

PARKS AND RECREATION



PARK AND RECREATION PLAN

The Lexington Parks and Recreation portion of “*The Lex-Plan 2013*” will create a tool for the City for developing priorities regarding the improvement of existing facilities and the expansion of the overall parks system.

An estimated 100 acres of land in the City of Lexington are currently used for parks and recreational complexes. This acreage does not include school parks described herein but represents only 1.02 acres of park land per 100 people in the community currently. Based on the 2010 census population of 10,230, the current park land is about 50 percent less than the planning standard of two acres per 100 people. The City maintains a wide range of park types from natural reserves to dedicated parks with playground equipment and ball fields, however, an increased effort to expand park and recreation land area needs to remain a continued focus during the next 20-30 year planning period.



Throughout the planning period of this Comprehensive Plan, the City of Lexington must develop additional park and recreation facilities in conjunction with population increases and, at the same time, upgrade existing facilities. Planning Standards indicate that the City will need to develop at least 100 more acres of park and recreational land by 2030. Such parks and recreational land should be linked to each other and the various public facilities in the community by linear trails.

During the discussions about an updated Lexington Comprehensive Plan, a desire was expressed to go into greater detail regarding the park and recreation system and the City’s Parks and Trails Plan. This plan was developed under the direction of the Comprehensive Development Plan Steering Committee, with the assistance of a special focus group made up of local athletic and recreation organizations, as well as the ideas and comments that came out of the Town Hall meetings, a charrette process and other various focus groups.

Based upon public input, current conditions, notable deficiencies, and future growth projections of Lexington, a Park Service Area Map (Figure 45) and Trails Concept Map (Figure 52) have been created, along with a list of recommendations for each existing and proposed park and recreational facility.

Existing Park and Facility Conditions

The City of Lexington manages eight park facilities, including the skate park and family aquatic center, which are located within two of the City parks. This section has a listing of the condition and capacity of all these facilities along with photos of the facilities. Table 38 lists the nationally accepted standard criteria for how the various types of parks and recreation facilities in Lexington were classified. In addition to the park facilities, the City maintains a trail system, currently in a relatively early stage of development.



Classification	General Description	Location Criteria/ Service Area	Size Criteria
Mini-Park	Used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs.	Less than a ¼ mile distance in residential setting.	Between 2500 sq. ft. and one acre in size.
Neighborhood Park	Basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation.	¼ to ½ mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	5 acres is considered minimum size. 5 to 10 acres is optimal.
School Park	Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex, and special use.	Determined by location of school district property.	Variable – depends on function.
Community Park	Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhood and ½ to 3 mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually between 30 and 50 acres.
Large Urban Park	Serve a broader purpose than community parks and are used when community and neighborhood parks are not adequate to serve the needs of the community. Focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves the entire community.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually a minimum of 50 acres, with 75 or more acres being optimal.
Natural Resource Areas	Lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering.	Resource availability and opportunity.	Variable.
Greenways	Effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.	Resource availability and opportunity.	Variable.
Sports Complex	Consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities to larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community.	Strategically located community-wide facilities.	Determined by projected demand. Usually a minimum of 25 acres, with 40 to 80 acres being optimal.
Special Use	Covers a broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use.	Variable – dependent on specific use.	Variable.
Private Park/ Recreation Facility	Parks and recreation facilities that are privately owned yet contribute to the public park and recreation system.	Variable – dependent on specific use.	Variable.

Source: *Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines*. A Project of the National Recreation and Park Association and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. A Publication of the National Recreation and Park Association. James D. Mertes, Ph.D., CLP and James R. Hall, CLP

Table 38: Parks and Recreation Facility Classifications

“The Lex-Plan 2013”

*EXISTING
PARKS AND
RECREATION*



Park System Analysis and Service Area

CENTENNIAL PARK

Washington Street and Hwy. 30

1.5 acres



Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)			X		X		Turf dry, trees planted throughout park
Play Areas			X		X		Large open green space
Sports Fields							None at this location
Sports Courts							None at this location
Walks/Trails			X		X		Path through park
Play Equipment							None at this location
Structures							None at this location
Picnic Facilities							No picnic table at this location
Drinking Water							None at this location
Restrooms							None at this location
Parking							On street parking only
Lighting			X		X		Lights along walkway
Benches			X		X		Benches along trail
Signage			X		X		Has a sign located toward east end.
Miscellaneous			X		X		Memorial

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 39: Centennial Park, Lexington

Centennial Park



Google earth



LEGEND

- ① Memorial
- ② Trail w/Benches

Figure 36: Centennial Park, Lexington

Park System Analysis and Service Area

WATER TOWER PARK

Madison Street and Hwy. 30
0.25 acre



Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)			X		X		Turf dry (non-irrigated); Medium trees; well maintained; trees identified
Play Areas		X				X	Small green space for simple games
Sports Fields							None at location
Sports Courts							None at location
Walks/Trails							None at location
Play Equipment							None at location
Structures			X		X		Picnic shelter
Picnic Facilities		X			X		Picnic tables at park, does have trash cans
Drinking Water							None at location
Restrooms							None at location
Parking							On Street parking in commercial district, specific facilities are not needed
Lighting							No lights other than street lights
Benches			X		X		Bench in the park
Signage							No park sign but does have City welcome sign

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 40: Water Tower Park, Lexington

Water Tower Park



Google earth



LEGEND

- ① Picnic Shelter

Figure 37: Water Tower Park, Lexington

“The Lex-Plan 2013” NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Park System Analysis and Service Area

ARBOR PARK
Maple Street and Washington Street
4.0 acres

Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)		X			X		Turf dry, lots of large old growth trees
Play Areas			X		X		Open green space
Sports Fields							None at this location
Sports Courts			X		X		Basketball Court and skate park
Walks/Trails		X		X			Sidewalk runs the perimeter
Play Equipment		X			X		1 Play structure, 2 swing sets, 2 climbing structures
Structures		X			X		1 Picnic shelter
Picnic Facilities		X			X		Numerous Picnic tables, grills and trash cans
Drinking Water	X					X	Hydrant only
Restrooms		X				X	One portable toilet
Parking		X				X	Small off street parking in southeast corner of park
Lighting		X		X			Pole lights at skate park
Benches			X		X		At various locations around the park
Signage		X			X		Sign located in park

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 41: Arbor Park, Lexington

| **ACHIEVE** |

Arbor Park



Google earth

feet 300
meters 100



LEGEND

- ① Skate Park
- ② Basketball Court
- ③ Parking
- ④ Swing Set
- ⑤ Play Structures
- ⑥ Picnic Shelter

ACHIEVE

Figure 38: Arbor Park, Lexington

“The Lex-Plan 2013”

Park System Analysis and Service Area

OAK PARK
Oak Street and Madison Street
3.2 acres



Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)			X		X		Turf dry, mature trees planted near play structure and picnic areas
Play Areas			X		X		Large open greenspace
Sports Fields		X			X		1 softball/baseball field (unlighted and no dugouts), 2 portable soccer goals
Sports Courts		X			X		2 basketball courts
Walks/Trails		X			X		Sidewalk around park
Play Equipment			X		X		Large play structure, 2 swing sets, merry-go-around and jungle gym
Structures		X			X		1 picnic shelter
Picnic Facilities		X			X		picnic tables, 1 grill and trash cans
Drinking Water	X					X	Hydrant only
Restrooms	X				X		1 permanent restroom and 1 portable toilet
Parking		X			X		On-street parking only, does have bike rack
Lighting							None at location
Benches		X			X		Benches near play structure
Signage			X		X		Park sign on north side

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 42: Oak Park, Lexington

Oak Park



Google earth

feet 300
meters 90



LEGEND

- ① Restrooms
- ② Basketball Courts
- ③ Play Structure
- ④ Ballfield
- ⑤ Picnic Shelter

Figure 39: Oak Park, Lexington

lexington

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

Park System Analysis and Service Area

PIONEER PARK
15th Street and Lincoln Street
2.1 acres

Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)			X		X		Turf dry, mature trees throughout park
Play Areas			X		X		Large open green space
Sports Fields							None at location
Sports Courts		X			X		1 basketball court
Walks/Trails							Perimeter sidewalk
Play Equipment		X			X		Large play structure, 2 swing sets
Structures		X			X		1 picnic shelter
Picnic Facilities		X			X		Picnic tables, 2 grills, trash cans
Drinking Water	X					X	Hydrant only
Restrooms	X				X		1 permanent restroom and 1 portable toilet
Parking							On-street parking
Lighting							None at location
Benches			X		X		Benches at edge of the play structure
Signage			X		X		Located in southeast corner
Miscellaneous			X		X		Memorial

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 43: Pioneer Park

Pioneer Park



Google earth

feet 300
meters 90



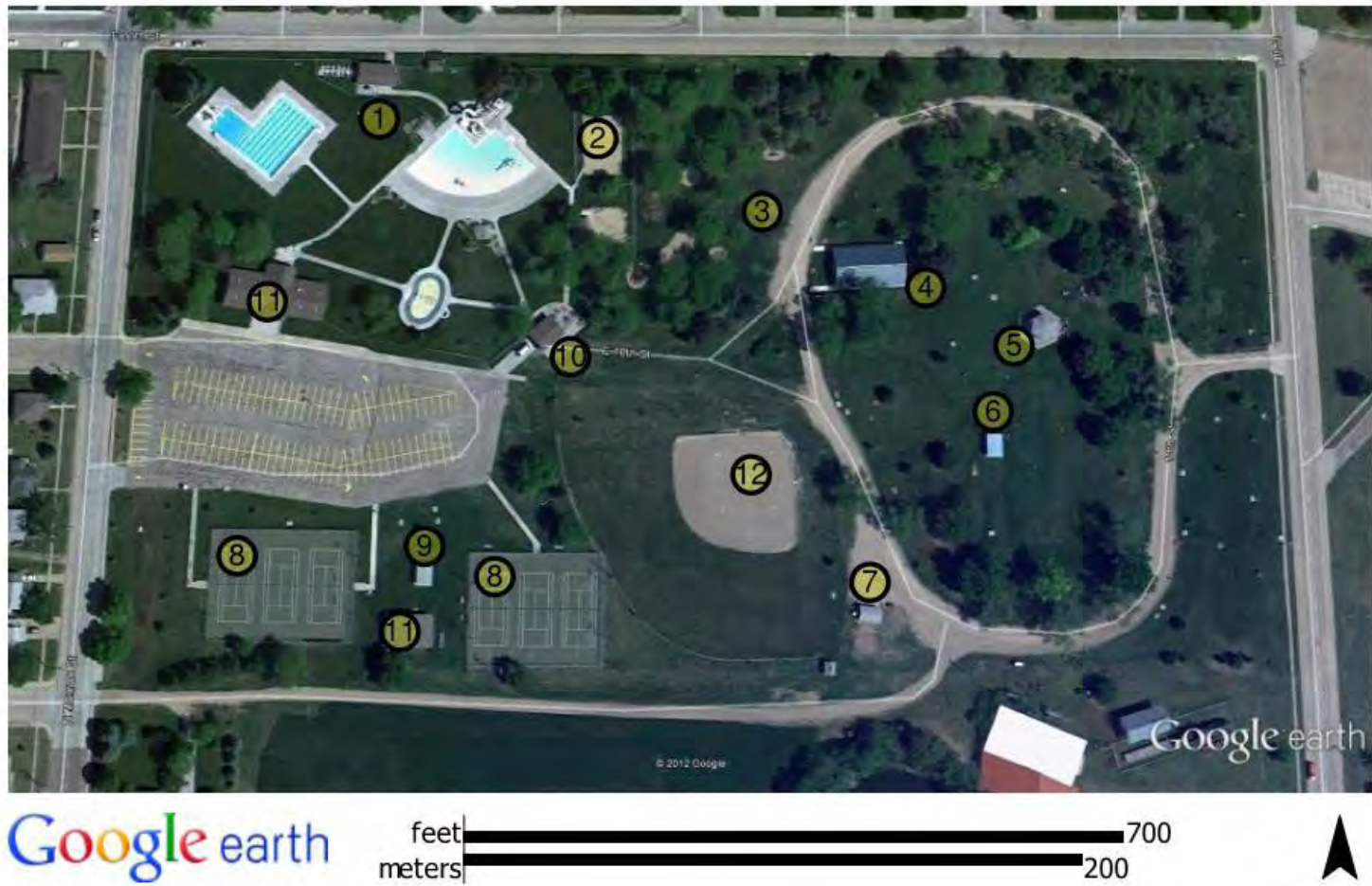
LEGEND

- ① Restrooms
- ② Play Structure
- ③ Swing Set
- ④ Basketball Court
- ⑤ Picnic Shelter

Figure 40: Pioneer Park, Lexington

Park System Analysis and Service Area

Kirkpatrick Memorial Park



LEGEND

- ① Lexington Aquatic Complex
- ② Sand Volleyball
- ③ Play Equipment
- ④ Picnic Shelter w/Restrooms
- ⑤ Gazebo
- ⑥ Small Picnic Shelter
- ⑦ Maintenance
- ⑧ Tennis Courts
- ⑨ Picnic Shelter
- ⑩ Concessions
- ⑪ Bath house
- ⑫ Ball field

Figure 41: Kirkpatrick Memorial Park



Park Component	Condition		Capacity		Notes
	Poor	Fair/Good	Under	At/Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)		X		X	Turf dry, lots of large old trees, some new trees
Play Areas		X		X	Several areas of open green space
Sports Fields	X			X	1 lighted softball/baseball field without dugouts
Sports Courts		X		X	6 lighted tennis courts (3 lighted), 1 sand volleyball in Aquatic Center compound
Walks/Trails	X		X		Gravel roadway, concrete walkways, perimeter sidewalks
Play Equipment		X		X	1 play structure, 1 swing set
Structures			X	X	Maintenance building, picnic shelter with restrooms, concession stand with restrooms (Tennis Assoc. building), 1 smaller picnic shelter, 1 gazebo
Picnic Facilities			X	X	Picnic tables, trash cans, and 1 barbeque grill
Drinking Water	X			X	Hydrants only
Restrooms		X		X	2 permanent restrooms, 3 portable toilets
Parking			X	X	1 large off-street parking lot
Lighting		X		X	Lighted parking lot, the courts and the field
Benches			X	X	Throughout park
Signage		X		X	Sign in park on east side by driveway
Miscellaneous			X	X	Family Aquatic Center is located in the park, County museum and lake are adjacent to park

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 44: Kirkpatrick Memorial Park, Lexington

KIRKPATRICK MEMORIAL PARK
11th Street and Taft Street
29.1 acres

lexington

COMMUNITY PARK

Park System Analysis and Service Area

Plum Creek Park



LEGEND

- ① Well House
- ② Tennis Courts
- ③ Parking
- ④ Lake
- ⑤ Basketball
- ⑥ Sand Volleyball
- ⑦ Play Structure
- ⑧ Picnic Shelter w/Restrooms
- ⑨ Horseshoe Pits
- ⑩ Small Picnic Shelter
- ⑪ Ballfields
- ⑫ Restrooms

Figure 42: Plum Creek Park, Lexington



Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)		X			X		Turf dry, lots of large old trees, some new trees
Play Areas		X			X		Several areas of open green space
Sports Fields	X				X		1 lighted softball/baseball field without dugouts
Sports Courts		X			X		6 lighted tennis courts (3 lighted), 1 sand volleyball in Aquatic Center compound
Walks/Trails	X			X			Gravel roadway, concrete walkways, perimeter sidewalks
Play Equipment		X			X		1 play structure, 1 swing set
Structures			X		X		Maintenance building, picnic shelter with restrooms, concession stand with restrooms (Tennis Assoc. building), 1 smaller picnic shelter, 1 gazebo
Picnic Facilities			X		X		Picnic tables, trash cans, and 1 barbeque grill
Drinking Water	X					X	Hydrants only
Restrooms		X			X		2 permanent restrooms, 3 portable toilets
Parking			X			X	1 large off-street parking lot
Lighting		X			X		Lighted parking lot, the courts and the field
Benches			X		X		Throughout park
Signage		X			X		Sign in park on east side by driveway
Miscellaneous			X		X		Family Aquatic Center is located in the park, County museum and lake are adjacent to park



Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table 45: Plum Creek Park, Lexington

PLUM CREEK PARK
13th Street and Adams Street
23 acres

“The Lex-Plan 2013”

*SCHOOL FACILITIES
PARKS AND
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Park System Analysis and Service Area

Elementary schools are considered neighborhood parks. The middle school and high school do not have playground equipment like the elementary schools but could be considered mini parks or sports complexes. For purposes of this plan the middle and high school will be given a condition and capacity report, however only the middle school park will be considered an existing mini-park.



Bryan Elementary
11th Street and Harrison Street

Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)		X			X		Turf dry
Play Areas	X				X		Going through remodel
Sports Fields							None at this location
Sports Courts							No outdoor court
Walks/Trails							None at this location
Play Equipment			X		X		1 large play structure
Structures							None at this location
Picnic Facilities							None at this location
Drinking Water							None at this location
Restrooms							None at this location
Parking			X		X		Paved parking lot
Lighting							None at this location
Benches							None at this location
Signage		X			X		School sign

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 46: Bryan Elementary School Park, Lexington

Park System Analysis and Service Area

PERSHING ELEMENTARY
1104 North Tyler Street

Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)		X			X		Turf dry
Play Areas		X			X		Large open green space
Sports Fields		X			X		1 goal post, 1 backstop, shot put & discus pads
Sports Courts		X		X			Hard surface play court
Walks/Trails							None at this location
Play Equipment			X		X		2 play structures
Structures							None at this location
Picnic Facilities							None at this location
Drinking Water							None at this location
Restrooms							None at this location
Parking			X		X		Paved parking lot
Lighting							None at this location
Benches			X		X		Located near play structures
Signage		X			X		School sign

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 47: Pershing Elementary Park, Lexington

Park System Analysis and Service Area

Morton Elementary
506 Morton Street

Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)		X			X		Turf dry
Play Areas	X				X		Going through remodel
Sports Fields							None at this location
Sports Courts							No outdoor court
Walks/Trails							None at this location
Play Equipment			X		X		1 large play structure
Structures							None at this location
Picnic Facilities							None at this location
Drinking Water							None at this location
Restrooms							None at this location
Parking			X		X		Paved parking lot
Lighting							None at this location
Benches							None at this location
Signage		X			X		School sign

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table 48: Morton Elementary Park, Lexington

Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At/Over		
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)		X			X		Turf dry
Play Areas		X			X		Large open green space
Sports Fields	X				X		1 soccer field, 1 backstop in poor condition
Sports Courts		X			X		2 basketball courts
Walks/Trails	X				X		Dirt track
Play Equipment			X		X		2 play structures, tires and other playground equipment
Structures							None at this location
Picnic Facilities							None at this location
Drinking Water							None at this location
Restrooms							None at this location
Parking		X			X		Paved parking lot out front
Lighting							None at this location
Benches							None at this location
Signage		X			X		School sign

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 49: Sandoz Elementary Park, Lexington

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LEXINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
1100 North Washington Street

Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)		X			X		Turf dry, irrigated sports fields
Play Areas		X				X	None other than sports fields
Sports Fields			X		X		Track, 1 football field (lighted)
Sports Courts			X		X		4 outside basketball courts
Walks/Trails							None at this location
Play Equipment							None at this location
Structures							None at this location
Picnic Facilities							None at this location
Drinking Water							None at this location
Restrooms							None at this location
Parking			X		X		Paved parking lot
Lighting			X		X		Field lighting and street lighting
Benches							None at this location
Signage			X		X		School sign

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 50: Lexington Middle School Facilities

Park System Analysis and Service Area

Lexington Senior High School
13th Street and Adams Street

Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At/Over		
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)			X		X		Turf dry, irrigated sports fields
Play Areas			X		X		Green space/Practice fields
Sports Fields			X		X		Track/football stadium, track, practice fields
Sports Courts							None at this location
Walks/Trails							None at this location
Play Equipment							None at this location
Structures							None at this location
Picnic Facilities							None at this location
Drinking Water							None at this location
Restrooms							In stadium
Parking			X		X		Paved parking lot
Lighting			X		X		Stadium lighting and street lighting
Benches							None at this location
Signage			X		X		School Sign

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 51: Lexington Senior High School Facilities

Park System Analysis and Service Area

Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)		X			X		Turf dry
Play Areas			X		X		Open green space located in Kirkpatrick Memorial Park
Sports Fields							None at this location
Sports Courts			X		X		Sand volleyball court
Walks/Trails							None at this location
Play Equipment			X		X		Large sand box within fence
Structures			X		X		Bath house, Concession stand
Picnic Facilities			X		X		3 shelters with picnic tables
Drinking Water			X		X		Drinking fountain
Restrooms			X		X		Permanent restrooms
Parking			X		X		Paved parking lot
Lighting			X		X		Pool area is lit
Benches			X		X		Lounge chairs surrounding the pool
Signage		X			X		Sign located in northwest corner

Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table: 52: Aquatic Center, Lexington

Aquatic Center
10th Street and Monroe Street

Park System Analysis and Service Area

Optimist Rec Complex



Google earth

feet 1000
meters 400



LEGEND

- ① Concessions and Restrooms
- ② Competition Soccer
- ③ Soccer/Football Fields
- ④ Parking
- ⑤ Indoor Hitting Facility
- ⑥ Ballfields
- ⑦ Maintenance Building

Figure 43: Optimist Recreational Complex, Lexington



Park Component	Condition			Capacity			Notes
	Poor	Fair	Good	Under	At	Over	
Vegetation (Trees, shrubs, turf)			X		X		Irrigated fields
Play Areas			X	X			Open green space
Sports Fields			X	X			2 regulation soccer fields, 5 soccer fields of various sizes, 1 lighted baseball field, 3 lighted softball fields
Sports Courts			X		X		Indoor hitting facility
Walks/Trails			X	X			Running through the complex
Play Equipment		X			X		1 structure inside ball field complex
Structures			X		X		Concession stands, outside batting cages, maintenance building
Picnic Facilities							None at this location
Drinking Water			X		X		Drinking fountains near restrooms
Restrooms			X		X		3 Permanent restrooms, including one in hitting facility. Portable toilets available during play season.
Parking		X			X		2 gravel parking lots
Benches			X		X		Bleachers along fields
Signage			X		X		Monument sign

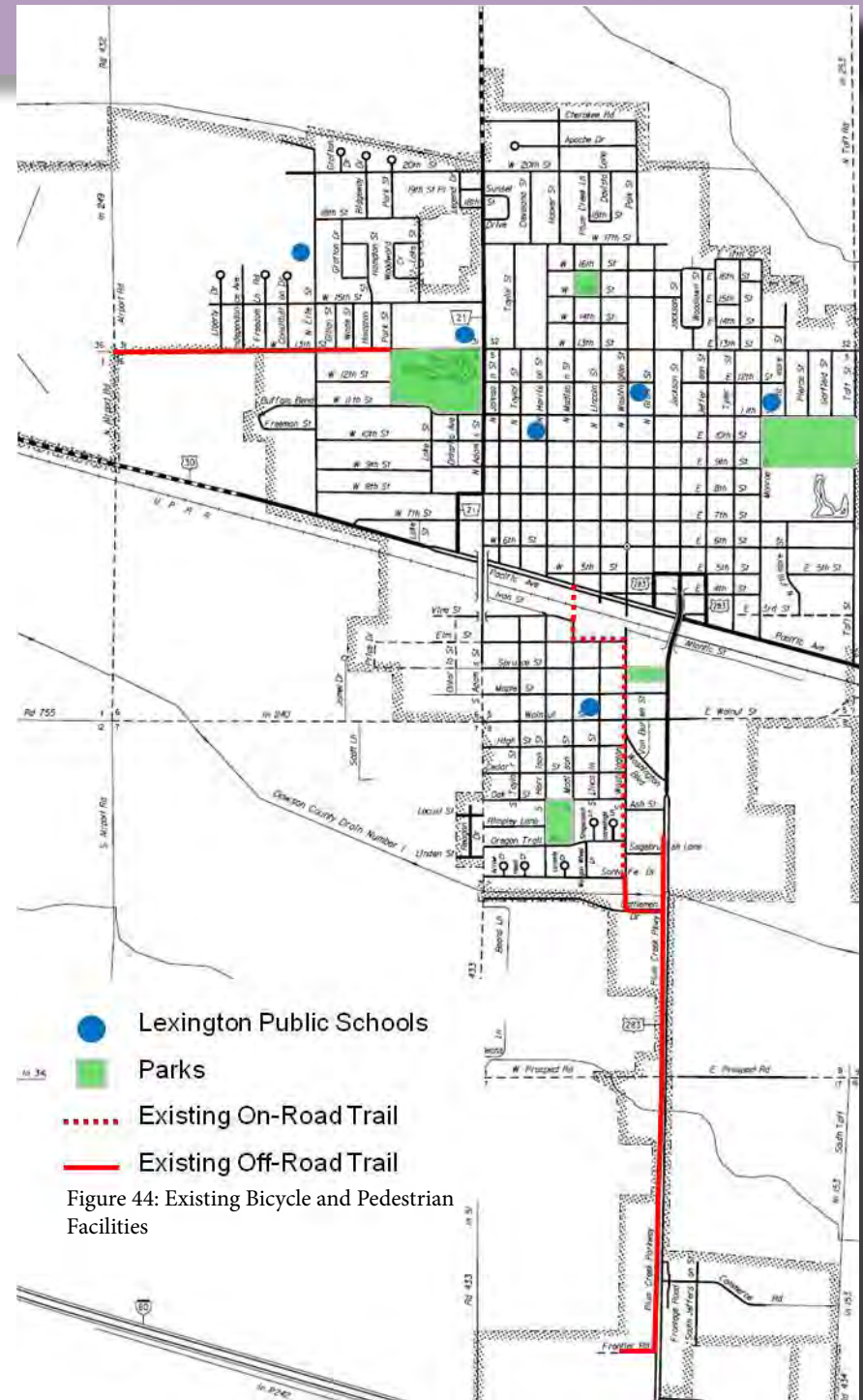
Source: JEO Consulting Group, Inc., 2013

Table 53: Optimist Recreation Complex, Lexington

Optimist Recreation Complex
13th Street and Airport Road
35.9 acres

Existing Trails

There are a number of bicycle and pedestrian trails in and around the City of Lexington including sidewalks, on-road bicycle facilities and off-road paths. Existing on-street bicycle lanes connect to the north-south, off-road bicycle and pedestrian path just south of U.S. 30 and continue over the highway by means of a grade-separated pedestrian and bicycle path. Figure 44 shows existing on-road and off-road bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the City of Lexington. Additional information on trails in Lexington is found in the Transportation Plan.



Parks and Recreation Recommendations

Recommendation for Lexington's park and recreation system are based upon a number of factors, including:

National standards

Recreational opportunities and plans

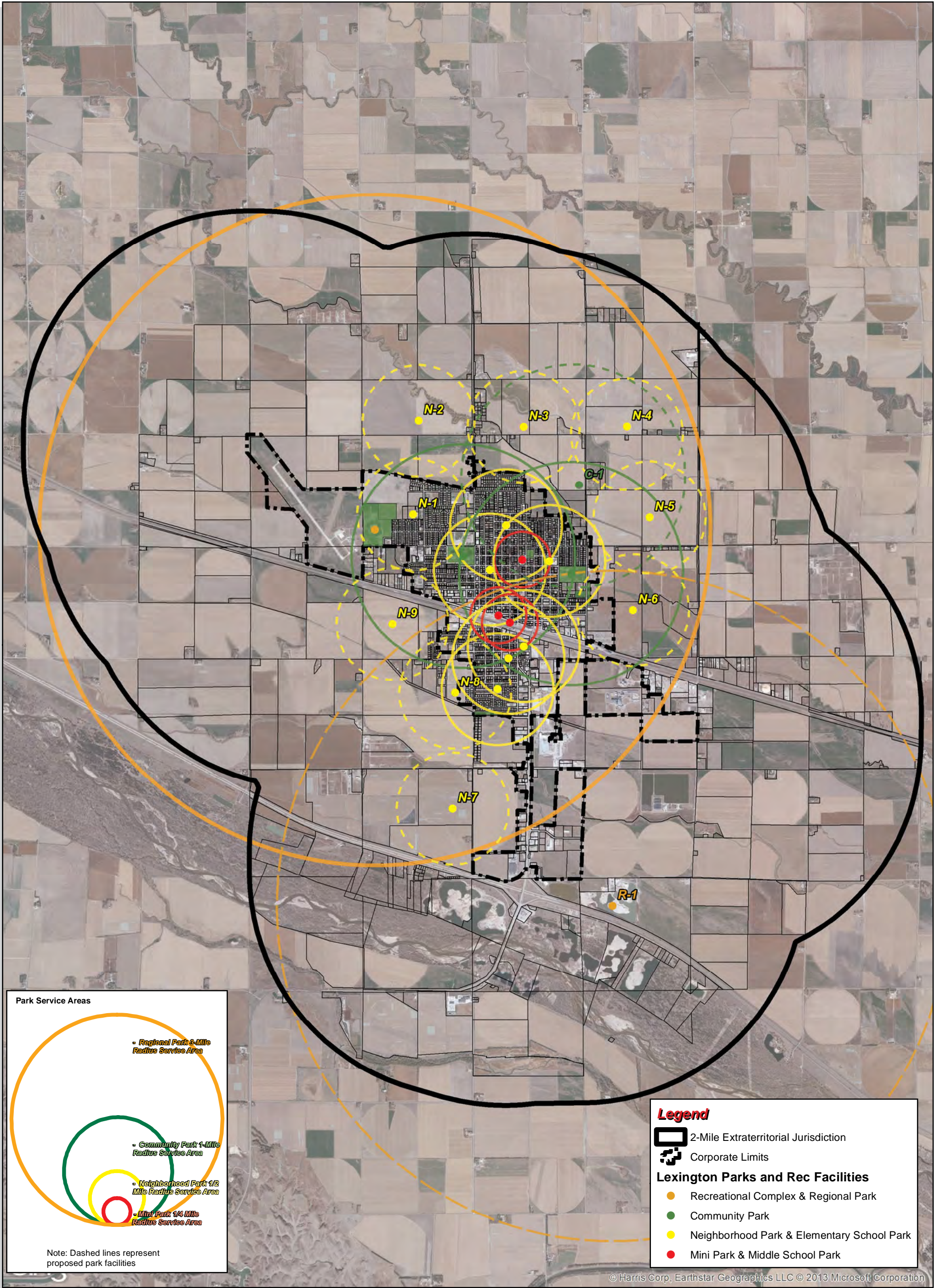
Identified needs and desires of the City of Lexington

Community input has shown that Lexington residents who attended the focus group workshops and town hall meetings are somewhat satisfied with the amount and quality of the existing facilities, programs, and activities available, but there is room for improvement and expansion. Recommendations are provided for existing and proposed parks, and additional recreation opportunities such as improvements to the lakes, expanded trails, and adding an indoor recreational facility.

These recommendations may change over time, but will provide a basis for developing individual park master plans/layouts and developing the City's Parks Action Plan. Implementing such recommendations will improve and expand park and recreation facilities and activities for all residents of the City of Lexington and the surrounding area.

The Park Service Area Map, Figure 45, shows existing and proposed parks, along with the service areas for mini-parks, neighborhood parks, community parks, and urban/regional parks. Park locations are centralized inside the service areas. Locations of the proposed parks as shown on the maps are approximate. Parks are shown in the general area where the facilities may be located. These proposed locations may shift or be altered when the planning and development of subdivisions or roadways becomes more detailed. Likewise, the type of a park may change based upon changing situations.

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Park Service Areas

- Regional Park 6-Mile Radius Service Area
- Community Park 1-Mile Radius Service Area
- Neighborhood Park 1/2 Mile Radius Service Area
- Mini Park 1/4 Mile Radius Service Area

Note: Dashed lines represent proposed park facilities

Legend

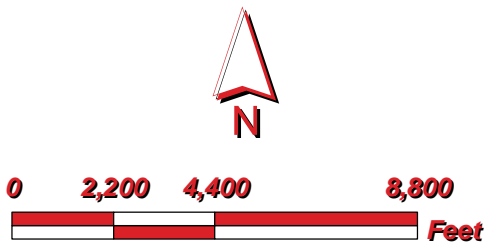
- 2-Mile Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
- Corporate Limits

Lexington Parks and Rec Facilities

- Recreational Complex & Regional Park
- Community Park
- Neighborhood Park & Elementary School Park
- Mini Park & Middle School Park

Figure 45: Park Service Area Map, Lexington

City of Lexington
Dawson County, Nebraska
Park Service Area Map



Created By: SMS
 Date: April 2013
 Software: ArcGIS 10
 File: 100999



This map was prepared using information from record drawings supplied by JEO and/or other applicable city, county, federal, or public or private entities. JEO does not guarantee the accuracy of this map or the information used to prepare this map. This is not a scaled plot.

“The Lex-Plan 2013”



Required and Optional Facilities, Amenities, and Services

When new development occurs and there is to be a park incorporated within the new development, this table will serve as a guide for the City as to what should be put in the park based on the type of park that is being built. These required and optional choices are displayed in the following table and are divided into three categories, including:

Park and Recreation Facilities, such as play structures and basketball courts

Park and Recreation Amenities, such as security lighting and drinking fountains

Park and Recreation Services, such as reservation requirements and maintenance

Required and optional facilities, amenities, and services are to serve as a guide for the City of Lexington. It is the responsibility of the City to determine which facilities, amenities, and services are or are not feasible in existing and proposed parks. The required facilities are recommended for existing parks, but due to physical limitations and space constraints they may not be added. In proposed parks, future demand for certain facilities, amenities, and services and the recreational preferences of users may change over time. Therefore, these guidelines may change or be revised to respond to the future demand of Lexington residents. Each park will be looked at individually to determine the physical capacity of providing basic requirements and to determine needs and wants of residents served by that park. Each park is different and these differences will be considered when determining which facilities will be included in each park. The City shall strive to provide the basic requirements in all of its parks and careful consideration shall be given to each proposed park and trail through the City's approval of such facility.

Even though the list of facilities, amenities, and services is extensive, it is likely other items not listed will be requested to be included in the park and recreation system. Each new facility and service requested shall be analyzed according to public demand, site/location criteria, operating implications, and other relevant criteria.

Possible Facilities	Mini-Park	Neighborhood Park	Community Park	Large Urban/Regional Park	School-Park	Special Use Facility	Sports Complex	Trail / Greenway
Park and Recreation Facilities								
Play Equipment/Structures	O	R	R	O	R	O	O	O
Open Play Area	R	R	R	R	R	O	O	O
Soccer Fields	-	O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Softball Fields	-	O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Baseball Fields	-	O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Paved Multi-use Areas	O	R	R	O	R	O	O	-
Tennis Courts	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Basketball Courts	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Volleyball Courts	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Multi-Purpose Trails	O	R	R	R	R	O	O	O
Picnic Facilities (shelters)	R	R	R	R	O	O	O	O
Special/Unique Features	O	R	R	R	O	O	O	O
Natural Areas	O	O	O	R	O	O	O	O
Trees/Shaded Areas	R	R	R	R	R	O	R	R
Special Use Facilities	-	O	O	O	O	R	O	O
Swimming Pool		O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Aquatic Center	-	-	O	O	O	O	O	-
Wading Pool	O	O	O	O	O	O	-	-
Ice Skating Park	-	O	O	O	O	O	-	-
Amphitheater/Outdoor Gathering Area	-	O	O	O	O	O	-	O
Arboretum/Botanical Gardens	-	O	O	O	-	O	O	O
Fine Arts Facility/Public Art Displays	-	-	O	O	-	O	-	O
Community Center or Indoor Rec.	-	O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Camping Facilities (RV facilities)	-	-	-	O	-	O	-	-
Dog Park	-	-	O	O	-	O	-	O
Horseshoes	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Disc/Frisbee Golf	-	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Roller Hockey	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	-
Football/Rugby Field	-	-	O	O	O	O	O	-
Outdoor or Exercise Circuit	-	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Skating Facility (indoor/skateboard)	-	O	O	O	-	O	O	O
High-Risk Area	-	-	O	O	-	O	O	-
Golf Course	-	-	O	O	-	O	O	O
Youth Sports Complex	-	O	O	O	-	O	O	-
Competitive Sports Facility	-	-	O	O	-	O	O	-
Park and Recreation Amentities								
Security Lighting	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	O/R*
Activity Lighting	O	O	R	O	O	O	R	-
Public Telephone	O	O	R	R	R	R	R	O
Off Street Parking	O	R	R	R	R	R	R	O/R*
Bike Racks	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	O/R*
Restrooms	O	R	R	R	R	O	R	O/R*
Drinking Fountains	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	O/R*
Benches	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Picnic Tables	O	R	R	R	O	O	R	O
Signage	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Information Kiosks	-	-	O	O	-	O	O	O
ADA Accessibility	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Park and Recreation Services								
Security**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Emergency Telephone Service	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Reservations for Facility Use (shelters, group picnics, sportsleagues, for-profit use)	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	-
Activities/Facilities for Groups, Companies, Teams	-	O	R	R	O	O	R	O
Special Events (programs, concerts, fairs)	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Facilities and Grounds Maintenance	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

R : Required Facility/Service

O : Optional Facility/Service

(Dashes): Not Appropriate

* : Optional for Greenway, Required for Trail

** : May include, but not listed to, police patrols, private security, neighborhood watches, park design, to eliminate hidden places, structure design and lighting, and /or location markers on trail.

Note: This does not preclude the addition of the other unlisted facilities and services as optional.

Table 54: Required and Optional Facilities and Services.

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Park and Trail Recommendations

Mini Parks

It is the goal of Lexington to provide the required facilities and services where possible in existing and proposed parks. There are two small parks within Lexington's jurisdiction and the Lexington Middle School that are classified as mini-parks. Additional mini-parks are not recommended because many new single-family homes end up offering their own play equipment and facilities that act in a similar manner as mini-parks. The following recommendations pertain to the existing mini-park.

As general guidelines, mini-parks should strive to include the following:

- a site between 2,500 square feet to one acre
- a service area of a maximum $\frac{1}{4}$ mile radius
- a site with a less than 4% slope
- a site that takes advantage of vegetation and other natural resources of the area
- a site that is located in residential areas



Existing Mini Parks**Centennial Park**

Maintain agreement with Railroad to allow park on right-of-way.

Develop park master plan/layout through public input.

Provide additional aesthetic and identification amenities where feasible.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Connect park to adjacent commercial businesses and downtown with trails.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54 on page 162*).

Water Tower Park

Develop park master plan/layout and/or planting plan through public input.

Provide additional aesthetic and identification amenities where feasible.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Continue to provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54*).

Lexington Middle School Park

(See also School Parks)

Develop joint use agreements between the school district and City that would establish rules and criteria.

Work with the school district to develop park master plan/layout with public input.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities and rules of play.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54*).

*Mini Parks***Park and Trail Recommendations**

Neighborhood Parks

It is the goal of the City of Lexington to provide the required facilities and services where possible in existing and proposed neighborhood parks. There are nine proposed neighborhood parks and these are to be built as they are needed due to the expansion of the City. Neighborhood parks should be the backbone for the City’s park and recreation system comprising the vast majority of park space within the City.

As general guidelines, neighborhood parks should strive to have the following:

- a site of approximately five to ten acres
- a service area with a maximum ½ mile radius
- not more than 50% of the site should have a slope greater than 4%
- a site that takes advantage of vegetation and other natural resources of the area
- a site located in primarily residential areas

Existing Neighborhood Parks

Arbor Park

- Develop park master plan/layout through public input.
- Provide aesthetic and identification amenities.
- Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.
- Connect park to adjacent commercial businesses and residential neighborhoods with trails.
- Provide basic feasible requirements and desired optional additions (*See Table 54 on page 162*).

Pioneer Park

- Develop park master plan/layout through public input.
- Replace or make improvements to existing restrooms.
- Provide aesthetic and identification amenities.
- Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.
- Connect park to adjacent residential neighborhoods with trails.
- Provide basic feasible requirements and desired optional additions (*See Table 54*).

Oak Park

- Develop park master plan/layout through public input.
- Replace or make improvements to existing restrooms.
- Provide aesthetic and identification amenities.
- Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.
- Connect park to adjacent residential neighborhoods with trails.
- Provide basic feasible requirements and desired optional additions (*See Table 54*).

Neighborhood Parks

Park and Trail Recommendations

Existing Neighborhood Parks

Bryan Elementary School Park

(See also School Parks)

Develop joint use agreements between the school district and City that would establish rules and criteria.

Work with the school district to develop park master plan/layout with public input.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities and rules of play.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54 on page 162*).

Morton Elementary School Park

(See also School Parks)

Develop joint use agreements between the school district and City that would establish rules and criteria.

Work with the school district to develop park master plan/layout with public input.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities and rules of play.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54*).

Pershing Elementary School Park

(See also School-Parks)

Develop joint use agreements between the school district and City that would establish rules and criteria.

Work with the school district to develop park master plan/layout with public input.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities and rules of play.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54*).

Sandoz Elementary School Park

(See also School Parks)

Develop joint use agreements between the school district and City that would establish rules and criteria for equipment and facilities on school grounds.

Work with the school district to develop park master plan/layout with public input.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities and rules of play.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54*).

Proposed Neighborhood Parks

The following proposed Neighborhood Parks will be labeled starting with N.

The fitting name for the first Neighborhood Park is N-1.

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N-1 (Sandoz Park)

Park to be located next to Sandoz Elementary School.

Approve proposed master plan shown in Figures 46 and 47 and includes the following amenities and changes:

- Construct an outdoor classroom
- Incorporate trails throughout park
- Build a climbing hill
- Establish areas of native grasses and trees for education, screening and windbreak purposes.
- Construct a gazebo for shade and shelter and locate benches

Develop a planting/tree plan for the park.

Provide additional aesthetic and identification amenities.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Connect park with adjacent residential development with trails.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54 on page 162*).

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CLIMBING HILL



GAZEBO



NATURAL PLAY AREA



MASTER PLAN
Scale: 1" = 50'-0"

Sandoz Park (Proposed)
Lexington, Nebraska

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Figure 46: Sandoz Park Proposed Master Plan, Lexington



MASTER PLAN
NTS



Sandoz Park (Proposed)
Lexington, Nebraska

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Figure 47: Sandoz Park Proposed Master Plan, Lexington

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Proposed Neighborhood Parks

The following proposed neighborhood parks are labeled on the Park Service Area Map and have dashed yellow boundaries (See Figure 45 on page 159).

N-2; N-3; N-4; N-5; N-6; N-7; N-8; N-9

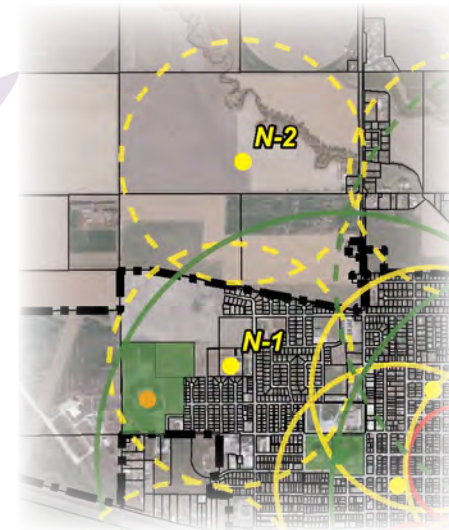
Develop park master plan/layout through public input.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Connect park with adjacent residential development with trails.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (See Table 54 on page 162).



Community Parks



Community Parks

As previously stated it is the goal of the City of Lexington to provide the required facilities and services where possible in existing and proposed parks. Plum Creek Park and Kirkpatrick Memorial Park are the only existing community parks and there is only one additional park of this size recommended at this time.

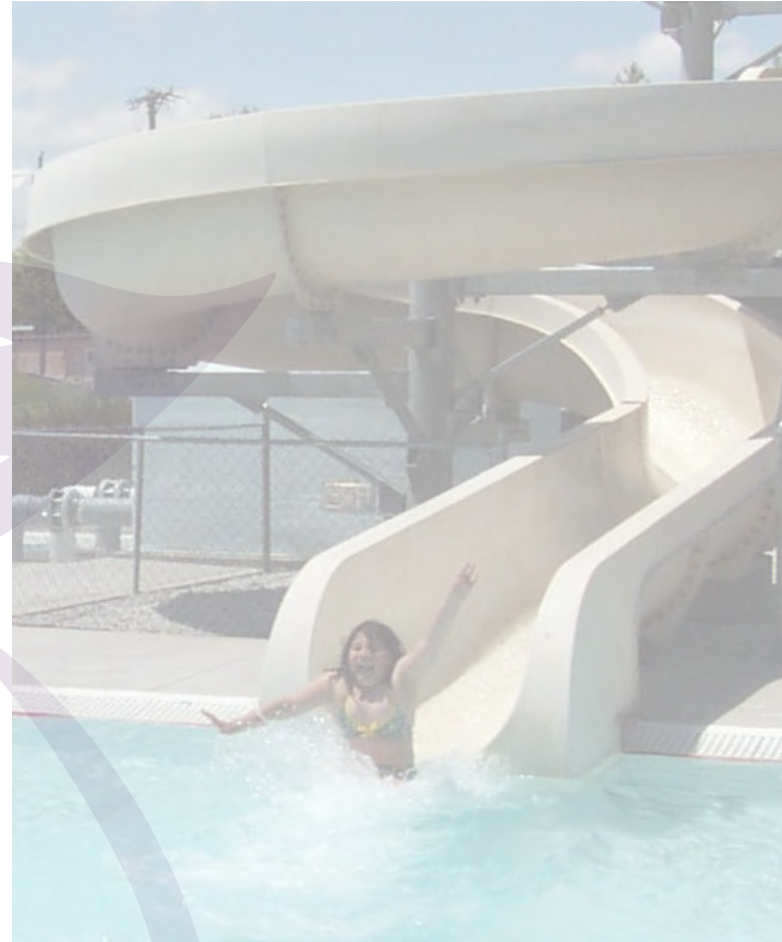
As general guidelines, community parks should strive to have the following:

a site of approximately 30 to 50 acres

a service area with a maximum 3 mile radius, typically a one to two mile radius

surrounding land uses are primarily residential

located adjacent to arterial or collector street(s)



Kirkpatrick Memorial Park

Approve proposed master plan shown in Figures 48 and 49 and includes the following amenities and changes:

Increase the size of the main parking lot, locate a second parking lot off of East 7th Street, and provide for on-street parking.

Change loop road to a wide trail for walking and function deliveries and eliminate vehicular access from street.

Eliminate east/west service road and access relocated maintenance facility through parking lot.

Locate large and small dog parks.

Provide access to the adjacent lake with pier and paddle boat dock amenities.

Locate a basketball court east of the large parking lot.

Remove the ball field.

Construct a climbing hill that will be large enough and accessible for a sledding hill.

Provide areas for native grass and plant interpretation or arboretum.

Provide area for a disc golf course (relocate from Plum Creek Park).

Construct trails throughout park to connect amenities.

Provide a play structure for children 2-5 years old and complement the existing play equipment and those found at the neighboring elementary school.

Locate additional picnic shelters and more shade trees throughout park.

Develop a planting/tree plan for the park.

Provide additional aesthetic and identification amenities where feasible.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Connect park to adjacent residential neighborhoods with trails.

Make improvements to tennis courts as needed.

Consider utilizing water reuse from pool to irrigate park ground and supplement water to lake.

Develop joint use agreements between the County Historical Society and City that would establish rules and criteria for the use of the lake.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired
(See Table 54 on page 162).

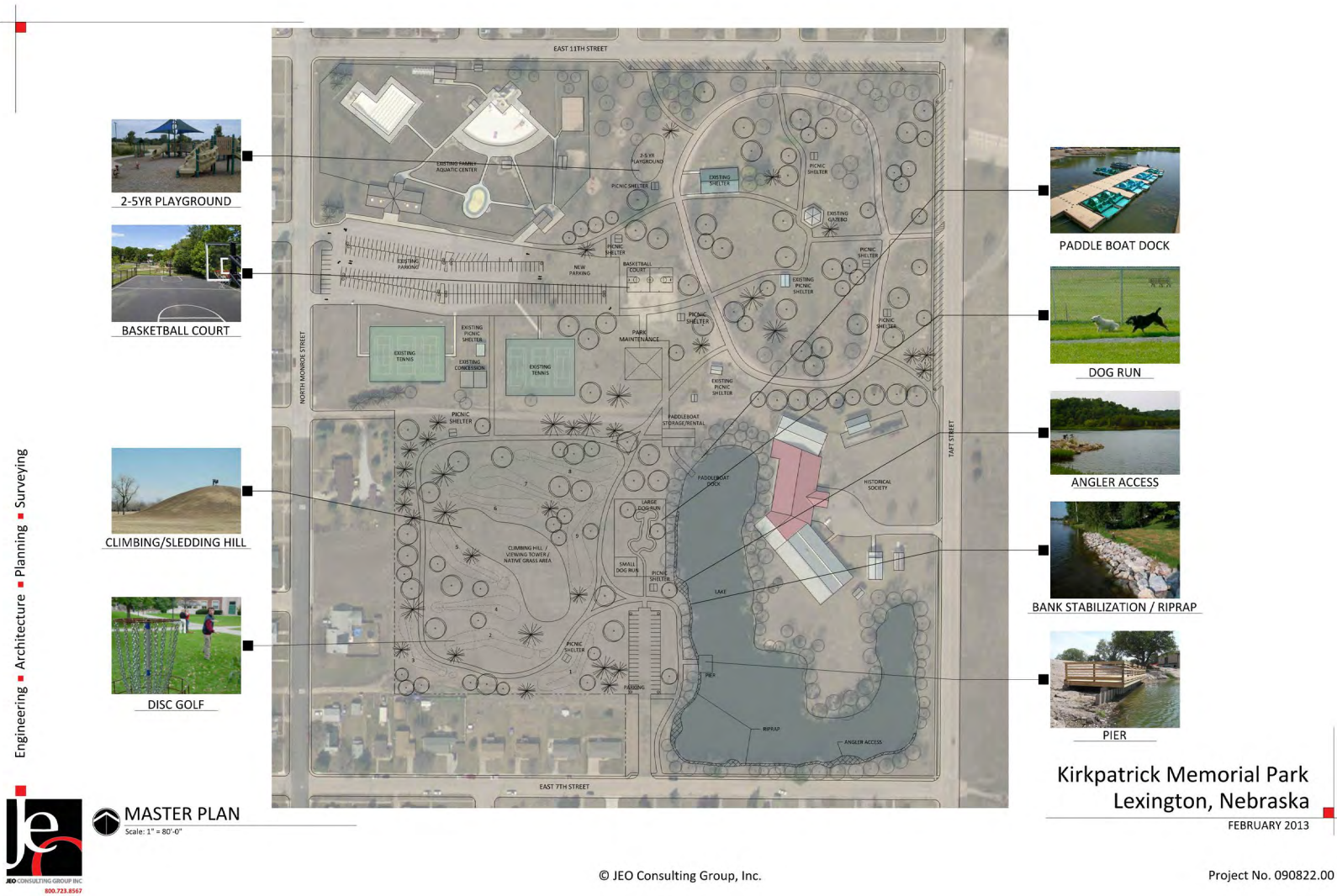


Figure 48: Kirkpatrick Memorial Park proposed Master Plan, Lexington

Kirkpatrick Memorial Park

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Kirkpatrick Memorial Park
Lexington, Nebraska

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Figure 49: Kirkpatrick Memorial Park proposed Master Plan Lexington

Plum Creek Park

Approve proposed master plan shown in Figures 50 and 51 and includes the following amenities and changes:

Eliminate horseshoe pits and RV parking.

Increase size of main parking area.

Remove disc golf (relocated to Kirkpatrick Memorial Park).

Increase size of play structure and include a separate structure for children 2-5 years of age with poured rubber for surfacing.

Make improvements to the lake, including bank stabilization, angler access pads, opening two north areas up through use of a bridge or culvert, beach, and ADA access. Also look at small dock for paddle boat use.

Locate an outdoor classroom on the island to be utilized by the school district and residents.

Construct an interactive water feature in the park.

Remove the two ball fields and locate multi-play areas for baseball, softball, soccer, football, and other activities or functions.

Locate an indoor multi-use recreational structure for activities and events.

Provide 10-foot trails throughout park that are marked.

Utilize existing buildings in park for maintenance structures where possible.

Locate on-street parking along Park Street.

Locate additional picnic shelters and more shade trees throughout park.

Develop a planting/tree plan for the park.

Replace or make improvements to existing restrooms on west end of the park.

Provide additional aesthetic and identification amenities where feasible. Park identification signs should be located in the northeast and southwest corners of the park.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Connect park to adjacent residential neighborhoods, commercial businesses and schools with trails.

Replace fencing on west tennis courts.

Make improvements to restrooms.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54 on page 162*).

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Plum Creek Park



Figure 50: Plum Creek proposed Master Plan, Lexington

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MASTER PLAN
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Plum Creek Park
Lexington, Nebraska

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Figure 51: Plum Creek proposed Master Plan, Lexington

Proposed Community Park

C-1

Develop park master plan/layout with public input and locate a community park northeast of Lexington in the floodplain area west to southwest of the Greenwood Cemetery to provide such park amenities to this area as it develops into single-family residential uses.

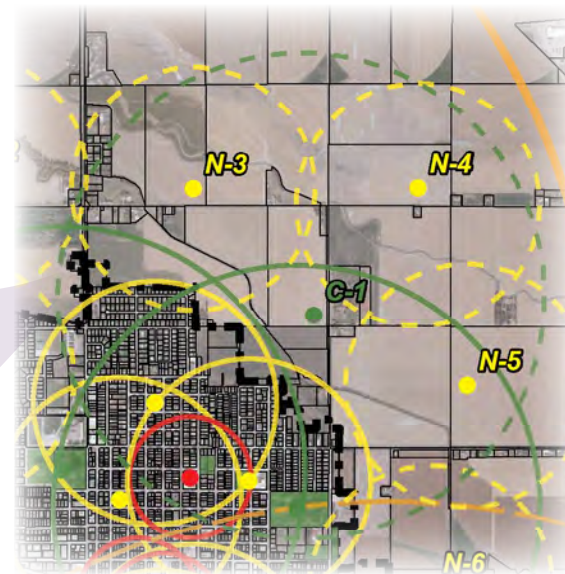
Work with the NRD to provide possible flood control in park.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Connect park to adjacent developments with trails.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (See Table 54 on page 162).



The proposed community park is larger than proposed neighborhood parks and labeled on the Park Service Area Map with a dashed green boundary (See Figure 45 on page 159).

Proposed Community Park

Lexington

Special Use Facilities

It is the goal of the City of Lexington to provide the required facilities and services where possible in existing facilities. There is one proposed special use facility, an indoor recreation center. The facility is shown on Figure 45 in a specific location however could be placed anywhere the City deems to be feasible.

As general guidelines, special use facilities should strive to have the following:

size of the site is variable

a service area that is community-wide

surrounding land uses are variable

Indoor Multi-Purpose Facility

Proposed

Develop a plan/layout through public input for such facility.

Suggested amenities include athletic field with turf, walking track, fitness space and restrooms.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities around the facility.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Locate facility within Plum Creek Park to take advantage of infrastructure, central location, and relationship to high school.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (See Table 54 on page 162).

Family Aquatic Center

Existing

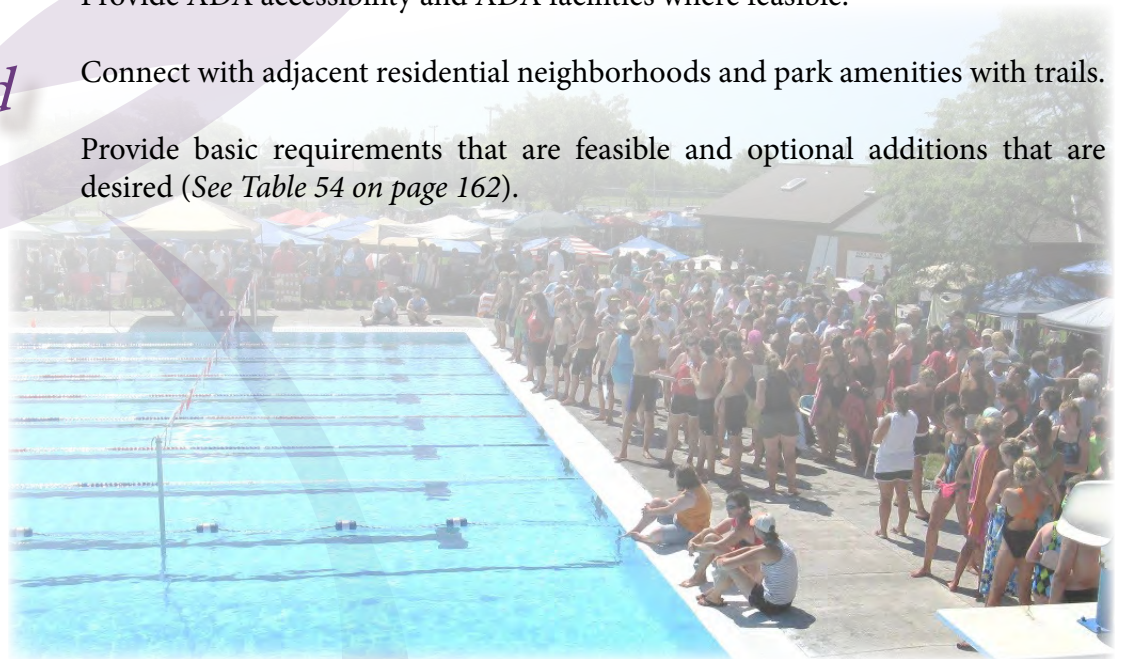
Provide aesthetic and identification amenities.

Remove drop slide from lap pool and replace with diving board.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Connect with adjacent residential neighborhoods and park amenities with trails.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (See Table 54 on page 162).



Large Urban/Regional Parks

The existing Sports Complex serves the community as the only regional park (See existing Sports Complexes). In striving to provide recreational opportunities to Lexington's entire jurisdiction, the City has an opportunity to develop a regional park with the existing sand pit lake southeast of Lexington once the sand and gravel operation has ceased. This location is shown in Figure 45 on page 159.

As general guidelines, regional parks should strive to have the following:

a site of approximately 50 to 100+ acres

a service area of the entire community and surrounding rural areas

surrounding land uses are primarily agricultural/open space

located adjacent to arterial or collector street(s)

Proposed Large Urban/Regional Park

R-1

Develop park master plan/layout with public input to transform the existing sand pit lake southeast of Lexington along the north side of Interstate 80 into a regional park.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Connect park to adjacent developments with trails.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (*See Table 54 on 162*).

Proposed

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Sports Complexes

The existing Sports Complex serves the community as the only regional park (See existing Sports Complexes). In striving to provide recreational opportunities to Lexington's entire jurisdiction, the City has an opportunity to develop a regional park with the existing sand pit lake southeast of Lexington once the sand and gravel operation has ceased. This location is shown in Figure 45.

As general guidelines, regional parks should strive to have the following:

a site of approximately 50 to 100+ acres

a service area of the entire community and surrounding rural areas

surrounding land uses are primarily agricultural/open space

located adjacent to arterial or collector street(s)

Optimist Recreation Complex

Existing

Review and alter existing park master plan/layout with public input, by expanding and making improvements.

Provide aesthetic and identification amenities.

Provide ADA accessibility and ADA facilities where feasible.

Connect park with adjacent residential development with trails.

Provide basic requirements that are feasible and optional additions that are desired (See Table 54 on page 162).



School Parks

The guidelines for school-parks are listed in Table 54: Required and Optional Facilities and Services. For the proposed school-parks, it is the goal of the City to work with the school district to provide the required facilities and services where possible. Adjacent land to the proposed school sites may be required to supply required facilities and services to fulfill provisions of a neighborhood park without building an additional park. These needed provisions may include parking areas, play sets for toddlers, drinking fountains, and restrooms. The goal is not to duplicate facilities but make the recreational use of the land more efficient.

As general guidelines, school parks should be constructed as neighborhood parks or in conjunction with neighborhood parks and should strive to have the following:

size of the site is variable (typically around five acres)

service area is variable (typically ½ mile radius)

a site that takes advantage of the trees and other natural resources of the area

located primarily in residential zoned areas

Sites that include schools should be large enough to accommodate school needs and neighborhood park uses, where feasible. A committee of City personnel and representatives of the school district should be established to discuss joint use facilities, joint maintenance possibilities, and joint improvement possibilities to maximize community use of facilities. The committee should also establish a process whereby new schools that may fall under formal joint use agreements are planned and designed jointly by the school district and the City. Master plans for each school park should be developed through public input by such committee.

Existing School Parks can be found with Neighborhood Parks in *Profile* Section.

“The Lex-Plan 2013”

Trails

Lexington shall consider linking its existing park and recreation areas with linear trails. Such trails should also connect to public facilities and residential developments throughout the community and within the two-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction. Connections by trails will provide safe pedestrian routes to schools, parks, public facilities, and shopping areas. As Lexington grows and expands its corporate limits, drainage ways and streams are recommended to be developed as both common areas and multi-purpose recreational trails. In addition, the City of Lexington should look at connecting to a regional trail system and connect the City to other communities, residential developments, and recreational developments such as Johnson Lake. Figure 52 identifies the Trails Concept Map for the City of Lexington. This map or plan illustrates both the existing and proposed trails and the connections made to existing public facilities and a possible regional trail. Although the map identifies a number of proposed trails there may be additional ones desired and their exact locations may vary depending upon developments, drainage improvements, etc.

As sidewalks need repairs or as streets and highways are improved, consideration shall be made to incorporate and construct the trails system as proposed on Lexington’s Trail Map. In addition, as the City grows and subdivisions are platted, such developments shall incorporate trails that will benefit their development and connect to other community facilities as identified in the Trails Map. These trails can be a combination of concrete, asphalt, or crushed limestone, but shall be all ADA accessible and constructed to standards that allow for safe pedestrian and bicycle use.

Additional recommendations regarding trails (on-road and off-road facilities), sidewalks, and pedestrian ways are provided in the Transportation Plan.

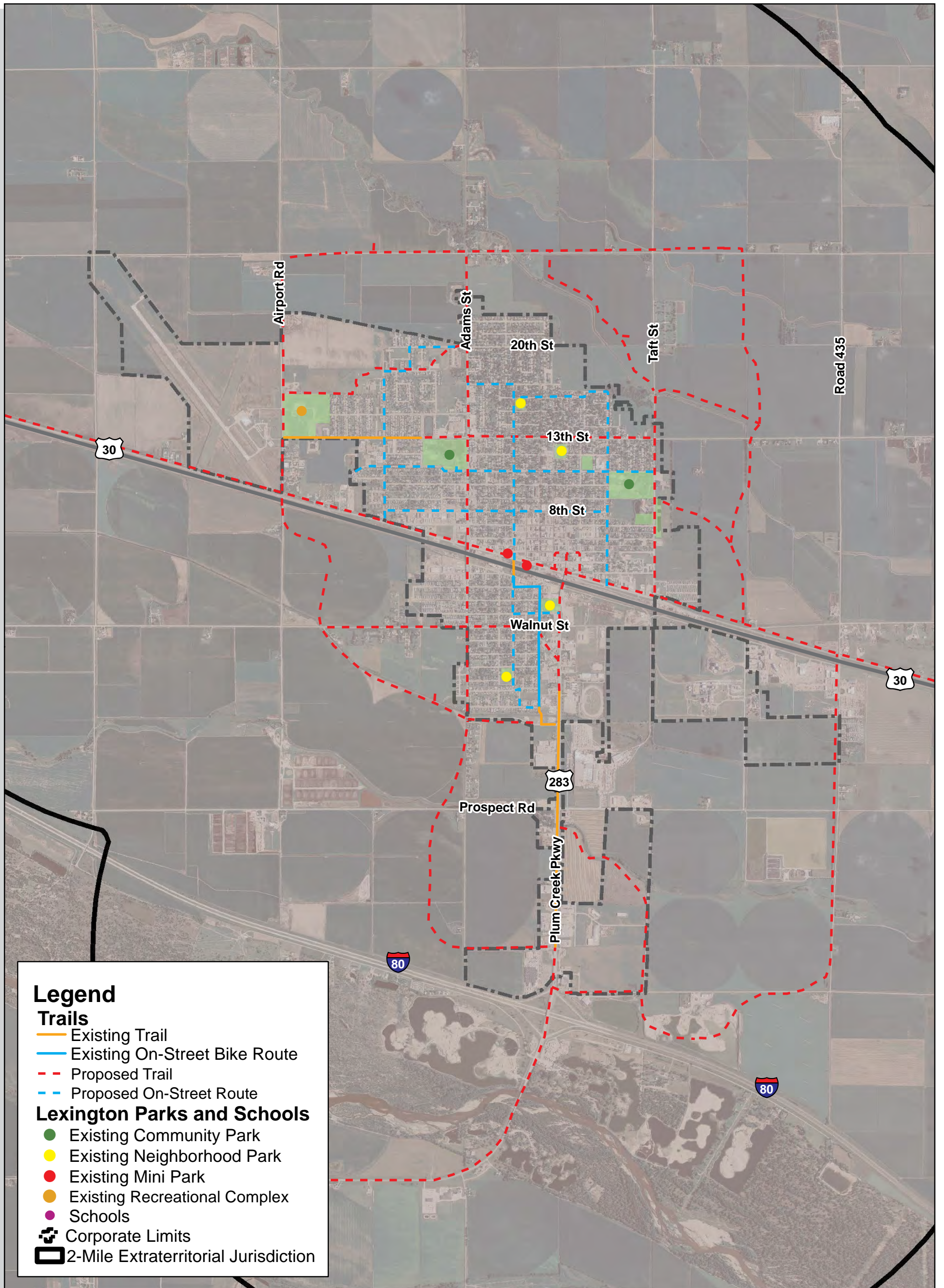
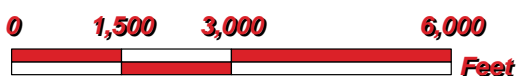


Figure 52: Trails Concept Map

City of Lexington
Dawson County, Nebraska

Future Bicycle / Pedestrian System



Created By: JWC
 Date: June 2013
 Software: ArcGIS 10
 File: 100999



This map was prepared using information from record drawings supplied by JEO and/or other applicable city, county, federal, or public or private entities. JEO does not guarantee the accuracy of this map or the information used to prepare this map. This is not a scaled plot.

Green Streets

Green streets are streets designed to extend a park-like appearance through the community and serve to create an interconnected network of parks, recreation areas, schools, and other civic facilities. Green streets should be designed or redesigned when feasible to have one or more of the following elements:

One or more rows of trees along both sides of the roadway (along City right-of-way or on private property)

One or more rows of trees down the center of the street/roadway located within islands.

Space for wide sidewalks or off-street trails on one or both sides of the roadway

No overhead utility wires that interfere with the growth of overstory trees

Green streets may include signage, benches, nodes, and landscaping. Existing street right-of-way widths would dictate specific design on a street-by-street basis. Figures 53, 54, and 55 show typical cross-sections of the three types of green streets. The hierarchy of green streets is neighborhood, secondary, and primary green streets. Neighborhood green streets are through streets within a neighborhood, secondary green streets are traffic collector routes, and primary green streets are major traffic arteries. Figure 55 shows an alternative cross-section with plant material in the center of the street.

All proposed street trees should have approval by City staff on species type and location regarding all existing and proposed infrastructure. Tree height near power lines and root systems near sewer and water lines shall be considered. All proposed green streets should be planned/designed accordingly with all existing or proposed utilities. With typical green street sections, the existing walk on both sides of the street should be widened to eight feet, extending it toward the street. If there is less than two feet remaining between the widened walk and the curb, it is recommended this strip also be paved, since an area less than two feet wide could likely not be maintained efficiently and effectively in grass or any other plant material. An additional five-foot easement should be acquired from adjoining private property, if necessary, in which street trees should be planted. Trees should be located three feet from the edge of the walk, spaced at approximately forty-foot intervals. Allowances should be made for existing items in the R.O.W., such as driveways or fire hydrants. In summary, green streets that cannot follow the typical sections should include the following, starting from the street curb:

Grass strip, if more than two feet between curb and walk (if less than two feet from street to walk, strip should be paved)

Eight-foot wide walk

Five-foot easement, in which street trees are planted three feet from the walk

Implementation of designated green streets in Lexington would ensure that the tree-lined streets become part of the landscape throughout the City. It would also help create a pedestrian and bicycle movement network through the City that would link parks and public recreational areas together as a continuous, interconnected system. The City should consider implementation of such green streets where feasible.

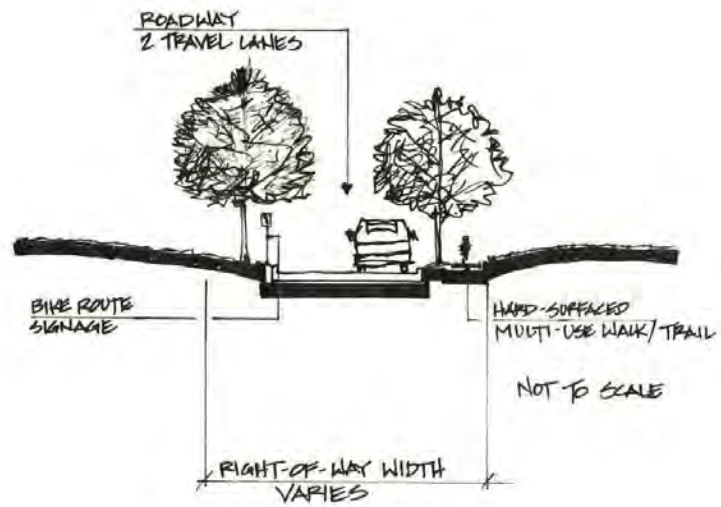


Figure 53: Neighborhood Green Street Section (Typical)

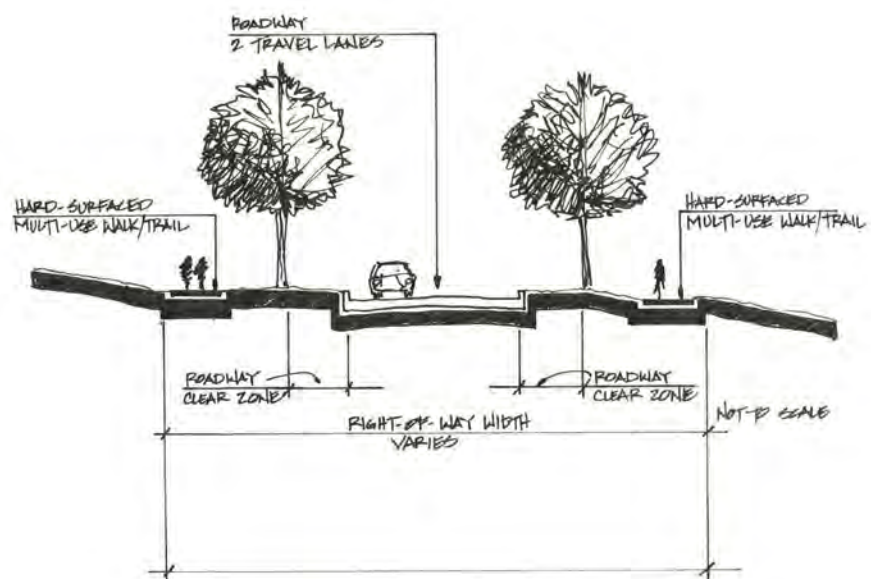


Figure 54: Secondary Green Street Section (Typical)

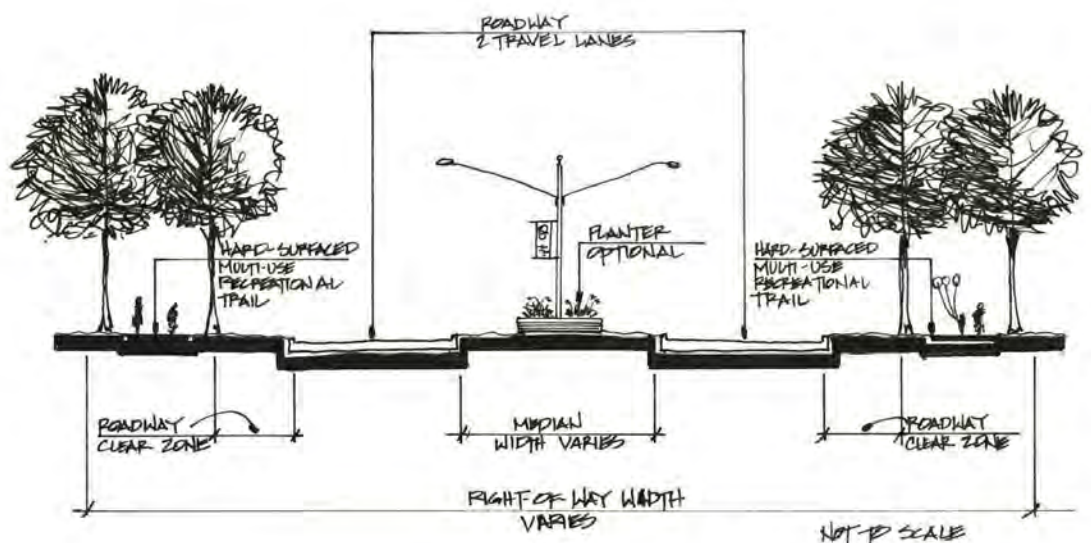


Figure 55: Primary Green Street Section

Park Land Dedication/Fee

New Development Dedication and/or Fee

As a way of assuring adequate land is available for new parks and facilities and that all existing and new recreational amenities are properly maintained, the City of Lexington should implement a policy for the dedication of land for such parks and facilities and a park fee in-lieu of such dedication.

When there is a new subdivision platted within Lexington's jurisdiction, the City may require either a dedication of parkland (for parks, trails, open space, or other recreational facilities) and/or a park dedication fee. Such dedication policy should also be made part of the Lexington Subdivision Regulations. Logistics of the recreational facility type and its exact location should be determined through the pre-application meetings of the platting process. The parcel of ground to be dedicated or the amount of fee to be paid will be negotiated and written into the subdivision agreement. Master plans for such parks and facilities should be laid out at time of preliminary plat and approved at time of final platting and prior to execution/filing of final plat. Any required park development fees should be submitted to the City at the time of final platting and placed into the City's established park fund. Such funds should be used for the acquisition of land, development, and maintenance of Lexington's park system.

When deciding whether or not the developer should dedicate land, pay the fee, or both, the City and developer shall consult the Park Service Area Map and the Trails Concept Map within this Plan. If there is a future park, trail, open space, or other recreational facility located in whole or in part of the new subdivision, the City may require that the subdivider dedicate land for such improvements. Development and maintenance of each park, trail, etc. shall be determined in the individual subdivision agreements. Any land that is dedicated should be buildable land (non-floodplain or non-floodway designated ground or areas of less than 15% slope) and be of sufficient size for the type of park or recreational facility designated in this plan.

New Development Dedication and/or Fee

Dedication of such parkland and fees described above may be determined by the size and type of subdivision development. Land dedication in subdivision developments should be as follows:

Residential developments shall dedicate 10% of buildable land.

Commercial developments shall dedicate 10% of buildable land.

Industrial developments shall dedicate 10% of buildable land.

As a minimum, developers should dedicate the maximum required parkland area for the type of park and/or recreational facility identified, unless negotiated to a smaller amount with the City Council through the platting process and subdivision agreement approval. The remaining acres of un-dedicated land falling within the required percentages listed above should be evaluated with a per acre park development fee set forth by the City of Lexington.

If the Parks and Trails Plan does not identify a proposed park or facility in the platted area and the subdivider is directed to provide the City with fee payment in lieu of parkland dedication, then such subdivider should pay a park development fee based upon a set multiplier determined by the City. Such fee should be based on gross total acres of development at time of platting and shall be paid prior to execution of the final plat.

Subdivisions of mixed use developments or planned unit developments should dedicate parkland or pay a park development fee based upon the amount individually zoned land. If land in the subdivision is utilized by multiple uses (residential, commercial, industrial) without different zoning, then the higher amount of parkland dedication or park development fee should be required for entire subdivision.

Park Maintenance

The City should adopt a maintenance policy for each level of park and facility. A maintenance standards schedule could be developed that places each park and recreational facility into one of three levels for maintenance. Level 1 would be the most intense level of care, with Level 3 being the most natural and least maintenance intense areas. For example, mini-parks should be maintained higher than some greenways. The park department may not only create levels within the system but also may create levels of care with individual parks. For example, the park entry and sports fields may be Level 1, the majority of the park may be Level 2, and the creek or wooded area may be Level 3. A maintenance policy and detailed scheduling may include the following areas of service within each park or recreational facility:

- **Lawn care**
- **Sports turf care**
- **Litter control**
- **Lighting**
- **Hard/multi-purpose surfaces maintenance**
- **Graffiti control**
- **Repairs**
- **Inspections**
- **Tree and shrub care**
- **Native grass care and control**
- **Floral care (perennials and annuals)**
- **Restroom maintenance**
- **Ball field maintenance and preparation**
- **Fence and gate construction and repairs**
- **Playground maintenance**
- **Trails**
- **Waterway management**
- **Drainage structures**
- **Pedestrian bridges**
- **Retaining walls**
- **Site amenities (picnic tables, goals, etc.)**
- **Picnic shelters (including reservations)**
- **Signage**
- **Unique/Special Features (historical, natural, etc.)**
- **Concessions**

Policies should also be adopted to address signage and color schemes for parks and recreational facilities located within Lexington’s jurisdiction. Signs are recommended to be of the same style and color for all Lexington parks so that they represent one park system. Suggested colors for park shelter, playground structure, benches, etc. should include greens, tans, browns, and maroon colors. Such colors are less obtrusive to the park environment. All park plans with proposed subdivisions shall be submitted for approval, including all proposed structures, materials, and colors.