

## **ADVISORY PARK BOARD AGENDA**

April 22, 2024

5:30 PM

**Meeting Room A**

City-County Government Center

160 S Macy Street

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

### **I. ROLL CALL**

**A. Attendance**

**B. Declaration Quorum Present**

### **II. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. February 26, 2024 Minutes**

**B. March 25, 2024 Minutes**

### **III. INPUT**

**A. Audience Comments (Agenda and Non-Agenda Items)**

The Presiding Officer Shall Limit Non-Agenda Items To One Minute Speaking Time And Items Noticed On The Agenda To Five Minutes Speaking Time.

**B. April Park Superintendent Report**

- Donated Bench Installation
- Gazebo Staining
- Fairgrounds Pool Heater Replacement
- Recreational Boating Facility (RBF) Grant for Lakeside West Road Entrance Renovation
- Lakeside Park Bridge Over Fond du Lac River Update
- A Few Upcoming Events:
  - Arbor Day Celebration - 4/27 at 1pm - LSP Pavilion
  - Kids to Parks Day - 5/18 (10am - 12pm) - LSP Main St Playground
- Park History Plan

Presented By: Director of Public Works, Paul DeVries

**C. Rec Plan Preview - Chapters 1 & 2**

Presented By: Director of Public Works, Paul DeVries

### **IV. ADJOURN**

**ADVISORY PARK BOARD AGENDA  
CITY OF FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN**

Title: February 26, 2024 Minutes

Subject:

Initiator:

Location:

Recommendation:

**ATTACHMENTS:**

	File Name	Description
📎	Minutes_2024_2_26_Meeting(1094)_(3).pdf	minutes

**ADVISORY PARK BOARD MINUTES**

February 26, 2024

5:30 PM

**Meeting Room A**

City-County Government Center

160 S Macy Street  
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

**ROLL CALL**

Attendance

Present

Dale Albrandt  
Velesca Fleischman  
Bill Greymont  
Kay Miller  
James Misudek  
John Papenheim  
Amy Schingen  
Brett Zimmermann

Absent

Joe Leventhal (Excused)

Administrative Staff

Paul DeVries, Director of Public Works  
John Redmond, Parks Superintendent

Declaration Quorum Present

Chairperson, Amy Schingen declared a quorum present.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

November 23, 2023 Minutes

A Motion was made by Kay Miller to approve the November 23, 2023 Minutes and seconded by Brett Zimmermann, and the motion was **Passed.**

Ayes: Albrandt, Fleischman, Greymont, Miller, Misudek, Papenheim, Schingen, Zimmermann

Absent: Leventhal

**INPUT**

Audience Comments (Agenda and Non-Agenda Items)

The Presiding Officer Shall Limit Non-Agenda Items To One Minute Speaking Time And Items Noticed On The Agenda To Five Minutes Speaking Time.

Spoke In Regards To The History Of Our Parks:

Laura DeGolier, 289 14th St., Fond du Lac, WI

## February Park Superintendent Report

- Taylor Park Bathhouse Floor Renovation
- Fairgrounds Pool Heater Replacement
- Fairgrounds Pool Slide Renovation
- Buttermilk Park - Wifler Performance Center Light Replacement
- Russell Park Playground
- Forestry Internship to Inventory City Trees
- McDermott Park Synthetic Ice Rink

Presented By: Park Superintendent, John Redmond

## MPO Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan

Presented By: Director of Public Works, Paul DeVries and  
East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Staff

Kim Biedermann, Principal Planner of ECWRPC answered questions  
related to MPO Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan

## **ADJOURN**

A Motion was made by John Papenheim to adjourn at 6:36 p.m. and  
seconded by James Misudek, and the motion was **Passed**.

Ayes: Albrandt, Fleischman, Greymont, Miller, Misudek, Papenheim,  
Schingen, Zimmermann

Absent: Leventhal

**ADVISORY PARK BOARD AGENDA  
CITY OF FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN**

Title: March 25, 2024 Minutes

Subject:

Initiator:

Location:

Recommendation:

**ATTACHMENTS:**

	File Name	Description
📎	Minutes_2024_3_25_Meeting(1098)_(4).pdf	minutes

## ADVISORY PARK BOARD MINUTES

March 25, 2024

5:30 PM

### Meeting Room A

City-County Government Center

160 S Macy Street  
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

### ROLL CALL

#### Attendance

##### Present

Kay Miller  
James Misudek  
John Papenheim  
Amy Schingen

##### Absent

Dale Albrandt (Excused)  
Velasca Fleischman (Excused)  
Bill Greymont (Excused)  
Joe Leventhal (Un-Excused)  
Brett Zimmermann (Excused)

##### Administrative Staff

Paul DeVries, Director of Public Works  
John Redmond, Parks Superintendent  
Ali Panagopoulos, Deputy City Attorney

#### Declaration Quorum Present

Chairperson, Amy Schingen declared there was not a quorum present and no action will be taken.

### INPUT

#### Audience Comments (Agenda and Non-Agenda Items)

The Presiding Officer Shall Limit Non-Agenda Items To One Minute Speaking Time And Items Noticed On The Agenda To Five Minutes Speaking Time.

##### Spoke In Regards To The Park History Plan:

Neil Olsen, 24 Pennycress Ct., Fond du Lac, WI

#### March Park Superintendent Report

- Donated Bench Installation
- Taylor Pool Water Leak
- Recreational Boating Facility Grant for Lakeside West Road Entrance Renovation
- Seasonal Employment Update
- Lakeside Park Bridge Over Fond du Lac River Update

Presented By: Parks Superintendent, John Redmond

Update on Taylor Park

Presented By: Friends of Taylor Park

Park History Plan

Presented By: Director of Public Works, Paul DeVries

**ADVISORY PARK BOARD AGENDA  
CITY OF FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN**

Title: Rec Plan Preview - Chapters 1 & 2  
Subject: Presented By: Director of Public Works, Paul DeVries  
Initiator:  
Location:  
Recommendation:

ATTACHMENTS:

	File Name	Description
📎	Memo_Rec_Plan_Review_12_-_APB_April_2024.pdf	memo
📎	FDL_Rec_Plan_12.pdf	chapters 1 & 2



# ***CITY OF FOND DU LAC - Memorandum***

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Department of Public Works

**Date:** April 22, 2024

**To:** Advisory Park Board

**From:** Paul De Vries, P.E., Director of Public Works

**Re:** Rec Plan Review – Chapters 1 & 2

We have been reviewing and working on the update to the City's Rec Plan over the past year or so. A lot of great feedback has come from the APB members along with the public. The Rec Plan helps guide future improvements in the park system along with evaluating the current state of the system.

Previously, the APB reviewed the following sections: Executive Summary, B. Purpose; C. Benefits of Recreation & Open Space; D. Goals and Objectives; and Chapter 4, A. General Park and Recreation Policies. In April, we are reviewing Chapters 1 & 2 of the Rec Plan, which are titled The City of Fond du Lac and Parks and Open Space Inventory. Those revised chapters are included with this memo. At a future meeting, the APB will review Chapter 3 and then Chapter 4, Recommendations for Existing Parks.

If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to me at 920-322-3473.

## **CHAPTER 1: THE CITY OF FOND DU LAC**

### **A. RECREATION RESOURCES**

#### **Geography**

Fond du Lac is located in east-central Wisconsin at the southern tip of Lake Winnebago. The land area of the city is approximately 22 square miles.

#### **Geology & Topography**

The City of Fond du Lac was founded in an area that was once part of a larger Lake Winnebago. The city is underlain by sedimentary rock formations — the Galena and Platteville dolomite formations. Bedrock is covered with unconsolidated glacial overburden consisting of sand, gravel and clays which present a generally level topography. Immediately east of the city is the Niagara Escarpment. This dolomite formation is a northeast-to-southwest ridge of exposed bedrock. The escarpment represents one of the most unique regional natural areas available for recreational and open space purposes, although little is publicly owned. In addition to providing aesthetic and scenic value, the forested open space associated with the escarpment serves as wildlife habitat and watershed protection.

#### **Waterways**

The major waterways of the city and immediate area are the East and West Branches of the Fond du Lac River, and DeNeveu, McDermott and Taycheedah Creeks. All land area within the city drains into Lake Winnebago, the primary water based recreational resource. Waterways provide recreation throughout the year to include boating, fishing, skiing, swimming, ice boating and snowmobiling. Fond du Lac enjoys about two miles of shoreline exposure on the south end of Lake Winnebago. Noted for excellent walleye and sturgeon spearing, the lake also yields catches of northern pike, white bass, crappie and perch. The greatest potential to increase fishing opportunities in the Fond du Lac area will correspond to improvements of water quality and access.

#### **Climate**

Fond du Lac has four distinct seasons affording a variety of weather in which recreational activities can be pursued. The area has a temperate continental climate characterized by cyclonic pressure systems traveling within the prevailing westerly winds. The coldest month of the year, January, has an average temperature of 19 degrees

Fahrenheit. July is the hottest month with an average temperature of 71 degrees Fahrenheit. Lake Winnebago exerts some influence over spring through fall temperatures. Meteorological records indicate an average annual precipitation of 29.9 inches and an average annual snowfall amount of 36 inches. The growing season — the time between spring's last killing frost and fall's first killing frost — is about 151 days.

## B. LAND USE

The City prepared the 2040 Comprehensive Plan that updated the approach to Land Use. The plan emphasizes using land efficiently while creating balanced neighborhoods and balanced growth. Development decisions are to protect and respect natural resources and systems whether adjacent to an existing City park or in an area of possible addition of a City park.

## C. POPULATION

The City of Fond du Lac has experienced moderate growth over the past decades (see Table 1). The 2020 census shows a City population of 44,678 with a growth of 3.85% locally as compared to the Statewide growth of 3.64%.

<b>Table 1:</b>								
<b>Population Trends 1900-2020</b>								
<b>City, Township &amp; County of Fond du Lac and State of Wisconsin</b>								
<u>Year</u>	<u>City Population</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>Township Population</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>County Population</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>State Population</u>	<u>% Change</u>
1900	15,100	---	1,230	---	47,589	---	2,069,042	---
1910	18,747	24.07	1,103	-10.03	51,610	8.40	2,333,860	1.20
1920	25,427	35.63	1,175	6.53	56,119	8.70	2,632,067	5.60
1930	26,449	4.02	1,602	36.34	59,883	6.70	2,939,006	1.70
1940	27,209	2.87	1,809	12.92	62,353	4.10	3,137,587	6.80
1950	29,936	10.02	2,471	36.59	67,829	8.80	3,434,575	9.50
1960	32,719	9.30	3,851	55.85	75,085	10.70	3,951,777	5.10
1970	35,515	8.55	3,869	0.47	84,567	12.63	4,417,731	1.80
1980	35,863	0.98	3,001	-22.43	88,964	5.20	4,705,767	6.50
1990	37,757	5.28	2,308	-23.09	90,083	1.25	4,891,769	3.95
2000	42,203	11.78	2,027	-12.25	97,296	8.01	5,363,675	9.6
2010	43,021	1.93	3,015	48.74	101,633	4.46	5,686,986	6.03
2020	44,678	3.85	3,967	31.58	104,154	2.48	5,893,718	3.64

Source: U.S. Census of Population, 1900-2020

An analysis of the city's population reveals trends in the changing character of the urban area. The change in social characteristics affects the supply and demand for recreational facilities. A profile of selected population characteristics for the City of Fond du Lac is provided in Table 2. The statistics compare the different types of

households and also illustrate a gradual but constant increase in the median age of residents.

**Table 2:**  
**Selected Social Characteristics, 2010**  
**City of Fond du Lac**

Characteristic	Number	Percentage
Population		
2020	44,678	--
2010	43,021	--
2000	42,203	--
1990	37,757	--
1980	35,863	--
1970	35,515	--
Population by Gender, 2010		
Male	21,389	47.9
Female	23,289	52.1
Median Age		
2020	38.1	--
2010	36.9	--
2000	35.7	--
1990	33.6	--
1980	30.3	--
1970	28.1	--
Age Distribution, 2010		
Under 5	2,484	5.56
5-19	8,345	18.68
20-44	15,387	34.44
45-64	10,459	23.41
65 and Over	8,003	17.91
Total Households	18,858	100.00
Married Couple Household	7,285	38.63
Cohabiting Couple Household	1,780	9.4
Male Householder	4,167	22.10
Female Householder	5,626	29.83

Source: U.S. Census of Population 2010

Historical figures for the City and County are indicators to forecast population growth. Population projection estimates are used in calculating recreation needs by the population ratio method.

**Table 3:**

**Population Projections  
for the City of Fond du Lac  
2020, 2030, 2040**

Year	Population	Percent Annual Change
2020	44,678(actual)	
2030	46,300	0.36
2040	45,920	-0.08

Source: Wisconsin Demographic Services Center

## **CHAPTER 2: PARKS AND OPEN SPACE INVENTORY**

### **A. PARKS AND OPEN SPACE**

Over 2,000 acres of parks and other open space exist in the City of Fond du Lac (Tables 4 and 5). Parks and other open space areas maintained by the city's Parks Division total 715.45 acres. Other major suppliers of open space include three college campuses (300 acres), public and private elementary and secondary schools (282 acres), and three golf courses (652 acres). There are also a number of smaller recreational providers and historic sites in the city. In addition, Fond du Lac residents have ready access to a number of county and state parks and recreational facilities.

### **CITY MAINTAINED PARKS AND OPEN SPACE AREAS**

The City of Fond du Lac maintains 22 parks and various other open space areas available for public recreational use and enjoyment. Each park and open space site plays a unique role in meeting the recreational needs of community residents and is typically categorized according to its function, size, and distribution. Once again, some parks do not fall neatly and exclusively into one of the park and open space categories described below.

**Large Urban Parks** - Large urban parks are intended to serve an entire city, although population and area may require that any number be provided. These types of parks should provide an attractive natural setting and be usable by both small and large groups. The minimum size range is twenty-five acres. In addition to facilities found in neighborhood and district parks, a large urban park may provide swimming beaches or a pool, large picnic areas with shelters, restrooms, off-street parking, regulation-sized playfields, boating facilities and extensive open areas.

#### **Lakeside Park**

Located on the southern tip of Lake Winnebago, Lakeside Park includes a wide variety of recreation facilities. Although first classified as a large urban park, Lakeside Park secondarily functions as a district park to the neighborhoods within a one-mile service radius. The main stem of the Fond du Lac River divides Lakeside Park into two distinct properties. East of the river is situated the 159-acre Lakeside Park East which contains the majority of recreation facilities available within the entire park. West of the river is property acquired by the City in more recent years as an expansion of the original park.

Lakeside Park West includes the 234.7-acre Supple Marsh and 13.5-acre Kilowatt Club (a former private sportsman's club) lands. Lakeside Park West (LPW) recently added a trail, marsh lookout platform, and boardwalk into the marsh.

Lakeside Park East (LPE) has been intensely developed as a recreation resource to serve the entire community. It has almost one mile of Lake Winnebago shoreline in addition to boating facilities within the Municipal Harbor. LPE has many features to attract residents and visitors. They include: the Lighthouse, splash pad, story walk, zip line and REV 8 spinner, many fishing piers, ADA compliant canoe/kayak launch, expanded Concessionaire offerings, Christmas light show, train rides and a carousel, paddleboat and canoe rentals, multiple restrooms and shelters, multiple trails with many benches, softball diamonds and volleyball courts, and multiple boat launches and full service marina.

**District Parks** - District parks are intended to provide active recreational opportunities for a number of neighborhoods. District parks generally vary in size from three to fifteen acres and serve about a one- to two-mile radius. A district park also functions as a neighborhood park for the immediate area. In addition to the facilities typical of a neighborhood park, a district park should also provide family picnic areas with picnic shelters, horseshoe pits and volleyball courts. The park may also include more specialized facilities such as tennis courts, swimming pools and sledding areas. Off-street parking and restrooms are often provided.

**Table 4:**  
**Existing Open Space Area Acreage and Facilities**

<b>PARKLAND</b>	<b>ACREAGE</b>	<b>FACILITIES</b>
<b><u>Large Urban</u></b>		
Lakeside Park East	158.7	Boating harbor, lighthouse, 232-slip full service marina, 6 launching ramps, fishing piers, picnic areas, 7 shelters, playground areas, 3 lighted softball diamonds, 3 soccer fields, 4 volleyball courts, concession stands, restrooms, large pavilion, bandstand, gazebo, covered bridge, lagoons, ornamental fountain, extensive floral display areas, amusement rides, canoe rentals, off-street parking, splash pad, multi-use trail and heated restrooms.
Lakeside Park West	248.20	Twelve launching ramps, off-street parking, undeveloped open space and wetlands, prairie restoration, dog park, walking/snow shoe trails, marsh viewing platform, marsh boardwalk, kayak launch.
<b><u>District Parks</u></b>		
Adelaide Park	24.00	Youth baseball diamond, off-street parking, 6 pickleball courts, 1 tennis court, fitness trail, sledding hill, undeveloped marsh and wildlife area, disc golf, skate park, b
Buttermilk Park	20.00	Picnic shelter, restrooms, workshop/storage and shelter building, outdoor performance center, concession stand, playground areas, 5 lighted tennis courts, 2 basketball courts, off-street parking, sledding hill, volleyball court.
McDermott Park	14.70	One adult softball diamonds, playground, volleyball court, restrooms and storage building, off-street parking, picnic facilities, shelter, 4 lighted tennis courts with Pickle ball striping, synthetic ice rink.
Taylor Park	10.50	Outdoor swimming pool, playground, 3 unlighted tennis courts, 3 Pickle ball courts, basketball court, picnic facilities, shelter, restrooms, asphalt trail, splash pad and a Gazebo.
<b><u>Neighborhood Parks</u></b>		
Brookfield Park	3.00	Open play area, with creek access.
Paul Butzen Memorial Park	6.00	Youth baseball diamond, 2 tennis courts, shelter, playground, basketball & volleyball court.
Franklin Park	3.00	Playground, informal open space, basketball court, maintenance garage, and fruit trees.
Hamilton Park	5.5	Playground, Peace officer memorial, basketball court, pond, benches, community garden, story walk, shelter/Restroom building, music playground.
Hucks Bellevue Park	1.00	Playground, basketball court, volleyball court, youth softball diamond.
Jefferson Park	1.20	Playground.
Lallier Park	2.30	Playground, nature area, paved walkway, shelter and rest area.
McKinley Park	1.10	Playground, youth softball diamond, basketball court.
Plamore Park	3.30	Miracle League field, all inclusive playground, concession/restroom building, sport court.
Russell Park	3.40	Two youth baseball diamonds, restrooms, volleyball court.
Catherine Whittier Lewis Park	2.60	Playground, basketball court, sitting area.
James "Maggie" Megellas Park	13.50	Walking trail, playground and open mowed areas.
Colwert-Edward Park	5.1	Walking trail, playground and open mowed areas.
Cardinal Park	23.0	Walking marsh trail, playground, and open mowed areas.
<b><u>Mini-Parks</u></b>		
Downtown/North Main St.	.20	Benches and flower beds.
Downtown/South Main St.	.15	Benches, landscaping.
<b><u>Other</u></b>		
Downtown River Trail	5.70	Asphalt trail (8' wide).
Brooke Street Trail	17.0	Asphalt trail (10' wide).
Police Memorial Drive Trail	1.0	Asphalt trail (10' wide)
Fond du Lac Avenue Trail	2.3	Asphalt trail (8' wide)
County Road K Park	60.0	Passive wooded area; future trail development.
Greenway arboretum	24	Walking trails, benches and native plantings.
Ledgeview Center	29.0	Open space, pond, walking trail, gazebo.
Undeveloped Open space	36.0	Primarily located along rivers and streams.
<b>TOTAL PARK ACREAGE</b>	<b>725.45</b>	



### **Adelaide Park**

Situated adjacent to Parkside Elementary School in the northwestern sector of the community, Adelaide Park enjoys an excellent location for residents of this area. The 24-acre site follows the boundary of the school property, with Arndt Street to the south, Hickory Street to the east, a river inlet and the West Ditch to the north, and Seymour Street to the west. Adelaide Park is partially developed. Improvements include landscaping, a youth baseball diamond, a skate park, disc-golf course, six pickleball courts and one tennis courts, a sledding hill, and off-street parking. Bikes and scooters are also allowed to use the skate park.

### **Buttermilk Creek Park**

Buttermilk Creek Park is twenty acres in size and located on South Park Avenue. The park is conveniently situated to serve the district park needs of the rapidly urbanizing southern sector of the community. The park provides a number of facilities, including a sledding hill with lights, tennis courts, a playground, a basketball court, and a very popular amphitheater. The amphitheater was recently renamed "The Raymond C. Wifler Performance Center" in honor of the long serving Music Director Ray Wifler. The amphitheater is used for the Symphonic band, Music Under the Stars and other performance events.

### **McDermott Park**

Located south of Johnson Street adjacent to the east bank of DeNeveu Creek, the park covers 14.7 acres. McDermott Park is landscaped and provides sufficient open area for a variety of passive and active recreational activities. It is an intensively utilized open space area. It has four tennis courts along with pickleball striping on each court. Recent additions include the majority of the landscape master plan installed along with a synthetic ice rink.

### **Taylor Park**

This wooded 10.5-acre site provides recreation facilities for surrounding residential neighborhoods in the west central portion of the community. Mary's Avenue and Hickory Street form the park's east/west boundaries and Emma Street and Ruggles Street form the north/south boundaries. One of the City's two outdoor pools is located in Taylor Park, as well as three tennis courts and three pickle ball courts. The park also contains several Indian mounds and a historic pavilion structure.

**Neighborhood Parks** - Neighborhood parks provide recreational facilities for all age groups. A natural setting such as a stream or woodlot is desirable, but not absolutely necessary. An elementary school can often serve as an excellent site for a neighborhood park, thus the park then functions in a dual role. Neighborhood parks are generally one to five acres in size. A neighborhood park should serve only about a one-half mile radius to be within walking distance for residents. At a minimum, neighborhood parks should provide playground equipment and open play area. If space allows, play fields for baseball, soccer, football and ice skating could also be provided.

### **Catherine Whittier Lewis Park**

The playground is located in the high density eastern residential fringe of the central business district. The park includes a playground area, sitting area, landscaping and a small basketball court. Berms and a walkway have been installed.

### **Colwert-Edward Park**

.This 5.1 acre park is bordered by Southern Edge Court, Willsher drive and Eastman Lane. Facilities include a playground, benches and table, mowed green space and a walking trail. A good portion of this park is undeveloped.

### **Franklin Park**

This park is located in the southwest section of the city at the intersection of Ninth Street and Military Road. The 3.0-acre site was originally acquired and developed to satisfy the need for a neighborhood park in the southwestern part of the city. Franklin Park contains informal open space, a basketball court, a playground area and a group of recently planted fruit trees along the trail on the east side of the park. Recent improvements are a new playground area and artistic upgrades on the basketball court and surrounding fencing. A small water feature has also been added.

### **Hamilton Park**

Located in close proximity to the downtown area at the southwest corner of Hamilton Place and Sophia Street, this 5.5-acre park offers a playground area, Peace Officer Memorial, pond, basketball court, benches, story walk and a community garden. A music playground and restroom shelter have recently been added.

### **Huck's Bellevue Park**

This 1.09 acre park, located in the southeast corner of the city, is bordered by Southgate Drive, Crestview Lane and Hobbs Lane. The park offers playground equipment, a youth softball diamond, a basketball court, and a volleyball court.

### **James “Maggie” Megellas Park**

This park is 13.5 acres located on the Southeast side of the city bordered by Primrose lane and S. Country lane. This park offers a playground, walking trail and open green space. A good portion of the park is undeveloped.

### **Jefferson Park**

Located on Ninth Street between Ellis and Sherman Streets, Jefferson Park is only 1.2 acres. Berms and plantings border the play lot to contain noise levels and to discourage softball and organized sports. The park design reflects the limited site area and the proximity of surrounding homes.

### **Lallier Park**

Adjacent to DeNeveu Creek at the southwest corner of the intersection of National Avenue and Fourth Street, Lallier Park is a wedge-shaped parcel and includes 2.3 acres of area. Expansion to the south was accomplished by the extension of National Avenue. The northern portion of the site contains playground equipment and picnic tables. A pathway running the length of the park is popular with area walkers, joggers, and bikers. Recent stabilization work has been done along DeNeveu Creek to reduce erosion and keep the natural streambank in tact.

### **McKinley Park**

This small park encompasses 1.1 acres and is located on Amory Street between Arndt and Follett Streets. McKinley Park offers playground equipment, a multi-purpose asphalt court and an informal youth ball diamond and play area. A new playground has been recently added.

### **Paul Butzen Memorial Park**

A six-acre parcel of land acquired through the city subdivision code's open space dedication requirement, the park is located in the extreme southeast sector of the community, a location which is advantageous to provide neighborhood recreation facilities in this fast developing area. Facilities include two tennis courts, a basketball court, youth baseball field, playground, and open play area

### **Other Undeveloped Open Space**

The City of Fond du Lac owns approximately sixty acres of undeveloped open space, located along river and stream corridors throughout the community. As lands are subdivided for development, these lands are dedicated to the City for open space purposes. At some point in the future, it may be desirable to extend pedestrian/bicycle trails through some of these lands.

### **Plamore Park**

This 3.3-acre site is located in the west central portion of Fond du Lac at Division and Seymour Streets. Plamore Park saw a complete revamping with adding a Miracle League field, a large all-inclusive playground, a multi-sport court, and a concession and restroom building.

### **Russell Park**

Russell Park is a 3.4-acre site containing two youth ball diamonds and is primarily devoted to active recreation programs. The park is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Third Street and Ashland Avenue. Russell Park offers a volleyball court, restrooms, and picnic facilities. A new playground has recently been installed.

**Mini Parks** - Mini-parks are intended for use in the central business district and in other commercial districts. They should be intensely designed with a concentration of landscape features and benches, for use by downtown residents, employees and shoppers.

### **10 North Main Street**

The donation of a small Main Street parcel of land created the city's first miniature park in 1975. The benches and landscaping provide a resting spot for shoppers and downtown employees.

### **84 South Main Street**

This is a small parcel providing green space, benches and landscaping.

### **Veterans Park**

This 1.0-acre parcel is owned and maintained by Fond du Lac County. The property's location at the southerly entry to the central business district provides a valuable asset to the downtown area. The park is landscaped with a variety of plantings; walkways and benches accommodate pedestrians.

### **Fairgrounds Park**

This 5.5-acre parcel is owned and maintained by Fond du Lac County. This property is located between Fond du Lac Avenue and Martin Avenue. The Park has a playground with two shelters.

## **SCHOOL OPEN SPACE AREAS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

Open space and recreation facilities available at both public and private school sites can significantly augment a community's public park lands. This is particularly true in Fond du Lac, where school sites are used extensively for many of the Recreation Department's programs and activities. Tables 5 and 6 detail areas of open space and available facilities of educational institutions in Fond du Lac

**Table 5:**

### **School Open Space Summary - Fond du Lac**

School Category	Combined Acreage	Recreation/Open Space
Post High School	342.0	300.0
High School	194.5	152.0
Middle Schools	117.0	51.0
Elementary School	107.9	77.8
TOTAL	761.4	580.8

**Table 6:**

**Public and Parochial Schools  
Open Space & Recreation Facilities**

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>ACREAGE</b>	<b>FACILITIES</b>
<u>Post-High School Institutions</u>		
Marian College	69.00	Baseball diamond, tennis courts, soccer field, horseshoe courts.
Moraine Park Technical College	60.00	Open lawn area, landscaping, portion of Fond du Lac Soccer Complex.
County Campus	171.00	68-acre prairie restoration including 2 ponds, walking paths, oak savannah & small formal arboretum, portion of Fond du Lac Soccer Complex.
<u>High Schools</u>		
Fond du Lac High School	122.00	Practice fields, Football field, track, ponds, open space, restored nature area, walking trails, softball fields, and tennis courts.
St. Mary's Springs	20.00	Football field, track,
Winnebago Lutheran Academy	10.00	Football field, baseball diamond, track.
<u>Middle Schools</u>		
Sabish	12.00	Softball diamonds, football field, basketball backboards.
Theisen	27.00	Softball diamonds, football fields, basketball backboards, restored nature area.
Woodworth	12.00	Softball diamond, one unlit multi-purpose diamond, lighted baseball diamonds, football field, and basketball backboards.
<u>Elementary Schools</u>		
Chegwin	2.80	Basketball backboards, playground equipment.
Evans	10.40	Volleyball court, blacktop multi-purpose court, softball diamond, youth softball diamond, flag football field, playground equipment, basketball backboards.
Faith Lutheran	4.00	Playground, basketball backboards, softball diamond, volleyball court.
Good Shepherd Lutheran	4.2	Open space.
Lakeshore	10.00	Youth softball diamond, basketball backboards, playground equipment, restored nature area.
Lutheran Memorial	3.00	Youth softball diamond, basketball court, volleyball court, soccer field, playground equipment.
Parkside	3.20	Four basketball backboards, playground equipment.
Pier	7.00	Two softball diamonds, playground equipment.
Riverside	12.0	Indoor community aquatic center, tennis courts, restored nature area.
Redeemer Lutheran	3.5	Basketball backboards, playground, open space.
Roberts	5.00	Flag football fields, youth softball diamond, basketball court, playground equipment.
Rosenow	7.00	Basketball backboards, softball diamonds, flag football fields, soccer field, playground equipment.
St. Peter's Lutheran	22.7	Basketball backboards, playground, open space.
Waters	5.00	Youth softball diamonds, flag football fields, basketball courts, basketball backboards, playground equipment.
<b>Total</b>	<b>602.8</b>	

## **SPECIAL USE FACILITIES**

### **Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds**

Maintained by Fond du Lac County, this 90-acre site in the southeastern portion of the city is a special use facility which also functions as a large urban park. Facilities include indoor ice skating rinks, picnic shelters, playground equipment, horseshoe courts, outdoor arena, Exposition Center, and horse and other animal barns. Reconstructed by the City of Fond du Lac, a water park includes an aquatic center, beach entry, slides, interactive play features, picnic area, and grass lounge areas. The Recreation Department currently provides staffing for both pools.

### **Fond du Lac Soccer Complex**

The 32-field soccer complex is located on land leased from UW-Fond du Lac and MPTC. Facilities include fields suitable for all age groups, as well as a concession/restroom building.

### **Rolling Meadows Golf Course**

Located at the southwest corner of the intersection of U.S. Highways 151 and 41, this 300-acre facility is a 27-hole public course owned and operated by Fond du Lac County.

### **Whispering Springs Golf Course**

This 18-hole privately owned golf course is located at the easterly city limits immediately east of St. Mary's Springs High School. The 200-acre facility is open to the public.

### **South Hills Golf Course**

This is a privately owned 152 acre golf course located in the southeastern portion of the City. It is available to members only.

### **Youth Baseball Complex**

Located along Morningside Drive and Fourth Street on land owned by the School District, this complex offers six baseball diamonds.

## **HISTORIC SITES**

The majority of historic sites in Fond du Lac are concentrated in the central portion of the city. Formulated by the Historic Preservation Commission, the following list describes notable sites:

The **Galloway House** is a 22-room Victorian mansion located at the south end of Fond du Lac. The property was first purchased by Edwin H. Galloway in 1868. The House was given to the Fond du Lac County Historical Society in 1955 by Edwin P. Galloway and the late Teresa Galloway Ebernau, Galloway's grandchildren. The facilities and grounds are in need of capital and maintenance upgrades.

The picturesque **Lakeside Park Bandstand** was given to the City in 1900 by William McDermott. Original building plans indicated an octagon shape, 30 feet in height and topped by a 12-foot flagpole. The platform was elevated eight feet with a liberal amount of ornamentation. The bandstand is used for the yearly Symphonic Band concert on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The iconic **Lakeside Park Lighthouse** was designed by Roger A. Sutherland and constructed in 1933 with materials donated by local lumberman W.J. Nuss as part of a WPA project. The **Streetcar Waiting Station** is also located in Lakeside Park. The Station was built in 1900 and moved to its current location in 1909. The station was used as a shelter for people waiting for the Street car. It was designated a Historical site in the late 1980's.

Fond du Lac's **No. 5 Fire Station** at 193 North Main Street was built around 1874; the bell in the tower is inscribed with the year 1878. The bell tower was originally used for observation as well as to provide a place to dry fire hoses. The bell tower was restored during 1976 as a community bicentennial project with the aid of federal funds. The building contains an office and an apartment

**St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral** at 51 West Division Street is an American Gothic limestone structure which houses wood carvings from Oberammergau, Germany. Unusual stained glass windows and paintings contribute to the historic significance of the structure.

**St. Patrick's Catholic Church**, located at 41 East Follett Street, was originally built in 1850. The tower addition was built in 1911.



The site of the former **St. Agnes Convent** on East Division Street is commemorated by a plaque. A historic album is displayed at the Fond du Lac Public Library and the new convent.

The building which originally housed one of Fond du Lac's first banks still stands at **2 North Main Street**. Built in 1872, a tavern now occupies the premises.

The **Merrill Institute** at 29 South Military Road is a red brick structure constructed in 1868 as an outstanding school for young ladies. The building is now a private apartment house.

Located at 695 Martin Road, the **Martin House** is a prairie land home built between 1848 and 1852.

The **Taylor Home** at 312 Forest Avenue was completed in 1852 by Jared Taylor, an early pioneering settler from Vermont. The home remained in the Taylor family for 93 years. The **Indian Mounds** and the **Taylor Park Pavilion** are also located in the same neighborhood.

The **Octagon House** is an octagon-shaped one and one-half story structure with stucco covered grout walls. The building was constructed in 1856 by Isaac Brown, an early Fond du Lac architect. Located at 276 Linden Street, the Octagon House is listed on the Federal Register of Historic Sites. Additions to the museum property include a landscaped fountain area and an 1890 era carriage house.

Located at the corner of First and Marr Streets, **St. Peter's Lutheran Church** was erected in 1869 by German Lutherans of the Wisconsin Synod. It is now an office building.

The **Pier House** is the century-old home of the first family to settle in Fond du Lac, located at 675 South Main Street.

The **Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Depot and Yard** occupies the area between Forest Avenue and Second Street along Brooke Street. The depot is architecturally designed in the shed style with a Norman turret.

The site marker for **Military Road** can be found at its intersection with Second Street. Built in 1835 to link Prairie du Chien and Green Bay, Old Military Road was the first highway across the state.

## **REGIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

Parks and environmental areas of regional significance are located within Fond du Lac County. As outlined in Table 7, these parks and open spaces areas provide specialized non-urban recreational opportunities to residents of the entire region, including residents of Fond du Lac.

**Table 7:**

<b>Regional Recreation Inventory</b>		
<b>Park</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Facilities</b>
Columbia	19	Boat launches, camping and picnic grounds, marina, fishing, playground equipment, and observation tower.
Eldorado Marsh	6,000	Waterfowl observation, hiking, skiing, nature and snowmobile trails, bird hunting, fishing.
Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds	90	Outdoor swimming pool, indoor ice skating rink, horse barn, horseshoe courts, Exposition Center, picnic shelters, playground equipment, outdoor arena.
Horicon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge	31,000	Waterfowl observation, hiking, skiing, nature trails, bird hunting, interpretive centers.
Hobbs Woods	60	Hiking and nature trails, stream fishing.
Kettle Moraine State Forest	15,000	Campgrounds, fishing, boating, horse-hiking-snowmobile trails, interpretive center, hunting.
Camp Shaganappi	100	Trails, wetlands, woods, prairie.
Wild Goose State Park Trail	34 miles	Multi-use trail, bicycling, nature observation.
Eisenbahn State Park Trail	22 miles	Multi-use trail, bicycling, nature observation.
Mascoutin State Park Trail	32 miles	Multi-use trail, bicycling, nature observation.
Prairie Trail	7 miles	Multi-use trail, bicycling.
Peebles Trail	5.6 miles	Multi-use trail, bicycling.
Riggs Park	300	Shelter, playground, walking trail, Disc golf and Splash Pad.
Roosevelt Park	3	900 feet of Lake Winnebago Shoreline. Picnic tables and grills, and shelter with restrooms.
Gottfried Arboretum	37.5	Trails with, wildflowers, wildlife Ponds and native tree/shrub plantings. Benches, picnic tables and a Kiosk.

## **B. RECREATION MANAGEMENT**

Responsibility for the city's recreation management is shared between the Parks Division of the City of Fond du Lac Department of Public Works and the Recreation Department of the Fond du Lac School District.

The Parks Division is responsible for the maintenance and development of parkland within the city. Composed of citizen members appointed by the City Council,

the Advisory Park Board advises the City Council on park-related matters and policy issues. The City Council sets the Parks Division budget and approves capital improvement projects. Staff services are provided by the Parks and the Engineering Divisions of Public Works.

Recreation programming is primarily the responsibility of the Recreation Department of the Fond du Lac School District. The Recreation Department operates outdoor recreation programs throughout the year at schools and parks, and also operates indoor recreation programs at schools.

### **C. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

Operation and maintenance of Fond du Lac's parks is the responsibility of the Parks Division of the City of Fond du Lac Department of Public Works. The Parks budget, which approximated \$2.8 million in 2024, is split between parks (\$1,564,014), forestry (\$610,279), pools (\$438,293), plus a Harbor Improvement Fund (\$183,647). The Parks Division employs 12 full-time employees, and approximately 20 seasonal workers who work from three to eight months a year. Personnel from other Department of Public Works divisions are also available for special projects and selected activities. Multiple community groups—including Parkwatch, Miracle League, Master Gardeners, Fond du Lac Softball, the Loop Coalition, Fond du Lac Festivals, Friends of Taylor Park, Friends of McDermott Park, Friends of Lakeside Park, Friends of the Loop and other service organizations— provide volunteer labor and fundraising for parks initiatives. A high standard of maintenance is evident throughout the City's park system. Fees generated throughout the system total approximately \$430,000 per year. These funds are utilized for both operational and capital expenditures.