



Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan

May 7, 2002

Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee

Arden Hills Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan

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Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee

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Plan Summary

The Arden Hills Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan is a guide to the future use, improvement and expansion of the Arden Hills outdoor recreation system. Parks, trails and open spaces are essential components of community quality of life and are highly valued by City residents.

This plan is intended to act as a guide to decision-making regarding recreation facilities and is based on input gathered through a public opinion survey and a series of community meetings. Key elements and recommendations are:

Trail Improvement and Connections

Arden Hills is divided by many major roads, highways and railroads. These transportation corridors provide excellent regional access and mobility, but they separate neighborhoods and separate people from parks. Trail connections across, over or under the major highways and railroads are needed to tie the City together, create a comprehensive system of parks and trails, improve safety and enhance the feeling of community.

Residents want trail improvements to existing trails, new trail segments and internal loop trails within parks. A variety of trail surfaces serving various trail functions such as walking, bikes, strollers, in-line skates, cross country skis, nature walks, running, etc., are needed to meet residents' recreation desires. The trails master plan illustrates the City's vision for a comprehensive trail network. Building this network requires assistance from other agencies (such as MNDOT and Ramsey County) and the commitment from the City to improve and create trails.

Park Renovation

Overall, residents are satisfied with Arden Hills parks. However, improvements are desired which will increase the function and usability of existing parks. These improvements range from adding a bench and shade trees near a children's play area to reconfiguration of a park access road, parking lot and shelter building to increase safety and assure long-term use of the park land. A systematic long-term approach to these park improvements is proposed.

Open Space and Park Acquisition

In general, the existing developed portion of Arden Hills is well served by parks. There are key acquisitions and enhancements needed to improve function and safety and to assure long-term use (such as changes at Perry and Cummings Park).

Use of major portions of the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant (TCAAP) for recreation and open space is important as TCAAP transitions from the former ammunition plant use to a mixed-use development area. Dedication of parks, open space and trails in accordance with the TCAAP Vento Re-Use Master Plan will help assure an adequate supply of recreation and open space for new residents and employees and enhanced recreation opportunities for existing Arden Hills residents.

Funding

The Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan establishes a need for park and trail improvements and acquisition over the next 20 years. A long-term commitment of funding and personnel is needed to achieve the vision of this plan and the community. Partnerships with other government agencies, schools, and the private sector will help fund and build larger improvements. The following funding sources are recommended, along with continued community and political support for parks and recreation.

- Annual City capital improvement funds
- Federal and State grants
- Cooperative funding of state and county trails
- Partnerships with community groups and institutions
- Private sector support
- Park and trail dedication from new development
- Additional set asides of open space land at TCAAP

Major Goals and Opportunities

- Complete trail connections and expand trail use opportunities
- Revitalize underutilized parks
- Advocate for dedication of public lands in TCAAP, consistent with the Vento Re-use Master Plan
- Ensure permanent access and parking for all major parks
- Enhance natural areas and opportunities for passive uses
- Secure funding to ensure that the vision is achievable
- Enhance partnerships with businesses, institutions and agencies
- Increase visibility and access to parks and trails
- Continue to evaluate and respond to changing demographic and recreational needs

Mission and Vision

Parks, Trails and Recreation Department Mission Statement

The Arden Hills Parks and Recreation Department is dedicated to serving the people of Arden Hills by providing a comprehensive, well maintained system of parks, trails and open spaces and a balanced program of affordable recreation activities.

Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan Vision

This plan envisions a comprehensive parks, trails and open space system designed to meet current and future community needs. Resources will be directed toward improving trail connections, renovating parks and acquiring open space land in a manner consistent with residents' commitment and pride in their parks, trails and open spaces. Many regional projects will be accomplished through partnerships with other units of government, business, service, education and non-profit groups and the people of Arden Hills.

Introduction

The intent of this parks, trails and open space plan is to act as a guide to parks, trails and open space decision making and improvements. The Plan is designed to address recreation needs between 2001 and 2020. The City recognizes that demographic, recreation and environmental trends will change over the next twenty years and those changes will affect parks, trails and open space user needs. However, the Plan will help set the framework for funding, operations and improvements and will increase efficiency by establishing a long-term vision and priorities.

The plan includes a park and trail system map and recommendations for renovation of existing parks, acquisition of park land and easements, trail improvements, and a funding strategy.

Arden Hills Existing Conditions

Regional Setting

Arden Hills is located in the northern portion of Ramsey County and is well served by regional parks. Tony Schmidt Regional Park is located in Arden Hills along the north shore of Lake Johanna. Long



Lindey's Triangle

Lake Regional Park is located just west of Arden Hills in New Brighton. Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Regional Park is a linear park located northeast of Arden Hills in Shoreview, Circle Pines and Lino Lakes. Snail Lake Park is located to the east in Shoreview. These parks are operated by Ramsey County Parks.

Northwestern College and Bethel College are located in Arden Hills. Both schools contain significant privately-owned open space and lakeshore within their campus. Bethel College also has a significant amount of active outdoor recreation facilities such as soccer and ballfields.

Arden Hills has numerous lakes. Lake Johanna and Lake Josephine have public access and beaches. The recreation potential of Round Lake is limited by the need to restrict public access due to pollution from former industrial activity.

Natural Resources

The area of Arden Hills located south of Trunk Highway 96 is largely developed. However, many Arden Hills neighborhoods retain tree cover, ponds and wetlands giving the City a natural and well landscaped character. There are significant areas of open space, woodlands, lakes and wetlands in the City. Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park, Charles Perry Park, Chatham Trails, Ramsey County open space lands, Crepeau Park, Northwestern College, Bethel College and Mounds View High School all contain natural areas of varying character and species.

The area north of Trunk Highway 96 and east of State Highway 10 is the TCAAP property. TCAAP is a former ammunition plant area and it contains a significant amount of natural resources including a lake, wetlands, woodlands, meadows, rolling terrain and excellent vistas, including the highest point in Ramsey County. The Vento Re-Use Plan for TCAAP calls for preservation of a significant amount of the former arsenal site.

Invasive species such as buckthorn (a woody non-native shrub) are a problem in many parks and open space areas in Minnesota. Several parks in Arden Hills contain buckthorn. The City has instituted a buckthorn removal program with the cooperation of numerous residents and service groups. The City plans to continue to control buckthorn on an on-going basis as needed and as resources are available.

Existing Parks and Trails

Arden Hills has 16 parks and a network of trails, located primarily on or adjacent to County Roads. The parks are well distributed throughout the City to serve the area south of Trunk Highway 96. Major highways and roads act as barriers between residents and parks. While many residents may live within a mile of a community park, controlled access roads may prevent easy access to that nearby park. See Table A on the following page for the existing park and facility inventory.

Arden Hills Park Inventory – Table A December, 2001

PARK	ACRES	SOFTBALL/BASEBALL FIELD	SOCCER	TENNIS	BASKETBALL CT	PLAY EQUIP.	PICNIC SHELTER	WARMING HOUSE	PERMANENT RESTROOMS	HOCKEY RINK	SKATING RINK	TRAIL
Arden Manor	2.5				■	■	■					
Arden Oaks	1.5				■	■						
Chatham Trails	28											
Crepeau Nature Preserve	4.3											■
Charles Perry	20	●●●●				■	■	■	■	■		
Cummings	12.5	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		■
Floral Park	20	●	■	■	■	■	■					■
Freeway	1				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Hazelnut	12	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Ingerson	5				■	■	■					
Lindley's Triangle	1.5											
Round Lake	4		▲									▲
Royal Hills	4.5	●		■	■	■	■					
Sampson	1				■	■						■
Sheehy	9			■								
Valentine	3	●			■	■	■	■			■	

■ Existing facility ● Existing facility ● Youth only facility ▲ Proposed

Planning Process Summary

The City of Arden Hills wanted the Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan to accurately reflect community desires and needs. A public opinion survey was conducted and a series of public open house meetings, Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee meetings and workshop sessions were held to gather input and to prepare the Plan.

Public Opinion Survey

In February 2001 a detailed public opinion survey was sent to each Arden Hills household. Approximately 15% of the households completed the survey. The survey results are summarized in Appendix A.

Open House Meetings

Four public open house meetings were held in August 2001 to gather information about City-wide and neighborhood parks, trails and open space needs. The meetings were held in four different locations throughout the City. A community open house was held on December 18, 2001 to review the draft plan and recommendations. A summary of the meeting results is included in Appendix B.

Committee Meetings and Work Sessions

The Arden Hills Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee (PTRC) is an advisory committee appointed by the City Council to advise City staff and the Council on parks, trails, recreation and open space issues. The PTRC assisted in the preparation of the plan, provided detailed guidance and input into the process, and worked with the consulting park planners Ingraham & Associates, City staff and the community to prepare the plan recommendations.

Review of Existing Plans and Coordination with Other Jurisdictions

A number of existing plans were reviewed to help prepare this plan. The Arden Hills Comprehensive Plan, the TCAAP, Vento Re-use Master Plan, Ramsey County Parks and Trails plans, year 2000 Census data, adjacent communities parks and trails plans and the Arden Hills Gateways plan were all helpful resources.

Site Analysis and PTRC and Staff Input

City staff and the planning consultants visited each park and many trail corridors to map and document existing conditions and to plan for future improvements. PTRC members analyzed each trail segment and prepared detailed recommendations. City parks management, programming, maintenance, legal and finance staff all participated in the plan preparation or review.

It is hoped that the depth of participation in the planning process will pay dividends by creating ownership in the plan and political support for the resource allocations needed to implement the plan recommendations.

ARDEN HILLS PARKS, RECREATION & TRAILS COMMUNITY SURVEY



Please take a moment to fill out this survey and drop it in the mail by March 23, 2001. No additional postage is necessary. Your input is very important and will help guide park and recreation decisions. Thank you for your time.

1. How often do members of your household visit the Arden Hills parks or trails?

- At least once a week (Please skip to question 3.)
 1-3 times a month (Please skip to question 3.)
 1-10 times a year (Please skip to question 3.)
 Never

2. If you or members of your household don't use Arden Hills parks or trails, what are the reasons? Please check all that apply.

- Inadequate transportation
 Not aware of parks or trails
 Parks and trails difficult to find
 Prefer parks in other communities

4. In which activities have you or members of your household participated during the past three years? (in Arden Hills parks or elsewhere) Please check all that apply.

- Children's Playgrounds
 Ice skating/hockey
 Walking/Hiking
 Organized outdoor sports (i.e. softball, baseball, football, soccer)
- Picnicking
 Jogging/Running
 Golf
 Informal sports (i.e. playing catch, "pick up" sports games, frisbee)
- Swimming
 Bicycling
 Inline skating
 Indoor court sports (i.e. basketball, volleyball)

Demographic and Recreational Trends

Demographics

Compared to average metro area residents, Arden Hills residents are, on average:

1. older and have fewer children in their home,
2. more likely to be a part of the "baby boomer" generation,
3. are more likely to live in single family, owner-occupied homes,
4. are more likely to live in a two wage earner household,
5. have a higher household income.

	<u>Arden Hills</u>	<u>Minnesota</u>	<u>Twin Cities Metro Area (Average)</u>
Median age (yrs.)	36.2	35.4	34.3 years
Under 18 yrs old	20.0%	26.2%	26.4%
65 yrs and over	13.9%	12.1%	35%
45-59 yrs old	21.7%	18.1%	17.3%
Housing Own/Rent	88% / 12%	75% / 25%	71.4% / 28.6%

Implications: Over the next 10-20 years a significant proportion of Arden Hills residents will retire. Some will move out of the community, some may move to a smaller home and some will stay in their current home. This probably means some degree of change in neighborhood and community demographics. The higher median home values in Arden Hills may result in a higher proportion of established families and fewer first time home buyers. Some new residents are likely to be younger and have more children than existing residents. The City should continue to monitor changes and to work with the school district to track demographic and student population changes. If the change is significant the City can restructure recreation programs and may need to re-evaluate facility supply. Discretionary time is likely to remain at a premium. Many senior citizens are active park and trail users.

Recreation Trends

Recreation interests and participation are influenced by many factors. Age, access to facilities, income, amount of leisure time, interest in the environment, new recreation technology and social trends all influence recreation participation. In general, people are looking for quality recreation close to home, but are willing to travel to obtain higher quality or more specialized activities.

Current Trends

The following recreation trends have been observed in the Twin Cities over the last ten years:

- Trail use has boomed (walking, running, biking and in-line skating)
- Non-contact recreation activities are growing
- Interest in arts and natural areas is growing
- Participation in many team sports has plateaued or in some cases declined
- More youth are specializing in one sport and training year-round
- Soccer participation has increased
- Golf has increased in popularity
- Women's sports have increased
- Off-leash dog parks are popular



Freeway Park

Implications and Future Trends

The following are likely trends based on Arden Hills demographics and the public opinion survey:

- A. Trail use will remain strong and interest in trail expansion will continue (*trail expansion and connections*)
- B. Individual activities will continue to be more popular than team or group activities (*multi-use trails and open space*)
- C. Interest in natural resources and open space will remain strong (*TCAAP area and other resource areas*)
- D. Recreation facility development and operation partnerships between government agencies, schools, organizations and corporations will be more frequent (*local partnerships*)
- E. Demand for youth activities and facilities may increase (*retain park space and flexibility to meet future needs*)

Public Input Summary

Arden Hills Parks, Recreation and Open Space Public Opinion Survey Summary

Introduction

In February 2001, the City of Arden Hills conducted a public opinion survey. The survey was designed to determine residents' attitudes about parks, recreation and open space issues and to help guide preparation of a parks, trails and open space plan for the City. The written survey was sent to 3,897 households and businesses. A total of 593 completed surveys were returned resulting in a response rate of 15%. This is a higher than normal response rate for a mail-back survey and indicates a significant level of interest in City parks, trails and open spaces. This response gives the survey results a relatively high degree of accuracy. The margin of error of the survey is plus or minus 4%. A copy of the survey results is attached in Appendix A. The following is a summary of the findings and implications for the parks and trails plan.

Survey Findings:

1. Arden Hills residents have a high level of interest in **parks, trails and open space**.
2. They are **frequent users** of the parks and trails.
3. They are **satisfied** with the existing parks, trails, maintenance and programs. The overall satisfaction level is 70% to 80%.
4. They want more **TRAILS!**
5. They also want existing **parks to be renovated, passive parks areas to be improved** and more **land acquired for passive parks** and natural areas.
6. There is some interest in an **indoor recreation facility**.
7. There is some **support for fee increases and tax increases** for park purposes.
8. There is very **little difference in attitudes among different geographic areas** of the City.

Recommendations (based on the survey results)

1. The Arden Hills **trail plan** identifies needed trail connections, pedestrian/bike bridges and new trail opportunities.
2. **Loop trails** are proposed in many existing parks.
3. **Park renovation** and revitalization recommendations for existing parks are summarized starting on page 17 and shown on maps in Appendix C.
4. Significant open space and trails are planned for the **TCAAP area**.
5. **Partnerships** to acquire land/easements and construct recreation improvements are a key to long-term success.
6. **Existing natural areas** such as Crepeau Nature Center should be enhanced.
7. Given the proximity to existing recreation centers and the population base, the **costs of an indoor recreation facility** are likely to outweigh the benefits.
8. A variety of **funding sources** are needed for desired parks, recreation and open space improvements.



Crepeau Park Trails

Goals and Key Issues

Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan Goals:

- Complete trail connections and expand trail use opportunities.
- Revitalize underutilized parks.
- Advocate for dedication of public lands in TCAAP, consistent with the Vento Re-use Master Plan.
- Ensure permanent access and parking for major parks with no access and parking easements.
- Enhance natural areas and opportunities for passive uses.
- Secure funding to ensure that the vision is achievable.
- Enhance partnerships with businesses, institutions and agencies.
- Increase visibility and access to parks and trails.
- Continue to evaluate and respond to changing demographic and recreation needs.

Parks and Recreation Facility Recommendations

Parks and Trails System Plan

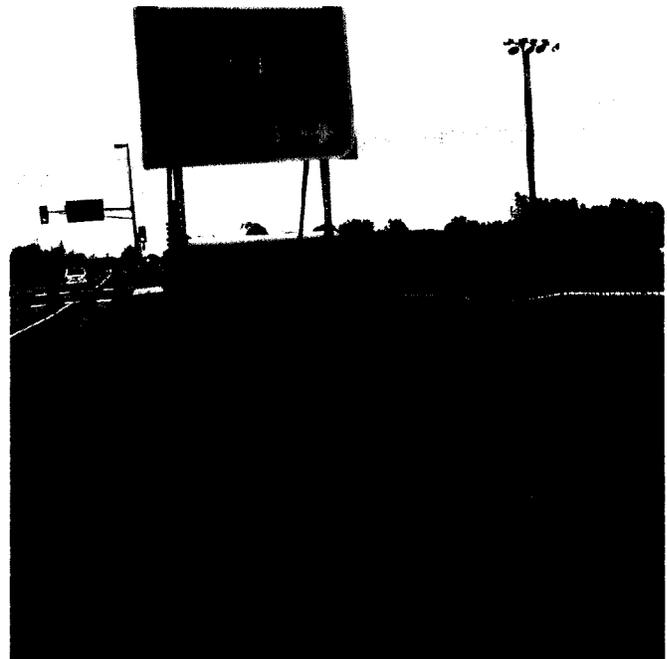
Figure D shows the recommended Parks, Trails and Open Space system for Arden Hills. The map shows recommended park additions and acquisitions, new trails and trail connections. Appendix D contains maps of each park with park renovation recommendations. The Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan is based on the extensive public input and PTRC recommendations. Listed below are explanations of the recommendations by category.

Grade Separated Trail Connections

Constructing grade separated trail crossings of major roads and railroads is one of the most important actions the City (in conjunction with Ramsey County and MNDOT) can take to improve the trail network, enhance access to parks and tie the community together. Federal T-21 grants are available for many of these trail improvements. The following are recommended trail crossings:

County Road E over Highway 51

The existing bridge is very narrow and unsafe for pedestrians or bicyclists. This location is a key connection between the east and west portions of the City. The City should work with Ramsey County and MNDOT to either expand the bridge width to create adequate pedestrian/bike crossings or build a freestanding bike/walk bridge next to the vehicle bridge.



County Rd. E bridge at TH 51

Highway 96

A trail underpass should be installed at a selected location between Highway 10 and Lexington Avenue when Highway 96 is rebuilt. This grade-separated connection will provide access to City Hall and the TCAAP area. A trail crossing of Highway 10 should also be incorporated into the Highway 96/10 intersection when it is rebuilt.

Highway 10

There are two potential grade separated crossing locations along Highway 10: One, just south of Royal Hills Park and another within TCAAP, north of Highway 96. A minimum of one grade separated crossing should be built.

I-35W

There are two potential locations for pedestrian/bike bridges over I-35W. At least one crossing should be constructed. A significant option is to convert the existing railroad bridge located just north of I-694 to a pedestrian/bike trail crossing. This trail would connect the Round Lake area to the City of New Brighton trails and Long Lake Regional Park. A second trail bridge option is proposed to be located north of Highway 96 to connect the TCAAP area with Long Lake Regional Park and New Brighton.

Mpls., St. Paul & Sault St. Marie Railroad

Ramsey County proposes to construct a north-south trail crossing under the railroad tracks between the south section of Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park and Charles Perry Park/north section of Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park. This north-south trail link is very important as the railroad acts as a significant barrier between neighborhoods and park use. Railroad bridges on New Brighton Road and Old Snelling are too narrow for a widened shoulder and act as crossing barriers. These bridges should be widened to accommodate a widened shoulder or trail.

Trail Connections

Additional trails are needed to provide a comprehensive network of walk/bike ways and to connect the community together. These trails will function for recreation and as a non-motorized transportation alternative.

- A. Snelling/Old Highway 10 corridor from the Arden Hills/Roseville border to Highway 96
- B. County Road E between Old Snelling and TH51
- C. County Road E between Lake Johanna Blvd. and New Brighton Road
- D. Lake Johanna Blvd between Ramsey County -Tony Schmidt Park and the Roseville border to Northwestern College
- E. Crepeau Park on Tiller Lane to Hamline Avenue to the Roseville border
- F. Ingerson Road between Hamline Avenue and Lexington Avenue

- G. Pine Tree Drive between County Road E to Creapeau Park at Harriet Avenue
- H. Cleveland Avenue south of the Sampson/Hazelnut trail corridor to the Roseville border
- I. Along Valentine Road from Old Snelling to Mounds View High School
- J. South of Round Lake between I-35W and Old Highway 10
- K. From Floral Park on Hamline to County Road F to Lexington Avenue
- L. Along Highway 96 from I-35W to Lexington Avenue
- M. Within Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park
- N. Within Bethel and Northwestern Colleges
- O. Within TCAAP and along Rice Creek

Regional Trails

Three regional trail connections warrant special mention. These are key links to existing parks and trails and these connections should be implemented as soon as possible.

Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park Trail Underpass

The trail under the Mpls., St. Paul, Sault St. Marie railroad line is a crucial north-south connection within Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park. The underpass will link Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park with Charles Perry Park and the Ramsey County Open Space north of County Road E.

Rice Creek Park Trail Corridor

Rice Creek flows through the northwest corner of Arden Hills. Ramsey County has acquired many sections of the creek to the north and west of Arden Hills and has converted them into a linear park. The Ramsey County Parks Master Plan and the TCAAP Vento Re-use Master Plan call for incorporation of the section of Rice Creek in Arden Hills into the Regional Park. This will allow access to regional bike, walking and ski trails and canoeing on the creek.

Trail over I-35W

The existing railroad bridge over I-35W west of Round Lake should be converted into a pedestrian/bicycle bridge. The bridge is not used by the railroad and represents a rare opportunity for non-motorized crossing of I-35W. The trail bridge will link Arden Hills with New Brighton trails and Long Lake Regional Park.



Arden Oaks Park

Trail Surfacing

The choice of trail surface (i.e. bituminous, wood chips, mowed turf, gravel, etc.) affects use of the trail, cost of trail construction, trail character, aesthetics and trail maintenance. Arden Hills residents want a variety of trail surfaces. Based on responses to the public opinion survey, paved trails are the most popular trail surface, although there is considerable interest in non-paved surfaces (401 paved responses to 351 non-paved responses). The City should balance paved and unpaved trail surfacing. Trails along roads and trails making cross community or inter-City connections should be paved as should major loop or access paths within larger parks. Trails within natural areas and secondary trails should have a more natural surface (ag-lime, gravel, wood chip or mowed turf). The Arden Hills Parks and Trails Plan (Figure D) and the individual park renovation maps show the recommended trail locations and surface type.

Trail Maintenance and Replacement

Due to increased use, interest and expansion of trails, there is a need for a comprehensive trail maintenance and replacement plan. This plan would include annual maintenance (crack sealing, plowing, etc.) and scheduled pavement replacement. Winter walking is popular and there is more demand for snow plowing of trails during the winter. Equipment is needed to allow plowing of trails for winter use.

Parks and Trails Signs and Identification

Trail identification is needed as none of the trails in the City have names. Individual trails within the City should be given names and mile markers to help users find their way and assist with directions. This may also help the City with maintenance and response to emergency situations.

New park signage is also needed. Existing park signs are too small or non-existent. A common sign design should be developed and consistent parks and trails identification signs should be placed in the parks and along trail corridors.

A parks and trails system map was developed as part of the planning process. This map should be reproduced on weather and vandal resistant materials and displayed in the City parks and at major trail entrances. An overall parks and trails map will help residents find parks and trails and connect neighborhoods. Many residents are unaware of the existing parks and trails in Arden Hills. This map could also be copied as a handout guide for interested citizens.



Freeway Park

Park Renovation

The City of Arden Hills should continue to upgrade and renovate existing parks based upon a 5-10 year capital improvement plan and in an effort to meet changing demographics, public safety and the desires of the community. Maps indicating individual park improvement recommendations have been prepared based upon input received from the community through four public meetings, from service organizations and from the PTRC. The individual park maps are attached as Appendix D. The recommendations are intended to improve public safety, aesthetics, function and efficiency of individual parks. Future park improvements should be based upon these recommendations and funding supply. Individual park renovation recommendations are summarized below.

Comprehensive Approach to Renovation

The PTRC recommends that where possible, park renovation be done all at once in each park to minimize park disruption, reduce costs through efficiency of construction and improve park function. In the past, park renovation has occurred in a piecemeal fashion and has resulted in less than satisfactory results.

Park Renovation Recommendations (listed by park)

Arden Manor Park - Provide a new entrance drive, parking lot and trail connection when Highway 96 is upgraded. Add a looped trail around the pond and to the future TCAAP trails. Define edges of the park with new trees and landscaping. Add new shaded benches near park features. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide parks and trail identification.

Arden Oaks Park - Add a paved trail from north to south across the park to connect the park features to meet ADA accessibility requirements. Add benches and trash containers near the park features. Add trees and landscaping to provide shade, spatial definition and to improve aesthetics. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification.

Charles Perry Park – Add a bridge over the lower wetland. Move entrance drive to line up with Thom Drive. Add new warming house in close proximity to the skating rink (this will eliminate the conflict with skaters having to cross the entrance drive. Add a drinking fountain with jug filler. Pave the existing skating rink for inline skating and half court basketball). Add a new open skating area. Turn existing warming house into a storage shed. Add a paved trail connecting the parking lot to the play structure and a trail from the future picnic shelter to the unpaved trails below hill. Add a kiosk map and identification sign. Add benches and a picnic area/plaza. Realign unpaved trail onto park property. Work with Bethel College to provide access across and to the new sports complex. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification. Acquire the single family home nearest the park to accommodate future uses.

Chatham Trails – Realign trails where they cross private property. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification.

Crepeau Park - Add a new unpaved trail from Pine Tree Drive to Benton Way on the north side of the wetland. Add a new unpaved trail loop near southwest edge of Park. Add a children's play structure and picnic tables near entrance on Benton Way. Utilize the Dellwood right-of-way for an improved entrance. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification.

Cummings Park – Add a new unpaved looped trail near the lake. Add a paved trail connection to Wyncrest Circle. Provide directional signs on City streets to guide users to the park and parking area on Fair Issac’s property. Add parking/Trail Head near the City water tower south of the park. Replace the tennis courts with a parking lot with access off of Wyncrest Court. Add a bench on the new trail for lake viewing. Add a drinking fountain. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification.

Floral Park – The trail entrance in the northwest corner of the park is narrow, overgrown and in poor shape and should be reconstructed. Individual amenities within the park should be connected to trails for ADA accessibility. Additional unpaved looped trails should be constructed in the park to provide more walking and nature watching opportunities. The tennis courts should be reconstructed with a full basketball court. A new parking lot should be constructed in the center area of the park to provide better access to the ballfields and other park amenities. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification.

Freeway Park - Replace the warming house. Add a new paved parking lot off of County Road E. Add parking stalls off of Arden Place. Pave the hockey rink for year-round use. Add a paved trail and a half basketball court. Remove former street paving.

Hazelnut Park – Connect existing recreational features to paved trails for ADA accessibility. Add a trail connection to New Brighton Road. Replace the warming house with a new structure. Manage the woodlands to remove undesired species such as Buckthorn and Honeysuckle. Install shaded benches near recreational features. Add lights from parking lot to skating rink. Add a drinking fountain. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification.

Ingerson Park – Add a connecting trail to Lexington, Fernwood Court and Lake Lane, utilizing a sewer easement to Fernwood as a trail corridor and Lake Lane as a trail access point. Install a 9-hole disc golf course. Expand the parking lot. Connect all existing and future park features to paved trails for ADA accessibility. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification.

Lindey’s Triangle- Provide benches and park identification sign at the corner of Snelling and County Road E. Leave as unprogrammed open space. Install a paved trail segment connecting the Snelling cul-de-sac to County Road E.

Round Lake Park – Add a trail connecting Old Highway 10 to the trail west of Round Lake by easement or land acquisition. Add a parking lot at Parkshore Drive. Add community garden plots and soccer fields. Acquire more land for additional soccer fields as needed by the City. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification.

Royal Hills – Add a paved trail through the park. Add a tennis court adjacent to the existing court. Relocate the play equipment out of the sliding hill route. Move garden area towards the park entrance.

Sampson Park – Add landscaping within the park to provide interest and improve aesthetics. Detach the basketball court from the road pavement and replace with a trail segment. Add a sign and map at the park entrances to provide park and trail identification.

Sheehy Park – Add an unpaved trail across the park connecting Old Snelling Avenue with Ridgewood

Road. Maintain a mowed trail along Old Snelling Avenue. Add benches and create an overlook near the pond. Remove the existing damaged tennis courts.

Valentine Park – Add a looped trail around the inside of the park. Connect existing recreational features to paved trails for ADA accessibility. Reconfigure parking lot to detach park features from the parking lot pavement. Add a new warming house/picnic shelter. Move the half basketball court. Add a toilet screen and storm ponds.

Parks and Open Space Acquisitions

To improve the function of existing parks and to provide better service to certain neighborhoods, parks and open space acquisitions are recommended.

Dedication of parks, trails and open space on TCAAP is recommended in accordance with the Vento Re-use Master Plan and the City Comprehensive Plan.

Charles Perry Park - The residential property adjacent to Charles Perry should be acquired to minimize the potential conflict caused by reflected light, noise and trespassing while providing an opportunity to expand the recreational offerings in the park and to provide better park access.

Round Lake Park - The open land west of Round Lake Park should be acquired to provide adequate space for community soccer fields. The amount of property to acquire should be determined by the number and size of the fields needed. This land should be obtained by park dedication and acquisition as possible.

Round Lake Trail Easements- The remaining easements should be acquired to complete the trail around the west and south sides of Round Lake and make the trail connection to the I-35W railroad bridge (potential future trail crossing).

Cummings Park - Parking for Cummings Park currently occurs on Fair Issac's company parking lot. The City does not have a long-term agreement for continued use of that parking lot. A long-term use agreement should be obtained or the City should acquire other adjoining land to provide parking for Cummings Park.

Indoor Facilities

Although there was some interest in having indoor recreational facilities, community input determined that the facilities in surrounding communities and those provided by the Mounds View School District and Bethel and Northwestern Colleges were adequate. Within the community there was little support for spending tax dollars for a separate facility. Shoreview's Community Center and indoor swimming pool is located less than 3/4 mile to the east of Arden Hills and New Brighton's Family Service Center (gyms, exercise area and indoor children's play area) is located 1/3 mile to the west of Arden Hills.

Financing and Partnerships

Funding for the recommended improvement must come from a variety of sources, but the City of Arden Hills must take an aggressive and pro-active approach to park and trail improvement. In addition to City funds the following potential sources of funding are needed to achieve the vision established by the community and reflect in this plan. Potential funding sources are:

- City General Funds
- Park and Trail Dedication Funds
- Federal T-21 trail and pedestrian bridge funds
- Minnesota DNR Outdoor Recreation Grants
- Contributions from recreation and environmental groups
- Contributions from civic and service groups
- Cooperative projects and funding with local businesses
- Minnesota DNR Metro Greenway Grants
- Cooperative funding with Ramsey County and Ramsey County Parks
- Watershed Districts

Partnerships

Within the City of Arden Hills, there are great opportunities for public and private partnerships for shared use of parkland and private or corporate properties or partnerships with Bethel and Northwestern Colleges. In particular, it may be possible to improve upon the relationship between MSI Insurance and Crepeau Park to share parking and signage and to expand the facilities for both.

Similarly, partnerships with Bethel and Northwestern College should be made or improved to provide community use of trails and athletic facilities.

Other partnerships include working with the Rice Creek Watershed District, Ramsey County and the U.S. Army to complete missing sections of the Rice Creek Park and Trails and to hasten the release of TCAAP land. Furthermore, the City, MNDOT and Ramsey County should coordinate efforts to improve trails along county and state roads and within county parks to better respond to the community's desires.

Park Dedication Requirements and Policy

Arden Hills collects park dedications (either cash or land) from new subdivisions. The intent of the dedication requirement is to make sure that new development provides adequate park and recreation resources to meet the demand created by the new growth.

Park dedication funds are intended for park and trail land acquisition and development of new facilities. They should not be used for park facility replacement or maintenance. Arden Hills should accept cash park dedication in lieu of land for development south of TH96, except when there is the possibility and need to add land adjacent to existing parks. Park dedication north of TH96 (TCAAP) should be in accordance with the Vento Re-use Master

Because of the developed status of the City, park dedication funds are not anticipated to be a significant source of additional funding for park and trail improvements. The City may have to rely more on general funds and other revenues for needed replacement and improvements.

Implementation Recommendations 2002-2006

The following are the implementation actions recommended to the PTRC. These projects should be reviewed and adjusted annually. Funding should be secured and actions plans developed to assure implementation of these projects.

Trails

- Purchase a maintenance vehicle capable of both summer and winter trail maintenance. \$95,000.
- Railroad Bridge Crossing over I-35W. Work with MNDOT and the Railroad to utilize existing railroad bridge for a trail crossing over the interstate. (ISTEA Grant, funding from Arden Hills, New Brighton and Ramsey County). \$ to be determined.
- Assist with construction of a railroad underpass between Tony Schmidt and Perry Park (work with County and railroad). \$32,000 / City share.
- Charles Perry Park – Add a N-S trail connection with the county (pending county acquisition of underpass) from the railroad to Mounds View High School. Add a trail connection from parking lot to pump house. Replace bridge across wetland opposite pump house road. \$35,000.
- Lobby for a pedestrian/bike bridge/lanes over TH51 at County Road E. Work with county and state to move it to their priority list. \$0 - staff and committee time.
- Obtain the trail along County E built from Old Snelling to east of TH 51 (county project). \$ to be determined. City share if any of trail construction.
- Make trail connections from Tony Schmidt to the diagonal trail (trail should be named) through Sampson and Hazelnut Parks. \$20,000.
- Connect Crepeau Park to County Road E trail along Pine Tree Drive. \$30,000.
- Work with MNDOT to obtain trail crossings of TH96, including a grade separated crossing, to connect City Hall and TCAAP with the area south of TH96. \$ to be determined City share, if any.
- Work to complete a trail around the south end of Lake Johanna to Lydia Avenue. \$ to be determined.
- Round Lake Trail – Obtain remaining easements and complete the trail along west Round Lake. \$25,000.

Park Renovation

Note: Where possible, the PTRC recommends complete renovation of a park, rather than a piecemeal approach.

- Add new parks and trails signage at all parks and trails, have parks and trails system maps installed at key outdoor locations, and available at City Hall. \$22,000.
- Install ADA access upgrades (seek MnDNR grants) Connect park features with paved trails at Arden Oaks, Floral, Hazelnut, Ingerson and Valentine Parks. \$125,000.
- Charles Perry Park – Renovate the park including relocation of the access drive, a new warming house, shelter, trails, bridge, paved rink and tot lot, etc. \$350,000.
- Freeway Park – Add a parking lot and replace warming house. \$75,000.
- Hazelnut Park – Replace warming house and provide long- term parking. \$40,000.
- Ingerson Park – Add a disc golf course (partner with disc golf association. for design and partial funding). \$7,500.
- Valentine Park renovation – \$140,000.
- Cummings Park – Add directional signs to the park. Provide long-term parking. Signs \$750. Parking \$75,000.
- Add trees for shade at key locations and additional benches and picnic tables. \$10,000/year for three years.
- Crepeau Park – Work to create an integrated trail network, marked trails, defined entrance point(s) and an area trail and interpretive map/signs. \$5,000.

New parks and open space acquisition

Obtain long-term parking and access agreement for Cummings Parks (Fair Isaac). \$ if any to be determined.

TCAAP – Work with developers and the property owners to acquire trails corridors, neighborhoods and community parks and open spaces as per the park and trail master plan - as development occurs and opportunities arise. \$0 - staff and committee time.

Round Lake Park – Work with property owners to acquire additional land for multi-use athletic fields (principally soccer, lacrosse, rugby, football, etc.)

Partnerships

MNDOT & Ramsey County Transportation - Establish/enhance working relationships with MnDOT and Ramsey County Transportation and make sure the trail crossings and trail additions are in their transportation master plans, CIP's and are a priority for funding and implementation. On-going effort. Cooperate on joint funding applications (Federal T-21, etc.) Make sure trail crossings get incorporated into the TH96 reconstruction. \$0 - staff and committee time + any matching City funds for grants on a project-by-project basis.

TCAAP – Work with the land owner/manager to build trails, expand public access and build a joint athletic complex (with other partners). \$0 - staff and committee time.

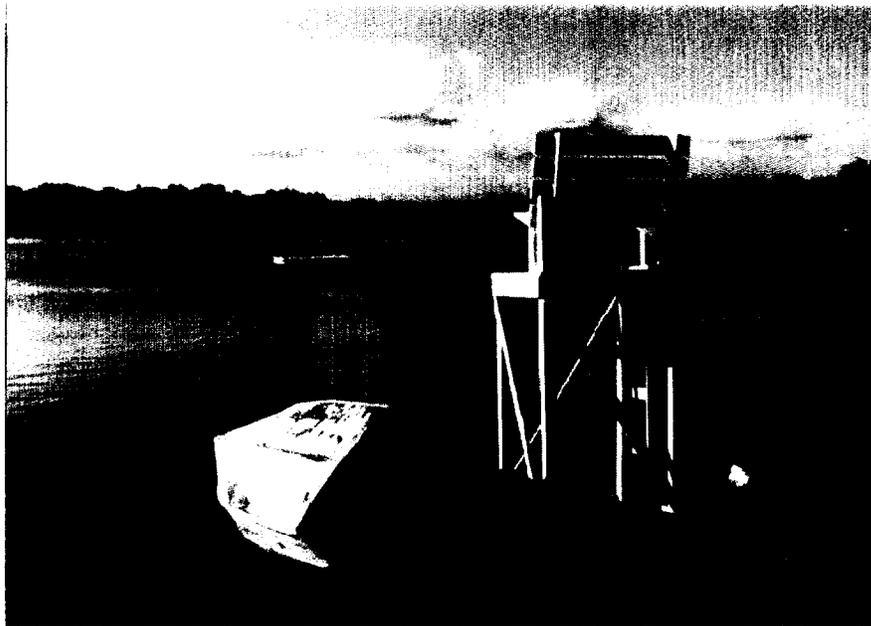
Ramsey County Parks – Work with Ramsey County to get implementation of Tony Schmidt Master Plan and Rice Creek Park trails. \$0 - staff and committee time.

Mounds View School District – Work with District to improve trails on school property. \$10,000.

Bethel and Northwestern Colleges – Work to expand and enhance public trail access. \$0 - staff and committee time.

Other

- Put together a 5-year CIP, based on these initial priorities and review and adjust it annually. \$0 – staff and committee time.
- Continue and expand woodland management/buckthorn removal, etc. (Chatham, Crepeau, Hazel-nut, Perry, etc.) \$7,500/year.



Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park - Lake Johanna

APPENDICES

A. Arden Hills Parks, Trails and Open Space Survey Results

B. Public Meeting Summaries

C. Trail Segment Analysis

D. Individual Park Maps and Renovation Recommendations

A. Arden Hills Parks, Trails and Open Space Survey Results

Introduction

In February 2001, the City of Arden Hills conducted a public opinion survey. The survey was designed to determine residents' attitudes about parks, recreation and open space issues and to help guide preparation of a parks, trails and open space plan for the City. The written survey was sent to 3,897 households and businesses in the City. A total of 593 completed surveys were returned resulting in a response rate of 15%. This is a higher than normal response rate for a mail-back survey and indicates a high level of interest in City parks, trails and open spaces. This high response gives the survey results a relatively high degree of accuracy. The margin of error of the survey is plus or minus 4%. The following is a summary of the findings, implications for the parks and trails plan and the results for each question.

1) Visitation

Of the 593 returned surveys, 45% of the participants used Arden Hills' parks and trails on a weekly basis, 21% on a monthly basis and 26% on a yearly basis. These percents remained mostly constant when broken into the four demographic areas: north, central, southeast and southwest. The frequency of park use among survey respondents is likely to be higher than the average resident's use of parks and trails. This is due to the possibility that park users were more likely to complete and return the survey than non-park users.

2) Barriers to participation

Only 8% of those surveyed said they had never used the parks and trails system. Of this 8%, the two most frequent explanations as to why the respondent had never used a park or trail were: 1) The respondent was unaware of parks and trails; or 2) The respondent was new to the community, which might also explain why they are unaware of the existing park and trail system. Overall, few barriers exist to participation.

Barriers to participation (# of responses):

Not aware of parks	16
Prefer other parks	7
Not interested	7
Parks hard to find	5
Inadequate transportation	1

3) Parks & Trails Use

Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park is the most frequently visited park in Arden Hills. The survey results indicate that residents from all areas of Arden Hills use Ramsey County - Tony Schmidt Park equally. Residents from all areas of the City also frequently use Cummings, Floral, Valentine, Hazelnut and Perry. As expected, the frequency of use for each park seems to be based on their specific amenities, size and loca-

tion. A smaller park such as Sampson is frequented more often by residents who live close to the park. Trail usage ranked high among those surveyed. However, many of those surveyed commented on the need to expand or improve the current park and trail network. Several respondents said that at times, trail users are forced to walk along busy or unsafe roadways to navigate the trail system.

Park Use (# of responses in order of most to least frequented)

1	City trails	235
2	Tony Schmidt	214
3	Cummings	174
4	Valentine	121
4	Floral	121
5	Hazelnut	117
5	Perry	117
6	Crepeau	71
7	Royal Hills	61
8	Ingerson	40
9	Freeway	35
10	Arden Oaks	29
11	Lindeys	23
11	Sampson	23
12	Arden Manor	11

4) Recreation Participation (in order of most frequented activities)

Walking and biking are by far the most popular recreation activities. Use of children’s playgrounds, nature areas and picnicking and bird watching are popular activities. Popular active recreation includes swimming, running/jogging, skating and hockey and team and informal sports. Arden Hills residents seem to prefer trails and passive parks use.

1	Walk/hike	482
2	Bike	313
3	Children’s playgrounds	253
4	Nature areas	199
5	Picnic	188
6	Swim	167
7	Jog/run	165
8	Ice skate/hockey	152
9	Bird watch	143
10	Organized sports	141
11	Informal sports	140
12	Tennis	123
13	Golf	122
14	Cross country ski	117
15	Inline skate	103
16	Outdoor court sports	91
17	Indoor court sports	64
18	Alternative sports	45

5) Desired Outdoor Recreation Elements (in order of respondents requests)

The most frequently requested recreation facilities are trails and passive parks.

1	Bike/walk trails	196
2	Natural areas	112
3	Ski trails	106
4	Golf course	82
5	Interpretive/historic areas	78
6	Swimming	64
7	Soccer fields	46
8	Picnic areas	36
8	Children's play areas	36
9	Baseball/softball fields	21

6) Satisfaction/Future Priorities (sorted by priority for the future)

Survey respondents are very satisfied with trails, parks, recreation programs, communications and park maintenance. They are less satisfied with the availability of indoor recreation facilities and special events. Recommended priorities for the future are trails, park maintenance and passive parks.

	Current Rating		Future Priority	
	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	High	Low
Trails	379 (73%)	143 (27%)	419 (89%)	54 (11%)
Park maintenance	414 (90%)	46 (10%)	297 (80%)	75 (20%)
Passive parks	355 (77%)	102 (23%)	313 (78%)	89 (22%)
Indoor recreation	209 (58%)	152 (42%)	224 (59%)	153 (41%)
Communications	341 (92%)	29 (8%)	183 (56%)	145 (44%)
Active parks	327 (82%)	70 (18%)	191 (53%)	172 (47%)
Rec. programs 6-12	260 (90%)	28 (10%)	123 (41%)	179 (59%)
Special events	209 (63%)	121 (27%)	120 (36%)	209 (64%)
Rec. programs U6	264 (89%)	34 (11%)	98 (33%)	203 (67%)
Rec. programs 19-64	223 (78%)	62 (22%)	101 (33%)	205 (67%)
Rec. programs 13-18	225 (85%)	39 (15%)	91 (31%)	200 (69%)
Rec. programs 65+	227 (83%)	46 (17%)	82 (28%)	213 (72%)
Average	(80%)	(20%)	(49%)	(51%)

7) Indoor Recreation Facility Needs

Respondents are interested in a fitness center, indoor track and swimming pool.

Fitness center	264
Run/walk track	223
Swimming	194
Golf practice	117
Gyms	109
Aerobics	108
Tennis	85

Climbing wall	83
Racquetball	79
Play equipment	77
Soccer	43
Auditorium	36
Skateboard	21

8) Support for Improvements (from highest to lowest amount of support -great and marginal support totaled)

There is community support for biking and walking trail additions, renovation of existing parks, improvements to passive parks and for acquisition of passive parks and open space lands. There is little support for acquisition of land for new athletic parks or for alternative forms of recreation.

	Great	Marginal	None
Bike/walk trail additions	298 (58%)	134 (26%)	78 (15%)
Renovate existing parks	134 (28%)	266 (55%)	87 (18%)
Improve exist. passive parks	183 (37%)	213 (43%)	100 (20%)
Acquire land for passive parks	154 (32%)	170 (35%)	162 (33%)
Improve exist. athletic complexes	76 (16%)	208 (45%)	180 (39%)
Acquire land for athletic parks	73 (15%)	158 (33%)	241 (51%)
More alternative recreation	56 (12%)	131 (28%)	288 (61%)

9) Household Age Distribution (# of persons)

0-5	122
6-11	167
12-19	252
20-29	101
30-39	158
40-49	332
50-64	390
65+	160

10) Types of Trail Surface Preferred

Paved trails are the most popular trail surface, although there is considerable interest in non-paved surfaces (401 paved responses vs. 351 non-paved responses). The City should balance paved and unpaved trail surfacing. Trails along roads and trails making cross community or inter-City connections should be paved as should major loop or access paths within larger parks. Trails within natural areas and secondary trails should have a more natural surface (ag-lime, gravel, wood chip or mowed turf).

Paved	401
Woodchip	159
Mowed grass	115
Crushed rock	77

11) Neighborhood Location of Respondents

Southwest	32%
North	31%
Southeast	16%
Central	21%

12) a. Concentrate on existing facilities

Survey respondents feel that the City should concentrate its efforts on improvement of existing recreation facilities vs. adding new parks.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
159	236	96	51	1
(71% Strongly Agree and Agree)			(9% Disagree and Strongly Disagree)	

b. Satisfied with rec. service and facilities for tax \$

Most residents are satisfied with the recreation value they receive for their tax dollar.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
87	305	94	62	12
(70% Strongly Agree and Agree)			(14% Disagree and Strongly Disagree)	

b1. Satisfied with service if fee increase

Fee increases would slightly diminish people's opinion of recreation value for their tax dollars.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
56	204	205	59	21
(48% Strongly Agree and Agree)			(15% Disagree and Strongly Disagree)	

b2. Satisfied with service if tax increase

A property tax increase would further diminish people's opinion of recreation value for their tax dollar. However, more people would still be satisfied than unsatisfied if a tax increase occurred for park and recreation purposes. There may be sufficient support for a future bond referendum for select trail and recreation improvements.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
57	143	185	102	58
(37% Strongly Agree and Agree)			(29% Disagree and Strongly Disagree)	

B. Community Meeting Summaries

Community Meeting Summaries - July 9-12, 2001

(#) indicates meeting number

Introduction -

Four community meetings were held during the week of July 9-12, 2001 at various locations around the City. Approximately 80 people attended the meetings. Meeting participants provided input regarding the overall City parks, trails and open space system and individual parks and trails. The community input is summarized below. This input combined with the April 2001 public opinion survey and interviews with stakeholders and affiliates will assist the Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee with preparation of the Arden Hills Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan.

General Comments –

Need Collaboration with Ramsey County colleges and school districts. (1,2,3,4)

Picnic Facilities (3)

- Add shelter, shade structures (3)

Save/conservate open space (4)

Indoor recreation needed for swimming and indoor track, art classes and history center (4)

Nature Center (1,2,3,4)

Keeping up the existing park system will be adequate (4)

Hwy 96 barrier to movement (When will trails be ready?) (4)

Finish Tony Schmidt system (trail connections to park along Lk. Johanna Blvd., etc) (2)

Plow trails in winter (4)

When will TCAAP be ready (4)

Trail/signage connections (4)

Trail/road crossing possibility at Hamline and Snelling RR bridge (3)

Bridge over highway 10 (2)

Cooperation with the colleges (1,2,3,4)

Park and Rec info pamphlets etc. out to community (3)

Feeling of neighborhoods being landlocked (2 & 3)

Focus on non-motorized trail connections (1)

Make bridges usable for pedestrians and bikes and skaters/rollerbladers. (1,2,3)

Loop bike route around Lake Josephine (1)

Create gathering places for kids within neighborhood parks (2)

Lindeys should stay a park (2)

County removed softball backstop in Tony Schmidt (2)

Storm water pond maintenance is needed - i.e. pond by Tiller Lane and south end of

Crepeau Park. Siltation and debris. Need maintenance plan involving City, homeowners, county and Rice Creek Watershed. Runoff comes from Lexington Avenue (1)

Crepeau as a neighborhood park w/play structure (2)

Lack of water supply at parks is not a priority issue for users.(1&2)

Large roads are barriers which require people to drive to reach nearby parks (1&2)

People aren't aware of the City parks and trails (1)

Better park identification signs are needed & signs showing trail connections, etc. (1,2,3)

Add "children playing" or "park - slow" traffic safety sign near the parks.(1)

Need safe access from neighborhoods to parks (3)

- Ingraham & Assoc. to help facilitate county involvement in Arden hills park improvements (2)
- Explore trail options w/west Lake Johanna (2)
 - alleviate problems w/“danger trails” (i.e. auto traffic conflicts, etc.)
 - displacement of trail users to Old Snelling and New Brighton Blvd.
- Loop trail needed to move trail users off streets (2&3)
- Skating trail/canal? (3)
- Site specific park amenities vs. generalized park amenities (3)
- Priority for a comprehensive trail system(w/ Ramsey Co. participation)
- Larger skating surfaces (3)
- Trail connections to North side of A.H. (and vice versa) (2)
- Round Lake polluted, no access (2)
- Limit Truck traffic on Johanna Lake Rd (vehicle weight limit) (2)
- Trail option south of Presbyterian homes (2)
- Fifty/fifty split for paved/ non-paved trails (2)
 - safety areas or specific use (ie biking) could be paved (2)
 - smaller/less traffic trails should be unpaved? (2)
- Emphasis on ease of use (2)
- Emphasis on connectivity (2)
- Off-leash dog park ? (2)
- No railroad gravel on trails for biking use! (2)
- Low desire for A.H. indoor recreation facility
- “Tear drops” to signify “park entrances” and usages (2)
 - used as traffic calming strategy along pedestrian thoroughfares.
- Help from Shoreview with trail connection to Shoreview (i.e. funding) (2)
- Partnerships with neighbor communities utilizing resources (3)

Site Specific Comments

Sampson Park-

- New playground structure is too small (2)
- designed for tots? (2)

Royal Hills Park -

- Trail connection to North Heights Church (4)
- Dog Waste container (4)
- B Ball Field – T ball only (4)
- Parking not sufficient / check on why no parking signs exist (4)

Valentine Park -

- Raise grade, effective drainage vs. incremental improvements (3)
- Park is integral to the community (3)
- Need path/entrance to park from neighborhood (3)
- Flooding of parking lot vs. infield/ grade issues (3)
- Picnic tables with shade (3)
- Swings (3)
- Reconsider layout of park (parking orientation parallel to Lake Valentine Road , grading etc...) (3)

Hazelnut Park -

- Need better maintenance of park land (2)
 - dead tree removal
 - trimming of trees / grasses
- Auto traffic on pedestrian trails is major problem (2)
- Hazelnut trails do not accommodate biking / roller blading, etc. (2)
- Wider trails (2)
- Need benches/seating (2)
- Invasive species problems / “Chinese elms” (2)
- Delineate sides of trail for “walkers”/ “bikers” (2)
- Fix dilapidated fencing (2)
- Hockey “dropoff” problem (2)
 - add lights from church parking to hockey rink
 - pave hockey rinks (3)
- Sledding / skating conflict (2)

Round Lake Park -

- Relocate A.H. community gardens to Round Lake (3)
- Leave as open space? (3)
- Trail link to the west (3)
 - to RR bridge and Long Lake

Charles Perry Park -

- Re-evaluate use of space during all seasons
- Off-road dirt bike trails (3)
- Portable skate parks
- Bridge easement issues / improve trails and access to park (2&3)
- Seating needed at new playground (2)
- Ages of play structures? (2)
- Water fountain? (2)
- Shelter shade structure? (2)
- Formal trail needed on south side? (2)
- Erosion problems (2)
- Road divides hockey rink and warming house (2&3)
- “No golfing” signage on west and south sides of park (2)
- Half court basketball w/backstop (2)
- Paved surface / courts inside hockey rinks for summer use (2&3)
- Park programming for Perry? (2)
- Location of play structure / safety issues / relocate closer to warming house (3)
- Add recreational skating rink? (3)
- Add bridge and trails across the swamp? (3)

Crepeau Park -

- Add a childrens play area for the Hunters Park Neighborhood (1)
- Add playground equip. by Benton Way (1)
- The wood chip trails are nice (1)
- Need Buckthorn (invasive species) removal and woodland management (1&2)

Boy Scout project (1)
-Bridge or stone crossing for wildlife (1)
- add bird houses (1)
-Re-plant prairie area (1)
MSI restricts bike and inline trail use
Water off Lexington-weeds (2)
-Water quality-erosion
-Management/maintenance of storm ponds
Add picnic tables and trash cans (1)
A trail map is needed (1)
Species diversity (2)

Ingerson Park -

Can a “back way” (easement) trail to Ingerson Park be found? (1)
Keep the sliding hill (1)
Frisbee golf might be a good use if it does not interfere with sliding (1)

Lindey’s Triangle Park -

Keep Lindey’s as a park, replace the backstop (1)
Keep it for flexible open play space (1&2)
Kites (2)
Soccer (2)
Parking issues (2)
Lacrosse (2)
Softball (2)
Add an exercise station (1&2)
Parking can be a problem on the street (1)
Need park sign. (2)
Need traffic sign for park (2)
Sitting benches on hill overlooking Lindey’s Triangle (in between crab trees) (4)

Freeway Park -

Parking is dangerous in the winter, need a barrier between the rinks and the parking area (1)
Need security lighting in the lower area (1)
Need protective fencing around the hockey rink (1)
Add a tennis court and backboard (1)
The path to the ice rink is steep and icy (1)
Pave the rink for summer use (1)
Have a full court basketball in the lower area (1)
Need guard rails between the TH51 southbound entrance ramp and the park (1)
Add park safety sign on Co. Rd. E (1)
Balance open skating and parking (1)
Barriers / guard rail for ramp (1)

Chatham Trails -

- Trail surface unpaved, but not dirt (3)
- Maintain mixed trail surfaces paved/unpaved (3)
- Trail to Venus Ave (3)
 - priority for surface upgrade
 - currently used by many groups
- Ongoing community involvement/volunteering (3)
- Lacrosse/soccer field use (3)

Cummings Park -

- No water in the park (4)
- Limited parking / need more (4)
- Signage (4)

Floral Park -

- Long walk to ball field (4)
- Parking (4)
- Water? (4)
- North / West trail connection (4)
- Water problem/ highway rain (4)
- Drainage issue on trails (4)
- More tennis courts (4)

C. Trail Segment Analysis

Individual trails within the City were rated by members of the PTRC based on a variety of criteria: (See Trail Identification Map)

Trail Segment A (Orange), North Snelling Avenue to Highway 96

Roughly a mile of bituminous trail located in a valley between residential back yards. The trail has been rated well, although it is recommended that additional resting areas be considered and landscaping to provide some separation from back yards where appropriate.

Trail Segment B (DK Blue), Lake Johanna Blvd

Lake Johanna Blvd is a paved shoulder trail on a county road. The trail is well used and the traffic levels are high. The surface condition of the trail has been rated as below average. The City should work with the county to provide adequate maintenance of the trail and to provide a detached trail where possible, work to reroute truck traffic to other roads, and maintain lower speeds. This trail has great potential as Lake Johanna Blvd. will need reconstructing in the near future. The City should partner and work with Ramsey County, Northwestern College and MNDOT to provide a looped trail around Lake Johanna.

Trail Segment C (Red), Sampson / Hazelnut Trail

The bituminous trail is well maintained with only a few cracks and damaged areas and is aesthetically pleasing. The trail terminates with a flower garden at Cleveland Avenue. The trail accesses Sampson and Hazelnut Parks where there is adequate seating and facilities. A trail sign and map is recommended at the trail ends with landscaping.

Trail Segment D (Peach) New Brighton Road to County Road E

This trail is a narrow paved shoulder. The pavement narrows at the railroad bridge and is dangerous. It is recommended that this trail be upgraded when New Brighton Road or the railroad bridge are reconstructed. Segments of this trail should be detached from the roadbed as possible. This project will require a working relationship with the railroad and Ramsey County.

Trail Segment N/A, Trail in Sampson / Hazelnut Trail

The bituminous trail received an above average rating. The surface is rough for inline skating, but has adequate width and length. Maintenance was rated as poor with erosion deposits in low areas. There are adequate resting places, however, the benches appear to be unused. Relocation of the benches should be considered. The aesthetic appearance of the trail corridor was poorly rated. Improved landscaping is recommended.

Trail Segment E (Green), Cummings to Floral Park

The bituminous trail is varied in topography, partially shaded with good views, wild in appearance with adequately spaced and located resting areas. The trail surface is cracked and the trail is slightly overgrown with vegetation. The crossing at Hamline Avenue is difficult in spite of striped crosswalk. Maintenance is relatively good.

Trail Segment F (Magenta), Lexington Ave from County Road F to Tamarack

The detached bituminous trail is in average condition with some cracks and settling. There are no planned resting areas except for bus stops along the route. Landscaping is recommended to provide screening, traffic separation and seating areas where appropriate.

Trail Segment G (Brown), Hamline Avenue - Highway 96 to W. Floral Drive

Trail Segment H (Rust), West of Round Lake

Trail Segment I (Yellow), Valentine Lake Drive

Trail Segment J (Aqua), Highway 96



LEGEND

EXISTING TRAILS

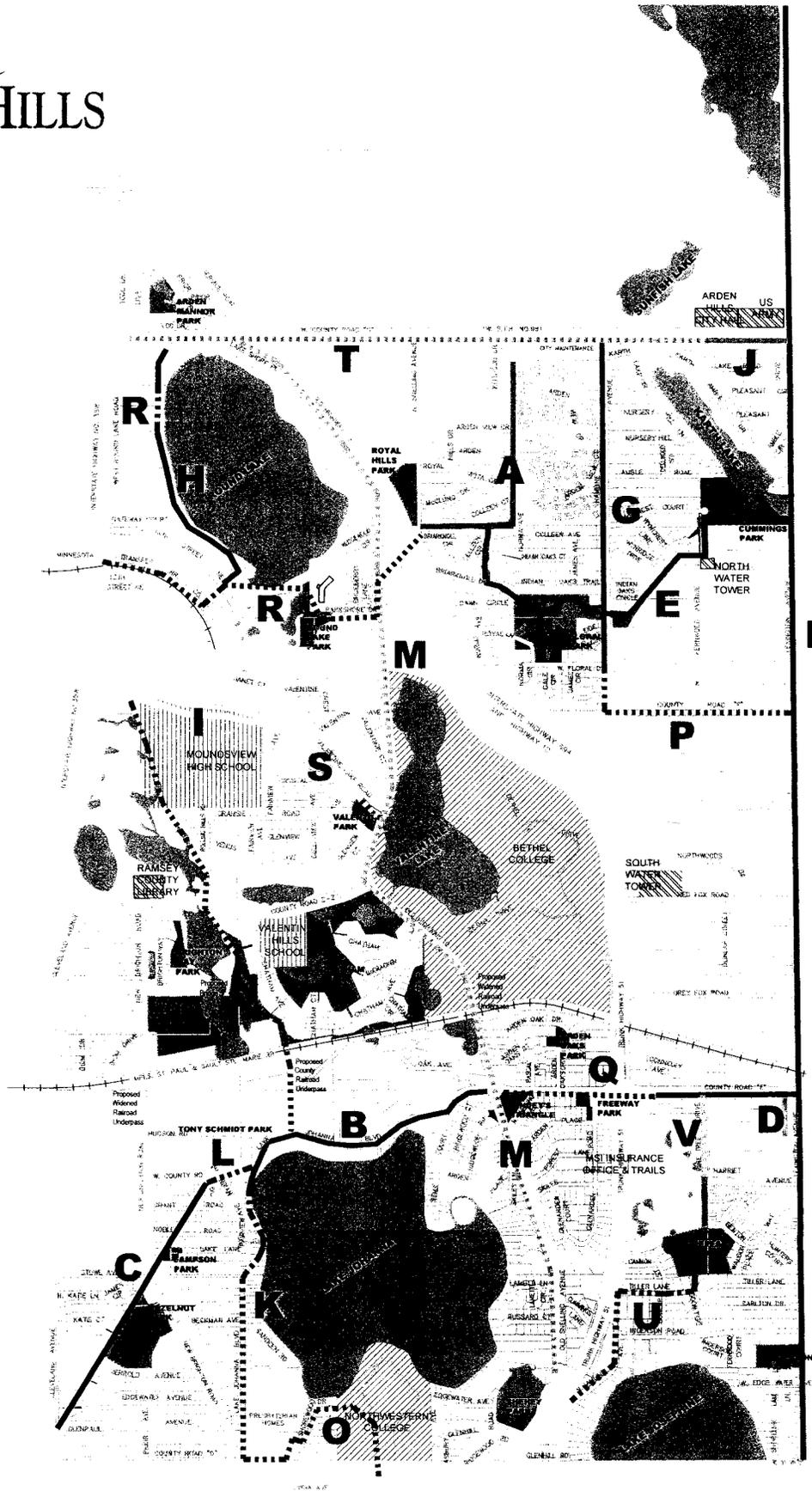
- TRAIL SEGMENT A
- TRAIL SEGMENT B
- TRAIL SEGMENT C
- TRAIL SEGMENT D
- TRAIL SEGMENT E
- TRAIL SEGMENT F
- TRAIL SEGMENT G
- TRAIL SEGMENT H
- TRAIL SEGMENT I
- TRAIL SEGMENT J

PROPOSED TRAILS

- TRAIL SEGMENT K
- TRAIL SEGMENT L
- TRAIL SEGMENT M
- TRAIL SEGMENT N
- TRAIL SEGMENT O
- TRAIL SEGMENT P
- TRAIL SEGMENT Q
- TRAIL SEGMENT R
- TRAIL SEGMENT S
- TRAIL SEGMENT T
- TRAIL SEGMENT U
- TRAIL SEGMENT V



DRAWING
NOT TO
SCALE



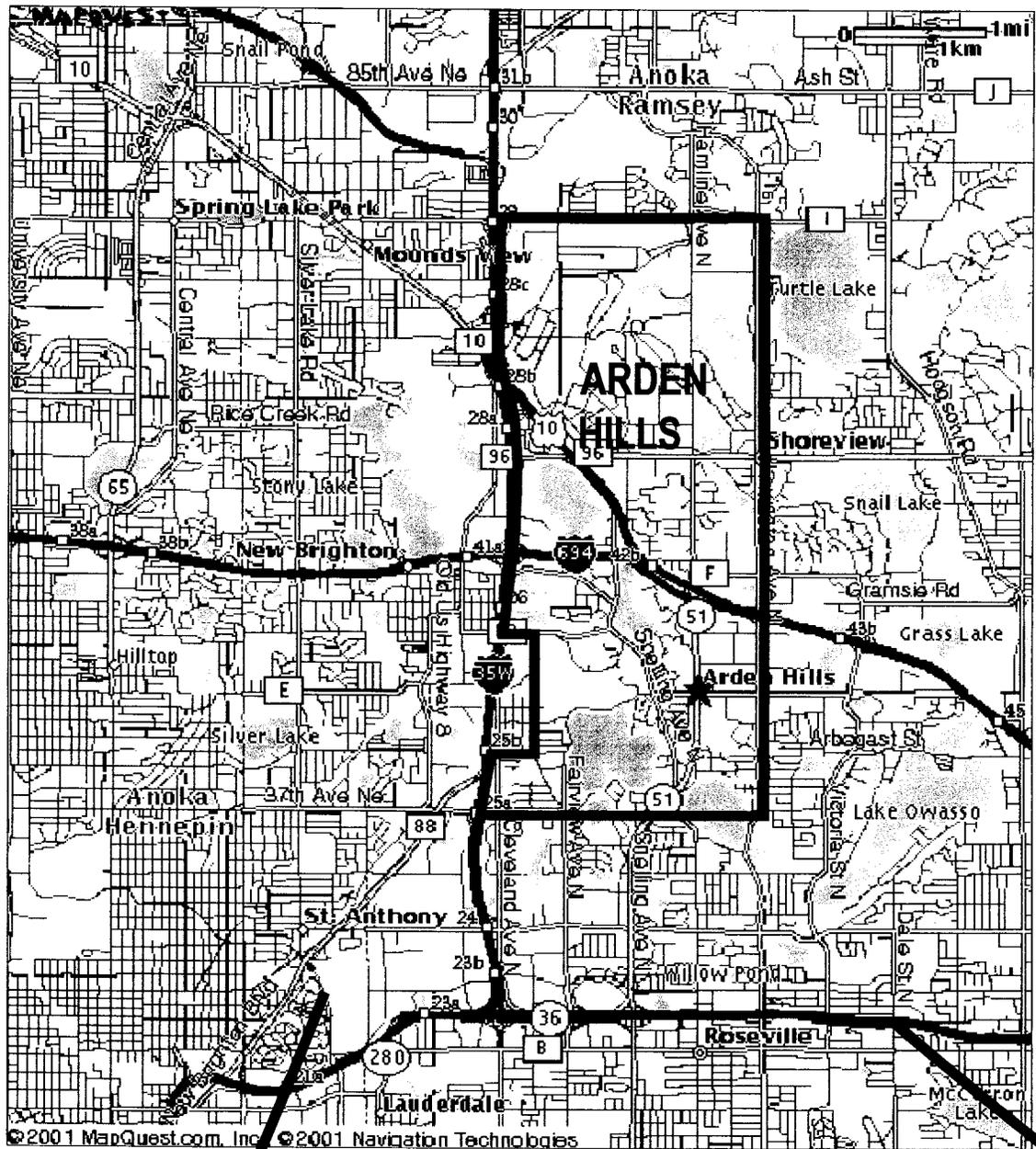
ardenparks2
SJW
10/1/01

Trail Identification
Map

City of Arden Hills
Parks and Recreation

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1510 Como Avenue Southeast
Minneapolis Minnesota 55414
p 612/377-2500 1377-1010
www.ingram-associates.com

Figure A - City Location Map



MINNEAPOLIS

ST. PAUL



AH-LOCMAP
 SJW
 11/24/01

Arden Hills
 Location Map

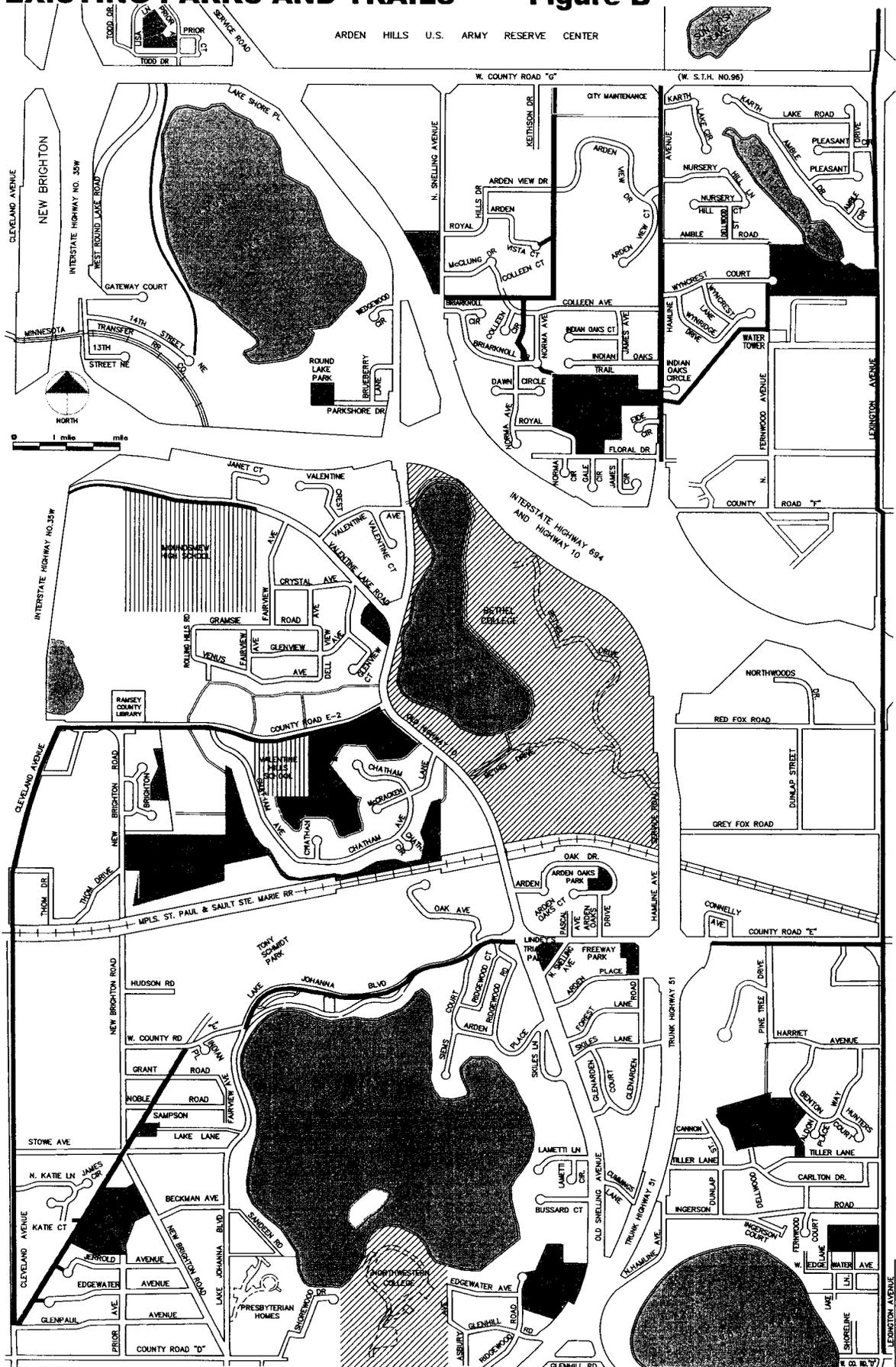
City of Arden Hills
 Parks and Recreation
 Figure A

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EXISTING PARKS AND TRAILS

Figure B

ARDEN HILLS U.S. ARMY RESERVE CENTER



- City Parks
- Ramsey Co. Park And Open Spaces
- 621 School District
- Private Colleges
- Asphalt Trails & Walks
- Grass Hiking Trails
- Existing On-Road Bike Lanes
- Private Road
- Rail Roads

CITY OF ARDEN HILLS
 PARKS AND RECREATION
 PARK AND TRAIL SYSTEM

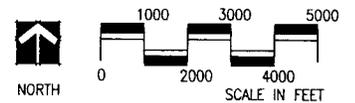
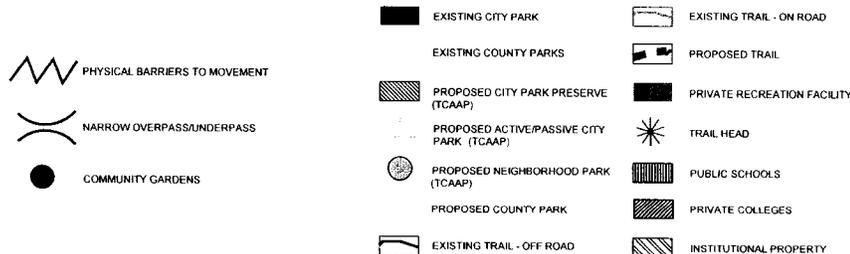
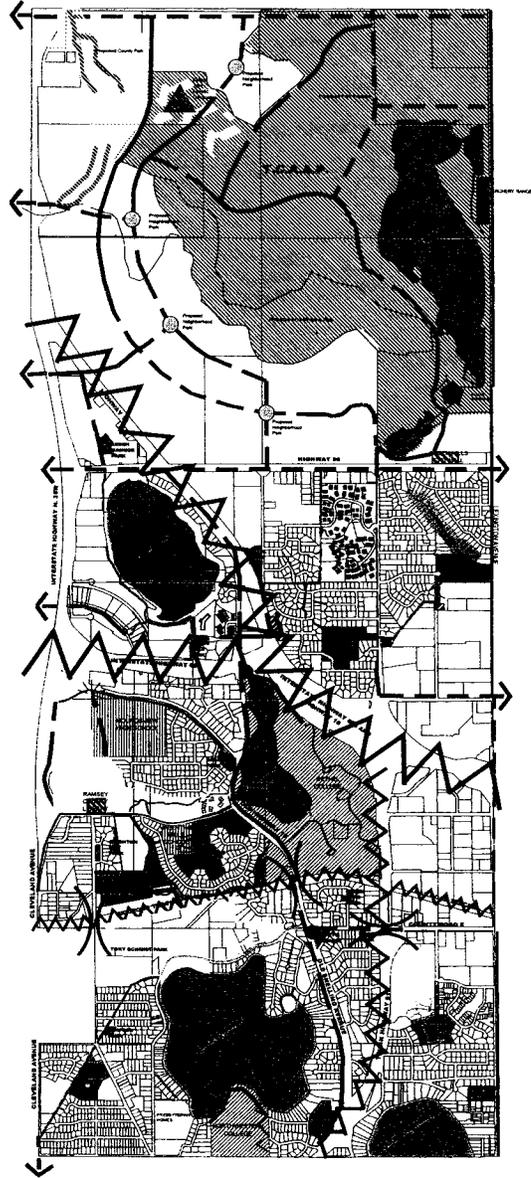


ISSUES

- 1) Highways 10, I-694, Hamline Avenue create physical barrier to movement.
- 2) Pedestrian access across TH 51 on County Road E inadequate.
- 3) Pedestrian access across major roadways difficult.
- 4) Railroad creates a physical barrier to movement.
- 5) New Brighton Road/Railroad underpass too narrow to accommodate trail access.
- 6) Park and Trail signs difficult to read or do not exist.
- 7) Trails incomplete around Valentine Lake.
- 8) Trails not interconnected.
- 9) Continued high quality of park and trail maintenance.
- 10) ADA accessibility improvements.
- 11) Park revitalization.

OPPORTUNITIES

- 1) Connect existing trails to each other and to isolated neighborhoods within the City.
- 2) Work with Ramsey County, the Rice Creek Watershed District and other stake holders to connect Rice Creek Park and Trails and to implement the T.C.A.A.P. plan.
- 3) Develop consistent trail and park signage and identify individual trails.
- 4) Create trail connections to Rice Creek trails, Snail Lake Regional Park and other neighboring city trails.
- 5) Utilize railroad bridges for trail connections over Highway 10 and I-35W.
- 6) Encourage Ramsey County to implement a trail connection between Lake Valentine Road and Tony Schmidt Park.
- 7) Explore opportunities for a trail connection over Highway 10.
- 8) Work with Northwestern and Bethel Colleges to remove barriers to access trails.
- 9) Open space and environmental enhancements - ie. Crepeau Park and others.
- 10) Continual business support of parks and recreation.




 ISSUES MAP.DWG
 1/30/01
 SW

Issues & Ideas
Map

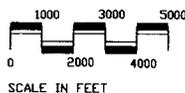
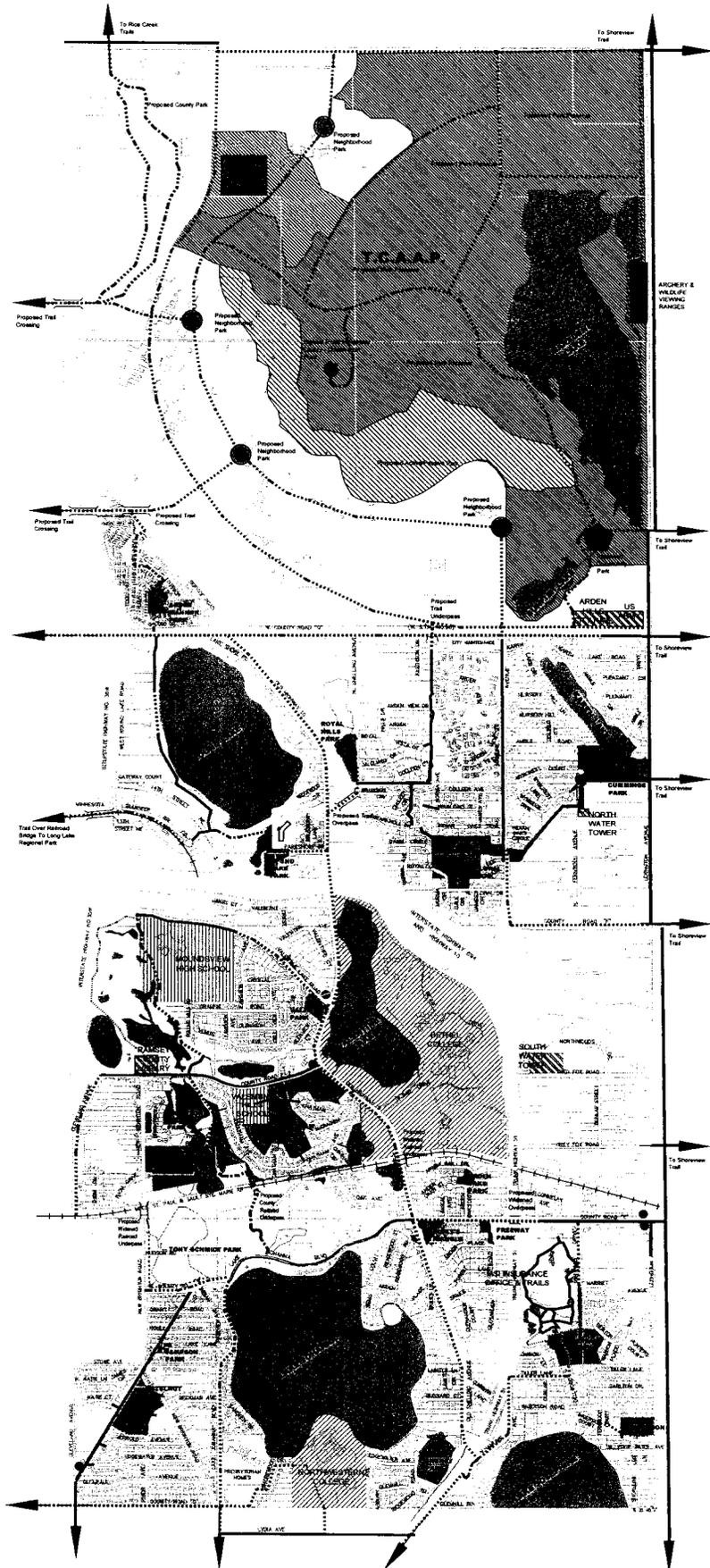
City of Arden Hills
Parks & Recreation
Figure C

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LEGEND

- EXISTING CITY PARK
- EXISTING COUNTY PARKS
- PROPOSED NEIGHBORHOOD PARK (TCAAP)
- PROPOSED CITY PARK PRESERVE (TCAAP)
- PROPOSED COMMUNITY PARK (TCAAP)
- PROPOSED ACTIVE/PASSIVE CITY PARK (TCAAP)
- PROPOSED COUNTY PARK
- EXISTING PAVED TRAIL - CITY
- EXISTING PAVED SHOULDER - COUNTY
- UNPAVED TRAIL
- PROPOSED UNPAVED TRAIL
- PROPOSED TRAIL - CITY
- PROPOSED TRAIL - COUNTY
- OTHER RECREATION FACILITY
- PUBLIC SCHOOLS
- PRIVATE COLLEGES
- INSTITUTIONAL PROPERTY
- COMMUNITY GARDENS

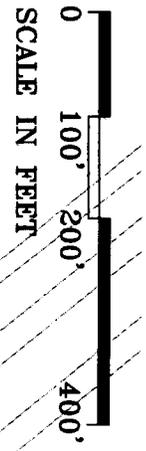
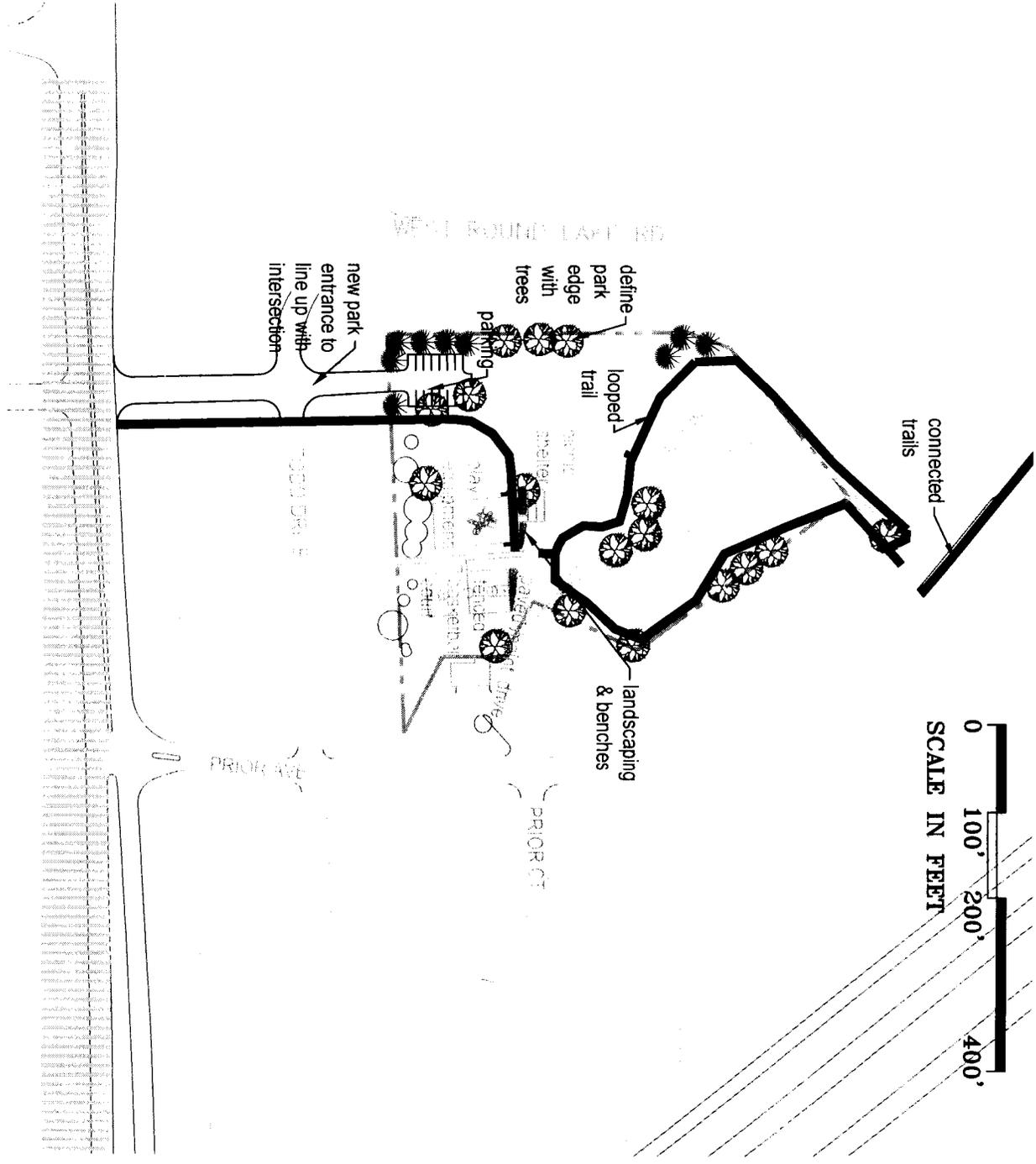


ardenparks3
 SJW
 11/28/01

Comprehensive
 Parks, Trails &
 Open Space Plan

City of Arden Hills
 Parks and Recreation
 Figure D

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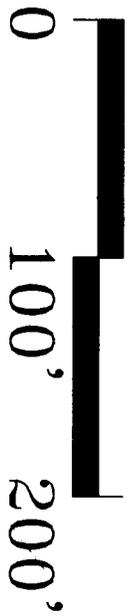
Arden Manor Park
Proposed Improvements

City of Arden Hills
Parks and Recreation

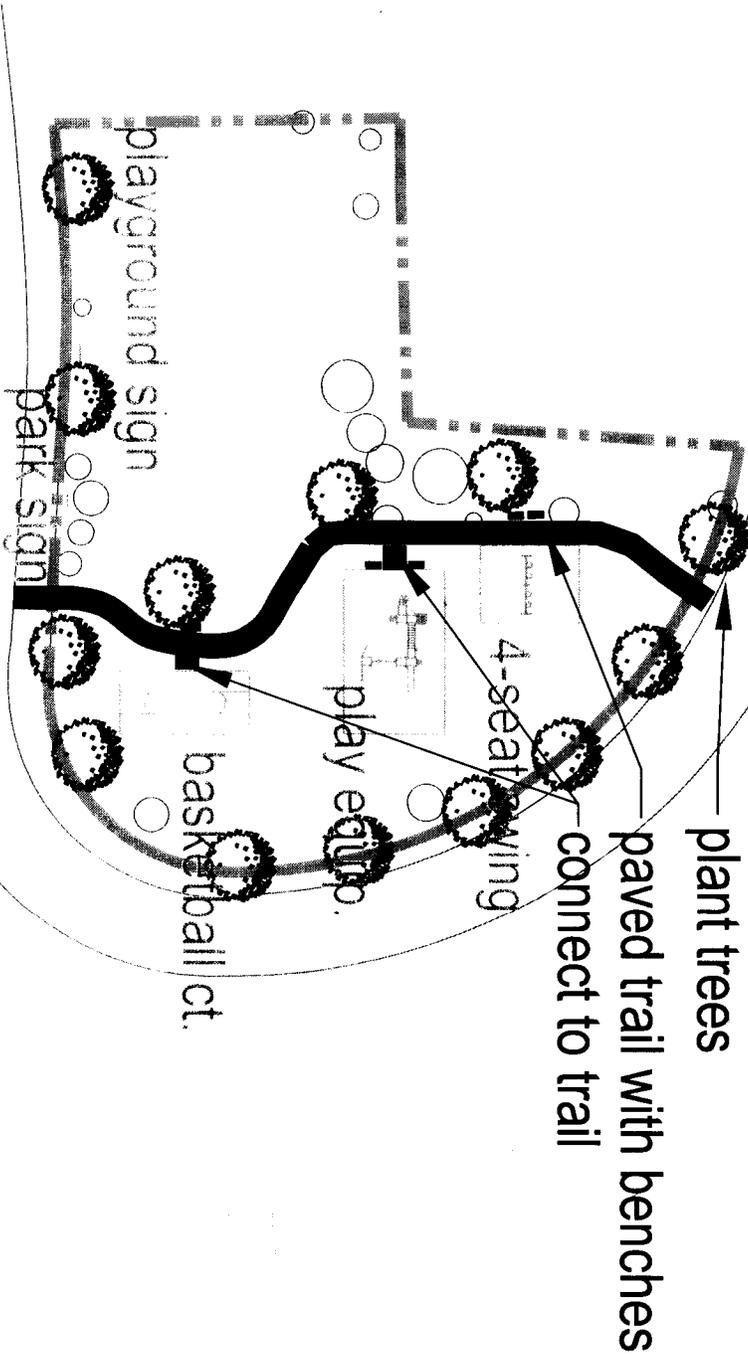
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NORTH



ARDEN OAK DRIVE
SCALE IN FEET



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SJW
8/24/01

Arden Oaks Park
Proposed Improvements

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NORTH

NEW BRIGHTON ROAD

future land acquisition possible uses: skate park, half-court volleyball, relocated more parking

pave rink for in-line hockey or for skate park use

new warming & open skating house into a shed

remove berms

add lot playground

add benches with shade trees add kiosk/picnic map

connect trails add picnic area/plaza water fountain

TONY SCHMIDT PARK

0 100' 200' SCALE IN FEET



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8/24/01

Charles Perry Park
Proposed Improvements

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NORTH



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Charles Perry Park
 Proposed Improvements

City of Arden Hills
 Parks and Recreation

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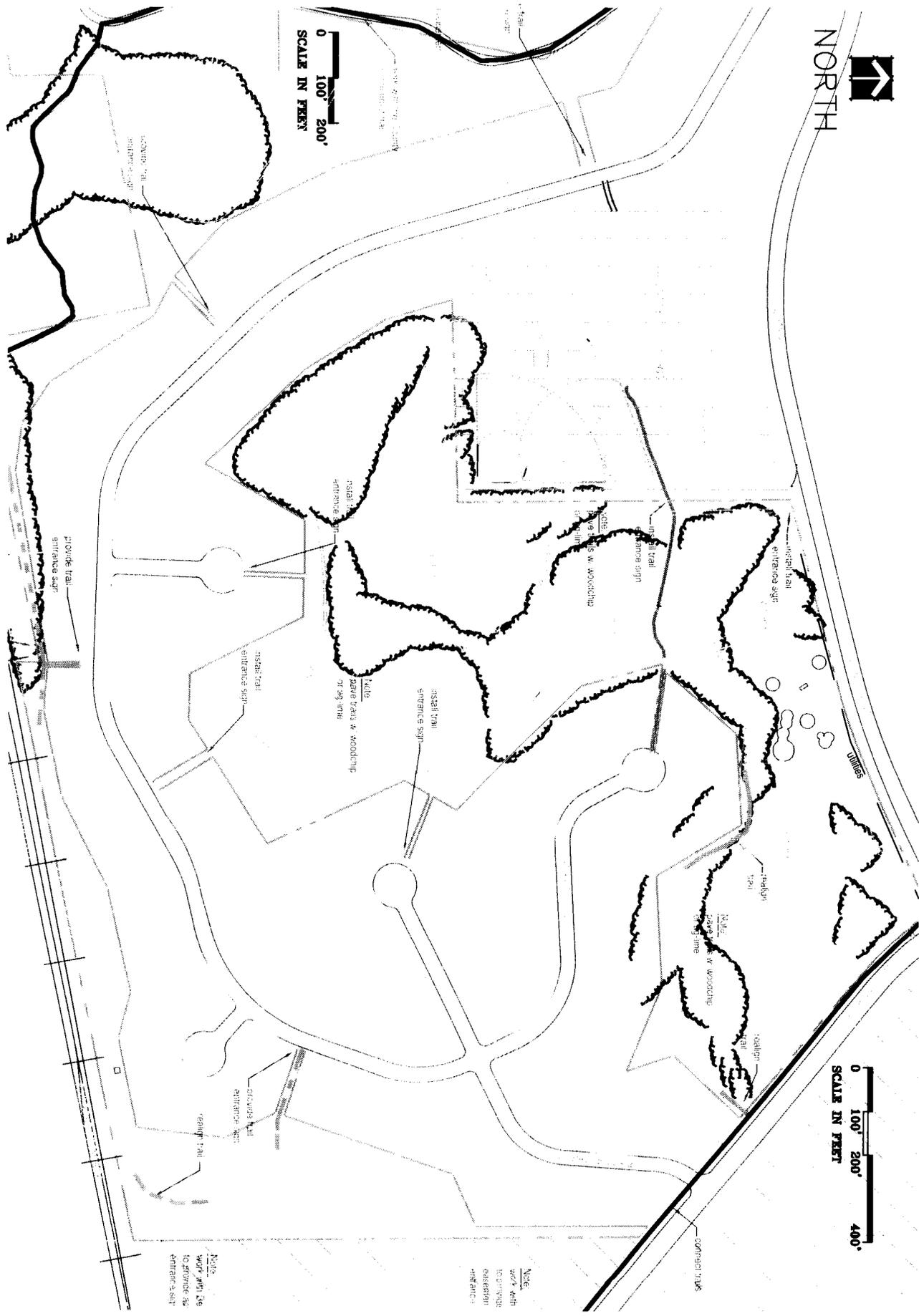
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NORTH

SCALE IN FEET
0 100' 200'

SCALE IN FEET
0 100' 200' 400'



Note:
Work with USGS
to determine the
elevation and area.

Note:
Work with
USGS to determine
elevation
and area.



ardenparks
SJW
8/24/01

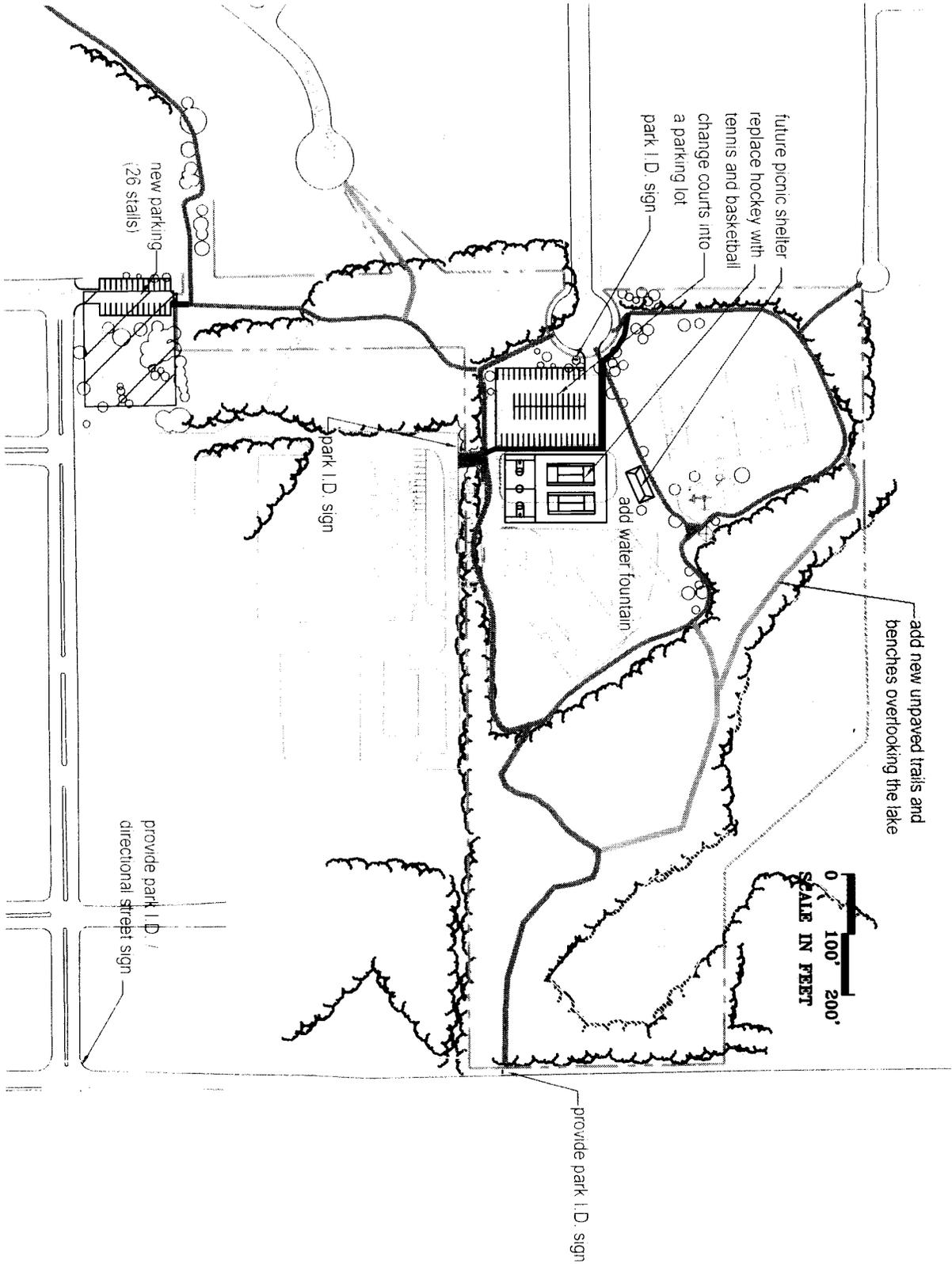
Chatham Trails
Proposed Improvements

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NORTH



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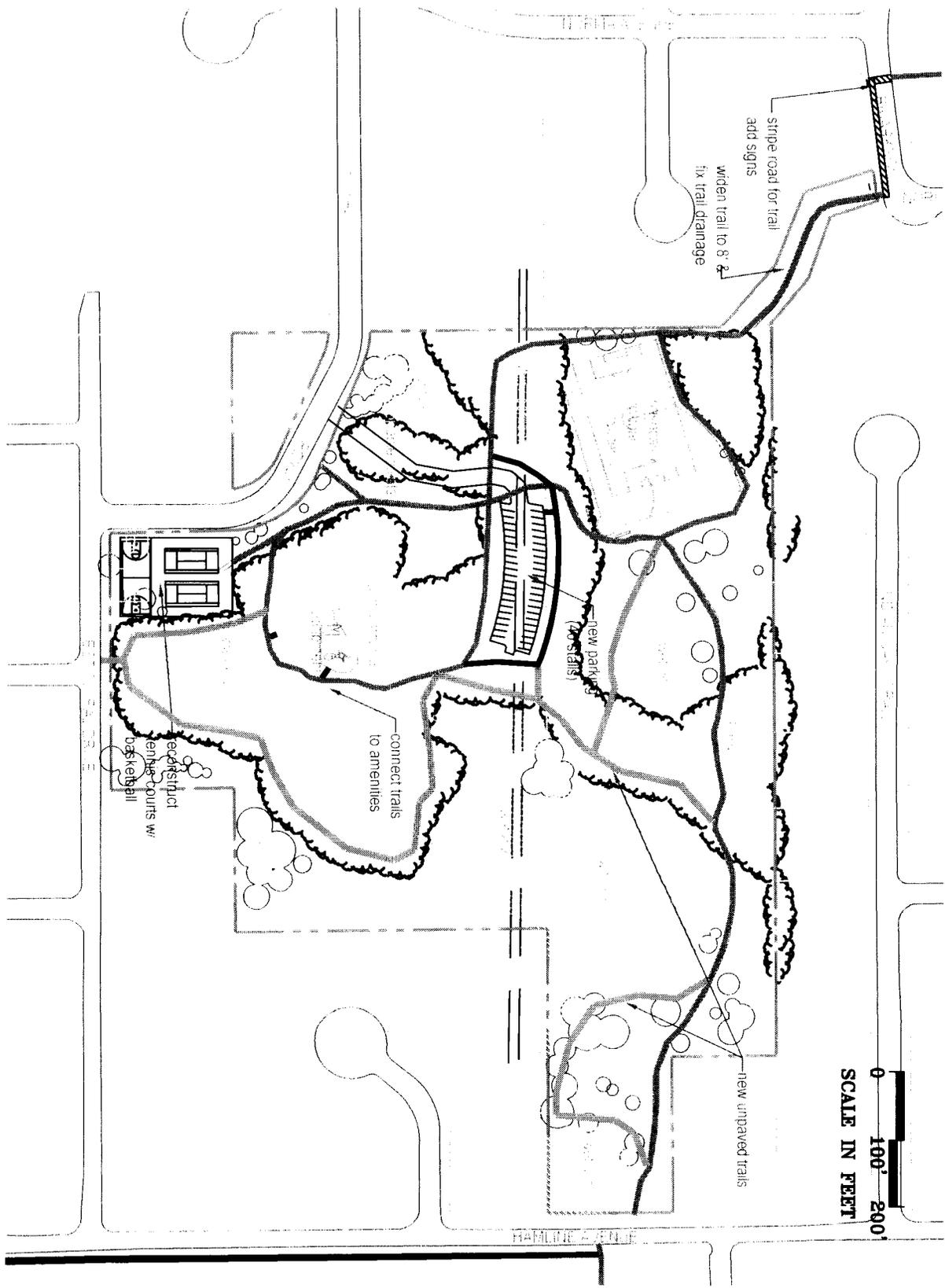
Cummings Park
Proposed Improvements

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Parks and Recreation

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NORTH



0
100'
200'

SCALE IN FEET



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Floral Park
Proposed Improvements

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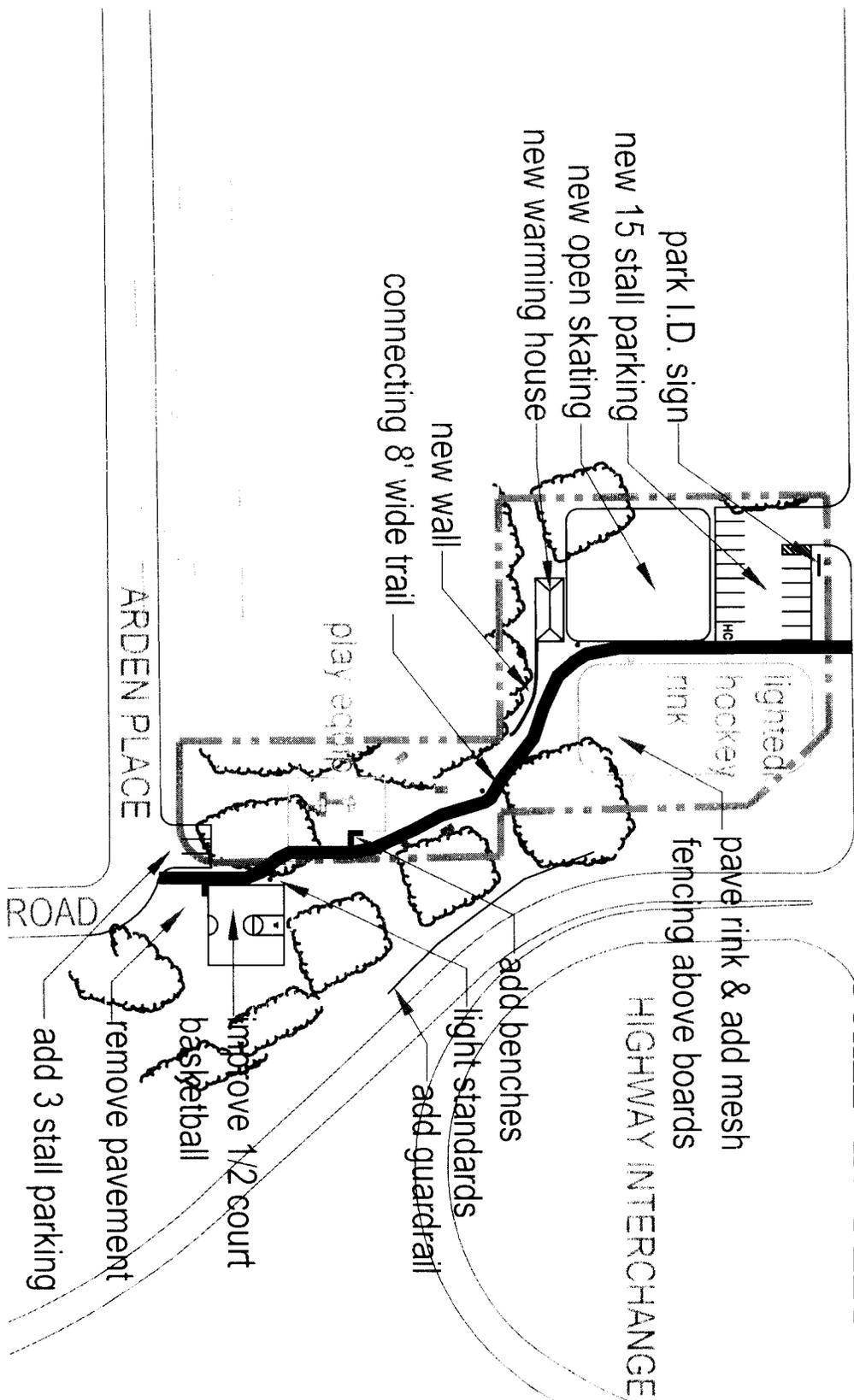


NORTH

COUNTY ROAD

SCALE IN FEET
0 100' 200'

HIGHWAY INTERCHANGE



ardenparks
SJW
8/24/01

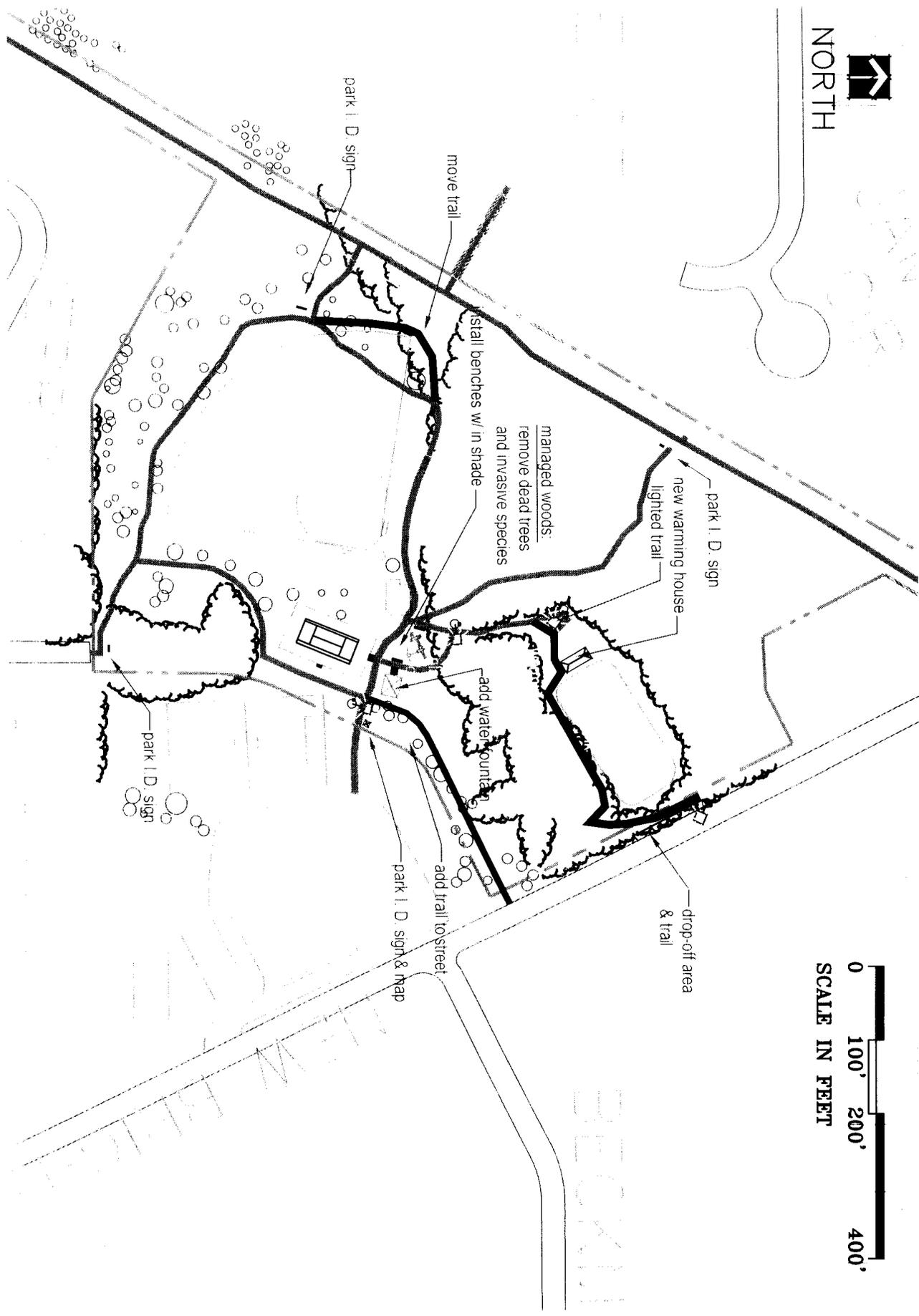
Freeway Park
Proposed Improvements

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NORTH



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Hazelnut Park
Proposed Improvements

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NORTH

FERNWOOD CT

provide new park entrance
trail on sewer easement

provide alternate
neighborhood access

INGERSON ROAD

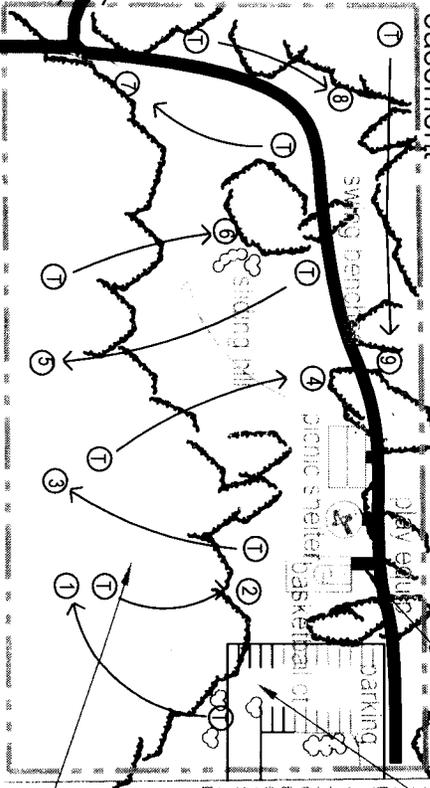
LEXINGTON AVENUE

install a 9-hole
disc golf course

expand parking

connect amenities
with trail

SCALE IN FEET

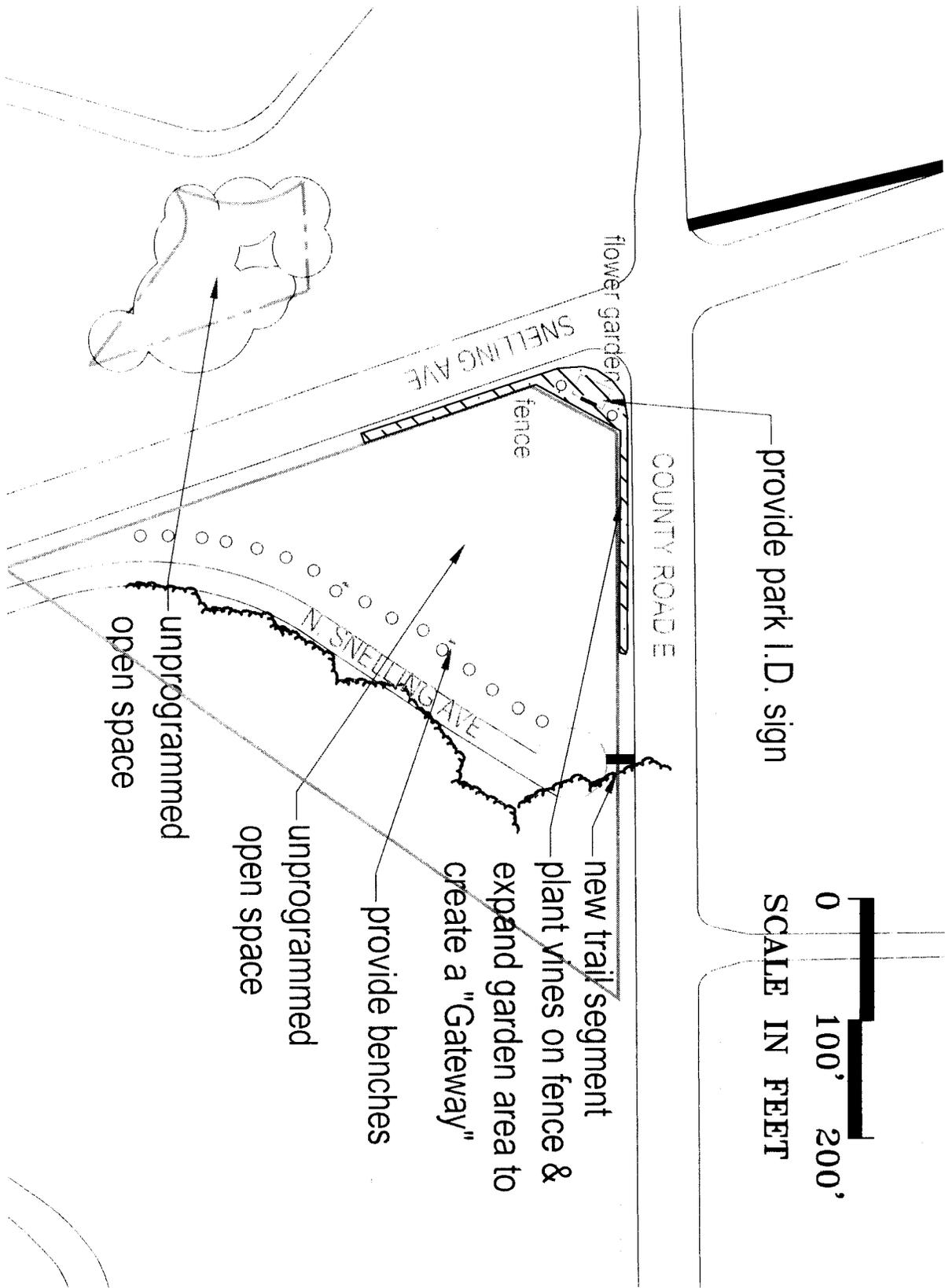


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Ingerson Park
Proposed Improvements

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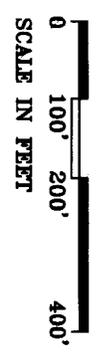
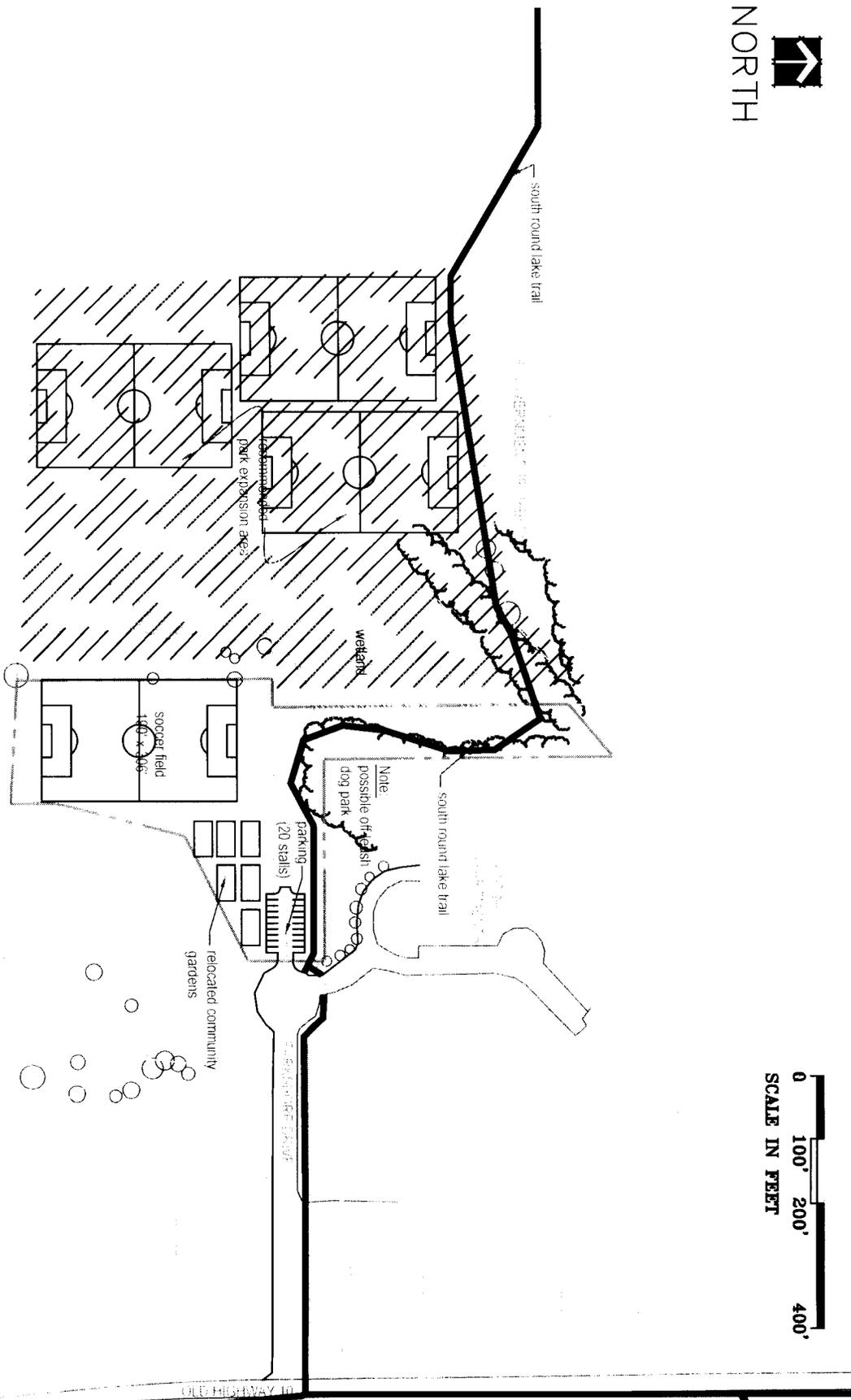


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Lindey's Triangle Park
 Proposed Improvements

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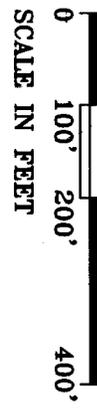
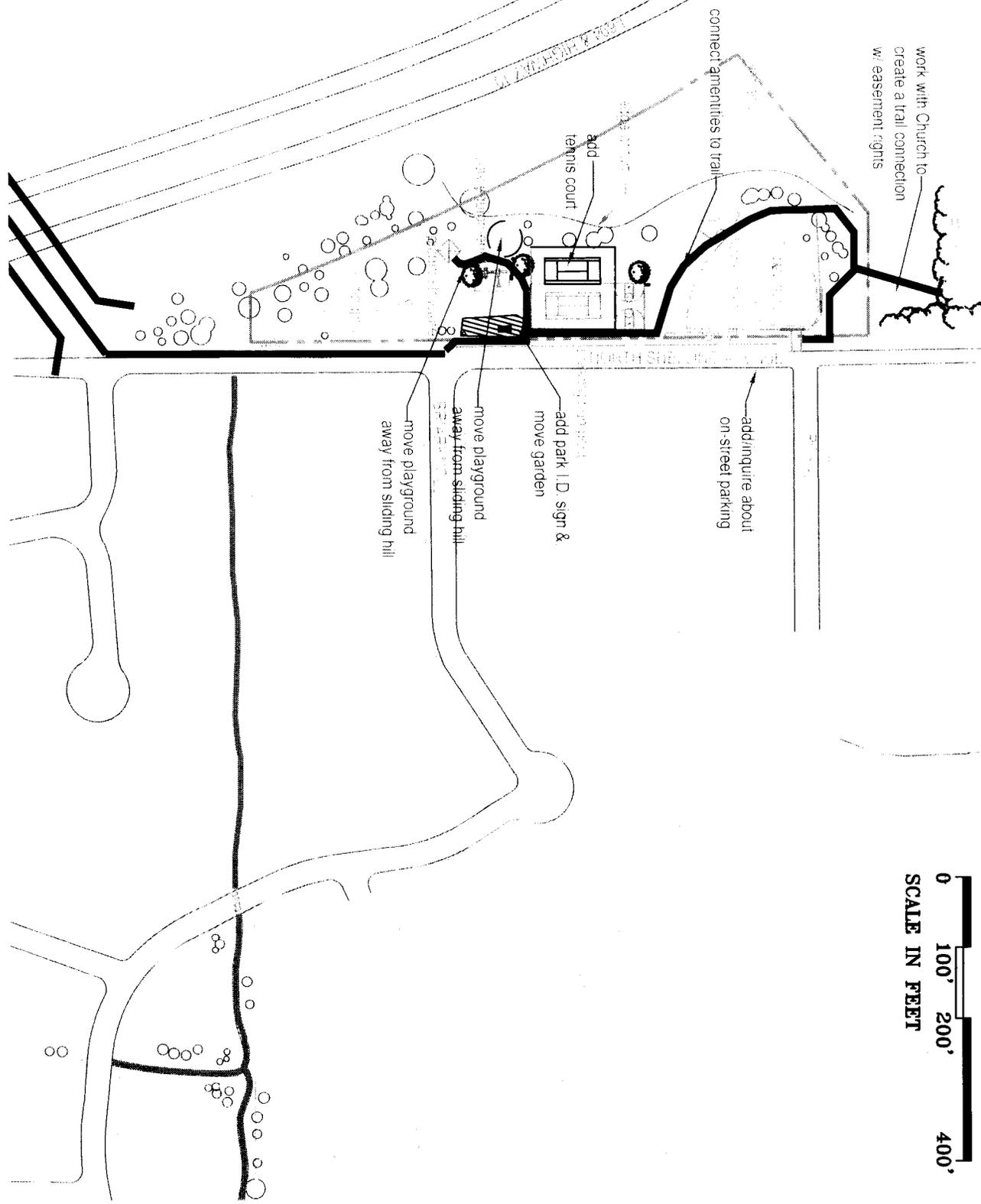
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Round Lake Park
Proposed Improvements

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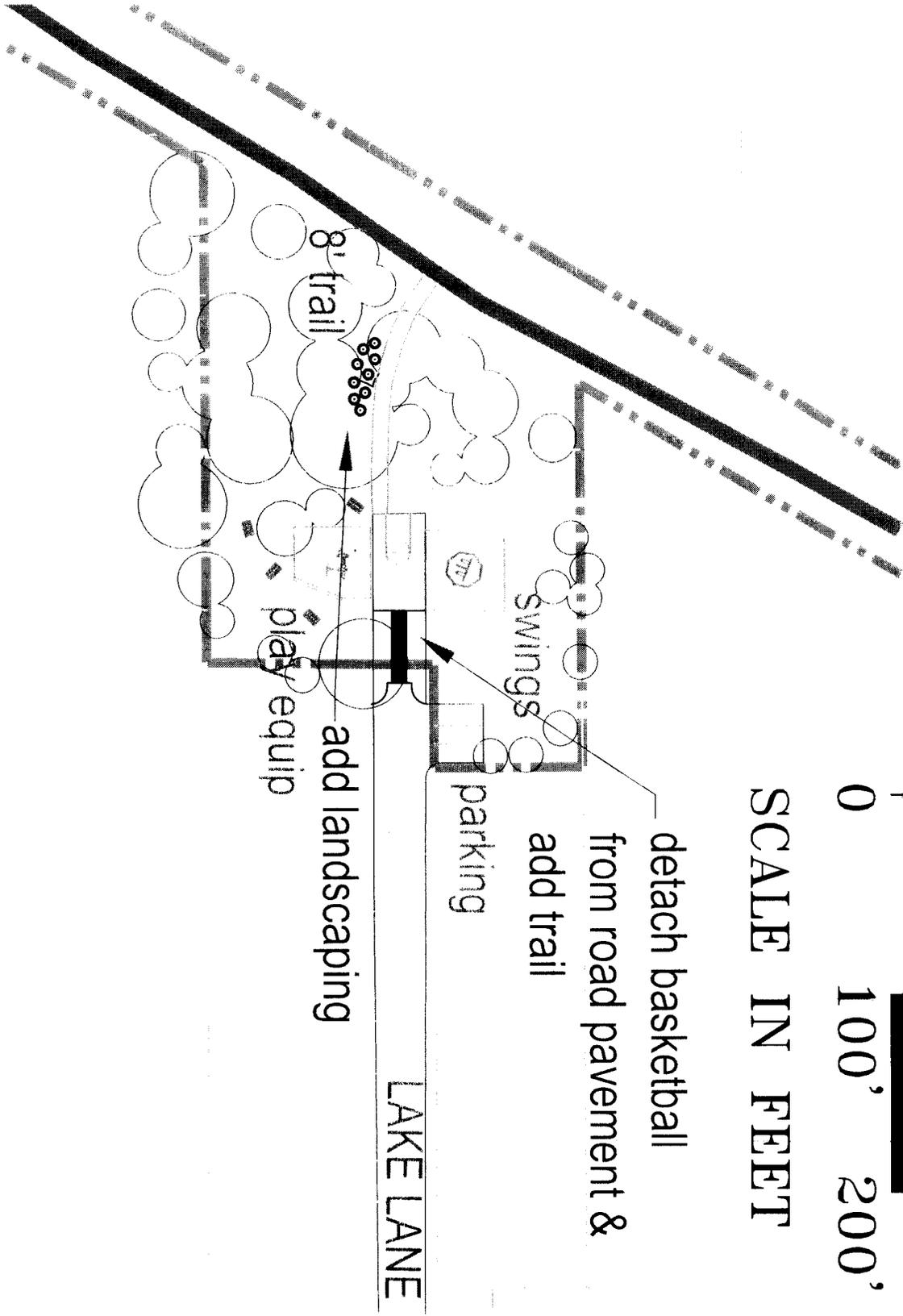
Royal Hills Park
 Proposed Improvements

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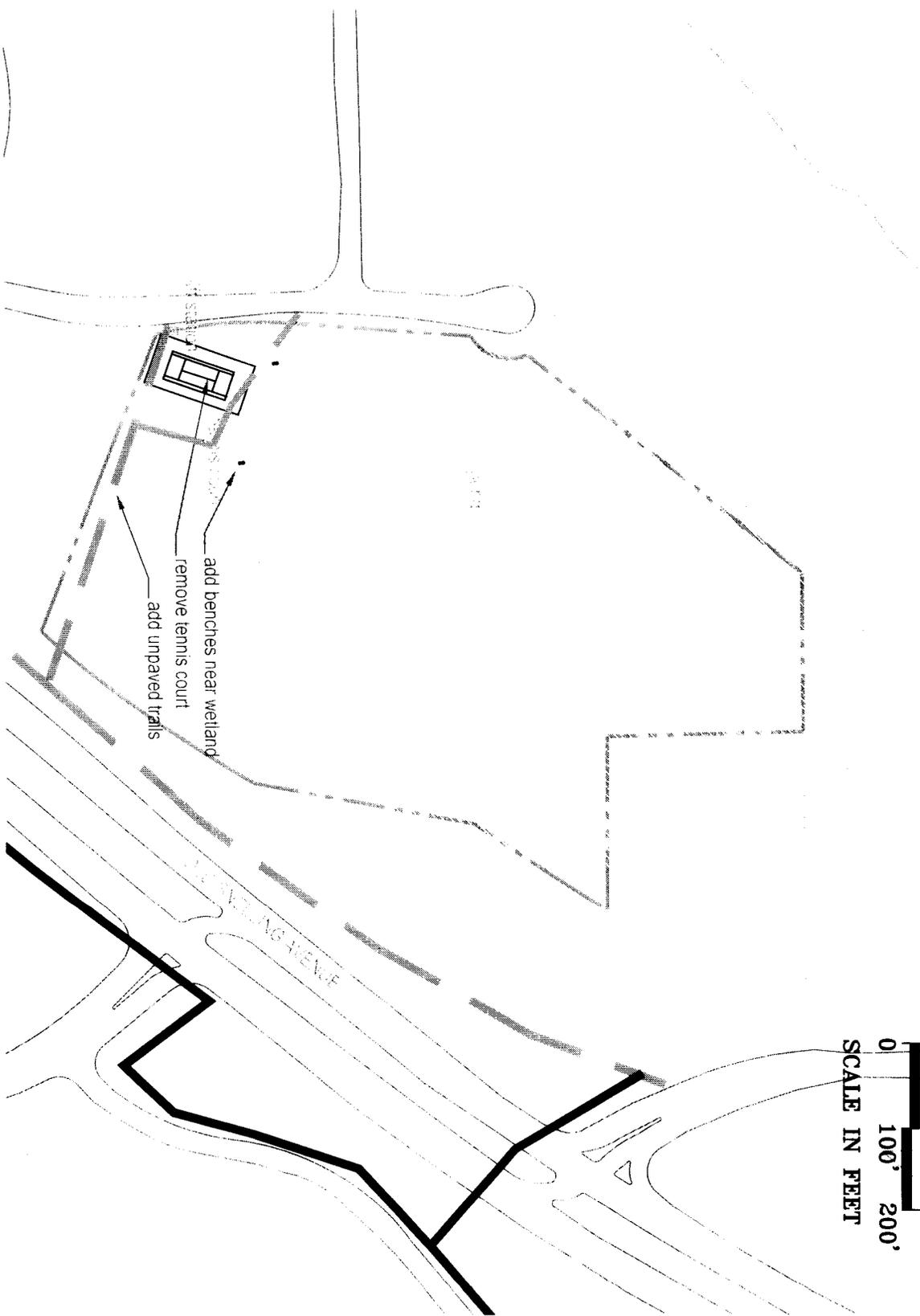
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Sampson Park
Proposed Improvements

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NORTH



SCALE IN FEET
 0 100' 200'



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Sheehy Park
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NORTH

improve grade & drainage
(raise grade)

move ditch, or
install catch basins

storm pond

pleasure skating

little league
baseball

play equipment

swings

VALENTINE ROAD

OLD HIGHWAY 10

SCALE IN FEET



storm ponding
portable toilet screen
new parking (19 stalls)
moved 1/2 court
basketball
new warming house/
picnic shelter
new trail



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Valentine Park
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