



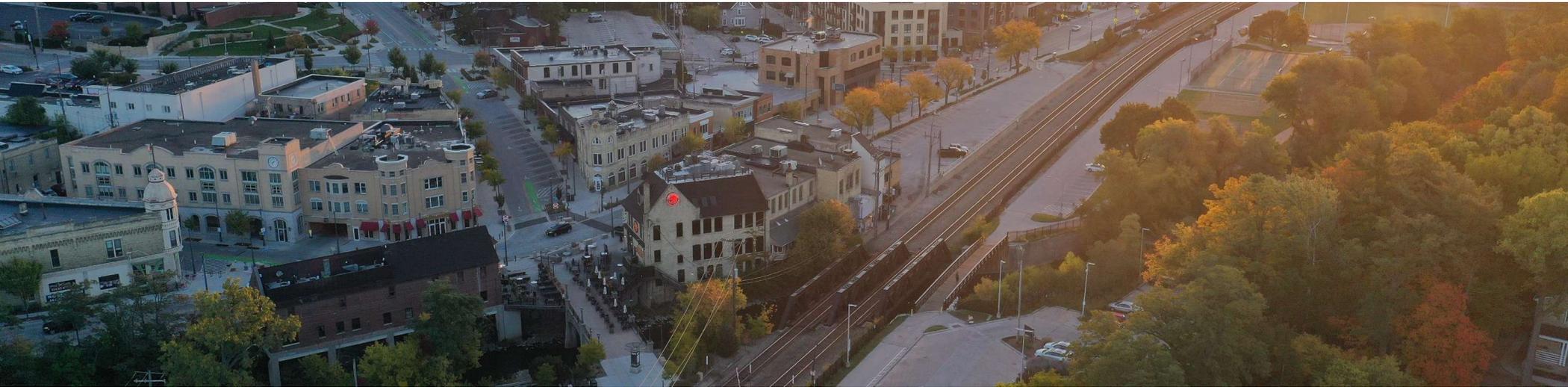
# Park and Open Space Plan

2025-2030

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## PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN | What is it?



### A common vision for park, recreation, and resource-protection initiatives

The Park and Open Space Plan (POSP) is a supplemental document to the Active Tosa Plan and provides opportunities for Wauwatosa Parks staff to gather feedback from partners, park users, the public, and other stakeholders. The POSP will help guide park development, in alignment with the community's needs, for the next 5 to 10 years. It must be updated every 5 years to maintain DNR Stewardship grant eligibility.

# PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN | Elements of the Planning Process



## Inventory/Analysis of Existing Lands & Facilities



## Public Feedback

Pop-up Events  
Open Houses  
Public Survey/Fund It Tool  
Stakeholder Meetings



## Active Tosa Plan

Recommendations  
Goals



## Recreation Needs Analysis

Current demand  
Upcoming trends



## Recreation Trends

Passive vs. Active  
Changing popularity  
Local, state, national



## Park Use Metrics

Demographic trends  
Current patrons- who, when,  
how many, how often?



## Acquisition Needs Analysis

Does existing parkland sufficiently and equitably serve all our residents?



## State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)



## Staff Recommendations

# PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN | Planning Timeline

August 2024

## Project Kickoff

Begin public engagement strategy  
Pop-up event at Tosa Night Out 8/7  
Project webpage published  
Online survey and Fund It Tool opened

## Public Outreach

Stakeholder Interviews  
Commission meetings  
Library Pop-Up  
Public Open Houses  
Hire consultant

Fall 2024

2024-2025

## Draft Plan

Close & analyze public feedback  
Compose draft plan in coordination with consultant

## Plan Adoption

Presentations to Parks Board and Common Council  
Submit final plan to DNR

Fall 2025  
*We are Here*

# PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN | Public Outreach Schedule



August 7, 2024



## Tosa Night Out

Staff hosted a table to raise awareness of the POSP, gathering feedback and answering questions.



## Wonder Wednesday Library Pop-Up

Park and Library staff hosted fun activities for kids to help gather their feedback, including "Dream Park" collages.

Sept. 25, 2024



## Commission for Persons with Disabilities

Park staff will give a short presentation and gathered feedback.

October 2, 2024



## Youth Commission

Park staff will give a short presentation and gathered feedback.

October 9, 2024

**October 15, 2024**



**Tosa Rec**

Parks and Tosa Rec staff met to discuss existing and anticipated needs.



**Open House #1**

The public was invited to the DPW, where they learned more about the POSP and provided feedback through several activities.

**October 17, 2024**



**Senior Commission**

Park staff will give a short presentation and gathered feedback.

**October 21, 2024**



**Online Survey & Fund-It Tool**

Staff closed the online survey and Fund-It Tool. The survey gathered insight from 248 respondents and the Fund-It Tool engaged 401 contributors.

**November 4, 2024**



**Open House #2**

The public was invited to the DPW, where they learned more about the POSP and provided feedback through several activities.

**December 5, 2024**

# PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN | Key Survey Results

## Survey

### Why do people visit our parks?

**Physical Activity\* – 41.6%**  
Connecting with Nature – 23.1%  
Spending time with Family and Friends - 23.1%

\*Walking/Hiking/Running – 97.4%

### Which activities have too few facilities?

**River-based Activities – 60.5%**  
Winter Sports – 55.2%  
Gardening/Ecological Restoration – 53.5%

### How do people access our parks?

Visit Weekly or Daily – 69.7%  
Walk to their Closest Park - 51.5%  
Feel Parks are Very or Extremely Accessible – 66%

### Who is being served our parks?

Parks were rated as meeting the needs of children (5-12) and adults (19-64).  
**Respondents indicated services for adolescents (13-18) and seniors (65+) could be improved.**

## Fund-It Tool

### Top Priorities for Funding:

Walking & Biking Opportunities – 17%  
Community Gathering Spaces – 17%  
Nature Appreciation – 17%

### Moderate Funding Interest:

Water Recreation – 12%  
Court-based Sports – 9%  
Children’s Play Opportunities – 7%  
Public Art – 6%  
Physical Fitness – 6%

### Low-Priority Investments:

Open/Unprogrammed Green Spaces – 6%  
Stadium Field Sports- 3%



## Plan Implementation

Moving forward, the insights gained from the POSP will help inform future planning processes, capital funding requests, and project timelines.

Examples: Pursuing additional winter recreation opportunities (Heat Haven Sauna partnership), community gathering spaces (patio addition as part of Pocket Park redesign), community events/programming (partnership with Pour, Inc.)