Lanes (\$500k-\$800k)
- r) 3 or 4 Baseball Fields with Concession (\$2.0mil-\$2.5mil)

Order of Magnitude Total w/ Community Center no Baseball Fields: \$12.2mil - \$18.4mil

Order of Magnitude Total w/o Community Center: \$4.2mil - \$5.9mil

Opinion of Probable Costs for New Typical Amenities

Description	Amenities Included	Approx. Quantity / Size	Opinion of Probable Cost (Order of Magnitude)
Picnic Area (small)	Picnic tables (2), BBQ grills, 800 sf concrete paving, drinking fountain with spigot, trash receptacle, trees or small structure for shade	3,000 sf	\$125,000 - \$175,000
Picnic Area (group)	Picnic tables (6), BBQ grills, 1,600 sf concrete paving, drinking fountain with spigot, trash receptacle, trees or large structure for shade	6,000 sf	\$200,000 - \$250,000
Community Garden	Grading, irrigation, planter boxes, mulch, plants, signage	5,000 sf	\$150,000 - \$250,000
Tot Lot / Small Play Area (1000-5000 sf)	Grading, play equipment (2-5 years and 5-12 years), synthetic safety surfacing, seating, shade, trash receptacles	per sf	\$100 - \$130
Large Play Area (5000-10000 sf)	Grading, play equipment (2-5 years and 5-12 years), synthetic safety surfacing, seating, shade, trash receptacles	per sf	\$90 - \$110
Dog Park	Perimeter fencing for 0.5 acre park, water faucet, turf and irrigation, trash/doggy station, signage, benches	each	\$150,000 - \$200,000
Amphitheater (Hillside)	Theater structure, electrical, lighting, grading, pathways/sidewalks and ADA accessibility paving	each	\$250,000 - \$350,000
Indoor Recreation and Community Center	Assumes a 50k-60k sf multi-level facility which includes a fitness center, indoor track, gymnasium, aquatic center, on-site child watch, cafe, youth center and locker rooms. This also includes parking and driveways to accommodate the facility.	each	\$10mil - \$15mil
Splash Pad	2500 sf facility with approx. 15 features. Area includes playing surface and surrounding concrete pavement.	each	\$500,000 - \$650,000
Picnic Table		each	\$2,000 - \$4,000
Bench		each	\$2,000 - \$4,000
Trash / Recycling Receptacle		each	\$1,000 - \$2,000
Bike Rack or Fix-It Station		each	\$2,000 - \$6,000
Drinking Fountain		each	\$2,500 - \$5,000
Monument Entry Sign		each	\$10,000 - \$20,000
Small Shade Structure	20'x20' with Concrete Slab	each	\$50,000 - \$60,000
Large Shade Structure	40'x40' with Concrete Slab	each	\$90,000 - \$120,000
Picnic Table (refurbish)	Clean, repaint, clear rust	each	\$500
Bench (refurbish)	Clean, repaint, clear rust	each	\$500
Tennis court	Grading, Post tension concrete slab, acrylic surfacing, lighting	7,200 sf	\$125,000 - \$150,000
Basketball Court (New) (full)	Grading, asphalt surfacing, posts, backboards, nets, striping, fence	5,000 sf	\$100,000 - \$125,000
Basketball Court New (half)	Grading, asphalt surfacing, posts, backboards, nets, striping, fence	2,500 sf	\$60,000 - \$100,000
Multi-Use Natural Turf Field (large)	Grading and Seeding	3 acre	\$150,000 - \$250,000
Multi-Use Natural Turf Field (small)	Grading and Seeding	1.5 acre	\$100,000 - \$150,000
Fitness Area	20'x20' Concrete fitness court with bodyweight equipment	each	\$25,000 - \$35,000
Fitness Station	Individual fitness equipment elements	each	\$4,000 - \$8,000
Aluminum Sports Bleachers	3-4 rows, low rise	each	\$2,500 - \$5,000

Description	Amenities Included	Approx. Quantity / Size	Opinion of Probable Cost (Order of Magnitude)
Pedestrian Concrete Paving	Grading, subgrade preparation, subgrade, concrete paving	per sf	\$12 - \$15
Landscape Planting	Soil prep, grading, trenching, irrigation, plant material, mulch, maintenance	per sf	\$5 - \$10
Turf	Sod	per sf	\$2 - \$5
Park Tree	24" box tree	each	\$400 - \$600
Multi-Use Trail	10' wide HMA trail (3" HMA with 6" Aggregate Base), striping, grading with ditches, seeding, culverts. (Rural Setting)	per 1/4 mile	\$45,000 - \$65,000
Restoration Native Landscaping	Grading, seeding, plugs, multiple trees	per acre	\$5,000 - \$7,000
Rock Work Signature Landscape	Dry creek, Boulders, Bioretention Plantings	each	\$50,000 - \$65,000
Reforestation	Invasive Vegetation Removal, Planting Trees	per acre	\$5,000 - \$7,000
Interpretive Signs		per sign	\$1,500 - \$2,500
Meadow Seeding		per acre	\$1,500 - \$3,000
Public Art	General 1% of budget or special grant	each	\$5,000 - \$25,000
Master Plan/Feasibility Studies for Individual Parks	Size Dependent	each	\$15,000 - \$40,000
Native Riparian Plantings (Erosion Control)	Lake Edge Plugs with Seeding	each	\$6,000 - \$8,000
Selfie Station		each	\$3,000 - \$5,000
Wifi/Broadband Access		each	\$5,000 - \$10,000

Funding Strategy

Overview

Successful implementation of the plan will require strategic targeting and phased implementation of the most critical projects and most urgent improvements balanced with funding.

The funding strategy will serve as a tool for the Village and staff to move forward. This is a dynamic list of resources. The agencies, organizations, and foundations referenced are frequently affected by policy change, economic shifts, and depletion or change in funding sources. Therefore, it is important to investigate each source of funds, the regulations, and the required outcomes prior to seeking the funds.

Funding for projects can come from a variety of sources: donations, fundraising, loans, assessments, ordinances, and grants (local, state, and federal agencies), foundations, environmental organizations, and financial entities. In general, stakeholders overwhelmingly support finding multiple sources to move forward.

Funding

To implement the Plan's recommendations, the Village will need to diversify funding sources and increase revenues from existing sources. There are a variety of funding sources available for recreation services (operations) and capital improvements (projects) in Illinois, many of which are already used by Godfrey.

Capital funding supports new construction, expansion, renovation, or replacement projects for existing parks and facilities.

Operations funding supports ongoing services, such as maintenance, facility operations, recreation programming, events, marketing, and management. The Plan specifically calls for an updated management and maintenance plan to be developed by the Village as one of the initial implementation tasks. The management and maintenance plan will need to take into account future projects and changes to the park system, and the corresponding costs and potential funding sources.

Both capital and operations funding should be expanded to ensure the Village is able to operate and maintain existing and new assets in the long-term.

Other sources of funding will need to be identified from public and private sources and should include donated services/volunteerism. Work to be performed by others within the grant application's proposed scope of services can count as a fiscal match where appropriate.

Leveraging Resources

Most of the funds are available to public entities and require a local match. Each notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) will outline the eligible entities. These grant/bond funds can only be used for capital projects or components. With rare exception most grant funds are not available for use for routine or deferred maintenance, or for general operating funds and past debts.

Working with agencies and other levels of local government is also beneficial on all funding options. Clear communication and collaboration are imperative. It is beneficial to invite funding partners into implementation process early. Allow time for each entity and their staff to seek and receive the proper approval according to their individual processes.

However, if public partners are combined with a not-for-profit, leveraging resources becomes more desirable to funders. Funding sources and matches vary depending on the program and the objective of the funding source. It is recommended to use a variety of funders to reduce the local share and to leverage the most dollars possible through either establishing a not-for-profit friends group or partnering with an existing nonprofit.

Most importantly, in order not to bear the full weight of the costs, the Village is best served by leveraging these partnerships to generate the maximum funds and resources available.

A potential list of collaborators and funding opportunities is outlined in the upcoming pages.

Implementation Exercise

The Public Survey asked:

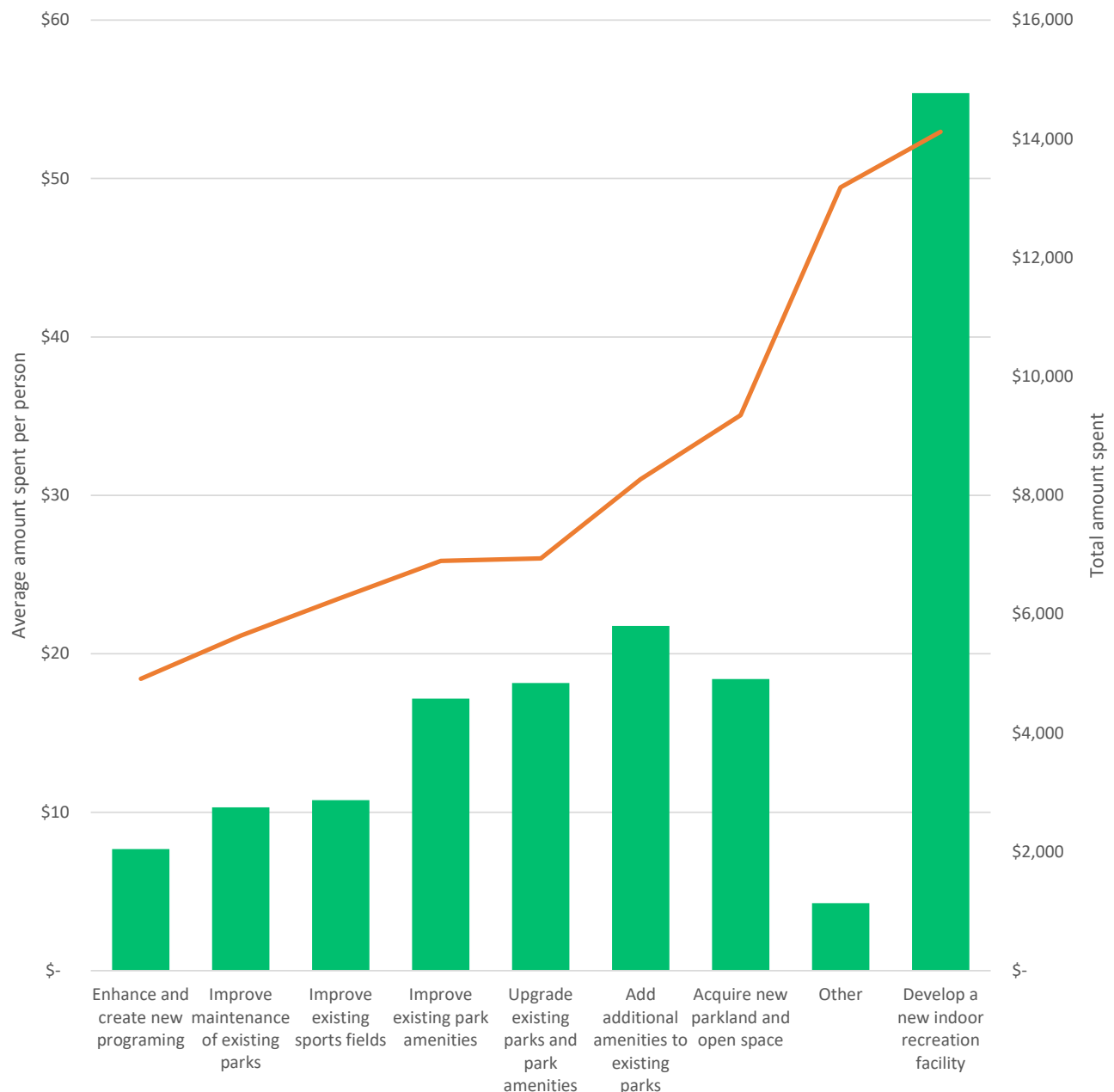
"If you had \$100 to spend on various services provided by the Parks and Recreations Department, how would you spend it?"

Respondents were given a virtual \$100 sum and asked to divide it among the listed park services and improvements however they wished to spend it. In the chart below, the total amount spent per item is indicated by the green bars and the right axis. The left axis and orange line indicated the average spent per person on each issue.

Excluding this option, adding amenities to existing parks and acquire new parkland and open were next. Following closely was upgrade existing parks and park amenities.

Developing new programming had the lowest total and per person spent.

Develop a new indoor recreation facility received the most total money and the highest spent per person average.



Funding Recommendations

- **Expand Revenue.** Complete a business plan that reviews all sources of income, revenue opportunities (new and existing), partnerships, vendors, leases, and programming resources.
- **Investigate grants.** This includes grants for infrastructure, capital improvements, programs, best management practices, and amenities. These often require cash expenditures upfront for match; or are reimbursable after work is complete. These take a tremendous amount of effort and are not guaranteed to be successful. Often funds are reallocated in budget shortfalls or emergencies.
- **Investigate public/private partnerships** for infrastructure and improvements, including and relating to maintenance and management. This means the Village, county, state, NGOs, developers, and others may participate in conjunction per an agreed upon arrangement yet to be determined.
- **Explore low-interest loans or bonds** which offered from public agencies as well as credit unions, and financial institutions. Often the urgency of capital projects benefit from low interest loans instead of accruing more deferred maintenance, while collecting monies - risking liability and risk - and potentially a higher final cost.
- **Develop a fiscal plan** to create an endowment towards future park maintenance.
- **Community fundraising** campaigns (big and small) involving residents to promote involvement: fishing derbies, social media campaigns, letters, donor signs, donor boardwalk slats, etc.
- **Approach private donors.**
- **Develop partnerships** that may be used or collaborations for offsetting programming costs for special events, or in a longer partnership through an MOU/MOA outlining mutual benefits.
- **Develop capital project plans** and corresponding marketing materials to have ready for funding opportunities such as inquiries from donors or partners, "shovel ready" opportunities. This plan can also be provided as an attachment to most applications.

- **Consider creating a Special Service Area (SSA) or TIF district** to pay for capital projects or maintenance.
- **Develop an equitable stepped increase in fees** for usage of parks, amenities, facilities, and venues.
- **Review each project** for funding ongoing opportunities on a regular basis.
- **Create an overall "Friends of Godfrey Parks"** nonprofit.
- **Keep detailed and accurate records** once grants are received for required grant reports.
- **Increase and document volunteer** and work in-kind opportunities.
- **Work in partnership with Madison County** for large stormwater or natural resource management improvements under the Madison County Stormwater Commission.
- **Subscribe to Grants.gov**, East-West Gateway's weekly email briefings and state grant alerts to watch for applicable grants for which to partner.
- **Subscribe to MEPRD's** newsletter and grant updates.
- **Provide updates to the Community** to increase awareness and donations.

Potential Revenue Sources

Property Taxes

Property taxes generally support a significant portion of a municipality's activities. Property taxes can provide a steady stream of financing while broadly distributing the tax burden.

In other parts of the country, this mechanism has been popular with voters as long as the increase is restricted to parks and open space. Note, other public agencies compete vigorously for these funds, and taxpayers are generally concerned about high property tax rates.

Excise Taxes

Excise taxes are taxes on specific goods and services. These taxes require special legislation and funds generated through the tax are limited to specific uses.

Fees

A variety of fee options have been used by local jurisdictions to assist in funding park and recreation improvements. Developing an equitable stepped fee structure may be beneficial.

Sales Taxes

Metro East Park and Recreation District (MEPRD) is the public body responsible for the development of an interconnected system of parks, greenways, and trails in Madison and St. Clair Counties. MEPRD is partially funded by sales taxes, not property taxes as many assume. This program is approved by voters, to collect a 1/10th sales tax for parks, open space, trails and other conservation programs. Fund divisions are determined by state statute with 50% directed to regional projects and 50% directed to county and local projects. This is an excellent source of funds for greenway corridor protection, trailhead, partner implementation, and construction.

Stormwater Utility Fees

Stormwater charges are typically based on an estimate of the amount of impervious surface on a user's property. Users with more impervious surface are charged more for stormwater service than users with less impervious surface.

Conversely, incentives may be developed for those who install beneficial stormwater management features.

Streetscape Utility Fees

Streetscape Utility Fees could help support streetscape maintenance of the area between the curb and the property line through a flat monthly fee per residence. The revenues raised from Streetscape Utility Fees would be limited by ordinance to maintenance (or

construction and maintenance) activities in support of the streetscape.

This may be beneficial to assist in installing neighborhood connections, green infrastructure, and street trees and lighting.

Park Utility Fee

Park utility fees have the potential to be a significant and stable revenue stream for local jurisdictions. These dedicated funds help offset the cost of park maintenance. The monthly fee would be paid upon connection to the water and sewer system. Creating a new source of operations funding could free up general fund dollars for other capital project uses.

Developing an equitable stepped fee structure may be beneficial.

Special Districts - Special Service Area, TIF Districts, or future special fees

The Village could consider a special assessment to develop a community amenity, perhaps part of the Town Center public space project benefiting the community. Generally, this is a technique that may have to be put on a ballot and voted by the public. A SSA can also specifically fund the maintenance of the public space in the Town Center. TIF funds could go towards a stormwater park, for example.

Non-grant Funding Opportunities

- Community Partnerships
- The Great River Road National Scenic Byway follows the Mississippi River through from northern Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico. Join communities to jointly fund efforts.
- Corporate/Business Sponsorships
- Local Fundraisers
- Sports Tournaments
- Programs/Events - Diversify programming, events, and rentals to increase revenue from the park in fun and creative ways for the benefit of the community.
- Crowdfunding
- Service Organizations
- Charitable Donations
- Volunteer Work
- Individual Donations
 - Donations of Art
 - Donations of Land
 - Financial
 - Planned estate (future) giving

Public Agency Grants

Park and open space improvements can be funded through a variety of federal, state, local, and private mechanisms. These sources are competitive, and generally require matching funds.

All grants, regardless of source, can fluctuate from year-to-year based on annual budgets and fund availability. The list below has traditionally been valid. However, due to various unforeseen circumstances, all funding sources, information, and grant applications should be reviewed. Projects should be prioritized via timeline or as opportunities of funding present themselves for specific endeavors.

The following funding sources are available for parks, trails, stormwater, open space, and green infrastructure.

Unique Opportunities

Some immediate or revolving funding sources to investigate for Rebuilding and Reopening Illinois in relation to 2020-21 events:

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act - Passed. Release of funds is TBD through multiple U.S. Departments.

U.S. Department of Commerce - EDA/Cares Act Recovery Assistance - Releases of grants are ongoing.

Rebuild Illinois Grant Program - Rebuild Illinois will make \$45 billion worth of investments in roads, bridges, railroads, universities, early childhood centers, and state facilities over the next six years, creating and supporting an estimated 540,000 jobs over the life of the plan and revitalizing local economies across the state. Releases of grants are ongoing.

Federal Programs

Conservation Easements - Through the federal tax code, charitable gift and estate tax benefits exist for long-term land protection. With a conservation easement, a landowner limits future development opportunities and reduces the value of the property while ensuring long term conservation protection and receiving tax benefits. This program is administered through a local land trust, such as Great Rivers Land Trust or HeartLands Conservancy or a governing entity.

FEMA

Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities (BRIC) grant - This program is for states, local communities, tribes and territories for mitigation activities. BRIC is a FEMA annual hazard mitigation program. The priorities are to: incentivize natural hazard risk reduction activities that mitigate risk to public infrastructure; prioritize benefits to

disadvantaged communities; mitigate risk to one or more community lifelines; incorporate nature-based solutions; enhance climate resilience and adaptation; and increase funding to applicants that facilitate the adoption and enforcement of the latest published editions of building codes.

Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) – This program provides cash payments to permanently restrict wetlands for conservation purposes. The program is administered by USDA-NRCS.

U.S. Department of the Interior

Land and Water Conservation Fund - These grants are available to cities, counties, and school districts to be used for outdoor recreation projects. Projects require a 55 percent match. All funded projects are taken under perpetuity by the National Park Service and must only be used for outdoor recreational purposes. Development and renovation projects must be maintained for a period of 25 years or the life of the manufactured goods.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act -

The NMBCA program provides matching grants to Neotropical migratory bird conservation projects throughout the Western Hemisphere, with at least 75 percent of funding going to projects outside the United States. The competitive grants require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 3-to-1 ratio.

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program is run by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) under the Department of the Interior (DOI). The program works with private landowners to improve fish and wildlife habitat on lands through voluntary, community-based stewardship. Noting more than 90% of land in the Midwest is in private ownership, the program promotes high quality habitat through partnerships with private conservation organizations, state and federal agencies, and tribes to reach private landowners. Funding, materials, equipment, labor and expertise are shared to meet shared restoration and conservation goals.

State Programs

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)

Green Infrastructure Grants Opportunity (GIGO) - In the past, these grants have been made available to local units of government and other organizations to demonstrate green infrastructure best management practices to control stormwater runoff for water quality protection in Illinois. Acres of permeable pavement parking lots and alleys and riparian zones and rain

gardens are techniques now in place to help restore, mimic, or enhance natural hydrology to protect and improve local water quality. It has been rumored that this program was going to be reopened in the new budget. However, given the pandemic and state's loss of income this source should be investigated prior to proceeding.

This grant is in support of stormwater and improvements through green infrastructure initiatives e.g. rain gardens, buffers, bioswales. <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/grants-loans/water-financial-assistance/Pages/igig.aspx>

Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Financial Assistance Program implements Illinois' Nonpoint Source Management Program with federal funds through section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act. The funds can be for watershed planning, implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs), or monitoring of water quality. Projects that address nonpoint source (NPS) pollution in Illinois waters that have impaired water quality are given priority.

The IEPA Lake Education Assistance Program (LEAP) is part of an education initiative offered by the Illinois EPA. The Lake Education Assistance Program is currently suspended. Due to the suspension of the program, applications received by the Illinois EPA are not being processed at this time. Please check back for future updates. LEAP funds are available to all school children for grades from kindergarten through graduate school. Funds are also available to not-for-profit organizations, such as lake associations, scouting groups, parks, and communities.

The IEPA provides funding for approximately one hundred lake and lake watershed related educational field trips, seminars/workshops, projects, and activities per fiscal year. Projects and activities must have stated goals and involve the enhanced lake/lake watershed education of teachers, students, organizations and/or the community. Funding will be in the form of reimbursement of documented costs incurred, and can be applied to such items as educational materials, scientific equipment, substitute teacher payment, buses/drivers, seminars, workshops, software, and visual materials. The maximum award per school and/or organization is \$500 per application period. <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/surface-water/Pages/leap.aspx>

The State Revolving Fund Loan Program includes the Public Water Supply Loan Program (PWSLP) for drinking water projects and the Water Pollution Control Loan Program (WPCLP) for wastewater and stormwater projects. Eligible projects include upgrading or rehabilitating existing infrastructure, stormwater-related projects that benefit water quality, and a wide-variety of other projects that protect or

improve the quality of Illinois's rivers, streams, and lakes. Funds can be provided for flood relief if the projects are tied to water quality improvements. Green infrastructure projects such as street tree or urban forestry programs, stormwater harvesting programs, downspout disconnection projects, and street drainage practices that mimic natural hydrology may be funded.

Streambank Cleanup and Lakeshore Enhancement (SCALE) grants from EPA have been available in previous years (2013-2016) to support cleanup efforts under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The funds were paid to groups that "have already established a recurring streambank or lakeshore cleanup," and used for dumpster rental, landfill fees, and safety attire. Recipients such as Alton Marketplace/Main Street and the Village of Swansea received \$500 (or more if more participants were involved). This program may be funded again.

Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA)

The Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP) aims to assist landowners in restoring, enhancing, and protecting forestland resources on private land through easements, 30-year contracts, and 10-year cost-share agreements. The land must restore, enhance, or measurably increase the recovery of threatened or endangered species, improve biological diversity, or increase carbon storage. Contact Madison Co. Soil and Water Conservation District regarding this process.

The Streambank Stabilization and Restoration Program (SSRP) is designed to demonstrate effective streambank stabilization at demonstration sites using inexpensive vegetative and bio-engineering techniques. Program funds may be used for labor, equipment, and materials. Recipients of the cost-share and project funding must maintain the streambank stabilization project for at least 10 years. Investigate this program and its status.

Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)

Illinois Safe Routes to School (SRTS) - Eligible infrastructure projects include sidewalk improvements, traffic calming/speed reduction improvements, traffic control devices, pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements, on-street bicycle facilities, off-street bicycle facilities, and secure bicycle parking facilities. Eligible non-infrastructure projects include events, equipment, and supplies that help to address areas of Education, Enforcement, Encouragement, and Evaluation.

Illinois Green Streets Initiative - The Illinois Green Streets Initiative is part of the Replanting the Prairie State Initiative to further reduce greenhouse emissions in the state. Project sponsors may receive up to 80 percent reimbursement for project costs. The

remaining 20 percent is the responsibility of the project sponsor. Funds for this program can only be used for planting of trees or prairie grasses, and the program is overseen by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

The Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) - provides funding for community based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historic, aesthetic and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program - Funds cost-effective projects that improve bicycle and pedestrian safety through education and enforcement. May fund projects such as a bicycle and pedestrian plan, development and distribution of maps with safety information, Educational materials, safety equipment, and vehicle feedback signs.

The Surface Transportation Program (STP) - provides funding for all types of transportation projects, including pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Projects are selected through the State Highway Improvement Program.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)

Bike Path Grant Program - This program assists local units of government to acquire, construct, and rehabilitate public, non-motorized bicycle paths and directly related support facilities.

Boat Access Area Development Program - This program provides local government with financial assistance for the acquisition, construction, and expansion/rehabilitation of public boat and canoe access areas on Illinois lakes and rivers.

Federal Recreational Trails Program - The IDNR administers RTP funds and stipulates that funds can be utilized for trail construction and rehabilitation; restoration of areas adjacent to trails damaged by unauthorized trail uses; construction of trail-related support facilities and amenities; and acquisition from willing sellers of trail corridors through easements or fee simple title. The RTP program can provide up to 80 percent federal funding on approved projects and requires a minimum 20 percent non-federal funding match. Eligible applicants include municipalities and counties, schools, and private, non-profit and for-profit businesses.

Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) - OSLAD is funded with Real Estate Property Transfer Tax in Illinois. Both land acquisition and park developments are accepted in this program. It is a 50/50 cost share program on a reimbursable basis. Projects vary from small neighborhood parks to large community and county parks and nature areas. This program can pay for engineering.

Park and Recreational Facility Construction

Grant - Local governments can apply for park and recreation unit construction projects including acquisition, development, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvements, architectural planning and installation of capital facilities consisting, but not limited to, buildings, structures and land for park and recreation purposes and open spaces and natural areas.

The Urban and Community Forestry Assistance

Grant Program - Local governments can apply for financial assistance for the development of local urban and community forestry programs; activities must help to establish, manage, conserve, and preserve the urban and community forests from inner city to associated public lands.

Illinois Urban and Community Forestry Program is a part of a nearly \$5 billion economic engine in Illinois. The state program helps assist municipalities and local units of government in developing, managing and sustaining local community forestry programs. Illinois citizens benefit from this program by living in and near high quality diverse managed forests within TREE Village USA communities. HeartLands Conservancy can provide free assistance for this program. <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/conservation/Forestry/UrbanForestry/Pages/default.aspx>

The **Urban Flood Control Program** has been implemented for many years under the authority of the Flood Control Act of 1945. IDNR's Office of Water Resources (OWR) has typically applied the program to out-of-bank riverine flooding, and to the development and construction of projects that provide an outlet for stormwater systems.

Illinois Emergency Management Agency

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program is a cost-share program (75% federal, 25% local match) through which communities can receive grants for the development of a comprehensive flood mitigation plan and the implementation of flood mitigation projects. Communities must be members of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program makes grants available to state and local governments to implement cost-effective hazard mitigation activities that complement a comprehensive mitigation program. Funding is awarded for the development of an all-hazards mitigation plan or for a cost-effective hazard mitigation project.

The Hazard Mitigation Grant (HMG) program makes grants available to state and local governments as well as eligible private, non-profit organizations to implement cost-effective, long-term mitigation measures following a major disaster declaration. A

project does not have to be in a declared county to be eligible; every community that is vulnerable to natural hazards should consider applying.

The Severe Repetitive Loss Program provides funding to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to severe repetitive loss structures insured under the NFIP. These structures are residential properties insured under the NFIP that have had two or more large claims (see the Federal Emergency Management Agency website for details).

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity maintains a current list of grant programs that are open for application. Grant opportunities may range from funding for public infrastructure projects, programs focused on economic development initiatives, to the Department seeking a partner to administer support services to Illinoisans. Each program's unique eligibility requirements will include opportunities for various types of communities, businesses and/or non-profit organizations. From: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/AboutDCEO/GrantOpportunities/Pages/default.aspx>

The Illinois Community Development Assistance

- The Office of Community Development supports economic development, community development, and infrastructure improvements in Illinois communities with substantial low-to-moderate-income populations.

The office administers the federally funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program that assists low-income populations. In addition, federal aid is provided for disaster recovery and housing rehabilitation in these communities. From: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/CommunityDevelopment/Pages/default.aspx>

Regional | Local Programs

ACT Grant- Known as the ACT Community Action Grants Program, this annual funding opportunity is available to cities, villages, townships, park districts, transit districts, airport districts, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations based in or providing services within Madison County, Illinois. The ACT Community Action Grants Program will provide an opportunity for entities serving Madison County residents to apply for grant funding to complete projects that will expand or enhance local transportation opportunities. Eligible projects must improve transportation, bicycle safety and/or access, pedestrian safety and/or access, ADA accessibility, and/or related projects. Each eligible entity can apply for as much as \$100,000 per year.

Madison County Resource Management

Environmental Grants - This grant program is designed to assist units of local government with environmental objectives and projects including solid waste management, air quality initiatives, energy efficiencies, smart growth, and stormwater abatement. The goal of the program is to promote best management practices and case studies of positive environmental projects within Madison County. Examples of funding use include; solar panels, native landscaping, and green infrastructure.

Madison County Park Enhancement Program (PEP)

Grants - The Madison County Park and Recreation Program is designed to assist municipalities and park and recreation districts within Madison County to develop, enhance or expand park operations and facilities. The grant program, administered by Madison County Community Development is designed to supplement community funding for park operations.

Metro-East Park and Recreation District (MEPRD)

MEPRD provides grants to supplement the efforts of local governments, special districts, and other jurisdictions who are already working on the planning, construction and management of bike, pedestrian, and park facilities to further their mission.

Park and Trail Grant - MEPRD funds projects that would fulfill two primary objectives, i.e. (1) encourage the development of regional trail segments throughout MEPRD's jurisdiction; and (2) increase MEPRD's grant funding for park projects located in currently under-served locations. Provides up to \$300,000 for construction, implementation, and acquisition. MEPRD funds must not exceed 40% of the total project cost.

Event Sponsorship Grant - Fund a variety of events include walking, running, and/or biking events hosted by a public agency/department or a nonprofit organization. At least 10% of the event proceeds must go towards funding developments, improvements, or recreational programs to a public park or trail.

Non-Governmental (NGOs) & Not-For-Profit Organizations

The following groups may have programs or funds to help carry out their missions at any given time:

Ducks Unlimited (DU) – DU’s Living Lake Initiative provides support in enhancing shallow lake complexes.

Great Rivers Land Trust – Works in this area with conservation easements, land trust projects, and management of the Piasa Creek Watershed Plan.

HeartLands Conservancy – Works to protect diverse natural resources and habitats of southern Illinois.

Illinois Forestry Development Council – Supports statewide work and forest/tree canopy programs and conservation.

Morton Arboretum – Supports statewide work and forest/tree canopy programs and conservation.

National Organization of Realtors – Access charitable giving through the greater Gateway Association of Realtors.

Pheasants Forever / Quail Forever– Local Chapters often provide food plot and native grass seed to landowners.

The Sierra Club Illinois Piasa Palisades Group – Supports projects that protect this region from sprawl, unsustainable agriculture, air and water pollution, wetlands destruction, and deforestation.

The Conservation Fund – Conservation loans and green bonds programs offer flexible financing as well as sustained and expert technical assistance to land trusts and other organizations aiming to protect key properties in their communities, increase access to green and open-space, recover natural habitats, provide conservation education programs, and help people connect with nature.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) – works to protect diverse natural habitats including wetlands and forests.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) – provides grants on a competitive basis to projects that support fish and wildlife. Its program areas include protecting critical habitat, capacity building for partner organizations, and wetland and forest stewardship.

The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) – supports projects to protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat.

Trees Forever – The Working Watersheds – Buffers and Beyond program provides a 50% cost share (up to a maximum of \$2,000) to implement water quality project/demonstration sites, e.g. riparian buffers.

Potential Private Foundations/Companies

Many communities have successfully solicited park and recreation infrastructure funding from private foundations and benefactors. Foundations are excellent sources of funding for acquisition of land for conservation, interpretation, education, and project-specific purposes. They fund a wide variety of features, including to shade structures, tennis courts, tree planting, pollinator gardens, playgrounds, ADA improvements, and educational programs. Additionally, corporations often have separate foundations or grant programs to support environmental missions. Below are some examples of these funding opportunities:

- Alton Memorial Health Services Foundation
- Ameren Corporation Charitable Trust
- American Water Charitable Foundation
- American Academy of Dermatology (Shade Structure Program)
- America’s Central Port
- Bank of America Charitable Foundation
- Boy Scouts of America
- Building Better Communities Program (NRPA)
- Home Depot Foundation
- Illinois American Water Environmental Grant Program
- Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation
- KaBOOM!
- Lewis & Clark Community College
- Lowe’s Charitable and Education Foundation
- National Trails Fund
- National Recreation & Park Association (NRPA)
- National Association of Realtors
- Scotts Miracle-Grow Foundation
- The Nature Institute
- The Trust for Public Land
- U.S. Soccer Foundation
- Walmart Family Foundation

Potential Funding Sources For Pedestrian & Bicycle Connectivity

It is the recommendation of this plan to connect residents safely to common areas, regional and Village trails, and safe and accessible crossings at intersections, especially those leading to parks, recreation facilities, and schools of all levels.

Although this is not the sole priority of this plan, the Village and county in partnership with Madison County Transit (MCT) can make these improvements.

The bicycle and pedestrian improvements, especially those addressing accessibility and connecting students to schools, can be funded through a variety of federal, local, and private sources.

Federal funds are well suited for higher cost infrastructure projects, such as sidewalks or shared-use paths. Improvements that involve mainly paint, such as shared lane markings and crosswalks, can be implemented through routine maintenance, set-aside funds, or grouped as one federal funding application with a governmental partner. The Village, county, and IDOT would plan for the cost of ongoing maintenance as part of capital improvements planning, as grants for maintenance are rare.

It is important to note that infrastructure for pedestrian, bicycles, trails, routes to schools can be used for both recreation and transportation by all ages – from school age children and teens to the region’s working citizens. Therefore, funding sources will differentiate for those purposes i.e. IDNR Bikeways Funds are used for recreation while IDOT Enhancements are used for transportation related projects and IDOT CMAQ funds are used for congestion/air quality mitigation.

Additionally, any lands with a public partner for acquisition and development should utilize the IDNR OSLAD/LAWCON programs whenever possible. Additionally, IDNR Bikeways funds could be used to help offset the local match necessary for the IDOT grant programs. Often MEPRD and Madison County have assisted municipalities with part of the match to either to IDNR or IDOT. Partners are a key to success.

State and Federal Funding Sources

The current federal transportation bills provides federal transportation policy and funding over long period. In addition to funding sources in transportation bills, there are other federal funding sources, which are described in the table on the following pages.

Please note, the grant sources administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation are now part of a single supply of funding that IDOT can participate/allocate on an optional basis due to the federal transportation bill. Availability will be determined annually by the state.

Local Funding Source Ideas For Pedestrian & Bicycle Connectivity

Many grants require local match. It is important to consider where that match is going to come from before applying for grant funding.

In addition to applying for MEPRD grants with the county and MCT as a partners, below are some ideas other cities are using throughout the region.

Local Option Economic Development Sales Taxes:

Cities in the state of Illinois have the option to impose a local sales tax up to 4.75% to be used to fund projects that could include pedestrian & bicycle, stormwater (curb and gutter), and other improvements related to economic development.

Capital Improvement Budget Set-Aside:

The Village or county could make a policy decision to set-aside a percentage of capital improvement budgets for watershed initiatives, but also to continue to expand and fund bicycle and pedestrian projects. These projects could be incorporated into scheduled road work to be stand alone projects. These funds can be leveraged as local match to secure federal funds.

	Grant Program	Type	Match Needed	Website:
Regional MPO (East - West Gateway Council of Governments)	Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)	Engineering Construction Right of way acquisition (ROW)	20%	http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/cmaq/ http://www.ewgateway.org/trans/TIP/CMAQ/cmaq.htm
	Surface Transportation Program (STP)	Construction	25%	http://www.ewgateway.org/trans/TIP/STP/stp.htm
	Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)	Engineering Construction ROW	20% 50%	http://www.ewgateway.org/trans/TIP/TAP/tap.htm
	Great Streets Initiative	Planning	20%	http://www.ewgateway.org/GreatStreets/greatstreets.htm
Illinois Department of Transportation	Illinois Transportation Enhancements Program (ITEP)	Engineering Construction ROW	20% 50%	www.dot.state.il.us/
	Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)	Engineering Construction	10%	www.dot.state.il.us/
	Safe Routes to School (SRTS)	Engineering Construction Encouragement, Enforcement, and Evaluation Programs	20%	www.dot.state.il.us/
	Scenic Byways	Engineering Construction ROW	20%	www.dot.state.il.us/
	Injury Prevention Program	Education Only		www.dot.state.il.us/
	Grade Crossing Protection	Engineering Construction ROW	15% - 40%	www.dot.state.il.us/
IDNR	Bike Path Grant Program	Acquisition & Construction		dnr.state.il.us/
	Open Space Lands Acquisition & Development (OSLAD)	Acquisition & Construction	min. 51%	dnr.state.il.us/
	Recreational Trails Program	Acquisition & Construction	20%	dnr.state.il.us/
Metro East Park & Recreation District	Park & Trail Grant	Acquisition Construction	60%	meprd.org/PDFs/MEPRD-FY18-Park-and-Trail-Grant-Program.pdf
	Event Sponsorship	Events	75%	meprd.org/PDFs/MEPRD-FY18-Event-Sponsorship-Grant-Program.pdf
Madison County	Park Enhancement Program	Acquisition Construction		www.co.madison.il.us
	Sustainability Grant	Planning Construction Programs		www.co.madison.il.us

	Grant Program	Type	Match Needed	Website:
Illinois Dept. of Commerce	Tourism Attraction Development Grant (TAP)	Construction	min. 51%	www.commerce.state.il.us/
	Community Development Assistance Program	Construction		www.commerce.state.il.us/
National Park Service	Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	Construction	min. 51%	www.nps.gov/ subjects/lwcf
	Preserve America Grant	Construction		www.nps.gov/preservation-grants/PreserveAmerica/
USDOT	Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)	Planning Construction	20%	www.transportation.gov/tiger
Private Foundations	People for Bikes Community Grants	Construction & Programs	min. 51%	www.peopleforbikes.org/
	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	Various Grants		www.rwjf.org/en/how-we-work/grants-and-grant-programs.html
	American Hiking Society's National Trails Fund			www.americanhiking.org/national-trails-fund/
	Walmart Foundation	\$250 - 2,500 through local stores		http://giving.walmart.com/foundation

6 Appendices

I. Community Survey Full Summary

II. Demographics:

 Summary for Godfrey, IL

 Radii Report for Godfrey, IL Service Area

III. NRPA Case Study Report for Godfrey, IL

IV. Glazebrook Park Expansion Plan - Available at the Parks Department

 Case Study - Size Comparison

 Design Development Drawings for Expansion Plan

 Construction Drawings Phase 1

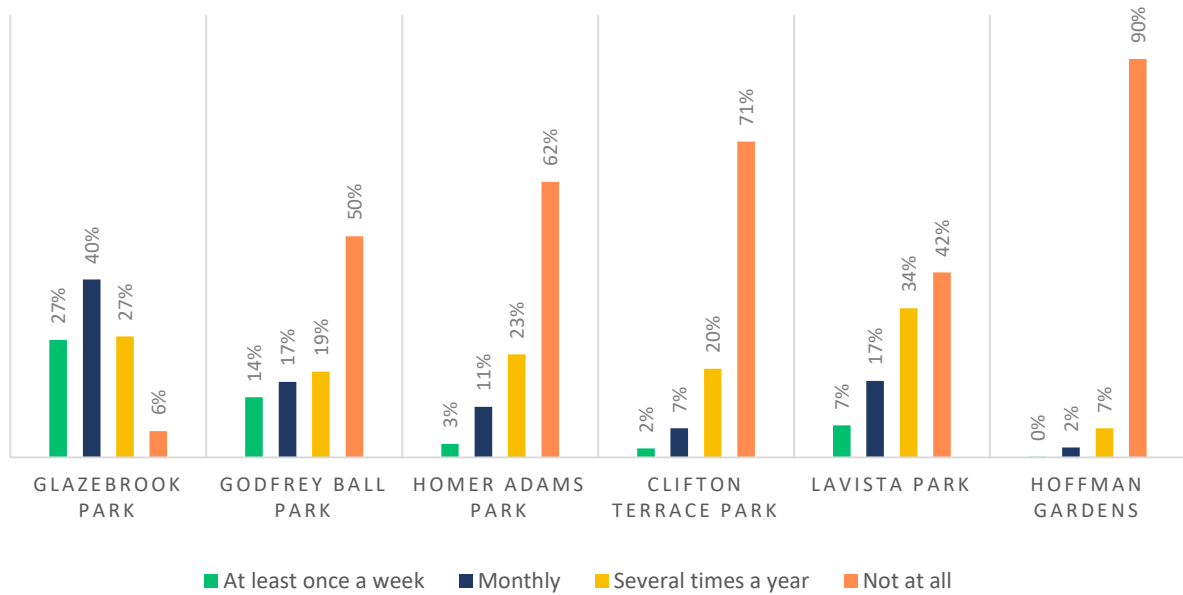
 Detailed costs for Phase 1 with Options

 Construction Bid Package

Park Use

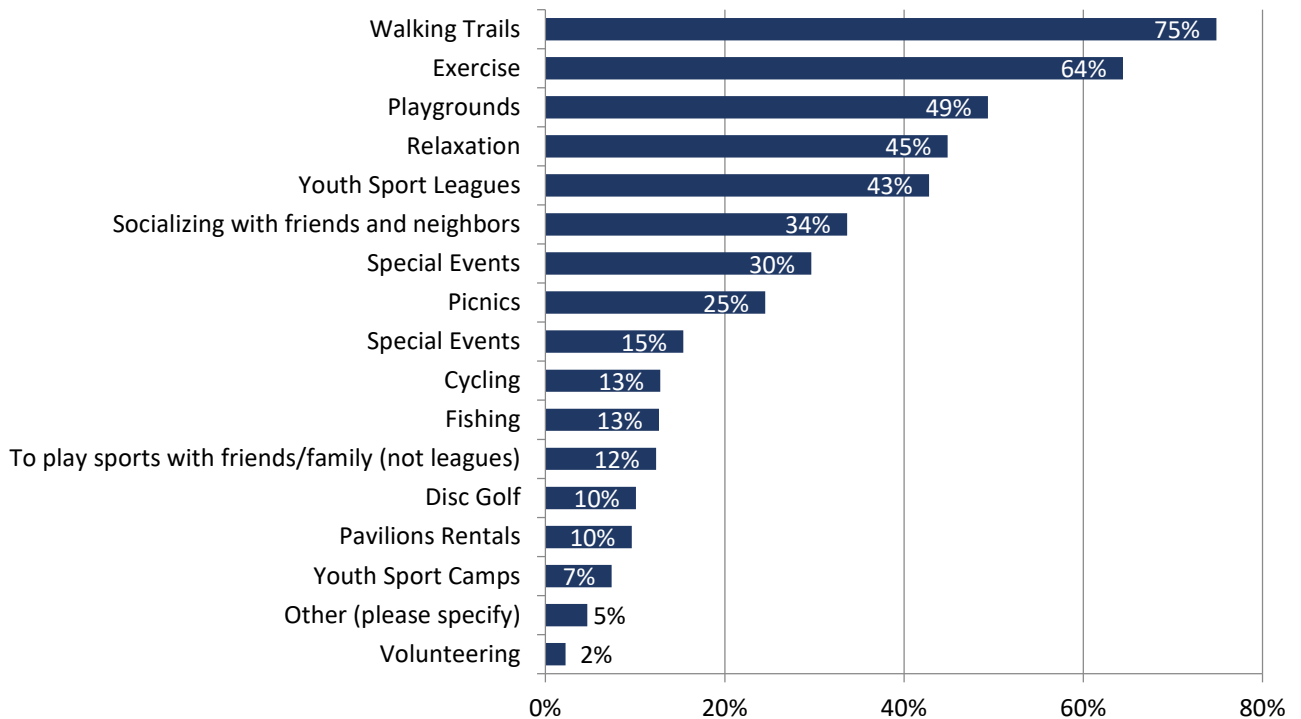
In the past year, how often have you or a member of your household visited these Godfrey Parks?

Glazebrook Park is the most visited park among survey respondents with 67% of them visiting the park at least once a month. Godfrey Ball Park, LaVista Park, and Homer Adams Park, respectively, are the next most visited Parks. Hoffman Gardens is the least visited park, with 90% of respondents never visiting.



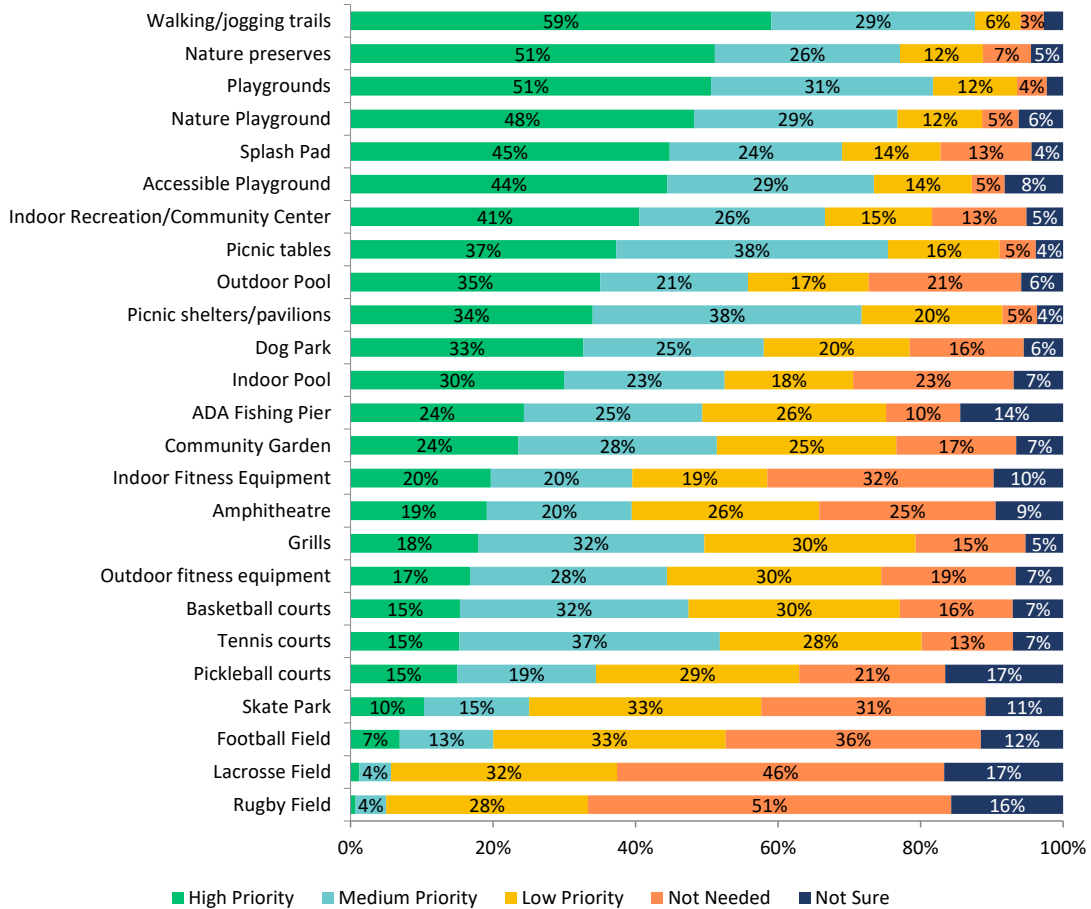
Why do you visit Godfrey Parks?

The most common reasons reported by respondents for visiting Godfrey parks were for: walking trails (75%), exercise (64%), playgrounds (49%), relaxation (45%), and youth sports (43%). Popular 'other' answers included walking dog(s), playing Pokemon Go, and nature viewing activities.



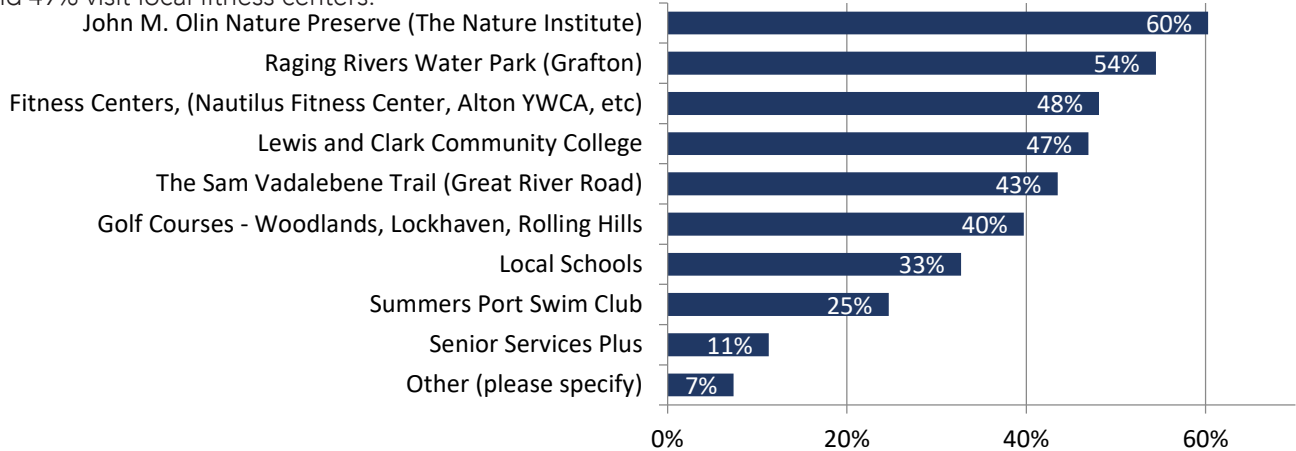
What amenities would you like to see added to our parks?

Walking/jogging trails, playgrounds, nature preserves, and splash pad were ranked as a high priority by the most survey respondents. In addition to these, accessible playgrounds, indoor recreation/community center, picnic tables, and shelters were ranked as high or medium priority by over 60% of respondents.



Do members of your household visit any of these parks or recreational facilities not owned by the Village of Godfrey to meet your needs?

Sixty percent of survey respondents also visit John M. Olin Nature Preserve for recreation, 54% visit Raging Rivers, and 49% visit local fitness centers.



Facility Conditions

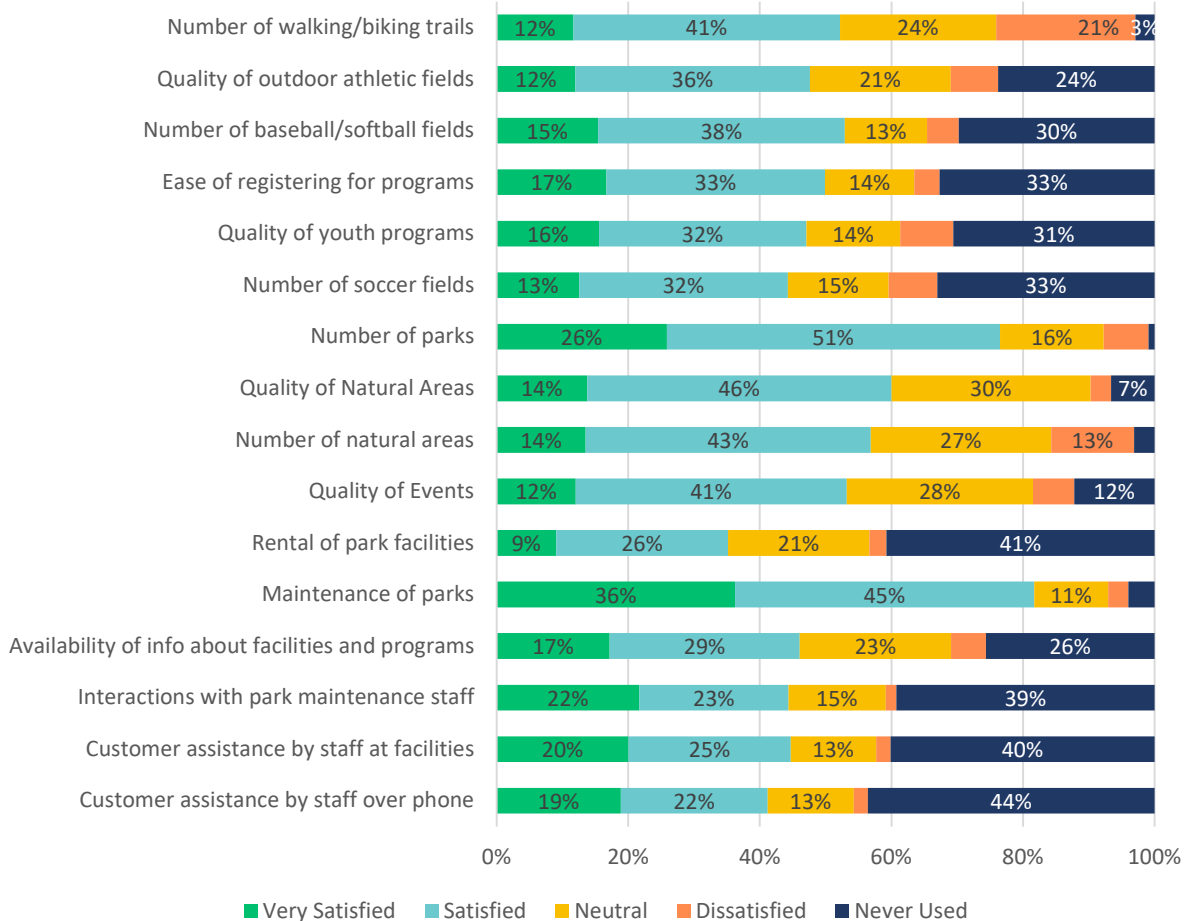
How would you rate the overall condition of facilities at each park?

Respondents were asked to rate the overall condition of facilities at each park on a scale from one (poor) to four (excellent). The chart below illustrates the average rating for each park. 'Unsure' responses were not included in the average. About 50% of respondents were 'unsure' about facilities Homer Adams and Clifton Terrace Parks, while 84% were 'unsure' about facilities at Hoffman Gardens. The average rating for most visited parks is excellent.



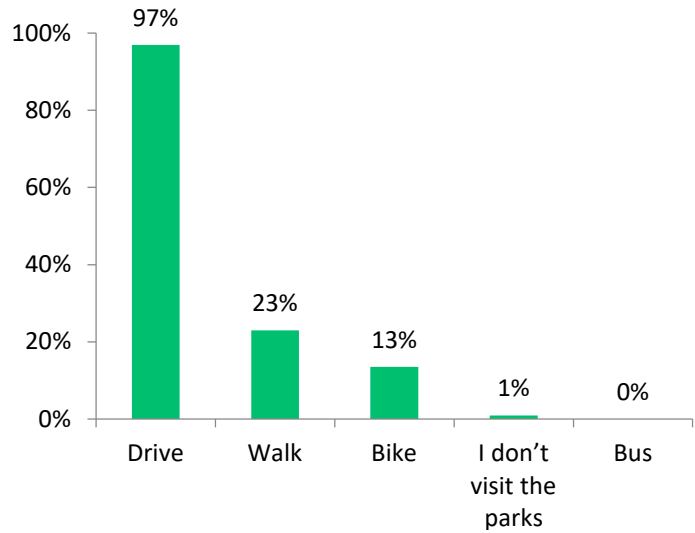
Rate your level of satisfaction with the following services provided by the Godfrey Parks and Recreation Department:

Respondents are most satisfied with the number of parks and maintenance of parks. Number of walking/biking trails and numbers of nature areas received the largest percentages of dissatisfied ratings.



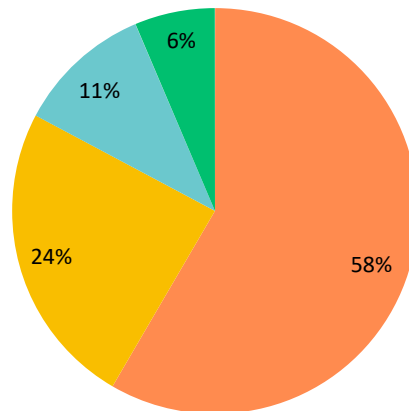
How do you get to our parks?

Most survey respondents access Godfrey parks by driving. Walking and biking are used occasionally.



I wish there was a park closer to my home. The nearest park is too far away.

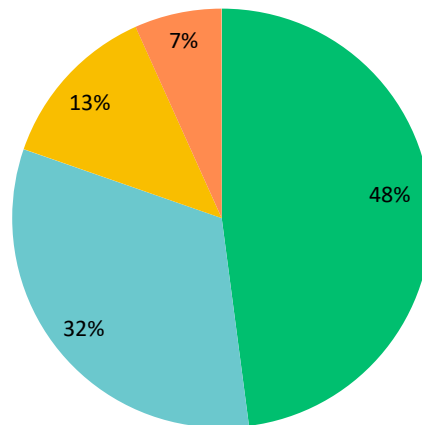
Most survey respondents answered that they disagree or feel neutral about this statement. Seventeen percent (17%) agree or strongly agree.



Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly agree

I think trail connections between parks and neighborhoods are important.

Eighty percent of respondents strongly agree or agree that links between neighborhood and parks are important. Only 7% of respondents disagreed with this statement.

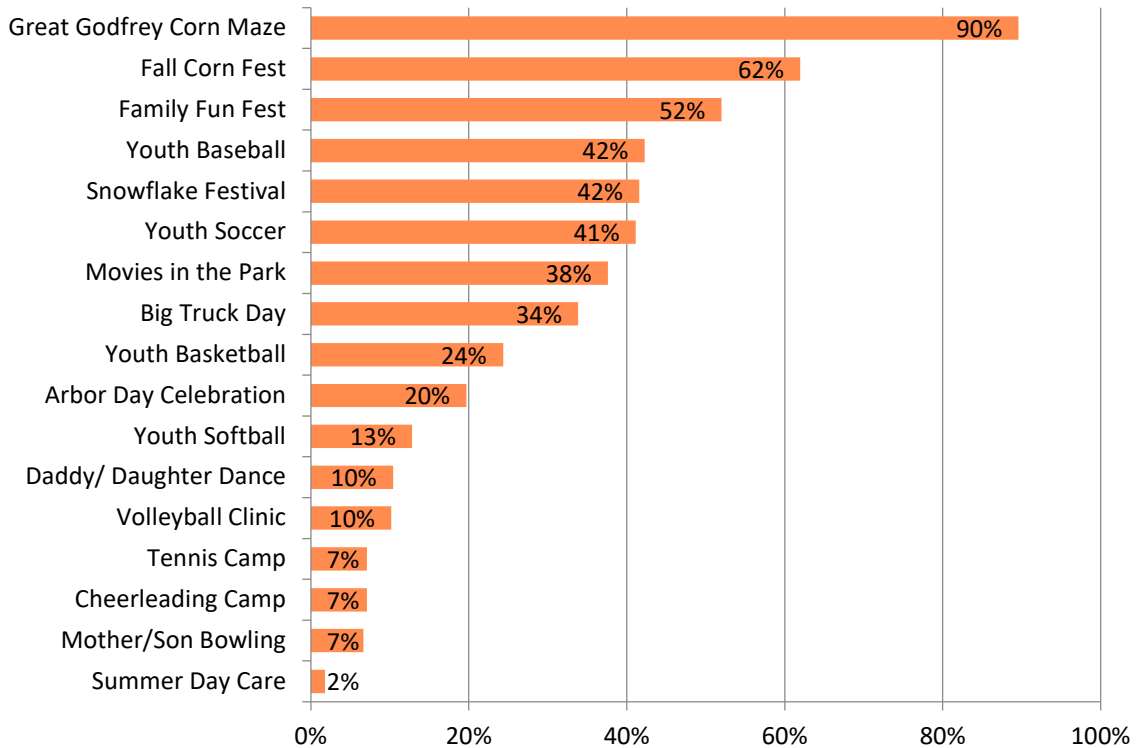


Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree

Programming

Prior to the corona virus pandemic, did you or members of your family participate in any of the following park programs and events?

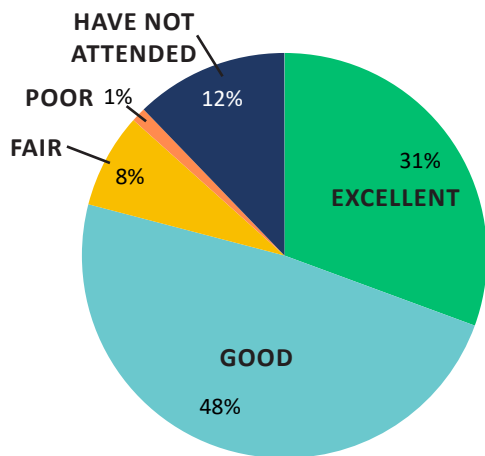
The Great Godfrey Corn Maze, Fall Corn Fest, and Family Fun Fest were the top three most attended programs among survey respondents. Summer Day Care was the least attended by respondents.



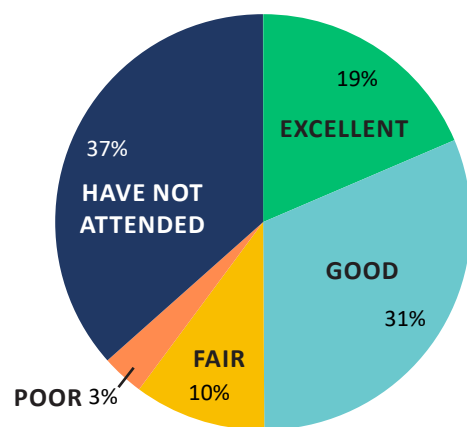
Which three programs or events are most important to your household?

When asked which of the programs and events in the chart above were the most important to their household, the top responses were; Great Godfrey Corn Maze (267), Youth Baseball (181), Youth Soccer (158), and Family Fun Fest (122).

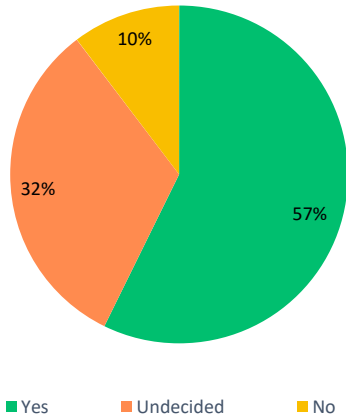
How would you rate the overall quality of Events members of your household have attended?



How would you rate the overall quality of Youth Sport Programs members of your household have participated in?

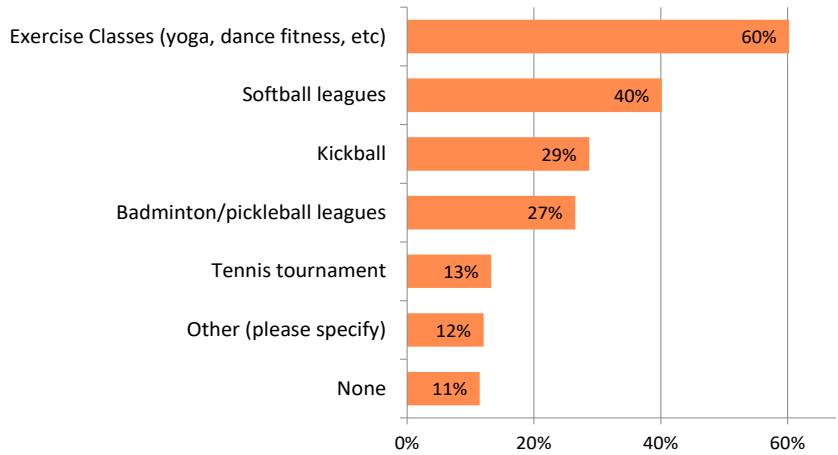


Should the Parks and Recreation Department consider providing more adult programs?

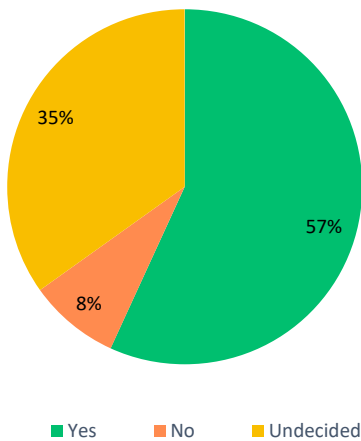


The majority of respondents said the Parks and Recreation Department should consider providing more adult programs, especially exercise classes. Softball leagues, kickball, badminton, and pickleball leagues ranked highly as other programs to be considered. Popular 'other' answers included: volleyball, disc golf leagues or tournaments, soccer league, and other intramural activities.

What types of adult programs should be considered?

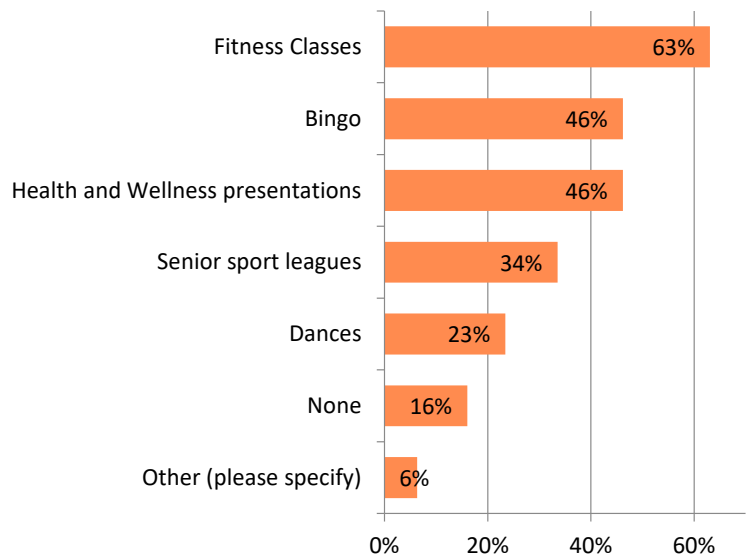


Should the Parks and Recreation Department consider providing more senior programs?



The majority of respondents said the Parks and Recreation Department should consider providing more senior programs especially fitness classes. Bingo, and health and wellness presentations ranked highly as other programs to be considered. Popular 'other' answers included: pickleball, walking groups, disc golf, and traditional golf.

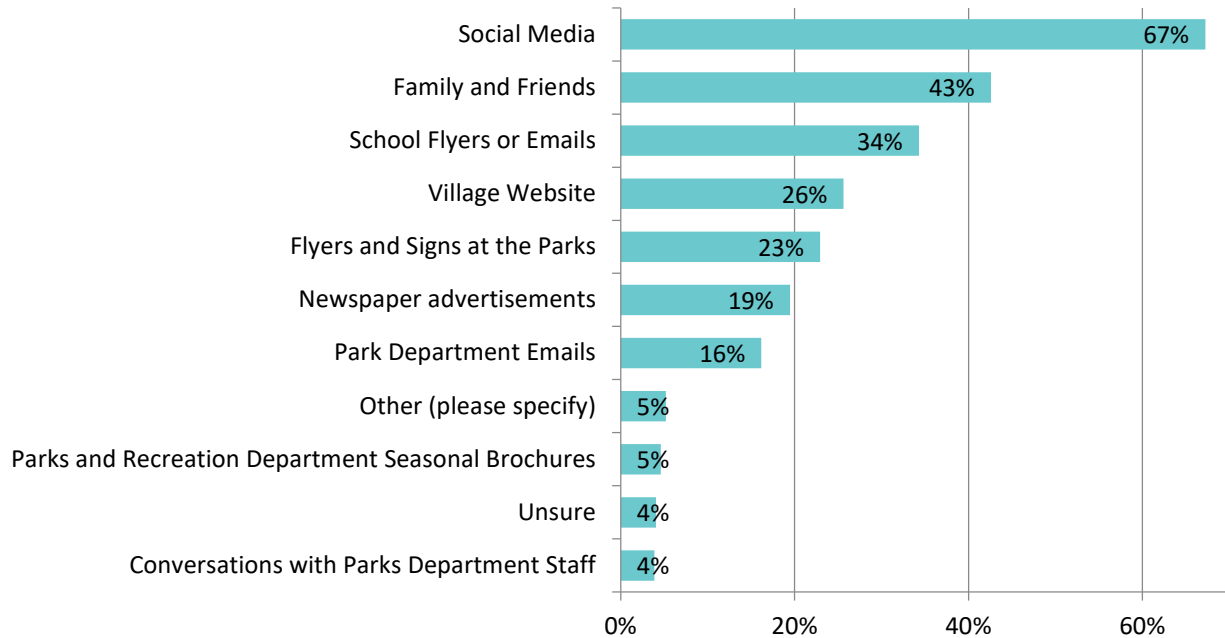
What types of senior programs should be considered?



Communications

How do you learn about Godfrey parks, events, and programs?

Survey respondents are primarily learning about Godfrey's parks, events and programs through social media, family and friends, and school fliers or emails.



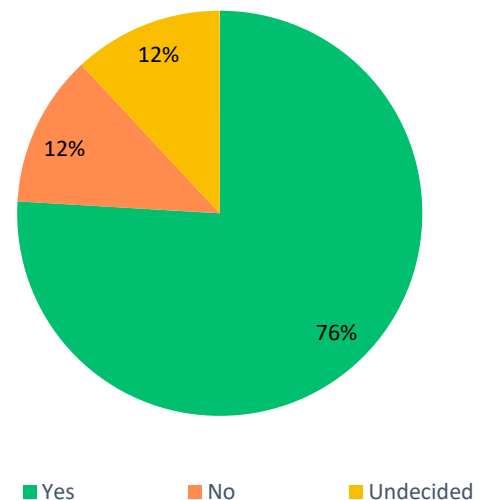
What is your preferred method of learning about Parks, Programs, and Events?

From the list above, respondents were asked to select their top two preferred methods of communication. Social media (69%), Park and Recreation Department emails (28%), school fliers or emails (24%), and the Village website (22%) were the highest ranking methods.

RECREATION CENTER

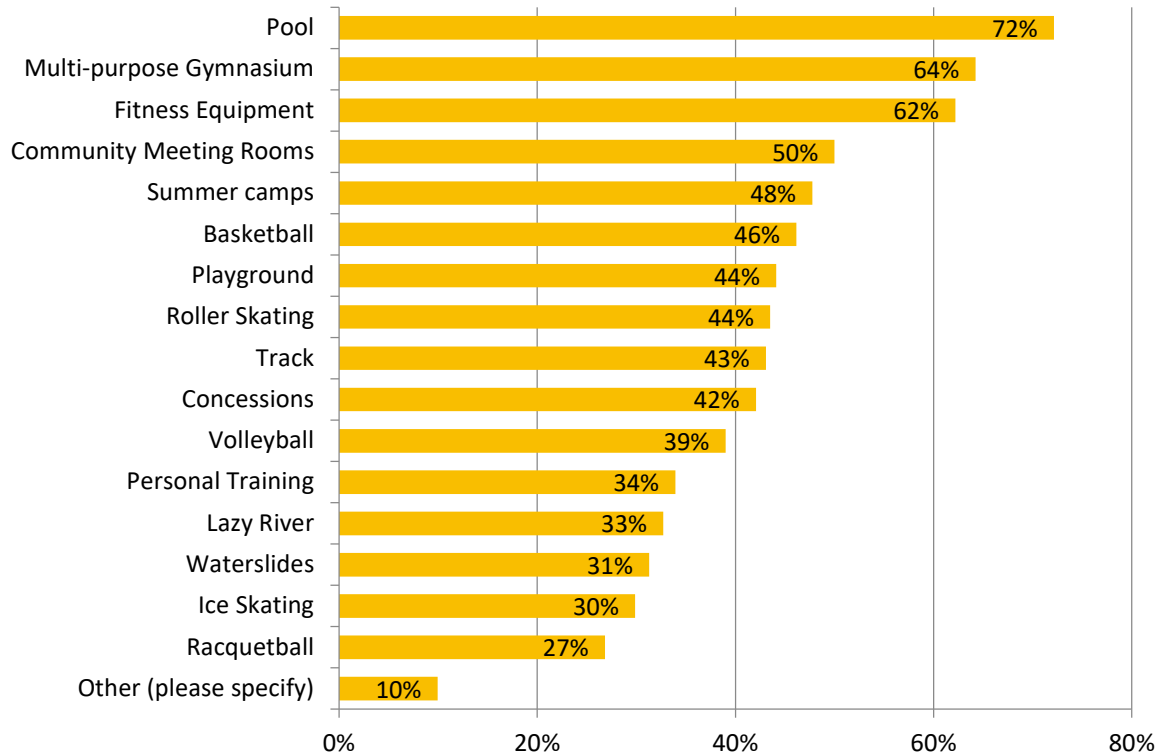
Do you think the Village of Godfrey should consider building an Indoor Recreation Center?

The majority (76%) of survey respondents think the Village of Godfrey should consider an indoor recreation center. Twelve percent (12%) are opposed to considering a Recreation Center and 12% are undecided.



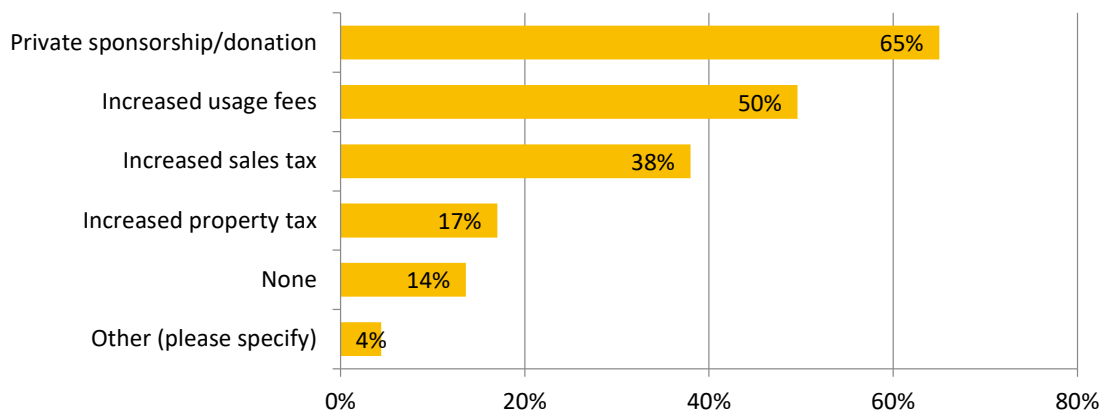
If there was an Indoor Recreation Center in Godfrey, what types of activities would you want to be included inside the building?

According to survey respondents, the most popular activities to be included in a new indoor recreation center are a pool, multi-purpose gym, and fitness equipment. Popular 'other' answers included pickleball/tennis, rock climbing, and indoor turf.



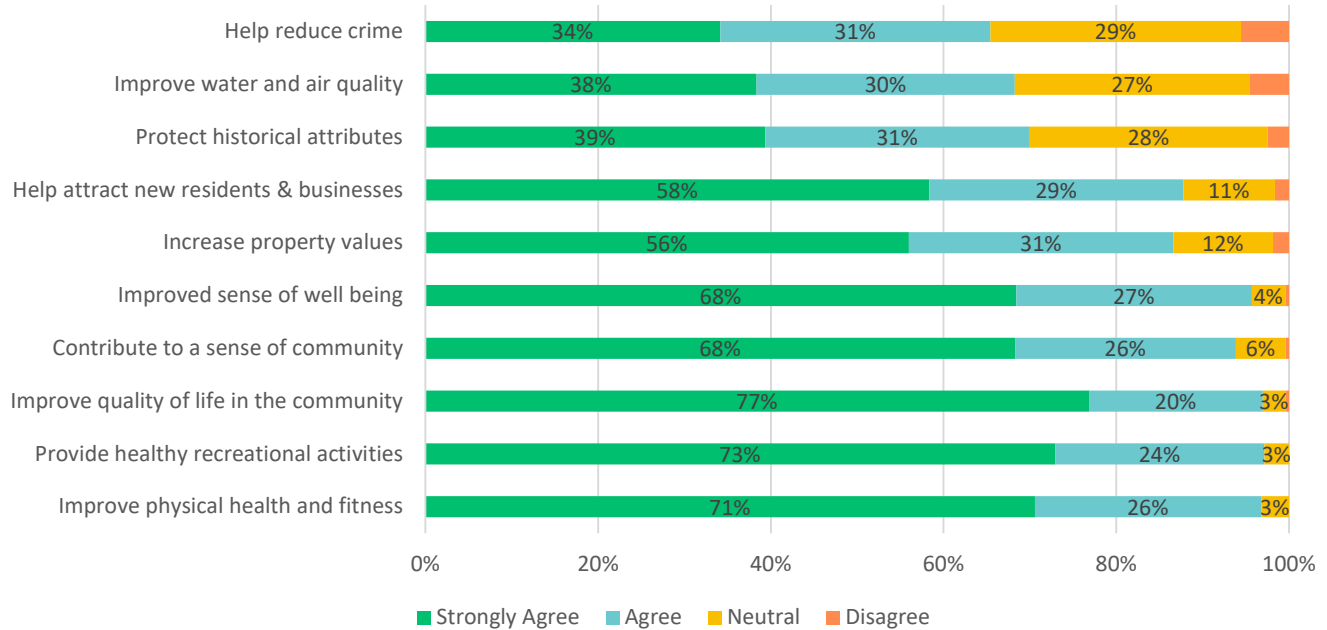
Would you support any of these funding sources to support construction and operation of an Indoor Recreation Center?

The most popular funding source among survey responses was private sponsorship/donation (65%), followed by increased usage fees (50%), and increased sales tax (38%).



Park & Recreation Values

Parks, natural areas, and recreation facilities are important to me because they:



Survey respondents were asked to rate how strongly they agree with each of the values of parks, natural areas, and recreation facilities listed in the chart above. Improve quality of life in the community, provide healthy recreational activities, and improve physical health were the values to which respondents most strongly agreed.

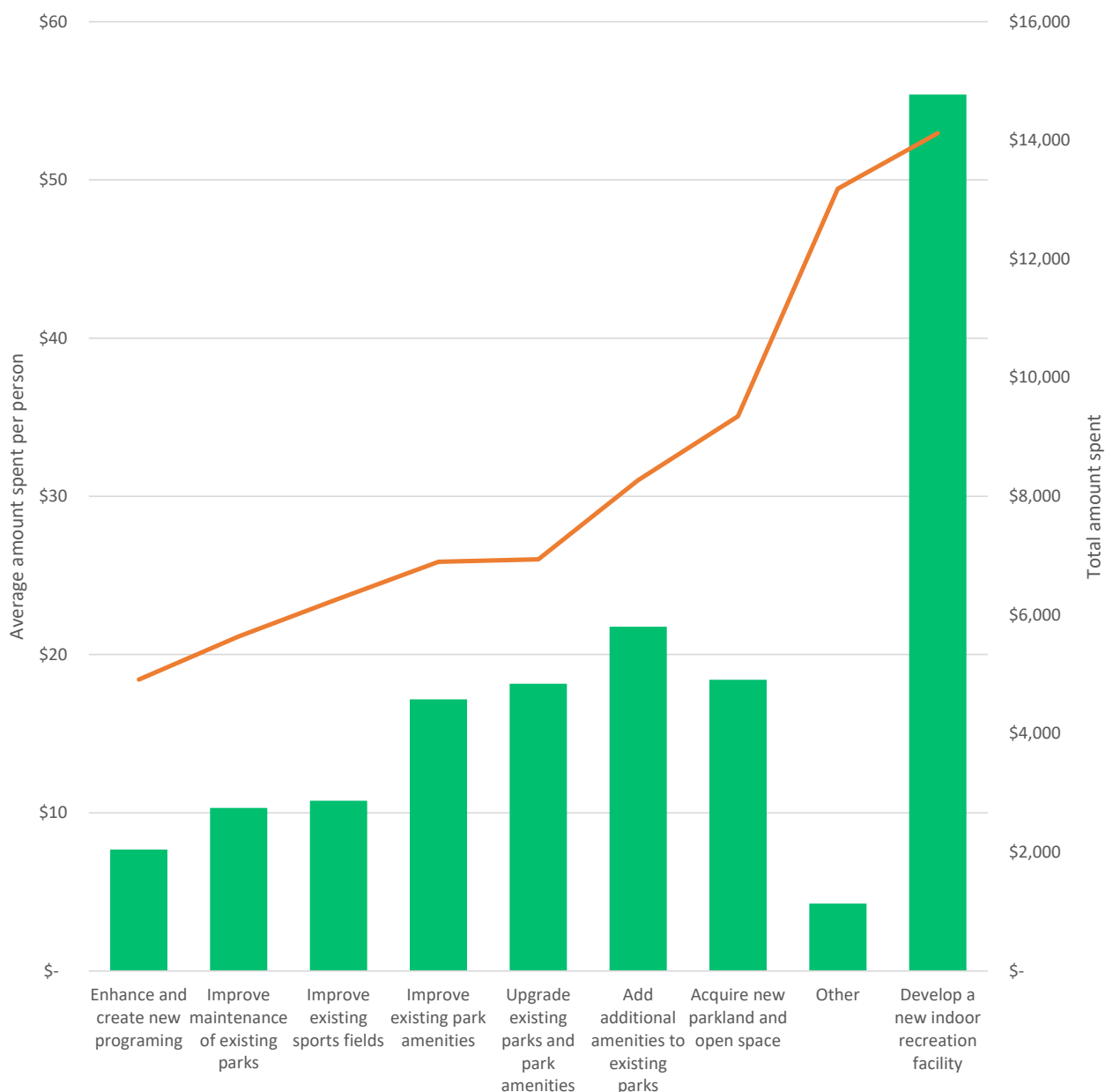
Which of the benefits listed above are most important for your household?

When asked which of the benefits listed above were the most important to the respondent's household, to provide healthy recreational activities was the most commonly choose benefit, followed by improve physical health and improve quality of life in the community.

If you had \$100 to spend on various services provided by the Parks and Recreations Department, how would you spend it?

Respondents were given a virtual \$100 sum and asked to divide it among the listed park services and improvements however they wished to spend it. In the chart below, the total amount spent per item is indicated by the green bars and the right axis. The left axis and orange line indicated the average spent per person on each issue.

Develop a new indoor recreation facility received the most total money and the highest spent per person average. Developing new programming had the lowest total and per person spent.



II. Demographics: Summary for Godfrey, IL

Summary for Godfrey, IL

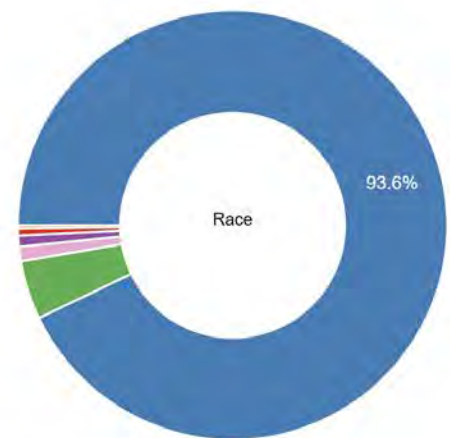
Radii Report for Godfrey, IL Service Area

Godfrey Population 2000-2021

Year ▼	Population	Growth	Annual Growth Rate
2021	17,180	-110	-0.64%
2020	17,290	-110	-0.63%
2019	17,400	-110	-0.63%
2018	17,510	-101	-0.57%
2017	17,611	-57	-0.32%
2016	17,668	-27	-0.15%
2015	17,695	-46	-0.26%
2014	17,741	-84	-0.47%
2013	17,825	-73	-0.41%
2012	17,898	-60	-0.33%
2011	17,958	-30	-0.17%

Population by Race

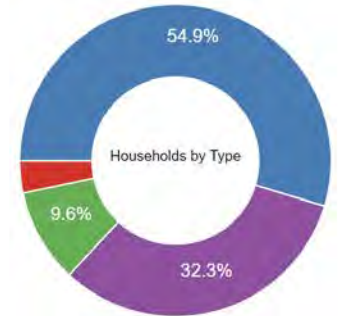
Race	Population ▼	Percentage
White	16,458	93.62%
Black or African American	756	4.30%
Two or More Races	164	0.93%
Asian	120	0.68%
Some Other Race	68	0.39%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	13	0.07%



■ White
 ■ Black or African American
 ■ Asian
 ■ Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
 ■ Some Other Race
 ■ Two or More Races

Households by Type

Type	Count	Average Size	Owned
All	7,524	2.31	81
Married	4,130	2.84	90.3
Non Family	2,429	1.19	68.1
Female	725	2.81	68.3
Male	240	2.91	89.6

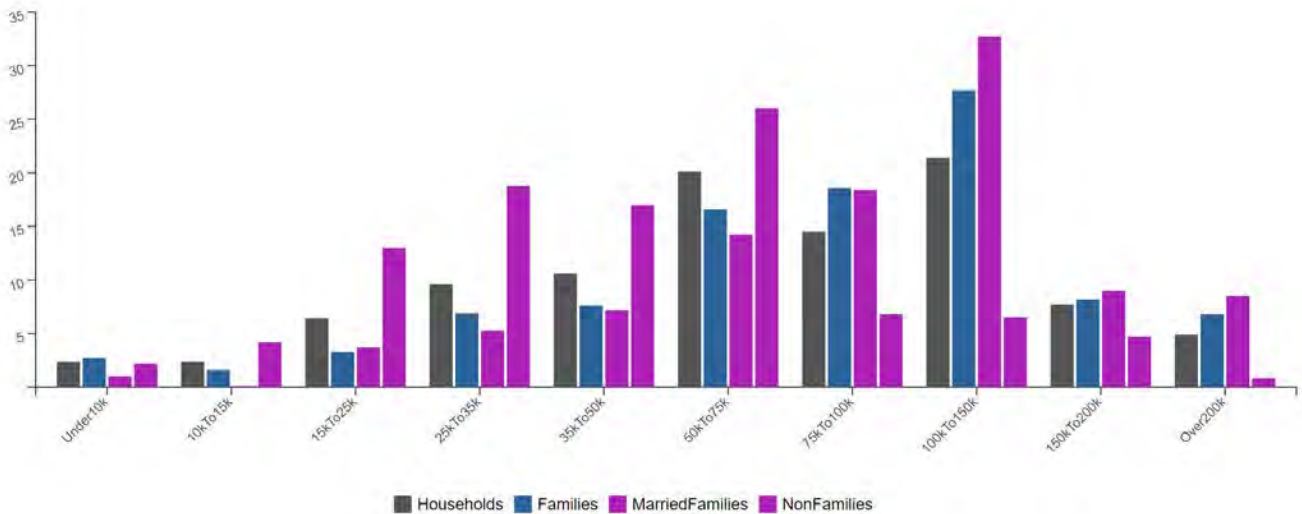


2.78 Average Family Size

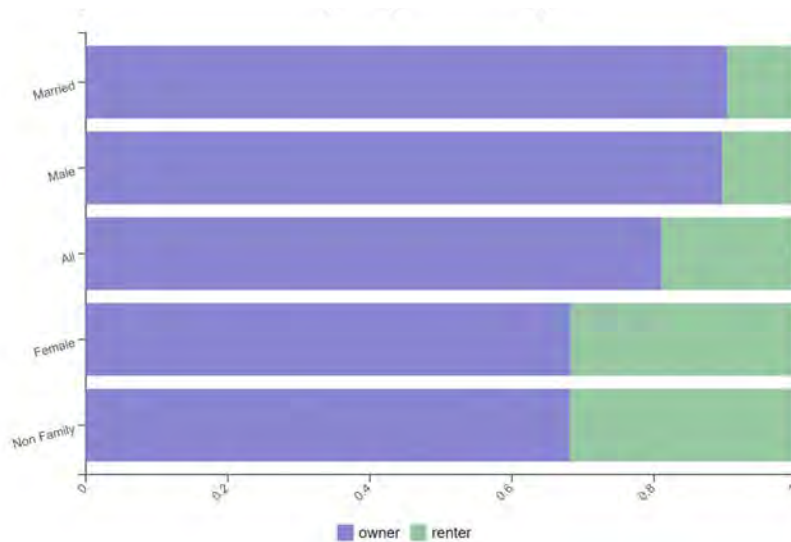
2.31 Average Household Size

Married Male Female NonFamily

Income by Household Type



Godfrey Renter vs Owner Occupied Households



Type	Owner	Renter
Non Family	68.1%	31.9%
Female	68.3%	31.7%
All	81%	19%
Male	89.6%	10.4%
Married	90.3%	9.7%

81.0% Rate of Home Ownership

Radius Report

for 5, 10, and 25 miles around Godfrey, IL

METHODOLOGY

First, a geographic information system (GIS) analysis calculates the project's radius(es). The GIS analysis then identifies the 2019 US Census Bureau Block Groups that intersect the project's radiuses. Then, the GIS analysis calculates the percent of each Block Group within each radius distance (overlap). Next, the overlap percent is multiplied by the demographics for each Block Group. Finally, the radius demographic estimate equals the sum of the overlap multiplied by the demographics for all Block Groups that intersect a radius.

The benefits of this methodology are that it allows for:

1. the use of the **most current data** for small area geographies from the US Census Bureau;
2. the estimation of demographics for radius distances using dissimilar shaped Census Block Groups; and
3. **data comparability** (because estimates for small radiuses and large radiuses use the same methodology, geographies and datasets).

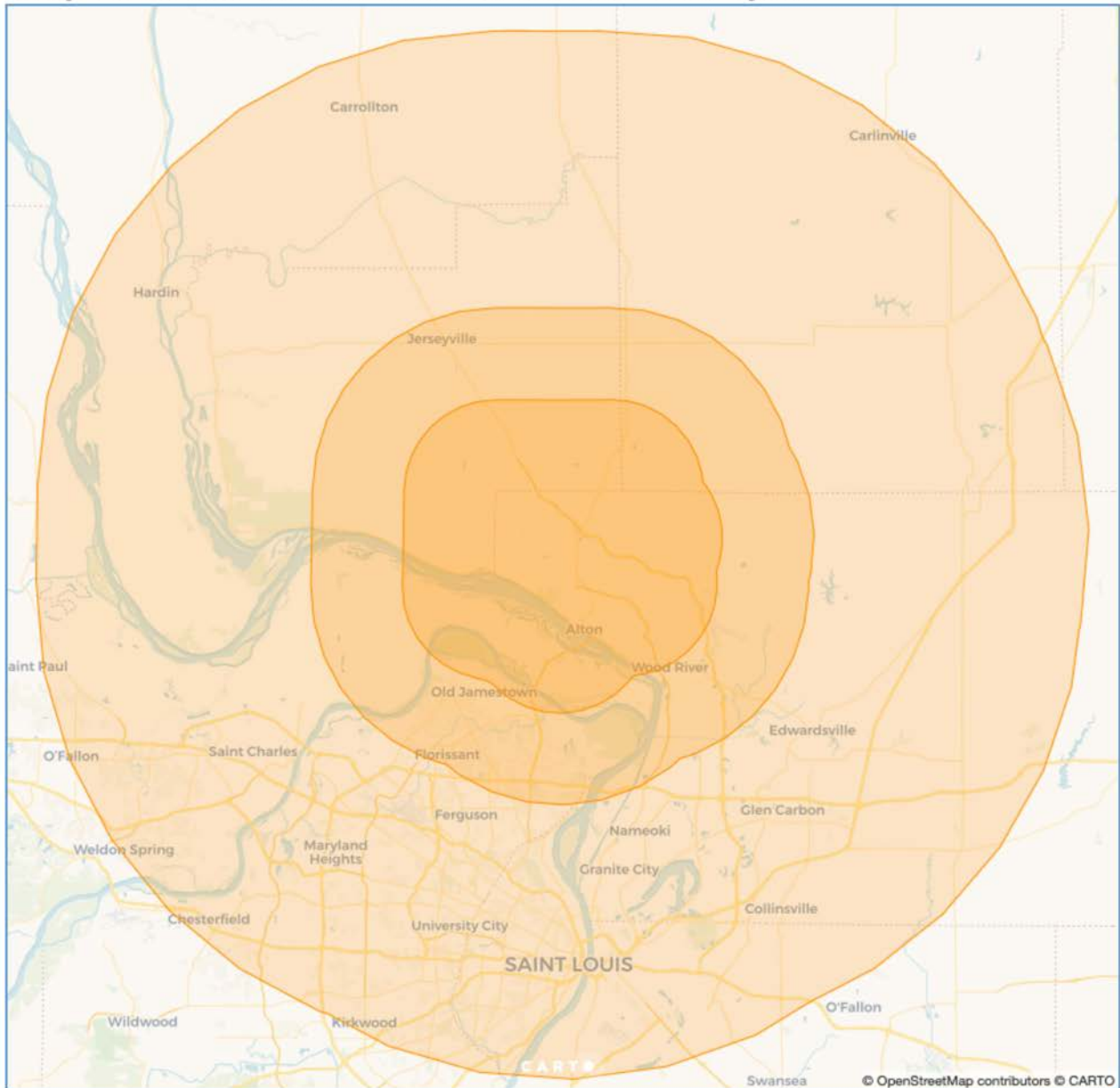
This methodology assumes that the **population is equally distributed** throughout a Block Group. This assumption can result in unlikely estimates for small radiuses (i.e. 1 mile) in rural areas with low population densities and thus, large geographic area Block Groups.

If you have any questions, you can reach Cubit at 1.800.939.2130 or at www.cubitplanning.com.

CUBIT

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Map of 5, 10, and 25 miles around Godfrey, IL



Demographics

Population

	5 miles	10 miles	25 miles
Total Population	82,256	262,210	1,623,860

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B01003

Age Breakdown

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Total Population	82,256		262,210		1,623,860	
9 & under	9,119	11%	33,297	13%	193,584	12%
10 to 19	9,529	12%	35,166	13%	198,623	12%
20 to 29	9,606	12%	33,821	13%	230,978	14%
30 to 39	10,094	12%	31,721	12%	220,586	14%
40 to 49	9,939	12%	31,262	12%	190,860	12%
50 to 59	12,071	15%	35,679	14%	220,563	14%
60 to 69	11,258	14%	31,952	12%	194,292	12%
70 & over	10,639	13%	29,312	11%	174,374	11%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B01001

Race & Ethnicity

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Total Population	82,256		262,210		1,623,860	
White	68,293	83%	152,823	58%	1,007,649	62%
Black	10,085	12%	94,548	36%	466,321	29%
American Indian	81	0%	239	0%	2,944	0%
Asian	500	1%	2,146	1%	49,316	3%
Pacific Islander	13	0%	54	0%	521	0%
Other race	51	0%	631	0%	3,905	0%
Two or more races	2,093	3%	7,484	3%	37,166	2%
Hispanic	1,139	1%	4,286	2%	56,039	3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B03002

Age by Gender Breakdown

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Total Population	43,721		104,957		1,136,468	
Total Male	21,223	49%	51,415	49%	540,522	48%
Male - 9 & under	2,784	6%	5,887	6%	68,739	6%
Male - 10 to 19	2,508	6%	6,794	6%	69,555	6%
Male - 20 to 29	2,690	6%	6,487	6%	85,315	8%
Male - 30 to 39	2,557	6%	6,345	6%	73,264	6%
Male - 40 to 49	2,425	6%	6,485	6%	61,584	5%
Male - 50 to 59	2,931	7%	7,374	7%	71,518	6%
Male - 60 to 69	2,825	6%	6,329	6%	62,717	6%
Male - 70 & over	2,502	6%	5,714	5%	47,829	4%
Total Female	22,497	51%	53,542	51%	595,946	52%
Female - 9 & under	2,203	5%	5,945	6%	65,344	6%
Female - 10 to 19	2,421	6%	5,609	5%	68,337	6%
Female - 20 to 29	1,947	4%	5,953	6%	90,690	8%
Female - 30 to 39	2,855	7%	6,609	6%	78,636	7%
Female - 40 to 49	2,736	6%	6,375	6%	68,809	6%
Female - 50 to 59	3,240	7%	7,775	7%	79,339	7%
Female - 60 to 69	3,410	8%	7,556	7%	71,993	6%
Female - 70 & over	3,685	8%	7,719	7%	72,799	6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B01001, B01003

Income

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Median Household Income (in 2019 inflation adjusted dollars)	\$54,915		\$57,712		\$53,696	
Households	18,806		43,714		475,945	
Less than \$25,000	3,865	21%	8,856	20%	109,846	23%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	4,704	25%	10,106	23%	113,849	24%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	3,470	18%	8,314	19%	86,004	18%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	2,373	13%	5,916	14%	56,431	12%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	3,768	20%	9,255	21%	85,822	18%
\$200,000 or more	626	3%	1,266	3%	23,993	5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B19001, B19013

Households

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Total Households	18,807		43,714		475,945	
Family households	11,577	62%	27,609	63%	273,864	58%
Married couple family	8,122	43%	19,927	46%	175,537	37%
With own children under 18	2,497	13%	6,600	15%	62,343	13%
Other family	3,455	18%	7,682	18%	98,326	21%
Single male householder with own children under 18	333	2%	784	2%	9,673	2%
Single female householder with own children under 18	1,833	10%	3,717	9%	41,443	9%
Nonfamily households	7,230	38%	16,105	37%	202,082	42%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B11001, B11003

Educational Attainment

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Total Population 25 years & Over	31,854		75,224		780,959	
No high school diploma	2,184	7%	5,940	8%	71,601	9%
High school graduate or equal	8,919	28%	24,177	32%	210,887	27%
Some college	9,132	29%	19,781	26%	181,909	23%
Associate's degree	3,463	11%	8,431	11%	66,626	9%
Bachelor's degree	4,824	15%	10,626	14%	142,196	18%
Masters, doctorate, professional	3,334	10%	6,268	8%	107,739	14%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B15002

Employment Status

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Total Population 16 years & Over	35,535		85,317		921,262	
In labor force	22,028	62%	53,217	62%	592,825	64%
Civilian labor force	22,024	62%	53,203	62%	591,883	64%
Employed	20,718	58%	49,984	59%	554,425	60%
Unemployed	1,306	4%	3,219	4%	37,458	4%
In armed forces	4	0%	14	0%	941	0%
Not in labor force	13,507	38%	32,100	38%	328,437	36%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B03025

Housing Units

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Housing Units	21,102		49,289		550,663	
Occupied Housing Units	18,807		43,714		475,945	
Owner occupied units	13,474	72%	32,032	73%	281,078	59%
Renter occupied units	5,333	28%	11,682	27%	194,867	41%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B25024, B25003

Housing Unit Value

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Owner Occupied Housing Units	13,474		32,032		281,078	
Less than \$100,000	5,338	40%	13,092	41%	101,793	36%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	5,375	40%	12,031	38%	97,114	35%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	1,796	13%	4,619	14%	44,572	16%
\$300,000 to \$399,999	545	4%	1,328	4%	17,463	6%
\$400,000 to \$499,999	189	1%	414	1%	6,720	2%
\$500,000 or more	232	2%	547	2%	13,415	5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B25075

Detailed Age Breakdown

	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Total Population	43,721		104,957		1,136,468	
Male	21,223	49%	51,415	49%	540,522	48%
Under 5 years	1,274	3%	2,739	3%	34,849	3%
5 to 9 years	1,511	3%	3,148	3%	33,890	3%
10 to 14 years	1,172	3%	3,415	3%	34,731	3%
15 to 17 years	892	2%	2,229	2%	20,272	2%
18 and 19 years	444	1%	1,150	1%	14,553	1%
20 years	250	1%	618	1%	8,152	1%
21 years	323	1%	790	1%	8,355	1%
22 to 24 years	630	1%	1,590	2%	23,061	2%
25 to 29 years	1,487	3%	3,489	3%	45,748	4%
30 to 34 years	1,421	3%	3,526	3%	39,792	4%
35 to 39 years	1,137	3%	2,819	3%	33,472	3%
40 to 44 years	1,247	3%	3,179	3%	30,551	3%
45 to 49 years	1,178	3%	3,306	3%	31,033	3%
50 to 54 years	1,520	3%	3,565	3%	34,445	3%
55 to 59 years	1,410	3%	3,809	4%	37,073	3%
60 and 61 years	867	2%	1,899	2%	15,823	1%
62 to 64 years	872	2%	1,790	2%	20,508	2%
65 and 66 years	472	1%	1,250	1%	11,418	1%
67 to 69 years	615	1%	1,389	1%	14,967	1%
70 to 74 years	860	2%	2,239	2%	19,126	2%
75 to 79 years	704	2%	1,657	2%	12,601	1%
80 to 84 years	525	1%	901	1%	7,955	1%
85 years and over	414	1%	917	1%	8,147	1%
	5 miles		10 miles		25 miles	
Female:	22,497	51%	53,542	51%	595,946	52%
Under 5 years	1,100	3%	2,886	3%	33,387	3%
5 to 9 years	1,103	3%	3,059	3%	31,957	3%
10 to 14 years	1,551	4%	3,232	3%	33,200	3%
15 to 17 years	600	1%	1,639	2%	20,132	2%
18 and 19 years	271	1%	738	1%	15,005	1%
20 years	118	0%	520	0%	8,466	1%
21 years	157	0%	468	0%	9,087	1%
22 to 24 years	473	1%	1,511	1%	26,413	2%
25 to 29 years	1,200	3%	3,453	3%	46,724	4%
30 to 34 years	1,598	4%	3,517	3%	41,474	4%
35 to 39 years	1,257	3%	3,092	3%	37,162	3%
40 to 44 years	1,410	3%	3,115	3%	34,162	3%
45 to 49 years	1,326	3%	3,260	3%	34,647	3%
50 to 54 years	1,489	3%	3,977	4%	38,359	3%
55 to 59 years	1,751	4%	3,798	4%	40,981	4%
60 and 61 years	799	2%	1,695	2%	16,850	1%
62 to 64 years	1,072	2%	2,316	2%	22,786	2%
65 and 66 years	596	1%	1,525	1%	13,733	1%
67 to 69 years	943	2%	2,021	2%	18,624	2%
70 to 74 years	998	2%	2,407	2%	24,277	2%
75 to 79 years	1,164	3%	2,077	2%	18,645	2%
80 to 84 years	580	1%	1,420	1%	13,395	1%
85 years and over	943	2%	1,815	2%	16,483	1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, Tables B01001, B01003. The numbers in the above table may not total up due to rounding.

POPULATION PROJECTIONS

State and county population projections.

	2000	2010	2020	2030	% Population Change			% Population Change 2020-2030
					2000-2010	2010-2020	2020-2030	
Illinois	12,419,293	12,830,632	14,316,487	15,138,849				6%
Calhoun County	5,084	5,089	5,260	5,572				6%
Greene County	14,761	13,886	14,872	14,958				1%
Jersey County	21,668	22,985	28,280	31,071				10%
Macoupin County	49,019	47,765	55,948	59,442				6%
Madison County	258,941	269,282	285,586	296,342				4%
St. Clair County	256,082	270,056	253,924	243,453				-4%

Source: Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, DCEO County Population Projections, August 2017

	2000	2010	2020	2030	% Population Change			% Population Change 2020-2030
					2000-2010	2010-2020	2020-2030	
Missouri	5,595,211	5,988,927	6,389,850	6,746,762				6%
St. Charles County	283,883	360,485	439,068	499,126				14%
St. Louis County	1,016,315	998,954	967,196	956,817				-1%
St. Louis city	348,189	319,294	350,385	349,004				0%

Source: Missouri Office of Administration, Division of Budget & Planning, Population Projections by County, Age, and Sex, 2000 to 2030, 2008.

III. NRPA Case Study Report for Godfrey, IL

GODFREY/NRPA CASE STUDY COMPARISONS 2021

Agency	Year	Region	Which of the following best describes your agency/department's jurisdiction type?	If 'Other,' please describe:	What was your jurisdiction's total annual operating and capital budget?	a. Current Year Jurisdiction total operating budget	b. Current Year Jurisdiction annual capital budget	Please estimate the square mileage and population of the incorporated jurisdiction your agency serves.	a. Square mileage of incorporated jurisdiction	b. Population of jurisdiction	Jurisdiction State/Province	Agency Operations	What were the total operating expenditures for your agency during Current Fiscal Year?	Percentage of agency's total operating expenditures for the following categories:
Maryville Parks & Recreation, MO	2020	MO	City			\$1,301,439	\$8,000		6	11,972	MO		\$1,277,402	
Wildwood, MO	2020	MO	City			\$11,268,179	\$5,760,825		68	35,000	MO			
Union Parks & Recreation, MO	2021	MO	City			\$190,142,219			916	11,990	MO		\$1,544,100	
Collinsville Parks & Recreation, IL	2021	IL	City			\$28,400,000	\$2,600,000		15	25,579	IL		\$2,102,000	
Godfrey Parks & Recreation, IL	2021	IL	Village			\$9,957,174	\$6,738,500		36	17,900	IL		\$3,218,674	
Olivette Park & Recreation, MO	2021	MO	City			\$10,005,325	\$2,968,100		3	8,504	MO		\$2,155,770	
Ballwin Parks & Recreation, MO	2021	MO	City			\$5,000,000	\$5,600,000		10	31,103	MO			
Brentwood Parks & Recreation, MO	2021	MO	City			\$2,892,726	\$670,841		2	8,055	MO		\$2,892,726	

GODFREY/NRPA CASE STUDY COMPARISONS 2021

a. Parks	b. Recreation	c. Other	Please estimate the percentage of your agency's total operating expenditures for each of the following categories.	a. Personnel services	b. Operating expenses	c. Capital expense not in CIP	Please estimate the percentage of your agency's total operating expenditures from each of the following sources.	a. General fund tax support	b. Dedicated levies	c. Earned/generated revenue	d. Other dedicated taxes	e. Sponsorships	f. Grants	g. Other (describe below)	If 'Other,' please describe:
45.0%	55.0%			60.0%	40.0%			0.0%	60.0%	40.0%	0.0%				
39.0%	13.0%	48.0%		56.0%	44.0%			56.0%		18.0%	24.0%		2.0%		
38.5%	9.6%	51.9%		73.0%	27.0%	0.0%		52.0%		48.0%					
7.1%	23.2%	69.7%		59.2%	40.8%	0.0%		50.1%	2.6%	13.5%		0.4%	33.4%		
40.0%	60.0%			58.0%	42.0%			37.0%	44.0%	19.0%					
28.0%	72.0%	0.0%		60.0%	20.0%	20.0%		0.0%	78.0%	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	Items such as sales of City property, interest income and insurance premium returns

GODFREY/NRPA CASE STUDY COMPARISONS 2021

Please estimate your agency's TOTAL non-tax revenues for Fiscal Year Current Year.	Capital Budget	What is your agency's total capital budget for the next 5 years? What was the total capital budget for Current Fiscal Year?	a. Capital budget for next 5 years	b. Capital budget for Current Fiscal Year	What percentage of your agency's current fiscal year's capital budget was designated for the following purposes?	a. Bonds (general obligation and/or revenue) tied directly to the park and recreation agencies	b. Bonds (general obligation and/or revenue) tied to my jurisdiction (e.g., city, town, county)	c. Federal and/or state grants	d. Nonprofit group grants/fundraising (e.g., friends groups, foundations)	e. Private sector grants/gifts raised directly by the park and recreation agency	f. General fund tax support	g. Other (specify below)	If 'Other,' please describe:	What percentage of your agency's current fiscal year's capital budget was designated for the following purposes?
\$415,034			\$250,000	\$8,000					100.0%					
\$289,000														
\$1,013,072			\$6,652,500	\$2,033,000		0.0%	0.0%	40.3%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	58.0%	Special revenue funds: business districts, hotel motel taxes	
\$281,500			\$10,000,000	\$6,738,500				22.0%			64.0%	14.0%	Previous balance and interest income	
\$222,000			\$16,299,300	\$1,003,200			90.0%				10.0%			
\$986,513			\$1,728,170	\$611,160		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%		

GODFREY/NRPA CASE STUDY COMPARISONS 2021

a. Renovation	b. New Development	c. Acquisition	d. Other	If 'Other,' please describe:	Value of deferred maintenance projects your agency faces. Includes repairs & maint. of your agency's infrastructure.	What is the dollar value of... for your agency?	a. Value of general obligation bonds authorized in Current Year	b. Value of revenue bonds authorized in Current Year	Personnel	Please enter the number of funded employees at your agency.	a. Number of full-time employees	b. Number of non-full-time employees	c. Total annual hours worked by non-full-time employees	d. Total number of full-time equivalent employees (FTEs)	What percentage of your total full-time FTEs are involved in the following operational areas?	a. Administration	b. Operations/Maintenance	c. Programmers
					\$250,000		\$0	\$0			9	75	18,000	18		22.5%	55.0%	22.5%
											9	65	17,120	17		10.0%	70.0%	20.0%
76.2%	0.0%		23.8%	Equipment, Vehicles and Planning	\$90,000		\$0	\$0			12	150	120,000	70		5.0%	75.0%	20.0%
32.0%	68.0%	0.0%			\$0		\$0	\$0			31	58	9,318	35		34.0%	28.0%	6.0%
	100.0%				\$0	\$16,100,000					9	15	4,000	11		20.0%	45.5%	34.0%
											22	150	55,000	48				
100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%		\$0		\$0	\$0			21	50	15,223	28		15.0%	24.0%	61.0%

GODFREY/NRPA CASE STUDY COMPARISONS 2021

d. Capital development	e. Other	Estimate the number of volunteers and the number of hours worked by the volunteers at your agency in fiscal year Current Year.	a. Number of volunteers	b. Total hours worked by volunteers	Are at least some percentage of your agency's staff covered by collective bargaining (i.e., are union members)?	Agency Responsibilities	Responsibilities can vary greatly by agency. Does your agency ...	a. Operate and maintain park sites	b. Operate and maintain indoor facilities	c. Operate, maintain, or contract golf courses	d. Operate, maintain, or contract campgrounds	e. Operate, maintain, or contract indoor swim facilities/water parks	f. Operate, maintain, or contract outdoor swim facilities/water parks	g. Operate, maintain, or contract racquet sport activities/courts/facilities	h. Operate, maintain, or contract tourism attractions	i. Provide recreation programming and services	j. Operate and maintain non-park sites	k. Operate, maintain, or manage trails, greenways, and/or blueways (TGB)	l. Operate, maintain, or manage special purpose parks and open spaces	m. Manage or maintain fairgrounds
			100	2,500	No			Yes	Yes				Yes		Yes	Yes			Yes	
			30	200	No			Yes	Yes				Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
			895	3,106	No			Yes	Yes				Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	32.0%		10	5,000	Yes			Yes	Yes					Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	
0.5%			126	2,750	No			Yes	Yes							Yes	Yes	Yes		
0.0%	0.0%		0	0	No			Yes	Yes							Yes	Yes	Yes		

GODFREY/NRPA CASE STUDY COMPARISONS 2021

n. Maintain, manage or lease indoor performing arts center	o. Administer or manage farmer's markets	p. Administer community gardens	q. Manage large performance outdoor amphitheaters	r. Administer or manage professional or college-type stadium/arena/racetrack	s. Administer or manage tournament/event quality indoor sports complexes	t. Administer or manage tournament/event quality outdoor sports complexes	u. Conduct major jurisdiction wide special events	v. Have budgetary responsibility for its administrative staff	w. Include in its operating budget the funding for planning and development functions	x. Operate, maintain or contract marinas	y. Maintain or manage beaches (inclusive of all waterbody types)	Workload	How many individual parks or non-park sites does your department/agency maintain and/or have management responsibility over?	a. Total number of parks	b. Total park acres	c. Total number of non-park sites	d. Total acres of non-park sites	Total number of parks + non-park sites (a+c)	Total acres of parks + non-park sites (b+d)	Estimate the # of acres of developed and undeveloped open space for which your dept. has mgt. resp. over or maintains.	a. Developed	b. Undeveloped
			Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes					12	100	0	0	12	100		90	10
			Yes					Yes						8	210	5	21	13	231		210	21
							Yes	Yes	Yes					10	160	5	1	15	161		128	32
	Yes						Yes	Yes	Yes					6	235	3	20	9	255		163	72
							Yes	Yes	Yes					5	100	2	20	7	120		100	20
							Yes	Yes	Yes					8	50	2	7	10	57		45	5

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Please estimate the total number of trail miles managed or maintained by your agency.		What is the number of buildings and the square footage of the buildings operated by your agency?		Estimate the number of programs your agency offers annually and how many people (i.e., contacts) are served by these programs.		Please estimate the number of contacts (e.g. participants, users) of your agency's parks and facilities per year.		Facilities		Median jurisdiction population per facility or activity areas within facilities.				
		a. Number of operated buildings	b. Square footage of operated buildings	a. Total number of programs offered	b. Number of fee based programs	c. Total program contacts (estimate as necessary)	a. Total building facility contacts	b. Total park facility contacts	c. Total facilities and parks contacts	a. Recreation centers	b. Community centers	c. Senior centers	d. Teen centers	e. Stadiums
10		4	38,250	75	40	175,000	100,000	75,000	175,000	11,972				
									0					
2		3	30,000	15	4	1,200				11,990				
4		3		150	120	1,278	5,000	10,000	15,000		25,579			
3		7	10,050	22	15									
3		1	30,000	52	42	1,007	19	193	212		8,504			
3		13		338	300	3,900	45,000	50,000	95,000	8,055	8,055			

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f. Indoor ice rink	g. Arena	h. Performance amphitheater	i. Nature centers	Median jurisdiction population per outdoor facility.	a. Playgrounds	b. Totlots	c. Community gardens	d. Basketball courts	e. Multiuse courts -basketball, volleyball	f. Diamond fields: baseball - youth	g. Diamond fields: baseball - adult	h. Diamond fields: softball fields - youth	i. Diamond fields: softball fields - adult	j. Skate park	k. Dog park	l. Ice rink (outdoor only)	m. Rectangular fields: multi-purpose	n. Rectangular fields: cricket field	o. Rectangular fields: field hockey field	p. Rectangular fields: football field
					1,497			1,995	3,991	1,995	11,972			11,972						11,972
					1,199			2,998	5,995	1,998		2,998			11,990					11,990
					4,263			25,579		2,325	8,526	2,325	2,325		25,579		6,395			25,579
					5,967		17,900			2,983	17,900	2,238								
					1,701	8,504				4,252		4,252	4,252		8,504		1,417	8,504		
8,055					1,611	8,055		8,055		1,611	8,055		4,028		8,055					

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q. Rectangular fields: lacrosse field																					
r. Rectangular fields: soccer field - adult	11,972	2,993																			
s. Rectangular fields: soccer field - youth		2,998																			
t. Overlay field																					
u. Multipurpose synthetic field																					
Median jurisdiction population per golf facility.																					
a. Driving range stations																					
b. Regulation 18-hole courses																					
c. Regulation 9-hole courses																					
d. Executive 9-hole courses																					
e. Executive 18-hole courses																					
f. Par 3, 18-hole courses																					
g. Par 3, 9-hole courses																					
Median jurisdiction population per swimming/aquatics facility.																					
a. Aquatics centers	11,972																				2,993
b. Swimming pools (outdoor only)																					
c. Indoor competitive swimming pools: 50 meters																					
d. Indoor competitive swimming pools: 25 meters																					
e. Other indoor competitive swimming pools																					
f. Indoor separated diving well																					
g. Total indoor competitive swimming pools																					
h. Indoor pool designated exclusively for leisure (i.e. non-competitive)																					
i. Therapeutic pool																					
Median jurisdiction population per racquet sports facility.																					
a. Tennis courts (outdoor only)																					5,995
b. Tennis courts (indoor)																					
	25,579	12,790																			5,116
	8,950	2,557																			
		1,417																			
		8,055																			

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c. Pickleball (outdoor)	d. Pickleball (indoor)	e. Multiuse courts- Tennis, Pickleball (outdoor)	f. Multiuse courts- Tennis, Pickleball (indoor)	g. Racquetball/handball/squash courts (outdoor)	h. Racquetball/handball/squash courts (indoor)	Activities	Does your agency offer activities in the following categories?	a. Health and wellness education	b. Safety training	c. Fitness enhancement classes	d. Team sports	e. Individual sports	f. Running/cycling races	g. Racquet sports	h. Martial arts	i. Aquatics	j. Golf	k. Social recreation events	l. Cultural crafts	m. Performing arts	n. Visual arts	o. Natural and cultural history activities	p. Themed special events	q. Trips and tours	r. eSports/eGaming	Does your agency offer the following Out of School Time (OST) activities?
								Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes			
5,995	3,997							Yes			Yes				Yes	Yes										
										Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
											Yes	Yes		Yes									Yes			
	8,504	8,504						Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
4,028								Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		

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a. Summer camp	b. Before school programs	c. After school programs	d. Preschool	e. Full daycare	f. Specific teen programs	g. Specific senior programs	h. Programs for people with disabilities	i. STEM Programs	Policies	Does your agency:	Have a policy barring the use of all tobacco products in its parks and at its facilities and grounds?	Have a policy that allows the consumption of alcohol by legal-aged adults on its premises?	Sell alcoholic beverages to legal-aged adults on its premises (sold by the agency or concessionaire authorized by the agency)?	Provide healthy food options in its vending machines?	Provide healthy food options at its concession stands?	Charge a parking fee at its parks or facilities?	Charge an admission fee to enter its parks?	Have an expressed commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in vision, mission and/or strategic plan documents?	Have hiring practices and policies that promote a diverse agency workforce?	Yes, at all locations	Yes, at select locations
Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No													
Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No			Yes, at all locations	Yes, at select locations	Yes, at select locations	N/A	Yes, at all locations	No	No	Yes, at all locations	Yes, at all locations		
Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes			No	Yes, at select locations	No	Yes, at select locations	Yes, at all locations	No	Yes, at select locations	No	Yes, at all locations		
Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No			Yes, at all locations	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes, at all locations	Yes, at all locations		
Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes			Yes, at select locations	Yes, at all locations	Yes, at select locations	Yes, at all locations	N/A	No	No	Yes, at all locations	Yes, at all locations		
No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes			No	Yes, at select locations	No	No	N/A	No	No	No	Yes, at all locations		

GODFREY/NRPA CASE STUDY COMPARISONS 2021

No	N/A	Agency Summary Effectiveness Ratios	Operating expenditures per capita	Revenue per capita	Total revenue to total operating expenditures	Total tax expenditures per capita	Park operating expenditures per acre of parkland	Operating expenditures per acre of parkland	Operating expenditures per acres of parks and non-park sites	Operating expenditures per FTE	FTE's per 10,000 population	Acres of parks per 1,000 residents	Number of residents per park	Number of acres per park	Number of participants per program	Ratio of fee programs to all programs	Ratio of building attendance to park attendance
			\$107	\$35	32.5%	\$72	\$5,748	\$12,774	\$12,774	\$72,374	15	8	998	8	2,333	53.3%	133.3%
			\$129	\$24	18.7%	\$105	\$2,868	\$7,353	\$6,684	\$89,617	14	18	1,499	26	80	26.7%	
			\$82	\$40	48.2%	\$43	\$5,054	\$13,138	\$13,056	\$30,029	27	6	2,558	16	9	80.0%	50.0%
			\$180	\$16	8.7%	\$164	\$972	\$13,696	\$12,622	\$91,962	20	13	2,983	39		68.2%	
			\$254	\$26	10.3%	\$227	\$8,623	\$21,558	\$17,965	\$197,415	13	12	1,701	20	19	80.8%	9.8%
											16						
			\$359	\$122	34.1%	\$237	\$16,199	\$57,855	\$50,750	\$102,144	35	6	1,007	6	12	88.8%	90.0%



GODFREY
PARKS AND RECREATION

Comprehensive Park & Open Space Plan

<https://godfreyil.org/village-township-departments/parks-and-recreation/>



www.HeartLandsConservancy.org