



AGENDA

Parks and Natural Resources

Commission Regular Meeting

Monday, December 15, 2025

7:00 PM

Parks and Recreation Offices, City Hall

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- 2. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. Minutes of November 24, 2025, Regular Meeting
- 4. AUDIENCE INPUT**
- 5. DISCUSSION (Response to Audience Input):**
- 6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - a. Parks System Plan Update
 - b. Review of Parks Rules
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Environmental and Sustainability Updates
 - b. Director's Report
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

**ROSEMOUNT PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING PROCEEDINGS
NOVEMBER 24, 2025**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Rosemount Parks and Natural Resources was held on Monday, November 24, 2025, at 7:00 PM. in Rosemount Council Chambers, 2875 145th Street West.

Chairperson Eliason called the meeting to order with Commissioners Bass, McDonald, Bonkoski and Andrews. Commissioners Speich, Edminson and Burman were absent.

Staff present included the following;
Parks and Recreation Director Dan Schultz
Office Specialist Michelle Rambo

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Minutes of September 22, 2025, Regular Meeting

Motion by Bonkoski Second by Bass

Motion to Approve Minutes of September 22, 2025, Regular Meeting

Ayes: 5.

Nays: None. Motion Carried.

AUDIENCE INPUT

DISCUSSION (Response to Audience Input):

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2026 Fees and Fee Policy

On an annual basis, the Commission reviews the Parks and Recreation related portion of the City's Fees and Fee Policy. Staff typically makes recommendations on whether the fees and fee policy should be changed and also provides data to support the recommended changes. Fees are often set based on trying to offset a portion of the operating costs and staying current with other similar facilities in the market.

Staff is still collecting information regarding park dedication fees, ice rental rates and facility rental fees. Once the Armory/RCC remodel work is done and the Market Value Analysis is complete for parks dedication, staff will review the fees with the

Commission and will develop a recommendation to the City Council.

b. Environmental and Sustainability Updates

Director Schultz gave verbal updates on Fall 2025 Solid Waste and Recycling programs, reuse initiatives and special collections were highlighted, as well as measures we take to reduce deicing chemical (salt, chloride) pollution while maintaining safe roads.

c. Review of Park Rules and City Code

As our community grows, so does the diversity of park users. New residents may bring different expectations, recreational habits, and cultural norms. Updating rules ensures they reflect the current and future needs of the population.

Staff recommends that we review the current City code relating to park rules in order to align with best practices and address emerging issues.

d. Director's Report

Park Improvement Fund Balance as of October 31, 2025: \$5,393,748.00

Inflows to the Park Improvement fund last month were as follows:

Dedication fees - \$0

Grants/Other - \$0

Interest - \$0

Donations - \$0

Expenditures - \$153,021.47 (park and trail designs, dog park project and UMore Building)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Natural Resources Commission at the regular meeting, and upon a motion by Andrews and a second by McDonald, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Rambo
Office Specialist

Parks and Natural Resources Commission Regular Meeting: December 15, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Parks System Plan Update	AGENDA SECTION: UNFINISHED BUSINESS
PREPARED BY: Dan Schultz, Parks & Recreation Director	AGENDA NO. 6.a.
ATTACHMENTS: Chapter 10 - Parks and Trails FORMATTED 5 7 19	APPROVED BY: DLS
RECOMMENDED ACTION: None, discussion only.	

BACKGROUND

The 2040 Parks System Plan is intended to act as a user-friendly guide to decision making regarding the future needs, development, renovation and preservation of Rosemount’s parks, trails and open spaces. The Parks system plan is a chapter of the City’s Comprehensive Guide Plan and was developed in 2019. The city recognizes that demographic, recreation and environmental trends will change over the next several years and those changes will affect park, trail and open space needs. This plan will help set the framework for these future improvements and will increase efficiency by establishing a long-term vision and priorities.

The following goals have been identified to assist with the development of the plan:

- Continue to develop a comprehensive park, trails and open space system that meets the needs of the expanding community.
- Meet our community’s parks, trails and open space needs through proactive planning, partnerships and responsible spending.
- Continue to create a community that is well-connected by trails, sidewalks, bike lanes and other pedestrian friendly amenities, which would include more crosswalks and crosswalks with flashing lights.
- Create and follow standards for city parks that include having a park area within ½ mile walking distance of all homes in the urban developed area of the City.
- Preserve, protect and enhance our natural area resources.
- Continue to invest in the future of our parks, trails and open space through high levels of maintenance and an active Capital Improvement Plan.

The 2040 Parks System Plan is attached. Staff will give an overview of each chapter and discuss what our process will be for updating the plan in 2026/27.

RECOMMENDATION

None, discussion only.

CHAPTER 10: PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

City Council

William Droste, Mayor
Mark DeBettignies
Jeff Weisensel
Shaun Nelson
Heidi Freske

Parks and Recreation Commission

Mike Eliason, Chair
Maureen Bartz, Vice Chair
Bryan Feldhaus
Barb Farrell
David Speich
Lincoln Tilson
Jim Young
Scott McDonald
Craig Nelson

Parks and Recreation Staff

Dan Schultz, Parks and Recreation Director
Tom Schuster, Parks Supervisor

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	Page
1. Purpose and Introduction	4
2. Community Characteristics	7
3. Parks, Trails and Open Space System Framework	10
4. Needs Assessment and Recommendations	14
5. The System Plan	20
Appendix A Existing Parks Map	23
Appendix B Regional Information Map	24
Appendix C Rosemount Park, Trail and Open Space Plan Map	26

PURPOSE AND INTRODUCTION

Parks, trails, and open space systems can have a strong impact on neighborhoods and are essential components of a healthy community. Rosemount recognizes that the provision of adequate park, recreation, open space and trail connections are tools to help create a high quality of life for the people living and working in the city.

The City's parks define neighborhoods, offer recreation opportunities, and serve as open space and wildlife habitat. Rosemount's parks act as neighborhood gathering points and strengthen the sense of community. Rosemount is committed to meeting its residents' needs and planning wisely for the future. As such, this plan is designed to help continue the tradition of quality parks, trails and open spaces.

In 2018, the City is completing the 2040 Rosemount Comprehensive Guide Plan. The Comprehensive Plan defines the expected residential, commercial and industrial development and contains forecasts for population, household and employment growth through the year 2040. This Parks, Trails and Open Space plan is an update to the City's 2008 Parks Master Plan and reflects the changes in Rosemount since 2008 and plans for the growth forecasted through 2040.

The mission statement, used in past parks master plans, remains an appropriate guide for the 2018 plan:



“The purpose of the Rosemount Park System is to provide a comprehensive, balanced, well maintained system of parks, natural/open spaces, trails and leisure oriented activities/programs for the city residents to use and enjoy.”

The 2018 Parks System Plan is intended to act as a user-friendly guide to decision making regarding the future needs, development, renovation and preservation of Rosemount's parks, trails and open spaces. The city recognizes that demographic, recreation and environmental trends will change over the next several years and those changes will affect park, trail and open space needs. This plan will help set the framework for these future improvements and will increase efficiency by establishing a long-term vision and priorities.

The following goals have been identified to assist with the development of the plan:

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- Create and follow standards for city parks that include having a park area within ½ mile walking distance of all homes in the urban developed area of the City.
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- Continue to invest in the future of our parks, trails and open space through high levels of maintenance and an active Capital Improvement Plan.



- Enhance sustainability through energy conservation, best management practices and use of environmentally friendly products (chemicals), practices and equipment. 
- Maximize efficient use of park and recreation facilities through scheduling, and the addition of sustainable irrigation and lighting. 
- Adopt policies to assure a balance of facility development and an equitable allocation of fields and facilities.

SECTIONS OF THE PLAN

Section 1 Provides an **Introduction**, a review of previous plans, and a summary of the goals, sections of the plan and sources of information.

Section 2 Contains information about **Community Characteristics** such as the regional and local settings, existing parks, description of major stakeholders and partners, and growth forecast.

Section 3 Is the **Parks and Trails System Framework**. This includes park and trail classifications, park acreage standards, park service area criteria, previous planning efforts. These standards are used in assessing community needs and planning the future park system.

Section 4 Is the **Needs Assessments and Recommendations**. Included are a summary of the community input, a review of local trends, a table of core park area needs and recommendations based on the application of the park and trail system framework.

Section 5 Is the **System Plan**. The plan includes recommendations for new park land acquisition and development, renovation or improvements of existing parks, new trail construction, park financing, and implementation actions.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The City of Rosemount wanted to be sure that this park plan represented the community's needs and desires. That goal resulted in a commitment to gather community input about desires for the existing and future park system. The following sources were used to provide insight on issues associated with growth and parks, open space, trails and recreation in Rosemount:

- a. **Community Meetings** - 2 public meetings were held to gather input regarding parks, trails and open space. Two park planning meetings were held. The first meeting was held on October 16, 2017, and the second was held on October 23, 2017. These meetings gave residents the opportunity to provide their input on the City's parks, trails and open spaces.
- b. **Parks and Recreation Commission Input** - Throughout the planning process, the Rosemount Parks and Recreation Commission oversaw the preparation of the plan. The Commission worked with city staff and the community to provide guidance and input.
- c. **Staff Input** - City staff used their knowledge of the City's parks system, current trends and the understanding of the City's potential for growth to provide the basis of developing the plan.

COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

Community characteristics are shaped by people and their surroundings. Rosemount is home to active people, good parks, strong schools and solid infrastructure. The regional and local settings, existing parks, description of major stakeholders and partners, and growth forecast are described below.

REGIONAL SETTING

Rosemount is bordered by Apple Valley to the west and by Eagan and Inver Grove Heights to the north. These cities have highly developed park and trail systems. The Mississippi River and Nininger Township form the eastern border of Rosemount. Empire and Vermillion Townships are located to the south of Rosemount.

Dakota County Parks is the implementing agency for regional parks and trails in and around Rosemount. The locations of the current and proposed county parks, North/South Urban Regional Trail and the Dakota County Mississippi River Trail are shown on **Appendix B**.

Many of the Dakota County Parks are located near Rosemount. Lebanon Hills Regional Park is located on the north border of the city, Spring Lake Park Reserve is located in the northeast corner of Rosemount, Dakota Woods Off Leash Dog park and Whitetail Woods Park are located south of Rosemount in Empire township. Regional Parks such as Lebanon Hills Park, Spring Lake Park Reserve Dakota Woods and Whitetail Woods are designed to provide natural resource based recreation and education opportunities.

CITY OF ROSEMOUNT

In 2018, Rosemount is a developing community of approximately 24,295 people. The city is located in the east-central portion of Dakota County and on the developing edge of the southeast portion of the Twin City metropolitan area. The western part of the city is largely developed and the eastern portion is devoted primarily to agriculture, open space and industrial uses. The downtown area is located around the intersection of Highway 3 and 145th Street and contains a mix of business, residential, public and institutional uses.

Two major land owners, Flint Hills Resources and the University of Minnesota (U of MN) own approximately 7,500 acres of land in the city (30% of the area of the city). These areas are primarily undeveloped and contribute to the open and agricultural character of the city. In 2007, Flint Hills Resources donated 57 acres of agricultural land to the City of Rosemount to be used as the site for an outdoor athletic facility.

The primary focus of land use for UMORE Park, the University of Minnesota property in Rosemount, has been agricultural research. The University is currently looking a developing a portion of their land for residential and industrial development. The UMORE property also is home to the Lone Rock Trail, and the UMORE Property just south of Rosemount is now preserved open space managed by the DNR as a Wildlife Management Area. A portion of the UMORE property is being included as an area of development in this master plan.

SCHOOLS

Rosemount High School, Rosemount Middle School, Rosemount Elementary School and Shannon Park Elementary School are part of Independent School District 196 and are all located in Rosemount. The school sites have a number of athletic/recreation facilities that supplement city facilities and are generally available for public use during periods of non-school use. Dakota County Technical College (DCTC) is located on County Road 42 near Akron Avenue and has expanded their campus to include recreation and sports facilities for their students and the greater community. In the fall of 2007, Intermediate School District 917 educating students in grades K-12, constructed a new school in Rosemount. St. Joseph's School is a private K-8 school also in Rosemount that built a new school in 2009. Opportunities to partner with local educational entities on the development, costs and use of recreational facilities should continue to be pursued. Rosemount First Baptist Church and School also have outdoor recreation facilities that could be available to the community.

EXISTING PARK SYSTEM

Rosemount currently has 30 parks totaling 540 acres. The parks are located primarily in the western and central portions of the city. The parks and trails provide a wide range of recreation opportunities to Rosemount residents, area employees and visitors. **Appendix A** contains a map of the existing parks. A detailed listing of park amenities, with an updated parks map are published on a quarterly basis in the City's Parks and Recreation brochure and are also available at the Parks and Recreation Department and on the City's website.

EXISTING TRAIL SYSTEM

Rosemount's trail system is a well-used combination of internal park trails, trails connecting neighborhoods and county trails. In 2010, the Rosemount City Council adopted a Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan that identifies all existing trails and sidewalks in the city, as well as those places in the developed parts of the town where sidewalks and trails are needed. The trails include paved off-street trails, striped on-street bike lanes and unpaved trails in natural areas.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The City is home to many quality natural resources including Schwarz Pond Park, Carrolls' Woods, Horseshoe Lake Park, Meadows Park, the Wiklund Preserve and the Mississippi River. You can find oak savanna, oak woodlands, wetlands, and small lakes throughout the City. The University of Minnesota and Flint Hills Resources properties have natural resource sites that warrant evaluation and appropriate protection or management in conjunction with any land use changes or significant development. Rosemount has planned for developing greenways (See Appendix B).

The area between Highway 55 and the Mississippi River contains some significant natural resources. Remnant prairie areas, high quality oak forests and flood plain forests are located along the river valley and bluffs. These areas are home to a variety of wildlife. This area is part of the Mississippi River Critical Area and the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (MNRRA) and has specific land use policies and management strategies to preserve the unique character of the river corridor.

In 2006, the City developed a Natural Areas Map that identified the natural resources in Rosemount and was developed to use as a reference tool for preserving or enhancing the resources prior to development.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Rosemount has a rich history with a strong link to agriculture and railroading. Rosemount's variety of transportation connections (river, rail, and highway) spurred industrial development. The Gopher Ordinance Plant was built in the south central part of the City during World War II. The plant was closed and the land was conveyed to the University of Minnesota for an agricultural research center. The property still has physical evidence of its former use in the form of, building ruins and other artifacts that could be suitable for historic interpretation, education and recreational use. The Gopher Village housing development is located near Biscayne Way Road. Some of the remaining farmsteads reflect Rosemount's agricultural heritage. Other historic resources include the former St. Joseph's Church, which has been converted to a community gathering space named the Steeple Center.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Rosemount's population, based on the most recent census conducted in 2010, is younger and has a higher percentage of households with children than the average Twin City metropolitan area community. This has equated to current requests for Rosemount to have active park space and activities for youth and adults. Given the high proportion of existing and forecasted single-family homes, the high percentage of families and children is likely to continue for several as the community grows.

FORECASTED GROWTH

By 2040, the population of Rosemount is predicted to reach approximately 38,000 residents (see table 2.b) These new residents will create a demand for municipal services including parks, trails, schools and open space. As the city continues to develop, additional needs will be created by commercial, industrial, business park and other types of development. As the land available for development diminishes, the recreational and open space opportunities available on the Flint Hills Resources and University of Minnesota properties will become increasingly valuable.

Table 2.b – Growth Forecast

Year	Population
2020	25,900
2030	31,700
2040	38,000

PARK, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM FRAMEWORK

Decisions about parks, trails and open space affect the entire community and if made wisely can help increase quality of life and enhance the sense of community. Therefore, it is important to have a set of guidelines to use in decision-making. The following framework was prepared to act as a guide for the preparation of the park plan and for on-going decision making.

The framework criteria are based on national standards set by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) with a strong influence of local needs and conditions. As such, this framework should be used as a guide and should be adjusted based on community needs, trends, etc. It is assumed that residents, land developers, city staff, commissions and officials will use this framework and knowledge of local conditions as they face decisions about parks, trails or open space.

OVERALL PARK ACREAGE STANDARDS

The NRPA typically calls for an accepted range of overall park acreage per population ranging from a minimum of 10 acres per 1,000 populations to 20 or more acres per 1,000 populations. These park acreage figures are for the core park system of mini-parks, neighborhood parks/playfields and athletic complexes/community parks. They do not include trail corridors, greenways, special use parks, school lands, regional parks or conservation areas. This overall figure should be viewed as a benchmark and should be adjusted based on local needs and trends.

GENERAL PARK AND TRAIL CRITERIA

The following criteria are applicable to all park and trail areas.

- The location of parks and trails will be determined by the city using this plan as a guide. Park land shall be suitable for its intended use. This means adequate size, parcel shape, soils, slope, access and relationship between facilities in the park and to adjacent land uses.
- Park land shall be continuous and undivided by roadways, railroad tracks, pipelines, or other impassible or unusable barriers.
- When park land is dedicated by a developer, that developer is required to grade the park land and pave access and perimeter trails (not internal park trails) and neighborhood sidewalks and adjoining rights of way. All construction must meet city specifications.

PARK CLASSIFICATIONS

Rosemount’s parks are classified according to their use and function and are described in table 3.a.

Table 3.a

Park Classification	Use	Service Area	Size	Acres/1,000	Site
Mini-Park	Specialized park that serves a concentrated population (i.e. tots or seniors) or geographic area. Used in areas where geographic	1/8 - 1/4 mile radius	0.5 to 3 acres	0.25 to 0.5	Typically, near higher density housing that does not have access to a neighborhood park or as a supplement to a neighborhood park.

	barriers prevent access to a neighborhood park.				
Neighborhood Park/Playfield	Basic unit of the park system, developed for both active & passive activities. Design criteria should anticipate the changing demographic profiles of the neighborhood served, as to provide appropriate facilities. Focus on formal and informal activities.	1/2mile – 1/3 mile average Radius	4 to 17 acres	3 to 5	Easily accessible to the neighborhood population with safe walking and biking access utilizing trail networks. Parking facilities to provide access and minimize on-street parking.
Athletic Complex	Area for intensely programmed recreation facilities and uses such as athletic fields, swimming pools, etc. Separate athletic fields complexes are typically provided for youth and for adults. Fields are typically lighted for evening use.	Community Wide	25 to 80 acres	3 to 5	Site should be suited for intense development that is easily accessible to the population it is intended to serve. Located near high traffic areas such as schools and major thoroughfares.

Community Park	Area possessing natural qualities conducive to passive recreational activities.	Community Wide	20 to 80 acres	3 to 5	Site typically affords a variety of natural features, well-drained soils, positive drainage, varied topography and accessible to pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
Conservancy or Preserve Lands	Area possessing natural qualities preserved for environmental, open space or aesthetic purposes. Facilities should be compatible with the preservation of the resource.	Site Specific	Depends on resource	Varies	Significant natural areas that merit preservation and would be adversely affected by development. Often flourish when access is limited or controlled access. May be guided by a conservation easement or other government directed restrictions.
Greenways	Privately or publicly owned corridors of open space that often follows natural land or water features and which are primarily managed to protect and enhance natural resources.	Site specific & community wide	Sufficient width for intended use.	Varies	Corridors, used to protect, enhance and link natural resources and features.
Linear Parks	Linear parks and open spaces developed for varying modes of recreational travel such as walking, biking, skiing, in-line skating etc. or for preservation of wildlife corridors, streams, etc.	Site specific & community wide	Sufficient width for intended use. Min. 15 - 30 feet wide	Varies	Built or natural trail corridors, used to link parks, natural resource sites, and/or community facilities such as schools, libraries, and commercial areas. Certain uses such as wildlife corridors require sufficient width to ensure proper function.

Special Use	Highly specialized use area such as community golf courses, swimming pools, splash pads arenas, gardens, plazas, and other specialized recreation uses.	Community wide	Variable	Varies	Site Specific
Historic Sites	Area set aside for preserving and interpreting historical features such as landscapes and architecture.	Community wide	Variable	Varies	Size should be adequate to provide support facilities such as picnic areas, parking, etc.

TRAILS CLASSIFICATIONS

Trails are classified based on their function, design and location. The most popular trails are for pedestrians and bicycles. There are separated trails (parallel sidewalks and bikeways) within the same corridor, combined trails (pedestrians and bikes on the same trail), bike lanes (paved shoulder next to the street), unpaved nature trails and special use trails (cross country ski, horse and snowmobile). Trail classifications and criteria are summarized in Table 3.b. The City’s trails are designed to connect neighborhoods, parks, schools and commercial areas. The major trails can be used for recreation and transportation purposes. Trails within parks will be determined as part of the specific park design. Trail land shall be of sufficient width and slope to accommodate 10’ wide trails and appropriate buffer areas. General guidelines include a minimum trail corridor or buffer area of 15’-30’, and a maximum slope of less than 5 percent.

Table 3.b - Trail Classification System

Trail Classifications	Location and Use	Surface	Width	Slope	Notes
Class I - Separate pedestrian and bicycle trails.	Off - street	Bituminous or bituminous and concrete	5-6 feet for pedestrians 8-10 feet for bicycles	0-5% pedestrian 0-3% bike	
Class II - Combined pedestrian and bicycle trail.	Off - street	Bituminous	8 – 10 feet	0-3% average 8% maximum	
Class III - Bikeway lane.	On-street one way per side	Striped lane next to vehicle lane	6 – 10 feet	Slope to match road	One way lanes
Nature trail.	Within parks and conservation areas	Aggregate, woodchip or turf	4 – 12 feet	0-5% desirable 10% maximum	

Cross country ski trail	Within parks and conservation areas	Snow	10 –14 feet – varies for one or two way	0-15%+ depending upon difficulty	Diagonal and skate tracks.
Snowmobile trail	Off - street	Snow	10-14 feet	0-10%+	
Horse trail	Off - street	Turf or wood chips	10 feet	0-10%+	12 foot overhead clearance

NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section analyzes Rosemount’s existing parks, trails and open space needs based upon the Parks Trails and Open Space System Framework contained in Section 3. Community input, growth forecasts and recreation trends are used in conjunction with the framework standards to define existing and future park needs. Recommended trail locations are determined by analysis of destination locations (parks, schools, neighborhoods, shopping, etc.), the planned roadway network, the physical terrain and barriers, and opportunities.

RECREATION TRENDS

Recreation interests and participation are influenced by many factors. Age, access to facilities, amount of leisure time, interests in the environment, new recreation technology, income and social trends all influence recreation participation. Many park users are looking for quality recreation close to home, but are willing to travel to obtain better quality or more specialized activities. Recent concern regarding the environmental impact of vehicle travel and the benefits of exercise are encouraging many more people to walk and bicycle for transportation as well as for leisure.

Recreation Trends in Rosemount – Recreation participation in Rosemount will continue to grow as the community grows. The following trends have been noted by city staff and also recent public input.

- Trail use continues to increase (walking, running and biking).
- There is a growing interest in have public art be used as a park amenity.
- Preserving and protecting open space and natural resources is important.
- Youth sports are continuing to grow in popularity.
- Requests for youth athletic fields and extended seasons of play are increasing.
- Adult softball participation numbers are shrinking throughout the state.
- Community Garden Plots continue to be popular and are located in many neighborhood parks.
- The City has received requests for additional outdoor ice skating opportunities
- Requests for large park shelter rentals have increased and are not being met.
- Youth sports tournaments have become a key function of each sport
- ISD 196 outdoor athletic facilities in Rosemount are some of the oldest in the district and future expansion is very limited.
- Interest in having pollinator gardens in City parks is high. Staff will continue to implement these gardens.
- Our youth are becoming disconnected from the outdoors as defined in the book “Last Child in the Woods – Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder” by Richard Louv.
- People care about Rosemount’s Parks which is evident by the popular Adopt- a- Park program.

COMMUNITY INPUT SUMMARY

The following is a summary of the input received at the public meetings, and from the Park and Recreation Commission.

- The existing park system is very good. Keep up the park, trail and facility standards for the new growth areas.
- Additional athletic facilities are needed. Consider finishing the development of the property donated by Flint Hills and UMore Ball Fields and start planning for next athletic complexes.
- Connect the community parks (Erickson, Central, Schwarz and Carroll’s Woods), school facilities, and downtown together with trails to make one integrated system.

- Preserve open space and natural areas now before the areas are developed.
- Continue to work with partners on recreation facility planning and development.
- Continue to provide high quality care and maintenance of the City’s parks and open space investments.
- Keep offering programs like Kids Corner to keep our children active.
- Allow space for art to be displayed in public parks.
- Increase tree canopy density in all parks areas.
- Investigate additional recreation opportunities in Carroll’s Woods.

SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS AND FUTURE TRENDS

The following are significant findings and likely future trends based on Rosemount demographics, user input and staff:

- Residents are frequent users of Rosemount parks and are satisfied with the condition of the park system.
- The construction of an athletic complex on the property donated by Flints Hills Resources must move forward to meet the existing and future outdoor facility needs for youth athletics.
- Trail use will continue to increase and demand for trails expansion and connections between parks and other city locations will grow.
- The City will focus on developing sustainable parks and operation methods.
- Recreation facility development and operations partnerships between government agencies, schools, organizations and private corporations will continue to be important to a comprehensive and efficient park system in Rosemount.
- Demand for youth athletic activities and facilities will continue to increase as the City grows.
- Rosemount expects to continue having a high proportion of families with children along with a growing number of retirees by the year 2040.
- There will be a need for new neighborhood parks, mini parks, athletic complex/community parks and natural areas to serve the forecasted growth in Rosemount.
- Open space preservation and protection are a community priority. Key open spaces and natural resources should be preserved in advance or in concert with development.
- The demand and the need for alternative recreation (i.e. skateboarding, disc golf and BMX biking etc.) and special use areas (swimming pool, splash pads, public art, etc.) should be evaluated on a continual basis.

THE ARTS IN ROSEMOUNT

“Having great arts programs and athletics programs make a community an enjoyable place to be and that’s when you see success.” Sir Kenneth Robinson, Ph.D. is an internationally recognized leader in the development of creativity, innovation and human potential. He is currently professor emeritus at the University of Warwick in the UK, following 12 years as professor of education. He resides in Los Angeles CA.

The arts are part of everyone’s life, though it’s not always easy to see. In Rosemount, we have a very active arts component in many sectors of our community. Schools, daycares, churches, library, Rosemount Historical Society, Rosemount Area Seniors and the Rosemount Area Arts Council. We have invested in the Steeple Center as the center for senior activities as well as home base for the Rosemount Area Arts Council.

Arts is defined broadly, not only the classical fine arts one sees in museums, but the creativity demonstrated by a broad cross-section of people of all cultures, ethnicities and backgrounds, a melting pot that can create a culturally rich place to live, work and play, attracting and producing a highly creative workforce that will attract more employers offering good jobs in our community. The Park & Recreation Department will work to collaborate with organizations throughout our community that are willing to bring forth creative experiences for the community, including all ethnicities, cultures and backgrounds. The arts can bring our community closer together, which will be particularly important as the City of Rosemount continues to grow and where people from all kinds of backgrounds will need to find common ground and bond as a single community.

Some of the goals of the arts community are:

- Identify and inventory Artists, Creatives, public sector leaders, and other stakeholders in our community who can help build and provide an environment that is conducive to creative work;
- Work to provide opportunities for Artists, Creatives and Business people to come together to explore, create and initiate a plan for building a sector of the economy of Rosemount through the arts;
- Foster partnerships between business and the artistic community;
- Build or renovate a substantial sized building and grounds to serve as a Creativity Lab where tools are available for people to test their creativity and potentially spin off entrepreneurial businesses, such as a culinary arts section, a woodworking section, a landscaping section, as well as more traditional art, meeting spaces for rent, possibly office assistance for hire. The possibilities are limitless. Collaboration with DCTC and MCI are possibilities as well.
- Provide a wide variety of arts experiences to the community, both arts that are enjoyed through viewing and listening (concerts, art exhibits, etc.), and also through hands-on participation and the act of creating (classes), ranging from cutting edge new technologies to time-honored historical arts, such as papermaking, bookmaking, tatting, beading, silver – smithing, block printing, silk-screening, weaving, crocheting, quilting, pottery and other hand-work, as well as current traditional arts such as painting, drawing, photography, etching, mosaics, glass-blowing with our own glass-blowing studio, and sculpture. We would like to explore arts from around the world and exhibit them. Properly done, this could serve as making Rosemount an arts destination and a revenue generator.
- Provide a biennial community project for all community members to come together and help create a permanent piece of community art to be displayed in a public place;
- Assure that all age groups and all cultures have equal opportunities to flex and build their creative muscle.
- Provide measurements on our success annually both in terms of participation and revenue.
- We envision Rosemount as an Arts and Creativity Incubator, and a regional destination for many people and a role-model for other communities in the coming decades.

FUTURE SERVICE AREA NEEDS

The Rosemount Comprehensive Plan identifies an abundance of new development taking place in Rosemount in future years. The majority of the development will take place East of Highway 3 and on both the North and South sides of County Road 42, East of Akron Avenue and north of County Road 42, East of Highway 52 and south of County Road 42 and is identified in the Parks, Trails and Open Space Search Area Map included as **Appendix C**.

Future Park, Trails and Open Space Needs - Park needs are based on recreation interests, population and household demand or geographic distribution and physical features. For example, a new neighborhood park is designed to serve a population of 1,000 to 2,000 people or approximately 300 - 650 households. The framework standards also call for neighborhood parks to be located within 1/2 - 1/3 mile of most residents. Park service areas are general guides to the geographic area that the park should serve.

Needs Based on Recreation and Demographic Trends – Continued residential growth and a high proportion of both single-family housing means a continued increase in the number of households with an active lifestyle is expected. The movement of the “baby boomers” into retirement also means more active life styles for retired adults. This requires a broad spectrum of recreational facilities and activities for youth, teens, adults, and retirees, on an individual as well as in group settings.

Participation in youth athletics has grown steadily and is likely to continue to grow as the community grows. Community growth and increased youth participation results in a need for baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, football fields, outdoor ice rinks, tennis, pickle ball, basketball, and volleyball courts. Facilities are needed for recreational play; league play as well as hosting tournament play. The City is continuing to address the need for sufficient community park space for tournaments and for the expected growth in organized athletics. Additional community athletic playfields will be needed to meet future demands.

Sport seasons are becoming longer. Demand for lacrosse and soccer fields during the baseball and softball seasons limits the effectiveness of multi-use (overlapping) fields.

Many people are interested in passive and natural resource based recreation such as hiking, nature study, bird watching, fishing, etc. Conservation and natural resource sites are needed to accommodate these activities. The baby boomer generation’s recreation interests are often focused around healthy lifestyles and staying active. Their recreational interests include walking/running, bicycling, pickle ball, golfing, bird watching, nature study, community volunteering, arts and cultural activities, etc.

Needs Comparison to Framework Standards –

Table 4.a. evaluates the existing park supply and forecasted needs based on the park classification framework.

On paper, Rosemount currently appears to meet the local demand for parks based on national standards. What needs to be reviewed carefully is whether the amenities being offered are meeting the needs of the community. In the 1970’s and 1980’s a number of parks were developed that by today’s standards would be considered mini parks and most likely not used for organized events.

Furthermore,

a large amount of the land in the parks system is managed as preserves or conservancy lands. A number of regional parks or protected open spaces are also located near Rosemount.

Between 2018 and 2040 additional neighborhood parks/playfields, athletic complex land, and community park lands are needed to meet forecasted growth and resident needs. A total of approximately 416 - 697 additional core park acres will be needed by 2040. A careful review of additional needs should be conducted based on the current number of multiple use fields, overlapping fields, frequent school use of school facilities (limiting general public availability) and the need for field maintenance and refurbishing (field quality declines rapidly with overuse). Local needs are often a more appropriate benchmark than general framework standards. The input from park users and existing facility use may indicate a greater or lesser need for certain types of facilities.

Due to the size of the land holdings and use of Flint Hills Resources and the University of Minnesota property, portions of these large land areas may be suitable sites for a community athletic complex/community parks or other park or open space use. Parks, trails and open space protection should be incorporated into any land use or development changes on these properties.

Table 4.a - Existing Core Park Area and 2040 Area Needs by Park Classification

	Existing	Existing needs	2040	Future Needs (Recommended # of sites)
Population	24,295	24,295	38,000	
Park classification and land/ per 1,000 capital				
Mini-park 0.25 – 0.5 ac./1,000 pop.	14 acres	6 – 12 acres	11.25– 22.5 acres	1 - 4 acres (2 parks)
Neighborhood Park/Playfields	118 acres	72 – 120 acres	135 – 225 acres	59 – 149 acres (11 parks)
Community Park 3 - 5 ac./1,000 pop.	73 acres	72 – 120 acres	135 – 225 acres	62 – 152 acres (2 parks)
Athletic Complex 3 - 5 ac./1,000 pop.	170 acres	72 – 120 acres	135 – 225 acres	60 – 115 acres (2 parks)
Conservancy/Preserve Lands	165 acres	Varies	Varies	Varies
Overall Park Area 10-20 ac./1,000 pop.	540 acres	240 – 480 acres	450 – 900 acres	181 – 420 acres

Supplemental Outdoor Recreation Facilities – Local schools and churches also have recreation facilities that can supplement city recreation facilities. In the past, they have been primarily designed for the owners use, but are also available to the public depending upon the owners needs and facility availability.

OTHER FACILITIES

Special Use Parks - The need for special use parks or facilities is an on-going process based on staff, Commission, stakeholder and public input and changing recreation needs. These types of needs might include skate parks, outdoor pools, splash pads, BMX biking, disc golf, etc. These activities are often more appropriate in community parks.

Facilities for Those with Special Needs – Facilities built specifically to meet the special needs of park users is something that should be reviewed and discussed on an ongoing basis. These types of facilities might include areas full access ball fields, zero slope looped trails, etc. The opportunity to partner with local school districts, non-profit service providers, others in the community to develop these types of facilities is something the City should pursue.

Swimming Pool/Splash Pad - The Cities of Eagan, Apple Valley and Hastings have outdoor swimming pools and/or aquatic parks. Dakota County, the City of Lakeville and the City of Burnsville operate beaches at local lakes. Given the close proximity to these major outdoor pools and public beaches, at this time it is questionable if a public outdoor pool in Rosemount would get sufficient use to justify the large initial expense and the on-going operating costs. Given the presence of the nearby outdoor pools, a feasibility study should be conducted to determine what type of aquatic facility (indoor or outdoor) if any, should be pursued. The City currently hosts a very popular splash pad in Central Park. Staff will continue to look for ways to efficiently operate the pad, including the installation of a recirculating water system.

THE SYSTEM PLAN

The Rosemount Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan will guide the parks, trails and open space acquisition and development through the year 2040. The Plan is based on forecasted growth and a flexible park system framework to create a pleasing and accessible system of parks, trails and open space for new and existing residents, employees and visitors. The Plan contains recommendations for:

- Additions to existing parks and open space
- New park, trails and open space development and land acquisition
- System funding and park dedication

THE PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM PLAN



The plan map shows existing and proposed park areas, trails and other site specific opportunities. The proposed park locations are shown on **Appendix C**.

SYSTEM PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations for new parks are based on the park system framework and standards and the needs analysis.

- **Mini-Parks:** 7 new mini-parks are needed to meet the recreation needs of the forecast growth to 2040. The distribution of these parks is shown on the Rosemount Park, Trail and Open Space Map as **Appendix C**.
- **Neighborhood Parks/Playfields:** 11 new neighborhood parks are needed to meet the recreation needs of the forecasted growth to 2040. Staff will need to work with developers and landowners to acquire land for new parks in accordance with the search area locations shown on **Appendix C**.
- **Community Athletic/Community Parks:** There is a need for 122 to 267 acres of athletic facility/community park land to meet future community needs. It is important to acquire land for these parks in advance of development because of the large amount of land they will require. Potential sites should have good vehicular access, be relatively level and have appropriate adjacent land uses. The site should meet the criteria established in the Park, Trails and Open Space System Framework.
- **Conservation Areas:** 1 new conservation opportunity area is identified. The area contains key natural resources that should be considered for preservation and opened to the public. Depending upon the location and natural features the conservation area may also function as passive use community park. The locations of these proposed conservation areas are shown on as **Appendix C**. Consider acquisition and/or preservation of the site with conservation easements. When feasible, the city should evaluate these types of sites, seek funding for acquisition and acquire the priority sites the partnerships with non-profit, governmental or private agencies.



- 
 - **Greenways:** The City of Rosemount participated in the Greenway Strategic Plan. The Greenway Strategic Plan seeks to establish a system of inter-linked natural resource features and corridors throughout Dakota County. Implementation of the greenway plan is recommended through a cooperative partnership through the commitment of the city, local residents and greenway area land owners.
- 
 - **Trails:** The proposed trail system should be designed to connect neighborhoods to parks, shopping and schools to adjacent community's trails and regional trails. Most new trails are expected to be Class II shared pedestrian/bike paved trails. There will also be a need for internal trails within parks and unpaved nature trails in larger parks and conservation areas. Key components to developing a comprehensive trail system will include:
 - Acquire and develop trail corridors and linear parks in accordance with the future roadways identified in the Comp Plan.
 - Implement the Greenways plans as identified in the Regional context map **Appendix B**
 - Build loop trails within parks that connect park features and facilities.
 - Ensure that trail connections are provided from developments to proposed parks.
 - Interconnect existing and future parks and trails to potential greenways, wetlands and other passive recreational opportunities
 - Work with Dakota County to continue to construct a trail parallel to County Road 42. Near Highway 52, the County Road 42 will travel north of the CR42/TH52 interchange to avoid the proposed future cloverleaf intersection design.
 - Continue implementation of the City's Pedestrian Improvement Plan (Trails and Sidewalk Plan) Improvement Program.

IMPROVEMENTS AND RENOVATIONS TO EXISTING PARKS

It is important to plan and budget for future renovation along with new park development. Park facilities such as play equipment, shelter buildings, fencing, paving, etc. have a finite life span and stand-alone comprehensive capital replacement schedule for parks and trails (i.e. play equipment lasts about 20 years) should be implemented and updated on a regular basis. Park revitalization needs should be continually evaluated by on-site observations and input from residents, Parks and Recreation Commissioners, City Council and staff.

EXPLORE ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Continue and expand partnerships with the School District 196 and 917, Dakota County, Dakota County Technical College, Flint Hills Resources and the University of Minnesota for future park, trail and open space acquisition and development.

PRESERVE AND RESTORE NATURAL RESOURCES

The City should create management plans for our City lands that are home to quality natural resources. Staff will continue the efforts to identify and eradicate invasive species on City owned property. Educating landowners about invasive species and management strategies will be key in controlling further spread of the invasive species.

EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HISTORIC SITES

Evaluate the potential for preservation of significant historical or cultural sites. Continue to work with the Rosemount Historical Society to preserve Rosemount's history. Consider Rosemount's agricultural, railroad and community history when naming, acquiring or developing future parks. For instance, some parks could be named for prominent settlers of the land or an agricultural design theme could be incorporated into a new playground.

PARK IMPROVEMENT/RENOVATION FUNDING AND PARK DEDICATION

Funding of park land acquisition and development is done through a variety of sources. Park dedication from new development (either land or cash) is the primary funding source for new parks and trails. City general funds are typically used for renovation of existing parks and trails. Grant funds should be sought to help supplement city funds for certain projects.

PARKS DEDICATION ORDINANCE

When new residential, commercial, industrial, business park or other subdivisions are proposed, the City requires dedication of park land or trails where shown on the Rosemount Park and Trail Plan maps or as recommended by the Rosemount Parks & Recreation Commission and approved by the City Council. Where general park service area locations are shown on the Parks, Trails and Open Space map identified in **Appendix C**, the exact extent and location of the parkland will be determined and recommended through detailed analysis and review by City staff. Where it is decided that park, trail or open space land is not to be dedicated, the City will require cash in lieu of land payment determined by the City's ordinance relating to park dedication and a fee which is set annually in the City's Fees and Fee Policy. Where a mix of cash and land dedication is required, the City will calculate the pro-rated cash dedication share based on the land dedication amount.

Park dedication funds should be used for construction of new park and trail facilities. The funds should not be used for facility replacement or for renovation of existing parks unless additional capacity is the result of the improvement.

General Funding – It is important to allocate sufficient capital from the General Fund to cover capital facility repair and replacement. The importance of General Funds for renovation will increase as Rosemount's parks and trails age. Rosemount should be proactive and plan and budget for park renovation and replacement of facilities such as parking lots, trail re-paving, play equipment and park shelters, etc.

Grants – Some city park construction projects and land acquisitions are eligible for supplemental grant funds. County, state, federal and non-profit grant programs are the major sources of grants for park development, conservation and special recreation land acquisition and trail and pedestrian/bike bridge construction. These grant programs may require a local match and have limited funds, and there is intense competition for these limited resources. The City should continue to evaluate the suitability of proposed acquisition or development for these grant opportunities.

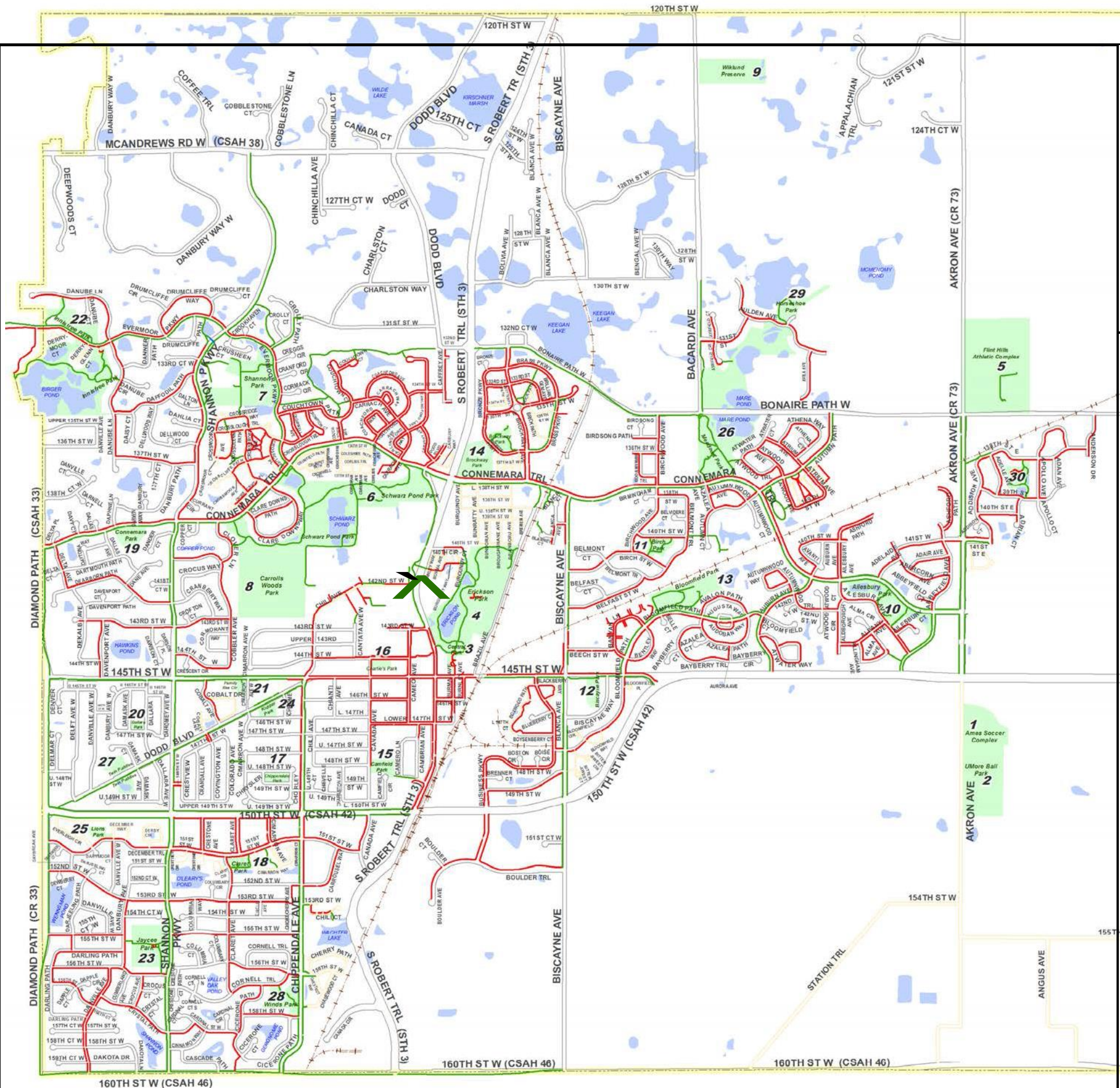
Referendum – A bond referendum is a special election that allows voters to determine if they want to increase their property taxes to help pay for bonds which fund selected public improvements (e.g. such as park and trail development or acquisition of conservation areas and open space). In general, park bond referendums are used to fund larger community wide projects (such as a community center,

aquatics center, sport complex, conservation areas trails and greenways, etc.) or a range of park improvement projects such as renovation of multiple parks. This is an option for Rosemount depending upon the specific project needs and fiscal situation.

Partnerships – Where appropriate and feasible, partnerships for acquisition and development of community facilities can reduce the up-front cost to the city and lessen the on-going operating costs of recreation facilities. The details of use, cost sharing and maintenance and other issues determine the suitability and feasibility of potential partnerships.

Appendix A

Existing Parks Map



Trails and Parks Map City of Rosemount

Legend

- Water
- Bituminous
- Tunnel
- Parks
- Sidewalk
- Comm. Center

Park Amenities: Existing Element	COMMUNITY PARKS																					
	Acres	Barbecue Grills	Baseball Field - Official	Basketball - Hard Surface	Little League Field	Nature Areas	Parking	Picnic Shelter	Picnic Tables	Playground Equipment	Restrooms	Skating - Hockey	Skating - Pleasure	Soccer - Official Fields	Soccer - Youth Fields	Softball - Official	Tennis Courts	Volleyball Courts	Walking Trails	Warming House	Disk Golf	Skate Park
COMMUNITY PARKS																						
Ames Soccer Complex (at DCTC)																						
1300 145th St E	13.56																					
Ball Fields at Umore, 14860 Akron Ave	26.40				P																	
Central Park, 2893 145th St W	6.28				P																	
Erickson Park, 14115 Brazil Ave	45.10																					
Flint Hills Athletic Complex 135th St W & Akron Ave	57.62																					
Schwarz Pond Park, 13787 Dodd Blvd	62.29	P			P	P	P	P	P													
Shannon Park, 13260 Shannon Pkwy	24.76				P	P																
CONSERVANCY LAND																						
Carrolls Woods, 3335 142nd St W	44.46				P																	
Wiklund Preserve, Bacardi Ae	14.97	Preserve																				
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS																						
Birch Park, 2181 Birch St	3.52			P				P	P	P												
Biscayne Park, 2420 145th St W	3.08																					
Bloomfield Park, 14225 Bloomfield Path	13.75			P	P			P	P	P	P	P	P									
Brockway Park, 13660 Bronze Pkwy	14.36			P	P			P	P	P												
Camfield Park, 14795 Canada Ave	3.10	P		P				P	P	P												
Charlies Park, 3155 144th St W	1.26																					
Chippendale Park, 14876 Chrysler Ave	2.11			P	P																	
Claret Park, 15130 Claret Ave	2.63																					
Connemara Park, 13930 Connemara Tr	4.79	P		P	P	P	P	P	P													
Dallara Park, 4175 147th St W	1.04			P																		
Family Resource Center Park 14521 Cimarron Ave	1.24			P																		
Innisfree Park, 4270 Evermoor Pkwy	55.82							P	P	P	P											
Jaycee Park, 15425 Shannon Pkwy	14.66	P	P					P	P	P	P	P	P									
Kidder Park, 3652 146th St W	2.13			P																		
Lions Park, 15155 December Tr	1.94																					
Meadows Park, 13960 Azalea Ave	26.44			P	P	P	P	P	P													
Prestwick Park, 14238 Ailesbury Ave	13.81			P				P														
Twin Puddles Park, 14884 Dodd Blvd	5.40				P			P														

	28 Winds Park, 15675 Chippendale Ave	7.09	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
	29 Horseshoe Lake Park, 13202 Aulden Ave	37.12	Undeveloped										
	30 Greystone Park, 1268 138th StE	6.00		P			P	P					

Appendix B

Regional Context Map

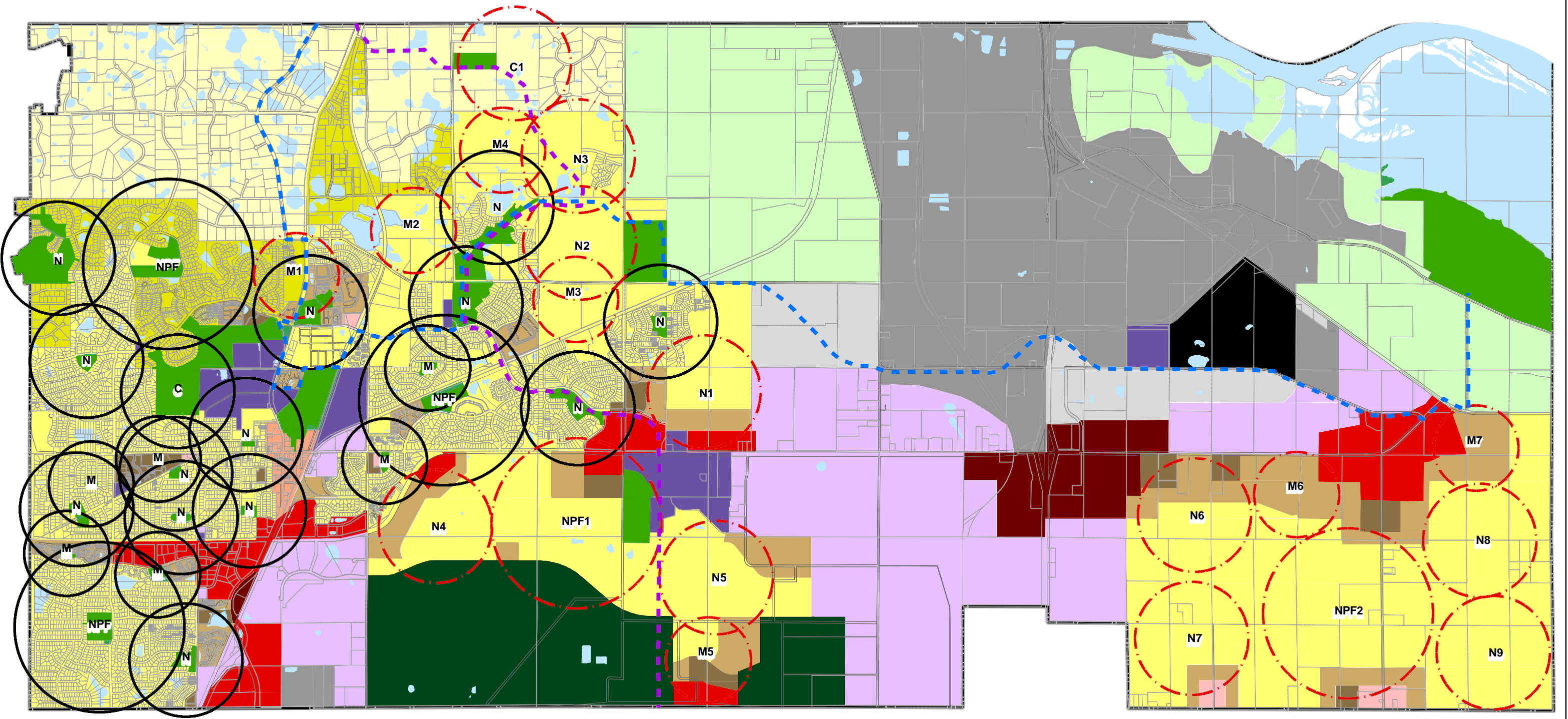
Dakota County Long-Range Vision for Greenways



K *Please refer to the 2017 Dakota County Central Greenway Connectivity Study for more information on short-term (purple dashed line) and long-term linking routes.*

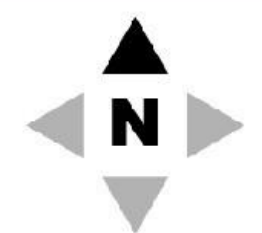
Appendix C

Rosemount Park, Trail and Open Space Plan Map



- | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Rosemount Greenway — Vermillion Highlands Greenway Park Service Areas Existing Park Proposed Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> C - Conservation M - Mini Park N - Neighborhood NPF - Neighborhood Play Field | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AG Agriculture FP Floodplain DT Downtown NC Neighborhood Commercial RC Regional Commercial | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CC Community Commercial AGR Agricultural Research RR Rural Residential LDR Low Density Residential TR Transitional Residential | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MDR Medium Density Residential HDR High Density Residential PI Public/Institutional PO Existing Parks/Open Space BP Business Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LI Light Industrial GI General Industrial WM Waste Management |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|

Rosemount Parks, Trails, and Open Space



1 in = 2,983 ft

Parks and Natural Resources Commission Regular Meeting: December 15, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Review of Parks Rules	AGENDA SECTION: UNFINISHED BUSINESS
PREPARED BY: Dan Schultz, Parks & Recreation Director	AGENDA NO. 6.b.
ATTACHMENTS: Park Rules - City Code 2025	APPROVED BY: DLS
RECOMMENDED ACTION: None, discussion only.	

BACKGROUND

Staff is recommending that we review the current City code relating to park rules. Some of the reasons for possibly making changes to the rules include:

Population Growth Brings New Needs

As our community grows, so does the diversity of park users. New residents may bring different expectations, recreational habits, and cultural norms. Updating rules ensures they reflect the current and future needs of the population.

Increased Usage = Greater Impact

More people using parks means more wear and tear, more potential for conflicts, and a greater need for clear, enforceable guidelines. Updated rules help: Protect natural resources, ensure safety and promote equitable access.

Address Emerging Issues

Fast growth often introduces new challenges, such as: e-bike and scooter usage, drone flying, off-leash dog areas and organized sports vs. casual use conflicts.

Align with Current Laws and Best Practices

Older rules may be out of sync with state or federal regulations, ADA accessibility standards and environmental sustainability goals.

Staff will review the current rules with the Commission and we can discuss potential updates.

RECOMMENDATION

None, discussion only.

City of Rosemount - Park Rules

4-3-1: PURPOSE AND INTENT:

The purpose of this chapter is to provide for the regulated use of and the protection of life and property in or on city parks. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-2: DEFINITIONS:

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given them:

CITY PARK: Any land owned by the city of Rosemount and designated as a park by the city council by separate resolution.

LIQUOR: A beverage capable of inducing intoxication, including, but not limited to, 3.2 beer, wine and wine coolers.

MOTORIZED VEHICLES: Any motor vehicle, whether designed for, used or capable of use for travel, lodging, sport, amusement or recreation, whether or not eligible to be licensed for use upon streets or highways, including, but not limited to, automobiles, buses, trucks, tractor trailers, tractors, motorbikes, motor scooters, minibikes, trail bikes, motorcycles, go-karts, hovercrafts, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles or dune buggies. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-3: PARK HOURS:

A. Closing Hours: Except as otherwise provided, parks shall be closed between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) P.M. and six o'clock (6:00) A.M. of the following day, and no person shall be upon city park property during these hours.

B. Exceptions:

1. Persons shall be allowed upon city park property after closing hours if they have a permit from the parks and recreation department.

2. Erickson park shall be closed at eleven o'clock (11:00) P.M. rather than ten o'clock (10:00) P.M.

3. The city council may by resolution modify the closing hours as it may deem appropriate.

4. City personnel may be in the parks at any time if acting in the course of their official duties.

5. City personnel may assign special hours of use by posting at park site. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-4: CITY PARK RESERVATIONS:

No person or group shall have exclusive use of all or any portion of a park unless they have first reserved the property with the parks and recreation department and procured a permit. Unless an exclusive use permit is procured, use of the park property will be on first come, first served basis. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-5: VEHICLE USE/PARKING REGULATIONS:

A. Use of motorized vehicle, including operation and parking, within city parks shall be unlawful except upon roads or trails specifically designated for such use.

B. No person shall operate or park a motorized vehicle within city parks during hours when the park is closed unless authorized by permit issued by the parks and recreation department.

C. No person shall park a motorized vehicle within city parks unless that person is a patron of the park at that time or unless authorized by permit issued by the parks and recreation department.

D. No person shall park a motorized vehicle on the east side of Brazil Avenue within Erickson Park, unless authorized by permit issued by the parks and recreation department. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-6: FIRE:

A. No person shall ignite a fire in any city park except in:

1. Barbecue grills provided. Charcoal fires are permitted in barbecue grills only, no wood fires allowed.

2. Designated firepit in Central Park by permit authorized by the city fire marshal.

B. No person igniting or attending a fire shall leave the area before the fire has been completely extinguished.

C. City personnel upon authorization of the city fire marshal are able to ignite fires with the use of various combustible materials. (Ord. B-241, 9-16-2014)

4-3-7: LITTER:

No person shall litter any city park or any lake, pond or watercourse within or draining into a city park with any form of trash or waste material. Such trash or waste material shall be deposited in the proper receptacles when provided; where receptacles are not provided, all trash or waste material shall be carried away from the area by the person responsible for its presence. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-8: PERSONAL PROPERTY:

No person shall leave or store personal property within any city park without written permission from the parks and recreation department. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-9: PROTECTION OF PROPERTY, STRUCTURES AND NATURAL RESOURCES:

A. Damaging Or Removing Property Prohibited: No person shall wilfully deface, vandalize or otherwise cause destruction to city park property.

B. Flowers, Trees And Shrubs: No person shall wilfully and without authority cut, pluck or otherwise injure any flowers, shrubs, trees or other plant material growing in or around any city park. No person shall introduce any form of vegetation within a park without permission from the parks and recreation department.

C. Birds Or Animals: No person shall wilfully and without authority kill, trap, hunt, pursue or in any manner disturb or interfere with any species of wildlife in any city park without permission from the parks and recreation department. No person shall release any insect, fish or animal in any city park without permission from the parks and recreation department.

D. Restitution: In addition to other penalties, any person violating the provisions of this section shall make restitution to the parks and recreation department for the full value of the damage caused, including, but not limited to, the cost of repairs, replacement and labor. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-10: LIQUOR RESTRICTIONS:

A. Possession And Consumption Restricted: The possession and/or consumption of liquor in any city park shall be prohibited except as provided in subsection B of this section.

B. Use In Parks: "Wine" and "3.2 percent malt liquor", as defined in Minnesota statutes, section 340A.101, may be possessed or consumed, but only in the following city parks or areas of city parks:

1. All areas of Erickson Park.
2. City parks with shelters, by permit only, obtained through the parks and recreation department, provided that consumption and possession of beer and wine is limited to areas within fifty feet (50') of a shelter.
3. No glass bottles are allowed in the parks.

C. Sale Of Liquor In Erickson Park: With the approval of the city council, a license may be issued for the sale of "3.2 percent malt liquor" as defined in Minnesota statutes, section 340A.101, only in Erickson Park. If a license is issued, it must be posted in a conspicuous place in the premises selling the 3.2 percent malt liquor. (Ord. XVI.30, 4-4-1995)

4-3-11: ANIMALS 1 :

A. Proper Restraint: A dog or cat is considered to be under restraint on city park property only when it is controlled with the use of a leash no longer than ten feet (10') or when it is under voice or signal command in the exercise areas designated by the city.

B. Feces Removal: All persons in control of an animal on city park property shall have in his/her possession at all times apparatus which can be used for cleaning up feces and/or a bag for proper disposal of feces. The person in control of an animal is responsible for picking up his/her animal's feces and disposing of it properly.

C. Proper Control: No person shall permit a dog or other animal to disturb, harass or interfere with or endanger any visitor or visitor's property. No person shall tether and leave unattended any dog or animal to a tree, plant, building or city park equipment.

D. Special Events: No animals under human control shall be allowed on the Carrolls Woods Trails during the parks and recreation sponsored Halloween Haunted Woods event, except lead dogs for the sight impaired persons. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

Notes

1 1. See title 7, chapter 4 of this code.

4-3-12: GOLF:

No person shall play the game of golf or engage in putting, practice swinging or the striking of any golf balls in any city park. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-13: RESTROOMS:

Every person shall cooperate in maintaining restrooms, washrooms and other sanitation facilities in a neat, orderly and sanitary condition. No person shall use the restrooms and washrooms designed and designated for members of the opposite sex, except for children who may be accompanied by an adult when deemed appropriate. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-14: PUBLIC SALES:

No person shall expose or offer for sale, rent or hire any article or thing or conduct any commercial enterprise within a city park unless that person has obtained a permit from the parks and recreation department. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-15: POSTERS AND ADVERTISEMENTS:

A. No person shall post, glue, tack or otherwise affix any sign, placard, advertisement or other inscription whatsoever to public property within any city park.

B. No person shall distribute or disseminate leaflets, pamphlets or other written or printed material, or use loudspeakers or other amplifying systems, in any city park without a permit from the parks and recreation department. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-16: GLASS:

No person shall bring glass containers of any kind into any city parks, including, but not be limited to, beverage containers, drinking glasses, etc. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-17: WEAPONS PROHIBITED:

The use or possession of "firearms", as defined in title 7, chapter 5 of this code, within the city parks is prohibited, except the use of archery equipment in designated archery ranges. (Ord. XVI.27, 2-1-1994)

4-3-18: VIOLATIONS; PENALTIES:

Any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as described in title 1, chapter 4 of this code. (Ord. XII.21, 6-15-2004)

4-3-19: VETERANS MEMORIAL:

Pursuant to Minnesota statutes, section 416.01, the city council is authorized to erect, equip, maintain, supervise and control the veterans memorial monument and the Rosemount veterans memorial walk project in Central Park in recognition of the services performed by soldiers, sailors, marines and war veterans of the United States. (Ord. XXI.20, 8-18-2009)

Parks and Natural Resources Commission Regular Meeting: December 15, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Environmental and Sustainability Updates	AGENDA SECTION: NEW BUSINESS
PREPARED BY: Dan Schultz, Parks & Recreation Director	AGENDA NO. 7.a.
ATTACHMENTS:	APPROVED BY: DLS
RECOMMENDED ACTION: None, discussion only.	

BACKGROUND

Solid Waste & Recycling Program Update – Early Winter

Special Collections

- Our ever-popular holiday light collection program officially started November 17. Over 700 lbs. of lights have been collected between the cities of Hastings, Rosemount and Farmington thus far. Collected lights are delivered to the Recycling Zone in Eagan, where the metal components are extracted and recycled.

Miscellaneous Items

- The 2026 Dakota County Solid Waste Abatement Grant has been submitted and is scheduled to go before council for approval at the December 16 meeting.
- Planning for 2026 solid waste and recycling events has begun. There are four special collections (Spring Cleanup, Fall Cleanup, Pumpkin Collection, and Holiday Light Collection), four educational/tabling events (Rosemount Expo, Safety Camp Recycling Relay, Leprechaun Days, and a new Low-Waste Living Presentation), and three reuse initiatives (Food Truck Fest reusable cups, Oktoberfest reusable cups, and an Outdoor Winter Clothing Swap) planned in Rosemount for 2026
- Resource Environmental Solutions (RES) was able to complete a couple of prescribed burns this fall at Central and Meadows Park before the snow arrived. This winter, we plan to add additional grass and forb seed to help introduce more species into these native areas. RES crews also intend to conduct a few volunteer tree removals in select native spaces.
- Flint Hill Park is scheduled for a prescribed burn in the spring of 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

None, discussion only.

Parks and Natural Resources Commission Regular Meeting: December 15, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Director's Report	AGENDA SECTION: NEW BUSINESS
PREPARED BY: Dan Schultz, Parks & Recreation Director	AGENDA NO. 7.b.
ATTACHMENTS:	APPROVED BY: DLS
RECOMMENDED ACTION: None, discussion only.	

BACKGROUND

RECOMMENDATION

Park Improvement Fund Balance as of November 30, 2025: \$5,076,375.79

Inflows to the Park Improvement Fund last month were as follows:

Dedication fees - \$0

Grants/Other - \$0

Interest - \$0

Donations - \$0

Expenditures - \$347,299 (park and trail designs, dog park project and UMore Building)

Breakfast with Santa – Staff coordinated our annual Breakfast with Santa event on Saturday, December 6 at the Rosemount Community Center. We had 200 people register for the event.

Winter Spring Brochure – The Winter/Spring Parks and Recreation brochure was delivered to residents the weekend of December 6.

Warming houses – Staff is tentatively planning to open warming houses on Monday, December 15. This, of course is weather dependent and only if ice conditions are ready for skating.