

**TWO
RIVERS**
WISCONSIN

Park and Open Space Plan



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Executive Summary

The City of Two Rivers Parks and Open Space Plan 2024-2034 is a comprehensive document outlining the city's vision, goals, and detailed plans for its parks, recreational facilities. Prepared by the City of Two Rivers Director of Parks and Recreation, Mike Mathis, and supplemented by park-specific plans developed by Blake Thiesen of Parkitecture, this plan serves as a roadmap for enhancing the quality of life for all city residents through the thoughtful development and maintenance of its parks and recreational areas.

Through extensive inventory analysis, community input, and strategic planning, the plan identifies key areas for development, improvement, and preservation across the city's diverse park system. Central to the plan are the guiding principles of accessibility, aquatic recreation, connectivity, diverse recreational amenities, health, fitness and sports, natural space preservation, park cleanliness and maintenance, and park safety. Each principle underscores the city's commitment to providing equitable, enjoyable, and sustainable outdoor experiences for its residents and visitors alike.

The plan covers detailed assessments and future objectives for existing parks and potential future projects, addressing specific needs and opportunities for enhancement in each area. From improving infrastructure and accessibility to expanding recreational amenities and preserving natural spaces, the plan lays out a clear and actionable path forward for the City of Two Rivers to enrich its park system and, by extension, the community's overall well-being.

History

The natural resources of the Two Rivers area have continually attracted inhabitants wishing to take advantage of them. The early inhabitants, primarily the Menominee, but also the Ottawa, Chippewa, Winnebago, and Potawatomi tribes, were drawn by the plentiful forests, waterways, and tillable soil, for hunting, fishing, and the cultivation of crops. The first Europeans to come to the area were fur traders, pioneers, and French-Canadian fishermen who were attracted by such things as the close proximity of the harbor to the fishing banks.

In 1837, Mr. Clark and Mr. Edwards started a commercial fishery utilizing French-Canadian Fisherman. They were able to ship 2,000 barrels of fish to Detroit at a price of \$12.00 a barrel, for total revenue of \$24,000. Also, in 1837 a log house and sawmill were erected along the river and lumbering became Two Rivers' primary industry. Tanning, based on the abundant Hemlock resource prospered from 1850 until almost 1900 when hemlock was depleted. As the timber resources dwindled and were not replaced, the local people turned to shipbuilding, and furniture-making, using raw materials imported from elsewhere. Two Rivers has always had a strong processing and manufacturing economy. Lumbering, fishing, shipbuilding, furniture-making, tanning, brick and tile manufacturing, net making, and various other industries have prospered in the city at some time or another.

Two Rivers was incorporated as a village on March 31, 1858, with a city charter being granted on March 18, 1878. In 1925, the city adopted the council-city manager form of government, which it still utilizes, and is one of the oldest cities in the United States with this form of government.

Physiographic Features

The area's topography was greatly determined by past glacial actions. The great ice sheets scoured out the Lake Michigan basin and left the Two Rivers area as a flat, sandy peninsula. The average elevation of the city is only 17 feet higher than the elevation of Lake Michigan. Topographic relief is provided by the valleys which were cut by the East and West Twin Rivers. These rivers are the principal interior landscape features of the city, and it should be noted that they dissect Two Rivers into three distinct segments. The rivers provide excellent open space corridors through the city, but they are also natural barriers which tend to limit access from one segment of the community to another. Though serious flooding does not occur in the city, large areas to the west and north are swampy. Another interesting topographic feature is the shoreline of Lake Michigan which extends northward as a series of low sand ridges and shallow valleys paralleling the shoreline formed by the wave action of Lake Michigan at its former higher levels. When the Lake receded due to climate changes, these formations remained. Point Beach State Forest, immediately north of the city, and Neshotah Park in Two Rivers, preserve these ridges in their natural condition. Similar topographic characteristics are found southwest of the city and this area is being preserved by a non-profit group as a nature study area.

Population Characteristics

The City of Two Rivers has had a varying growth rate since 1900. From 1900 to 1930 the city experienced a sizable expansion from 3,784 persons, in 1900 to 10,183 persons in 1930. The depression and Second World War decades, however, stifled population growth completely and the city gained only 219 people from 1930 to 1940 and lost 59 people between 1940 and 1950. The population in 1950 was 10,243 people. A steady, moderate growth rate characterized Two Rivers in the 1950's decades as it grew to 12,393 persons by 1960. Growth continued in the 1960's but at a slower rate, with the city having a 1970 Census population of 13,553. It experienced a loss in population at the 1980 Census with a population of 13,354 persons and a 1990 Census with a population of 13,030. The 2020 Census shows the city of Two Rivers with a population of 11,271. The decline in manufacturing has contributed to this decrease. In 2022, the population of the City of Two Rivers is estimated at 11,166.

General Land Use Patterns

The City of Two Rivers is dissected into three segments by the East and West Twin Rivers. These segments have distinctive land use patterns which are noteworthy in considering park and open space needs.

The city is focused principally on the Central Business District (CBD) which is along the major highways going through the city. The CBD still functions as the governmental and commercial center of Two Rivers. The primary employment and industrial centers of Two Rivers were

located between the rivers adjacent to the CBD area but have begun to move west along Columbus Street, out along STH 310 and North along STH 42. To the north-northwest of the CBD between the two rivers lies most of the City's residential development. The significant continuing trend to locate residences in the area between the rivers is due to such factors as: the availability of developable land, the ease of access to the center of the city, and the desire to locate somewhat away from Lake Michigan and its micro-climatic effects of fog and cooler temperatures. Residential subdivisions west of Forest Avenue and in the vicinity of 45th Street have been the locations where most of the new single-family construction have occurred. The segment of Two Rivers east of the East Twin River contained about one-fifth of the City's residents in 1990 according to the U.S. Census counts. As in the other areas, growth began in the south near the commercial-industrial center and proceeded to the north in subsequent years. Except for commercial development on 22nd and Lincoln Streets, this segment is mainly residential in character. Neshotah Park, Van Der Brohe Arboretum, Walsh Field, Vietnam Veterans Park and the adjacent State Forest make this part of the city well supplied with open space and recreational land. There is some suitable land available to the north, so it can be assumed that some additional residential growth will occur east of the East Twin River.

The third segment is the area south and west of the West Twin River and harbor area. The area contains industrial and residential development. About one-fourth of the City's 1980 population resided in the area generally bounded by Columbus Street on the west, Madison Street on the east, and Roosevelt Avenue on the south. The area east of Madison Street is primarily industrial and considered part of the CBD-industrial complex on the city. The newer industrial development in the city has occurred along and near Columbus Street. There is little available land for additional residential or industrial development in this segment of the city.

Impact of Parks

Parks and open spaces play a critical role in enhancing community health, supporting economic development, and fostering a high quality of life. They offer a sanctuary for relaxation, exercise, and social interaction, contributing significantly to the physical and mental well-being of individuals. By providing a variety of recreational opportunities, parks help to engage youth in positive activities, promote inclusiveness, and bring people from different backgrounds together.

Economically, well-maintained parks and recreational facilities attract tourists and residents alike, boosting local businesses and increasing property values. They serve as critical assets in urban planning, offering solutions for stormwater management, reducing urban heat islands, and contributing to environmental sustainability.

Furthermore, parks are essential for preserving natural habitats and biodiversity, offering a refuge for wildlife and a space for community members to connect with nature. They play a pivotal role in educating the public about the environment and sustainability practices.

Vision and Mission

Vision: To create a vibrant, accessible, and sustainable park system that enhances the quality of life for all residents and visitors of the City of Two Rivers.

Mission: To provide, maintain, and continuously improve a diverse and inclusive network of parks, trails, and recreational programs that offer exceptional experiences, foster community pride, promote health and wellness, and preserve the natural beauty and heritage of our community.

The City of Two Rivers is committed to realizing this vision through collaborative planning, innovative design, and responsible stewardship of its natural and recreational resources. The Parks and Open Space Plan reflects our dedication to building a stronger, healthier, and more connected community through the power of parks and recreation.

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Park-District Guiding Principles

- 1. Accessibility:** Ensure all residents have a 15-minute walk to a park, focusing on equitable park distribution in underserved communities and ADA-compliant pathways, and improve accessibility within parks for users of all abilities.
- 2. Aquatic Recreation:** Develop and promote water-based recreational activities such as kayaking, sport fishing, and swimming, ensuring accessible and ecologically sustainable access to lakefronts and riverfronts.
- 3. Connectivity:** Develop trails, bike lanes, and walking routes with input from diverse community members to ensure they meet the needs of all populations, including marginalized and underrepresented groups, while connecting major destinations and parks.
- 4. Diverse Recreational Amenities:** Provide a broad range of recreational options for many ages and interests, with special attention to seniors, young children, and teenagers making parks vibrant community hubs.
- 5. Health, Fitness, and Sports:** Promote active lifestyles through enhanced walking and biking trails, free fitness stations, sports facilities, and age-friendly amenities to integrate health and fitness into daily life.
- 6. Natural Space Preservation:** Commit to urban environmental stewardship by expanding green spaces and preserving natural habitats, supporting ecosystem services, biodiversity, and outdoor recreation.
- 7. Park Cleanliness and Maintenance:** Raise standards for park cleanliness and maintenance, emphasizing efficient resource use and meticulous upkeep to exceed community expectations.
- 8. Park Safety:** Implement Park safety strategies that involve residents in safety initiatives, fostering trust and cooperation among diverse populations.

Central Park East

Park Description and Vision

Central Park East lies in the heart of Two Rivers downtown. This park has been a cornerstone of our city open space since the early days of Two Rivers. Although located next to a busy street, the park's features encourage relaxation and quiet contemplation. The park is a nice complement to the busier Central Park West and should continue to be a cornerstone of downtown open space in perpetuity. Additional infrastructure such as electrical outlets will allow for more diverse use.

Inventory

Acreage: 0.53

Unique Features: 2 large fountains, Civil War Monument, Sister City Table

Park Amenities: Benches, trash cans, light posts, flower planters, large digital sign

Landscape Description: Turf grass, concrete and brick walkways, flower and shrub beds, established trees providing plentiful shade

Notable Activities: Farmers market venue, occasional city ceremony events

Pros

- Plentiful shade
- Fountains
- History
- Lighting

Cons

- Turf grass upkeep
- Aging trees
- Limited large gathering spaces

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Park Cleanliness and Maintenance

Objectives

1. Improve turf grass quality and appearance.
2. Repair light pole outlets.
3. Install 4 – 50 amps. power outlets.
4. Prune trees and create plans for tree replacement.

Central Park West

Park Description and Vision

Central Park West was completely renovated in 2023. The park is the center of almost all major community cultural and recreational events with large crowds attending on a regular basis. The park has excellent year-round amenities including a splash pad, synthetic ice-skating loop, and performance stage. Central Park West will be the gem of downtown for decades and it will be important to maintain it to a high standard.

Inventory

Acreage: 0.54

Unique Features: Large band stand, splash pad, synthetic ice-skating rink, concession stand and rental room, two single occupancy restrooms, large holiday tree, donor recognition markers

Park Amenities: Benches, trash cans, light posts, flower planters, large digital sign, picnic tables, stage sound and lighting system, speakers throughout park

Landscape Description: Turf grass, concrete walkways, newly planted trees (2023), concrete stage seating and dance area

Notable Activities: Major cultural and recreational events, concerts, ice skating, splash pad

Pros

- Year-round recreation
- Bandstand
- Lighting

Cons

- Turf grass upkeep
- Young shade trees
- High maintenance standard

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Park Cleanliness and Maintenance

Objectives

1. Maintain high quality turf grass with heavy use.
2. Maintain clean park with heavy use.
3. Create additional artistic stage panels.

Coast Guard Park and “New Beach”

Park Description and Vision

Where the East and West Twin Rivers enter Lake Michigan lie Coast Guard Park and the “New Beach”. Between these two City properties is the Two Rivers U.S. Coast Guard Station. Taken together, this area may be the most scenic area of Two Rivers. Coast Guard Park was updated in 2015 with a picnic shelter, restrooms, motorboat docking, and short river walk. The “New Beach”, never officially named, is a simple gravel parking lot providing access to a beautiful portion of Lake Michigan dunes and the harbor pier. The U.S. Coast Guard Station has been slowly decommissioning. There may be an opportunity for the city to work with the Coast Guard to integrate the station into an overall park setting to provide additional unique access to Lake Michigan and the Twin Rivers. Improved beach access presents an opportunity to relieve some congestion at Neshotah Beach.

Inventory

Acreage: 5

Unique Features: 2-single occupancy restrooms, picnic shelter, beach access, pier access, motorboat docking dumb station and showers

Park Amenities: Benches, trash cans, light posts, picnic tables

Landscape Description: Concrete river walkway, sand dunes and beach

Notable Activities: Fishing access, beach access, pier access, picnic shelter rentals, motorboat docking

Pros

- Beach access
- New restrooms at harbor
- Motorboat docking
- Shower facilities

Cons

- Gravel parking lot
- Lack of signage
- No restrooms at beach
- Limited parking

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Accessibility
2. Aquatic Recreation
3. Connectivity
4. Diverse Recreational Amenities

Objectives

1. Install informational, safety, and directional signage.
2. Collaborate with U.S. Coast Guard to integrate facility into park.
3. Install a restroom and changing facility at the “new beach” parking lot.
4. Pave access road and parking lot at new beach and/or integrate Coast Guard parking.
5. Create an official name for the “new beach.”
6. Develop new aquatic recreational amenities by using the Coast Guard facility.

Eggers River Walk

Park Description and Vision

The Eggers River Walk is located on the south side of the West Twin River. The walkway is in severe disrepair. Redevelopment of the walkway will meet goals from our City and Harbor master plans. Preserving and enhancing our riverfront with walkways, wildlife corridors, and stormwater management features will enhance quality of life and protect our water. Eggers River walk can become a vital trail connection between Mariners Trail and Veterans Park.

Inventory

Acreage: ~800 ft. of trail

Unique Features: West Twin River access, views of trestle bridge and downtown

Park Amenities: Walkway, benches

Landscape Description: Asphalt and concrete walkway, rip-rap and steel seawall

Notable Activities: No current uses

Pros Cons

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Accessibility
2. Connectivity
3. Health, Fitness, and Sports

Objectives

1. Repair seawall and resurface trail.
2. Improve landscaping with tree planting.
3. Connect trail to Mariner's trail.
4. Install storm water management features.

Forestview and Pioneer Rest Cemeteries

Park Description and Vision

The Parks and Recreation Department maintains Forestview and Pioneer Rest cemeteries. Pioneer Rest is the older of the two and is full. Forestview Cemetery sees regular burials. Forestview has a surplus of space that is unlikely to be filled with graves for several generations. There is also a fenced area for community garden plots. The Parks and Recreation Department's main shop facility for grounds maintenance is located at Forestview. Both cemeteries are quiet places for community members to visit loved ones and to go for a walk. The old established trees provided plentiful shade, but they need pruning and new plantings. Cemeteries can also be an island of excellent habitat for birds because of large trees in an urban setting. Improvements to the trees in this area will also improve wildlife habitat. The extra space at Forestview may present an opportunity to satisfy the need for a north end park with an entrance off Parkway Boulevard.

Inventory

Acreage: Forest View 37 acres, Holy Cross 10 acres

Unique Features: Historic cemeteries, community garden

Park Amenities: Trash cans, benches, community gardens

Landscape Description: Cemetery setting with turf and trees, areas of open turf at Forestview

Notable Activities: Cemetery activities, primary park maintenance facility located at Forestview, fenced community garden plots

Pros

- Inviting and quiet atmosphere
- Unused space available for recreation

Cons

- Tree management needed
- Topsoil, wood, and wood chip piles open to public

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Diverse Recreational Amenities
2. Natural Space Preservation
3. Maintenance and Cleanliness

Objectives

1. Execute tree management plan to improve location for people and wildlife.
2. Explore added recreational amenities at Forestview with a new side entrance.
3. Create a fenced maintenance yard to screen topsoil and wood piles.
4. Evaluate the need and install a columbarium.
5. Develop a self-guided walking tour.
6. Expand community garden.

J.E. Hamilton Community House

Park Description and Vision

The J.E. Hamilton Community House is iconic in Two Rivers. Built in 1931 and renovated in 2006, the building is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Community House is a hub of activity with many recreation programs, events, and rentals taking place in the full basketball court gymnasium and multiple rental rooms. In addition, the Community house is the home of the Two Rivers Senior Center, a fitness center with weights and cardio equipment, a golf simulator, and offices for the Parks and Recreation Department. The gym and rental rooms are in high demand at peak evening and weekend times. Additional space for youth and adult sports activities is needed but there are few options for expansion within the current building. The building will be a cornerstone of our community for generations to come. We will need to be creative to update the building for emerging trends.

Inventory

Acreage: N/A

Unique Features: National Registry of Historic Places, gymnasium, fitness center, senior center, golf simulator and multi-sport simulator, performance stage

Park Amenities: Rental spaces, rental kitchen

Landscape Description: N/A

Notable Activities: Major community events, recreation programs, private rentals, office space

Pros

- Gymnasium and performance stage
- Fitness center
- Senior Center
- Iconic and historic cultural building

Cons

- Public Wi-Fi unavailable
- Limited technology in rental rooms
- No workshop space for maintenance
- Limited capacity for more activities

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Accessibility
2. Diverse Recreational Amenities
3. Park Maintenance and Cleanliness

Objectives

1. Restructure entrances to support use of the Recreation Desk as the main check-in desk for the building.
2. Maintain historic charm.
3. Identify opportunities for existing spaces to be used for multiple uses.
4. Maintain major infrastructure and operational components (i.e. elevator, gym floor, etc.).
5. Improve public Wi-Fi access and audio-visual equipment in rental spaces.
6. Improve energy efficiency, water usage, and sustainability of building operations.

Lakeshore Park

Park Description and Vision

Lakeshore Park has an excellent location next to the Lester Public Library and Lake Michigan. The park offers a sizable playground, large open grass space, and tables for picnicking. The play structure will need to be updated within the next 5-8 years and tree management is needed at the site. Memorial Drive also creates a barrier to easy walking access from Mariners Trail and the Washington Street Bridge. In the long term, the park will be an important amenity for families on the South side of Two Rivers and those visiting the library. The park may also be an ideal location for rain gardens and native plantings to help collect storm water from Memorial Drive.

Inventory

Acreage: 6.86 acres

Unique Features: Lakeshore views, adjacent to Lester Public Library

Park Amenities: Playground, picnic area, benches, trash cans

Landscape Description: Open turf grass area with some trees

Notable Activities: Use by families with children for play

Pros

- Excellent setting near lake and library
- Large playground structure
- Large open green space
- Bike and walking path

Cons

- Wind off the lake can be strong
- Tree management needed
- Playground nearing end of lifespan
- Memorial Drive is barrier to walking

Guiding Principal Development Focus

- Connectivity
- Park Maintenance and Cleanliness
- Natural Space Preservation

Objectives

1. Execute tree management plan to improve location for people and wildlife.
2. Maintain and enhance playground and picnicking infrastructure.
3. Develop safe walking routes to Mariners Trail and Washington Street Bridge.
4. Install rain gardens and easy to maintain native plantings.

L.B. Clarke School – Adjacent Property

Park Description and Vision

In 2023, the City sold a large portion of the property surrounding the school to the school district so that major expansion and improvements could be made. This leaves the city with approximately 2.5 acres. The school district, now the owner of most of the athletic fields and the baseball field, has agreed to maintain these areas for recreational use. A strong partnership with the school is important so that this area continues to be available for recreational use. The remaining city property could be a site for a picnic shelter or other amenities, but a survey of the community should be completed to gather feedback.

Inventory

Acreage: ~2.5 acres

Unique Features: N/A

Park Amenities: Baseball field, open athletic field space

Landscape Description: Open athletic fields

Notable Activities: Recreation programming including soccer and baseball.

Pros

- Open athletic field space
- Baseball field
- Close to school facilities

Cons

- Limited space with school expansion
- Located on far edge of town

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Park maintenance and cleanliness
2. Health, Fitness, and Sports

Objectives

1. Maintain open athletic field space and baseball field.
2. Survey community to identify unmet needs in the area.

Magee Elementary– Adjacent Property

Park Description and Vision

Next to Magee Elementary School lies a 6-acre parcel of open athletic field space owned by the city. This area is important for recreation programs and the Junior Raider Football Team. Maintaining the property for athletic use is a high priority. Improving the grass, adding a small seasonal restroom, and adding a quarter mile walking loop could greatly enhance the space.

Inventory

Acreage: 6.15 acres

Unique Features: N/A

Park Amenities: Open athletic fields, storage barn, goal posts

Landscape Description: Open athletic field

Notable Activities: Youth athletic use for football, flag-football, soccer, etc.

Pros

- Large athletic field space
- Close to residential neighborhoods

Cons

- Portable restrooms currently needed
- Limited amenities other than space

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Park maintenance and cleanliness
2. Health, Fitness, and Sports

Objectives

1. Maintain turf grass in quality condition for athletic activities.
2. Support the Junior Raiders football program in moving their activities to L.B. Clarke Middle School to free up the city owned storage barn and field availability.
3. Install quarter mile walking track around outside of sports fields.
4. Install small seasonal restroom facility.

Neshotah Park and Beach

Park Description and Vision

Neshotah Park and Beach may very well be the most important economic and recreational asset in the City of Two Rivers. In 2023, the city dedicated a significant amount of time and effort to developing a master plan for the park. The full Neshotah Park and Beach Master plan is available for viewing on the city website at <https://www.two-rivers.org/parksrec/page/parks-and-recreations-documents>.

Inventory

Acreage: 50 acres

Unique Features: The best beach in Wisconsin, destination playground with poured-in-place surface, sand volleyball courts, largest horseshoe complex in Wisconsin, beach concession stand and changing facility, large beach bandstand

Park Amenities: Picnic areas, picnic shelters, grills, playground, concessions, restrooms

Landscape Description: Woods, beach and dunes, open green space

Notable Activities: Picnicking, swimming, concerts, playground, horseshoe leagues, major tourist destination

Pros

- Best beach in Wisconsin
- New destination playground
- Variety of amenities

Cons

- Crowding of beach and parking
- Maintaining clean park with heavy use
- Limited restroom capacity

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Diverse Recreational Amenities
2. Connectivity
3. Accessibility
4. Natural Space Preservation
5. Aquatic Recreation

Objectives

1. See Neshotah Park Master Plan. <https://www.two-rivers.org/parksrec/page/parks-and-recreations-documents>.

Paddlers Park

Park Description and Vision

Paddlers Park is an ideal location to further our goal of increasing outdoor recreation by locals and tourists. The park serves as a blank slate. A restroom, picnic shelter, shade, and accessible features would make the park the best paddling launch facility on the East Twin River.

Inventory

Acreage: ~1 acre

Unique Features: East Twin River access

Park Amenities: Boat launch, parking, kayak launch

Landscape Description: Gravel parking lot, East Twin River

Notable Activities: Kayaking, fishing

Pros

- East Twin River access
- Kayak launch
- Boat launch and dock

Cons

- Boat launch ramp in poor condition
- No restrooms or picnic facilities
- No shade

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Aquatic Recreation
2. Accessibility
3. Diverse Recreational Amenities

Objectives

1. Replace boat launch pavement.
2. Install a seasonal restroom and picnic shelter.
3. Pave short trail section from dock to restroom for accessibility.
4. Plant shade trees and native grasses along riverbank.
5. Install an accessible kayak launch.
6. Replace outdated launch informational signage.

Picnic Hill Park

Park Description and Vision

Picnic Hill Park is 20 acres of wooded land located on top of a large hill. The park is generally undeveloped with minimal use. There is a disc golf course, but poor signage, access, and lack of maintenance have discouraged use. The park would benefit from additional amenities that would draw a variety of user groups. The park does not have a clear entrance, combined with the dense woods, site lines into the park are poor, making the area feel unsafe. Creation of a clear parking lot and trailhead with signage from County Road O would be a major improvement. Encouraging walking, disc golf, fitness, or RC car use would generate use to support the park.

Inventory

Acreage: 20 acres

Unique Features: Disc golf course

Park Amenities: N/A

Landscape Description: Hardwood forest, hilly terrain

Notable Activities: Disc golf course

Pros

- Large, wooded area within City
- Rawley Point Trail access
- Disc golf course

Cons

- Poor site lines into park
- Signage needed
- Lacks clear entrance

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Diverse Recreational Amenities
2. Park Cleanliness and Maintenance
3. Health, Fitness, and Sports
4. Park Safety

Objectives

1. Install Park entrance sign and informational signage.
2. Install parking lot with trailhead from County Road O.
3. Install walking trail loop with signage.
4. Rebuild disc golf tee-boxes and install hole signage.
5. Execute tree management plan to improve location for people and wildlife.
6. Install RC car racetrack.
7. Collaborate with Grace Congregational Church to maintain natural areas and connectivity.

Riverside Park

Park Description and Vision

Riverside Park is an important neighborhood park for the South side of Two Rivers with the only skate park in town. The park has seen declining use as the skate park has aged and the restroom was closed due to heavy vandalism. The foundation of the restroom building is also settling so that the doors will not open on the restrooms. Updating the skate park, renovating the restrooms, installing lighting and cameras, and introducing waterfront amenities will help revitalize the park. Introducing additional audiences to the park such as seniors, families, and working age adults will encourage more use of the park and ideally deter vandalism. To see the full Riverside Park Master Plan visit https://www.two-rivers.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/parks_and_recreation/page/5034/riverside_park_master_plan.pdf

Inventory

Acreage: ~6.75 acres

Unique Features: Skate Park, West Twin River access

Park Amenities: Walking path, benches, small playground, closed restroom, picnic shelter

Landscape Description: Turf grass, scattered shade trees, riverfront, stormwater pond

Notable Activities: Skateboarding

Pros Cons

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Aquatic Recreation
2. Diverse Recreational Amenities
3. Health, Fitness, and Sports
4. Park Safety

Objectives

1. Replace the skatepark with new concrete skate ramps.
2. Renovate the restroom building.
3. Improve walking path.
4. Expand playground.
5. Move parking along side streets and replace current lot with drop-off loop.
6. Develop riverfront with shoreline improvement, fishing dock, kayak launch, and benches.

Taylor Park

Park Description and Vision

Taylor Park is a small neighborhood park on Two River's South side with a picnic shelter and playground. Taylor Park is the farthest park from the large Two Rivers neighborhood. Although small, the park is a nice amenity for the people living in the surrounding community.

Inventory

Acreage: >1 acre

Unique Features: N/A

Park Amenities: Picnic shelter, picnic tables, playground, swings

Landscape Description: Turf grass

Notable Activities: Picnicking, playground use

Pros

- Playground
- Picnic shelter

Cons

- Small property
- Tree pruning needed

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Park maintenance and cleanliness

Objectives

1. Maintain the play equipment and picnic shelter.
2. Prune and plant trees.

Trail System and Park Connections

Park Description and Vision

The City of Two Rivers trail system includes the Mariners Trail (6.2 miles), Raider Trail (0.75 miles), Rawley Point Trail (5.9 miles), and the City of Two Rivers Segment of the Ice Age Trail (3 miles). These trails feature unique attractions such as the Lake Michigan shoreline and the Spirit of the Rivers monument. They are ideal for activities like walking, running, biking, and hosting running races. Our vision for the Two Rivers Trail System is to create an interconnected and accessible network of trails that not only enhance recreational opportunities for residents and visitors but also serve as vital connectors between parks and major city destinations. By focusing on accessibility, connectivity, and diverse recreational amenities, we aim to foster a vibrant, active, and inclusive community where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy the natural beauty and cultural heritage of Two Rivers.

Inventory

Trails and Mileage:

1. Mariners Trail, 6.2 miles
2. Raider Trail, .75 miles
3. Rawley Point Trail, 5.9 miles
4. Ice Age Trail, City of Two Rivers Segment 3 miles

Unique Features: Lake Michigan shoreline trail, Spirit of the Rivers monument

Trail Amenities:

Notable Activities: Walking, running, biking, running races

Pros

- Promote health and fitness
- Attraction for residents and visitors
- Connectivity between parks and major destinations

Cons

- Major bottleneck on 45th St.
- Easement and ownership issues

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Accessibility
2. Connectivity
3. Diverse Recreational Amenities

Objectives

1. Develop downtown riverfront walkways connected to Mariners Trail.
2. Renovate the City Pump-House building into a trailhead visitor center.
3. Develop trails that are loops.
4. Install trail extension along 45th St. (County VV) to Riverview Drive.
5. Install trail connection from Riverview Drive. to Lincoln Avenue through Vietnam Park.
6. Develop an all-purpose trail using the C&N railroad corridor.

Twin Rivers Water Trail

Park Description and Vision

The Twin Rivers Water Trail promotes the development and safe use of human powered watercraft along the East and West Twin Rivers. The trail spotlights the rich natural habitat and cultural history in and around the rivers. The water trail was developed through the combined efforts of Friends of the Twin Rivers, Two Rivers Rotary, and Woodland Dunes Nature with support from the Wisconsin Coastal Management program and Bay Lake Regional Planning Commission. The water trail has a large footprint within Two Rivers parks. The City of Two Rivers has an important role to play in developing partnerships for projects, maintenance, volunteer opportunities, public events and trail stewardship. Learn more about the water trail at <https://www.woodlanddunes.org/twin-rivers-water-trail/>.

Inventory

Acreage: N/A

Unique Features: Excellent fishing, birding, and scenery with a variety of access sites for a wide range of activities

Park Amenities: Varies from site to site, restrooms, boat launch, kayak launch, fishing cleaning station, nature center, boat docking

Landscape Description: Surrounding watershed land use is primarily agricultural with some natural and urban areas

Notable Activities: Recreational boating, fishing, kayaking, canoeing

Pros

- Important marketing for tourism
- Supports protection of natural resource
- River access to Lake Michigan

Cons

- Trail extends outside city limits
- Trail signage needs updates

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Aquatic Recreation
2. Accessibility
3. Diverse Recreational Amenities
4. Connectivity

Objectives

1. Collaborate with partners to promote the water trail.
2. Collaborate with partners to update and expand infrastructure and ecosystem services throughout the entire Twin Rivers watershed.
3. Improve accessibility for all users at city properties.
4. Update interpretive, directional, and rules signage.
5. Quantify and promote the economic impact of recreation and environmental services provided by the Twin Rivers.

Veterans Park

Park Description and Vision

Veterans Park is the primary public boat launch drawing use locally and from out of town. The launch is complimented by an automated fish cleaning station and boat washing station making the site popular with charter fisherman. There is also a small, fenced playground and a restroom. Veterans Park is an important economic asset for Two Rivers. Keeping the launch area in good repair and improving amenities at the site is important to staying competitive in attracting locals and tourists.

Inventory

Acreage: 4.77 acres

Unique Features: Automated fish cleaning station, boat launch

Park Amenities: Restrooms, playground, river walk

Landscape Description: Pavement, turf grass

Notable Activities: Recreational boating, fish cleaning, kayaking, playground use

Pros

- Automated fish cleaning station
- Large parking lot
- Affordable launch rates
- River access to Lake Michigan

Cons

- Large area of impermeable surface
- Riverwalk needs updates

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Aquatic Recreation
2. Diverse Recreational Amenities
3. Park Safety

Objectives

1. Improve shoreline with natural plantings, riverwalk, green buffer, and shade.
2. Install additional stormwater management features.
3. Complete an assessment on how to increase use of the launch based on user audience.
4. Install temporary docking access along the river walk.
5. Install improved interpretive, directional, and rules signage.
6. Update the playground features.

Vietnam Memorial Park

Park Description and Vision

Vietnam Memorial Park is the cornerstone of youth sports in Two Rivers. The five diamonds serve tee-ball, little league, adult softball leagues, major tournaments, and the Two Rivers Varsity Softball team. Tournaments rent the fields and concession stand regularly during the summer, drawing large crowds from out of town and generating overnight stays. We need to continue to improve, expand, and innovate at the park so that we stay competitive with other communities' youth sports and tournament offerings.

Inventory

Acreage: 26 acres

Unique Features: 5 little league and softball fields

Park Amenities: Restrooms, playground, concession stand, batting cage, press box

Landscape Description: Athletic fields

Notable Activities: Tee-ball, little league, adult softball league, softball tournaments

Pros

- Economic asset drawing visitors
- Youth engagement through sports
- Excellent field conditions

Cons

- Maintenance costs
- Property acquisition needed
- Restroom improvements needed

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Diverse Recreational Amenities
2. Health, Fitness, and Sports
3. Connectivity

Objectives

1. Expand and improve the restrooms.
2. Acquire property and build additional fields.
3. Improve field lighting.
4. Install new playground equipment.
7. Install trail connection from Riverview Drive to Lincoln St. and the Raider Trail.
8. Build storage and maintenance barn.

Walsh Field

Park Description and Vision

In 2024, Walsh Field will be going through major changes. The Two Rivers Varsity Baseball team will no longer be playing on the field. This will open the field up for use by pony-league level baseball and softball. Both audiences provide opportunities for attracting tournaments and more frequent use of the field. Walsh Field can become a premier destination for “championship” level softball and youth baseball. We also have a large amount of interest in flag football, which takes place at Walsh Field in the fall. The other major event taking place at the field is the Two Rivers July 4th fireworks. Thousands of people attend the fireworks but there is not nearly enough infrastructure for such a large crowd. Expansion of the field facilities to handle larger crowds and to generate revenue are needed to take the field into the future and create a “stadium” setting.

Inventory

Acreage: 17.5 acres

Unique Features: Lighted baseball/softball field

Park Amenities: Restroom, picnic shelter, press box

Landscape Description: Baseball field

Notable Activities: Youth baseball, softball, flag football, soccer

Pros

- Economic asset drawing visitors
- Youth engagement through sports
- Location near the beach

Cons

- Expansion of facilities needed
- Poor handicap accessibility
- Limited parking

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Accessibility
2. Health, Fitness, and Sports

Objectives

1. Expand restrooms and include a concession stand through which paid entry is possible.
2. Install new seating on the bleachers.
3. Upgrade the field lighting.
4. Create “bullpen” and warm-up area.
5. Install handicap accessible path to bleachers.

Washington Park

Park Description and Vision

Washington Park is an important neighborhood park that serves a large portion of the North-end of Two Rivers. In 2023, the new pickleball courts and tennis court were opened. They have been extremely popular. The park is regularly used by children and families for the playground, basketball court, and river access. The picnic shelter is also one of the most reserved for rentals. Upgrading the playground equipment will be a priority in the years to come and the park may also benefit from outdoor exercise equipment. Planting native grasses along the “lower” river walk area will also reduce the cost of mowing grass, create wildlife habitat, and possibly deter geese from making a mess on the walking path.

Inventory

Acreage: 7.93 acres

Unique Features: Six pickle ball courts, river trail

Park Amenities: Restroom, picnic shelter, walking trail, playground, basketball court, fishing dock, tennis court

Landscape Description: Turf grass, scattered shade trees, playground, pickleball courts, riverfront

Notable Activities: Picnic shelter rentals, pickleball, recreation programs, fishing, walking

Pros

- Important neighborhood park
- Active pickleball community
- Riverfront and fishing access

Cons

- Playground in need of updates
- Geese make a mess on trail
- Needs other basic improvements

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Park maintenance and cleanliness
2. Diverse Recreational Amenities
3. Health, Fitness, and Sports
4. Natural Space Preservation

Objectives

1. Update interior of restrooms aesthetically and with efficient fixtures.
2. Install updated playground equipment.
3. Install fitness equipment around walking path.
4. Install new lighting.
5. Update basketball court.
6. Install native plantings along the riverfront.

Zander Park

Park Description and Vision

Zander Park is the largest neighborhood park on the south-side of Two Rivers, and it contains the only dog park in town. The traditional playground was removed due to flooding in 2022. In 2023, a nature-based playground was installed with native plantings to embrace and work with the wet conditions. The picnic shelter and restroom are in good repair. The park needs major updates to the tennis court, basketball court, and parking lot surface. Improvement to park amenities is needed to drive use. Continuing development of the nature playground, installing a trail connection to the nature center, and updating the court area is a priority.

Inventory

Acreage: 22.55 acres

Unique Features: Nature playground with Story Walk, dog park

Park Amenities: Restroom, picnic shelter, basketball court

Landscape Description: Wetland, hardwood forest, turf grass

Notable Activities: Dog park, playground use

Pros

- Nature playground area
- Fenced dog park
- Restroom and picnic shelter facility
- Unique wetland and woodland habitat

Cons

- Paving needs updated
- Seasonal wetland flooding
- Vandalism
- Basketball and tennis courts need addressed

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Park maintenance and cleanliness
2. Natural Space Preservation
3. Connectivity
4. Diverse Recreational Amenities
5. Park Safety

Objectives

1. Repave parking lot and park entrance.
2. Improve dog park entrance.
3. Install benches and obstacles in the dog park.
4. Improve basketball and tennis court area.
5. Install trail connection to Woodland Dunes Nature Center.
6. Improve lighting and add surveillance cameras.
7. Install additional nature play features.

C&N Railroad Corridor

Park Description and Vision

The abandoned C&N railroad corridor running from Manitowoc to Two Rivers presents an opportunity for trail development. The corridor culminates at the 1930's rail swing bridge over the West Twin River. Expansion of trails that connect to Mariner's trail will promote fitness, tourism, connectivity, and create wildlife corridors. The one negative about Mariner's Trail is that it is an out and back route. A trail through the C&N corridor would create a loop providing more options for parking, mileage, enjoyment, and avoid the difficulty of crossing Memorial Drive on foot. A loop would be of interest to regular runners and bikers. The proposed trail would also connect Two Rivers underserved southside to new amenities.

Inventory

Acreage/Distance: ~3 miles from City border to West Twin River

Unique Features: Passes through Woodland Dunes Nature Center land, 1930's rail swing bridge

Park Amenities: N/A

Landscape Description: Woodland, dune and swale, residential and industrial areas

Notable Activities: N/A

Pros

- Opportunity for trail expansion
- Wildlife corridor development
- Historic and cultural features

Cons

- Property acquisition
- Cost of bridge restoration

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Accessibility
2. Connectivity
3. Health, Fitness, and Sports
4. Natural Space Preservation

Objectives

1. Acquire easement or ownership.
2. Improve wildlife corridor habitat.
3. Develop trail with connection to Mariner's Trail.
4. Evaluate truss bridge options.

Fisher-Hamilton Site and Harborview Park

Park Description and Vision

Along the East Twin River and adjacent to downtown lies the former location of the Hamilton Wood Type Manufacturing facility. The property is currently vacant with a public parking area and small picnic shelter at Harborview Park. Plans for the site include residential, commercial, and park development. The East and West Twin River come together next to the property to form the Two Rivers Harbor creating one of the best views anywhere on the lakeshore. Park development could include a riverfront trail, marina space, open space, rental facilities, and cultural or artistic features.

Inventory

Acreage: ~7.5 acres

Unique Features: Excellent view of Lake Michigan

Park Amenities: Small picnic shelter, benches

Landscape Description: Riprap and seawall riverfront, turf grass, paved parking area

Notable Activities: Fishing, site-seeing

Pros

- Lake Michigan and river views
- River access
- Important connectivity site for trails
- Tremendous potential

Cons

- Dilapidated seawall
- Major construction needed
- Potential soil contamination

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Aquatic Recreation
2. Connectivity
3. Diverse Recreational Amenities

Objectives

1. Build Mariners Trail segment along riverfront.
2. Preserve the best view on Lake Michigan.
3. Develop recreational motor-boating marina and launch facilities.
4. Develop recreational sail-boating and paddling launch facilities.
5. Enhance site with cultural, artistic, and natural features.
6. Build rental facilities for public use.

Related Planning Efforts

1. Hamilton Site Redevelopment Plan 2016
2. Harbor Master Plan 2013
3. Waterfront Land Use Plan

New North-End Park

Park Description and Vision

Access to parks is a proven way to improve community health, support economic development, and to create a high quality of life. The “north-end” of Two Rivers has consistently been identified as needing a neighborhood park. There are some sites that could be considered including the former Two Rivers Family Swim Center, Forestview Cemetery, or city property next to L.B. Clarke Middle School or Magee Elementary School. Forestview Cemetery is a likely option for adding new park amenities in the north end of town because of the extra space already owned by the city and existing driveway access via Parkway Boulevard.

Inventory

Acreage: TBD

Unique Features: TBD

Park Amenities: TBD

Landscape Description: Open turf grass

Notable Activities: TBD

Pros

- Develop access to under-served area
- Reduce walk time to a park
- Means to encourage physical activity

Cons

- Property redevelopment
- Extensive partnerships

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Accessibility
2. Connectivity
3. Diverse Recreational Amenities

Objectives

1. Evaluate location and size that could be suitable.
2. Survey the community about what amenities are of interest.

Lake Michigan Shoreline Improvements

Park Description and Vision

The Two Rivers Harbor Master Plan describes major improvements for the Lake Michigan shoreline in front of the city wastewater and public works facilities. Improvements will include the creation of more beaches, wave barriers, extension of Mariners Trail, and picnicking amenities.

Inventory

Acreage: ~5 acres

Unique Features: Lake Michigan shoreline and beach

Park Amenities: Picnicking, trail, beach access

Landscape Description: Lake Michigan shoreline and beach

Notable Activities: Swimming, walking, picnicking

Pros

- Maximize lakeshore recreation
- Extend Mariners Trail

Cons

- Major grant funding needed

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Aquatic Recreation
2. Connectivity
3. Accessibility

Objectives

1. See Two Rivers Harbor Master plan.

Pump Station Building - Visitor Center

Park Description and Vision

The former high-lift pump building for the City of Two Rivers Water Department is currently sitting empty. The building has industrial style architectural features that could make it a unique opportunity to redevelop as a City Visitor Center. The building is located along Mariners Trail, close to Lake Michigan, and at a major entry point for visitors. A partnership with the Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary has the potential to enhance our ability to tell the history and culture of our community through exhibits at the building. Explore Two Rivers, the Cities tourism entity, would also find a home at the building.

Inventory

Acreage: N/A

Unique Features: Historic building with unique architecture

Park Amenities: N/A

Landscape Description: Surrounded by Two Rivers Water and Light facilities.

Notable Activities: N/A

Pros

- Ideal location
- Likely partner identified
- New attraction for visitors

Cons

- Initial renovation cost
- On-going operations cost

Guiding Principal Development Focus

1. Diverse Recreational Amenities
2. Park Maintenance and Cleanliness

Objectives

1. Renovate the building as a Two Rivers Visitor Center and Explore Two Rivers office.
2. Collaborate with the Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary on an implementation strategy.
3. Incorporate trail head amenities such as restrooms, maps, and a bike service station.
4. Increase staff capacity to maintain and clean the new facility.
5. Install public Wi-Fi.

Planning Process



1. Public Survey

- a. The public survey was open from October 2023 through February 2024.
- b. The survey was available to complete online through Survey Monkey and paper copies were available at the Two Rivers Senior Center and Parks and Recreation desk.
- c. Advertising took place on Facebook, department e-newsletter, posted in city buildings, posted at local businesses, City Manager reports to City Council, and emailed directly to Two Rivers Public Schools staff for distribution in schools.

2. Advisory Recreation Board Meetings

- a. October 11th, 2023 – Reviewed survey questions.
- b. December 13th, 2023 – Reviewed initial survey results and discussed timeline for planning.
- c. January 10th, 2024 – Reviewed survey results and discussed important content to be included.
- d. February 14th, 2024 – Reviewed guiding principles.
- e. April 10th, 2024 – Reviewed guiding principles, park inventories, and park objectives.
- f. June 12th, 2024 – Reviewed the plan page by page. A motion was passed to approve the plan and move it to a public comment window.

3. Full Draft Public Comment Window

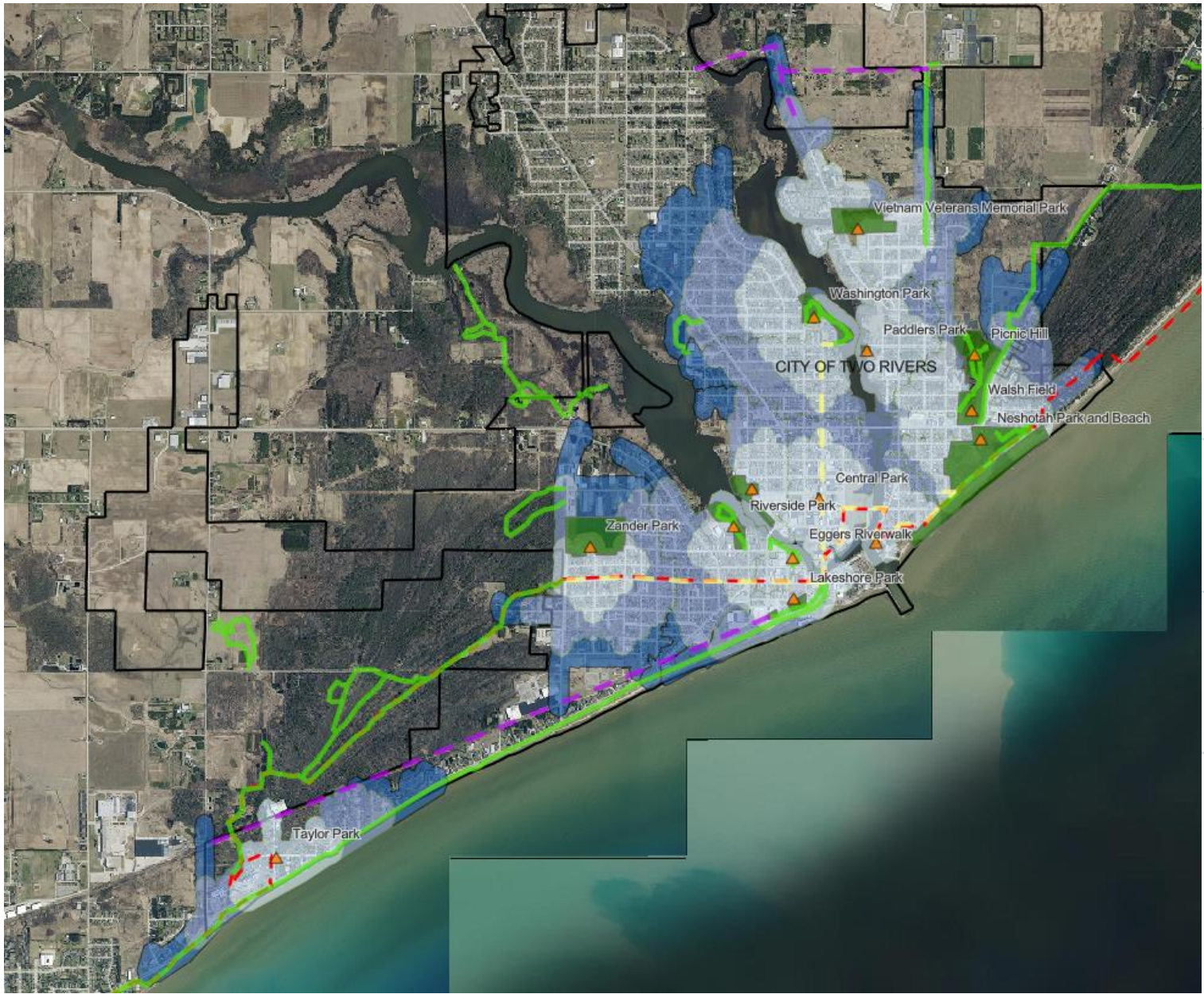
- a. Survey open from 7/12/24 to 8/12/24
- b. Open house August 12th, 2024

4. Advisory Recreation Board – August 14th, 2024

- a. Discuss results of feedback from public comment window.

5. City Council Approval

- a. Date to be determined.



Parks



Walking/Biking Trails

status

- Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail
- Proposed Street Route

Ice Age Trail

- Ice Age Trail

Park Boundaries



Walking Distance To Parks

ToBreak

- 10-15 minutes
- 5-10 minutes
- 0-5 minutes




Legend

Parks



Walking/Biking Trails

status

-  Existing Trail
-  Proposed Trail
-  Proposed Street Route




Park Boundaries

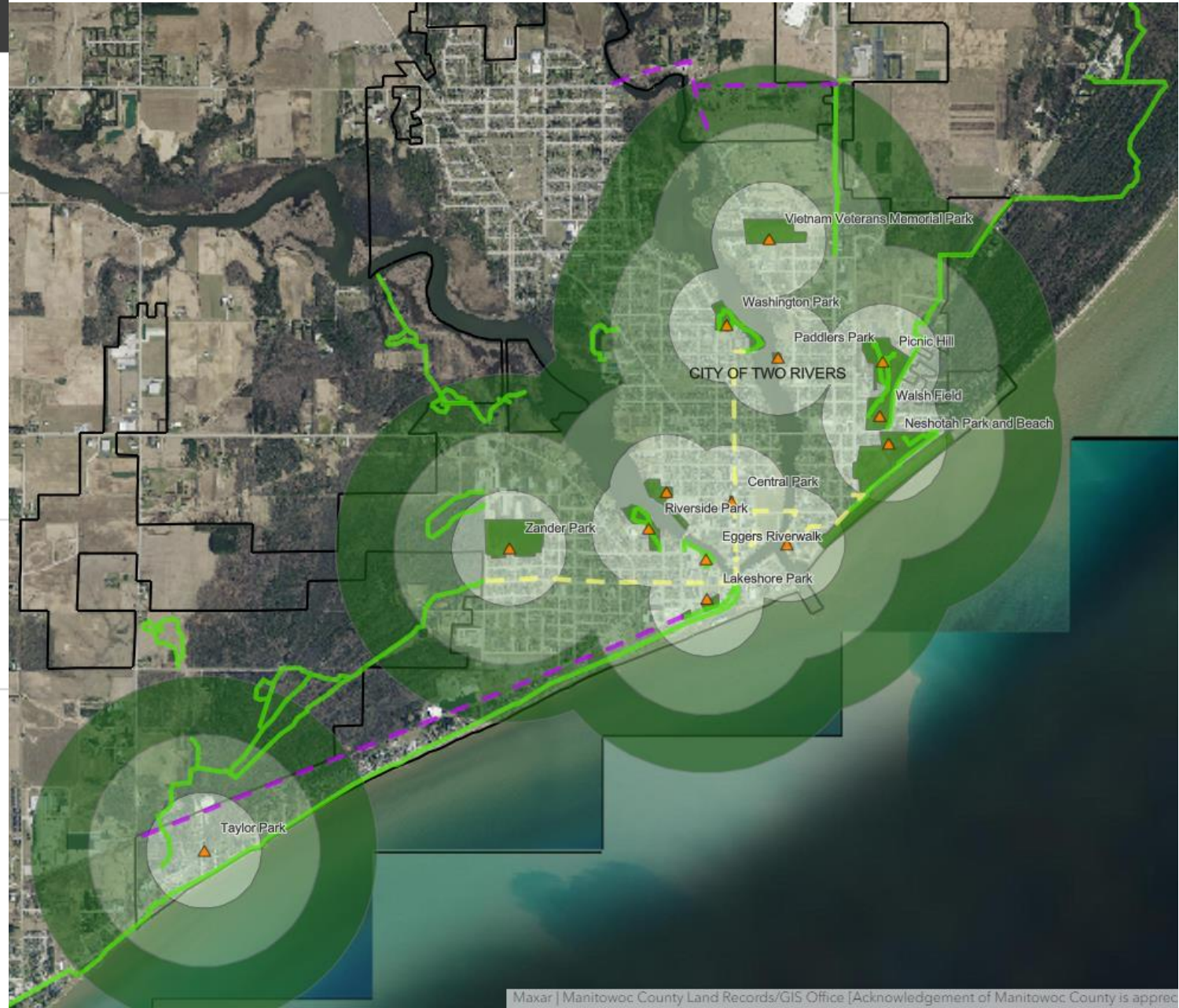


Parks

Miles to Parks

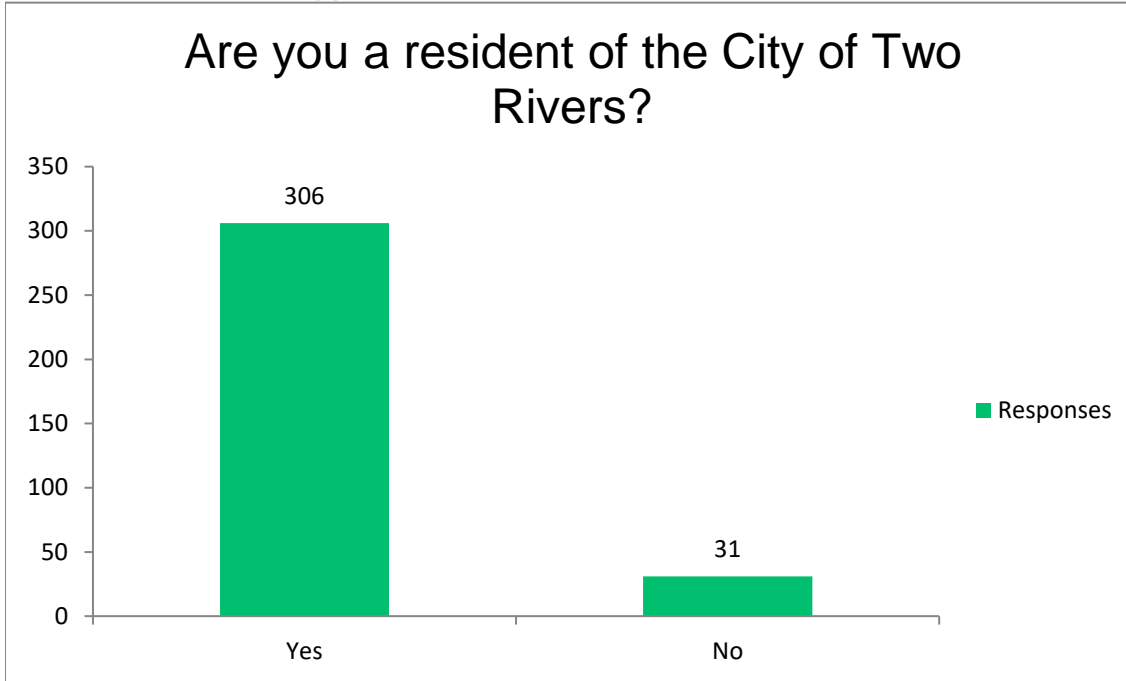
Distance

-  0.25 miles
-  0.5 miles
-  0.75 miles



Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 1
Are you a resident of the City of Two Rivers?

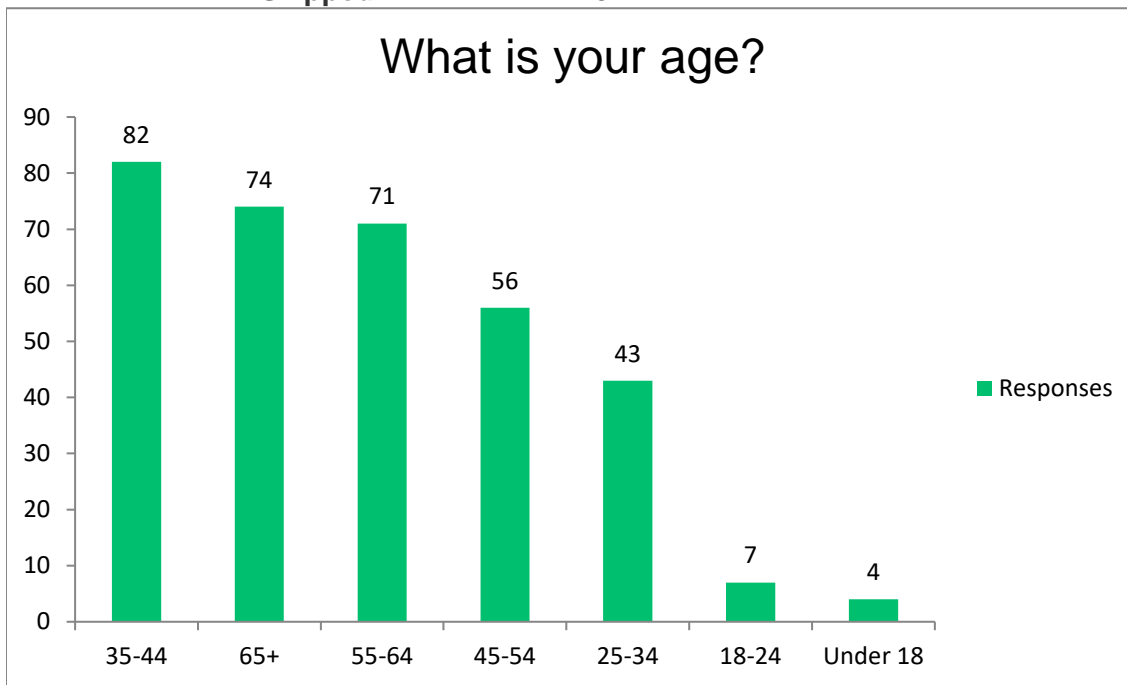
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	90.80%	306
No	9.20%	31
Answered		337
Skipped		0



Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 2

What is your age?

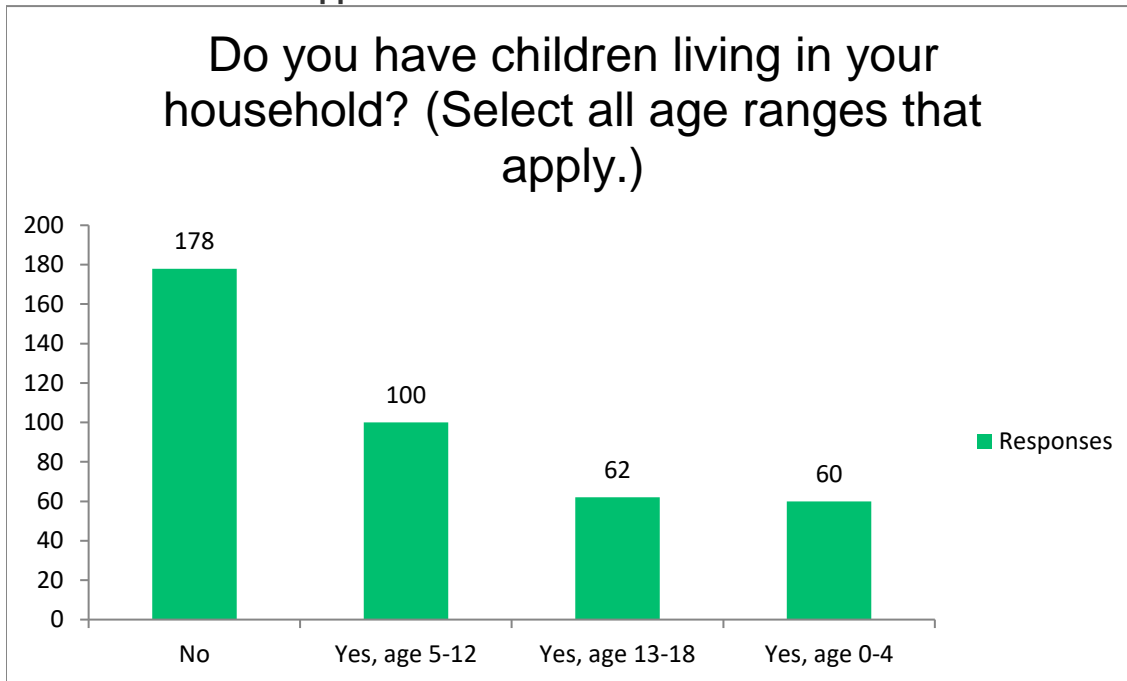
Answer Choices	Responses	
35-44	24.33%	82
65+	21.96%	74
55-64	21.07%	71
45-54	16.62%	56
25-34	12.76%	43
18-24	2.08%	7
Under 18	1.19%	4
	Answered	337
	Skipped	0



Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 3

Do you have children living in your household? (Select all age ranges that apply.)

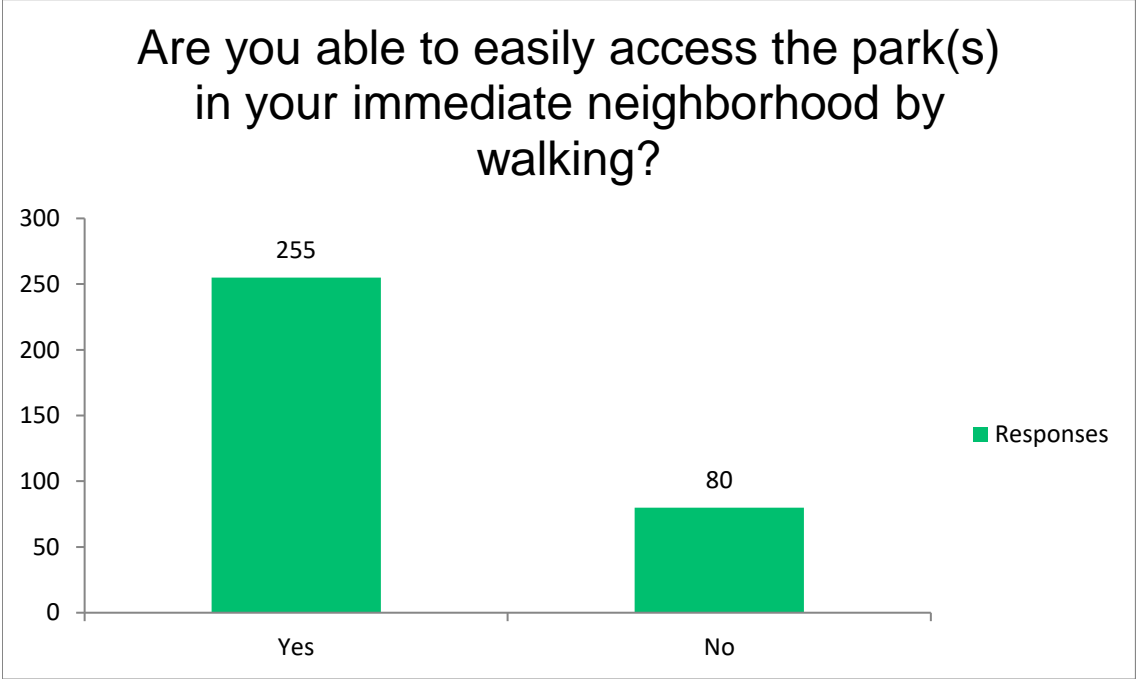
Answer Choices	Responses	
No	52.82%	178
Yes, age 5-12	29.67%	100
Yes, age 13-18	18.40%	62
Yes, age 0-4	17.80%	60
Answered		337
Skipped		0



Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 4

Are you able to easily access the park(s) in your immediate neighborhood by

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	76.12%	255
No	23.88%	80
If "no", please explain.		61
Answered		335
Skipped		2



Question 4

If "no", please explain.

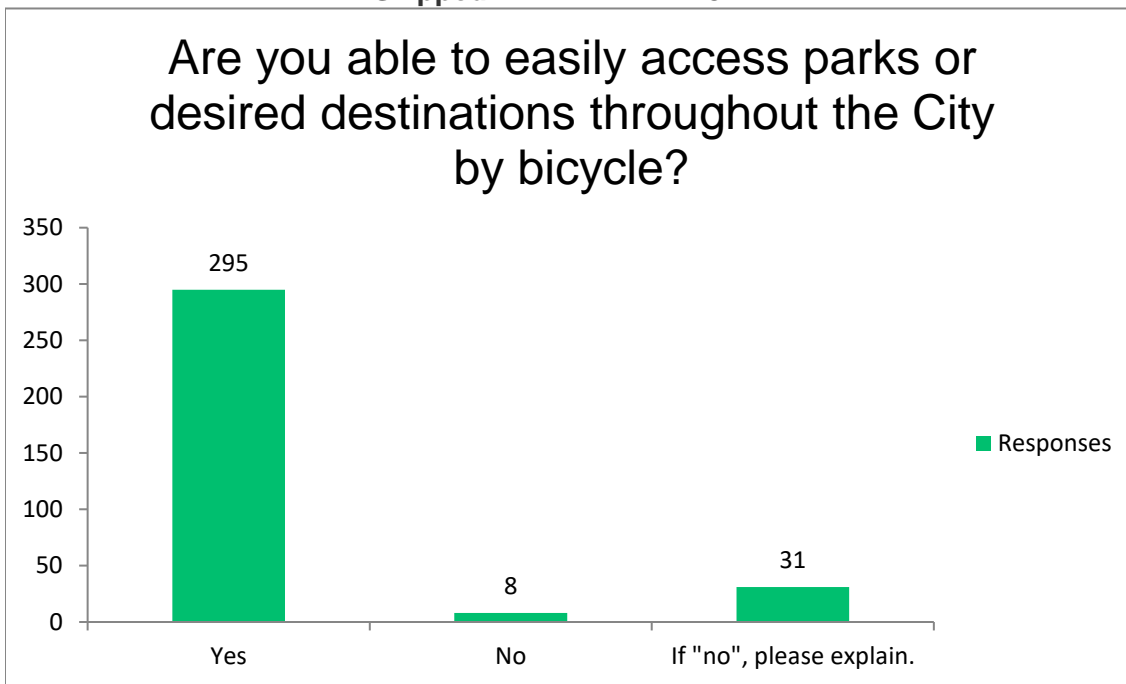
- 1 I use an electric scooter.
- 2 Country living
- 3 There is only a cemetery and schools
- 4 Don't know of one by Martin lane
- 5 No park park on the north e d
I just cannot walk six blocks anymore. I used to ride a recumbent 3 wheeler over there, but
- 6 cannot do that either.
- 7 Not handicap friendly
- 8 Live on northend
I'm on the same street as our city manager. I'm unable to do much walking anywhere. Bad
- 9 back.
Most are across town not near the swim center other than maybe Magee but even then it's a
- 10 small park nothing new
- 11 Too far
- 12 None in our immediate area
- 13 Too far
- 14 None around us
- 15 NO parks close enough
- 16 Younger kids (4-8) can't go that far alone
- 17 There is no parks in our neighborhood
- 18 I don't live in the area, but visit Two Rivers often
- 19 No park in walking distance
- 20 live In manitowoc
- 21 To far
- 22 Too far to walk for some in household
- 23 The family swim club is the only place to take my Grandkids
- 24 None near
- 25 Only school parks close by
- 26 Not a resident of TR
- 27 No parks on north end of town
- 28 Not a water park
- 29 Live on outskirts of town
- 30 No. Not living in Two Rivers yet. Looking for a home.
- 31 There are no immediate neighborhood parks near me.
- 32 Only a school park is close to me, on the north end of town
- 33 No park is close to the 2800 block of 38th street
- 34 Not any parks on north side. Only schools.
- 35 No parks near my home
- 36 Have just under a mile walk.
- 37 We live on the northside of the city and there isn't a park within walking distance
- 38 No parks near 43rd st
- 39 There are no actual parks in our neighborhood.
- 40 Too far to walk.
- 41 Too far to walk
- 42 Too far away....none on northern of town

43 Not close
44 No north side park
45 There are no parks in the neighborhood.
Unless school playgrounds are included, Washington Park is the only city park on the North side
46
47 No park close
There are no parks on the northside other than Washington Park which is about a mile away.
48
49 Over a mile to walk to the nearest park
50 Live in Manitowoc
51 Live in rural area
Nearest park is 1.5-2 miles away and requires crossing the bridge on VV. Other "parks" nearby
52 are actually schools not public parks.
53 Live on Memorial Drive
54 Live in the country
55 Live outside of the city
56 Our nearest park is over a mile away, across two busy streets
57 Live in town of TR
58 We have a nice neighborhood for walking but not with a park. We live on 45th.
59 Physically I could but the nearest city part is 15 blocks away from me
60 I have been issues walking
61 Live too far from any parks

Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 5

Are you able to easily access parks or desired destinations throughout the City by

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	88.32%	295
No	2.40%	8
If "no", please explain.	9.28%	31
Answered		334
Skipped		3



Question 5

If "no", please explain.

I am disable. I use an electric scooter.

No longer ride bikes.

I don't bicycle

Don't ride a bike

Unsure? I also have little kids and that might be more difficult

We can get there by bike but not easy with us having young kids a d the nearest park for them 1 mile away

Not close enough

Too old, and have health problems, mobility.

No bike

Same reason I can't walk.

Biking to Neshotah from west of downtown is tough with kids.

There should be a bike path from 45th St and Tannery all the way to the high school.

more bike lanes would be great

Closes park is 20+blocks away

I don't live in the area, but visit Two Rivers often

Traffic can be a concern when biking.

Don't own a bicycle

Don't have a bike.

Don't want my kids too far from home

Not a resident of TR

Not a water park

Don't own a bicycle.

By using main streets yes

All 2 plus miles away

Unable to ride a bike

Pedestrian bridges at rivers would help for people with kids

Live in rural area

Live in town of TR

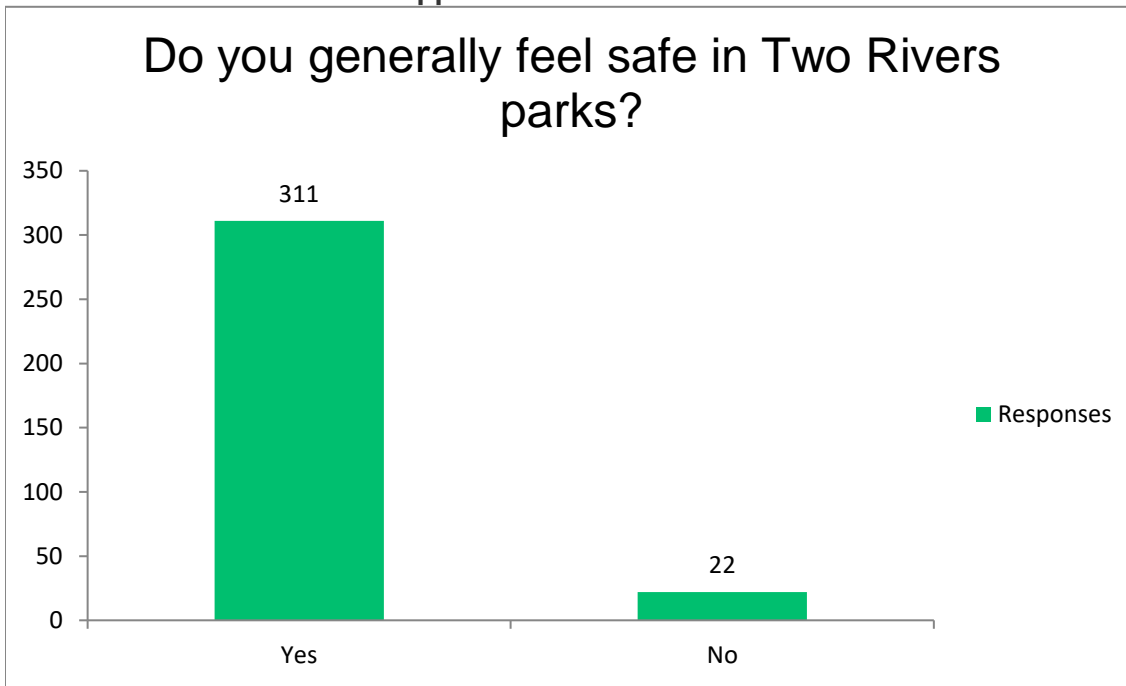
Too old to ride a bike

Don't ride a bike anymore

Actual bike lanes would help. I don't think most parents want their 6 year old riding in the street on Main Street

Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 6
Do you generally feel safe in Two Rivers parks?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	93.39%	311
No	6.61%	22
If "no", please explain.		24
Answered	333	
Skipped	4	



Question 6

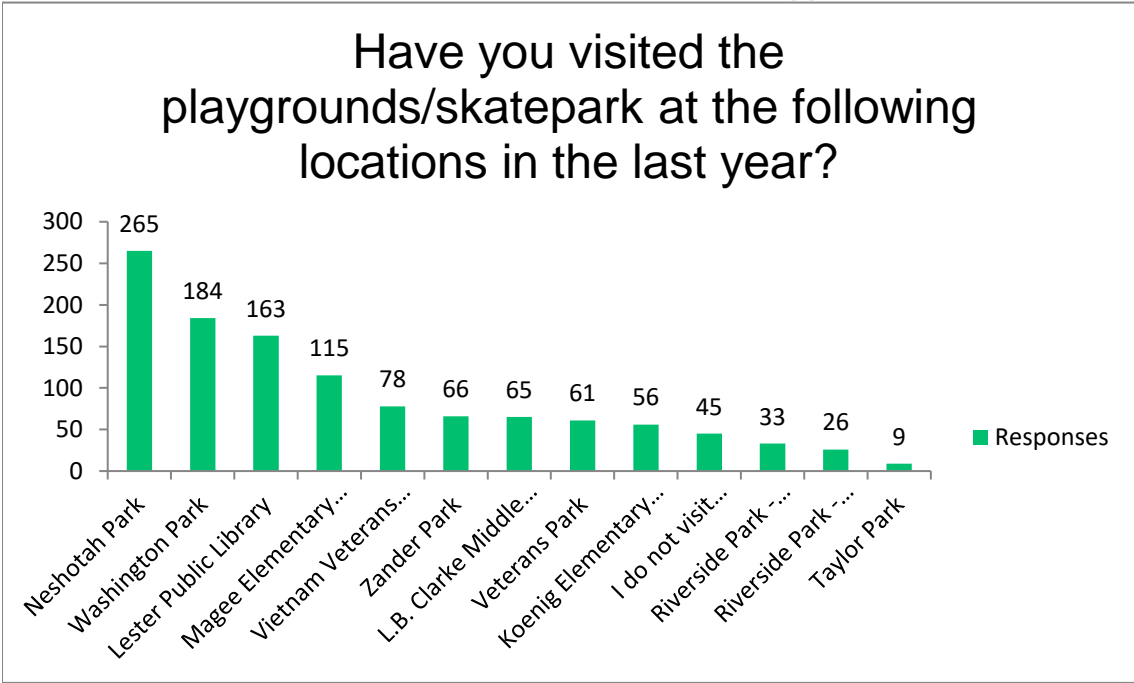
If "no", please explain.

- 1 Worried about drug needles and predators as well as unsupervised middle school aged children acting like fools.
- 2 Kids drowning in water, no lifeguards
- 3 There's always a fear of someone that shouldn't be there, that just comes with the way it is today
- 4 To much drugs and drinks by people
- 5 Unsure
- 6 attacked by a group of kids
- 7 I don't feel safe if there are only 1 or 2 other people around.
- 8 Thing are changing in the city
- 9 Daytime only
- 10 Yes, but it would be nice to have more lights throughout parks for when it's winter and it's dark out early.
- 11 During the daylight hours I feel very safe
- 12 During daylight
- 13 More lighting at Neshoto needed
- 14 Increase in tourism in the summer I don't feel my child is safe at Neshota
- 15 Beach/Park
- 16 Many fights, drugs, unruly teens
- 17 Too many bullies starting fights
- 18 New park at neshota that just went up has alot of fall hazards that could be rectified with a little extra safety bars in some places a lot of big gaps.
- 19
- 20 It depends.
- 21 Crime, dirty, people don't leash dogs...
- 22 No surveillance systems as deterrent
- 23 Zander can be sketchy
- 24 For now but the City's changing for the worse
- 25 Zander's is where drugs are bought and sold
- 26 I feel like more lighting could be provided in some of the parks at night .
- 27

Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 7

Have you visited the playgrounds/skatepark at the following locations in the last year?

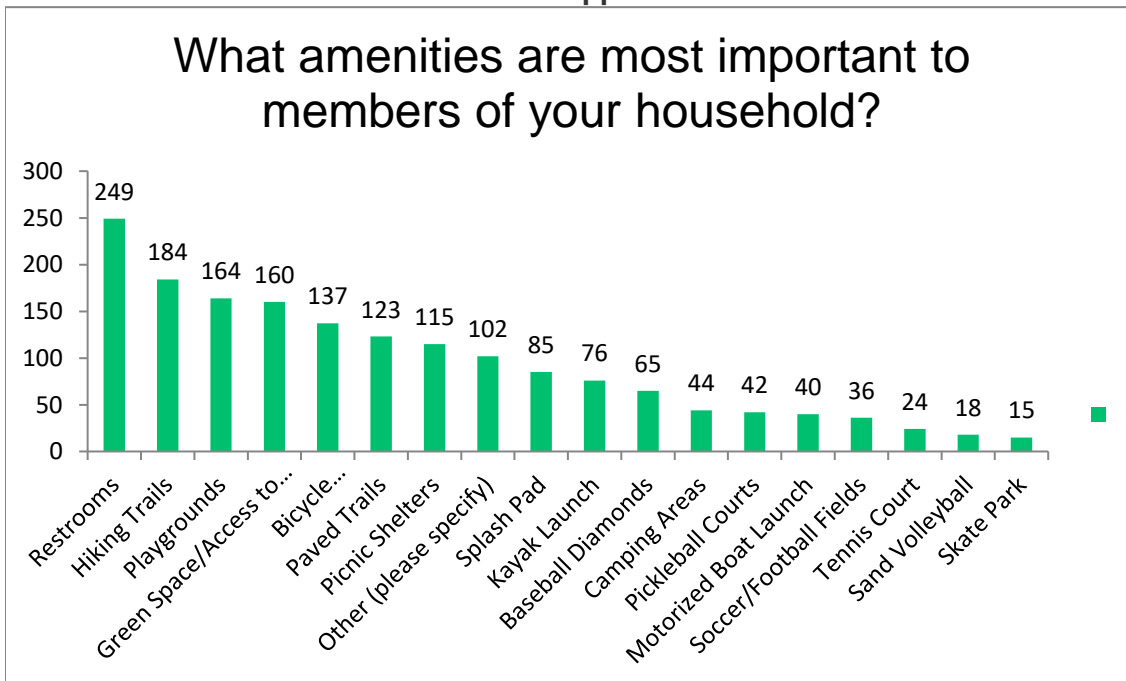
Answer Choices	Responses	
Neshotah Park	78.64%	265
Washington Park	54.60%	184
Lester Public Library	48.37%	163
Magee Elementary School (School District Owned)	34.12%	115
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park	23.15%	78
Zander Park	19.58%	66
L.B. Clarke Middle School (School District Owned)	19.29%	65
Veterans Park	18.10%	61
Koenig Elementary School (School District Owned)	16.62%	56
I do not visit playgrounds.	13.35%	45
Riverside Park - Playground	9.79%	33
Riverside Park - Skatepark	7.72%	26
Taylor Park	2.67%	9
Answered		337
Skipped		0



Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 8

What amenities are most important to members of your household?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Restrooms	73.89%	249
Hiking Trails	54.60%	184
Playgrounds	48.66%	164
Green Space/Access to Natural Areas	47.48%	160
Bicycle Access/Infrastructure	40.65%	137
Paved Trails	36.50%	123
Picnic Shelters	34.12%	115
Other (please specify)	30.27%	102
Splash Pad	25.22%	85
Kayak Launch	22.55%	76
Baseball Diamonds	19.29%	65
Camping Areas	13.06%	44
Pickleball Courts	12.46%	42
Motorized Boat Launch	11.87%	40
Soccer/Football Fields	10.68%	36
Tennis Court	7.12%	24
Sand Volleyball	5.34%	18
Skate Park	4.45%	15
	Answered	337
	Skipped	0



Question 8

	Other (please specify)
1	Pool
2	Jet-ski launch. Need designated area for scuba diving entry.
3	Prefer natural trails for hiking as opposed to putting in paths in the forest
4	Basketball hoops
5	Swimming Pool
6	Fenced in dog park
7	Zip line
8	Horseshoes
9	Central Park splash pad. Not sure why Central Park isn't listed
10	Benches on which to sit!
11	Dog friendly areas/trails
12	Swimming pool
13	Bocce ball court
14	Campground in neshotah park
15	Benches to rest on.
16	Beach
17	A pool is something fun that kids who don't have cars who can't get to the Manitwoc Aquatic Center can access and still have fun
18	DOG PARKS
19	Excercise places
20	More playground equipment at Riverside park
21	Pool
22	Beach access and shelters
23	Dog/pet friendly. Trash bins + doggie bag locations
24	Horseshoes pits
25	Improvements at dog park such as shelter and water spigot
26	None of these
27	Swimming pool with instruction
28	Family Swim Center
29	Swimming pool
30	Swimming pools
31	Beach
32	Pool (two rivers Family swim)
33	Updated pool, lifeguards at beach, maintained trails
34	Dirt bike trails
35	Two Rivers Community Pool
36	Pool for swimming
37	The family swim club
38	Pool
39	Pool
40	Bocce Ball Courts, Lounging Chairs for storm or lake watching
41	Pool
42	Community Pool, even though you all think we don't need it.
43	Swimming pool
44	Pool!!

45 Family swim club

Keeping the swimming pools is very important for the safety of children and future of TR. The splash pad is fun for small children but offers no swimming lessons or appeal for older children. The pools

46 are important for all ages!!

47 two rivers swim club pool

48 Swimming pool with attached volley ball court

49 Basketball courts. 2/3 of my children are in the booster club basketball!

50 Swimming pool with life guards

51 Two rivers family swim center

52 Fishing from shore

53 Swimming

54 Pool

55 Swim pool

56 Pool

57 City run pool

58 Public pool

59 Pool

The Two Rivers Family Swim is incredibly important in our household as we utilize the pool for swim lessons

61 TTwo rivers swim club!

62 City wide swimming pool

63 Pool

64 Outdoor pool

65 Pool

66 Pool

67 Public Pool

68 swimming pool

69 Swimming pool

70 Fishing areas

Workout area, climbing wall, exercise cycles for upper and lower body, and more refuse containers, especially by park entrances and access points.

72 Rentable units, would like an inside space like Lincoln Park in Manitowoc

73 My wife loves those charcoal grills at Neshotah

74 Beach

75 City pool

76 Playground equipment

77 Peace

78 Beach

79 POOL

Please consider transforming the existing family swim club into a park area with a pool. Kids cannot swim in a splash pad and they cannot learn to swim in Lake Michigan. We need a safe, supervised pool for our young generation and to promote families to want to live in TR.

81 Pool

82 Community pool

83 More benches to sit near the playground, so see my children play.

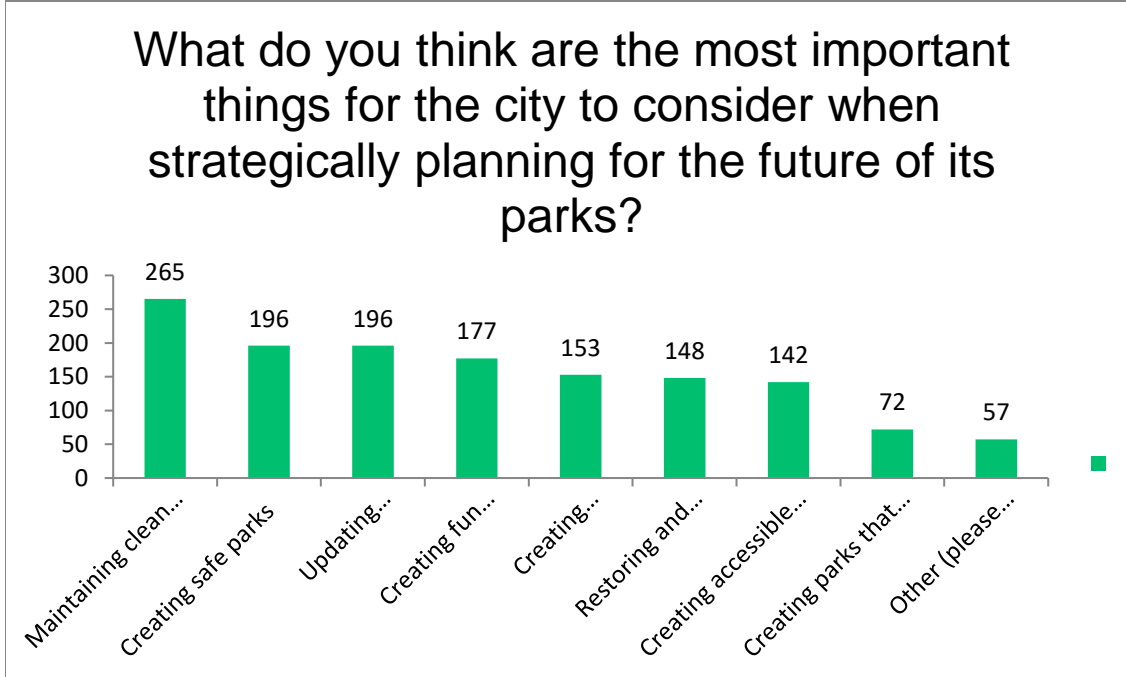
84 A public pool

- 85 | Swimming pool
- 86 | Private rental spaces for birthdays reunions
- 87 | Outside swimming pool for summer
- 88 | Basketball courts
- 89 | I'd love a pool that's not so expensive
- 90 | Safe area to swim
- 91 | Public pool where kids OF ALL AGES can learn to swim
- 92 | Outdoor pool
- 93 | Pool
- 94 | Pool
- 95 | Pool
- 96 | Community pool
- 97 | A community pool
- 98 | Community outdoor pool!! #1
- 99 | Pool
- 100 | Community Pool
- 101 | Pool
- 102 | Pool

Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 9

What do you think are the most important things for the city to consider when strategically planning for the future of its parks?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Maintaining clean parks	78.87%	265
Creating safe parks	58.33%	196
Updating infrastructure such as restrooms, shelters, picnic tables, etc	58.33%	196
Creating fun amenities for recreation and health	52.68%	177
Creating connectivity for walking and biking	45.54%	153
Restoring and maintaining natural areas	44.05%	148
Creating accessible parks for all abilities	42.26%	142
Creating parks that contribute to economic development	21.43%	72
Other (please specify)	16.96%	57
	Answered	336
	Skipped	1



Question 9

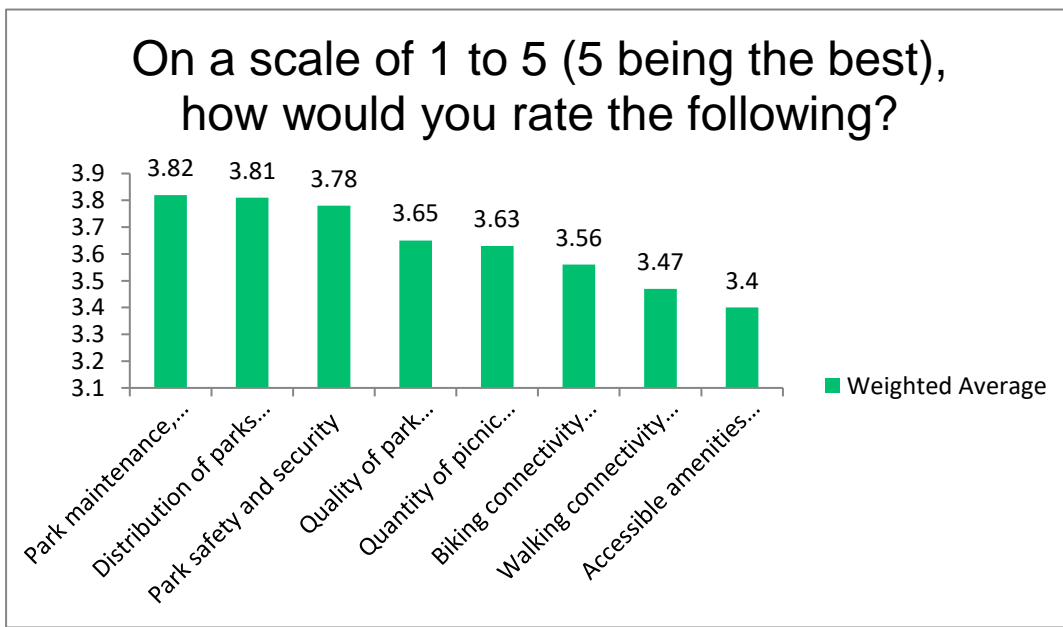
	Other (please specify)
1	Having a pool is extremely important
2	Keeping forest areas natural
3	Swimming Pool
4	Playground workers where equipment can be checked out for free.
5	Public swimming pool
6	
7	Beach pavilion bathrooms need expansion. If the current shelter is structurally sound, expand back 20-30 feet (or more) for easier access and more urinals and toilets.
8	
9	We need a pool. The high school pool water is too cold for little kids to take swimming lessons.
10	Safe public swimming pool
11	Shelters for rent
12	Making sure playground equipment is very safe
13	Update playground at vets Park by the river on 18 th strret
14	Leave nature alone
15	Swimming pool with instruction
16	Swimming pool
17	A Pool
18	Pool
19	Help swim club
20	Community Pool
21	Adding a pool option for kids in the community to learn to swim since we have a lake and two rivers
22	Public pool
23	Offering of seasonal outdoor activities—ice rink at Washington Park, community pool for swimming lessons—super important living by a large body of water.
24	Pool
25	two rivers swim club
26	Swimming pool with attached volley ball court
27	Save our local swim club!!!
28	Community swimming pool
29	Pool
30	Needing a pool
31	Kids/ grandkids need swimming Two Rivers Close to bikeing
32	Have a community pool
33	
34	A pool. A place for young kids to go and play / hang out. There isn't a place for the youth to go
35	City pool
36	Maintaining Two Rivers Pool
37	Swim lessons or other teaching momments
38	Keeping the Two Rivers Family Swim Center open, as it is a NECESSARY facility in our community.
39	Having the pool
40	The restrooms are the most important. I want you to paint out the word shelter on the sign at Riverside Park because there is no available restroom there

- 38 a swimming pool
- 39 Build a community pool
- 40 Exercise stations
- 41 City pool
- 42 Splash pad/pool
- 43 Better directional signage
- 44 A safe public pool area
- 45 Current parks are in good condition and just need up keep. Consider doing something in the current location of the family swim club, keeping a public pool.
- 46 Safe place for all ages to swim
- 47 A public pool
- 48 City pool
- 49 Pool
- 50 Adding a pool to one of the parks
- 51 Safe, supervised place for all ages to swim
- 52 Swimming pool
- 53 Public pool where kids OF ALL AGES can learn to swim
- 54 26th
- 55 Pool
- 56 Updating and keeping community swimming pool for family use
- 57 A community pool for learning water safety, fun, and bringing money into the community

Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 10

On a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being the best), how would you rate the following?

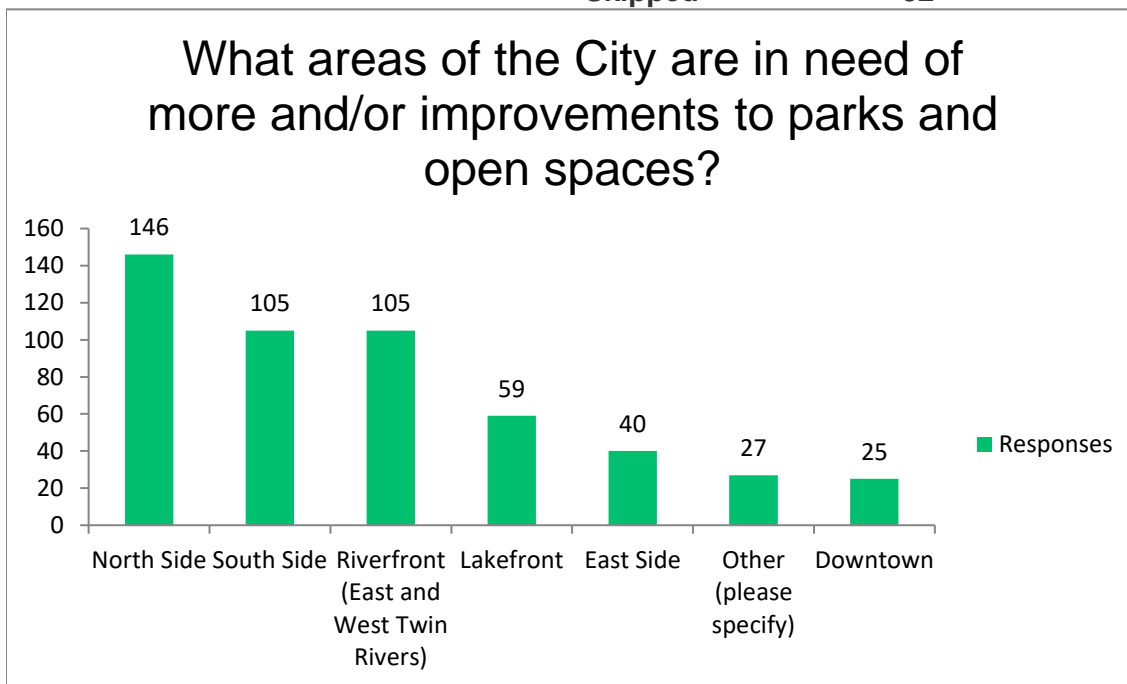
	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Weighted Average					
Park maintenance, cleanliness, and general upkeep	4%	13	7%	23	23%	77	35%	117	31%	101	331	3.82
Distribution of parks (locations within the community)	3%	9	8%	25	26%	84	35%	114	29%	97	329	3.81
Park safety and security	5%	15	6%	21	25%	81	36%	118	29%	95	330	3.78
Quality of park amenities	2%	8	8%	26	30%	100	41%	135	18%	60	329	3.65
Quantity of picnic shelters	4%	12	9%	29	30%	98	37%	122	21%	70	331	3.63
Biking connectivity between parks and major destinations	3%	9	10%	32	36%	118	32%	104	20%	65	328	3.56
Walking connectivity between parks and major destinations	3%	11	13%	41	36%	118	30%	97	18%	59	326	3.47
Accessible amenities for limited mobility	4%	12	11%	35	42%	135	30%	98	14%	45	325	3.4
											Answered	334
											Skipped	3



Parks and Open Space Plan Survey - Question 11

What areas of the City are in need of more and/or improvements to

Answer Choices	Responses	
North Side	47.87%	146
South Side	34.43%	105
Riverfront (East and West Twin Rivers)	34.43%	105
Lakefront	19.34%	59
East Side	13.11%	40
Other (please specify)	8.85%	27
Downtown	8.20%	25
Answered		305
Skipped		32



Question 11

	Other (please specify)
1	North side has school parks, not city parks.
2	B
3	Harborfront
4	South side beach parking
5	the different areas have different needs, addressing safety in some, cleanliness in others, etc. but overall pretty good
6	all equally needed, without information on number of residents and walking distance to park, no opinion walking dist
7	Harborside park is in terrible disrepair, and it is one of the best views in the city.
8	I'm not sure.
9	Vets park
10	Utilize more than just the beach and central park we had great parks at one time
11	None, need less molestation of nature
12	Not familiar with other parks
13	Bike/walking trail from the north side to the high school.
14	two rivers swim club
15	Save the swim club!!
16	Outdoor pool
17	Riverside Park that has no working restroom
18	Build a community pool
19	Area of former Paragon Company site
20	City pool
21	Koenig. The slide has a large hole in it and children are getting hurt. Needs immediate attention.
22	A riverfront park with lots of green space is something I see when traveling through most towns with rivers running through them. It's a nice aesthetic that immediately makes me feel like I'm in a well kept community
23	Please stay natural..nature is the best park
24	Pool
25	None
26	Riverfronts need to be cleaned up
27	The park by my house ,by west twin, has had same playground equipment for over 30 yrs I believe.d

Question 12

What projects should be addressed next in our parks?

- 1 A pool and need for swim lessons
- 2 Tree planting. Upgrade landscaping. Former Hamilton factory would be a beautiful riverfront park. There's no SCUBA facilities here! The shop downtown doesn't cater to divers, just charters.
- 3 Restoring natural areas Shelters Restrooms
- 4 Additional safety throughout our city with the police department. When you call for assistance the newer staff haven't been helpful. Veteran officers are but there are changes in attitudes at the police department so if something happens people don't want to call when In the parks. I reported severe animal cruelty while out walking and dispatch did nothing.
- 5 Petal Taxi at Paris and around more places to rent or participate!
- 6 Update playground equipment
- 7 I would like to see rental cabins put in at the beach in the wooded area Also at other parks in two rivers
- 8 Zander Park and Riverfront near the new hotel need updating and major attention.
- 9 Whatever the projects are stop cutting down the trees and destroying what is already there
- 10 Swimming Pool Collaboration with TR Swim Club and or buy out.
- 11 Lifeguards. Beach fire pit install and rental and wood purchase options at concessions.
- 12 More parking
- 13 More restroom and parks open longer
- 14 Pool
- 15 Access and parking
- 16 More Art work & murals.
- 17 adding to the empty lot by the river
- 18 The big empty lot by the river
- 19 Stage covering at Neshotah Beach. The canopy is not sufficient for inclement weather. No protection for bands equipment.
- 20 safety
- 21 Replacement of aged equipment The ball diamonds at Vietnam are in rough shape
- 22 I've seen a lot of parks lit up for Christmas. It would be great if we could do that. Possibly in Neshota Park in the center so people could just drive through.
- 23 Beach showers
- 24 The new playground at Neshotah is nice... but... at night there is a screaming loud stadium style light blasting out... and it is WAY too bright... can that please be toned down some? It's blinding.
- 25 Improve Walesh field
- 26 More accessible play equipment, better lighting on trails and around d playgrounds.
- 27 Public swimming pool
- 28 Restrooms and mosquito/bugs remediation
- 29 Put campsites in neshotah park and on picnic hill
- 30 I can walk with a walker. Smooth paths for walkers.

- 31 More lights in Neshotah Park!
- 32 We need another place for kids to learn how to swim. The high school pool is too cold.
- 33 Memorial Drive parking for Beach usage
- 34 Looking to the future, as well as present, I think that being a notably "bike friendly" city in our planing will be a real "quality of life" benefit to the people who live here, and definitely will have a very positive impact for tourism. The bike paths we have are well used and appreciated by all my family members, their friends and seems to bring a lot of family/couple tourists to our area - nice to see. We live between 3 Airbnbs and see that a lot of people bike - more then going to bars for recreation.
- 35 Better funding for a new safe pool, there's a reason no one's going to the swim club. 1.) It's not public and the prices are outrageously high 2.) it's deteriorating and without funds we don't have the accessibility to replace. This creates an unsafe environment for children and staff.
- 36 Tree cover.
- 37 Lakefront
- 38 Art in the park
- 39 repair at lester library park and updates and at koenig
- 40 climate and awareness of how individuals can help maintain parks for the future
- 41 Mechanics excercise
- 42 Walking trails / paths Lighting
- 43 Things are pretty good right now! Maintaining for sure and safety always. Not too excited about dogs off leases. Still happens. Even in the Arboretum!!
- 44 The open grass area on the backside of the Waverley and Cobblestone hotel is ugly. I hope there is a plan for that area. It has a beautiful view of the lakeshore.
- 45 It would be nice to have the shoreline more cut down and clean at Riverside park for better viewing and access to the river. Also a slide at Riverside park would be nice. The old ones are missed.
- 46 I believe our community needs a swimming pool. This is an essential place for every community. Provides kids the importance of learning to swim and a safe place to have fun.
- 47 Aesthetically pleasing plantings like flowers and perennials requiring minimal maintenance, with seating for enjoying quiet time
- 48 The old park by the harbor. Every light is bent and falling and there are no garbage cans so bottles and bags of garbage are left sitting there in the parking lot. Everything in that park and parking lot is in terrible disrepair.
- 49 Love the tree survey you are working on.
- 50 N/A
- 51 I'm not sure.
- 52 Walking and bike trails
- 53 Something on the North side of TR. Build something around LB Clarke as long as the construction is going on.
- 54 Lighting and playground equipment
- 55 Update equipment at vets Park by the river. It's 30 yrs old
- 56 Dog-friendly areas/amenities, more places for kayak/canoe entry on the river, kid friendly/sized basketball hoops for toddlers/small children.

- 57 Taking down dead trees.
- 58 Updating, Vets Park was a nice park now metal ware use the fishing area and the park with all those semis loading docks should not be on the city parking lot. Update old existing. Safety
- 59 Improvement in dog park, bathrooms at neshotah beach concession stand. Parking fees for our of town beach users.
- 60 Eliminating unnatural amenities.
- 61 A swimming pool and Swim lessons with qualified instructors. With only lifeguards, kids are not actually safe in the water. They are there specifically if the child is in trouble, which often is too late.
- 62 Updated playground by library. Another splash pad or wading pool
- 63 A city campground! It doesn't have to be large, but ideally it would be on one of the rivers, with access for kayaks/canoes. A wooded area would be best. Designated tent spaces are a must. Tenters prefers rustic camping, so tent spaces well away from the area with hookups would be ideal.
- 64 Keeping the pool open for public use.
- 65 Dead tree removal in Neshotah Park
- 66 Help swim club and hire lifeguards at beach.
- 67 Installing waterbottle filling drinking fountains.
- 68 Safety and Security
- 69 Parking meters by the beach
- 70 Would be nice to have a shelter that is enclosed to rent for party and such like the licoln park cabins. We have a lot of park in noshoto park but we need to develop a better parking situation at the beach. Maybe a special area for golf cart parking 2 wheel vehicle maybe
- 71 Adding a city swim pool
- 72 Family swim club
- 73 A community pool
- 74 The importance of keeping the community pool open and in tact.
- 75 We need a pool.
- 76 A pool
- 77 Handicapped accessible and fixing up Zander Park
- 78 Updating to more modern equipment.
- 79 Trailhead in Two Rivers next to TR Utilities property with parking, bike washing, light snacks/drinks for the trail, lockers and shelter with tables for resting.
- 80 I would love to see a public pool. I would love for the Two Rivers swim club to become a park/splash pad, public pool for all residents of two rivers. I am from Manitowoc and my entire family go to two Rivers because of that pool. We have come to explore parks in two rivers because of that. Washington Park is one of our favorites. We love what Two Rivers has to offer.
- 81 We don't need a pool!
- 82 Community pool, teach our lakeshore children to swim and swim safely, in a lifeguards area. This also gives summer jobs to youth in our area.
- 83 Swimming pool
- 84 There are trees between the park and nashoto beach that are dangerous and need to be cut down.

- 85 Improvement of equipment at failing parks and increased landscaping to improve overall park settings. Also see comments in question 13.
- 86 Swim club pool
- 87 Better restrooms
- 88 Trim and replace dead trees that are eyesores. More police patrol late at night.
- 89 City needs a pool
- 90 I don't mean to sound like a broken record but my number one priority would be to assist the swimming pool financially. It's a huge draw for new families moving to the area. The safety of our children deserve it.
- 91 A pool for the community
- 92 two rivers swim club!! my daughter takes swim classes there and the family friendly environment is perfect
- 93 Washington park playground improvement
- 94 Connecting all bike trails. Help cleaning parks on bs weekends in summer., swimming pool.

- 95 Save the swim club!
- 96 Community swimming pool with life guards
- 97 Two rivers family swim center
- 98 TR needs a pool that is affordable
- 99 Tennis courts. Riverside park could use some attention.
- 100 Park equipment for all ages (toddlers) would be fantastic.
- 101 Pools available
- 102 Clean restrooms
- 103 Parking
- 104 Things for the youth to do. A pool
- 105 A city pool would be beneficial for all members of the community and surrounding areas.

- 106 City pool
- 107 Bathroom availability.
- 108 Handicap equipment
- 109 Enclosed park shelters that can be rented. Handicap parking by brand new park at neshota. Porta potties at neahota Park from time of public bathroom closure to the start of snow. Kids still need a place to go when playing at park. It would be nice to have a public pool to swim at my youngest can not swim in lake water due to medical a condition.

- 110 Community pool
- 111 Outdoor pool
- 112 There should be a pool accessible to the public.
- 113 City pool
- 114 A public pool
- 115 restrooms at Riverside Park and Walsh Field
- 116 Build a community pool
- 117 Lifeguards and towers at the beach in summer. Fire pits on the beach w/ monitoring sell wood at concessions.
- 118 New concession stand at the beach and New Magee playground with fence for safety of students

- 119 Security cameras, more exercise stations, more restrooms open year-round, more handicapped parking, and more refuse containers
- 120 Football and/or baseball fields with shelters with bathrooms at the field spaces by Magee and Clarke
- 121 I like what Sheboygan did with a large park accessible to all. Platteville also did the same thing. Maybe instead of building more parks. Continue to expand the one that everyone with all abilities can use.
- 122 Connectivity
- 123 Better restroom/changing areas at the beach.
- 124 Equipment for older kids
- 125 More tennis locations. Was once a strength, now a weakness. Bike/walking trail from north side to high school and Point Beach.
- 126 Heated shelters for year around parties. Like Lincoln park
- 127 I would like to see Neshotah trees pruned and some landscaping done, it seems overgrown in areas.
- 128 More entertainment
- 129 Accessibility for everyone and maintaining cleanliness
- 130 City pool
- 131 Playgrounds that include infant swings and small toddler structures.
- 132 Public pool
- 133 Wifi at all parks. Better garbage/recycling at the beach during the summer. The garbage cans are always stuffed beyond full. Perhaps a dumpster or 2 would be a better option.

- 134 Upgrade to bathrooms at Neshotah Park and Beach
- 135 Bathrooms at Walsh Field.
- 136 More police activity or security.
- 137 An attraction by the riverfront that keeps integrity of green space AND an attraction that will drive economic growth. Residential properties on our waterfront will prevent greenspace attractions...thus leaving residents with little to do in TR.

- 138 Zander Park. Why is there NO equipment there but we are eplacing the equipment at Neshotah? Seems odd....
- 139 Easy access, parking Maintained paths/trails
- 140 Accessible spaces/equipment for all Play areas for toddlers
- 141 accessibility
- 142 Koenig Elementary School Wheelchair accessibility to the Lake Michigan water.
- 143 North side park
- 144 People always use LB Clarke as a dog park, maybe a park on north side
- 145 Areas away from the play areas for a quiet place to sit and relax.
- 146 Grounds
- 147 More swings. For kids and adults.
- 148 Signage. Art installations.
- 149 Pedestrian bridges at rivers, better development of walking/biking trails with green space along East Twin river that could access future commercial development there.

- 150 Riverfront area and family swim partnership

- 151 Public pool. Kids need a safe place to learn to swim. The high school is not available for all to learn to swim. The lake is not a safe place for kids to learn to swim. And, there are many days where the lake is not safe for anyone to swim. Also, where will our fire fighters do their water rescue training without this public pool. I believe they use this facility at no charge to the city. There are cities similar and smaller than TR that have public pools. We do not need an elaborate water park. The splash pad is fun for visitors but will not hold the interest in our young residents. Time to think about residents and not just tourists.
- 152 Parking lot at Vietnam Vets park should be black topped.
- 153 Public pool
- 154 Many of the parks/school grounds have vast open areas with no trees. I think planting some large species spread apart would make these areas more useful as they would have some shade yet retain some openness for recreation. I believe this would add beauty to these areas as well.
- 155 Remove courts at Zander and improve dog park, or put in pickle ball courts. Same with tennis courts at Neshota Park.
- 156 Updated playground equipment for children of all ages, mostly the youngest (under age 5).
- 157 Swimming pool
- 158 North side. Only magee and Washington park on this side of town. Pool! We need a pool for everyday use in the summer in town. The kids need to know how to swim, we live on a Great Lake and have two rivers in our city. Learning to swim is a life saving skill in this area. The high school pool isn't best for little kids to learn how to swim. No wading/baby pool and the water is freezing.
- 159 Stay natural . The Two Rivers area is a natural gem.
- 160 Baseball diamonds
- 161 River front old Hamilton lot. City should take the Hamilton property and turn it into a park/ event space
- 162 Need a community pool.
- 163 Riverwalk
- 164 NA
- 165 Neshotah park has seen tons of vandalism to the amazing equipment. The music book on the xylophone was broken off almost immediately. Many things get tampered with there. I think we need to come up with a way to either prevent or catch whoever is doing this. I think camera's and/or better lighting could be a start. Just sad to see a few people ruin it for the many kids and families who enjoy the parks! I know bathroom vandalism has also been a problem. I also think it would be nice to have some natural playground options (similar to what was done at Zander Park) added at the original area of Neshotah park. The Northside could use a park area that isn't part of the school. The old greenhouse property would be perfect. Lastly, the park equipment at the old C.C. Case is starting to get dated. It would be nice to upgrade that in the near future. It gets a lot of use during t-ball/softball/ and baseball season.
- 166 Parking by nesotah beach and a private enclosed rental area for parties (like by the manitowoc zoo or greenbay zoo)
- 167 Pools

- 168 A PUBLIC swimming pool with swimming lessons and lake safety - daily or summer fees. No outrageous memberships
- 169 City pool
- 170 Trash removal/restroom maintenance during peak season. Glass bottle usage—especially in season tourist
- 171 Pool and dog park
- 172 Have high school students who already needs volunteers hours to pull weeds and clean up the parks.
- 173 Continue to keep the playground equipment up to date and clean.
- 174 Pool
- 175 The park around on 13th street could use improvements (maybe something to do with the train bridge and history)
- 176 We need a pool for kids to swim
- 177 Community swimming pool to promote and teach swim safety
- 178 Bike access trails
- 179 N/a
- 180 Trails along the rivers
- 181 Community pool restoration and upkeep for ongoing family use
- 182 Preventing vandalism
- 183 Keeping them clean and in working order
- 184 Consider a pool/waterpark similar to Manitowoc and surrounding areas (Green Bay).

- 185 Pool
- 186 A community pool
- 187 A community pool
- 188 Adding the Swim Club to the parks and rec dept
- 189 Playgrounds should be safe.
- 190 Pool, north side park.
- 191 believe. Playground equipment for veterans park by West twin. And maintain the area under swings. Full of thistles
- 192 Put more lighting to cut down on vandalism
- 193 Cleanliness of the park by Vinton and the hall diamonds.
- 194 Exercise stations would be nice. Walking trail from the beach to neshotah park.
- 195 More shelters fir rent
- 196 Washington Park playground equipment, quite frankly, is boring. This is such a great space, more exciting playground equipment would be appreciated.
- 197 More turf flooring for parks, updating current play structures
- 198 Security cameras and more lighting
- 199 Not sure. Handicapped accessible for picnic tables. Tables downtown are a lot on the hill and hard to use.
- 200 Sculpture garden or art walk, pollinator gardens, rain gardens, native plantings

Question 13

Do you have any additional comments about how we should maintain, improve, or steward our parks and open spaces?

- 1 Neshotah beach needs dune restoration and protection. Neshotah Park needs cleanup of fallen dead trees and debris (residents on 22nd Street dump their yard waste in there) and an extensive tree planting and restoration of native species needs to be completed. Upgrade the buildings so they are architecturally significant (like the new shelter in Central Park West!) and cohesive. Get rid of the eyesore Quonset storage hut next to "Rock City ". Beautiful area used a lot for photography and there's a cheap, ugly building right in the middle. The entire Neshotah Park and Beach complex feels neglected and unplanned.
- 2 Love the skating rink I like the forest and Lakeshore to stay natural and not too built up or commercialized. It's good the way it is and the improvements that are being made currently add enjoyment to the area.
- 3 Good job Two Rivers
- 4 Consider access to picnic areas for those using canes or walkers
- 5 More ongoing attention to cleanliness and upkeep is needed in some parks. See above comment.
- 6 Northside has a lot of children and many travel to Washighton Park. More fishing piers. Walking/biking bridge from 27th St. to Paddlers. Tennis courts, not just pickle ball.
- 7 Cameras
- 8 No, you all do a wonderful job, it's a joy to bring my grandchildren to the parks. We have friends from other countries and cities in the United States, they all say how clean and safe our parks and city is, kudos to you all.
- 9 No
- 10 No
- 11 Have internship for high school or college kids to work at playgrounds where equipment can be checked out for free. Like rubber balls for 4-square, tetherballs, tennis racquets & balls, basketballs, baseball bats, gloves & balls, horseshoes, volleyballs, etc. depending upon which parks have what facilities. This provides opportunity for students & safe free activities for kids. Having workers in playgrounds provides presence & safety for children.
- 12 Not sure what happened to movies in the park? I think the parks should also be used more for music/events
- 13 Updating the skate park!!!
- 14 Keep bathrooms open for use into November. We have been having beautiful Fall days. Signs at beach to stop people from feeding the seagulls.
- 15 When the "Big chair" was at the entrance of the beach it was like an icon now it's just a big chair mainly out of site. As for something new to involve the community and promote tourism in winter months I think a drive through festival of lights along the beach.
- 16 Things seem to be going good. Alot of improvements and pride in the work. It's just been along time with nothing done that it will take time to improve. Things are looking good

- 17 Make neshotah beach a destination like Bay beach in Green Bay. Better pavilion for food and drinks.
- 18 I think a natural playground would be great. Use trees and logs for children to climb on instead of plastic. I also think that TR parks and Rec. is doing a great job with our parks. The splash pad/ice rink is amazing. Zander park is also fabulous. Thanks for doing such a great job!
- 19 More shelter places on memorial drive for sitting, not having to be sitting in the sun.
- 20 Showers at the beach would be amazing, even if you have to run them by coin
- 21 So far, I think the city does a nice job with the parks. If possible in the winter, it is helpful to keep the walking trails plowed (like along the Mariner Trail). Thank you!
- 22 If the beach is part of Nashotah park, it is kept up very well! We like to sit in our car and watch the lake.
- 23 Better city management
- 24 It would be nice to have year round restrooms. It's difficult to take children to parks in winter when it's nice out but then we have to leave early since bathrooms are locked/closed for the season.
- 25 Work with the TR Family Swim Club to update and improve a public swimming pool.
- 26 Watch the winter flooding where the new playground is in Neshotah.
- 27 Campgrounds will make the city money and bring many more people to the city to spend money here. Look at Oconto.
- 28 The parks that I frequent are well maintained. The new play equipment at Neshota park is beautiful and accessible for all abilities. Two Rivers in the past 5 years has made many wonderful upgrades.
- 29 Neshotah Park is way too busy for the amount of times garbage is picked up. Glass bottles and people not cleaning up after themselves could be policed with tickets for cost of clean up. Also less signage at Neshotah. Chris does a great job grooming the beach.
- 30 the number and quality of parks greatly contributes to a city's quality of life for people of all ages, so maintaining TR's parks and open spaces is really important!
- 31 no.
- 32 Have someone empty garbages (beach) more frequent on weekends. Allow food trucks at the beach.
- 33 Recommend that there be a park within walking distance of 7-10 blocks for all residents
- 34 Doing a GREAT job now.....keep up the good work. We all appreciate you.
- 35 We have plenty of parks. I think we should create more available places kids/families can explore. For example, aquatic centers, indoor gymnasium parks, etc.
- 36 Mow less often, and never when it is unneeded. Incredible amounts of time and money are wasted driving noisy lawnmowers over areas that have no substantial need for mowing. Put those employees to work on other projects that enhance the experience of park visitors.
- 37 Routine patrol for garbage. There has been garbage in harbor park for 3 weeks and no one has cleaned it up!

- 38 I wonder what sort of crime statistics are there for our parks. I recently walked by the park near 14th and Madison and it was a nice patch of grass, but there is no way I would use the rest room. too remote, too scary. Do all the parks "need" bathrooms? It is a nice amenity but if these are neighborhood parks, perhaps folks can go home to use the loo. Destination parks, of course need facilities. The city does a fantastic job maintaining these parks.
- 39 N/A
- 40 I think the parks department does a great job with keeping our parks maintained.
- 41 No
- 42 Absolutely need safe playground equipment for all ages and abilities. Lighting is necessary. Fences around park are great....tho more gates are needed as a way to exit quickly if needed. A set of swings should be installed at the Zander dog park.
- 43 Doing a great job.i get my great grandkids a lot and they love the parks
- 44 I am concerned about losing the access to the pools at the swim club. I feel it would be better utilized by the public if it were no longer a privately owned and operated service. We are fortunate to be by a large body of water (lake michigan) however, even in the warmest wisconsin summers its still rare to find the waters at a comfortable temperature for extended swimming.
- 45 I think too many times in the summer the grass in Neshotah park is mowed when not needed. Just blowing sand and dirt just because it's on a schedule to cut.
- 46 Start charging at the beach and generate money for all parks. Tax payers have been picking up the bill for non residents we pay when we go elsewhere.
- 47 Look at charging fees for our of town beach users to help with beach maintenance.
- 48 The parks need less maintenance there us nothing g wrong with natural green space. Not every square inch needs development that is just wasteful spending of stolen tax dollars.
- 49 See answer to question 12. This is something my family has wanted in Two Rivers for many years.
- 50 Any new lighting should be eco friendly, less light polluting and less stadium like than at the Neshotah Park playground. Colored LED lighting in Central Park West concession stand does not complement it or Community House at all. Holidays need extra garbage pick up help during the day. Handing bags to big parties is brilliant. Although room for improvement, we love and use our parks. Thank you
- 51 Help the pool stay in this community for a safe place for all to enjoy.
- 52 Instead of applying for front yard gardens in spring, apply in fall so gardeners can set up spaces and plant fall bulbs. Allows for earlier blooms in spring and ready to plant vegetables in spring.
- 53 Install waterbottle filling drinking fountain at Memorial Drive wayside.
- 54 Community Pool
- 55 A city park not district owned by the schools on the north side
- 56 Add a city swim pool

- 57 We don't have much in the way for autistic children aside from the family swim club. With the growing amount of children being diagnosed with autism I feel that is the main thing that can help as they support families with disabilities and have lifeguards on duty at all times. The parks and lake are already sufficient I feel we could take the next step by keeping and or improving the pool.
- 58 We have used the community pool for many years as a family - and I don't think the city realizes the loss they're creating for families in Two Rivers and surrounding areas such as Mishicot, Two Creeks, etc. by closing the family swim club.
- 59 We need a pool
- 60 A pool would make the city compleye
- 61 Having a public pool.
- 62 I use the parks as a place for relative quiet to read, journal, text, relax, work out ideas through sitting, strolling, photo taking, or texting with friends.
- 63 I hate bringing this up yet again, but making a public pool where the two rivers family swim club is currently located would allow for necessary updates, such as making it handicapped accessible, a splash pad area, park area, and still allow for swim lessons of all ages. You do not have to compete with Manitowoc and make it as Manitowoc has. Speaking as a Manitowoc resident, we do not utilize that establishment at all. We come to two rivers for its family atmosphere and safety. We then go and look for parks to experience. We utilize local restaurants, businesses, etc.
- 64 The downtown splash pad, while a different idea, is widely open to public view. I think there is an opportunity for more water park features. Manitowoc certainly has a nice Aquatic center. It would be nice to have something other than a lake for recreation. I also hope that the path created there won't replace the ice rink at Washington park that has been created the last few years. It allows more movement and space to skate than the downtown path would.
- 65 Keep the family swim club
- 66 TR is a beautiful community. Just continue to keep parks clean and safe.
- 67 clean
- 68 Encourage people to clean up Neshotah Beach after themselves. Get the public outdoor swimming pool going along with other activities around it.
- 69 We need to come together as a community with the help of the city and save The Family Swim club. Being surrounded by water, and swimming lessons being removed from summer school, 1 child drowning at school and how ever many in our lake, this is important! We NEED the kids in our community to have not only swim lessons but a place they can go and be safe! It's a great asset to have for our summers! Please please save the pool!!! We just started 2/3 kids in lessons this past summer and want them to continue in the program locally!!
- 70 Two rivers family swim center
- 71 Clean up the shoreline by the rivers at Riverside and veterans Park. Also a public pool sure would be nice.
- 72 NA
- 73 Available pools for open swimming for residents. I hate driving to Manitwoc. Grand kids love riding bikes

- 74 Add a community pool which offers swim lessons and maybe a city swim team.
- 75 Swimming pools!!!
- 76 Add a pool, or water park for older children. Have bathrooms open more. Don't lock up before closing time.
- 77 Keeping the Two Rivers Family Swim Center open, as it is a HUGE part of our community !! Swim lessons for our kids to learn in a safe environment and to make the best family memories!!
- 78 Should have the pool
- 79 We need a community swimming pool
- 80 Neshota Beach is beautiful but we need to focus on water safety. It would be nice to see two rivers take on a the ability to hire on lifeguards or have a life guard station built at the beach during the summer months. Too many preventable incidents if we just had a safe guard presence at the beach even if it's just during peak time or events.
- 81 I wish we had a community pool. The beach is nice, but a pool with lifeguards and maybe even swimming lessons would be valuable.
- 82 The swim club pool should be a diamond to the city! Teaching water safety, and swimming lessons.
- 83 They are pretty well maintained except for a couple restrooms
- 84 Revamp the wells at TRFSC to include zero entry pool, new restrooms, concession stand, and a safe place to learn to swim.
- 85 More night time amenities on the beach. Fire pits, light up volleyball area, game nights etc.
- 86 Too many parks leads to some being unused and or supervised. Improve on restrooms at the parks. Focus on a few and make them the best.
- 87 Encourage more police patrols of our parks
- 88 I think the parks should be more natural. We don't need the grass cut every week, and we don't need all the leaves picked up in the fall. Decaying leaves add nutrients to the soil. Clean up in spring. I Also think that TR parks and rec department are doing a fantastic job. Thank you
- 89 Riverside Park could use some equipment geared toward younger kids. There is not much for my two year old to do. A slide would be great.
- 90 Fencing and cameras around the new park
- 91 Doing well for now. Please keep it up.
- 92 Food trucks at local parks
- 93 Charge a fee for parking around Neshotah Park/Beach in summer. The income would be huge in summer and can be used to help pay for improvements and more shelters and clean up
- 94 I think Two Rivers could position themselves as a "retirement community", like The Villages. You allow golf carts and if you started adding some elements of that into the design may help bring people into the town.
- 95 The city needs a pool. The beach os great. But we need a pool !
- 96 The new playground area by the beach needs more signs of rules no pets unless service pets.

- 97 General maintenance and lighting
- 98 Yes. Plenty. How are we making sure people of all abilities and ages are benefitting from what is on offer?
- 99 This is a great area getting better
- 100 Just a comment: I see and appreciate how our Parks and Rec Dept. work hard to keep up with trash and cleanliness in our current park areas and beach front. I realize that with our heavy park usage this is a very difficult challenge. Bravo. Thanks team.
- 101 New pavilion at beach
- 102 Love the nature improvement at Zander, more of this type improvement.
- 103 I would like to see a park lighting strategy that offers adequate lighting for safety, without creating a cold-harsh shopping center atmosphere in our natural park setting.
- 104 Na
- 105 Do not let all the done grass be trampled at the beach. There is barely any left at this point.
- 106 Overall I think our parks are pretty nice. I think continued investment in the trail systems is a good idea. The East Twin River between 12th and 22nd is a wasted resource right now and could be a real asset to commercial properties in the downtown if developed correctly.
- 107 Partnership with Family swim to create/improve access to local pool
- 108 Consider promoting baseball leagues at Vietnam and open the concession stands. Citizens park in Manitowoc seems to do well with the multiple fields and working concession stand. I am thankful our TR kids are able to use the Manitowoc facility.
- 109 No
- 110 City parks and open space improve our physical and psychological health, strengthen our communities, and make our cities and neighborhoods more attractive places to live and work. Numerous studies have shown the social, environmental, economic, and health benefits parks bring to a city and its people. For example, they attract tourists, serve as community signature pieces, offer a marketing tool for cities to attract businesses and conventions and host festivals, concerts and athletics events.
- 111 Great job downtown and at Neshota. Skate park and Zander needs some TLC.
- 112 Pool. We need a pool.
- 113 Having a public pool for kids of all ages and abilities to learn water safety should be a priority.
- 114 Need a community pool.
- 115 A public pool is crucial for two rivers. The beach can be dangerous without life guards. Kids need a place to learn how to swim without having to go to a neighboring town.
- 116 Create riverwalk and utilize open space on the river towards the lake across from Waverly
- 117 NA
- 118 We need and want a city swimming pool

- 119 We absolutely LOVE what was done with Zander Park. I look forward to that area expanding and think it was a great "rebrand" of that area. Absolutely amazing. Also, we have LOVED the new Neshotah playground. Keep the momentum going! I did hear that the baseball diamond at Walsh is getting taken out and that makes me sad. That area is such a great space to watch live sports. Please try and utilize that space for community wide gatherings and sporting events. It would be a shame to have it be unused/ get sold off for more housing or something. It is the perfect spot for so many things. I live right by it and I saw the fields used a ton. Semi pro football, HS baseball, flag football, powderpuff games, fireworks... Is there a way to get the Polar Bear baseball team back? Just thoughts.
- 120 Nope but when you close public bathrooms by parks Oct 21 there should be a handicap accessible porta potty open throughout November even the entire year people still get out on nice days to play in parks with small children
- 121 Safe, supervised place for all ages to swim or learn to swim
- 122 I think this all needs more discussion and ideas that others are having to improve. I would like to hear what others ideas are. I guess post it on the park and rec page.
- 123 Maintain swimming pool, have it open to residents and non residents for a daily fee vs summer pass
- 124 Keep open/natural areas near water
- 125 An outdoor pool complex with a park would be a great addition and investment in our community
- 126 The community NEEDS a pool!
- 127 There is no need for a pool. We have our beautiful Neshotah beach.
- 128 More Kayak launches please!
- 129 Restore the swim club and make it a community pool, as swim safety should be a top priority in the community!
- 130 N/a
- 131 Would love a city public pool
- 132 Maintain green open spaces in the parks
- 133 We need a pool - the splash pad is very small and not hours of recreation for families nor is the setting right for a family to spend time at.
- 134 Thank you for asking our opinion.
- 135 Lose Adam W. As park board member
- 136 There has been so much focus on downtown / neshotah. Let's stop focusing on the tourists now and focus on amenities for actual tax payers.
- 137 Find more uses for Walsh field. It's a great space. Let's use it. But how? MAYBE turn part of into a green space. Picnic area . Plant trees. ...?
- 138 Clearly identify who owns the park by the ball diamond by Vinton. For the amount of visitors the park sees during game nights and tournaments it is sad because I'm sure out of town people would expect it to be city owned.
- 139 Continue to add natural play structures to Zander Park.