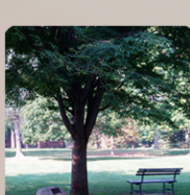
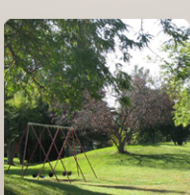




# The City of Muncie's 5-year Parks & Recreation



## Master Plan 2009



Mr. Matt Bailey  
Park Board President  
Muncie Park Board  
1800 S. Grant St.  
Muncie, IN 47303

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009


Dear Mr. Bailey,

The DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation planning staff has reviewed the final draft of the 2009 -2013 Muncie Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The plan meets the Department of Natural Resources' minimum requirements for local parks and recreation master plans. A new plan will be due on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

If you haven't already, we strongly recommend that you contact Mr. Bob Bronson, our grant section chief, as soon as possible about future grant applications. Bob and his staff can assist in your grant application process. He can be reached by phone at: (317) 232-4075 or by e-mail at: [bbronson@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:bbronson@dnr.IN.gov).

We support your planning efforts and encourage your participation in the grant programs administered by the Division of Outdoor Recreation. If you require further information regarding planning, do not hesitate to call me at: (317) 232-4071 or by e-mail at: [gbeilfuss@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:gbeilfuss@dnr.IN.gov).

Sincerely,



Greg Beilfuss  
State and Community Outdoor Recreation Planner  
IDNR Division of Outdoor Recreation

ECC – Lorey Stinton, Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Plan Commission



**ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE  
SECTION 504  
OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973**

The Muncie Parks and Recreation Board (Applicant) has received and read the guidelines for compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 issued by the United State Department of the Interior and will comply with these guidelines and the ACT.

SIGNATURE   
APPLICANT PRESIDENT

Matt R. Bailey  
(President's printed name)

SIGNATURE 

Craig D. Zook  
(Secretary's printed name)

DATE 3-17-09

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-1

BEING A RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL OF  
THE CITY OF MUNCIE'S 5-YEAR PARKS & RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the mission of the Muncie Parks and Recreation Board is to enhance the overall quality of life for all Muncie residents and improve the health and economic well-being of the community by providing attractive, naturalized open space and recreational opportunities, both active and passive, in a safe, professional and fiscally responsible manner; and

WHEREAS, the Muncie Park and Recreation Board is aware of the parks and recreational needs of the residents of Muncie, Indiana, and

WHEREAS, the Board realizes the importance of sound planning in order to meet the needs of its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Muncie Park and Recreation Board as follows:

1. That the Board hereby adopts *The City of Muncie's 5-year Parks & Recreation Master Plan - 2009* as its official plan for the next five years for the growth and development of parks and recreational opportunities in Muncie, Indiana.
2. That a 14 day public comment period shall be provided beginning March 18, 2009, and all comments shall be incorporated and made a part of the Master Plan.
3. That the adoption of the Master Plan shall be effective April 1, 2009.

This Resolution is hereby adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2009.

CITY OF MUNCIE PARK AND  
RECREATION BOARD

BY:

Matt R. Bailey  
Park Board President  
Printed Name Matt R. Bailey

James E. Mitchell  
Park Board Member  
Printed Name JAMES E. MITCHELL

Jennifer J. Abrell  
Park Board Member  
Printed Name Jennifer J. Abrell

Carl E. Malove  
Park Board Member  
Printed Name CARL E. MALOVE

Amy L. Gregg  
Park Board Member  
Printed Name Amy L. Gregg





# Executive Summary

Parks, Open Space, Trails, Greenways and Recreational Programming offer many beneficial amenities to a community. These amenities include:

### Quality of Life Benefits

- Makes neighborhoods more attractive places to live
- Strengthens community pride
- Improves physical health – opportunities for exercise and recreation
- Improves mental health
- Can reduce violence and crime

### Environmental Benefits

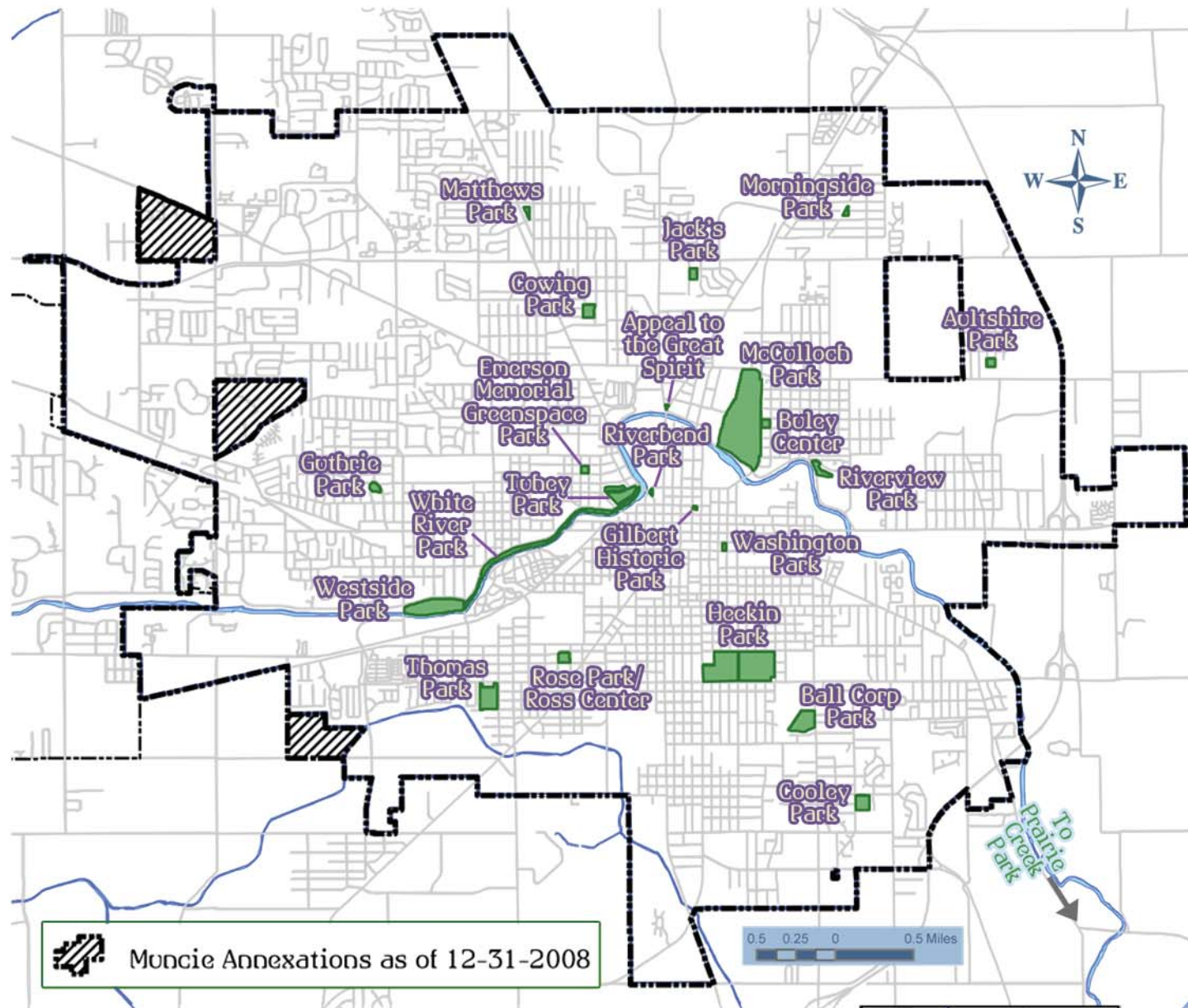
- Offer natural environmental protection
- Improved water quality – absorbs storm runoff, reduces runoff and filters out sediment, nutrients, pathogens, pesticides, metals and other contaminants
- Reduce air pollution – natural air filters
- Moderates temperatures – reduces heat island effects
- Energy conservation (within the parks these are applicable for cabins and offices)
- Tree cover can reduce building energy use in the summer by providing shade
- Trees also contribute to reduced winter energy use by providing a wind block
- Habitat
- Increased natural areas provides for habitat diversity
- Contributes to connecting natural areas which provide for healthier wildlife

### Economic Benefits

- Attracts and retains businesses
- Attracts home buyers (when parks are within 2000 feet of the home)
- Attracts retirees
- Reduced costs for public services
- Provides “free” natural services like flood control & filtration of pollutants
- Higher assessments, thus higher property tax revenue for local government (when parks are within 2000 feet of the home)
- Increased tourism

According to the 2007 U.S. Census population estimates, Muncie is the 8th largest second class city in Indiana. Muncie spends less on its park system and employs one of the lowest amount of full time employees than all other second class cities benchmarked. While Muncie provides an average number of parks, the amount of acres dedicated to parkland in the City is the least amount offered per resident. For decades, Muncie’s park system has not offered any recreational programming, aged park equipment has needed updating, and no new parks of significant size have been established.

One of the best ways for Muncie to improve its overall character is to enhance its park system. A preminent park system will set Muncie apart from other cities in the State. This would enhance the livability of the community for residents and the marketability of Muncie for prospective businesses.



## Muncie Parks & Recreation Park System 2008

Figure I - Inventory of Muncie's parks.





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# Acknowledgements

## **Muncie’s Park Board**

Matt Bailey, President    Dr. Amy Gregg, Vice President  
Jennifer Abrell, Past President    Carl Malone    James Mitchell

## **City of Muncie**

Sharon McShurley, Mayor

## **Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Plan Commission**

David Howell – President    Deane Rundell – Vice President  
Marta Moody – Executive Director    Tom DeWeese – Attorney  
Gary Alexander    Julius Anderson    Larry Bledsoe  
Roy Budd    Michael Denton    Jerry Dishman  
Tom Green    John Kelley    Lance Lillie

## **Park & Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee**

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Lenette Freeman – Cardinal Greenways Inc.  
Dr. Amy Gregg – BSU (Natural Resources and Environmental Management),  
Park Board  
Kellie McClellan – Urban Forester  
Marta Moody – Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Plan Commission  
Neil Schmottlach – Ball Brothers Foundation  
Lon Sloan – Muncie Community Schools  
Doug Zook – Muncie Parks Department, Park Superintendent  
Project Manager, Document Preparation  
Lorey Stinton – Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Plan Commission

## **Specialty Consultants**

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Connie Gregory – Community Development, Urban Forestry Board  
Kyle Johnson – Delaware County Office of Geographic Information,  
Urban Forestry Board









Introduction

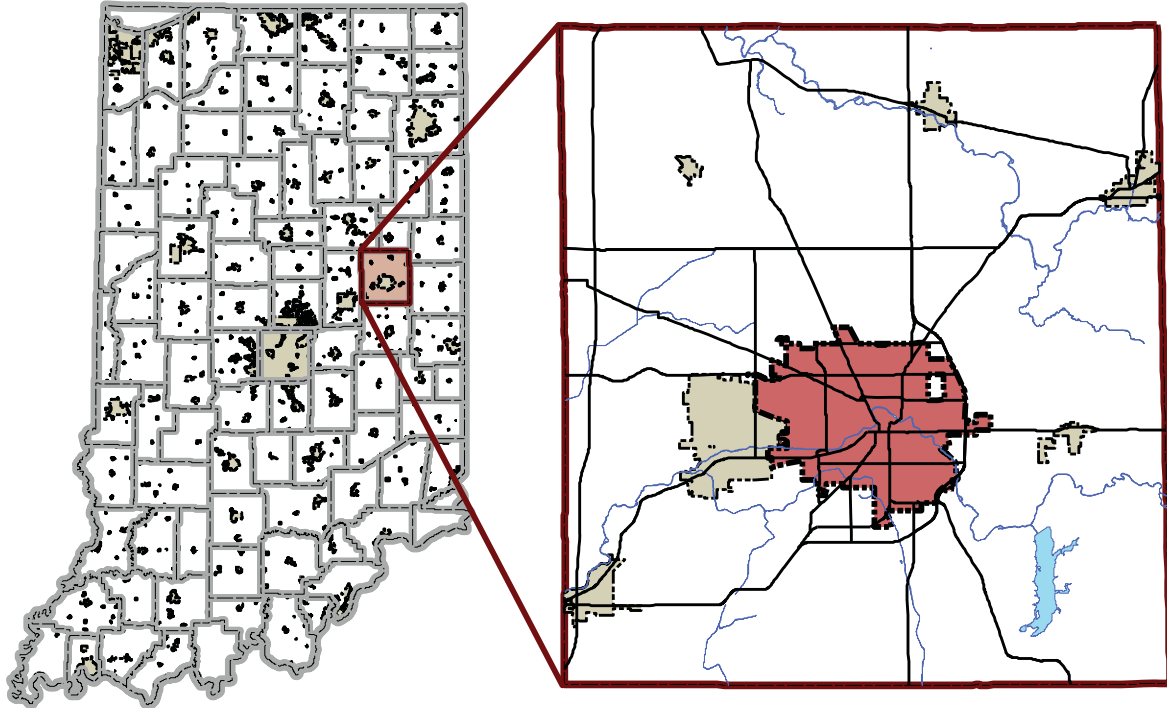


Figure 2 - Location of Delaware County and the City of Muncie within the State of Indiana.

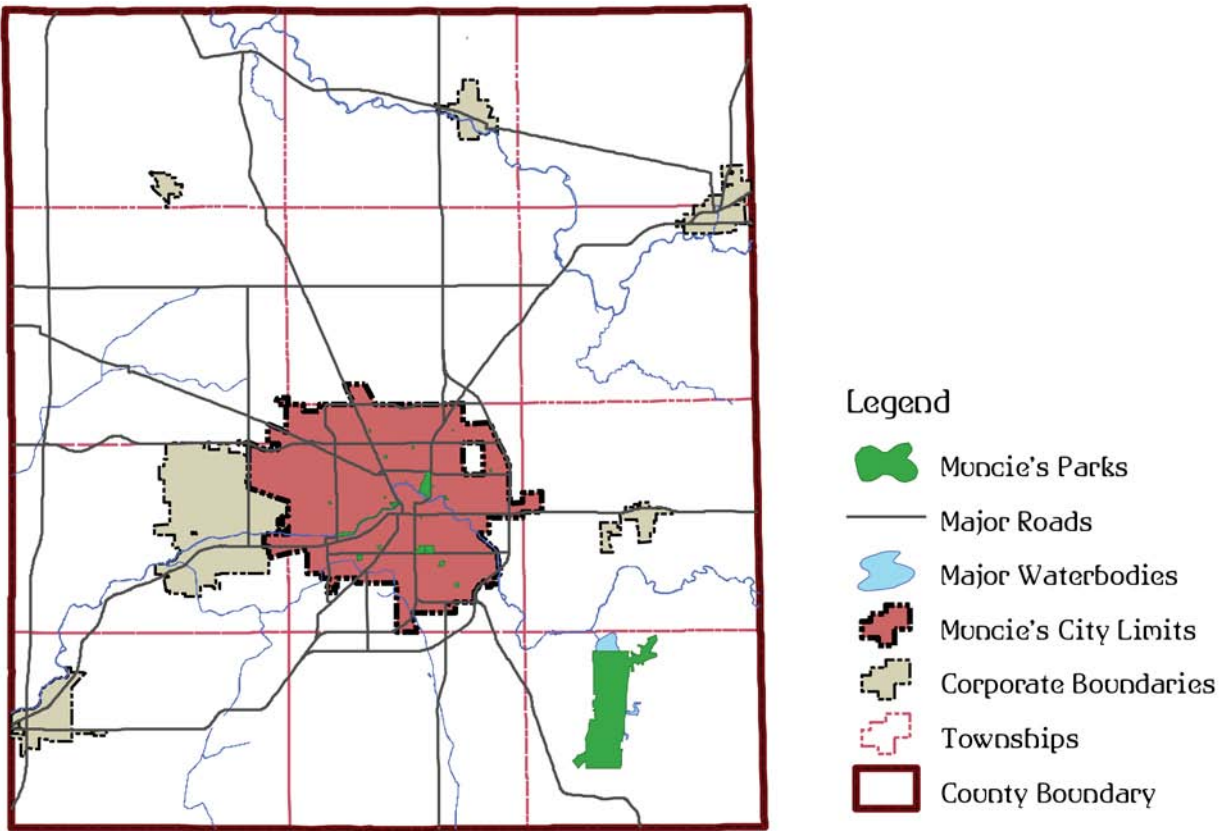


Figure 3 - Location of the City of Muncie and Muncie's Parks within Delaware County, IN.





# Background

## *Administrative Structure- Park Board, Superintendent, Department Information*

### *Park Board, History-*

The Muncie Park Board was established in 1909. In the 1930's, "the Muncie Community School Corporation and the City of Muncie created a Recreation Department... In 1948, a full-time recreation director was appointed cooperatively by the school corporation and the city. In 1958, further steps were taken to consolidate the recreation program, when the Recreation Department merged with the Muncie Park Department, and left the Recreation Board as an advisory body to help in the development of a community-wide recreation program." Due to "increased demand for additional recreation programs, the Recreation Department was made a separate unit in 1964 with the recreation director being made primarily responsible to the Muncie School Corporation, while still receiving partial financing from the city."<sup>1</sup>

### *Park Board, Present-*

City code Sec. 31.09, which currently regulates the Department of Parks and Recreation and Board of Parks and Recreation for Muncie, Indiana, was established in April of 1982. The board is comprised of 5 members; 4 members are appointed by the mayor, 1 member is an ex-officio member appointed by the Muncie Community School board.

### *Department of Parks and Recreation-*

The following is the city ordinance that was passed April 5th, 1982 that regulates the Department of Parks and Recreation:

Sec. 31.09. Department of parks and recreation.

- (A) Creation. There is hereby created a department of parks and recreation in accordance with the provisions of IC 36-10-3, which shall be managed by a board of parks and recreation. The board shall consist of four members appointed by the mayor in accordance with Indiana Statutes and one ex-officio member, appointed by the board of school trustees for the Muncie community schools.
- (B) Powers, duties, and responsibilities. The powers, duties, and responsibilities of the department of parks and recreation shall include but not be limited to the following.
  - (1) Those powers, duties, and responsibilities delegated by IC 36-10-3.
  - (2) Construction, operation, and maintenance of all city parks and recreational facilities.
  - (3) Any other powers, duties, and responsibilities assigned by state law, the city code, and the mayor.
- (C) Department head. The department of parks and recreation shall be headed by a department head who shall also be the superintendent of parks and recreation provided for in IC 36-10-3-13. He shall be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the board of parks and recreation, and shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor and report to the deputy mayor and board of parks and recreation.
- (D) Park division. There is hereby created a park division which shall be headed by a parks director, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the head of the department of parks and recreation with the approval of the board of parks and recreation. This division shall be responsible for the construction and maintenance of all park and recreation facilities and other duties assigned

1 *Open Space Plan. A Part of the Metropolitan Master Plan, Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Transportation and Urban Development Study.* Barton-Aschman Associates, Inc. 1974. 4.







## Background

by state law, the city code, and the head of the department of parks and recreation.

(E) Recreation division. There is hereby created a recreation division to be headed by a recreation director, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the pleasure of the head of the department of parks and recreation with the approval of the board of parks and recreation. This division shall be responsible for recreation activities and operations and other duties assigned by state law, the city code, and the head of the department of parks and recreation.

(Ord. No. 810-82, 4-5-82)

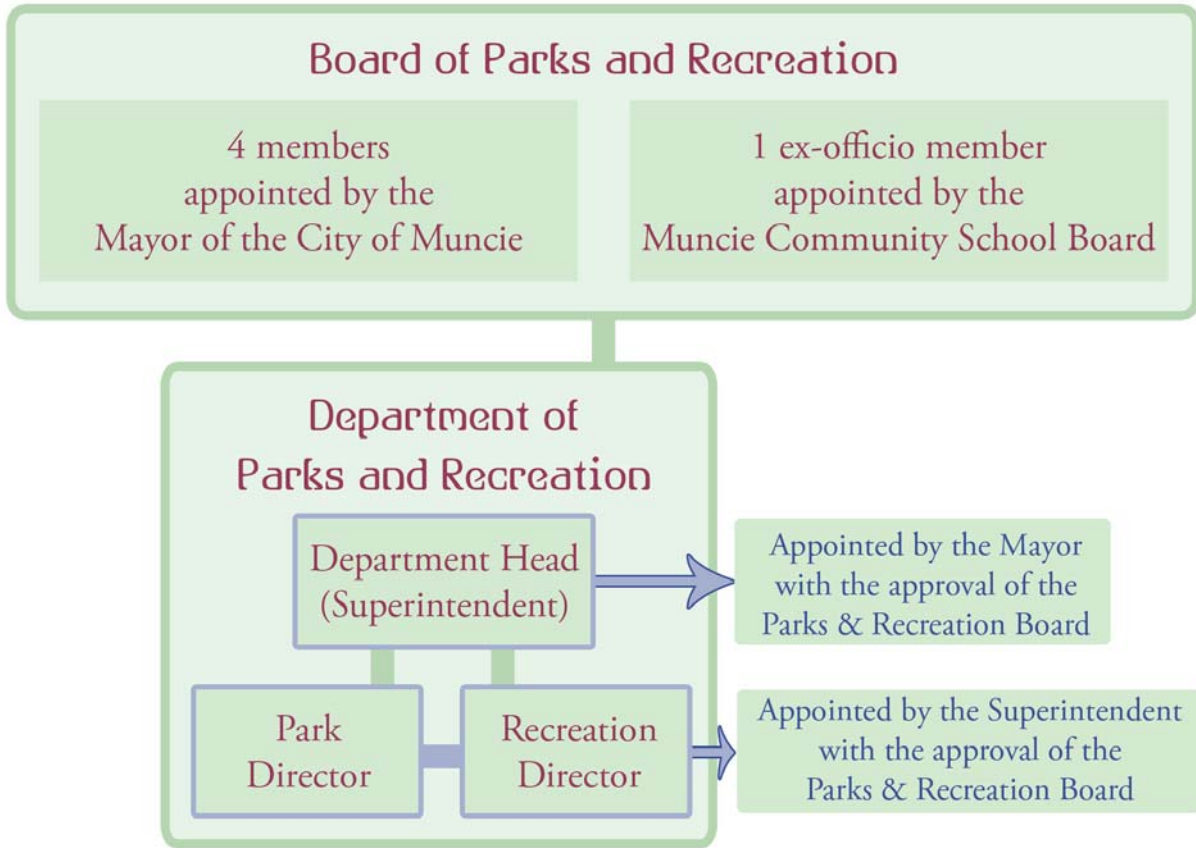


Figure 4 - Illustration of City Code Section 31.09

Currently, the Park Department's personnel organization is as such:

The Muncie Parks Department has a Superintendent as the department head. In 2008, there were 14 full time employees, 6 part time employees, and 30 seasonal employees that managed the 22 parks within Muncie's city limits. Muncie's Urban Forester was brought into the department; however this position is paid through the Engineer's office and half of this positions salary is supported by Community Enhancement Projects (CEP), a local non-profit organization. The Urban Forester supervises up to 4 part time employees; 2 are paid by Delaware County and 2 are paid by the Welfare Department. Additionally, Prairie Creek Park has a superintendent with 3 full time employees (utility and office manager positions). Prairie Creek Park also employs a maximum of 35 part time/seasonal employees which include additional utility positions, a clerk, lifeguards, and security positions. See Figure 5 on the following page for an illustration of the Park Department's organization.



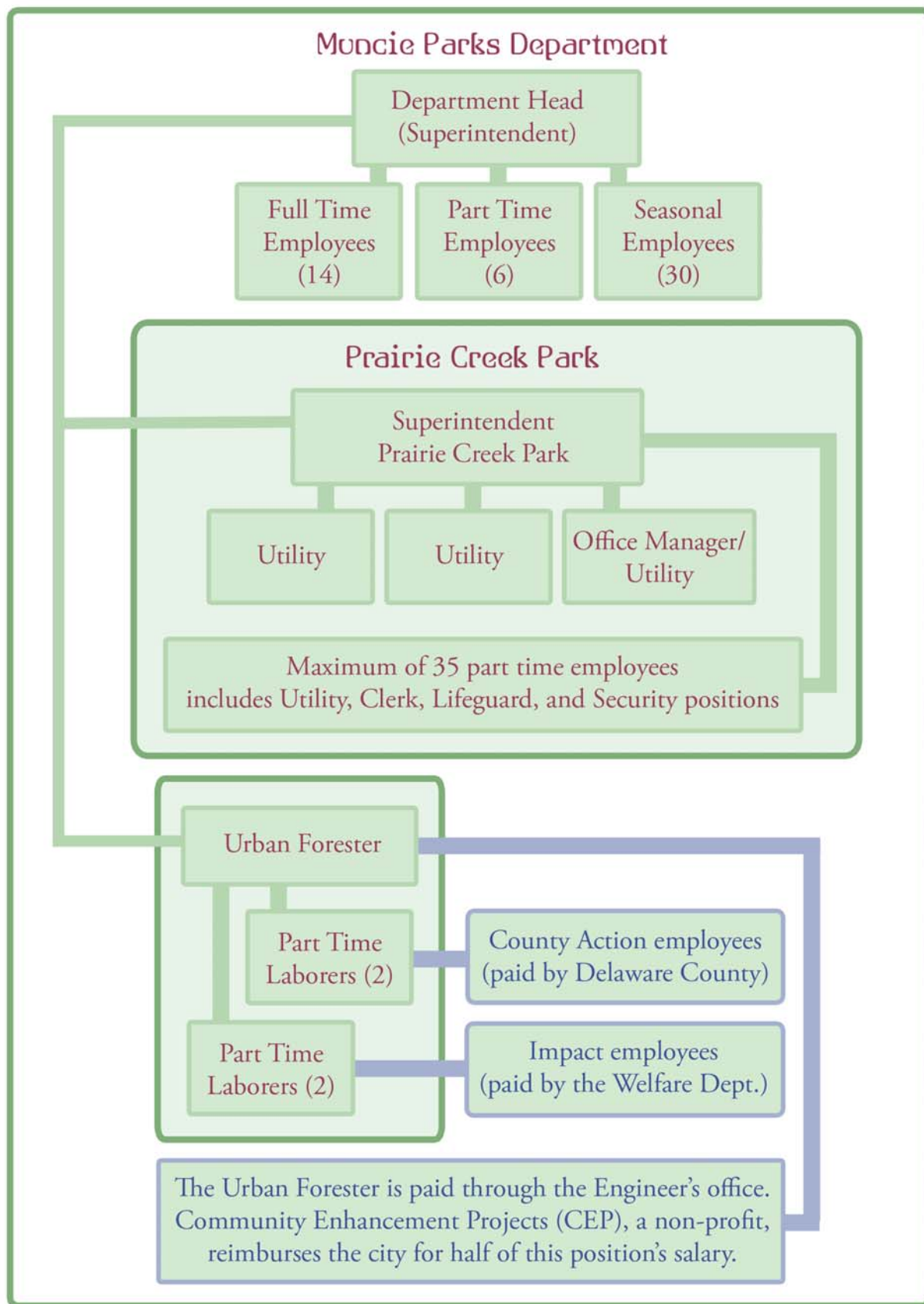


Figure 5 - Illustration of the Park Department's Organization as of 2008.





## Background

### *Urban Forestry-*

Muncie’s urban forest is a fundamental part of the City’s infrastructure, including the park system, contributing to the community’s health and aesthetic appeal. Trees are known to increase air and water quality, reduce impacts upon stormwater controls, recharge ground water, stabilize soil and reduce erosion, reduce noise pollution, promote energy efficiency by reducing heat-island effects and providing windbreaks, promote economic development by increasing the value of real estate and providing benefit to the tax base, increase motorized traffic and pedestrian safety, provide wildlife habitat, and increase the mental health of the community’s citizens by reducing people’s stress and blood pressure.<sup>2</sup>

Despite these contributions to the urban environment, Muncie’s urban forest has received little attention or financial support in the last several decades. The City of Muncie employs an Urban Forester, a certified arborist, who enforces the city’s tree ordinance and cares for all trees located within the right of way and on city property with the help of a few part time laborers. The Urban Forester reports to and receives direction from the Urban Forestry Board. Through the years the Urban Forester has been based in various departments and is currently operating from the Park Department.

Muncie’s street tree inventory, initially created in 1999-2000, is being updated as an initial step in developing an urban forest management plan, with approximately 70% of the inventory reassessed in 2008. The board received funding from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry Community and Urban Forestry Grant and is seeking match dollars for this grant to complete the rest of the inventory. The completed reassessment will identify the nature of Muncie’s urban tree canopy, location of deficiencies and other issues facing the urban forest, and will determine the optimal size of tree canopy suitable for Muncie. This tree canopy goal will guide the management plan in determining what percent of the urban forest needs to be established and replaced each year to maintain a diverse, multi-aged urban canopy. The new management plan is hereby incorporated upon its completion, as a part of this 5-year Park & Recreation Master Plan.

### *Urban Tree Canopy Goals-*

American Forests is a nonprofit organization that focuses on the importance of forests, advocates that every city have a tree canopy goal, and recommends an average 40% tree canopy, east of the Mississippi and in the Pacific Northwest.<sup>3</sup> American Forests also provides canopy recommendations for various zone types (suburban residential, urban residential, business), acknowledging that different areas in our urban settings have varying capacities for trees. Muncie’s urban forestry management plan should consider a similar approach for establishing a tree canopy goal, including specific canopy goals for Muncie’s park space. Pending completion of the tree inventory analysis, it is recommended that the tree canopy goal for Muncie’s parks be at least 50% for naturalized areas and 25% for developed areas.<sup>4</sup>

---

2 See the *Tree Benefits* section in the bibliography for a list of supporting references.

3 “Setting Urban Tree Canopy Goals.” *Urban Forests*. American Forests. 19 Feb 2009  
<<http://www.americanforests.org/resources/urbanforests/treedeficit.php>>

4 The recommended tree canopy goals for park areas are estimates based upon goals set by various cities including Seattle, WA, Annapolis and Baltimore, MD, and various city specific urban tree canopy reports written by the University of Vermont.



















Background

Figure 7-  
Land Use as  
categorized by  
the State.

Legend

-  City of Muncie
- State Land Use Code
- <Null>
-  Agriculture
-  Commercial
-  Exempt
-  Govt
-  Industrial
-  MF Residential
-  Mineral
-  Residential
-  Vacant

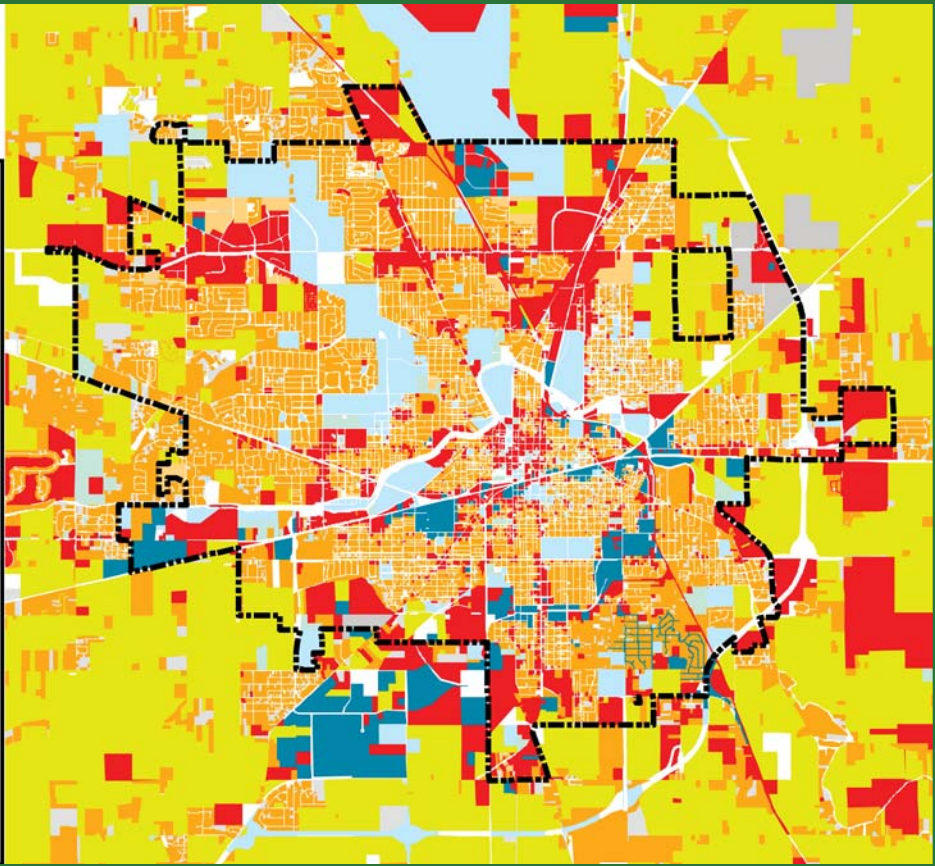


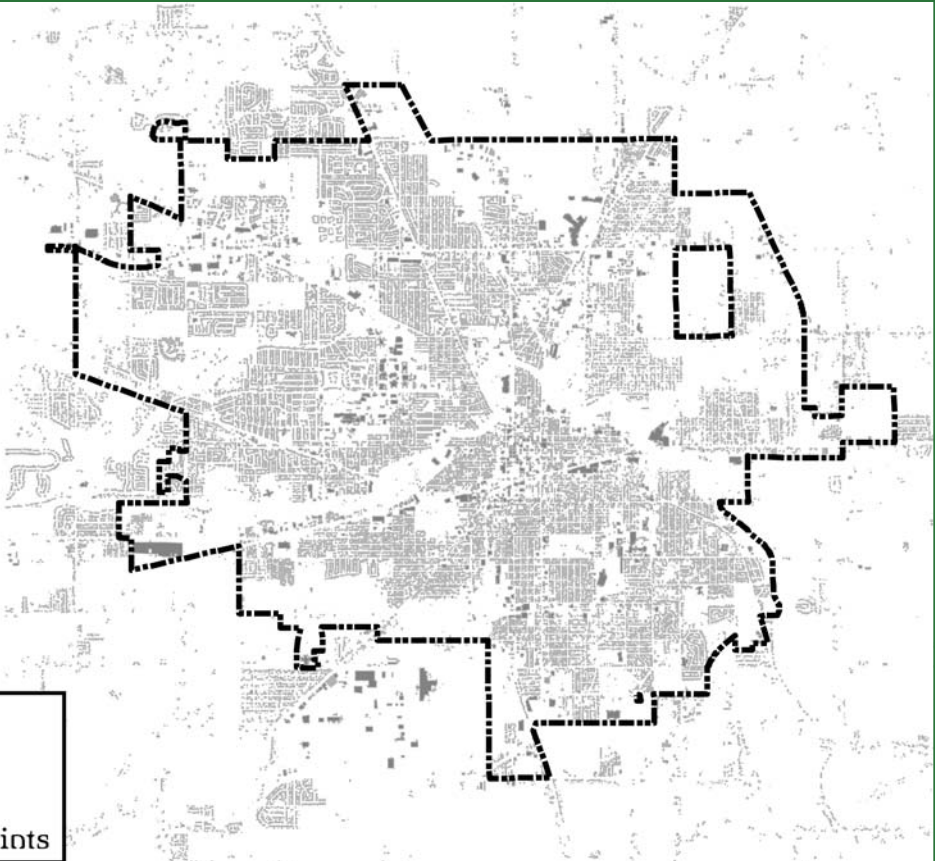


Figure 8-  
Building footprints,  
representing  
the amount of  
development within  
Muncie, IN.

Legend

-  City of Muncie
-  Building Footprints





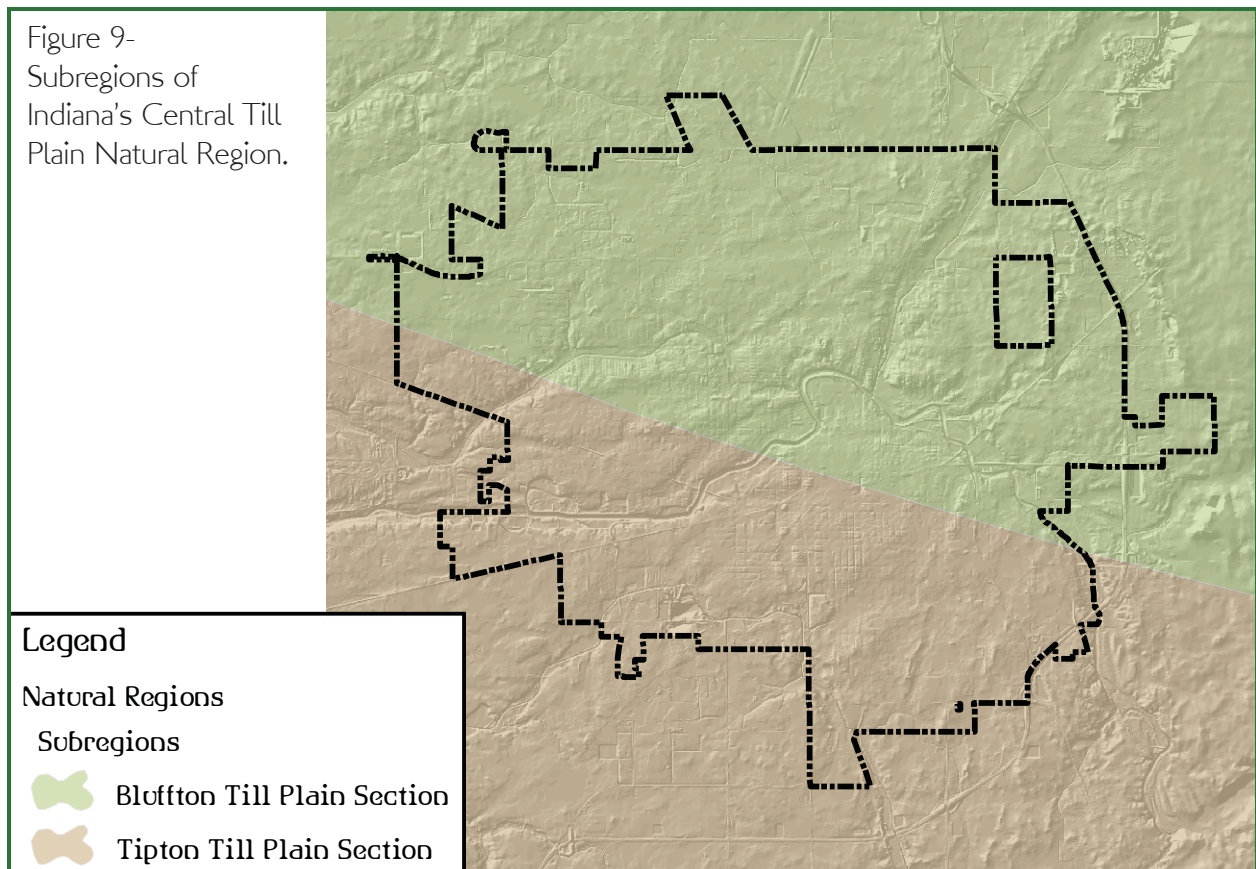


of Muncie consist of 1.38% of the land in the City of Muncie. Figure 7 represents the land-use of Muncie while Figure 8 shows building footprints throughout Muncie, illustrating the amount of developed land in the city.

*Natural Regions*

Natural regions delineate landscapes where cohesive combinations of natural features occur. Muncie is in Indiana’s Central Till Plain Natural Region, the largest natural region in the state. “The Central Till Plain is largely a level to gently undulating, somewhat monotonous landscape that was formerly heavily forested. Its deep, fertile glacial soils supported great forests of beech and maple, oak and ash and elm.”<sup>5</sup>

Muncie contains 2 of the 3 subregions that make up the Central Till Plain Natural Region. The northern half of Muncie is in the Bluffton Till Plain section while the southern half of Muncie is in the Tipton Till Plain section. Both of these subregions contain flatwood communities. According to IDNR, Central Till Plain Flatwoods are significant because they are a high quality natural community that is categorized as imperiled in the state and rare to uncommon globally. The Bluffton Till Plain contains end moraines while the Tipton Till Plain is noted for flatwoods and mesic upland forests.



*Ecoregions*

Ecoregions delineate areas that contain similar ecosystems, including their type, quality, and quantity. There are 3 ecoregions in Muncie that area all a part of the Eastern Corn Belt Plains- the Clayey, High

5 Jackson, Marion T. *The Natural Heritage of Indiana*. Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1997. 195.







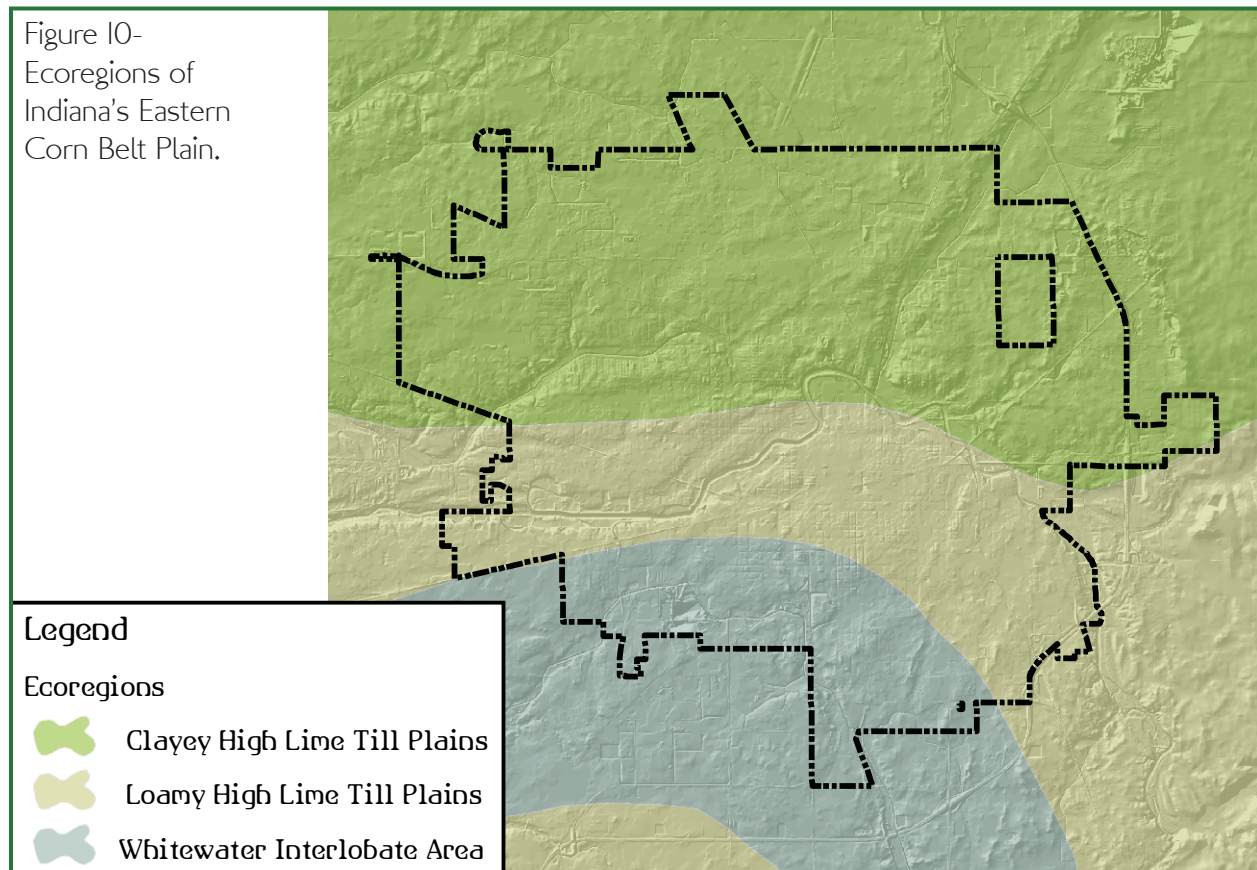
## Background

Lime Till Plains (also known as Ecoregion 55a), the Loamy, High Lime Till Plains (Ecoregion 55b), and the Whitewater Interlobate Area (Ecoregion 55f).

The Clayey, High Lime Till Plains ecoregion is characterized by slightly less productive soils than Ecoregions 55b and less swampy than the Maumee Lake Plains (Ecoregion 57a). While it was once beech forest and scattered elm-ash swamp forest, this area is now predominately farmed. No exceptional fish communities exist in the turbid, low gradient streams of this ecoregion.<sup>6</sup>

The Loamy, High Lime Till Plains ecoregion was once beech forest, oak-sugar maple forest, and elm-ash swamp forest. However, similar to 55a, this ecoregion has been mostly replaced with agriculture due to more naturally fertile soils that typically drain better than those in 55a.

The Whitewater Interlobate Areas ecoregion has distinctive cool water, coarse-bottomed streams that are perennial and fed by abundant ground water. The redbside dace, northern stud fish, and banded sculpin occur; they are absent or uncommon in Ecoregion 55b. Unique Ozarkian invertebrates also occur in Ecoregion 55f. Dolomitic drift and meltwater deposits are characteristic and overlie limestone, calcareous shale, and dolomitic mudstone.<sup>7</sup>



### Geology

Muncie's geology originates from the Middle Paleozoic Era. This includes sedimentary rocks from

6 [ftp://ftp.epa.gov/wed/ecoregions/oh\\_in/ohin\\_front.pdf](ftp://ftp.epa.gov/wed/ecoregions/oh_in/ohin_front.pdf)

7 [ftp://ftp.epa.gov/wed/ecoregions/oh\\_in/ohin\\_front.pdf](ftp://ftp.epa.gov/wed/ecoregions/oh_in/ohin_front.pdf)









Background

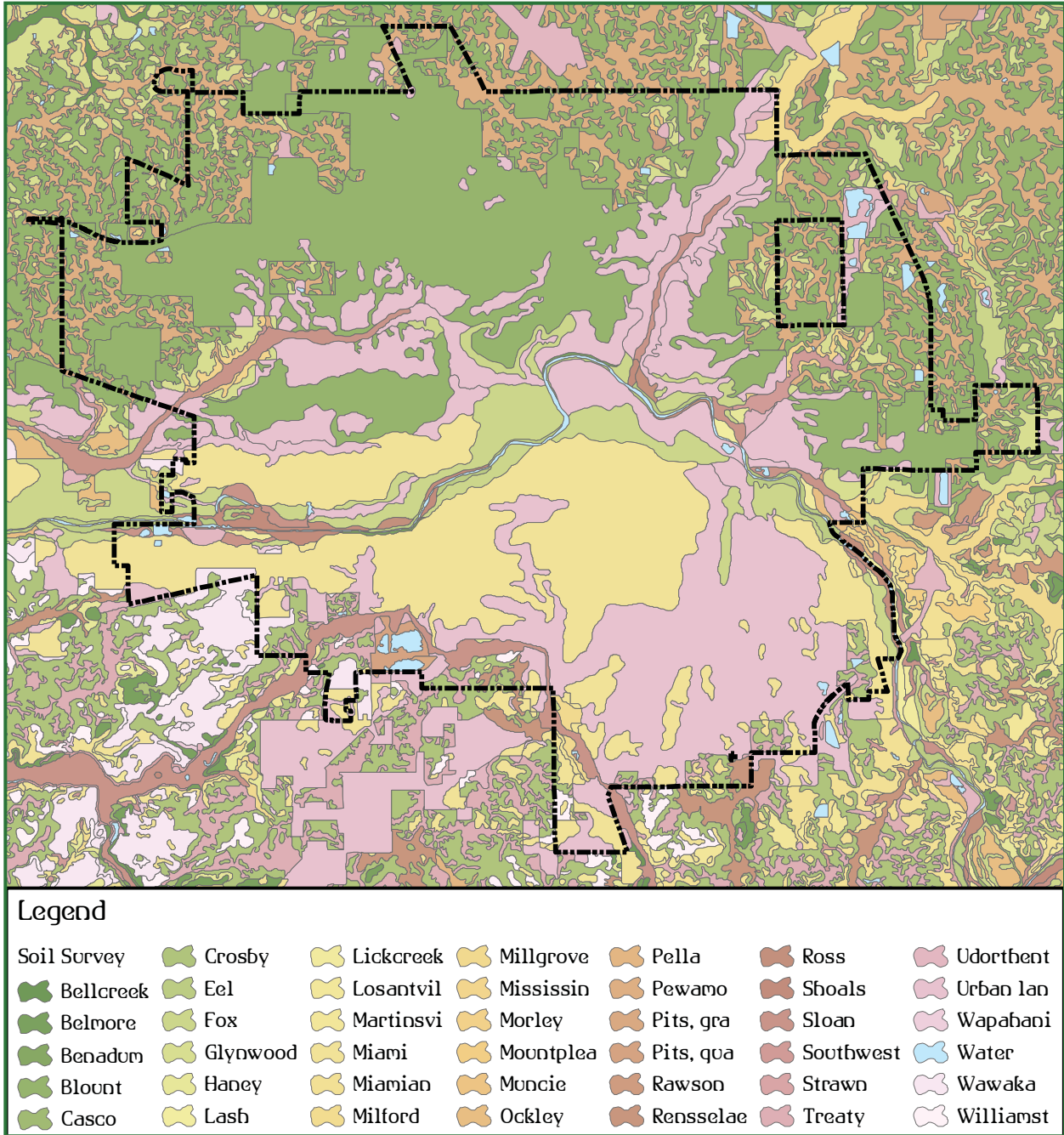


Figure 12- Illustration of the soils found throughout Muncie.

*Hydrography*

Muncie’s major waterway is the White River. Feeding the White River within Muncie are Hamilton Ditch, Holt Ditch, and Truitt Ditch, all feeding into the White River in the northeastern quadrant of Muncie. Buck Creek runs through the south side of Muncie, feeding into the White River on the western edge of the Town of Yorktown. Buck Creek is unique due to its high-quality biological ecosystem and its potential as a cold water trout stream. York Prairie Creek/Hiatt Ditch runs through the northwest quadrant of Muncie, joining the White River between Yorktown and Daleville in the western part of Delaware County.





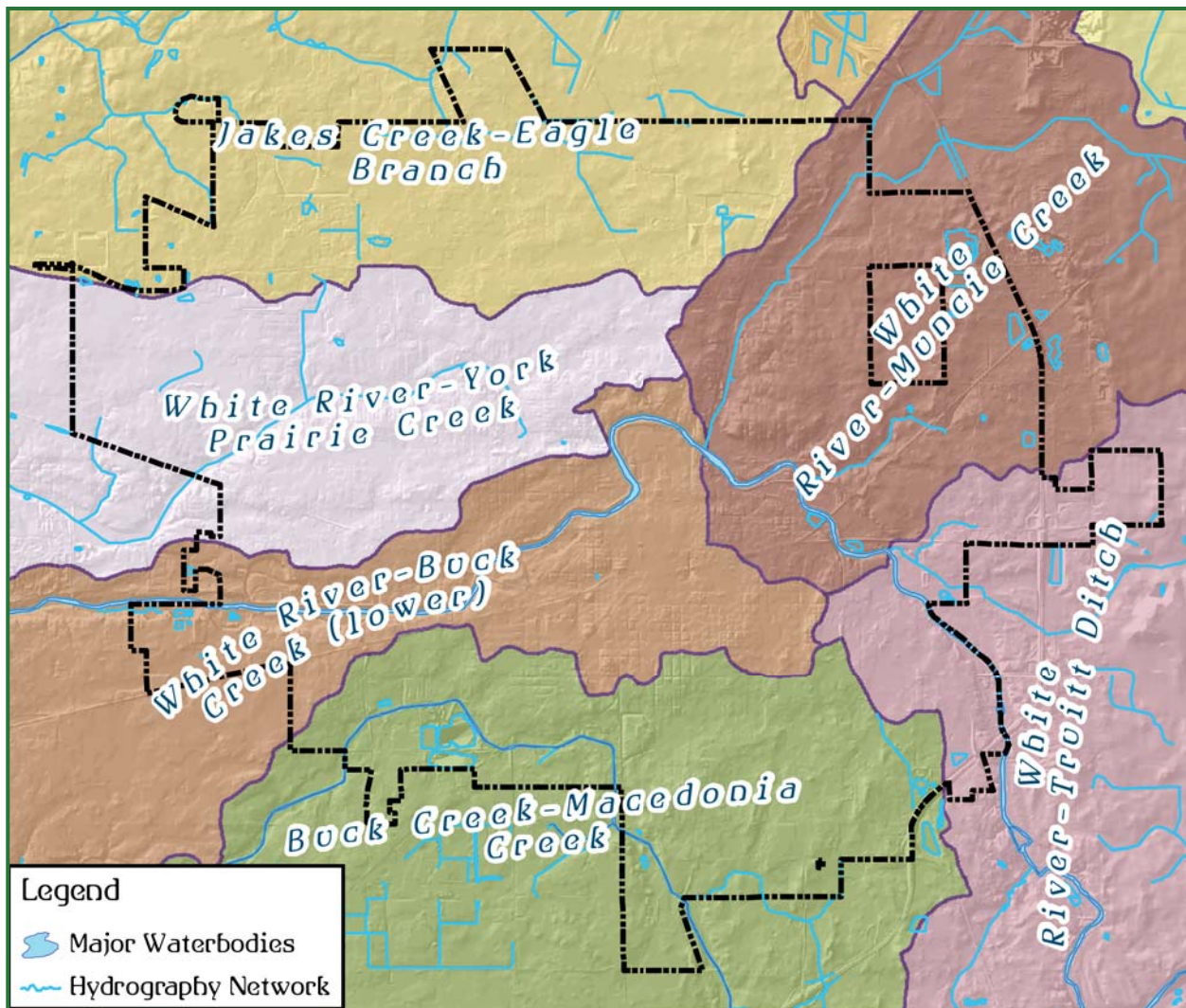


Figure I3- Illustration of the 14 digit watersheds, labeled with their designated names.

The White River is Muncie’s primary drinking water source with Prairie Creek Reservoir as a backup drinking water source. As Muncie’s only major natural feature, White River runs approximately 9 miles through Muncie. Bank fishing is permitted along most of the river, downstream from the East Jackson Street Bridge. Residents also have access to 3.5 miles of river frontage by means of the White River Greenway with 2.3 additional miles planned for construction. Additional access to White River is available at McCulloch Park and Westside Park, while Heron Overlook, Riverview Park, Riverview Overlook, Appeal to the Great Spirit Park, Oakhurst Overlook, White River Cantilever, Riverbend Park, Tuhey Park, Bicentennial Overlook, and West Point Overlook offer views for enjoying the river.

### Wetlands

Not including the White River, within Muncie there are 90 areas comprising 240 acres identified as wetlands by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. However, only 2 areas are protected- The John M. Craddock Wetland Preserve and the Donald E. Miller Wildlife Area. Several of the inventoried wetland areas have structures on them. Wetlands are some of the Nation’s most ecologically and





## Background

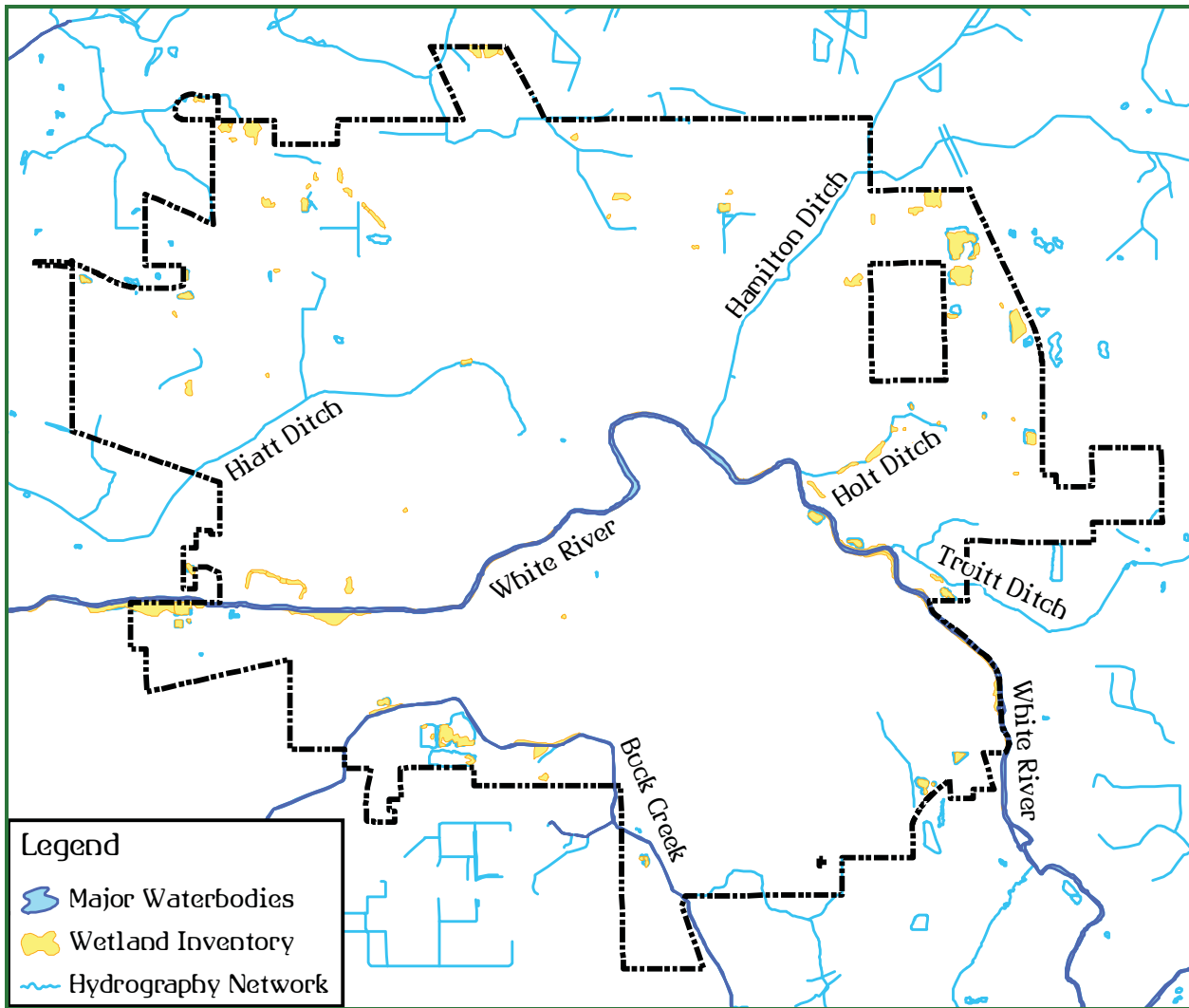


Figure I4- Hydrography of Muncie, IN.

economically important habitats, and provide benefits for fish, wildlife and people.<sup>9</sup>

*Wetlands clean our water, recharge groundwater aquifers, provide protection from flooding, control erosion, provide wildlife habitat, and educational and recreational opportunities. As previously mentioned, 24% of Indiana was once covered by wetlands. Wetlands not only provide environmental benefits, they are also a part of our natural heritage.<sup>10</sup>*

Due to the importance of protecting and perpetuating wetlands, identified wetland areas would be prime locations for establishing protected naturalized areas.

Prairie Creek Reservoir is a man-made reservoir that functions as the backup drinking water source for Muncie. The majority of the reservoir and surrounding property are leased to Muncie as park land – Prairie Creek Park. This park offers unique recreational opportunities for Muncie and Delaware

9 *National Spatial Data Infrastructure- Wetlands Layer*. US Fish and Wildlife Service. November 2008. <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/wetlandslayer/FactSheets/NSDIFactSheet.pdf>

10 *Prairie Creek Master Plan*. Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Plan Commission. 2007. 30.





County residents. For more information about Prairie Creek Reservoir please refer to the Prairie Creek Master Plan (2007).

*Climate*

Muncie’s climate is mild with distinct seasons. Muncie receives the majority of its precipitation during May and June, though December and January are months with the highest relative humidity. Fall and spring tend to have strong storms, including tornadoes, due to the transition between hot and cold fronts. January is the coldest month with an average low of 21 degrees Fahrenheit and an average high of 37 degrees Fahrenheit. January has the most days with a temperature under 0 degrees Fahrenheit, with an average of 1.6 days under 0 degrees F. July is the hottest month with an average high of 86 degrees Fahrenheit and an average low of 64 degrees Fahrenheit. July has the most days above 90 degrees Fahrenheit, with an average of 6.1 days above 90 degrees F.

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Highest Recorded Temp	71	71	80	87	93	102	107	100	100	89	80	69	107
Average High Temp	37	39	48	62	73	82	86	84	78	66	50	39	62
Average Temperatures	30	31	39	51	62	71	75	73	66	55	41	31	51
Average Low Temp	21	23	30	41	51	60	64	62	55	44	32	24	43
Lowest Recorded Temp	-18	-18	-5	16	28	39	44	42	28	17	-2	-14	-18
Average Precipitation (inches)	3.2	2.3	3.5	3.8	4	4.7	3.5	3	3.2	2.6	3.1	2.7	39.6

Temperatures are reported in degrees Fahrenheit.

Figure 15- Climate data for Muncie.<sup>11</sup>

*Flora & Fauna*

As previously discussed, most of Muncie’s native flora was replaced by agriculture and then again by development. Muncie has been designated as a Tree City USA for a decade now. This is a program sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. With the street tree inventory nearly 70% complete, most street trees in Muncie are silver maples; sugar maple, apple, green ash, honey locust, Bradford pear, Norway maple, Siberian elm, catalpa, and Sycamore are also well represented among the 100+ species found in Muncie. Conversely, most wooded areas in Muncie are plagued by invasive species, primarily 3 species of bush honeysuckle and garlic mustard. Other invasive plants in the city include Reed Canarygrass (found along the river), Canada Thistle, and Crown Vetch.

According to the Bureau of Water Quality, the White River is home to 71 species of fish and more than 100 species of insects in Muncie. In recent years, there have been regular sightings of various hawks,

11 Data was gathered from- [http://weatherreports.com/United\\_States/IN/Muncie/averages.html](http://weatherreports.com/United_States/IN/Muncie/averages.html)







## Background

falcons, and herons, demonstrating the extent of improvement in the environment for Muncie to once again be home to these species. Deer, raccoon, opossum, squirrel, rabbits, bats, and robins are just a few of the common species that make Muncie their home.

### *Historic & Cultural-*

As one of 14 established towns inhabited by Delaware Indians in the 18th century, Muncie was incorporated under the status of “town” in 1854. In 1865 Muncie’s citizens voted to have their town incorporated as a city. Serving as the county seat of Delaware County, Muncie is the only second-class city in the county.

Growing from the natural gas boom of the late 19th century, Muncie was a thriving city until the late 20th century when factories began closing down. Muncie’s parks have a rich history stemming back to the beginning of the 20th century. In May of 1901, “Mr. George F. McCulloch informed the Common Council of the City of Muncie by letter that he would make a gift of the grounds known as McCulloch Park to the City of Muncie, the only condition to said gift being that the City of Muncie hold the real estate in trust as a public park for the free use of all inhabitants of the city.”<sup>12</sup> Located on the site of the burned down Whitely Harvesting Co., McCulloch Park became the home of deer, a bear, monkeys and “McCulloch Field” a baseball field where semi-pro baseball games were played.



Figure 16- Images of McCulloch Park in the early 20th Century.<sup>13</sup>

*In 1906 Muncie fielded its first professional baseball team, the Muncie Fruit Jars, playing in the class C Interstate Association. The team returned for the 1908 season in the class D Indiana-Ohio League folded on June 8 with the team in last place.*

*Over the following years the McCulloch diamond was home to numerous semi-pro clubs. In 1931 a permanent wooden grandstand was erected. Following this a local team named the Muncie Citizens was founded and enjoyed many successful seasons, especially during the depression years. During the 1930s several Major League teams visited the ballpark and on one occasion the St. Louis Browns suffered defeat at the hands of the local squad.*

*On July 4, 1938, McCulloch Park was overwhelmed with an estimated crowd of 80,000 people, more than the population of the entire city. They came for an Independence Day church gathering, a baseball double-header, along with what has been described as the*

12 Kemper, General William Harrison. A Twentieth Century History of Delaware County, Indiana. New York 1908. Digitized February 7, 2008. Visited November 3rd, 2008. 229.

<http://books.google.com/books?id=Lx4VAAAAAYAAJ&pg=PA230&dq=Muncie+parcs#PPA229,M1>

13 Masing, Milton A. & Jeffery Koenker. The Postcard History Series- Muncie Indiana in Vintage Postcards. Charleston, SC. 1999. 110, 111.







## Background

known as the Triple Figure Eight during the early 20th century.<sup>18</sup> While this park is still popular, it lacks the facilities that it once supported.

The National Register of Historic Places includes nearly 40 structures and districts in the City of Muncie. The most relevant properties for this master plan are the William Henry Luick Farmhouse and Beech Grove Cemetery. Both of these properties offer amenities that park departments often maintain. At a minimum, the Urban Forester should be consulted for care of these properties' trees.

The William Henry Luick Farmhouse which dates back to 1882 was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1994. This historic house on the southeast side on Muncie is on a 4.5 acre property that borders the White River.

Beech Grove Cemetery, with its gothic revival style architecture, was added to the Register in 1999. Established in the early 1800's, this cemetery is noted for its historical significance for both architecture and landscape architecture.

### *Man-made Features*

With the majority of Muncie developed, there are a lot of man-made features in this second-class city. For the purposes of this plan, only major features and those relevant to parks and recreation will be highlighted.

One highway and 2 state roads go around Muncie from the north to the south- SR 67, SR 3, US 35, while SR 332 brings travelers into Muncie on the Northwest side and SR 32, running east-west, brings travelers right through the middle of the city. Muncie also has multiple railroad lines that dissect the city. Two lines enter/leave the city from the west, one to the north, one to the northeast, one to the east, and one to the south.

Muncie has over 30 bridges with the majority spanning the White River and others spanning Muncie Creek, Hiatt Ditch, and Buck Creek. Only a few bridges are overpasses to mitigate railroad and vehicular traffic.

Muncie has greatly benefited from the establishment of Cardinal Greenways. This rails-to-trails project has constructed 2 recreation trails in Muncie, Cardinal Greenway and White River Greenway, which are available for all types of non-motorized transportation.

The Cardinal Greenway provides 27 miles of continuous paved trail from Losantville, IN to Gaston, IN (going through Muncie from north to south) on property bought from CSX Transportation Corporation. Cardinal Greenway is named for the last passenger train to regularly run this rail line. White River Greenway runs 3.5 miles along the White River through the heart of Muncie joining 5 city parks, Muncie's downtown, Minnetrista Cultural Center, and Ball State University. 2.3 additional miles are planned for construction. Along both greenways are overlooks that provide spaces to rest and enjoy scenic views, this includes Heron Overlook, Riverview Overlook, Oakhurst Overlook, the White River Cantilever, Bicentennial Overlook, and West Point Overlook (which will be joined to the rest of the White River Greenway when the greenway is complete).

The White River has been dredged and a levee built along its southern shore through Muncie as a

18 Masing, Milton A. & Jeffery Koenker. The Postcard History Series- Muncie Indiana in Vintage Postcards. Charleston, SC. 1999. 113.









## Background

the street while providing a multitude of vendors selling arts, crafts, and food.

- Summer Heat is a three day event with hot air balloons, entertainment, and vendors held in late June. This festival has moved its location for the past few years.
- Muncie’s Soap Box Derby is held annually in July in McCulloch Park.
- The Homecoming festival is held annually in McCulloch Park in midsummer.
- Health fairs are annually held in Heekin Park.

### *Social & Economic*

Muncie’s development and growth were greatly shaped by its industrial based economy though the majority of the 20th century. However, years of industrial manufacturing have left their mark upon Muncie. Indiana’s Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has identified the following in Muncie:

- 194 underground storage tanks, 107 are leaking underground storage tanks. While the majority of those tanks originate from gas stations, one of those leaking tanks is located in Heekin Park near the Park Department’s main office.
- 35 industrial waste sites found predominately in the southern half of Muncie.
- 29 EPA facilities, sites subject to environmental regulation or of environmental interest.
- 6 brownfields (note- this does not mean that there are only 6 brownfields in Muncie, this merely means that 6 sites are identified as brownfields- sites that are abandoned or inactive in which redevelopment is hindered due to the presence of a hazardous substance or contaminants. Through the Muncie Brownfields Project other sites have been identified that are perceived to have contaminants, but additional research and testing are required to determine what is on the site before an official status of brownfield can be applied.)
- 3 permitted solid waste sites
- 3 petroleum wells
- 1 septage waste site
- 1 tire waste site
- 7 locations are in a voluntary remediation agreement (VRA) with IDEM.
- 1 corrective action site

Currently Muncie’s economy is based upon healthcare, educational institutions, human resources, and service industries.

### *Demographics-*

Muncie is currently the eighth (8th) largest city in Indiana. In 2006 the population was estimated to be at 61,683, which is 15,533 less than its peak population in 1980. The Population Time Line on the following page was created with data from the U.S. Census. The change over time for most of Delaware County has been a decline since the 1970’s. The City of Muncie did not start its declining trend until the 1980’s.

Student data shows that the student population of Ball State University has risen from an average of 19,000 students in the 1990’s to an average of about 20,000 in the 2000’s.

### *Age Distribution*

While most park facilities can be enjoyed by people of any age, some facilities are preferred by different age groups; examples of the spectrum of interests would include skateboarding and shuffleboard.



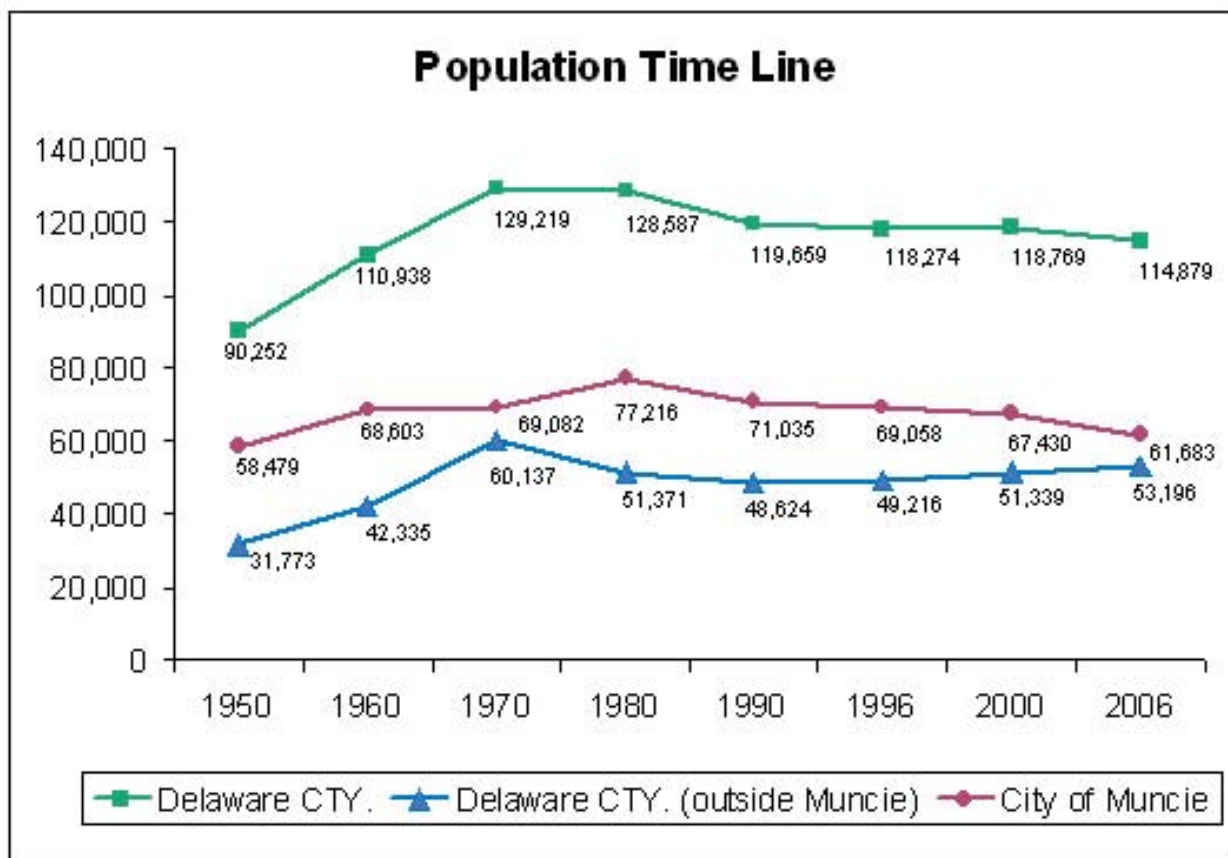


Figure 19- Population Time Line. Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

<i>Ball State Students</i>					
Student stats-					
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Total Full-Time	17,447	17,364	17,248	16,963	16,493
Total Part-Time	3,043	3,142	3,103	3,067	3,356
Total	20,490	20,506	20,351	20,030	19,849
<i>Percent Undergraduate</i>	86.2%	85.7%	85.6%	85.2%	84.1%

Source: Ball State University Fact Book 2007-08  
<http://www.bsu.edu/factbook>

Figure 20- Enrollment Figures for Ball State University.

Whether a neighborhood is dominated by the elderly or children can affect what types of facilities may be in demand of that area’s parks. In addition to facilities, age demographics can help illustrate types of recreational programming.

The following charts and graphs show the age demographics for Muncie. By viewing the bar graphs, the information quickly show the young majority specifically with the 5-19 age group in 2006. Another







Background

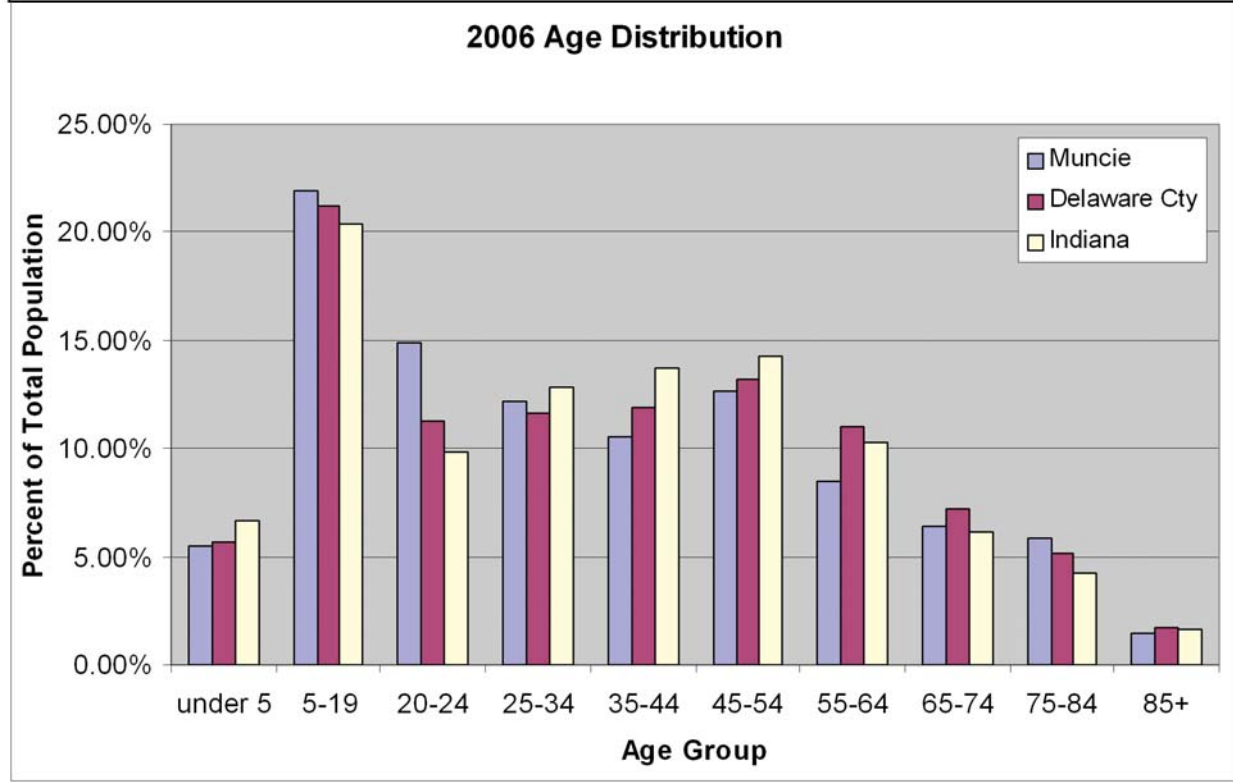
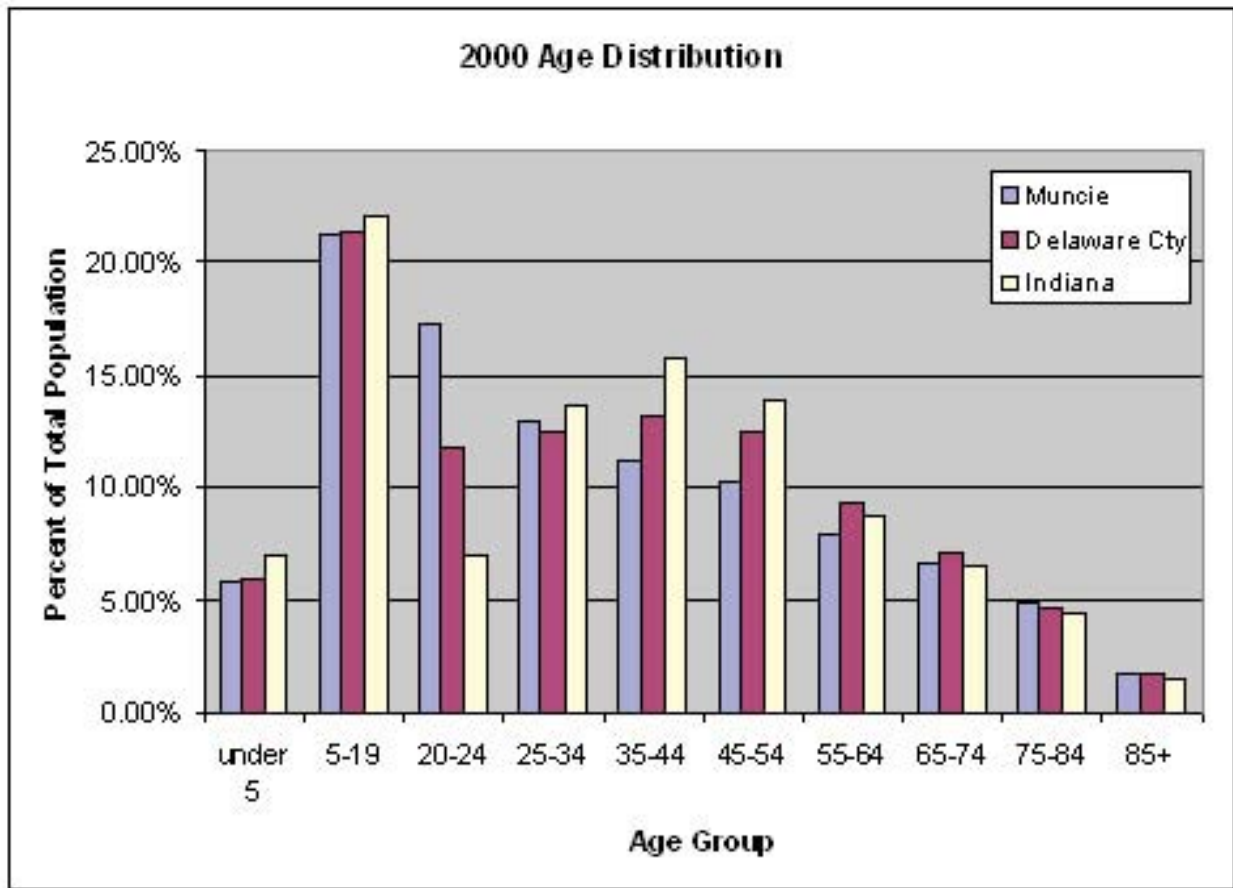


Figure 2I- Age Distributions for Muncie, Delaware County, and the State of Indiana for 2000 & 2006. Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.







## Background

Race	Muncie				Change Percent
	2000		2006		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total Population	67,430	100.0	61,683	100.0	
White	58,719	87.1	52,812	85.6	1.5
Black of African American	7,880	11.7	7,904	12.8	(1.1)
American Indiana or Alaska Native	469	0.7	234	0.4	0.3
Asian	721	1.1	434	0.7	0.4
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	112	0.2	0	0.0	0.2
Hispanic	971	1.4	639	1.0	0.4
Other Race	607	0.9	578	0.9	(0.0)
Two or more races	1,004	1.5	577	0.9	0.6
<b>Red text it to note incomplete data</b>			104.5		102.4

Figure 23- Racial Demographics and Recent Changes for Muncie, IN.  
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.

	Muncie				
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2006
<b>Population</b>	69,082	77,216	71,035	67,430	61,683
<b>Dwelling Units</b>	22,829	29,455	29,828	30,205	30,771
<b>Households</b>	21,505	27,465	27,188	27,322	25,118
<b>Average Household Size</b>	3.21	2.81	2.61	2.24	2.15
	Delaware County				
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2006
<b>Population</b>	129,219	128,587	119,700	118,769	114,879
<b>Dwelling Units</b>	43,950	51,248	52,341	51,032	52,806
<b>Households</b>	41,954	48,160	48,462	47,131	45,350
<b>Average Household Size</b>	3.08	2.67	2.47	2.37	2.34
	Indiana				
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2006
<b>Population</b>	5,193,669	5,490,224	5,544,159	6,080,485	6,313,520
<b>Dwelling Units</b>	1,730,099	2,065,115	2,246,046	2,532,319	2,756,583
<b>Households</b>	1,609,494	1,927,050	2,065,335	2,336,306	2,435,274
<b>Average Household Size</b>	3.23	2.85	2.68	2.53	2.25

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Figure 24- Households and Dwelling Unit Demographics for Muncie, Delaware County and the State of Indiana. Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census.







# Inventory & Classification

## Inventory of Park System

Muncie's park system consists of 23 properties<sup>19</sup>; 22 within the City of Muncie and 1 in Perry Township, located in the southeast quadrant of Delaware County. Muncie's Park Department also maintains a handful of additional properties owned by public entities that are not officially a part of this department.

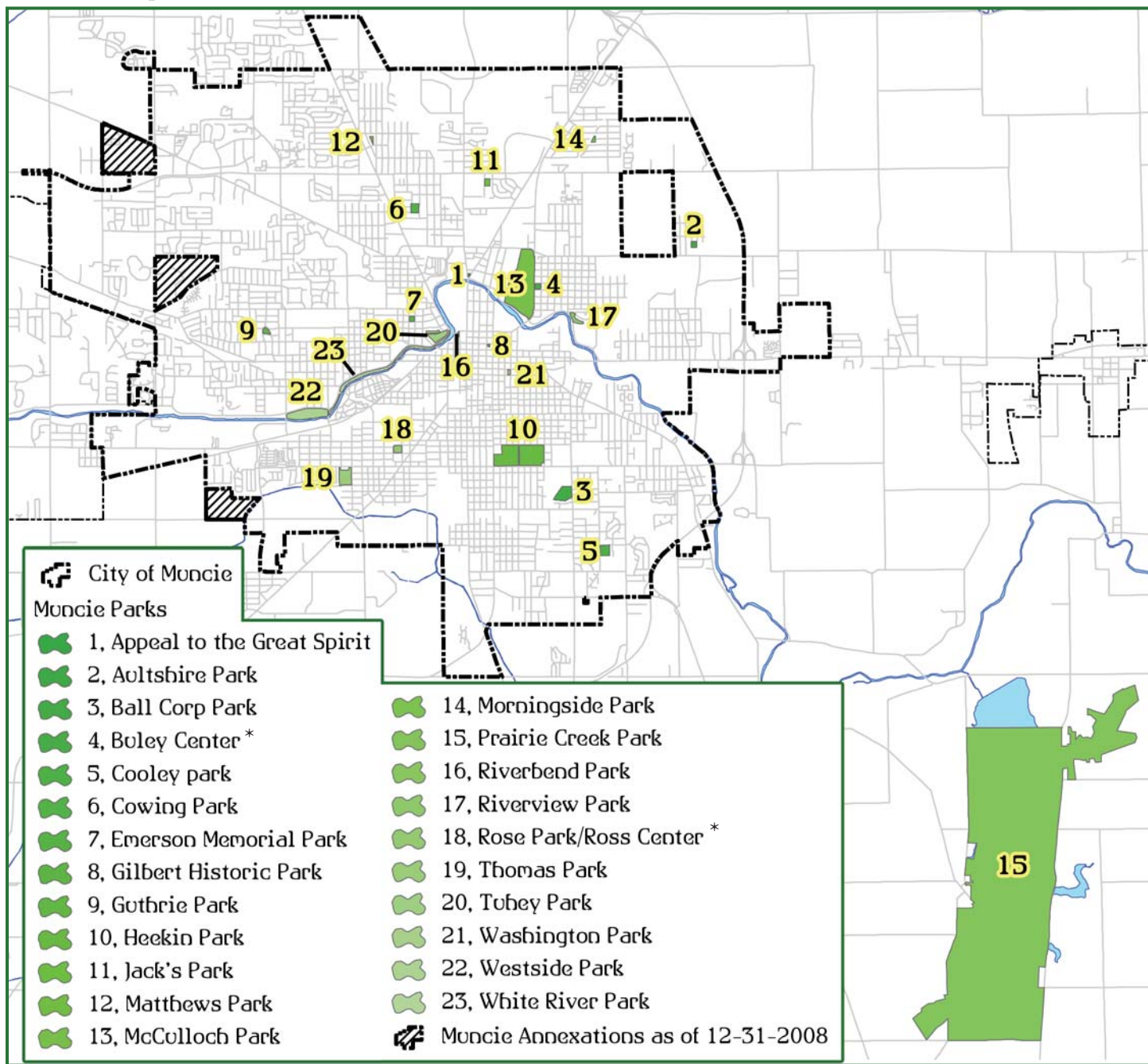


Figure 25- Inventory of Muncie's park system.

19 As of January 2009, the City of Muncie has given up the responsibility of managing 2 of these parks (\*) to neighborhood associations with utility costs being provided by the Delaware County Commissioners.





## Inventory & Classification

### *Classification*

Because there is no standard way of defining parks, it is important for each community to delineate what makes up its park system. Whether parks are classified by size or function (or some other element) in order to “plan” one must first have a standard from which to work.

The Park Department of Muncie felt it was appropriate to use the park, open space, and pathways classifications used by the NRPA. This type of classification generally delineates parks based upon their size. NRPA classifications leave a gap between mini parks (parks less than 1 acre) and neighborhood parks (parks containing 5 to 10 acres). There is also a size classification gap between neighborhood parks (5-10 acres) and community parks (30-50 acres). Many of the parks in Muncie were in between the size criteria for the park types classified by the NRPA. Those parks were classified and then analyzed according to the following:

- Small neighborhood parks are the parks that are larger than mini parks (parks up to 1 acre) and smaller than neighborhood parks (parks between 5-10 acres). For purposes of determining level of service and conducting other analysis, small neighborhood parks were treated the same as neighborhood parks.
- Large neighborhood parks are parks containing 10-20 acres. These parks are analyzed as though they were neighborhood parks.
- Small community parks are properties containing 20-30 acres. Such parks are analyzed as though they were community parks.

Using the classifications of small neighborhood park, large neighborhood park, and small community park, while using the same standards for analyzing neighborhood and community parks respectively, is important in order to acknowledge that those park classifications are not technically fitting into the classifications defined by the NRPA.

Two other parks did not match NRPA classifications. One park was classified as a linear park (a type of park not recognized by the NRPA). While this park could be classified as a natural resource area or a greenway (both classifications recognized by the NRPA), since the park embraces both functions it was determined that the classification of a “linear park” would be well suited. The other park was classified as a regional park. This park is located in outside the city limits in the county and is more than 8 times larger than all other city park combined. While this park serves city residents, people come from all over the region to visit this park.

Parks managed by the city of Muncie were further classified based upon whether the properties were owned by the City of Muncie or leased to the City of Muncie for park use. Because leased properties are not permanent contributions to the park system, those properties are not included in the primary analysis of the park system’s level of service (park acres per population, facilities per population). Instead leased properties are included in a secondary analysis of the park system’s level of service in order to show the contribution that they make to the park system and the importance of maintaining those properties within the system. Leased properties are included in the Department’s short term planning of budgets and operations because those leases are relevant for the next 5 years. Properties that are leased include Ball Community Park, Emerson Memorial Greenspace Park, Rose Park/Ross Center, and Prairie Creek Park.





Park Classifications			
<b>Muncie Parks, Owned Properties</b>			
Park Type	NRPA Size Criteria	Local Classifications	# of parks
Mini Park	up to 1 acre		5
Small Neighborhood Parks		1 - 5 acres	7
Neighborhood Parks	5 - 10 acres		2
Large Neighborhood Parks		10 - 20 acres	1
Linear Parks			1
Small Community Parks		20 - 30 acres	1
Community Parks	30 - 50 acres		0
Large Urban Parks	50 - 75+ acres		2
			<b>19</b>
<b>Muncie Parks, Leased Properties</b>			
Small Neighborhood Parks		1 - 5 acres	2
Large Neighborhood Parks		10-20 acres	1
Regional Parks	200+ acres*		1
			<b>23</b>
* - defined by the NRPA in 1983 but not updated in the 1996 guidelines			

Figure 26- Method of Classification for Muncie's parks.

Ball Community Park is leased from the Ball Corporation. The lease is missing- thus it is unknown how long the lease lasts or what other appropriations the lease includes. Contact with Ball Corporation suggested that they are interested in continuing or renewing a lease with the city.

Emerson Memorial Greenspace Park and Rose Park/Ross Center are both properties owned by Muncie Community Schools. Rose Park/Ross Center is a property leased to the City of Muncie by Muncie Community Schools. The lease was established in 1919 and lasts for 99 years, making the lease viable until August 6th, 2018.

Prairie Creek Park is leased until 2021. While it has been recommended that the City should pursue renewing the lease and/or make provisions to purchase the property should the property go up for sale, neither option has been initiated.

Other properties were identified that contribute to the public's park and recreational opportunities in the City of Muncie. The primary factor defining if a property contributes to the public's park & recreational opportunities for this plan is whether or not the property to open to the public free of charge. The most relevant properties are the memorial parks. There are 3 memorial parks, of which the Parks & Recreation Department cares for 2.

The majority of the other contributing properties are grade school grounds- both Muncie Community School properties and private school properties; school buildings are not included. For the purposes of this master plan those properties have been identified as "school-parks".







## Inventory & Classification

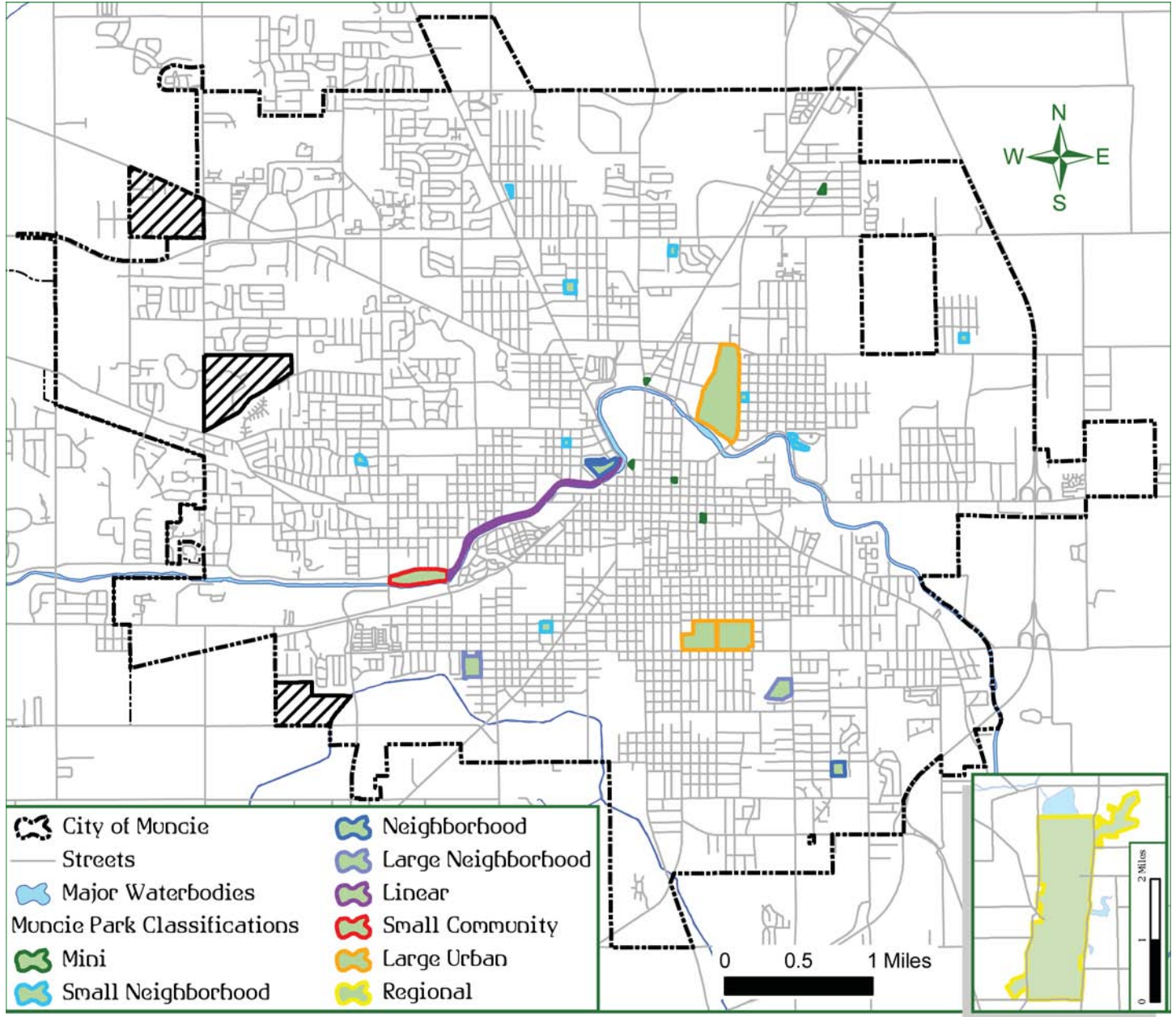


Figure 27- Classification of Muncie's Parks.





## Inventory & Classification

Muncie is also home to Ball State University. Most of the campus and the properties Ball State University owns are open to the public. Recreational facilities are only open to members for a fee. Open spaces were selected to include in Muncie’s assessment.

All of the previously identified properties have been classified according to their size in order to maintain uniformity for analysis.

The other primary contributing property type is greenways. Cardinal Greenway and White River Greenway are open to the public free of charge. While the State of Indiana has established the goal “of providing an easily accessible trail opportunity within 15 minutes or 7.5 miles of all Indiana residents,”<sup>20</sup> greenways have been included in this plan’s analysis using a 1 mile service area, or a 15 minute bike ride to the greenway.<sup>21</sup>

Minnetrista Cultural Center provides areas that are open to the public free of charge and areas that require an entrance fee. Areas that are open to the public free of charge have been identified and are included in the inventory of overall community resources.

Privately owned facilities that are open to the public for a fee are included in the inventory but are not included in analysis. While private park/recreational facilities contribute to the overall recreational opportunities and greenspace for the public, they are not available to the public as a free amenity. This category includes public golf courses, putt-putt golf, indoor skateparks and rollerskating rinks, bowling alleys, YMCA and YWCA facilities, and Muncie’s SportsPlex.

Figure 28, on the following page, illustrates the locations and classifications of Muncie’s overall park, greenspace, and recreational opportunities.

20 *Hoosiers on the Move: The Indiana State Trails, Greenways, & Bikeway Plan.* Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation. July 2006. 11.

21 The entire City of Muncie is within 7.5 miles of both Cardinal Greenway and White River Greenway.







## Inventory & Classification

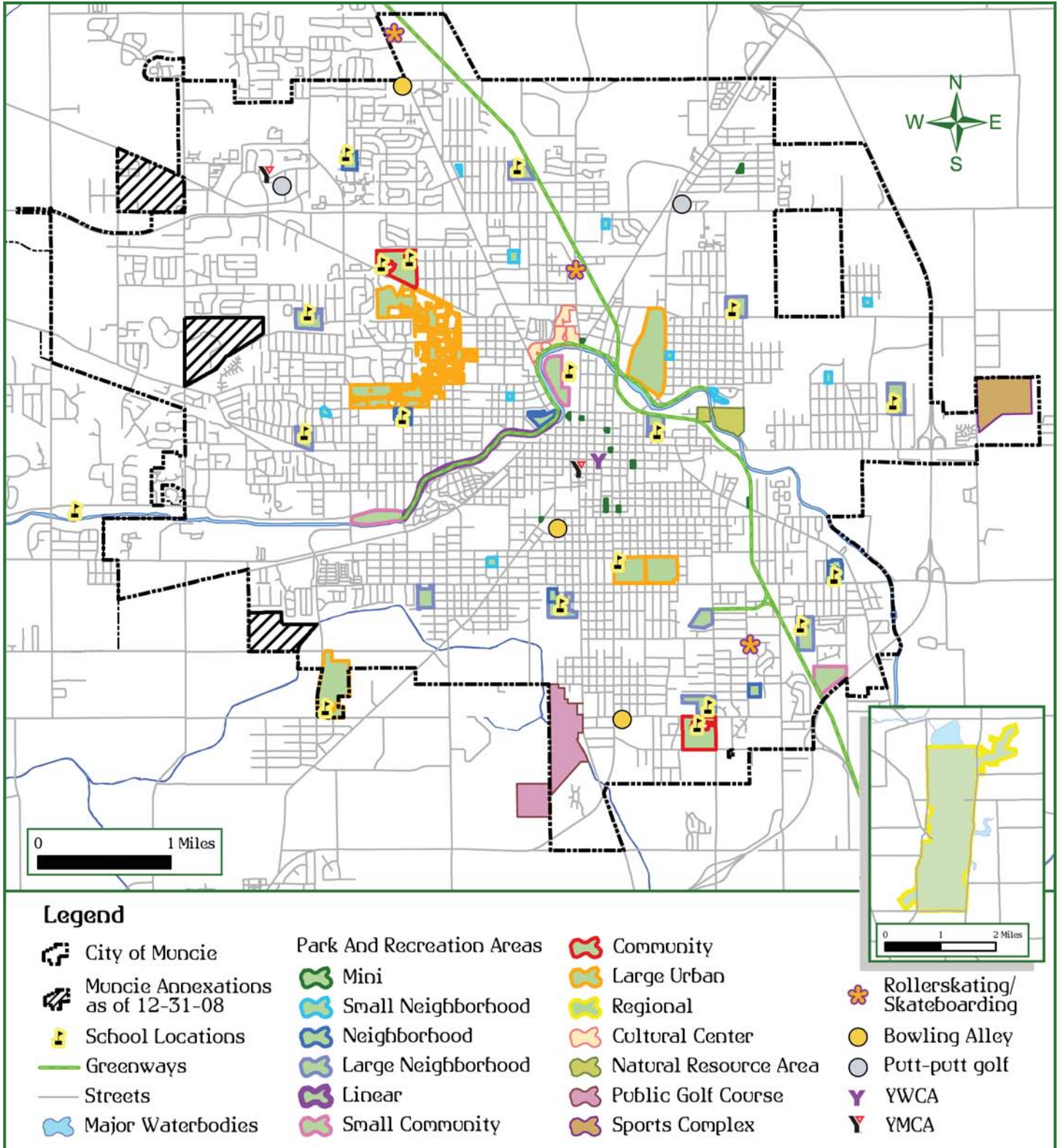


Figure 28- Inventory and Classification of Muncie's Overall Park, Greenspace, and Recreational Opportunities.







## Assessment

Triangulation of anecdotal, qualitative, and quantitative data was used in order to provide thorough evaluation and assessment of Muncie’s parks and park system. For this master plan the following data was collected:

*Anecdotal data-* site visits and photographs, personal observations, conversations with park staff, conversations with community center staff, and informal conversations with park users.

*Qualitative data-* regular input from and workshop with the steering committee, staff workshop, and a public meeting. Input from the steering committee workshop and the park staff workshop is included in the following pages, information about the public meeting is provided at the end of the Assessment section as it is the final component of the assessment.

*Quantitative data-* determination and analysis of various levels of service (# of acres per 1,000 population, # of facilities per 1,000 population), analysis of park service areas (a pocket park serves every resident within less than a ¼ mile; a community park serves every resident within ½ to 3 miles), conducted a public survey (a “mail-back” survey was sent to 1500 randomly selected residents and a web-based survey open to everyone that is interested in participating), conducted a survey of students in Muncie Community Schools, and benchmarked Muncie’s parks (compared to similar communities).

Additionally, it is important to review associated plans in order to harmoniously plan with the common aspects found in each of those documents. Familiarity with Muncie’s past park and recreation master plans in particular provides vital information so that planning can be more meaningful. Each new master plan shouldn’t amount to “reinventing the wheel”. Understanding what the issues were in the past is important for comparing with current issues to identify trends, determine if past recommendations were effective, etc.

One property obtained by the city for a public park was not included in this assessment as it is under development and does not yet have an official name. It is located at the south end of the downtown core, at the new Walnut Street roundabout. A complete assessment of this area will be included in the next 5-year master plan.



*Anecdotal Data*

The following pages outline the site visits and personal observations of each park in Muncie’s park system. Parks are listed in alphabetical order with the following information:

On the left hand page-

- aerial photograph with the condition of existing park amenities

On the right hand page-

- location - within Muncie
- location - showing 1/4 mile around the park
- size
- type
- general descriptions

*Notes & Legend for Site Maps and Observations*

The following is a legend to the site maps for each park on the following pages. Due to the quantity of amenities in the parks it was necessary to label those amenities with reference numbers. Data for each amenity was collected using a GPS device. The amenity’s condition was then recorded and is displayed on the maps with colored dots.

A few notes about the park inventory-

When points appear “shifted”, or are not represented exactly on the amenity, this is due to the range of error when using a GPS device. With good satellite coverage, points captured with the Trimble Geo XT should be within 3 feet of the location.

Grills are located in most parks throughout the park system; however they were all in an unusable condition. New grills need to be placed throughout the park system near the picnic shelters.

Though most light fixtures were inventoried, the associated condition is simply an observation on the fixture’s condition; whether or not each light functions is unknown.

AMENITY	Label
4-square	1
ATV Area	2
Baseball Diamond	3
Basketball Court	4
Beach	5
Bench Swing	7
Bike Rack	8
Bleachers	9
Boat Launch	10
Bridge	11
Cabin	12
Cactus Climber	13
Campground	14
Cement Animal	15
Chain Climber	16
Climbing Bars, wavy	17
Climbing Structure	18
Community Center	19
Concession Stand	20
Concrete Rectangle	21
Corkscrew Climber	22
Crawling Tubes	23
Fire pole	24
Dugout	25
Electric Meter	26
Entrance	27
Exposed Pipe	28
Fire pole	29
Firepit	30
Flag Pole	31
Geodesic Dome	32
Grill	33
Hitching Post	34
Hopscotch	35
Horseshoes	36
Ladder	37
Light- ground level	38
Light- Pole	39
Light- Sport	40
Memorial	41
Merry-go-round	42

Metal Climber	43
Model Airplane Field	44
Monkey Bars	45
Old Animal Enclosure	46
Old Sign Structure	47
Old Water Pump	48
Other:	49
Park Sign	50
Parking	51
Paved	52
Pedestrian Signal	53
Picnic Shelter	54
Picnic Table	55
Play Structure	56
Power Outlets	57
Press Box	58
Pull-Up Bar	59
Restroom- permanent	60
Restroom- port-a-pot	61
Rings	62
Rock	63
Sandbox	64
Scoreboard	65
Sculpture	66
Site Sign	67
Slide	68
Slide- Bump	69
Slide- Junior	70
Slide- Spiral	71
Slide- Tunnel	72
Soap Box Derby Track	73
Spring Riders	74
Steering Wheel	75
Stepping Stones	76
Storage	77
Swing- handicapped	78
Swing-infant	79
Swings	80
Talking Tube	81
Teeter-Totter	82
Tennis Court	83
Tire Swing	84

Track Ride	85
Trail- Unpaved	86
Trashcan	87
Tree Nursery	88
Utility Bldg- Vectren	89
Volleyball	90
Water Fountain	91
Wildlife Habitat Area	92
Windsurfer Access	93
Wire-Control Airplane Circle	94
Disk Golf- Tee	95
Disk Golf - Basket	96

Park Amenities - Condition

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- unknown
- Poor
- Missing

Muncie Parks - Classifications

- Mini
- Small Neighborhood
- Neighborhood
- Large Neighborhood
- Linear
- Small Community
- Large Urban
- Regional
- Disk Golf Course Lines
- Recreation Trails
- Streets





# Appeal to the Great Spirit

Location: Walnut St. & Granville Ave.

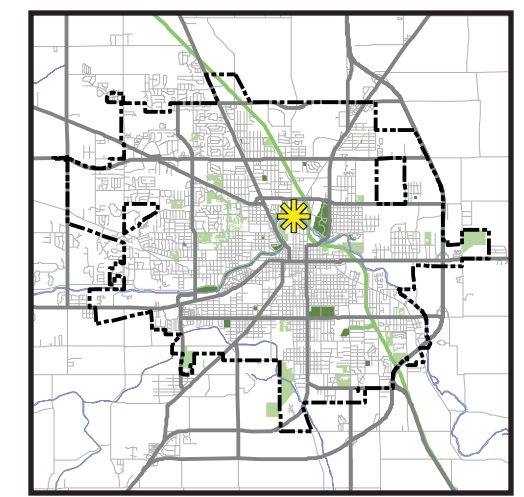
Size: 0.3 acres

Type: Mini Park

**General Description:**  
 Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Appeal to the Great Spirit mini park was developed in 1929 in memory of Edmond Burke Ball. Containing the bronze casting of Cyrus Dallin's American Indian Equestrian sculpture "Appeal to the Great Spirit", locally known as "Chief Muncie", this park was designed by Alembert W. (A.W.) Brayton, Jr. a landscape architect from Indianapolis. The sculpture faces south toward Muncie's downtown. A semi-circular limestone seatwall wraps around the posterior of the sculpture while two axial walkways approach the sculpture, one from Walnut St. and one from Granville Ave. This park's landscape was designed to emulate a western landscape, reflective of the area where the depicted Native American would have originated. The landscape is in need of restoration.

In conflict with the original site plan, flagpoles were located within the primary viewshed of the sculpture. There is no parking associated with this property.

Due to the historical significance of this park, great care should be given to restore the original landscape screen and rehabilitate the plantings around the seatwall. A Landscape Preservation Master Plan was prepared for this site in 2001 by Malcolm Cairns and Cheryl Chalfant (Department of Landscape Architecture, Ball State University) for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology. This plan should be utilized for the ongoing maintenance of this park.







## Aultshire Park

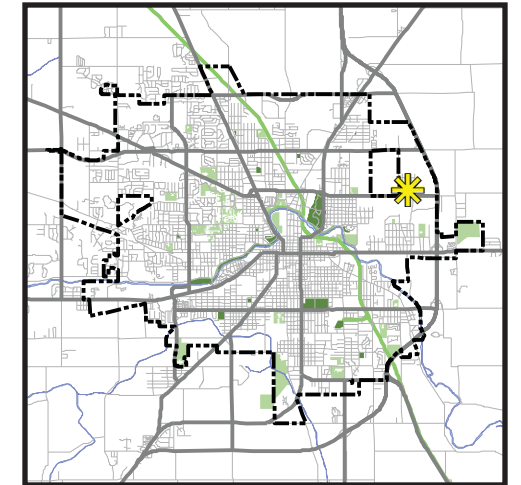
Location: South of Cromer Ave. on Watt Ave.

Size: 2.0 acres

Type: Small Neighborhood Park

### General Description:

Aultshire Park is located on the dead end of Watt Ave. in the Aultshire Neighborhood. This park is the only public amenity within this secluded neighborhood on Muncie's northeast side. There is an area to turn around, but there is no designated parking area leaving visitors to park along the grass. The park offers playground equipment that is in relatively decent shape, though it is littered with graffiti. The picnic shelter is greatly worn and there are no picnic tables. A basketball court is located in the southwest portion of the park. While the backboards are worn, the court and the goals are in fair shape. A dirt and grassed walking/jogging path is provided that encircles the park. Areas along this path appear to flood and become muddy. Large open space is available for spontaneous play or sports. There was no bathroom facility or water fountain. A hedge line screens the park from the neighbors to the north, while the rest of the park offers borrowed views of large yards of neighbors in the other directions. Railroad tracks running northeast-southwest are visible from the park, they are located ~300' southeast of this park.







## Ball Community Park

Location: Macedonina Ave., between 14th St. and 17th St.

Size: 10.99 acres

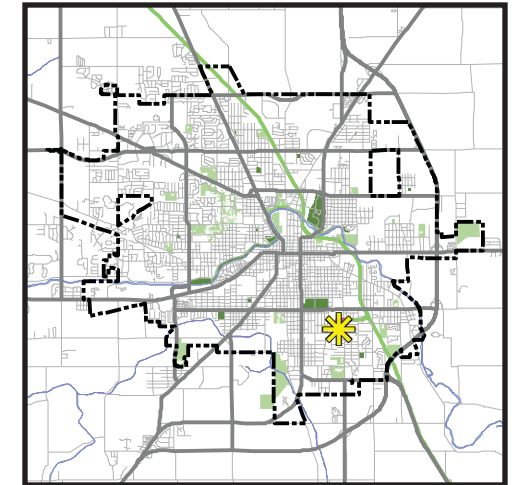
Type: Large Neighborhood Park

### General Description:

Serving the Southside Neighborhood, this park has been leased from the Ball Corporation. Ball Community Park offers plentiful parking on its northeast side. While the maintenance of this park needs attention, there are designated areas for a baseball diamond and volleyball courts. A basketball court is in fair condition, though it has a crack running down the middle of it. A picnic shelter with picnic tables is centrally located in the park. A crushed stone walking path encircles the park. Benches are located along the path. Large open spaces for spontaneous play are available. Light poles and electrical outlets are provided, however their condition was unknown.

Located near the picnic shelter is an old traditional Murdock water fountain that no longer works. Additionally, there is a wooden map of the park. The location of the parks amenities are carved into the sign. A port-a-pot was the only bathroom facility.

The primary views from this park are of Spartech Plastics, a large plastics factory. Fumes from this facility do periodically permeate the air in the area. Residential homes line the southern boundary. Macedonina Ave., a primary arterial road, runs along the eastern boundary separating the park from the adjoining neighborhood.







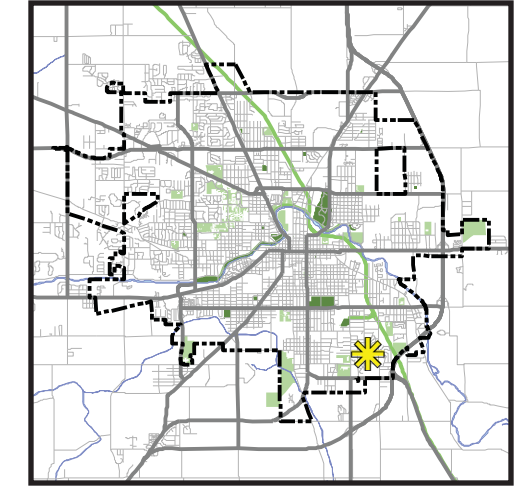




# Cooley Park

Location: 23rd St. and Mock Ave.  
Size: 5.36 acres  
Type: Neighborhood Park

General Description:  
Serving the Southside Neighborhood, Cooley Park is located to the southeast of the intersection of 23rd St. and Mock Ave. Developed in 1974, this park offers an official sized baseball diamond, a basketball court, a picnic table, and playground equipment (including swings, a merry-go-round, a slide and a sand box) that are spaced throughout the park along a paved semi-circular path that dissects the property from the southwest to the northeast. The playground equipment is very aged. Small hills line the path and provide semi-private areas for the various facilities. Two parking lots provide buffers for the park from the bordering roads. Access to the parking lots is available at the northeast corner and the southwest corner, with both lots emptying at the street intersection to the northwest. A concession stand and restrooms are provided, however neither was open in order to evaluate their conditions.







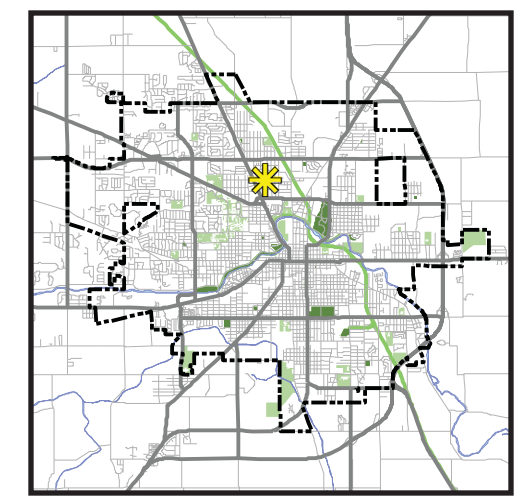
# Cowing Park

Location: Pauline Ave., Cowing Dr., Tilmor Dr., & Cowing Park Ln.

Size: 4.16 acres

Type: Small Neighborhood Park

General Description: Located in an undesignated neighborhood, Cowing Park is situated along Pauline Ave. and at the dead-ends of Cowing Dr., Tilmor Dr., and Cowing Park Ln. This park contains many large trees and large open spaces for spontaneous play. Facilities provided include a half court (basketball), two tennis courts, cement picnic tables, several benches, and playground equipment. Most swings were missing. There is also a grill that is in poor condition. Parking is available where the roads dead-end and along Pauline Ave. There were no restroom facilities, nor were there water fountains.







# Emerson Memorial Greenspace Park

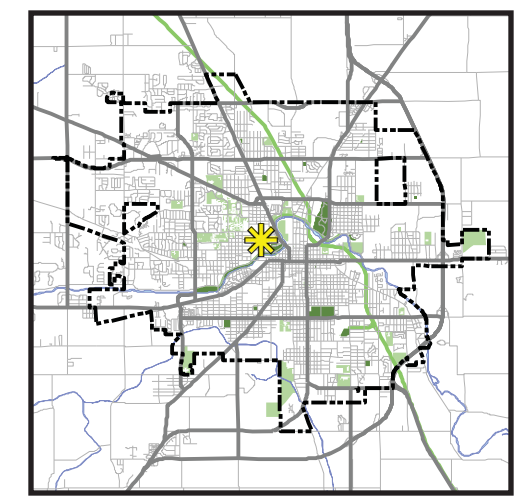
Location: Ashland Ave., Linden St., Beechwood Ave., & Pauline Ave.

Size: 1.45 acres

Type: Small Neighborhood Park

### General Description:

Serving the Riverside/Normal City Neighborhood, Emerson Memorial Greenspace Park is located on the site of the former Emerson Elementary School. In the early 1990's, Muncie Community Schools deeded this property to the City of Muncie for recreational purposes; however, this deed was never recorded. Bounded by secondary roads, the park's perimeter is lined with sidewalks. A large concert ball is located at each corner of the property. The property is divided in half with a short brick wall that runs east-west; the northern half of this property is flush with the top of the wall. An asphalt walkway runs from the middle of the property's southern boundary to a centrally located rectangular area. Here the school's original entrance stairs direct visitors to a memorial for Emerson Elementary School. The memorial includes part of the school's foundation, a large plaque providing information about the school, and two large original monoliths, one with the school's name and one with the year it was dedicated (1922). Benches are located throughout the property. The majority of the northern half of the property is open for spontaneous play while the southern half contains several large trees. This park was designed by Malcolm Cairns, Associate Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, Ball State University.











Assessment

## Guthrie Park

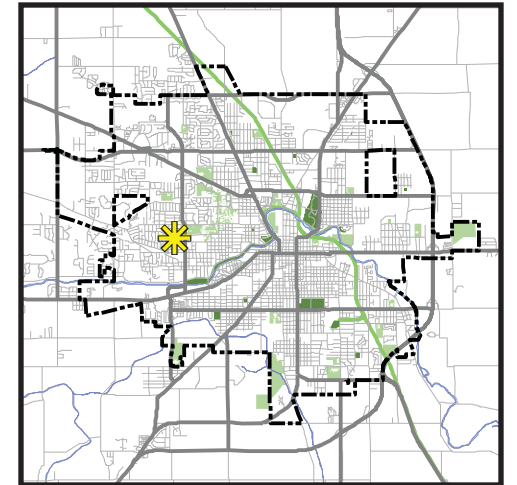
Location: University Ave., Riley Rd., North St., & Winthrop Rd.

Size: 2.19 acres

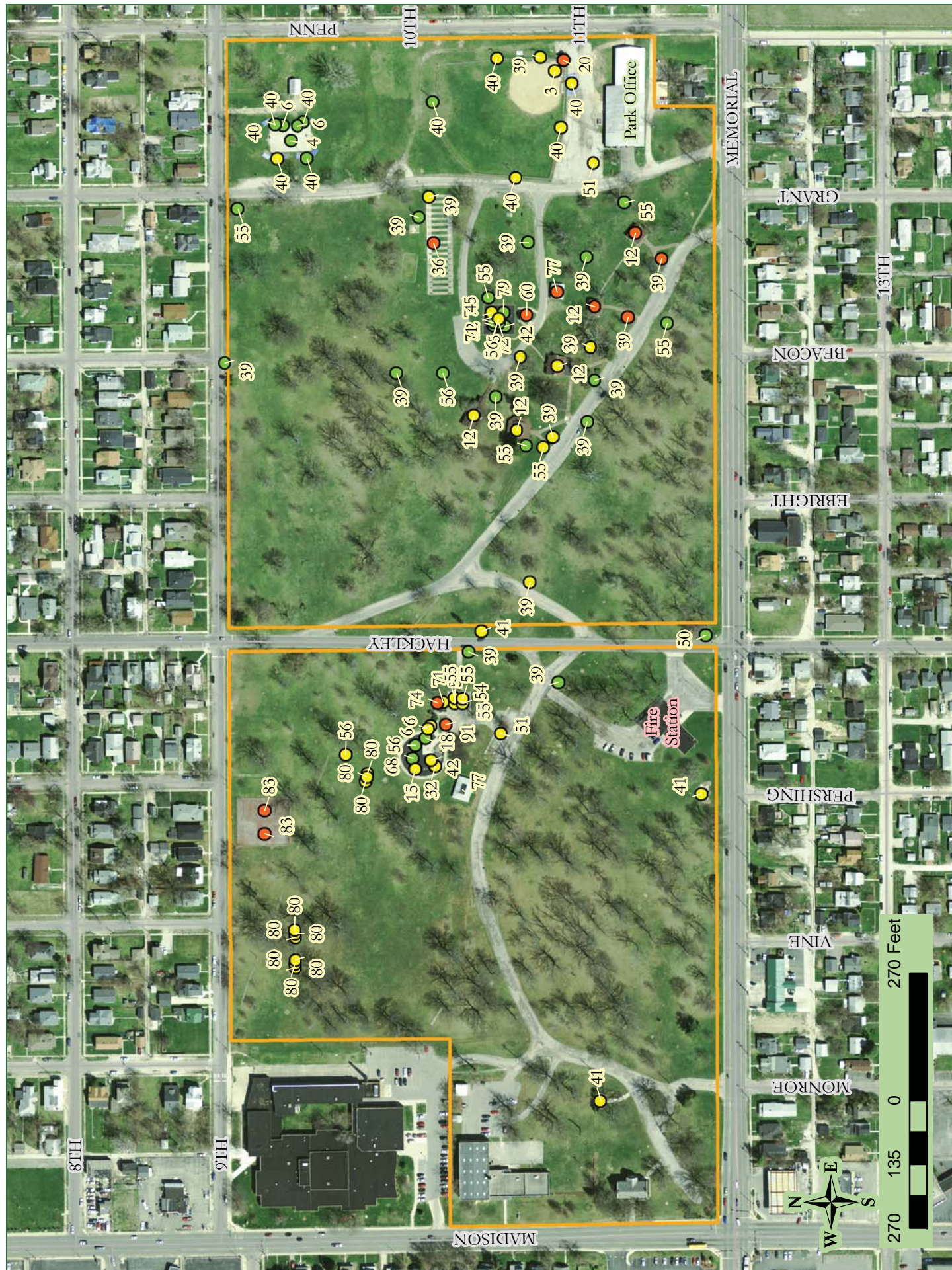
Type: Small Neighborhood Park

General Description:

Located in the Kenmore Neighborhood, Guthrie Park is a large greenspace, as committed by covenant, bounded by University Ave., Riley Rd., North St., and Winthrop Rd. There are no sidewalks or curbs around this park (nor are there any sidewalks or curbs throughout this neighborhood). Visitors from outside the neighborhood have to park in the grass. The park offers a large openspace for spontaneous play and two benches. Lined with trees, the park is home to multiple memorials to loved ones that once resided in the neighborhood. Remnants of a cement pond bordered by some large rocks provide variation to the site.







Assessment

# Heekin Park

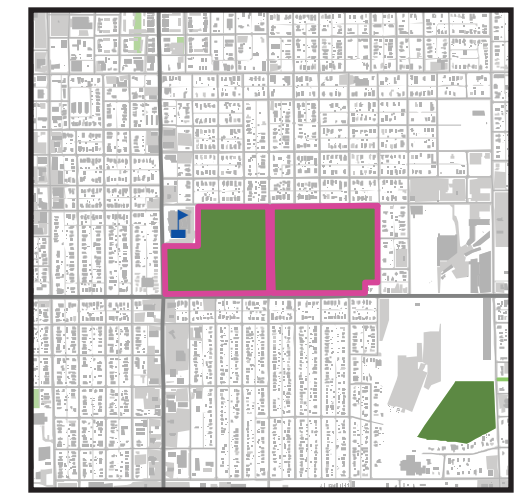
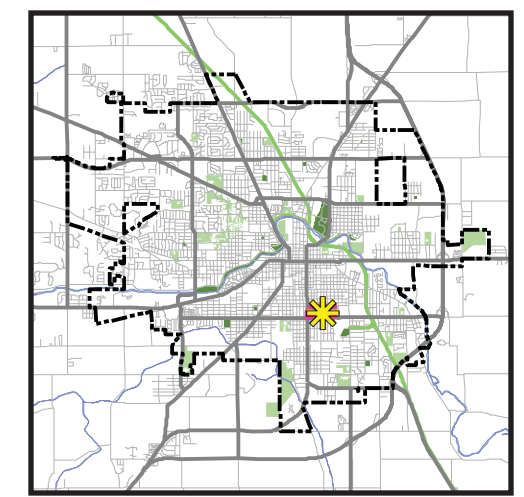
Location: Memorial Dr., Madison St., 9th St., Penn St., & Hackley St.

Size: 54.01 acres

Type: Large Urban Park

General Description:  
 Located in the southwest corner of the Industry Neighborhood, Heekin Park serves the entire Muncie Community. Bordered by Madison St. and Memorial Dr. places Heekin Park along major thoroughfares and primary bus routes. Divided in half by Hackley St., Heekin Park offers vast openspace with a multitude of large trees, multiple cabins, a picnic shelter, two playgrounds, memorials (including a WW II Memorial and time capsule, a Vietnam War Memorial and the Five Points Fountain, an elaborate water fountain created for people and animals that was relocated), a basketball court, tennis courts, restrooms, broken water fountains, a baseball diamond, horseshoe pits, and the park office. The tennis courts appear neglected and unused. Restrooms are dated and provide little to no privacy. Though the playground equipment is dated, overall it doesn't appear hazardous. Horseshoe pits appear very dilapidated.

A fire station is centrally located in the park on the northwest corner of Memorial Dr. and Hackley St. Located to the southeast of Madison St. and 9th St., Garfield Elementary uses Heekin Park for playground opportunities.















# McCulloch Park

Location: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., McCulloch Blvd., Highland Ave., and Centennial Ave.

Size: 91.43 acres

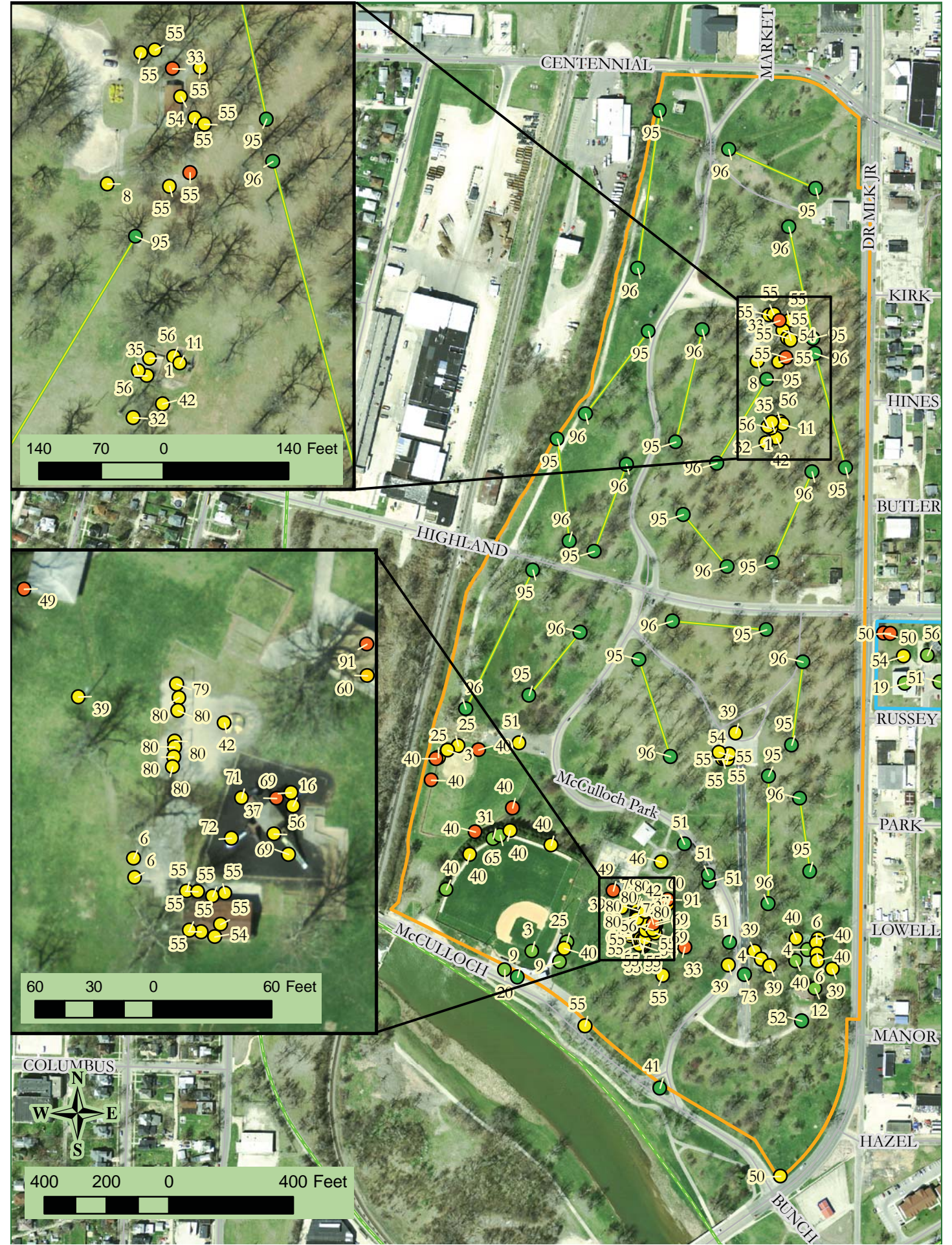
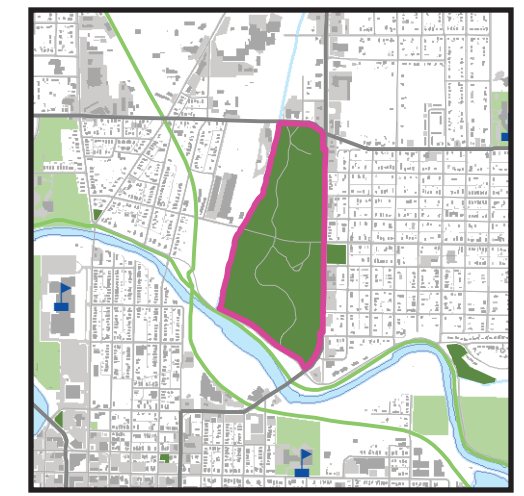
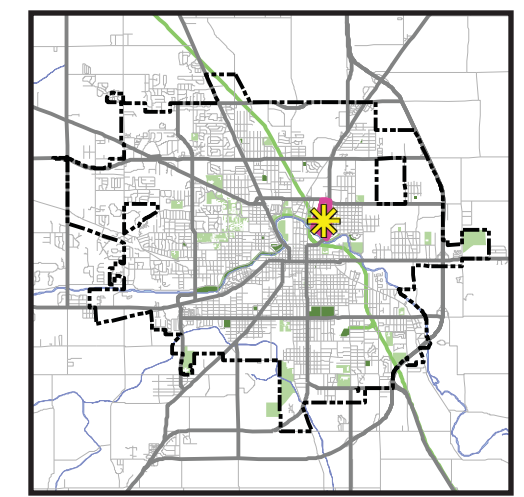
Type: Large Urban Park

**General Description:**  
 Located in the southwest corner of the Whitley Neighborhood, adjacent to the Minnetrista, McKinley, and East Central Neighborhoods, McCulloch Park serves the entire community of Muncie. Access to McCulloch Park is available from adjacent bus routes along Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., or from a short walk from routes along Elm St. McCulloch Park is also accessible from White River Greenway (running along the southern boundary of the park) and Cardinal Greenway, with McCulloch Trailhead located just west of the park. Parking lots are available in multiple locations throughout the park, which include bike racks at a couple locations. McCulloch Park Dr. meanders through the park running north-south. The park is split in half by Highland Ave., running east-west.

In 1901, George McCulloch donated the land which makes up McCulloch Park to the city. He specified that the land must be used as a public park for the free use by all people that lived in the city. The largest park within Muncie, McCulloch Park offers gently rolling terrain with Muncie's primary sledding hill and a multitude of large mature trees. This park also offers a plethora of recreational opportunities including two playgrounds, a disk golf course, basketball courts, an official sized baseball diamond, a little league sized baseball diamond, a Soap Box derby track, picnic shelters, and picnic tables. A lodge located in the southeast portion of the park has a newly paved access road and parking area, which also provides access to the basketball courts. A permanent restroom facility was locked and attached water fountains didn't function. A memorial to George McCulloch has been relocated at the park's southern boundary along McCulloch Blvd., in a triangular traffic median in between McCulloch Park Dr.

McCulloch Park also contains a "safety park", though it was locked and appears in disrepair. A short circular concrete wall, the remnants of an animal enclosure, reminds visitors that McCulloch Park was once home to animals, though there is no sign to educate people that are unaware of McCulloch Park's past. A small building that appears to have been a community hand washing facility also provides a glimpse into the past of McCulloch Park for visitors. This building would be well suited for attaching signage that educates people about the rich history of Muncie's parks.

A fire station and a lift station reside within the northern part of the park. The Muncie K-9 Department has removed their facility that was formerly located in the park on the northwest corner of Highland Ave. and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.



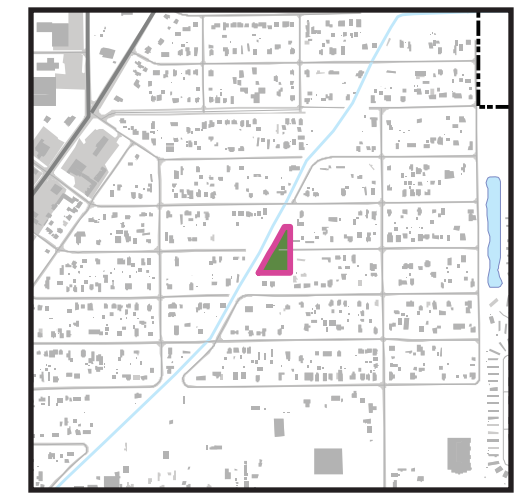
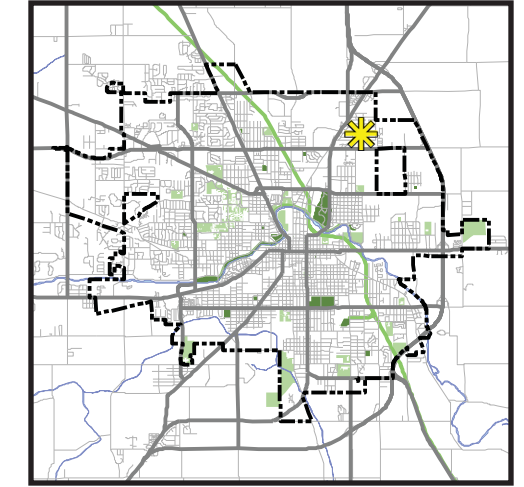




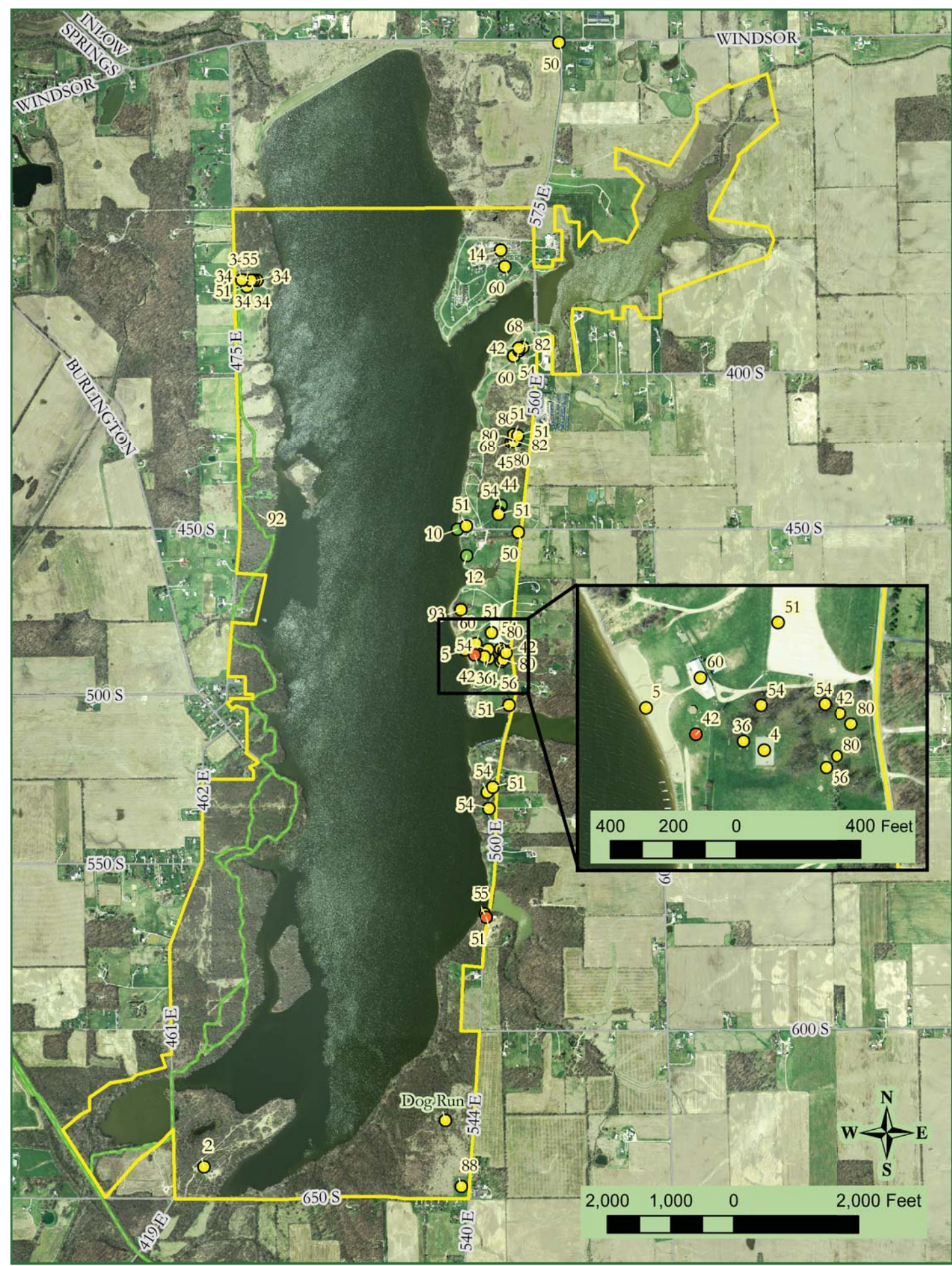
# Morningside Park

Location: Cornell Ave.  
Size: 0.89 acres  
Type: Mini Park

General Description:  
Centrally located in the Morningside Neighborhood, Morningside Park is accessible at the dead-end of Cornell on the eastern side of Hamilton Ditch. A footbridge spanning the ditch provides pedestrian access for residents along the western side of the ditch. A small parking lot divides the park in half with a basketball court and bleachers on the north side and a picnic shelter with picnic tables, a playground, and a port-a-pot on the south side. Playground equipment is in good shape, though it is littered with graffiti. This park suffers from recurrent vandalism, including the port-a-pot being burned.







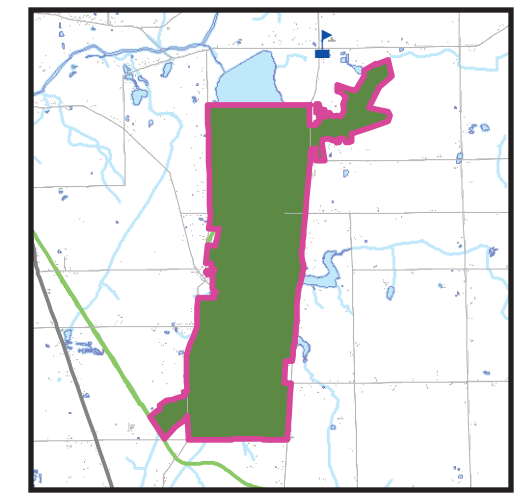
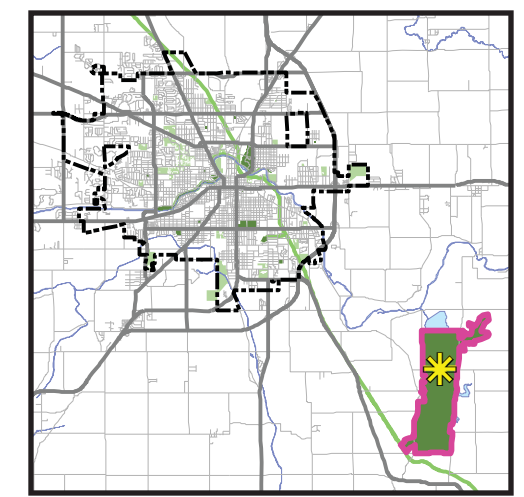
## Prairie Creek Park

Location: Windsor Rd., 575 E.-544 E., 650 S., & 461 E.-475 E.

Size: 1890.81 acres; ~770 acres of land, ~1120 acres of open water

Type: Regional Park

**General Description:**  
 Prairie Creek Park is located in Perry Township in the southeast quadrant of Delaware County. Serving the City of Muncie and Delaware County, Prairie Creek Park is a unique recreational facility in this region. Owned by the Indiana-American Water Company, this property is leased to Muncie until 2021. The reservoir is stream-fed and functions as the City of Muncie's backup drinking water source. Recreational use of the reservoir is permitted. Prairie Creek Park offers a boat launch, leasable piers, a campground, a bath house and beach access, restrooms, a basketball court, a model aircraft field, picnic shelters, picnic tables, three playgrounds, a rental lodge, horseshoes, a volleyball court, windsurfing access, a dog-running area, bank fishing, an ATV area, horseback riding trails, and a park office. The reservoir is heavily used by fishermen and tubing is permitted only in the southern portion of the reservoir. A speed limit is enforced. Access to the north portion of the reservoir is prohibited.



The Prairie Creek Master Plan, a master plan for the entire Prairie Creek Watershed, offers 27 recommendations for Prairie Creek Park. A few of the recommendations include:

- Encouraging Muncie to pursue extending the lease for the park.
- Create and Maintain 50' vegetated buffers around the shoreline of the ATV course to mitigate sediment loading and erosion impacts.
- Expand promotion of Prairie Creek Park as a visitor destination.
- Develop and enhance wayfinding and marketing devices, including signage, maps, brochures, and websites to assist people in locating Prairie Creek Reservoir and educate the public about available recreational opportunities.
- Establish fair regulations for campers that encourage attractive short-term use of campsites at Prairie Creek Park.
- Maintain passive recreation on the west side of the reservoir and active recreation on the east side.

The Prairie Creek Master Plan is incorporated by reference and made a part of this Parks & Recreation Master Plan. It is recommended that the Prairie Creek Master Plan be utilized for managing Prairie Creek Park, and be used in the creation of a Prairie Creek Park master plan.







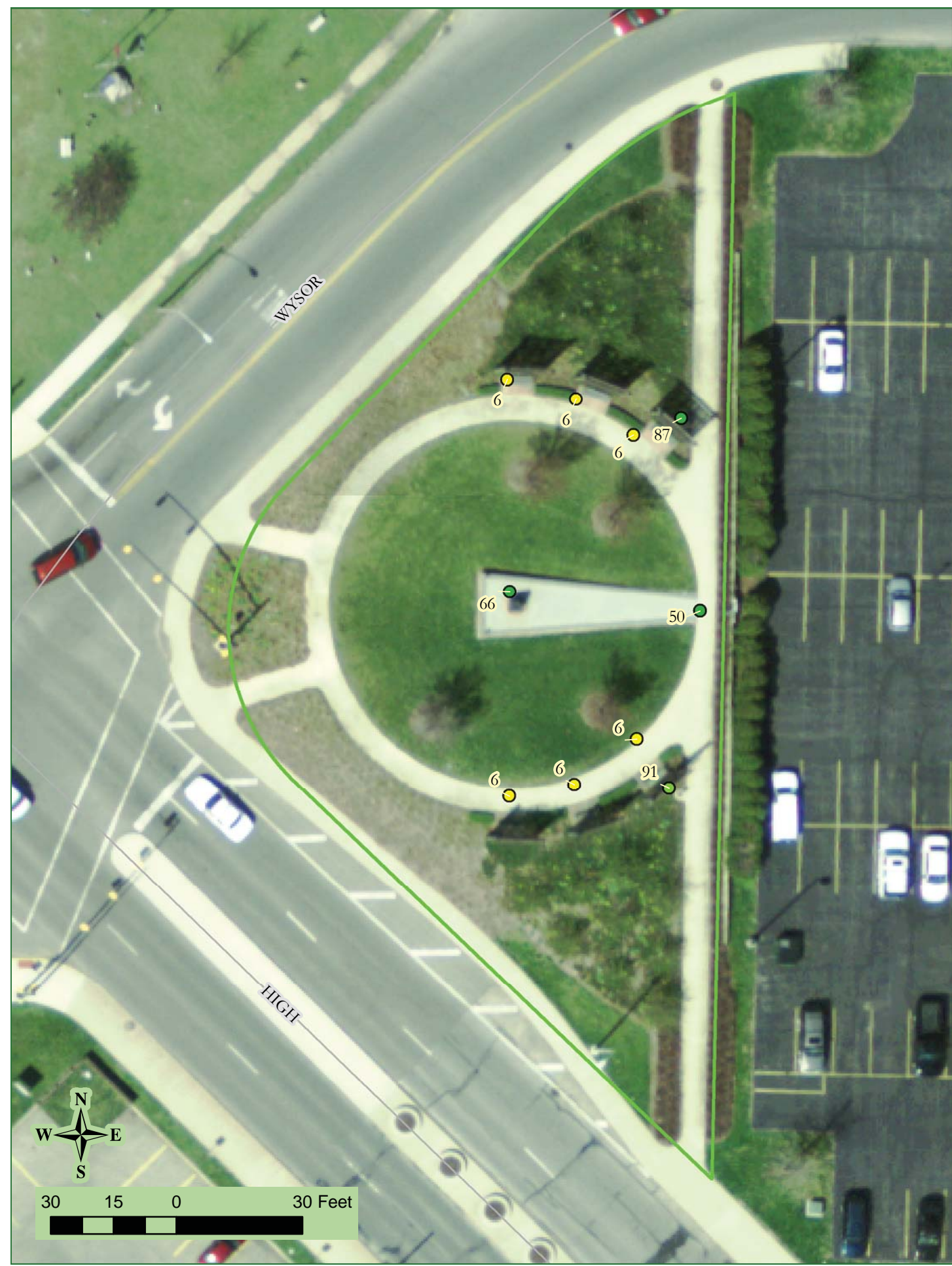
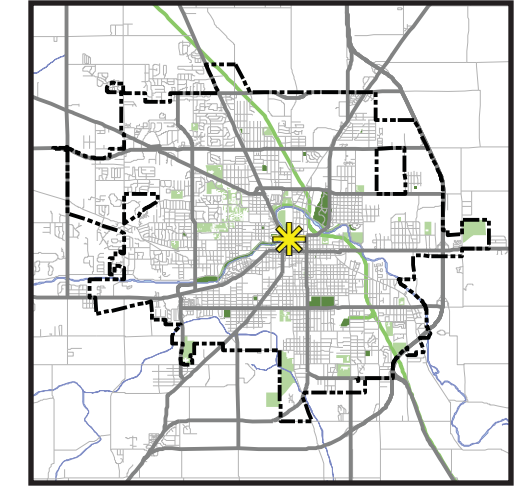
# Riverbend Park

Location: High St. & Wysor St.

Size: 0.42 acres

Type: Mini Park

**General Description:**  
 Located on the southeast side of the High St. bridge in the Old West End Neighborhood, Riverbend Park serves as a gateway to downtown Muncie. Designed by Rundell Ernstberger Associates, this park was dedicated on December 9th, 1998. The sculpture “Night Song”, by the artist Joe Beeler, is centrally located upon a decorative platform in the park. The platform is decorated with a relief depicting the courting practices of Native Americans that once inhabited this area. Encircled with a sidewalk, four ornamental trees share the interior of the circle with the sculpture. The sidewalk is lined with 6 benches, each backed with a trellis. The front of the park is covered with prairie grasses, with decorative trees and ground cover encompassing the north and south sections of the triangular parcel. The park has a backdrop of arborvitae, screening a large parking lot to the east. The park has a Murdock water fountain. Though it appears in good condition, it didn't seem to be turned on throughout the summer. This park complies with ADA guidelines.







## Riverview Park

Location: Bunch Blvd. & Carver Dr.

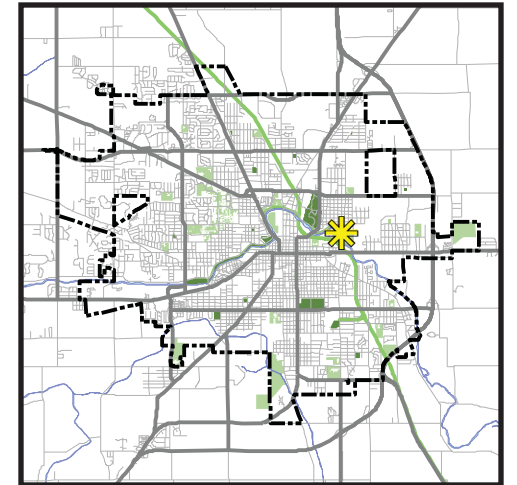
Size: 3.45 acres

Type: Small Neighborhood Park

### General Description:

Located adjacent to Bunch Blvd. and Carver Dr., Riverview Park serves the Whitely Neighborhood. The park is bounded by Bunch Blvd. and White River to the west, Carver Dr. to the north, Faulkner Dr. and residential properties establish the eastern boundary and Holt ditch and a railroad to the south. The park has limited parking along Bunch Blvd. A small baseball diamond and openspace offer space for spontaneous play. The park also provides a picnic shelter and picnic table, a basketball court, two half courts, benches, playground equipment, a port-a-pot, and a bike rack.

In 2009, White River Greenway will be extending past this park. This will also create a connection for this park to the Craddock Wetland Preserve that is just south of the railroad.







## Rose Park / Ross Center

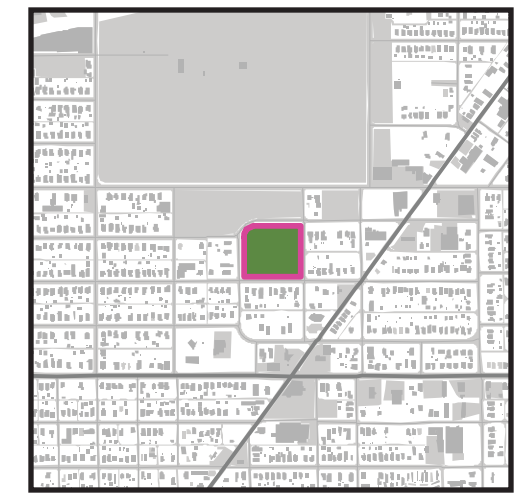
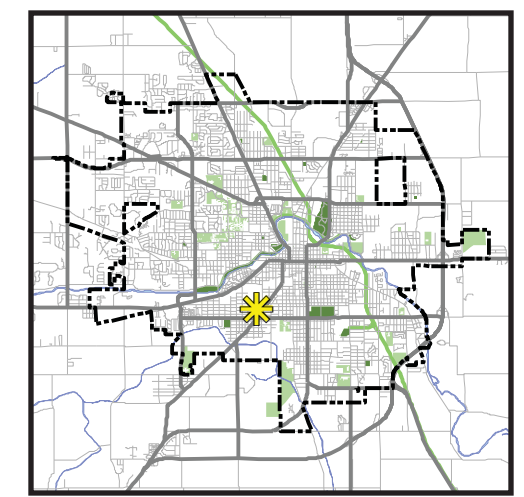
Location: 10th St., Pierce St., 9th St., & Birch St.

Size: 3.21 acres

Type: Small Neighborhood Park

### General Description:

Serving the Thomas Park/Avondale Neighborhood, Rose Park/Ross Center is bounded by residences on three sides, and an abandoned parking lot (from the former New Venture Gear factory) to the north. This property is maintained by the Thomas Park/Avondale Neighborhood Association. The park provides a little league sized baseball diamond, a basketball court, a playground, a smaller ball diamond, a fire pit, benches, picnic shelters, and picnic tables. There is a parking lot in the southeast corner of the property. The Ross Center provides a gymnasium, meeting rooms, a kitchen facility, restrooms and water fountains. Vectren has a small structure on the western side of this property.







## Thomas Park

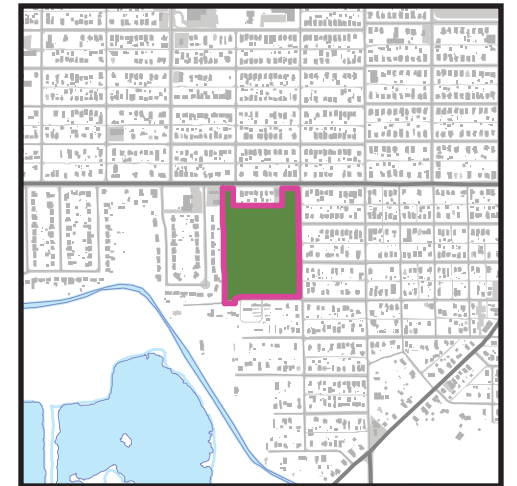
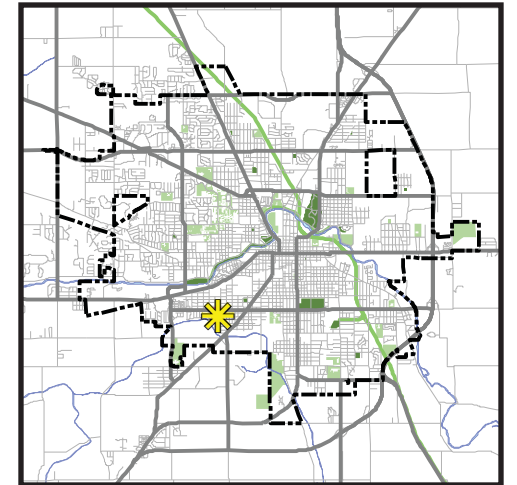
Location: Rochester Ave., south of Memorial Dr.

Size: 11.5 acres

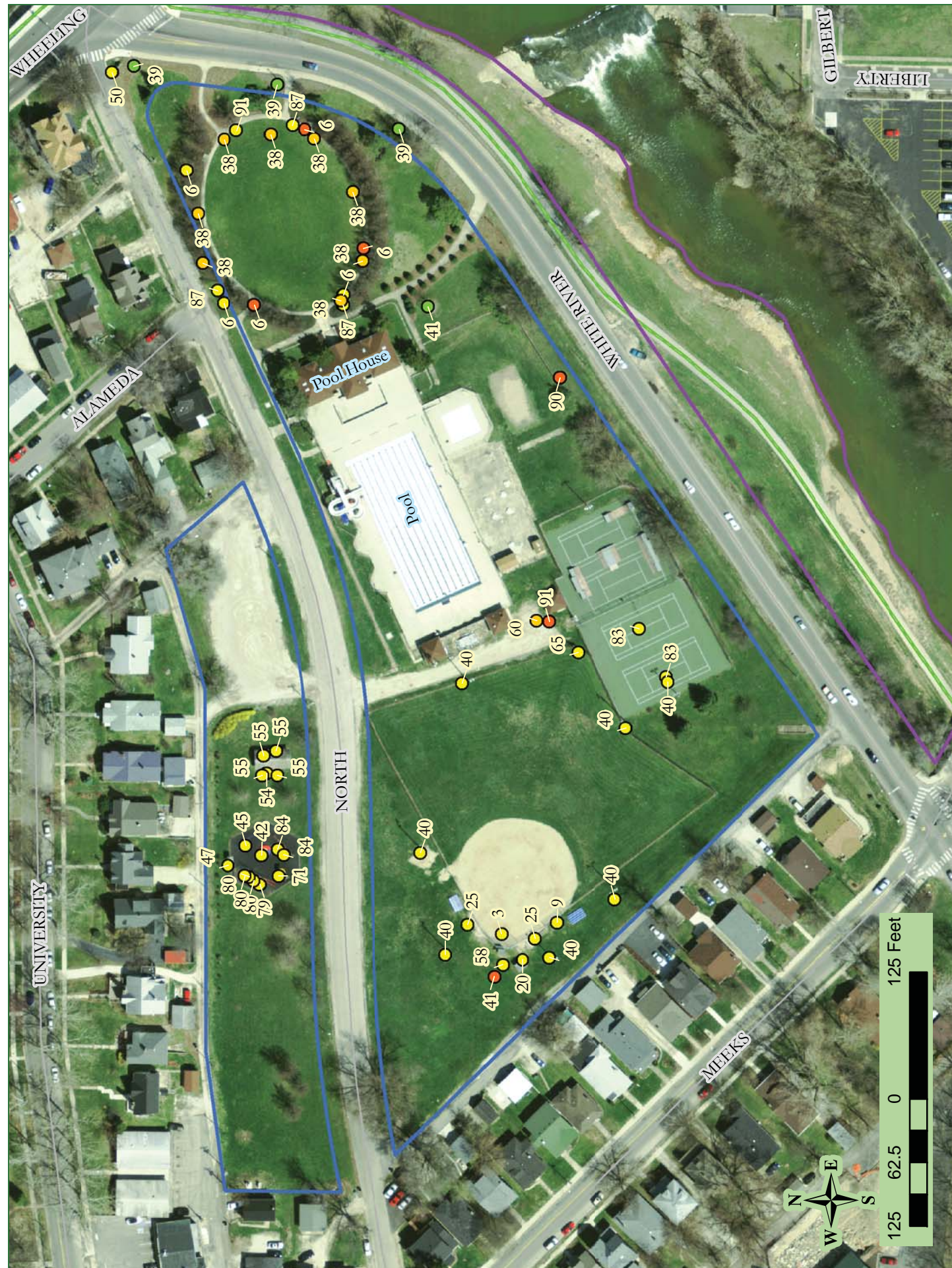
Type: Large Neighborhood Park

### General Description:

Serving the Thomas Park/Avondale Neighborhood, Thomas Park is bounded by Memorial Dr. (a primary arterial) to the north, 15th St. to the south, Rochester Ave. to the east and residences to the west. There are two parking lots, one along Rochester Ave, and one off of 15th St. An official sized baseball diamond is maintained for the exclusive use of baseball leagues. Other facilities include a basketball court, two areas with playground equipment, tennis courts, a picnic shelter, picnic tables, and openspace for spontaneous play. Permanent restroom facilities were locked and couldn't be inspected. Multiple large trees are scattered throughout the property.





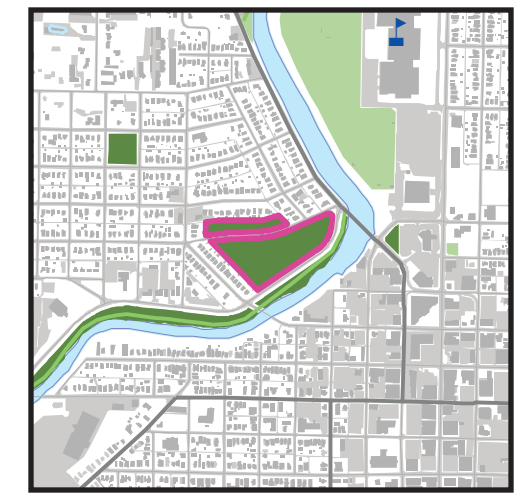
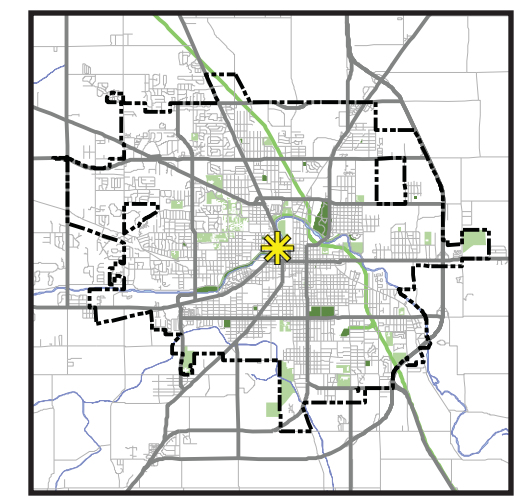


Assessment

## Tubey Park

Location: White River Blvd. & North St.  
 Size: 8.43 acres  
 Type: Neighborhood Park

General Description:  
 Serving the Riverside/Normal City Neighborhood, Tubey Park is located along White River Blvd. and White River Greenway on the north side of the High St. Bridge. North St. divides a small part of the park containing the parking lot, a picnic shelter, picnic tables, a playground, and informal openspace off to the north. The rest of the park provides informal openspace, formal openspace lined with benches, a pool with changing and restroom facilities, a volleyball court, tennis courts, and a baseball diamond. During the past few years, two of the tennis courts were converted into a skate park with multiple wooden ramps. Though this was a well used facility where skateboards and trick bikers mixed without incident, the area was locked and the ramps were demolished during 2008.







# Washington Park

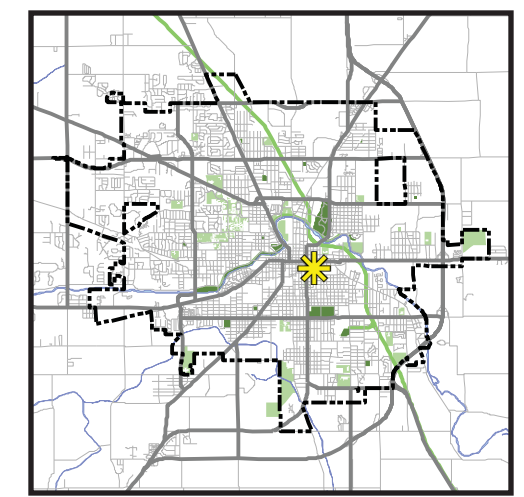
Location: Adams St., Pershing St., & Charles St.

Size: 0.78 acres

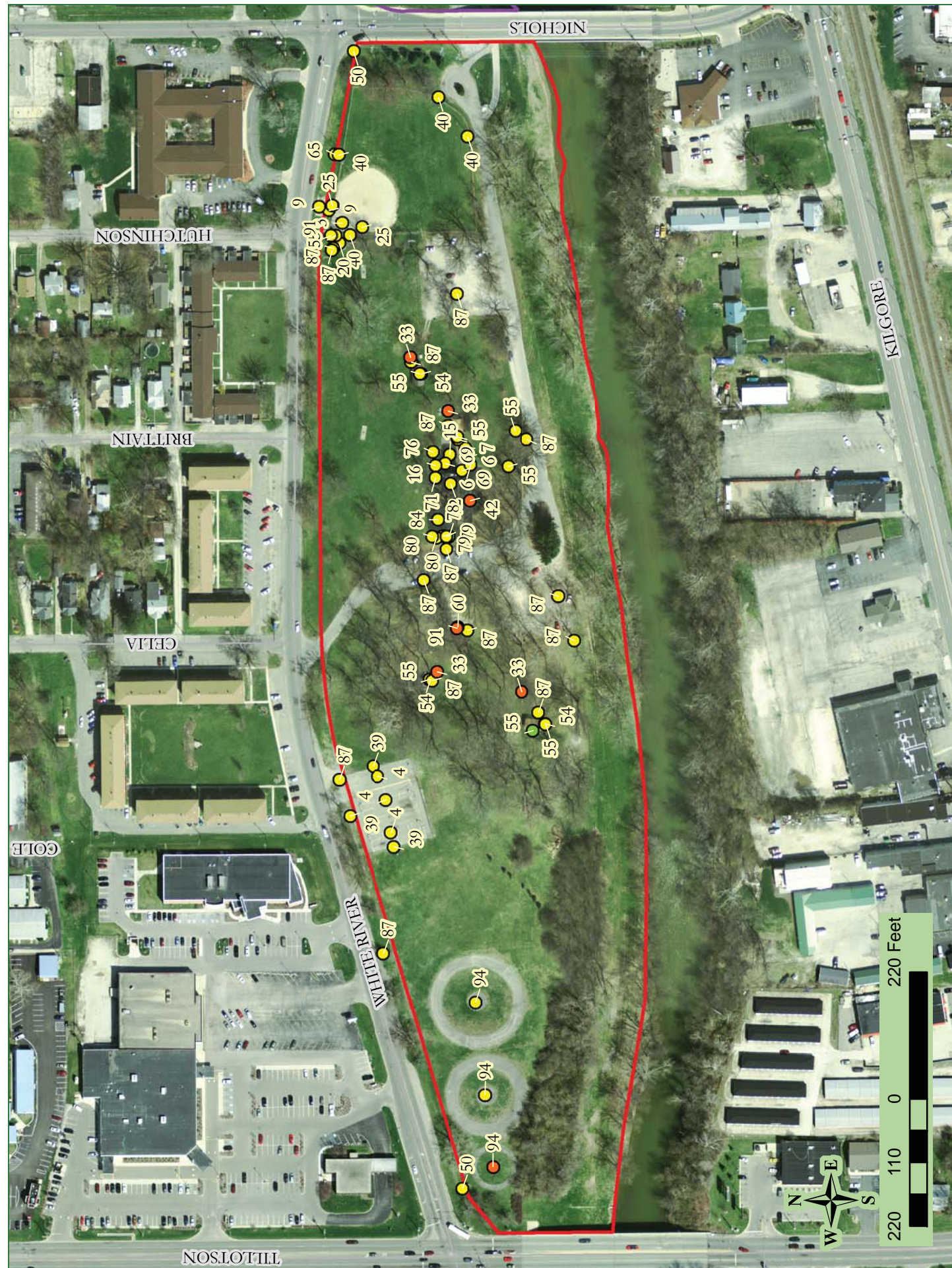
Type: Mini Park

### General Description:

Located in the southwestern portion of the East Central Neighborhood on the edge of the Emily Kimbrough Historical District, Washington Park takes up half of a city block. It is bounded by Adams St. to the north, Pershing Dr. to the east, Charles St. to the south, and a daycare center to the west. The only available parking is along the streets. The park has sidewalks along the perimeter with additional sidewalks that are lined with trees that diagonally dissect the park into 3 primary areas and a secondary area acting as a buffer to the daycare center. Elegant park furniture is placed throughout the park, including benches, trashcans, and light poles. The northern portion of the park offers playground equipment. The slide is damaged and needs to be removed immediately for safety purposes. Areas to the east and south are mounded providing interest and open areas for picnics or spontaneous play.







Assessment

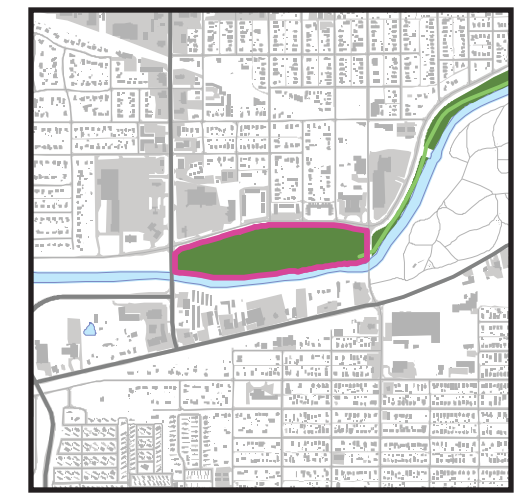
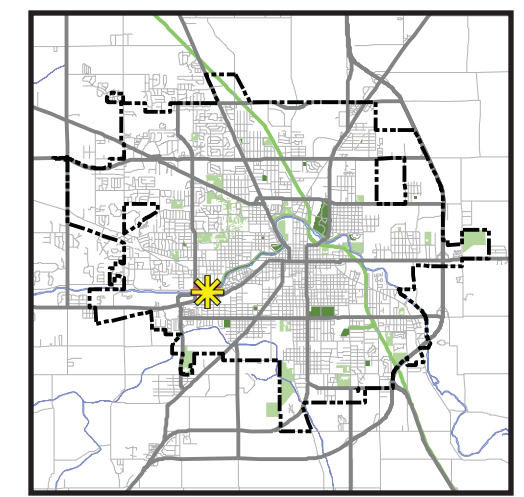
## Westside Park

Location: White River Blvd., Tillotson Ave., & Nichols Ave.

Size: 20.65 acres

Type: Small Community Park

General Description: Located along the southern boundary of the Westside Neighborhood, Westside Park serves over half of Muncie's community. Located in the floodplain, Westside Park is currently at the terminus of White River Greenway. There are plans to extend the greenway along Westside Park, ultimately connecting the park to the West Point Overlook, nearly one mile downstream. When constructed, plans include additional parking in Westside Park. Currently there are three areas designated for parking. Westside Park has a little league sized baseball diamond, basketball courts (some that flood), vast amounts of openspace for spontaneous play, multiple picnic shelters and picnic tables, a playground, a shuffle board court, restroom facilities and a drinking fountain, and three wire-control airplane circles. Two of the basketball courts were created by converting tennis courts. Large mature trees are throughout the property. The White River forms the southern boundary of the park, providing the opportunity for bank fishing, and viewing wildlife.











## Assessment

### *Qualitative Data*

#### *Workshops-*

The following information was gathered from the steering committee's workshop and the park staff's workshop. The workshops consisted of asking the participants to contribute to a S.W.O.T. exercise. This type of exercise was conducted to gauge each group's perceptions of the park system's (S) strengths, (W) weaknesses, (O) opportunities, and (T) threats. This exercise is also valuable to help identify underlying issues.

#### *Steering Committee Workshop-*

##### *S.W.O.T. exercise*

###### Strengths

- Revenue from Prairie Creek
- We may not have a much park/green space as other cities but we do have quite a bit to still work with.
- Our parks (aside from the equipment) are in good condition. If we keep up with mowing and weed-eating they look nice. The community does not trash the parks to the extent that they need hardcore maintenance as they would in bigger cities.
- People in the community that care. There are people that not only care about the parks themselves but the community that use them.
- Park employees that care about and take pride in their jobs.
- They are normally well groomed with lots to offer in the way of play areas, baseball, basketball, softball facilities and some tennis courts, cabins, access to water and water sports (fishing, swimming, boating).
- Size of Park System/Size of certain individual parks which are suitable for events
- Several parks connected by greenway.
- Planning committee organized & ready to create a plan
- Enthusiastic Parks Director
- Diverse inventory of parks & amenities spread across the city/county.
- Westside

- McCulloch
- Reservoir
- Large green space
- Trees
- White River Connections
- White River Greenway trail
- New People
- New Ideas
- Enthusiasm for change
- Prairie Creek reservoir (unique recreational opportunity for the whole county!)
- White River Greenway
- Varied types of parks (mini, community, regional, linear)
- Multiple large parks
- Soap-Box derby
- Sledding hill
- Baseball fields
- Connections to Cardinal Greenway
- Open space

###### Weaknesses

- Dilapidated playground equipment
- Cabins & buildings
- Vehicles and other equipment
- Not enough money in the City Budget to repair and purchase needed items
- On the other hand; park employees that are just here for a job. Meaning that they would just as soon work somewhere else and they do not care about the parks or their role.
- Government that does not consider parks and recreation as a vital part in a community.
- Lack of recreation, i.e. sports programs







- No real extra money to work with.
- I think security within the parks is a weakness, bike patrols or foot patrols would be great in the fall, summer and spring.
- Age/quality of playground equipment
- Poor reputation within community
- Under utilized
- Parks are a victim of years of uninspired/visionless leadership
- Low/no expectations within the community-we have gotten used to things as is
- Old, possibly unsafe, equipment
- Vandalism leaves things broken and looking bad.
- Apathy.
- Unsavory characters have been allowed to take over.
- Full of litter.
- Parks Dept., not Parks & Recreation
- Agencies can be competitive rather than collaborative (with funding, materials, services, programs, volunteers/staff, etc.)
- Many streets limit bicycle riding so even those that have a bike can't always get to a safe location to ride (can't get TO the Greenway or TO a park). Could be because of deteriorating street or because of cars that travel too fast and too close to those exercising.
- Unsafe playground equipment
- Lack of area in NW quadrant of city
- Appearance (lackluster, needs touches of color, flowers, shrubs)
- Uniformity of equipment/facilities (adjoining streets & public infrastructure)
- Marketing
- History of old ways of doing things
- Disagreement among park board on how to move forward
- Conflict with public
- Crime and illicit activity in the parks

- Apathy
- Equipment
- Lack of “park system”
- Under utilized
- Lack of community support
- Lack of government support
- Budget
- # of parks (too few)
- # of employees (too few)
- Parks lacking water fountains
- Parks lacking restrooms or have outdated restrooms (or port-a-pots)
- No parks in the NW quadrant of Muncie!
- History of not pursuing grants
- No “recreation” employees

Opportunities

- The city has the opportunity to reallocate funds for the Parks. They can stop taking the Parks money away (from Prairie Creek) and putting it in the general fund, and instead use the monies to purchase new equipment.
- Local businesses willing to help with money or work.
- Local citizens willing to volunteer.
- Grants money available.
- Local leaders and community involved citizens willing to help with recreation programs.
- More kids and adult programming is needed.
- Minnetrista and BSU have programs on the green. This could be happening in the parks with all kinds of things including the Art Fairs, Free Flea Market, Neighborhood days, Police and fire information days, child foot printing, Fire Safety, outdoor shows, PG early evening family movies that don't compete with drive-ins. Chili Cook offs or local cuisine contests, park cleanup sponsored by local restaurants, 5k and 10k runs that begin and conclude at a park.







## Assessment

- Great land development potential
  - Current interest levels could allow for greater volunteer participation
  - Focus current funding toward park items that have direct impact on users
  - Harness current leadership vision to fuel change
  - New park located in the northwest part of the city
  - Development of one of our larger parks into a signature park
  - Collaboration options.
  - New Mayor & team.
  - National push toward wellness.
  - National push toward greenspace development.
  - Parks Department is a government entity.
  - Schools & BSU partnerships
  - Master Gardener partnership
  - Web site info (maps, what's available, etc.)
  - Environmental/nature education
  - Connections for entire system via Cardinal Greenway, Boulevards/streets, White River Greenway etc.
  - Revenue generation
  - New ideas for events to raise revenue and get people in the parks
  - Partnerships!
  - Programming (events- Theatre in the Park, Concerts in the Part, Arts in the Park, Chili cook-offs, etc)
  - Recreation! (baseball, basketball, tennis leagues, Thai chi classes)
  - Sponsorship program
  - Adopt-A-Park program
  - Frisbee golf tournament
  - The "Green" movement
- Threats
- Continuing on the path we're on. Eventually a coat of paint will not allow us to continue using equipment/buildings etc.
  - To cut more Park jobs and money.
  - Politics
  - Budget cuts
  - Vandals in the community that destroy and deface city park property.
  - I think the lack of security within the parks is a weakness, especially in the evening. The presence of single males sitting in cars scares people away or makes them not want to be in the area or perceived in a negative light. Some people are fearful to go to the park based on the surrounding outside the park.
  - Lack of funding/shrinking budgets
  - Current perceptions
  - Potential leadership void
  - Level of change needed could be intimidating
  - Inaction
  - Funding
  - Apathy
  - People are not educated; make incorrect assumptions.
  - Low standards for community appearance & upkeep.
  - People think "government" should do the work.
  - Mentality that says people don't need greenspace or a place to recreate.
  - City finances
  - Tax payer groups
  - Lack of knowledge/education per value of parks/recreation
  - Need to increase use
  - Anti-government climate in Muncie
  - Public used to getting their own way in the past
  - Lack of budget money
  - APATHY
  - The budget
  - Bad attitudes
  - Public perceptions
  - Lack of education in general
  - Lack of understanding of the importance of parks







*Park Staff Workshop-  
S.W.O.T. exercise*

Strengths

- Cabins
- Parks
- Pool
- Ball Diamonds
- Working Crew
- Frisbee Golf
- Lake
- Horseback trail
- Camping
- Big Bike Race
- Beach
- Bike Trail
- Dog Run

Weaknesses

- Playground Equipment (2)
- Bathrooms (2)
- Roads
- Mowers
- Man Power
- Tuhey Pool “staff”
- Equipment (2)
- o Mowers
- o Trucks
- o Bobcat
- o Back hoe
- o Snow plows
- Tools
- Park Police
- Park Apparel
- Skate Park
- Over Time
- Baseball fields
- Basketball courts
- T-ball field (Rose Park)
- Cabins
- McCulloch ban
- Restrooms need painted
- Work garage
- Budget
- Campground Rep
- Public Opinion

- Water Quality
- Fishing Stock (need more)
- Mowing
- Rutted Grounds
- Campground Electrical (needs upgraded)
- Pier
- More Fishing Area
- Beach Shower House
- Shelter is old
- Lack of employees
- Boat launch piers
- Lack of Programs
- Upgrade Roads
- Batting Cage (lacking one)
- Putt-putt (lacking one)
- Safety town new cars (need)
- Outside the city limits (Prairie Creek)
- Security (police)

Opportunities

- Ball State
- Muncie Star Press
- Fishing events
- Water events (boating, swimming)
- Camping
- Pier system with 200+ waiting list
- Trails (hiking, biking)
- To become self maintained (money)

Threats

- Word of Mouth
- Star Press (2)
- Need Lights
- Money
- Lay Offs
- Public Opinion
- Low Use
- Pier System that reduces fishing space
- Budget cuts
- Old equipment
- Politics







## Assessment

### *Quantitative Data*

#### *Levels of Service (LOS)-*

Through the years the NRPA has provided various methods for analyzing park systems' levels of service including recommended acres per population for various types of parks, recommended park and recreation facilities per population, and park service areas or geographic areas served by each type of park. These methods are only recommendations, not requirements, because every community's needs vary. However, these recommendations provide a benchmark that every community can use to assess its various levels of service.

In 1996, the NRPA refined calculations for determining recommended acres per population along with facilities per population in order to provide communities a way to more specifically assess their needs. However, the "new" equations to determine the recommended LOS require data that Muncie does not have including average daily use of each park (or park type) and each specific facility. Where the necessary data is unavailable, Muncie's park system's levels of service has been assessed in accordance with the 1983 NRPA recommendations. While the recommendations from 1983 are more general, they still provide a method to evaluate the park system as a whole and identify areas of need. Additionally, the Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan 2006-2010 refers back to the 1983 NRPA guidelines when assessing LOS as well. The following figures illustrate how Muncie's park system measures up to the NRPA recommendations.

#### *Acres per Population*

In 1983 the NRPA recommended that communities maintain a "core" amount of acreage for their park systems.<sup>22</sup> They also recommended that communities should attempt to provide certain amounts of various types of parks which compose the park system in order to provide a variety of opportunities and provide a "well-rounded system of parks and recreation areas."<sup>23</sup> As displayed in Figure 29 on page 93, Muncie's park system only meets the "core" recommendations when including the leased properties. Prairie Creek Park provides more than the recommended acres per population for the entire park system. However, when assessing how many acres Muncie should provide of the various types of parks, all park types except the regional park type are deficient. Assessing the park system according to acres per population clearly demonstrates the importance of maintaining the leased properties within the park system.

#### *Park and Recreation Facilities per Population*

The only types of recreational facilities that Muncie's parks provide a good supply of, when comparing to the 1983 NRPA recommendations for facility development, are: basketball courts (though only 2 courts are in good shape), lighted baseball fields (official size), and trails/greenways (however, these are managed by a private entity). While facility development should be based upon community needs over national standards, this analysis still illustrates the dire need Muncie parks have for quality recreational facilities. Figure 30 on page 94 illustrates how Muncie's park facilities measure up to the 1983 NRPA suggestions for number of facilities based upon population.

22 The "core" amount of acres, as recommended by the NRPA for a minimum park system, is 6.25 to 10.5 acres of developed open space per 1,000 population.

23 Lancaster., Roger A. *Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines*. National Recreation and Park Association, 4th printing, 1990. Rpt. in "Open Space Guidelines & Standards, A Guide to Understanding the New versus the Old" Ed. Castleman, C. NRPA. 8. <http://www.nrpa.org/content/default.aspx?documentId=3405>







Level of Service - Acres per Population						
Primary Analysis - Muncie Parks, Owned Properties						
Park Type	NRPA acres/1,000 Population*	Advised Acreage for Muncie's Population (2006 Census est.- 65,410)	# of parks	Total # of acres	Total # of acres for each category	Deficit based upon Muncie's 2006 Population Est.
Mini Park	0.25 to 0.5 acres	16.35 to 32.7 acres	5	2.7	2.7	13.65 to 30 acres
Small Neighborhood Parks			7	16.7		
Neighborhood Parks	1 to 2 acres	65.4 to 130.8 acres	2	13.8	42	23.4 to 88.8 acres
Large Neighborhood Parks			1	11.5		
Linear Parks			1	18.3	18.3	
Small Community Parks			1	20.6		
Community Parks	5 to 8 acres	327 to 523.28 acres	0	0	20.6	306.4 to 502.68 acres
Large Urban Parks			2	135.4	135.4	
Core Park System	6.25 to 10.5 acres	408.8 to 686.8 acres	19	219		189.8 to 467.8 acres
Secondary Analysis - Including Leased Properties						
total # of acres for each category include relevant totals from above						
Small Neighborhood Parks			2	4.7		
Large Neighborrhood Parks			1	11	57.7	7.7 to 73.1 acres
Regional Parks	5 to 10 acres	327 to 654.1 acres	1	1890.8	1890.8	0
Core Park System	6.25 to 10.5 acres	408.8 to 686.8 acres	23	2125.5		0
* - defined by the NRPA in 1983 but not updated in the 1996 guidelines						

Figure 29- NRPA Recommended Park Acres per Population. Figures represent Muncie's park system as of 2008.







Assessment

Level of Service - Facilities per Population				
Activity/Facility	NRPA Recommended No. of Units Per Population	# of Units per Muncie's Population Est. (2006)	# of Units in Muncie's park system	Deficit based upon Muncie's Population Est.
Badminton	1 per 5,000	14	0	14
Basketball	1 per 5,000	14	17	0
Handball	1 per 20,000	3	0	3
Ice Hockey	Indoor - 1 per 100,000 Outdoor - depends on climate	1	0	1
Tennis	1 court per 2,000	34	5	29
Volleyball	1 court per 5,000	14	2	12
Baseball				
Official	1 per 5,000	14	3	11
	lighted- 1 per 30,000	2	3	0
Little League	N/A	N/A	0	0
Field Hockey	1 per 20,000	3	0	3
Football	1 per 20,000	3	0	3
Soccer	1 per 10,000	7	0	7
1/4 Mile Running Track	1 per 20,000	3	0	3
Softball	1 per 5,000	14	5	9
Multiple Recreation Court	1 per 10,000	7	0	7
Trails	1 system per region	1	2	0
Archery Range	1 per 50,000	1	0	1
Combination Skeet & Trap Field	1 per 50,000	1	0	1
Golf				
Par 3 (18 hole)	N/A	N/A	0	0
9-hole standard	1 per 25,000	3	0	3
18-hole standard	1 per 50,000	1	0	1
Driving Range	1 per 50,000	1	0	1
Swimming Pools	1 per 20,000	3	1	2
Beach Areas	N/A	N/A	1	0
Totals for # of units have been rounded.				

Figure 30- NRPA Recommended Facilities per Population.





*Park Service Areas*

Service areas refer to the geographic area that it is expected to be served by a particular type of park. For example it is anticipated that a mini park will only provide services to an area less than ¼ mile in distance from the park while a community park is big enough that it is anticipated that people will travel from up to 3 miles away to go to that type of park. While most park service areas refer to a general distance from the park, neighborhood parks are meant to serve individual neighborhoods. This means that their service areas are restricted by physical barriers including large roads and major bodies of water. The following figures on pages 96-99 illustrate the service areas of each type of park, showing what areas in Muncie are considered to have service from the park system and what areas are not receiving service from the park system. Figure 31, below, illustrates the percent of Muncie’s population served within the service areas.

	Mini Parks	Neighborhood Parks	Linear Parks	Community Parks	Community Parks- only Muncie's Pop.	Large Urban Parks
Estimated Population Served*	3975	21038	26852	66113	60721	70998
% of Pop. Served	5.60%	29.63%	37.82%	NA	85.52%	100.00%
# of Households Served*	1729	8925	9841	26611	24428	28716
% of households served	6.02%	31.08%	34.27%	NA	85.07%	100.00%
Population Less than 16 Served*	800	3696	3512	11552	10393	12690
% of Pop. Less than 16	6.30%	29.13%	27.68%	NA	81.90%	100.00%
Population 16-65 Served*	2801	14240	20997	45953	42498	48849
% of Pop 16-65	5.73%	29.15%	42.98%	NA	87.00%	100.00%
Population Over 65 Served*	374	3102	2343	8608	7830	9459
% of Pop. Over 65	3.95%	32.79%	24.77%	NA	82.78%	100.00%

\*- Population estimates are based upon U.S. Census block information from 2000. Since the Community Park service area extends outside of Muncie's corporate limits, this table reflects both the total estimated number of people served and the estimated amount of people that reside in Muncie that are served. Large Urban Parks serve the entire community, thus they serve 100% of the population in Muncie.

Figure 31- Percent of Muncie's Population Served by Each Park Type.





Assessment

Park Service Areas		
Muncie Parks, All Properties		
Park Type	NRPA defined Service Area	Locally defined Service Area
Mini Park	< 1/4 mile	
Small Neighborhood Parks		1/4 - 1/2 mile
Neighborhood Parks	1/4 - 1/2 mile	
Large Neighborhood Parks		1/4 - 1/2 mile
Linear Parks		1 mile
Small Community Parks		1/2 - 3 miles
Community Parks	1/2 - 3 miles	
Large Urban Parks	entire community	
Regional Parks	1 hour driving time *	

\* - defined by the NRPA in 1983 but not updated in the 1996 guidelines

Figure 32- NRPA Recommended Park Service Areas.

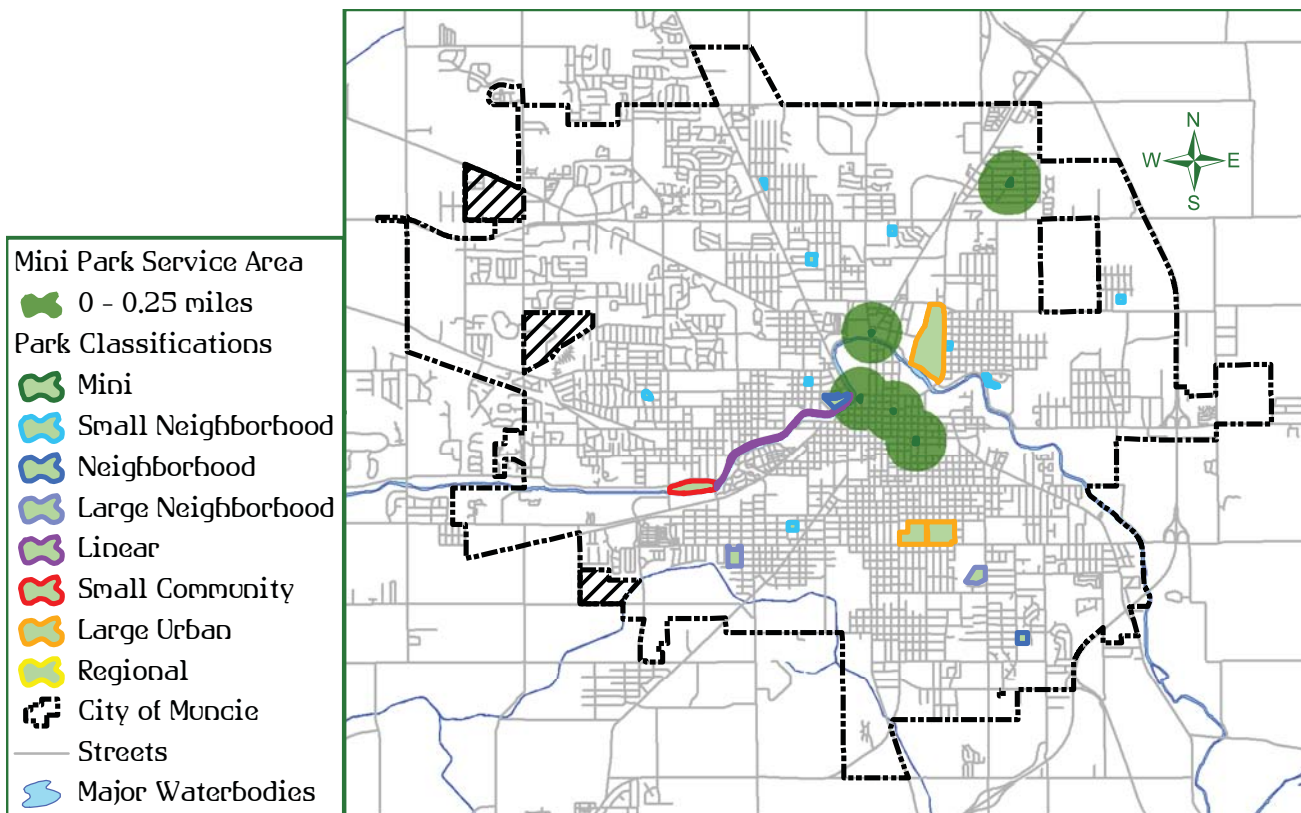


Figure 33- Analysis of Muncie Park System's Mini Park Service Areas.





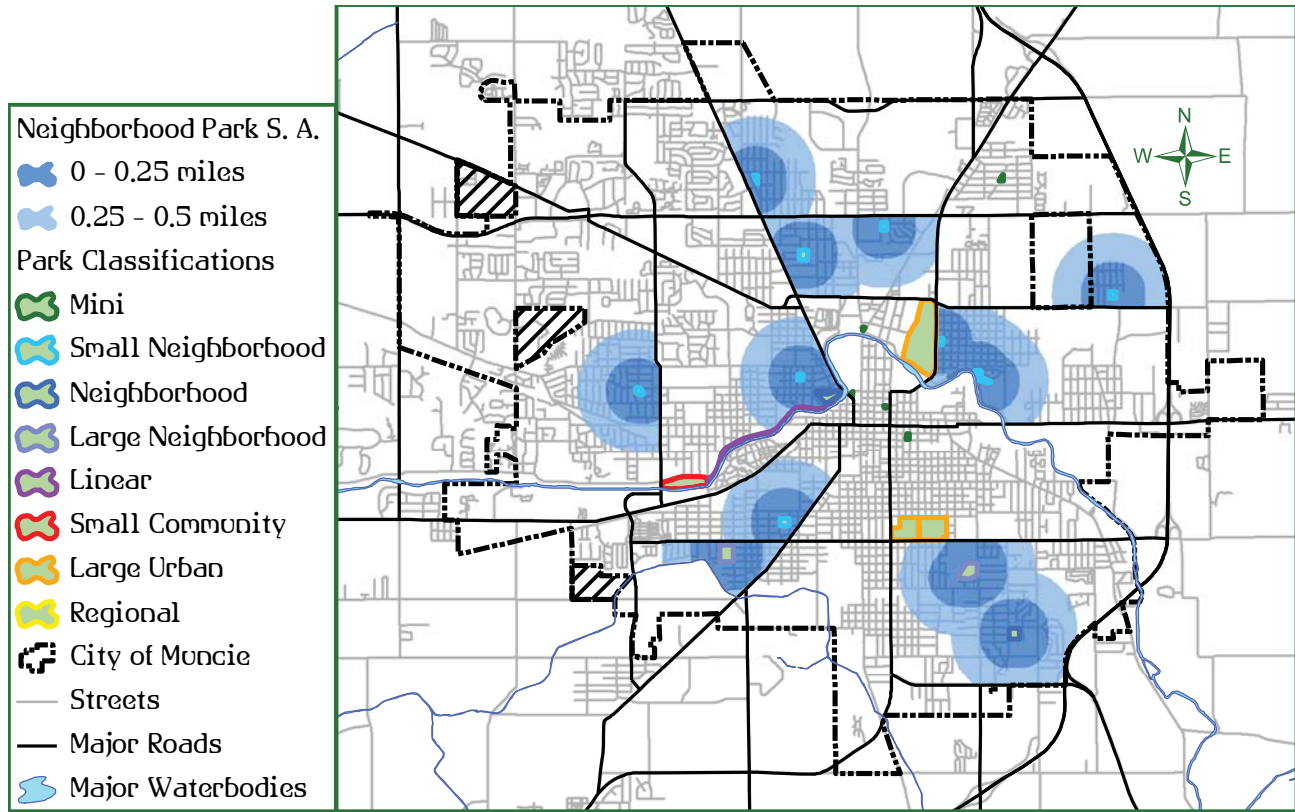


Figure 34- Analysis of Muncie Park System's Neighborhood Park Service Areas.

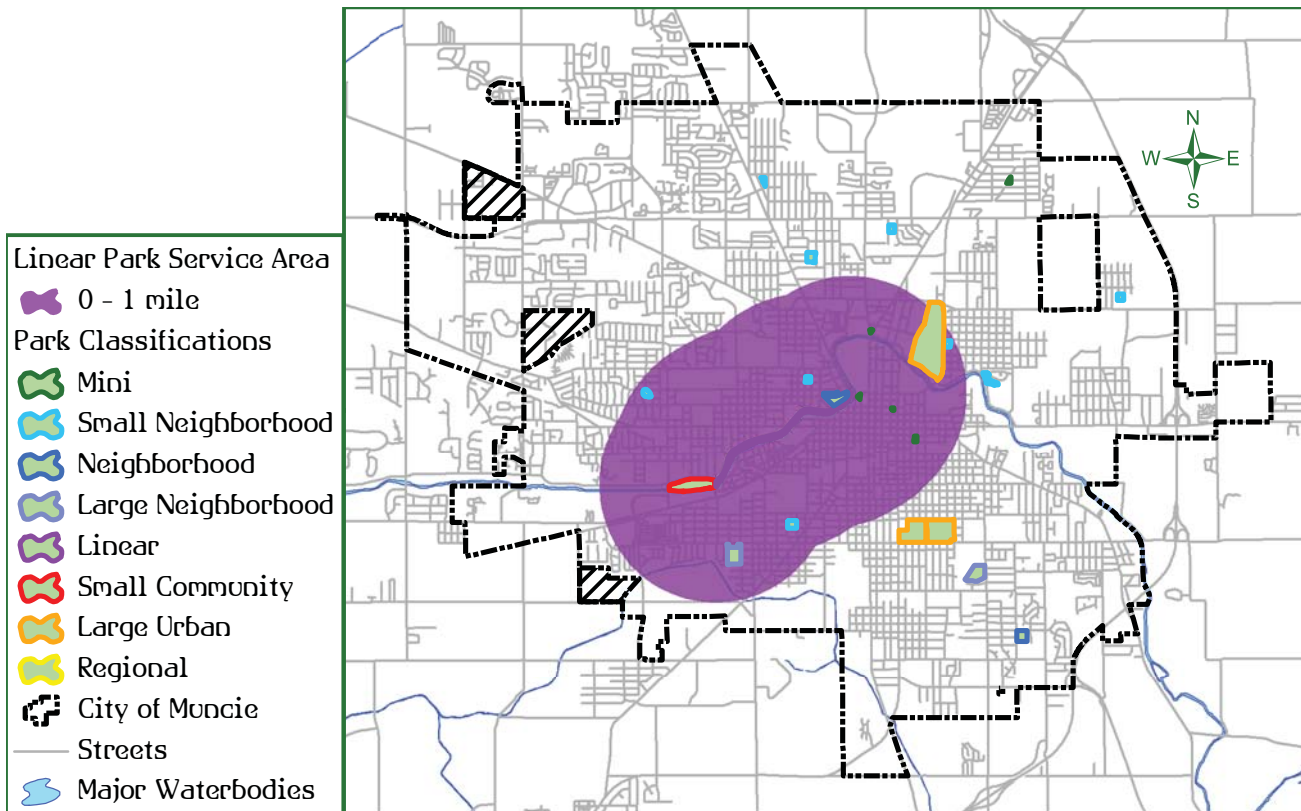


Figure 35- Analysis of Muncie Park System's Linear Park Service Areas.







Assessment

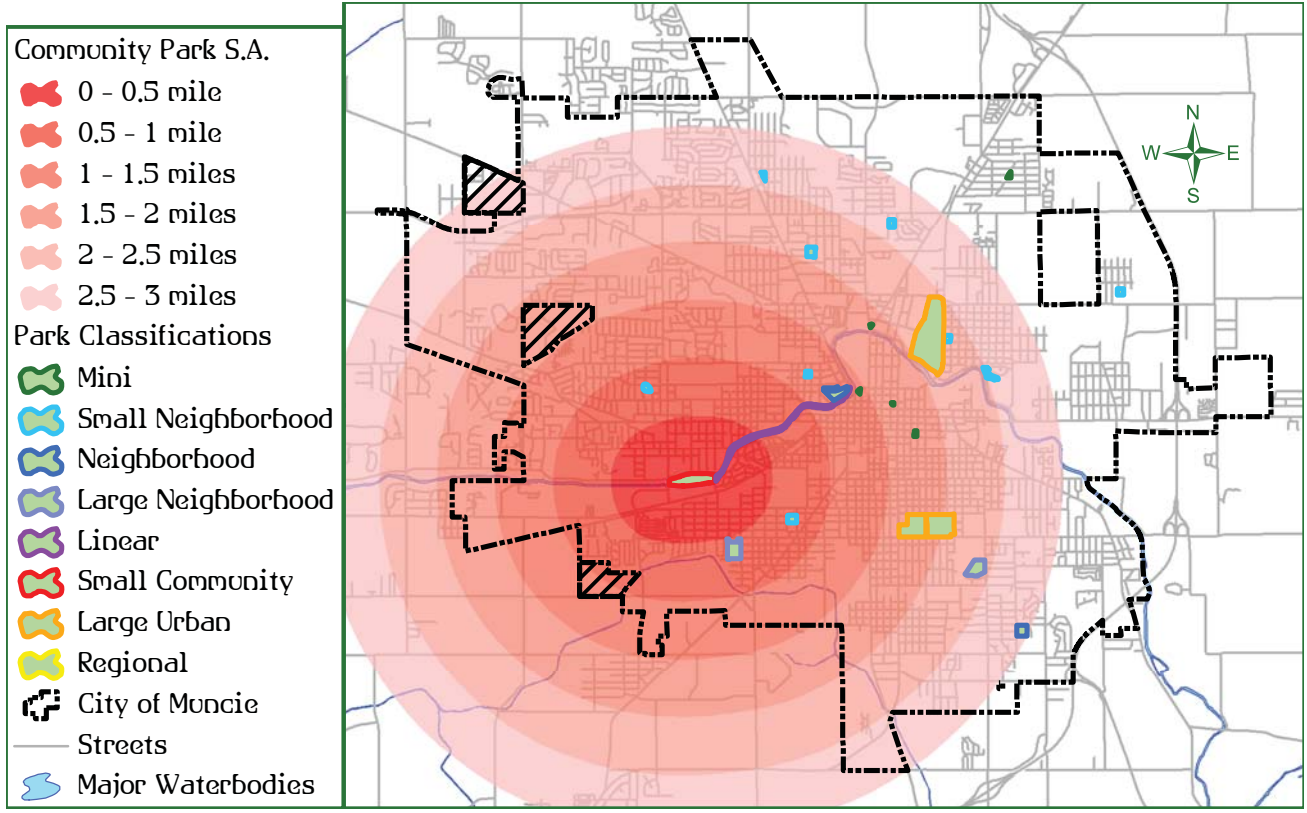


Figure 36- Analysis of Muncie Park System's Community Park Service Areas.

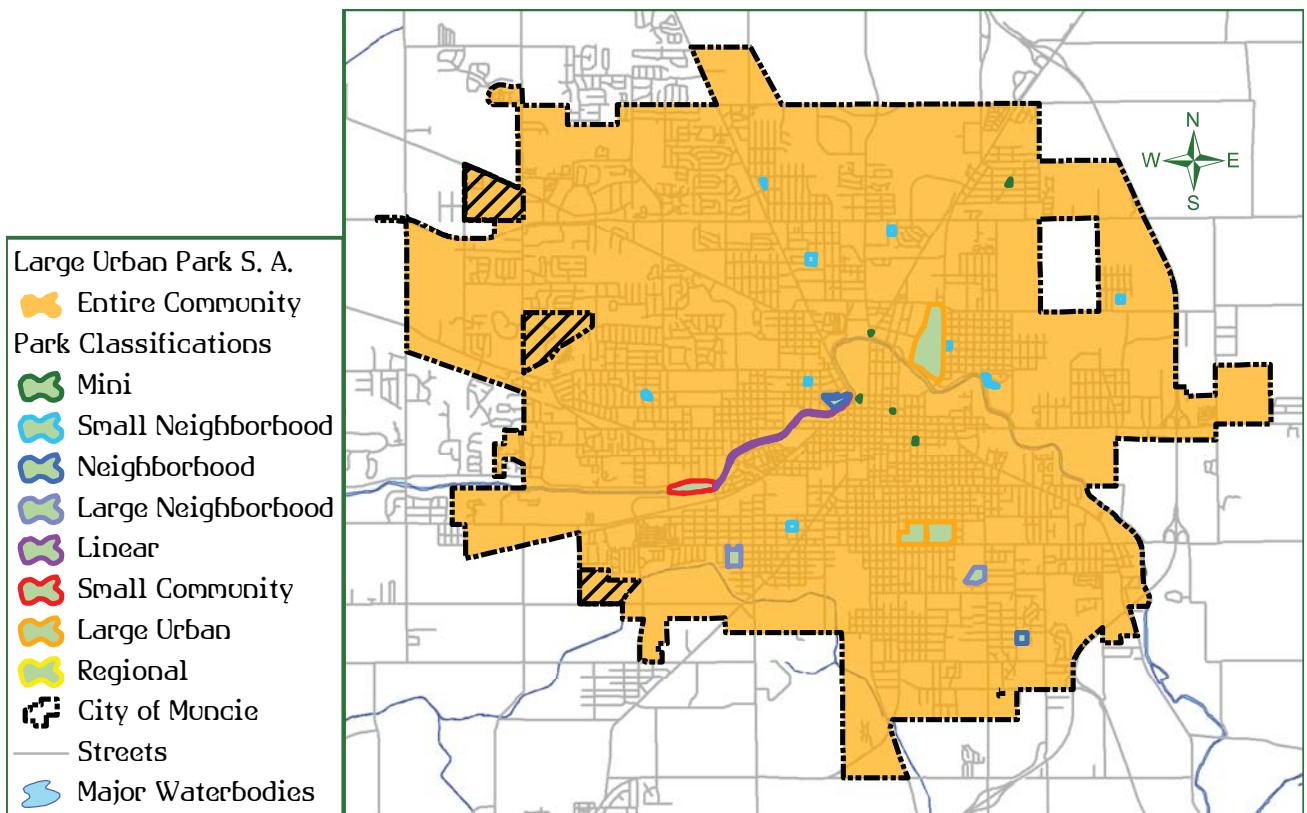


Figure 37- Analysis of Muncie Park System's Large Urban Park Service Areas.





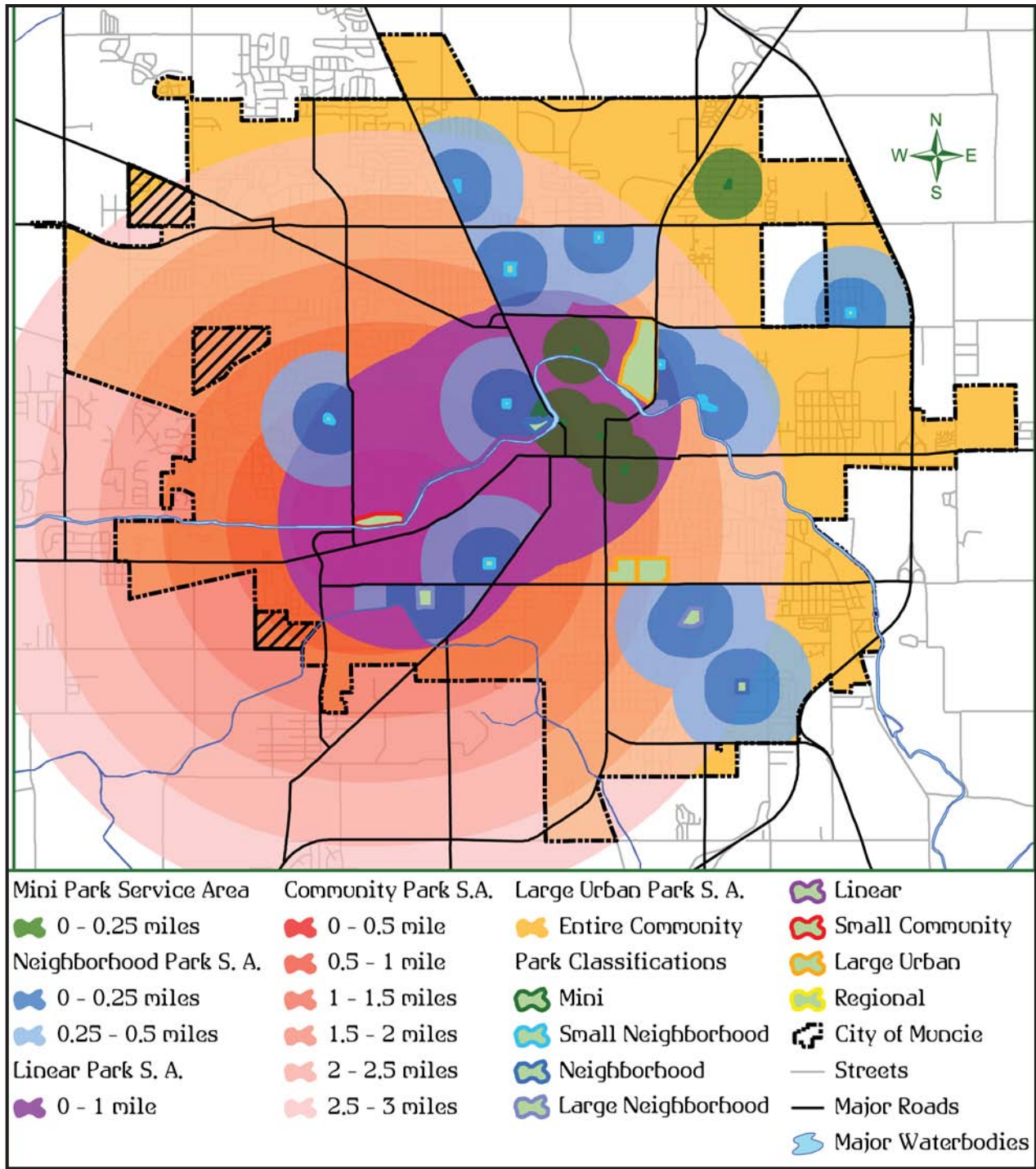


Figure 38- Analysis of Muncie Park System's combined service areas.







## Assessment

### Surveys-

At the end of May, the Star Press reported that a survey for Muncie’s park plan was going to be conducted, providing information of how the “mail-back” survey would be conducted and where the online survey would be made available for anyone interested. At the beginning of June (2008), a “mail-back” survey was sent to 1500 randomly selected residents in Muncie. At the same time a web-based survey was made available to anyone that was interested in participating. The web-based survey was available through the summer of 2008. 113 “mail-back” surveys were returned and 231 people filled out the online survey.

In the fall of 2008, Muncie Community Schools agreed to participate with the survey by asking all students in their technology based classes to take the survey. 307 students in high school and middle school participated in the survey. Complete results from all 3 surveys are contained in Appendix A.

Muncie residents were asked a variety of questions to gauge the community’s perceptions of Muncie’s parks and the park system. Participants were asked a variety of questions ranging from what they liked about the parks and what changes they felt the parks needed to what types of recreation do they participate in and what facilities should Muncie provide.

Muncie residents indicated:

- A preference for Larger Neighborhood parks.
- They want to have programs available through the parks.
- They would like to see Muncie’s park system include informal areas including wetlands, forests, farmlands and/or heritage sites.
- They would like to see Muncie adopt green infrastructure connecting the park system.
- A preference for Muncie’s Park Department to pursue state and federal grants or use bonds for development or improvement of outdoor recreational facilities.
- A preference for Muncie Parks to pay for improvements with grants, use the existing budget, and charge for organized adult sport leagues.
- A willingness to pay an average of \$5 for special park events.
- That most survey participants use Muncie’s parks for their outdoor recreational activities.
- That most people didn’t participate in outdoor activities more often due to lack of time or local facilities being in poor condition/dilapidated.
- A need to feel safer in the parks.
- A need for safer playground equipment.

In regards to “Do you think Muncie parks should provide for that activity?” survey participants provided the following feedback:

The following activities had **70%** or more approval from all 3 surveys:

- |                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground Use</li> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• Tennis</li> <li>• Volleyball</li> <li>• Baseball/softball</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking for pleasure</li> <li>• Jogging/running</li> <li>• Casual Riding (bicycling)</li> <li>• Pool swimming</li> <li>• Lake fishing</li> <li>• Tent Camping</li> <li>• Sledding</li> <li>• Fairs/festivals</li> </ul> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|











## Assessment

### Benchmarking-

Benchmarking is the process of comparing one organization to others. For this master plan Muncie was initially compared to all other second class cities in Indiana. Then all of the second class cities' park departments were contacted in order to conduct a more detailed comparison of each organization. Of Indiana's 22 second class cities, 12 provided information for benchmarking while 2 others were included because they had websites that provided sufficient information. The following figures illustrate how Muncie "measures up" against other second class cities in Indiana.

Basic Demographic Analysis for Benchmarking						
Indiana's Second Class Cities						
City	Population Census Estimate 2007-07-01	Land Area (sq. mi.)	Population Density Level	Estimated Median Household Income in 2005	% Living in Poverty	Year of Poverty % *
Fort Wayne	251,247	79	4.97	\$38,063	15.5%	2005
Evansville	116,253	40.7	4.46	\$34,362	15.6%	2005
South Bend	104,069	38.7	4.20	\$31,867	22.8%	2005
Gary	96,429	50.2	3.00	\$29,496	34.2%	2005
Hammond	77,175	22.9	5.26	\$33,586	20.3%	2005
Bloomington	72,254	19.7	5.73	\$22,589	36.0%	2005
Fishers	66,080	21.7	4.76	\$84,100	1.8%	1999
<b>Muncie</b>	<b>65,410</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>4.22</b>	<b>\$28,212</b>	<b>24.2%</b>	<b>2005</b>
Carmel	64,400	17.8	5.65	\$81,583	2.5%	1999
Lafayette	63,679	20.1	4.95	\$37,100	12.1%	1999
Terre Haute	58,932	31.2	2.95	\$29,400	19.2%	1999
Anderson	57,311	40	2.24	\$33,500	13.4%	1999
Elkhart	52,647	21.4	3.84	\$35,200	13.6%	1999
Mishawaka	49,439	15.7	4.92	\$34,700	9.9%	1999
Greenwood	46,389	14.3	5.07	\$49,300	7.0%	1999
Kokomo	45,902	16.2	4.43	\$37,700	13.0%	1999
Lawrence	42,736	20.1	3.32	\$49,700	6.7%	1999
Noblesville	41,561	17.9	3.63	\$68,300	5.4%	1999
Columbus	39,817	25.9	2.40	\$41,900	8.1%	1999
New Albany	37,033	14.6	3.96	\$37,200	13.7%	1999
Richmond	36,993	23.2	2.49	\$29,800	15.7%	1999
Portage	36,505	25.5	2.24	\$49,400	7.5%	1999
average-		27.32	4.03	\$41,684	14.5%	
median-		22.30	4.21	\$36,150	13.5%	

	population density level: Intermediate-Low
	population density level: Low
* 2005	% of residents living in poverty
* 1999	% of residents with income below the poverty level

source: <http://www.city-data.com/city/Indiana.html>

Figure 39- Basic Demographic Analysis for Benchmarking Indiana's Second Class Cities.









Assessment

Finances							
City	Total Spending on Parks & Recreation	Total Spending Per Resident	Operational Spending	Operational Spending Per Resident	Capital Spending	Capital Spending Per Resident	Non-Reverting Funds
Bloomington	\$7,192,507	\$99.54	\$1,150,170	\$15.92	\$1,474,467	\$20.41	\$1,729,971
Fishers	\$8,780,175	\$132.87	\$2,000,000	\$30.27	\$6,780,175	\$102.61	\$0
<b>Muncie</b>							
w/ PC Park	\$1,486,956	\$22.73	\$1,486,956	\$22.73	\$0	\$0.00	\$0
Carmel							
Carmel-Clay Twp.	\$9,095,326	\$112.51	\$7,968,308	\$98.57	\$1,127,018	\$13.94	\$0
Lafayette	\$3,377,895	\$53.05	\$3,377,895	\$53.05	\$0	\$0.00	\$0
Terre Haute							
Anderson	\$2,500,000	\$43.62	\$695,825	\$12.14	\$56,350	\$0.98	\$0
Mishawaka	\$3,314,740	\$67.05	\$3,079,740	\$62.29	\$235,000	\$4.75	\$0
Kokomo	\$3,114,275	\$67.85	\$2,895,375	\$63.08	\$218,900	\$4.77	\$0
Lawrence							
Noblesville	\$2,628,523	\$63.24	\$2,398,853	\$57.72	\$229,670	\$5.53	\$0
<b>Columbus</b>							
New Albany							
New Albany-Floyd Co.	\$2,052,202	\$28.28	\$1,230,202	\$16.95	\$352,000	\$4.85	\$0
Richmond	\$2,200,000	\$59.47	\$2,090,000	\$56.50	\$110,000	\$2.97	\$0
average-	\$4,158,418	\$68.20	\$2,579,393	\$44.47	\$962,144	\$14.62	\$157,270
median-	\$3,114,275	\$63.24	\$2,090,000	\$53.05	\$229,670	\$4.77	\$0

Parks Department provided information for benchmarking  
Parks Department did not provide information for benchmarking

Figure 4|- Benchmarking the Finances of Indiana's Second Class Cities' Park Departments.







Staffing		# of Full Time Employees	w/ PC Park	Full Time Employees Per 1,000 Residents	w/ PC Park	# of Part Time Employees	w/ PC Park	Part time Employees Per 1,000 Residents	w/ PC Park	# of Seasonal Employees	w/ PC Park	Seasonal Employees Per 1,000 Residents	w/ PC Park
City													
Bloomington		52		0.72		0		0.00		200		2.77	
Fishers		34		0.51		8		0.12		26		0.39	
<b>Muncie</b>		14		0.21		6		0.09		30		0.46	
	w/ PC Park		18		0.28		6		0.09		65		0.99
Carmel													
Carmel-Clay Twp.		64		0.79		247		3.06		275		3.40	
Lafayette		40		0.63		0		0.00		200		3.14	
Terre Haute													
Anderson		34		0.59		30		0.52		0		0.00	
Mishawaka		30		0.61		0		0.00		140		2.83	
Kokomo		22		0.48		5		0.11		110		2.40	
Lawrence				0.00		0		0.00		0		0.00	
Noblesville		20		0.48		0		0.00		0		0.00	
Columbus													
New Albany													
New Albany-Floyd Co.		13		0.18		100		1.38		0		0.00	
Richmond		37		1.00		3		0.08		85		2.30	
average-		32.73	33.09	0.52	0.52	33.25	33.25	0.45	0.45	88.83	91.75	1.47	1.52
median-		34.00	34.00	0.55	0.55	4.00	4.00	0.09	0.09	57.50	75.00	1.38	1.65

Parks Department provided information for benchmarking  
Parks Department did not provide information for benchmarking

Figure 42- Benchmarking the Staffing of Indiana's Second Class Cities' Park Departments.





## Assessment

According to the 2007 U.S. Census population estimates, Muncie is the 8th largest second class city in Indiana. However, Muncie has the 2nd lowest estimated median household income from 2005, only higher than Bloomington, and is 3rd in the state for % of people living in poverty, with only Gary and Bloomington having more people living in poverty.<sup>24</sup>

Muncie’s park system contains a slightly higher than average number of parks, though Muncie is still below average for number of parks per residents. When comparing park systems according to acres, Muncie was analyzed both with and without Prairie Creek Park. Prairie Creek Park is the Muncie park system’s oddity, it lies outside the city and is leased with an uncertain future. Muncie contains the 2nd lowest amount of park acres, however when Prairie Creek Park is included, Muncie’s Park Department maintains the most park acreage among the 14 second class cities benchmarked. Similarly, Muncie contains the fewest park acres per resident and has the 2nd lowest amount of park acres as a percentage of land area in the city. When including Prairie Creek Park, Muncie’s park system maintains the 2nd highest amount of park acres per resident among the 14 second class cities benchmarked, yet since it is outside of the corporate limits, it can’t contribute to increasing the % of land area in the city designated as park acres.

Financially Muncie’s Park Department has the lowest budget of the 14 second class cities benchmarked. Muncie spends less on its parks per resident than all other cities benchmarked. All of Muncie’s Park monies are designated to operational spending while no funds are designated to capital spending nor is a non-reverting fund available.<sup>25</sup> While the New Albany-Floyd Co Park Department has the lowest operational budget, this park department also maintains a budget for capital spending, something Muncie lacks. (Note- New Albany-Floyd Co. is also about 1/2 the size and population of Muncie).

Muncie employs the 2nd fewest employees of the 14 second class cities benchmarked. This is less than ½ of the average number of full time employees per residents of the benchmarked cities. Likewise, Muncie employees 1/5 of the average number of part time employees per resident and less than 1/3 of the average number of seasonal employees per resident.

### *Review of Associated Plans-*

The following plans were reviewed in order to inform this plan with common elements in those plans and maintain cohesion within the goals & objectives.

Indiana’s SCORP (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan)

Hoosiers on the Move: The Indiana State Trail, Greenways, & Bikeway Plan

Muncie-Delaware County Comprehensive Plan

Delaware-Muncie Metropolitan Transportation Plan

Recreation/Leisure Assessment for Muncie & Delaware County, Indiana

Cardinal Greenway Strategic Plan

Prairie Creek Master Plan

Past Muncie Park & Recreation Plans

24 It should be noted that both Bloomington and Muncie are home to universities where the student population is a large percent of the total population.

25 A non-reverting fund is being established for Prairie Creek Park, as recommended herein.







### *Accessibility Evaluation*

#### *Accessibility and Universal Design-*

Gilbert Historic Park, Riverbend Park, Buley and Ross Community Centers, and White River Greenway are the only facilities in the park system that comply with ADA guidelines. All other parks need to include methods to comply with ADA guidelines in their individual master plans.

*NOTE: Section 504 compliance form with signatures is located at the beginning of this document.*

### *Public Meeting*

A public meeting for Muncie’s 5-year Park and Recreation Master Plan was held Wednesday, February 4th, 2009 at Maring-Hunt Library, after being rescheduled from the original December date that was canceled due to an impending ice storm. This meeting was held to provide the public with an opportunity to: 1) review the work that has gone into forming the plan, including the results from the public survey; 2) provide feedback on the mission statement for the park board to ensure that the park board’s mission reflects the values of the community; 3) provide feedback on the goals and objectives formed from the assessment of the parks, including survey input; and 4) provide feedback concerning locations where they would like to see additional parks. The public was notified of the meeting through an article in the local newspaper (The Star Press), the Plan Commission’s website ([www.dmmmpc.org](http://www.dmmmpc.org)), [www.munciedowntown.com](http://www.munciedowntown.com)’s weekly e-newsletter and on community web-based calendars including the Star Press’s Community Calendar, Muncie Public Library’s calendar, and [www.munciedowntown.com](http://www.munciedowntown.com)’s event calendar.

There were approximately 30 people in attendance at the public meeting. (The Sign-In sheets are contained in Appendix B.) The most frequent comment was that it was hard to disagree with any of the goals or objectives because they were all good ideas. The Park Board’s mission statement was favorably received. The only negative comment was that one person felt that updating cabins and electrical outlets to code was a waste of money, due to the amount of inspections that would be required, if they already functioned. Unfortunately the electrical systems don’t all function and that is why that objective was developed. The objectives that received the most support were:

- Reestablish the Parks Department as the Department of Parks & Recreation as outlined in city code.
- Create a skatepark. (This was the most favored objective.)
- Events in the parks (as a type of program within “Establish Programs”)
- Explore opportunities for community gardens.

Additionally, Figure 43 on the following page illustrates areas that the public thought would make good parks or are areas where they would like to see a new park.





## Assessment

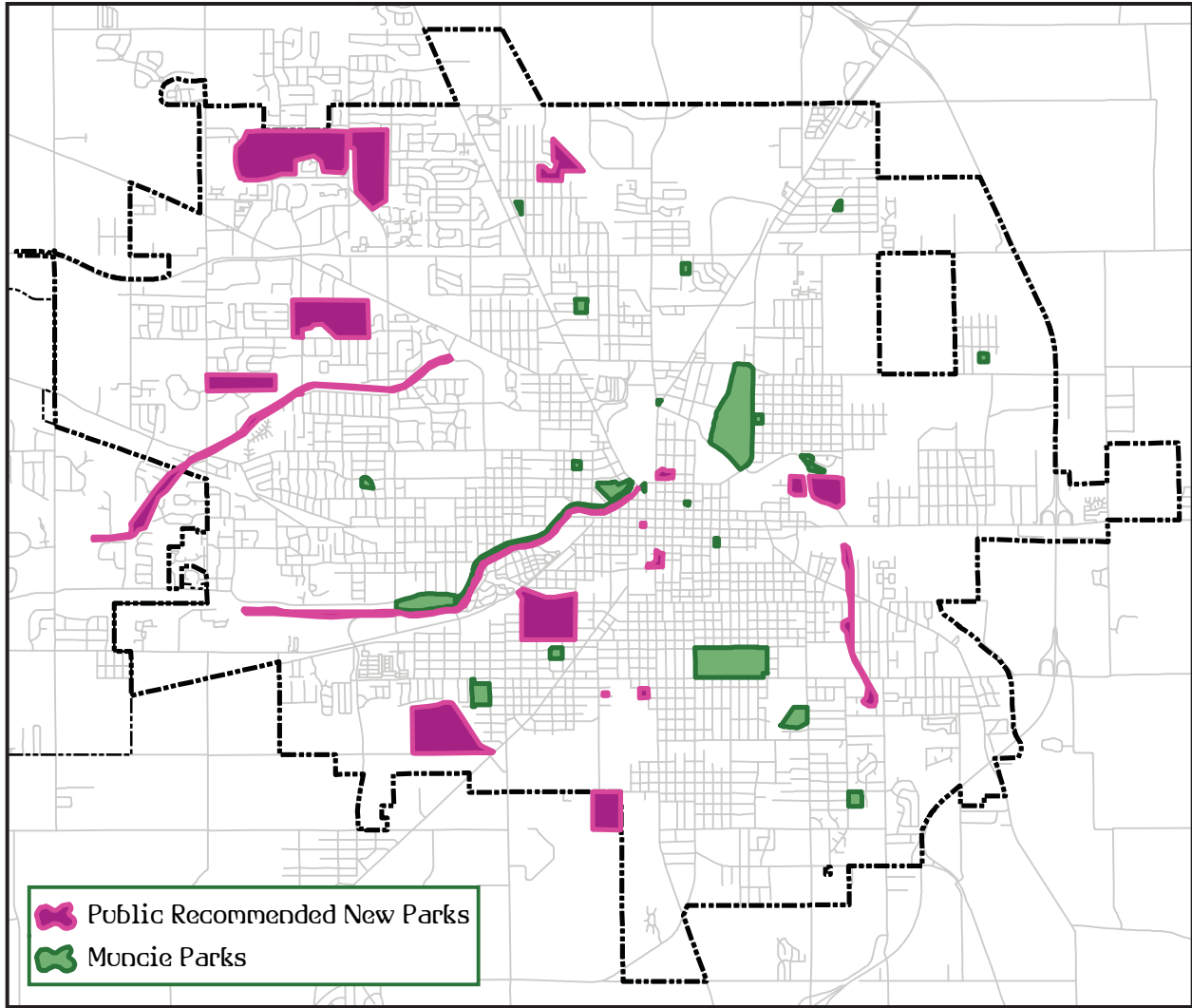


Figure 43- Areas of interest for new parks, as indicated by public participants at the public meeting.

### *Needs Analysis Summary*

#### *Needs Based on Standards-*

Based upon the NRPA recommended levels of service (LOS), Muncie's park system needs to increase the acreage and the facilities (type and number) provided within the park system. Muncie needs to provide the population with more mini parks, neighborhood parks, and community parks. Currently, about 85% of the population is served by community parks while less than 30% of the population is served by neighborhood parks and less than 6% of the population is served by mini parks. The need to expand mini, neighborhood, and community parks is further supported by the deficit of park acres based upon population. This LOS recommends increasing the entire park system by 189.8 acres to 467.8 acres. Figure 29, on page 93, conveys the recommended acreage and the deficit Muncie's park system has for each type of park. Additionally, NRPA's LOS recommending facilities per population indicates that Muncie's park system needs to expand both the type and number of facilities provided. Figure 30, on page 94, conveys the number of facilities and the types of facilities that Muncie should consider offering.









## Assessment

### ▪ Facility Needs

#### ◆ General Park Facilities (facilities needed in all parks)

- Bathrooms
- Water fountains
- Grills and picnic tables
- Clearly defined parking areas
- Functional electrical systems
- Functional lighting systems
- Maintained shelters

#### ◆ Recreational Facilities

- Safe and maintained playground equipment
- Functional courts (basketball & tennis)
- More fishing areas & piers
- More variety of recreational facilities including a skatepark, a spray park, soccer fields, football fields, swimming pools, and walking trails.

### ▪ Programming Needs

- ◆ Muncie's Park Department doesn't offer any programs. Public input indicated that there is interest in the Park Department hosting a wide variety of programs from classes and leagues to events in the parks (movies, arts, theatre, music, tournaments).







# Master Plan

City parks, trails, open spaces, urban forests, and greenways make neighborhoods more attractive places to live, strengthen community pride, offer natural environmental protection, and improve physical health and mental wellbeing.

Despite the aesthetic, environmental, and recreational benefits of green infrastructure, budget constraints have left local governments across the United States with inadequate funding and staff for maintaining and preserving city parks and open spaces. Fortunately, a growing body of hard evidence suggests that urban greening offers significant economic benefits, in addition to the quality-of-life enhancements already mentioned.

Numerous studies have shown that passive parks and trails increase the value of neighboring residential property, and there is growing evidence that points to similar benefits on commercial property values. In addition, the positive effect of natural open space and trails on property values can result in higher assessments and thus property tax revenues for local governments. When greenway corridors are preserved instead of intensively developed, municipalities may reduce costs for public services like sewers, roads, fire and police protection, and school facilities as well.

The availability of parks and trails is an important quality of life factor for corporations and other businesses choosing where to locate facilities and for retirees and new homebuyers choosing a place to live. Trails like the Missouri River State Trail often become important tourism draws contributing heavily to local businesses. A study conducted by the National Association of Homebuilders found that a majority of home shoppers surveyed felt that parks would seriously influence them to move to a community.

A study of the Cardinal Greenway in Muncie, Indiana conducted by the Eppley Institute in 2001 indicated over 77% of Cardinal Greenway trail users are satisfied with the trail, and their view of Muncie as a community is positively affected by the trail. This plan provides the framework for creating a parks and recreation system for the City of Muncie that will garner the same level of satisfaction. In light of the aforementioned benefits, a strong park system provides green infrastructure that is a good financial investment for the City of Muncie.

### *Mission Statement*

The mission of the Muncie Parks and Recreation Department is to enhance the overall quality of life for all Muncie residents and improve the health and economic well-being of the community by providing attractive, naturalized open space and recreational opportunities, both passive and active, in a safe, professional and fiscally responsible manner.

### *Goals & Objectives*

#### **Goal A- Create a preeminent, professionally based, fiscally sound Department of Parks and Recreation.**

##### Objectives-

- 1- Reestablish the Parks Department as the Department of Parks & Recreation (DP&R) as outlined in city code.
  - Muncie’s city code outlines the organizational structure for the Department of Parks and Recreation. In the last few decades, this structure was not followed and the position of the





## Master Plan

Recreation Director was not filled. This has left Muncie in a position of not providing essential recreational opportunities for Muncie’s citizens. When this department is reestablished as outlined by city code, the Recreation Director should have a steering committee appointed to provide assistance/guidance for restoring and providing recreational opportunities.

- 2- Verify and finalize the ownership of all park properties to the Muncie’s Parks & Recreation Board.
- 3- Create and maintain master plans for each park.
  - Many park departments have a landscape architect on staff for such projects. If Muncie does not have a landscape architect on staff then this project should be contracted out to a professional landscape architect, or other design professional, in order to maximize the potential use of each park, make the best connections with the community, and benefit from visioning that will provide achievable improvements in phases.
  - All parks should be designed to be inclusive – usable by people of all ages and abilities.
  - Master plans need to provide methods for transitioning each park to meet ADA guidelines and become ADA compliant.
- 4- Create and maintain a non-reverting capital improvement fund, as permitted under IC 36-10-3-20.
  - All money generated by the Department of Parks & Recreation should be kept in a non-reverting fund that would be used to subsidize the Department’s needs including updating equipment, maintaining existing and new properties, and other necessary improvements.
- 5- Develop and enhance wayfinding and marketing devices, including signage, maps, brochures, and websites, to assist people in locating Muncie’s parks and educating the public about available recreational opportunities.
- 6- Write grants to enhance Muncie’s parks and recreational facilities.
  - Writing grants could provide Muncie’s DP&R with the needed opportunity to compete for funds to improve Muncie’s parks. Depending on the grant, a grant award could provide money for hiring a landscape architect to prepare needed master plans for each park, replace playground equipment, purchase land for a new park in the NW quadrant of Muncie, build a quality skatepark, or accomplish any number of identified needs for Muncie’s DP&R.
- 7- Create a park foundation.
  - The creation of a park foundation would allow for a venue to support Muncie’s parks through philanthropy and volunteerism. Park foundations are generally created to provide additional investment for the parks and for recreational opportunities.

### **Goal B- Provide safe, accessible, and well equipped park and recreational opportunities throughout the City of Muncie.**

Objectives-

- 1- Remove unsafe equipment.
- 2- Update all structures (i.e. cabins) and electrical boxes to be compliant.
- 3- Create partnerships to provide safe parks.
  - Muncie Police Department
    - Work with the Muncie Police Department to ensure that parks are included in their patrols.







- Neighborhood Associations
    - Work with neighborhood associations to maintain or create neighborhood watches that include the parks.
- 4- Create partnerships to expand park and recreational opportunities. Partnerships should include but not be limited to:
- Muncie Community Schools – as permitted under IC 36-10-3-11, Muncie’s Department of Parks & Recreation should pursue a contract with Muncie’s school corporation “for the use of park and recreation facilities or services”. A partnership between Muncie’s DP&R and Muncie Community Schools (MCS) would provide beneficial opportunities for the citizens of Muncie including more recreational opportunities and more area identified as park space (school-parks). Ideally, MCS would host recreational programs for Muncie residents with assistance from the DP&R.
 

This proposed partnership to provide recreational opportunities should be a base to build upon in the future. Along with conducting further study, Muncie’s Department of Parks & Recreation should seek additional partnerships throughout the community to meet the recreational needs of Muncie’s residents.
  - Ball State University – Ball State University has committed to becoming a climate neutral campus. A principal component in accomplishing this is to plant trees in order to sink carbon levels. It would be an ideal fit for Ball State University to convert some of the property it owns in the Northwest quadrant of Muncie into a natural resource park, converting fields into quality wooded areas that could include walking trails. By entering into a partnership with Muncie’s DP&R, BSU could strengthen its relationship with the city by contributing to Muncie’s park space while providing learning opportunities for students working on degrees in natural resources, biology, and landscape architecture and sinking carbon to accomplish its goal of becoming climate neutral.
  - Sanitary District and Cardinal Greenway Inc. – Formally establish a partnership between Muncie’s Department of Parks & Recreation, the Muncie Sanitary District, and Cardinal Greenway Inc. in order to delineate and establish White River Park as a linear park with a formalized agreement for the maintenance of this property.
- 5- Continue and rejuvenate partnerships in order to honor the cooperative efforts to preserve excellent maintenance for the parks.
- Continue a partnership with Minnetrista, Master Gardeners, and the Minnetrista Neighborhood Association for the care of the Appeal to the Great Spirit Park.
 

Through this partnership, Muncie’s Department of Parks and Recreation should establish an agreement with Minnetrista, Master Gardeners, and/or the Neighborhood Association to formalize an arrangement for the care of this historic property. With Minnetrista’s expertise and the Landscape Preservation Master Plan prepared by Malcolm Cairns in 2001, a management plan for this property should be established in order to protect the historic nature of this property.
- 6- Equip park properties with:
- Water fountains
  - Restrooms
  - Grills





## Master Plan

- Bike Racks
  - Safe playground equipment
- 7- Create a skatepark.<sup>26</sup>
- The amateur ramps at Tuhey Park were extremely popular and well used. Muncie’s Department of Parks & Recreation has the responsibility and opportunity to provide an exemplary skatepark in order to meet the needs of Muncie’s youth and to compete with the rise of excellent skateparks that are being created in other second class cities across the state.<sup>27</sup>
- 8- Purchase/obtain new park properties in order to provide various types of parks (mini parks, community parks, etc.) in areas that are lacking service.
- Properties reverting to City or County ownership through tax sales should be inspected to determine if they would be appropriate for park use.

### **Goal C- Enhance the quality of life and contribute to the physical, scenic, environmental and economic health of the City of Muncie and its residents.**

#### Objectives-

- 1- Rezone all park properties to the Recreation/Conservation zone.
- The Recreation/Conservation zone designation emphasizes the importance of parkland and would allow for appropriate development of park properties while providing a measure to preserve the park properties for existing and future generations.
- 2- Establish parks in the northwest quadrant of Muncie.
- 3- Adopt a policy of all new construction being Leadership in Energy Efficient Design- New Construction (LEED-NC) accredited and /or Low Impact Design (LID).
- LEED-NC and LID developments are environmentally sustainable, reducing the cost for operating and maintaining, effective at reducing pollutants in the environmental, and make for healthier places to visit and enjoy.
- 4- Establish programs.
- Programs are critical to help attract the community to the parks while building community involvement and pride. When the community is more involved and committed to the parks, the parks will naturally become safer because undesirable activities tend to occur in underutilized environments.
  - The following types of programs were recommended through public input:
    - ♦ Adopt-A-Park (sponsorship opportunities)
    - ♦ Events in the parks
      - Movies
      - Concerts
      - Theatre
    - ♦ Sport leagues & tournaments

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26 Code of Ordinances, City of Muncie Indiana 92.09- Using skateboards prohibited. This outdated city code needs to be deleted. Skateboarding is a nationally recognized alternative form of transportation. Any public concerns could be solved by enforcing anti-vandalism laws.

27 Indiana has 22 second class cities. 16 of those cities provide skateparks as a part of their park systems that are free to the public, one charges, and 2 are in the planning phase. Muncie is 1 of only 3 second-class cities to not have a public skatepark.







- ♦ Classes (nature oriented, fitness oriented, craft, etc.)
  - ♦ Summer camps
  - ♦ Passport to Recreation – a program to encourage participation in park and recreation activities throughout each year by gathering stamps that would be turned in at the last event of the year for a prize drawing.
- 5- Establish a “park system”
    - Unite all of the neighborhood, community, and large urban parks through connections made by complete green streets and/or greenways.
  - 6- Create a signature park within the City of Muncie.
    - A signature park is a park that provides a variety of unique opportunities in an accessible, centrally located area in order to create a unique resource for the entire community of Muncie and beyond. Having a park that draws people from outside the community of Muncie provides economic development for the City of Muncie.<sup>28</sup> With their size and central locations, either McCulloch Park or Heekin Park could be improved upon to become Muncie’s signature park.
  - 7- Include park service as an element in financial studies for annexations.
    - Because parks are an important service that municipalities provide to the public, there needs to be an assessment of how a city will provide this service as its boundary grows. Measures need to be put in place that will allow of the creation of new parks in areas that are growing and underserved.
  - 8- Establish natural resource parks to provide alternative recreational opportunities (including hiking, nature appreciation, mountain biking) while protecting sensitive areas from development (including floodplains, wetlands)
    - Alternative recreational opportunities would include hiking, nature appreciation- viewing and education, mountain biking, snow shoeing/cross country skiing, etc.
    - Sensitive areas to protect include, but are not limited to, floodplains, wetlands, and ground water recharge areas. Areas such as floodplains can be problematic to build in; establishing these areas would not only reduce damages done to developments from flooding but also protect the floodplain.
  - 9- Explore opportunities for community gardens.
    - Community gardens offer unique opportunities for building community and for building personal strength/health including endurance and flexibility.
  - 10- Investigate the feasibility of development standards that would regulate new developments to include park space as necessary infrastructure.
  - 11- Officially establish and develop the new downtown urban park located northeast of the South Walnut roundabout.

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28 While Prairie Creek Park is a type of signature park that draws people from across the region, it is not an easily accessible property for all residents of Muncie. It is important to have a signature park inside Muncie’s corporate boundary to create accessible opportunities for Muncie’s residents and economic development for Muncie by attracting visitors into the city proper.





# Implementation

## *Priorities and Action Recommendations*

Implementation of the majority of the objectives recommended in this plan should begin as soon as possible while others are dependent upon available funding. In these tough economic times, people are looking for alternatives to the stock market for investment opportunities, thus it could be beneficial for the City to issue municipal bonds to fund some of the recommended improvements. Until funding is secured for some objectives, the Park Department feels that the following list summarizes a desirable action schedule for the next 5 years.

2009	Westside Park	New Playground	\$100,000
	Heekin Park	New Playground	\$100,000
	McCulloch Park	New Playground	\$100,000
	Tuhey Pool	Pool Upgrades	\$90,000
	Thomas Park	Pave Parking Lots	\$75,000
	Heekin Park	Walk of fame	\$25,000
	Thomas Park	New Playground	\$100,000
	Heekin Park	Pave Park Office Lot	\$22,000
		Subtotal:	\$612,000
2010	Heekin Park	Upgrade Cabins	\$30,000
	Prairie Creek Park	Upgrade Campground	\$40,000
	McCulloch Park	Upgrade Cabin	\$50,000
	Cowing Park	New Playground	\$100,000
	Cooley Park	New Ball Field Fence	\$30,000
	Heekin Park	Upgrade Score Tower	\$25,000
	Aultshire Park	Pave Parking Lot	\$25,000
	Tuhey Pool	Remodel Bathhouse	\$100,000
	Appeal to the Great Spirit	Upgrade and Landscape	\$25,000
	Heekin Park	Re-model Park Office	\$50,000
	Emerson Park	Construct Dog Park	\$30,000
	Prairie Creek Park	Update Septic System	\$200,000
			Subtotal:
2011	Heekin Park	New Ball Field Fence	\$30,000
	Heekin Park	Upgrade restrooms	\$25,000
	Westside Park	Pave Parking Lot	\$75,000
	Morningside Park	Upgrade Facility	\$50,000
	Prairie Creek Park	New Pier System	\$250,000
	Prairie Creek Park	Water Barrier	\$150,000
	McCulloch Park	Upgrade Ball Diamond	\$75,000
	Cooley Park	New Playground	\$100,000
		Subtotal:	\$755,000







## Implementation

2012	Heekin Park	Upgrade Horseshoe Pits	\$20,000
	Heekin Park	Install Shelter Houses	\$30,000
	McCulloch Park	Install Shelter Houses	\$30,000
	Ball Community Park	Pave Trail	\$30,000
	Emerson Park	Landscape	\$20,000
	Riverview Park	New Playground	\$100,000
	Jacks Park	New Playground	\$100,000
	McCulloch Park	New Lighting	\$80,000
		Subtotal:	\$410,000
2013	Tuhey Park	Upgrade Tennis Courts	\$100,000
	Tuhey Park	Upgrade Ball Diamond	\$50,000
	Cowing Park	Upgrade Tennis Courts	\$100,000
	Prairie Creek Park	New Playground	\$100,000
	McCulloch Park	Additional Parking	\$100,000
	Heekin Park	New Lighting	\$80,000
	Cooley Park	New Lighting	\$80,000
		Subtotal:	\$610,000
		TOTAL:	\$3,092,000

### *Potential Funding Opportunities*

There are a plethora of funding prospects available for parks, playgrounds, recreation, programs, naturalization, acquiring land, educational opportunities, and such. The following provides a list of grant makers that contribute to projects similar to those recommended in this Master Plan. This list is not exclusive; there are hundreds of grant makers that support similar initiatives. This list is meant to help facilitate the pursuit of grants to aid in achieving Master Plan recommendations.

#### **Federal grant opportunities**

- Corporation for National Service
  - AmeriCorps
- U.S. Department of Education
  - Special Recreation Program
  - Physical Education Program (PEP)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
  - Steps to A Healthier US Grants
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
  - North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants (NAWCA)
- U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS)
  - Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)
  - Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR)
- U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)
  - Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)





- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  - Environmental Education Grants Program
  - Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Pilots (BCRLF)

**National grant opportunities**

- Alcoa Foundation
- America the Beautiful Fund
- American Hiking Society
- American Rivers, Inc.
- The Bailey Wildlife Foundation
- Beneficia Foundation
- Garfield Foundation
- Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation
- Multnomah Athletic Foundation, Inc.
- NIKE Bowerman Track Renovation Program
- Rapides Foundation’s Walking Trail Mini-Grant Program
- Tony Hawk Foundation
- Turner Foundation, Inc.
- Wal-Mart Foundation

**Statewide opportunities-**

- The Comcast Foundation
- Eli Lilly and Company Foundation
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources ([www.in.gov/dnr](http://www.in.gov/dnr)):
  - Federal Programs administered by IDNR’s Division of Outdoor Recreation-
    - U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)
      - Recreation Trails Program (RTP) Grant Program
    - U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service (NPS)
      - The Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
  - State Programs-
    - Community Forestry Grant Programs
    - Forest Management Cost Share Programs
    - Lake & River Enhancement (LARE) Program
    - Historic Preservation Fund Program
      - o Acquisition and Development Grants
      - o Architectural and Historical Grants
      - o Archeological Grants
- Indiana Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (IAHPERD)
- Lily Endowment Inc.
- NCC Charitable Foundation
- SIA Foundation, Inc.
- Vectren Foundation, Inc.

**Local grant opportunities**

- Ball Brothers Foundation







## Implementation

- The BMH Foundation, Inc.
- The Community Foundation of Muncie and Delaware County, Inc.
- Edmund F. and Virginia B. Ball Foundation, Inc.
- Gannett Foundation
- George and Frances Ball Foundation
- Kakatu Inc.
- The J. Robert and Joanne N. Baur Foundation, Inc.
- The Maxon Charitable Foundation, Inc.
- Mutual Federal Savings Bank Charitable Foundation, Inc.
- N.G. Gilbert Foundation
- Office of Community Development
  - Federal Programs administered by the Office of Community Development
    - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
      - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Psi Iota Xi Charities, Inc.
- Sherman and Marjorie Zeigler Foundation, Inc.
- William G. and Joan E. Frazier Foundation





# Appendices

## Appendix A

### Survey Results

Mailback results are in **RED**; 113 mailback surveys were returned  
Online survey results are in **BLUE**; 231 online surveys were filled out  
Student survey results are in **PURPLE**; 307 student surveys were filled out

Results of open-ended question are not provided here, they are included in separate documents compiled on the CD (or digital version) of the City of Muncie’s 5-year Parks & Recreation Master Plan. This is relevant for questions #1, #4, #7, #9, #16, & #33. Results to Question #18 are provided at the end of the survey results.

1. What is your favorite Park or Recreation Area in Muncie and why?

2. Which would (do) you prefer?

Please rank 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th with the 1st being the highest preference:

\_\_\_ Mini Parks or Pocket Parks that have limited facilities within walking distance from your home  
4th 4th

\_\_\_ Small Neighborhood Parks that have varied facilities within walking distance to your home  
2nd & 3rd 3rd 2nd & 3rd

\_\_\_ Larger Neighborhood Parks that have a wide variety of facilities within a half mile of your home  
1st 1st & 2nd 1st

\_\_\_ Community Parks with a wide range of facilities that may require travel to get to  
4th

3. Are there programs that you would like to see developed within Muncie’s parks?

No 30.7% 34.7% 54.4%     Yes 69.3% 65.3% 45.6%

4. If yes, what are examples?

5. Would you like to see Muncie’s park system include informal areas including wetlands, forests, farmlands and/or heritage sites?

Yes 56.5% 67.3% 55.1%     No 20.4% 11.1% 15.3%     No Opinion 23.1% 21.7% 29.6%

6. Do you know of a Heritage Site (a special historical or cultural area) within Muncie?

Yes 27.5% 18.3% 11.9%     No 72.5% 81.7% 88.1%

7. If yes, What & Where? (please describe the location, give crossroads if possible)

8. Would you like to see Muncie adopt green infrastructure connecting our park system?

(Note: green infrastructure could include trails, linear open spaces, or “green streets”- referring to streetscapes that include sidewalks, bike lanes, green buffers...)

Yes 79.8% 87.2% 71.2%     No 10.6% 5.7% 11.4%     No Opinion 9.6% 7% 17.3%







## Appendix A

9. What CHANGES do you feel Muncie's parks need?

10. How important is outdoor recreation to you?

- Essential 45.2% 66.5% 42.9%       Desirable 43.3% 31.9% 38.9%
- Don't care 8.7% 1.6% 16.7%       Undesirable 2.9% 0% 1.5%

11. Where do you recreate the most in Muncie? Please mark one.

- Aultshire Park 0% 0% 0.4%       Ball Corporation Park 0% 0.5% 1.4%       Buley Center 1% 0% 0.7%
- Cardinal Greenway 8.9% 16.1% 2.5%       Chambers Park 1% 1% 2.9%
- Cooley Park 0% 0.5% 5.8%       Cowing Park 4% 2.1% 3.2%       Emerson Park 0% 0.5% 0%
- Gilbert Park 0% 0% 0.4%       Guthrie Park 1% 0.5% 0%       Heekin Park 3% 2.1% 20.1%
- Jacks Park 0% 0.5% 1.4%       Mansfield Park 2% 3.6% 5.4%       Matthews Park 0% 0% 0.4%
- McCulloch Park 5.9% 5.2% 7.6%       Muncie Cantilevered Walkway 0% 0% 1.1%
- Muncie Sportsplex 3% 3.6% 1.1%       Morningside Park 0% 0% 4.3%
- Prairie Creek Park 18.8% 22.9% 1.4%       Riverbend Park 1% 0% 0.4%
- Riverview Park 0% 0% 0.7%       Rose Park/Ross Center 0% 0% 1.8%       Thomas Park 0% 0% 2.9%
- Tuhey Park 2% 1% 2.5%       Washington Park 1% 0% 0%       Westside Park 12.9% 13% 10.8%
- White River Park/Greenway 4% 10.9% 5.4%       Other: 30% 15.6% 15.5%

12. If the Muncie Parks Department (local government) were to raise money for the development or improvement of outdoor recreational facilities, how should they do it? Please rank the top 3 items as 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices:

- \_\_\_ No more money needed
- \_\_\_ Federal funds 1st choice
- \_\_\_ State grants 2nd choice 1st & 2nd choice
- \_\_\_ Increased user fees (admission charges for facilities, fishing licenses)
- \_\_\_ Local park & recreation tax
- \_\_\_ Other local funding (bonds) 3rd choice 3rd choice
- \_\_\_ No preference

13. How would you like Muncie Parks to pay for improvements in the parks? Check all that apply:

- Use existing budget 56.3% 53.3%       Municipal bond 22.3% 26.4%
- New taxes 8.7% 14.8%       Charge for organized adult sports 42.7% 56%
- One-time donations 35% 48.9%       New user fees 13.6% 34.1%
- Grants 59.2% 77.5%       Charge for youth programs/sport leagues 31.1% 44%
- Other: 8.7% 15.4%

14. What would you be willing to pay for special park events?

- \$0 21.6% 4.5% 23.1%       \$1 9.8% 3.4% 10.3%       \$2-4 29.4% 23.2% 18.6%
- \$5 24.5% 44.6% 22.4%       \$6-8 2.9% 8.5% 4.5%       \$9-10 4.9% 7.9% 6.2%
- More than \$10 6.9% 7.9% 14.8%

15. Do you consider yourself as having any sort of disability that interferes with participation in outdoor recreational activities?       Yes 21.5% 7.3% 11.9%       No 78.5% 92.7% 88.1%





16. If yes, please feel free to explain so that we can better understand your park & recreational needs?

17. Did you participate in any outdoor recreation activity during the past year (2007)?

(Note: This could be anything from home gardening and horseshoes to snow skiing and mountain climbing.)

- Yes 84.1% 95.9% 74.1%
- No 15.9% 4.1% 25.9%

18. What outdoor recreational activities did you participate in REGULARLY during the last year? Please check boxes for all that apply and indicate how often you did that activity. **ALSO, please note** that the last column is asking whether or not Muncie parks should provide facilities for each of these activities; please let us know your opinion on each activity. (Results from this section are provided in a separate document)

19. Where did you participate in the outdoor recreational activities listed in the previous table MOST frequently in the last year (2007)? Please check only one.

- Muncie Parks 43.5% 35.6% 66.9%
- Other sites in Delaware County 25% 33.9% 12.2%
- Outside Delaware County in Indiana 20.7% 24.3% 9.5%
- Outside Indiana 10.9% 6.2% 11.4%

20. What are the top three reasons why you do not participate in outdoor activities more often? Please rank the top 3 items as 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices:

- Lack of time 1st and 2nd 1st 1st
- Lack of available funds
- Lacking local facilities
- Too physically demanding 3rd
- None
- Local facilities in poor condition/dilapidated 3rd 2nd
- Local facilities are not accessible
- Lack of people with similar interest 2nd
- Family constraints (children too young, etc.) 3rd
- Other (please explain):

Demographic Questions:

21. Are you...

- Male 45.4% 41.3% 56.1%
- Female 54.6% 58.7% 43.9%

22. In which age category are you?

- Under 11 0% 0% 0.3%
- 11-17 0% 0.5% 93.1%
- 18-24 3.6% 8.1% 6.6%
- 25-34 11.6% 38.9%
- 35-44 10.7% 20%
- 45-54 15.2% 18.4%
- 55-64 22.3% 9.2%
- 65-74 17.9% 4.9%
- 75 & over 18.8% 0%

23. Would you describe yourself as... Check all that apply:

- Asian American 0.9% 1.1% 4.9%
- African American/Black 2.8% 1.6% 25%
- Caucasian/White 89.9% 94.1% 65.6%
- Hispanic/Latino 0.9% 0.5% 9.7%
- Native American 4.6% 0.5% 6.9%
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 0% 0% 3.5%
- Mixed Race 0.9% 0% 15.6%
- Other: 1.8% 3.2% 6.6%

24. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- 8th grade or less 0.9% 0% 55.9%
- 1-3 years of high school 2.7% 1.6% 44.1%
- Completed high school 30.6% 8.1%
- Trade or technical school 2.7% 7%
- 1-3 years of college 17.1% 21%
- Completed college degree 18% 31.7%







## Appendix A

- Graduate work 6.3% 17.2%
- Doctorate work or degree 9% 5.4%
- Graduate degree 12.6% 17.2%

25. What is your current marital status?

- Single, never married 11.9% 20.5%
- Married 59.6% 64.9%
- Separated 0% 0%
- Divorced 19.3% 13.5%
- Widowed 9.2% 1.1%

26. Do you have any children living at home?

- Yes 32.4% 53.5%
- No 67.6% 46.5%

27. What is your household size?

- 1 25.2% 12.5% 1.7%
- 2 43.9% 33.7% 6.6%
- 3 14% 21.2% 19.7%
- 4 9.3% 23.4% 26%
- 5 or more 7.5% 9.2% 46%

28. What is your employment status?

- Employed full time 40.2% 70.8%
- Employed part time 9.3% 9.2%
- Retired 38.3% 7.6%
- Unemployed 7.5% 8.1%
- Student 4.7% 4.3% 100%

29. What is your best estimate for your household income, before taxes, in 2007?

- under \$10,000 14.1% 3.3%
- \$10,000-\$20,000 11.1% 6.7%
- \$20,000-\$30,000 8.1% 10%
- \$30,000-\$40,000 18.2% 15.6%
- \$40,000-\$50,000 10.1% 13.3%
- \$50,000-\$75,000 17.2% 27.8%
- \$75,000-\$100,000 13.1% 16.1%
- \$100,000-\$150,000 8.1% 6.1%
- \$150,000 or more 0% 1.1%

30. Do you live in... (online survey only)

- The City of Muncie 65.9%
- Indiana, outside Delaware County 4.9%
- Delaware County (not in Muncie) 27%
- Other 2.2%

31. What is your zip code?

32. Do you rent or own?

- Rent 14.5% 23.1%
- Own 81.8% 74.7%
- Other (please explain): 3.6% 2.2%

33. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions you would like to make about Muncie's parks?

Please feel free to be as specific or general as you like:





Appendix A

Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	1.6%	6.5%	9.7%	21.0%	16.1%	45.2%		98.7%	1.3%
Online Survey Results	1.3%	5.6%	8.8%	21.9%	15.0%	37.5%	10.0%	91.3%	8.7%
Student Survey Results	4.8%	4.8%	8.4%	10.8%	9.2%	22.9%	39.0%	63.1%	36.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Playground use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	14.6%	18.8%	25.0%	8.3%	33.3%		100.0%	0.0%
Online Survey Results	4.5%	16.2%	15.6%	11.0%	11.0%	14.9%	26.6%	92.1%	7.9%
Student Survey Results	14.7%	18.4%	5.6%	16.2%	9.0%	15.8%	20.3%	83.6%	16.4%
<b>Court sports:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	10.0%	5.0%	10.0%	15.0%	60.0%		96.1%	3.9%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	4.5%	3.7%	0.0%	8.2%	29.1%	54.5%	91.0%	9.0%
Student Survey Results	27.7%	18.8%	8.1%	12.2%	7.0%	10.7%	15.5%	89.3%	10.7%
<input type="checkbox"/> Horseshoes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	5.6%	0.0%	83.3%		87.8%	12.2%
Online Survey Results	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	7.0%	23.7%	65.8%	64.7%	35.3%
Student Survey Results	4.2%	5.5%	3.0%	3.0%	4.2%	16.5%	63.7%	36.6%	63.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Shuffleboard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		72.1%	27.9%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	19.1%	79.1%	43.3%	56.7%
Student Survey Results	5.6%	3.0%	3.4%	1.3%	4.7%	11.6%	70.3%	33.2%	66.8%
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	5.9%	0.0%	5.9%	11.8%	76.5%		86.5%	13.5%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.6%	2.4%	6.5%	6.5%	26.6%	56.5%	77.2%	22.8%
Student Survey Results	9.6%	9.6%	7.2%	11.2%	10.8%	17.1%	34.7%	73.1%	26.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Tetherball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		83.7%	16.3%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.8%	19.5%	76.1%	55.1%	44.9%
Student Survey Results	5.8%	5.8%	4.1%	6.2%	7.4%	14.9%	55.8%	51.1%	48.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	13.3%	0.0%	13.3%	0.0%	73.3%		85.1%	14.9%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.4%	2.4%	3.2%	7.3%	27.4%	57.3%	77.1%	22.9%
Student Survey Results	15.8%	11.5%	6.7%	10.3%	8.3%	15.0%	32.4%	71.8%	28.2%







Appendix A

Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
<b>Field sports:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Baseball/softball</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	4.2%	25.0%	4.2%	8.3%	8.3%	50.0%		91.4%	8.6%
Online Survey Results	3.9%	4.7%	3.9%	9.3%	3.9%	24.8%	49.6%	90.0%	10.0%
Student Survey Results	16.1%	14.9%	7.3%	12.6%	8.4%	15.3%	25.3%	79.3%	20.7%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Football</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	8.3%	0.0%	83.3%		52.4%	47.6%
Online Survey Results	0.9%	1.8%	2.7%	3.5%	4.4%	19.5%	67.3%	53.8%	46.3%
Student Survey Results	24.5%	17.1%	10.1%	8.9%	8.9%	11.3%	19.1%	82.0%	18.0%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rugby</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		38.5%	61.5%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	2.9%	13.5%	82.7%	34.2%	65.8%
Student Survey Results	3.8%	6.4%	5.1%	3.0%	3.0%	11.1%	67.5%	34.1%	65.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Soccer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%	78.6%		75.5%	24.5%
Online Survey Results	3.4%	4.3%	3.4%	3.4%	1.7%	23.9%	59.8%	75.6%	24.4%
Student Survey Results	10.7%	11.5%	6.1%	5.7%	9.0%	15.2%	41.8%	64.0%	36.0%
<b>Walking/hiking/jogging:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Walking for pleasure</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	20.3%	35.9%	10.9%	21.9%	3.1%	7.8%		97.5%	2.5%
Online Survey Results	19.3%	30.7%	14.7%	11.3%	6.7%	10.7%	6.7%	98.9%	1.1%
Student Survey Results	33.1%	15.0%	8.3%	10.6%	6.3%	7.9%	18.9%	79.9%	20.1%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Hiking</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	11.5%	3.8%	15.4%	11.5%	57.7%		88.2%	11.8%
Online Survey Results	3.8%	3.1%	17.7%	10.0%	17.7%	19.2%	28.5%	87.1%	12.9%
Student Survey Results	9.5%	6.6%	8.7%	8.3%	7.0%	17.4%	42.6%	62.5%	37.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Jogging/running</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	13.6%	31.8%	9.1%	0.0%	13.6%	31.8%		92.3%	7.7%
Online Survey Results	5.4%	17.7%	6.2%	7.7%	5.4%	20.0%	37.7%	94.7%	5.3%
Student Survey Results	23.4%	16.1%	7.7%	8.1%	6.5%	13.3%	25.0%	78.4%	21.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Fitness/rehabilitation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	17.4%	17.4%	4.3%	17.4%	21.7%	21.7%		81.1%	18.9%
Online Survey Results	10.9%	20.2%	7.0%	4.7%	3.9%	13.2%	40.3%	82.2%	17.8%
Student Survey Results	18.3%	13.7%	5.4%	6.6%	6.6%	11.2%	38.2%	68.3%	31.7%











Appendix A

Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
								<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Nature photography</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	7.7%	3.8%	7.7%	7.7%	11.5%	61.5%		80.0%	20.0%
Online Survey Results	3.8%	3.8%	9.4%	12.3%	11.3%	21.7%	37.7%	83.2%	16.8%
Student Survey Results	10.1%	4.8%	6.2%	6.6%	7.0%	13.7%	51.5%	60.9%	39.1%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Bird watching</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	16.0%	16.0%	12.0%	8.0%	8.0%	40.0%		77.8%	22.2%
Online Survey Results	13.1%	4.7%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	23.4%	36.4%	84.0%	16.0%
Student Survey Results	6.7%	4.5%	4.0%	6.3%	6.3%	13.8%	58.5%	49.1%	50.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Wildlife viewing</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	16.7%	20.0%	13.3%	3.3%	10.0%	36.7%		84.7%	15.3%
Online Survey Results	14.0%	8.4%	6.5%	15.9%	15.9%	11.2%	28.0%	80.5%	19.5%
Student Survey Results	8.0%	5.8%	6.2%	7.1%	8.4%	14.7%	49.8%	56.2%	43.8%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Relaxation/aesthetics</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	12.9%	12.9%	16.1%	19.4%	12.9%	25.8%		84.7%	15.3%
Online Survey Results	19.6%	9.8%	11.6%	15.2%	9.8%	11.6%	22.3%	90.5%	9.5%
Student Survey Results	14.2%	5.6%	7.8%	7.3%	11.6%	12.1%	41.4%	64.1%	35.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Fall foliage</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	9.4%	12.5%	6.3%	15.6%	3.1%	53.1%		80.0%	20.0%
Online Survey Results	10.4%	11.3%	3.8%	12.3%	12.3%	24.5%	25.5%	87.9%	12.1%
Student Survey Results	5.1%	3.7%	3.7%	6.5%	7.4%	10.6%	63.0%	41.8%	58.2%
<b>Swimming/ scuba/ snorkeling:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pool swimming</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	11.8%	14.7%	11.8%	5.9%	20.6%	35.3%		95.2%	4.8%
Online Survey Results	6.6%	9.4%	9.4%	4.7%	11.3%	29.2%	29.2%	89.8%	10.2%
Student Survey Results	23.7%	19.3%	9.2%	11.2%	7.2%	11.6%	17.7%	86.8%	13.2%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Swimming at reservoir</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	3.6%	10.7%	7.1%	21.4%	10.7%	46.4%		91.9%	8.1%
Online Survey Results	1.9%	7.8%	5.8%	2.9%	8.7%	28.2%	44.7%	86.1%	13.9%
Student Survey Results	10.3%	9.4%	7.7%	8.5%	8.5%	16.7%	38.9%	63.2%	36.8%
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Scuba/snorkeling</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		45.0%	55.0%







Appendix A

Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scuba	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	10.0%	87.8%	24.8%	75.2%
Student Survey Results	7.0%	6.2%	3.1%	4.4%	7.5%	14.1%	57.7%	51.8%	48.2%
<input type="checkbox"/> Snorkeling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	14.6%	84.3%	24.8%	75.2%
Student Survey Results	7.2%	5.0%	2.3%	4.5%	4.5%	14.0%	62.6%	49.8%	50.2%
<b>Fishing:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> Lake fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	13.0%	13.0%	17.4%	13.0%	43.5%		88.0%	12.0%
Online Survey Results	2.0%	3.1%	10.2%	7.1%	6.1%	14.3%	57.1%	70.1%	29.9%
Student Survey Results	10.7%	12.4%	6.8%	11.5%	9.8%	19.7%	29.1%	72.7%	27.3%
<input type="checkbox"/> Pond fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	4.2%	8.3%	8.3%	16.7%	8.3%	54.2%		85.4%	14.6%
Online Survey Results	1.1%	2.1%	11.7%	6.4%	5.3%	14.9%	58.5%	69.4%	30.6%
Student Survey Results	11.7%	9.6%	6.5%	9.1%	10.9%	17.8%	34.3%	67.4%	32.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> Reservoir fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	7.1%	14.3%	10.7%	14.3%	17.9%	35.7%		94.5%	5.5%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	6.1%	5.1%	7.1%	10.2%	17.3%	52.0%	81.6%	18.4%
Student Survey Results	10.0%	8.7%	6.9%	9.1%	9.5%	17.3%	38.5%	65.5%	34.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> River/stream fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	4.0%	8.0%	8.0%	28.0%	12.0%	40.0%		92.9%	7.1%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.1%	4.2%	6.3%	12.6%	20.0%	55.8%	81.6%	18.4%
Student Survey Results	11.0%	7.5%	6.6%	11.5%	7.9%	18.1%	37.4%	69.7%	30.3%
<b>Fishing Method:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> Bank fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	4.0%	8.0%	12.0%	20.0%	16.0%	40.0%		93.2%	6.8%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	3.2%	6.4%	8.5%	9.6%	16.0%	56.4%	87.3%	12.7%
Student Survey Results	12.2%	6.3%	6.3%	6.8%	9.5%	13.1%	45.9%	58.6%	41.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Boat fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	15.8%	10.5%	10.5%	15.8%	47.4%		88.5%	11.5%
Online Survey Results	1.1%	4.3%	7.6%	2.2%	9.8%	17.4%	57.6%	75.3%	24.7%
Student Survey Results	9.9%	5.8%	6.3%	8.5%	12.6%	15.2%	41.7%	62.0%	38.0%







Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ice fishing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	8.2%	83.3%		72.1%	27.9%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	1.1%	4.6%	14.9%	78.2%	58.9%	41.1%
Student Survey Results	8.4%	6.0%	1.9%	1.4%	6.0%	12.1%	64.2%	41.7%	58.3%
<input type="checkbox"/> Wading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%	8.3%	75.0%		82.2%	17.8%
Online Survey Results	1.2%	2.3%	2.3%	0.0%	9.3%	16.3%	68.6%	71.5%	28.5%
Student Survey Results	6.5%	5.6%	5.1%	6.1%	4.7%	11.7%	60.3%	47.2%	52.8%
<b>Boating and Related Activities:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing/rafting/kayaking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	16.7%	66.7%		79.6%	20.4%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	4.5%	1.1%	10.1%	25.8%	58.4%	84.6%	15.4%
Student Survey Results	9.1%	5.9%	4.6%	4.6%	7.8%	13.7%	54.3%	59.3%	40.7%
<input type="checkbox"/> Houseboats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	90.0%		42.1%	57.9%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	11.3%	87.5%	21.9%	78.1%
Student Survey Results	5.8%	5.8%	3.8%	3.4%	5.8%	10.6%	64.9%	39.8%	60.2%
<input type="checkbox"/> Rowing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	10.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	90.0%		72.1%	27.9%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	1.2%	6.0%	21.7%	69.9%	74.2%	25.8%
Student Survey Results	6.1%	4.7%	5.2%	6.1%	5.6%	16.0%	56.3%	53.2%	46.8%
<input type="checkbox"/> Power boating (includes electric and pontoon)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	10.5%	5.3%	10.5%	15.8%	15.8%	42.1%		78.0%	22.0%
Online Survey Results	1.2%	11.6%	4.7%	2.3%	5.8%	17.4%	57.0%	67.7%	32.3%
Student Survey Results	8.5%	5.2%	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	16.1%	51.7%	55.9%	44.1%
<input type="checkbox"/> Sailing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	75.0%		81.8%	18.2%
Online Survey Results	2.4%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	22.6%	70.2%	74.2%	25.8%
Student Survey Results	7.1%	6.2%	4.3%	3.8%	2.8%	12.3%	63.5%	47.6%	52.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Tubing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	90.0%		73.0%	27.0%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.4%	2.4%	4.8%	3.6%	15.4%	72.3%	59.6%	40.4%
Student Survey Results	7.8%	6.4%	5.9%	5.0%	9.6%	14.2%	51.1%	56.1%	43.9%







Appendix A

Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Water skiing/jet skiing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	90.0%		65.0%	35.0%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.5%	1.2%	2.5%	1.2%	16.0%	76.5%	42.6%	57.4%
Student Survey Results	7.4%	7.4%	5.6%	3.7%	6.0%	13.4%	56.5%	59.6%	40.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Windsurfing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		65.8%	34.2%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	16.0%	81.5%	61.7%	38.3%
Student Survey Results	4.3%	8.6%	4.3%	3.8%	2.4%	8.6%	68.1%	47.1%	52.9%
<b>Camping:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> Cabins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	8.3%	83.3%		67.3%	32.7%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	1.2%	4.8%	25.3%	67.5%	58.8%	41.2%
Student Survey Results	10.5%	8.2%	4.6%	7.3%	11.0%	17.4%	41.1%	69.4%	30.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> Car/van/truck camping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%	14.3%	0.0%	76.9%		66.7%	33.3%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	2.4%	1.2%	4.9%	14.6%	76.8%	54.8%	45.2%
Student Survey Results	7.5%	5.2%	5.7%	5.2%	9.0%	16.0%	51.4%	59.6%	40.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> RV/trailer camping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%	14.3%	0.0%	78.6%		70.0%	30.0%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	3.6%	1.2%	4.8%	4.8%	20.5%	65.1%	66.7%	33.3%
Student Survey Results	7.9%	7.4%	5.1%	7.9%	9.7%	17.1%	44.9%	63.4%	36.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> Tent camping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	4.2%	12.5%	16.7%	16.7%	50.0%		83.9%	16.1%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	110.0%	1.1%	3.3%	22.2%	30.0%	42.2%	83.2%	16.8%
Student Survey Results	9.5%	5.4%	5.0%	10.0%	11.3%	23.5%	35.3%	71.2%	28.8%
<input type="checkbox"/> Backpacking/ remote camping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	7.1%	64.3%		74.5%	25.5%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	10.7%	20.2%	67.9%	62.2%	37.8%
Student Survey Results	7.5%	4.7%	6.6%	4.2%	6.6%	16.9%	53.5%	57.6%	42.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Organized camping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	0.0%	20.0%	70.0%		74.5%	25.5%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.2%	1.2%	0.0%	6.2%	27.2%	64.2%	68.0%	32.0%
Student Survey Results	7.5%	4.7%	6.5%	6.1%	8.4%	16.4%	50.5%	65.0%	35.0%







Appendix A

Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
<b>Golf:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> Driving range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	5.9%	11.8%	17.6%	11.8%	52.9%		47.9%	52.1%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.5%	3.8%	2.5%	6.3%	13.8%	71.3%	41.1%	58.9%
Student Survey Results	10.3%	7.9%	7.5%	3.7%	5.1%	11.2%	54.2%	53.8%	46.2%
<input type="checkbox"/> Regulation golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	9.5%	0.0%	14.3%	23.8%	4.8%	47.6%		40.8%	59.2%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.3%	2.5%	3.8%	3.8%	17.5%	71.3%	28.4%	71.6%
Student Survey Results	9.5%	6.2%	6.2%	4.7%	4.7%	10.4%	58.3%	50.6%	49.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Miniature golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	12.5%	75.0%		61.7%	38.3%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	5.2%	7.8%	27.3%	58.4%	44.4%	55.6%
Student Survey Results	10.7%	4.2%	8.4%	9.3%	9.8%	13.5%	44.2%	64.0%	36.0%
<input type="checkbox"/> Par 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	16.7%	75.0%		42.9%	57.1%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	7.8%	13.0%	77.9%	27.9%	72.1%
Student Survey Results	9.0%	4.8%	2.4%	6.7%	6.2%	8.6%	62.4%	44.4%	55.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> Disk golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%	13.3%	66.7%		50.0%	50.0%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.4%	3.6%	6.0%	3.6%	15.7%	68.7%	57.9%	42.1%
Student Survey Results	8.3%	4.9%	2.4%	2.9%	3.4%	10.7%	67.3%	43.6%	56.4%
<b>Motorized vehicle use:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> 4-wheel drive vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	8.3%	8.3%	8.3%	0.0%	75.0%		27.7%	72.3%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%	0.0%	1.4%	13.5%	82.4%	21.4%	78.6%
Student Survey Results	13.9%	6.5%	5.1%	6.0%	7.9%	13.9%	46.8%	64.5%	35.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> ATV's	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	8.3%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%	75.0%		29.5%	70.5%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.3%	2.7%	1.3%	2.7%	12.0%	80.0%	25.8%	74.2%
Student Survey Results	11.8%	7.1%	6.2%	5.7%	6.6%	8.1%	54.5%	58.0%	42.0%
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	75.0%		27.3%	72.7%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.7%	1.4%	2.7%	1.4%	10.8%	81.1%	22.6%	77.4%
Student Survey Results	14.0%	6.3%	3.9%	7.2%	3.4%	12.6%	52.7%	59.5%	40.5%







Appendix A

Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
								<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Pleasure driving	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	11.1%	5.6%	16.7%	16.7%	50.0%		41.2%	58.8%
Online Survey Results	2.5%	7.5%	6.3%	2.5%	6.3%	12.5%	62.5%	33.1%	66.9%
Student Survey Results	12.2%	7.5%	7.0%	7.0%	5.6%	12.7%	47.9%	62.7%	37.3%
<input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		32.6%	67.4%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	10.7%	85.3%	28.6%	71.4%
Student Survey Results	11.5%	7.2%	3.8%	5.3%	3.8%	13.4%	55.0%	56.7%	43.3%
<b>Shooting sports:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> Archery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	23.1%	7.7%	0.0%	69.2%		59.6%	40.4%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.3%	1.3%	0.0%	2.6%	9.1%	85.7%	39.0%	61.0%
Student Survey Results	15.9%	5.8%	3.9%	5.3%	5.8%	9.2%	54.1%	51.0%	49.0%
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay targets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%	14.3%	14.3%	64.3%		40.9%	59.1%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%	4.0%	10.7%	84.0%	24.5%	75.5%
Student Survey Results	14.1%	5.8%	5.3%	2.9%	5.3%	8.7%	57.8%	48.6%	51.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Hand guns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	6.7%	6.7%	20.0%	66.7%		34.8%	65.2%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	3.9%	0.0%	1.3%	1.3%	9.2%	84.2%	15.8%	84.2%
Student Survey Results	14.8%	5.2%	4.8%	4.3%	6.7%	11.0%	53.3%	47.5%	52.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> Paint-ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	8.3%	83.3%		39.5%	60.5%
Online Survey Results	1.3%	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%	1.3%	16.7%	79.5%	33.8%	66.2%
Student Survey Results	17.1%	9.9%	5.4%	12.2%	8.6%	9.5%	37.4%	77.0%	23.0%
<input type="checkbox"/> Rifles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	6.7%	0.0%	20.0%	73.3%		31.8%	68.2%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	4.0%	10.7%	82.7%	16.4%	83.6%
Student Survey Results	16.1%	4.3%	5.7%	4.3%	4.3%	10.4%	55.0%	48.1%	51.9%
<b>Winter sports:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> Cross-country skiing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	85.7%		68.1%	31.9%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%	14.7%	82.7%	56.8%	43.2%
Student Survey Results	8.7%	3.6%	4.1%	2.6%	4.1%	8.7%	68.4%	34.8%	65.2%







Appendix A

Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hockey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		42.1%	57.9%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%	13.7%	83.6%	40.5%	59.5%
Student Survey Results	9.6%	4.5%	1.5%	3.0%	4.5%	11.1%	65.7%	42.4%	57.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> Ice skating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.7%	7.7%	84.6%		75.5%	24.5%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	5.1%	3.8%	3.8%	29.1%	58.2%	68.9%	31.1%
Student Survey Results	9.3%	3.9%	5.9%	3.4%	6.4%	15.7%	55.4%	55.9%	44.1%
<input type="checkbox"/> Sledding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	15.0%	5.0%	20.0%	60.0%		85.7%	14.3%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	6.3%	3.8%	6.3%	5.1%	31.6%	46.8%	84.5%	15.5%
Student Survey Results	14.6%	7.5%	6.1%	8.0%	9.0%	17.0%	37.7%	70.4%	29.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> Snowboarding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	0.0%	0.0%	88.9%		53.8%	46.2%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	5.4%	13.5%	79.7%	54.4%	45.6%
Student Survey Results	12.7%	4.4%	5.4%	8.8%	6.8%	13.7%	48.3%	63.5%	36.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> Snowshoeing/hiking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		69.8%	30.2%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.4%	1.4%	0.0%	2.8%	19.4%	75.0%	59.7%	40.3%
Student Survey Results	8.1%	2.5%	4.0%	3.5%	4.0%	11.1%	66.7%	44.5%	55.5%
<b>Lawn games:</b>									
<input type="checkbox"/> Badminton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	83.3%		67.4%	32.6%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.7%	4.1%	0.0%	5.5%	16.4%	71.2%	49.3%	50.7%
Student Survey Results	10.8%	6.9%	3.9%	8.4%	6.9%	14.3%	48.8%	54.5%	45.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> Croquet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	15.4%	7.7%	76.9%		64.3%	35.7%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	1.4%	4.1%	23.0%	70.3%	46.3%	53.7%
Student Survey Results	7.1%	4.6%	3.1%	3.1%	5.1%	12.2%	64.8%	37.5%	62.5%
<input type="checkbox"/> Lawn bowling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		65.0%	35.0%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	1.4%	1.4%	16.9%	78.9%	42.2%	57.8%
Student Survey Results	6.7%	7.2%	5.1%	3.1%	2.6%	12.3%	63.1%	41.2%	58.8%







Appendix A

Activity	5-7 times per week	2-4 times per week	One time per week	2-3 times per month	One time per month	Less than once per month	Not Applicable	Do you feel Muncie parks should provide facilities for that activity?	
Misc.									
<input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	18.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	81.8%		70.2%	29.8%
Online Survey Results	3.8%	3.8%	1.3%	5.1%	1.3%	14.1%	70.5%	61.0%	39.0%
Student Survey Results	9.9%	6.4%	5.4%	5.9%	8.4%	9.9%	54.2%	55.1%	44.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Remote control boats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		76.9%	23.1%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.7%	0.0%	1.4%	5.4%	12.2%	78.4%	63.8%	36.2%
Student Survey Results	8.0%	7.0%	4.5%	5.0%	5.5%	12.6%	57.3%	53.8%	46.2%
<input type="checkbox"/> Remote control airplanes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		71.8%	28.2%
Online Survey Results	5.1%	2.6%	2.6%	1.3%	3.8%	14.1%	70.5%	69.0%	31.0%
Student Survey Results	8.5%	8.0%	4.5%	4.0%	6.0%	12.5%	56.5%	57.1%	42.9%
<input type="checkbox"/> Rollerblading/roller skating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	7.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	92.9%		77.1%	22.9%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	2.7%	5.4%	4.1%	2.7%	23.0%	62.2%	79.9%	20.1%
Student Survey Results	12.0%	8.6%	8.1%	12.0%	6.2%	10.0%	43.1%	67.4%	32.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> Skateboarding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		74.4%	25.6%
Online Survey Results	4.0%	1.3%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	14.7%	77.3%	79.7%	20.3%
Student Survey Results	15.8%	6.9%	5.0%	5.4%	5.9%	12.9%	48.0%	63.6%	36.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Soap Box Derby	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%		82.6%	17.4%
Online Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	12.3%	86.3%	71.7%	28.3%
Student Survey Results	8.1%	5.6%	3.0%	6.6%	4.0%	9.6%	63.1%	49.0%	51.0%
<input type="checkbox"/> Dog parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	14.3%	7.1%	0.0%	14.3%	7.1%	57.1%		79.2%	20.8%
Online Survey Results	8.3%	3.6%	4.8%	4.8%	3.6%	8.3%	66.7%	82.6%	17.4%
Student Survey Results	15.0%	8.7%	3.4%	8.3%	7.3%	10.7%	46.6%	69.6%	30.4%
<input type="checkbox"/> Fairs/festivals (please list names)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailback Survey Results	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	8.3%	8.3%	75.0%		76.6%	23.4%
Online Survey Results	1.2%	2.4%	2.4%	8.2%	27.1%	32.9%	25.9%	79.5%	20.5%
Student Survey Results	13.1%	10.8%	6.3%	11.3%	12.6%	18.5%	27.5%	78.8%	21.2%













## Appendix B

The following comments were received at the March 17th, 2009 Public Presentation of the final draft of this master plan and during the public comment period running through March 31st, 2009. Comments are in normal text, *applicable responses are in italics.*

- 1- The plan is GREAT! Good job and good luck on getting the funding.
- 2- Do whatever needs to be done to PREVENT housing/real estate development around the reservoir.
- 3- I am confused about why there are so many numbered dots on the aerials of the parks. I would also suggest a connection from the White River Greenway down Walnut Street to the downtown. For some reason the trail just stops at the High School, but I think that people would use the trail to get downtown if it was connected. Thank you for your work on the plan.

*The numbered dots on the aerials of the parks represent park facilities and their condition; the number refers to the type of facility, while the color of the dot denotes its condition. Making connections between the parks, the greenways, and cultural centers (including the downtown) is something that should be strived for when uniting the parks into a park system.*

- 4- Senior Centers like Forest Park should be included as potential partners.
- 5- Nice report...very thorough! I applaud the goals outlined and they are indeed necessary. It is imperative to hire a recreational director! I am from a KS town smaller than Muncie which was once the international headquarters for Sinclair Oil (later Arco). It lost that and many other sources of jobs, yet the city rec. program never suffered. I'd like to refer you to <http://www.travelks.com/s/index.cfm?LID=4476&QString=TripSearch%3Da%26Keywords%3D%26Page%3D403> for their spectacular aquatic center and <http://www.forpaz.com/home.htm> for the outstanding park and recreation facilities available. There is also a well developed reservoir (see [http://www.swt.usace.army.mil/recreat/OPSField.CFM?tblOPSField\\_\\_LakeName=Elk%20City%20Lake](http://www.swt.usace.army.mil/recreat/OPSField.CFM?tblOPSField__LakeName=Elk%20City%20Lake)). These are options I'd like to see here in Muncie! I was rather shocked that such options were not here in Muncie when we moved here. I scramble to find any nice playground/pool/facilities when family and friends from out of state come to visit. I never had that problem "back home in Kansas". Please improve Muncie's options for families! The demographic data within your report certainly shows a large percentage of the population here is young. I would also be willing to work on this initiative.

6- I understand that you are stressing the importance of the park system and I believe this to be very important... but what exactly is the plan? And how much money did you spend on that park survey? How much equipment could have been purchased with that money? Until this city takes the responsibility and initiative to move us towards a sustainable future by creating a city that is both safe for bicycles and pedestrians, AND inconvenient to the automobile, we will never appreciate or utilize our park system. Look into the Columbia, Missouri investment in bike lanes to see what kind of dramatic effect this can have on helping strengthen the locally owned business movement, helping the citizenry appreciate their natural world, and connecting the importance of parks and recreation to our overall well being-both physically and economically. I wish you the best of luck, it seems as though your intentions are in the right place, but until the city steps on board to help foster a sense of community and responsibility by promoting a different and healthier lifestyle then we will continue to be dependent upon corporate culture to set the agenda-materialism and not the natural world will hold precedence.

*1) The "plan" is outlined in the section titled "Master Plan". 2) Surveying the public and having*





*their input to inform the plan is a vital step in the planning process. Without the survey, the plan carries no credibility or validity for reflecting the community; no matter how good a plan is, if it doesn't reflect the needs and desires of the community, it is meaningless. The survey was conducted in house, making the cost minimal; having an outside firm conduct the survey would have easily cost ten times as much. 3) No equipment could have been bought with the money spent on the survey as the survey and the plan were not funded through the Department of Parks & Recreation. 4) This plan recommends connections through greenways and "complete streets". Complete streets are streets that include bike lanes, sidewalks, and landscaping.*

7- I would like to see Prairie Creek Park remain as natural as can be with little added building. I like the idea of being as eco-friendly as can be. I am against further building of homes or businesses around the area. There are already many homes that are going unsold for over a year and sit empty. Added construction only detracts from the beauty, especially the ugly industrial billboard that was allowed to be erected. Also I support renovating Tuhey pool area and park as this is a wonderful pool and used by many. I enjoy swimming daily in the summers, early in the mornings as the sun is rising.

*Tuhey Pool is being renovated in order to meet the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act. The renovation is underway with completion anticipated later this year.*

8- It's clear what you need to do. McCulloch Park is the biggest park within the city. I have been visiting McCulloch a lot more lately after being introduced to Disk Golf. It is a blast. There is plenty of room not being used in the park mostly on the south side of the park. I think you need to build another 9 holes and make it a 27 hole course. The 18 hole course has no upkeep. You laid cement made the holes and you never have to touch it again. Most likely it was not that expensive to create either. You could get Ball State landscape architecture involved. You can even make the holes from recycled materials. The Disk Golf course is gaining popularity, on the weekends it is very busy. It is only getting bigger. This would be a great way to improve the park, give Muncie youth something to do, and get more people to come so the homosexuals leave so it is more of a family park. This is a great idea please consider it. If you would like to know some more my email is Erichter2@ivytech.edu I have lived in Muncie my whole life and this would benefit the community. I'm at Ivy Tech right now and next year I will be at Ball State I plan on spending many more years in Muncie and my idea would greatly improve the park.

*The popularity of the disk golf course has been recognized. Public input indicated a desire for events such as tournaments and the expansion of the course could further that objective.*

9- We need a trail that goes around Prairie Creek Reservoir. We need a Park devoted to one of our most important asset and that is Garfield and Odie Park.

*The Prairie Creek Master Plan, incorporated into this plan through reference, advises the creation of trails that encircle the reservoir. A Garfield and Odie Park is a fun idea and would celebrate characters from Muncie that are known worldwide. If/when a new park is developed, depending on the type of park, this may be a good name for it.*

10- At Westside Park if sidewalks could be installed throughout the park so that the elderly or whoever could walk around and enjoy the park. The ground is so rough that anyone using a walker or wheel chair can't get around. Thanks

*Through Cardinal Greenway Inc. the White River Greenway will provide ADA accessible trails*







Appendix B

*throughout parts of Westside Park. As improvements are made to park facilities ADA accessibility will be included.*

11- Hi, I could not load the “master plan” view “in time”, as it states it is damaged. I hope the skate park you are planning on constructing will be made of concrete. The wooden skatepark that supposedly \$38,000 was spent on was a joke & I visited it & whoever paid that much money (taxpayers?) got taken to the cleaners! The materials for that joke was probably less than \$1,000 & the construction looked as if it was done by monkeys, drunk monkeys. I know my input is “late”, but please don’t build wooden ramps. BUILD A REAL SKATEPARK THAT WILL LAST FOR DECADES, not a couple of years. Get some input from skaters, not parks dept. workers/personnel. A lot of skateparks can be looked up on the internet. Just another Muncie taxpayer who likes to see tax dollars spent wisely & not wasted...

*The master plan’s objective to create a skatepark indicates that the City should “provide an exemplary skatepark in order to meet the need of Muncie’s youth and to compete with the rise of excellent skateparks that are being created in other second class cities across the state.”*





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