

Section IV.
What we have now -
An Analysis of Public Programs and Space

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A. Community Recreation Programs – Recreation Division

The Department brings recreation to the community by expanding programs to the area school districts within the Village. With these school partnerships, offering after-school programming compliments the educational day. Additionally, our future plans including offering activities at area parks for youth play above and beyond the playground atmosphere.

B. Indoor Recreation Facilities

Current facilities that the Departments own and operate include: Labahn-Hain House, Indian Trail Beach House, Village Hall Community; Multi-purpose and Class Rooms and on some occasions the Safety Education Center. The current facility partnerships include: Lincoln Prairie, Conley, Martin, Heineman, Chesak, Marlowe, Mackeben, and Algonquin Schools. Alternative recreation providers include cooperative programming with Focus Martial Arts, Jazzercise, Blue Skies, Handmade on Main, and Let Me Arrange It trip services.

C. Outdoor Active Facilities and Sports

The Village has 15 baseball fields, 10 soccer fields, 4 sand volleyball courts, 4 tennis courts, 4 basketball courts and various open space for practice and free play within the village. Additionally, the winter time activities include two skate rinks located on the west and east end of the community. The ability to accommodate growing sport leagues and programs within the confines of the current outdoor areas is an issue that is currently faced.

D. Natural Resource Facilities

The Department oversees 31 park facilities and of these parks there are 18 playground systems and four lakes that are a wonderful asset to the Village. Program specific events utilize Woods Creek for swimming, lessons, fishing, sailing, and the Splish, Splash, Dash competitive swim race. Those areas that are stocked with fish include: Woods Creek Lake, Goose Lake, Larsen pond and Barbara

Key Park pond. The Fen at Barbara Key Park is the largest natural area along with the Peter Exner Marsh are both owned and maintained by the McHenry County Conservation District.

E. Opportunities to Improve Facilities and Programs

During each brochure period (three per year) staff analyzes existing programs to determine if attendance and interest warrants including the program for the next season and/or if the program should be expanded. This process is examined through participant feedback by completion of an evaluation card. (Exhibit A) In June 2005 the lower level of the Village Hall added two classrooms. The two room expansion has been a positive venture for the Department for program expansion as well as rental opportunities. As programs are developed, the need to expand facilities beyond the boundaries of the lower level will become apparent. Day time classroom space is essential to be able to enhance current programs as well as develop additional programs. Furthermore, having a consistent Day Camp location year after year would be a wonderful addition to the success of this program.

F. Level of Service

The Department strives in providing the best service to our residents and does so by working with the area recreation agencies to benefit the both community. With overlapping jurisdictions, working together is the best win-win for all involved. The level of customer service to the residents is based on the ability for the Department to exceed the expectations of each customer. Following through, following up and taking the extra effort for service will fulfill the needs of each participant who will want to come back to our facilities and programs.