

Introduction

Parks, recreation facilities, and open space are a tremendous asset to a community. They provide leisure time opportunities for residents and visitors of the community. Public open space and recreation facilities are becoming an increasingly important investment for both municipalities and residents. Parks, recreation, and open space facilities often represent the image and perception of a community. The provision and adequate supply of areas and activities to accommodate the needs of the public has been proven to promote the general health, welfare, and safety of our community and citizens.

Over the years, the desire for recreation and open space has continued to grow in such a manner, local communities across the world need to continue to provide park, open space, and recreational opportunities to their citizens. To assure these services are provided in an efficient and effective manner, planning principles should be included as an important element of outdoor recreation and open space programs. This process is typically outlined and explained in a Comprehensive Outdoor Park and Open Space Plan; also known as the City of Superior Master Park Plan.

Purpose

This document is intended to formally update the existing Master Park Plan adopted by the City of Superior in 2001. The adoption of this plan is required for the City of Superior to remain eligible for cost sharing aid programs administered through the State of Wisconsin.

This plan involves a cooperative effort based on resources from the original Master Park Plan, City Comprehensive Plan (a new one is currently in process), as well as input from city staff and citizens. It is intended to guide the city in continuing to meet open space and recreation needs of its citizens for the next five years.

Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives are an important component in the planning process. People and groups use open space differently, which complicates the task of defining goals and objectives that apply to a broad spectrum of conditions and programs. These goals and objectives are provided to guide city staff and officials in their decision-making process with regard to open space and recreation matters. The goals set forth in this plan reflect city intentions to provide quality parks, recreation and open space opportunities to its citizens.

Goal 1: Establish and maintain high quality parks and recreational services to Superior residents.

- Ensure the amount of park and open space is reflective of city population needs.
- Replace old, deteriorated or unsafe equipment.
- Maintain current equipment for maximum longevity and safety.

Goal 2: Offer park and recreational services in an efficient, effective, and economical manner.

- Cooperatively work with surrounding municipalities, schools, Douglas County and the State of Wisconsin.
- Recognize potential in working with other public and private organizations in donating aid to park system development.
- Conduct periodic reviews of programs and services and their benefit to the community.

Goal 3: Promote water recreation uses such as fishing and boating throughout the community.

- Enhance and maintain access to the St. Louis River and Lake Superior.
- Promote and maintain boat launches.

Goal 4: To evaluate and analyze park, open space, and recreational services based on changing needs of the community.

- Encourage citizen involvement with the development of the plan.
- Provide periodic reviews of the plan.
- Survey the community to determine changing needs.

Goal 5: Investigate and utilize all available resources to further enhance the quality of Superior Parks and Recreation System.

- Pursue state and federal funding programs that can aid in the development of the park property.
- Investigate private funding sources.

Goal 6: Promote bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the city.

- Promote the use of bicycle and pedestrian facilities into planning of all Public Works projects.

Goal 7: Encourage the preservation of environmentally sensitive and historically significant areas.

- Identify and incorporate historical areas or structures in the development of city parks.

