

2019-2023

TOWN OF WATERLOO PARKS AND RECREATION 5-YEAR MASTER PLAN



**Town of Waterloo Park Board
Northeastern Indiana Regional
Coordinating Council
2019-2023**



**Waterloo Parks and Recreation
Five-Year Master Plan
2019-2023**
Year Plan Prepared: 2018-19

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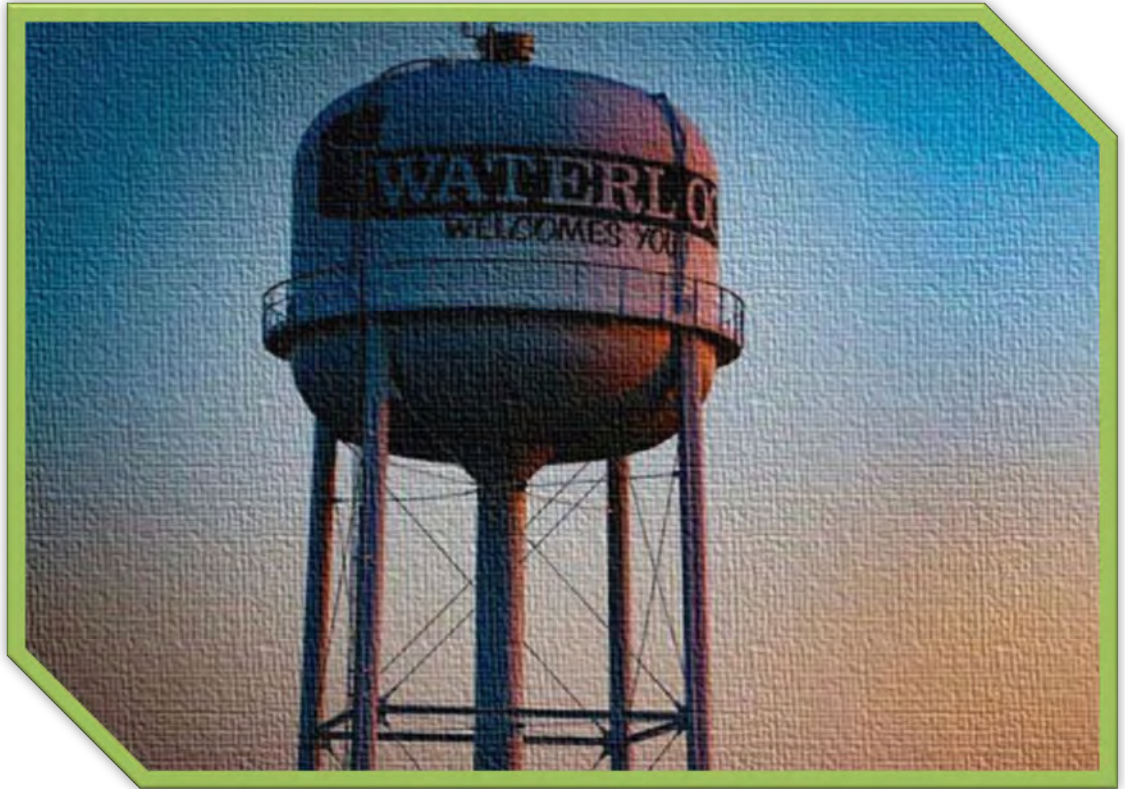
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INTRODUCTION



1.0 Introduction

1.1 Organization of the Plan

The Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Park Plan provides an outline of proposed actions and goals of the Waterloo Parks and Recreation Department for the next five years. It is a collaborative effort using independent research, public input, and the interests and goals of the Waterloo Park Board to clearly identify the needs of the community and develop a practical plan of action. The Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan should be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that ongoing goals and activities align with the needs identified in the park plan. This plan will expire after five years, and a new plan should be drafted to provide congruence between departmental development and town priorities.

This plan is not a legal document, but rather a point of reference to provide guidance for the Park Board, as well as the general public. The plan is written in such a way that local officials and residents with non-technical backgrounds will be able to use it effectively without professional assistance.

The plan consists of five (5) main sections to help provide ease for the reader to access the information used in the development of the resulting Action Plan. An appendix section is also included to provide supporting documentation, public participation information, and the Park Board Ordinance and Resolution.

1. INTRODUCTION: This section provides the framework of the plan and outlines the planning process. It is used to define the planning area and establish the scope of the plan. The Park Board’s vision and goals are identified and historical background, governmental structure and budgetary constraints are also presented.

2. EXISTING CONDITIONS: A thorough review of the existing conditions within the park system will help to establish current needs and pinpoint future possibilities. This section includes a review of physical, historical, and cultural features of the planning area. Additionally, demographic profiles, social and economic conditions, and other existing project development initiatives will be reviewed to provide a summary analysis of the findings with implications for park planning.

3. INVENTORY: This section presents an inventory of the Waterloo park system. A map is included with the location of each park and trail system and a detailed inventory list of amenities contained within each park. Also provided in this section is an overview of existing park programming and Accessibility and Universal Design (ADA) compliance efforts and other recreational facilities available in close proximity to community parks.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Public input is essential in discovering the unique characteristics of a community park system and revealing its strengths and weaknesses. This section summarizes the mechanisms used throughout the planning process, provides a summary of findings, and includes a needs analysis of the resulting data. The methods of data collection for the purposes of this plan utilized an online community parks and recreation survey, an online trails survey, a youth survey conducted at an elementary school, and activities provided at a public meeting.

5: ACTION PLAN: This section provides a comparative review of the “level of service” with recommended standards for parks and recreation areas. Also included in this section are a progress report, a ranked priority list, and an action plan with cost projections, implementation schedule, and potential funding sources to accomplish each task.

1.2 Definition of the Planning Area

The planning area for the purposes of this park plan is the area within the corporate boundaries of the Town of Waterloo, within which all the current parks exist and where the future Veterans Memorial Park will be developed. The Town of Waterloo is located in the central portion of DeKalb County, Indiana within Grant and Smithfield Townships. Waterloo is located north of the City of Auburn, east of City of Kendallville, south of the City of Angola and west of the City of Butler. Waterloo has a total land area of 1.74 square miles.

According to 2010 U.S. Census data, Waterloo has a population of 2,242. However, using 2017 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, the population of Waterloo decreased slightly by 0.7% and currently has a population of 2,227 following the recession of 2010. For the purposes of this study, census data from the most current ACS estimates available at the time of planning was used.

1.3 Goals of the Plan

The goals of the 2019-2023 Park Plan are affirmed and restated below:

1. Provide opportunities to share information and receive feedback on the current park system and future park developments to make informed decisions and establish a consensus of desired goals.
2. Develop a master plan to provide direction with the existing and future parks and trails that will create connectivity between parks and amenities.
3. Use natural resources effectively and seek available funding opportunities to make the Waterloo parks welcoming for persons of all ages and abilities to enjoy.

1.4 Park Board History

The Waterloo Town Park and Recreation Board was established on June 13, 1989, by Ordinance No. 89-6, to govern the parks. The Park Board is required to have four (4) members: two (2) members from each political party, and two (2) ex-officio members: one (1) appointed from the Board of School Trustees, and one (1) appointed from the Waterloo Grant Library Board. The Park Board works on behalf of Town's governing body to ensure the parks have the funds necessary to provide adequate recreational space for the residents of Waterloo. At one point the Park Board had stopped meeting monthly, and the Street Department Superintendent managed the parks independently. In the early 2000s, the Lion's Club raised money and provided oversight of the original Francis Thomson Memorial Park playground. In October 2014, a "call out" was made to local officials to reestablish a park board following a land donation with specific terms that the land was to be used for a community park. Additionally, events from of a fire that caused substantial damage to the Francis Thomson Memorial Park (FTMP) prompted local officials to reestablish a thriving Park Board. The Waterloo Parks and Recreation Department was reestablished and the creation of Pankop Park and the restoration of FTMP soon followed. The current Park Board has been active since January 2015. These significant circumstances prompted the Waterloo Parks and Recreation Board to develop a current master plan to provide guidance and direction in the years ahead. It is important to note that the last park plan was completed in 1989-1990 (see Waterloo Parks and Recreation Ordinance provided in Appendix 6.12).

1.5 Park and Recreation Department Staff

The town's Street Department Superintendent provides maintenance at the parks including minor building maintenance and repair. The Town Manager oversees the functions of the Park Board and assists with board meetings and park programming activities in town. Salaries for both the Town Manager and Street

Department Superintendent are paid through the town’s General Fund. A seasonal employee is hired to mow the town parks and cemetery.

1.6 Park Board Vision and Mission Statement

1.6.1. Vision

We strive to provide safe and enjoyable recreational opportunities to enrich the quality of life for our community.

1.6.2. Mission

Our mission is to provide proper oversight of essential recreational facilities and green space and optimize the use of available resources to create a pleasant and welcoming environment for residents and visitors to the Town of Waterloo

1.7 Local Government Structure

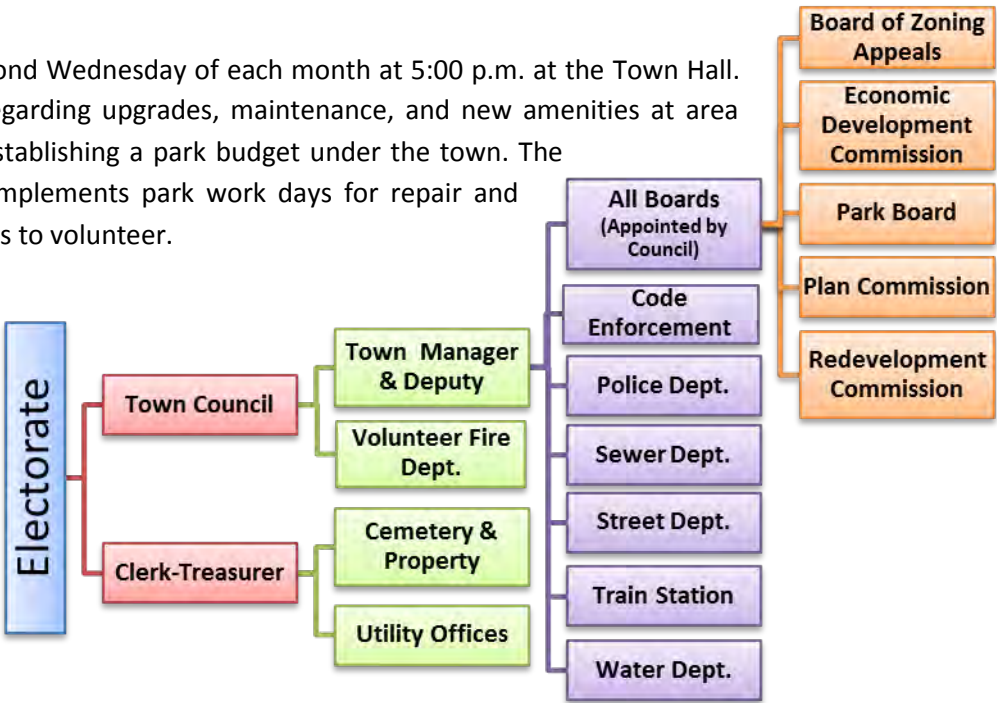
The Town of Waterloo is governed by the Town Council which is comprised of five elected members including a Council President and Council Vice President. All members are at-large. Town Council members serve as liaisons to each department and board or commission. The Town Council develops Town Ordinances, establishes and has authority over the town budget, public facilities and services, capital improvements, and the appointment of boards and commissions serving in the Town’s interest. They also oversee the volunteer fire department that is located in Town.

The Council appointed a Town Manager to direct and manage operations of the town and is responsible for the implementation of all policy set by the Town Council. A Deputy Town Manager was added in 2018 as well. The Clerk-Treasurer is elected to keep official records and serve as chief fiscal officer of the Town.

The Town works continuously to improve the quality of life and place in Waterloo. The Town Council meets at 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Waterloo Grant Township Public Library, Community Room.

The Park Board meets the second Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The Board makes decisions regarding upgrades, maintenance, and new amenities at area parks, as well as assist with establishing a park budget under the town. The Park Board coordinates and implements park work days for repair and upgrades encouraging residents to volunteer.

Figure 1: Organizational Structure



1.8 Park Budget

The total annual budget for the park system from 2014 to 2017 was as follows:

Table 1: Park Budget 2014-2017

Detailed Budget			
Waterloo Parks & Recreation Fund Accounts (2014-2017)			
Waterloo Parks & Recreation Detailed Receipts & Disbursements by Fund Report			
Year	Descriptions	Receipts	Disbursements
2017			
	Rental Expense		\$1,742.85
	Park and Recreation Receipts	\$9,386.57	
	Total	\$9,386.57	\$1,742.85
2016			
	Park Fund: Other Disbursements		\$530.55
	Playground Reconstruction Fund/ Repairs & Mnt, Other		\$15,983.36
	Park Fund: Rental of Property	\$1,655.60	
	Playground Reconstruction Fund:/ Donations	\$27,525.00	
	Skate Park Donations	\$2,156.00	
	Total	\$31,336.60	\$16,513.91
2015			
	Park Fund: Other Disbursements		\$618.80
	Playground Reconstruction Fund/ Repairs & Mnt, Other		\$244,139.01
	Park Fund: Rental of Property	\$1,327.05	
	Playground Reconstruction Fund (Fire/Insurance)	\$226,213.10	
	Total	\$227,540.15	\$244,757.81
2014			
	Park Services and Charges		\$1,773.54
	Park and Recreation Receipts	\$1,747.00	
	Total	\$1,747.00	\$1,773.54

Source: Indiana Gateway Reports, website,
https://gateway.ifionline.org/report_builder/

The main source of revenue for the park system comes through pavilion rental and donations. However, the fire reconstruction of Francis Thomson Memorial Park was funded with insurance and donated labor as well as paid local staff to organize and oversee the project. Some park expenses are paid with tax-based funds from the General Fund: the park superintendent's salary for oversight of the town parks, and the town manager's salary for administration of staff and park board meetings. The budget used to pay for mowing of the town parks and the cemetery are split 50/50 using the Park Fund and Cemetery Fund. A Skate Park Fund was created with the intent of building a new skate park; but waning public interest halted the project, and the skate park funds were either returned or transferred to the Park Fund. The Community Foundation of DeKalb County maintains a Donation Fund for the Town of Waterloo that is used for all park donations. This fund had a balance of \$11,987 in 2018. Waterloo has two taxing districts: the Waterloo-Grant Township district, and the Waterloo-Smithfield Township district. A *2015-2018 Tax Rate Comparison Report* is provided in Table 2 below:

Table 2: 2015-2018 Tax Rate Comparison

District	NAME	Township	2018 Tax Rates	2017 Tax Rates	2016 Tax Rates	2015 Tax Rates	% CHANGE
8	WATERLOO, TOWN	GRANT	3.4761	3.3909	3.3237	3.63	-4.24%
20	WATERLOO, TOWN	SMITHFIELD	3.4698	3.3838	3.3137	3.6222	-4.21%

EXISTING CONDITIONS



2.0 Existing Conditions

2.1 Natural Features and Landscape

2.1.1 Topography

The Town of Waterloo is located in DeKalb County with the northwestern portion of the county within the Northern Indiana Drift Plains: *Lake Country* ecoregion (Region 56a); and the southeastern portion of the county residing in the Eastern Corn Belt Plains: *Clayey, High Lime Till Plains* ecoregion (Region 55a). The Lake Country ecoregion is characterized by hummocky and pitted morainal area recognized by many pothole lakes, ponds, marshes, bogs, and clear streams. This area once supported oak-hickory forests. Today, marshes and woodland remain but corn, soybean and livestock farming are dominant; however, recreational and residential developments often surround the lakes of this ecoregion. The *Clayey, High Lime Till Plains* ecoregion (region 55a) has a level, clayey limy till plain, and soils require artificial drainage. This area has replaced the original beech forests and scattered elm-ash swamp forests.

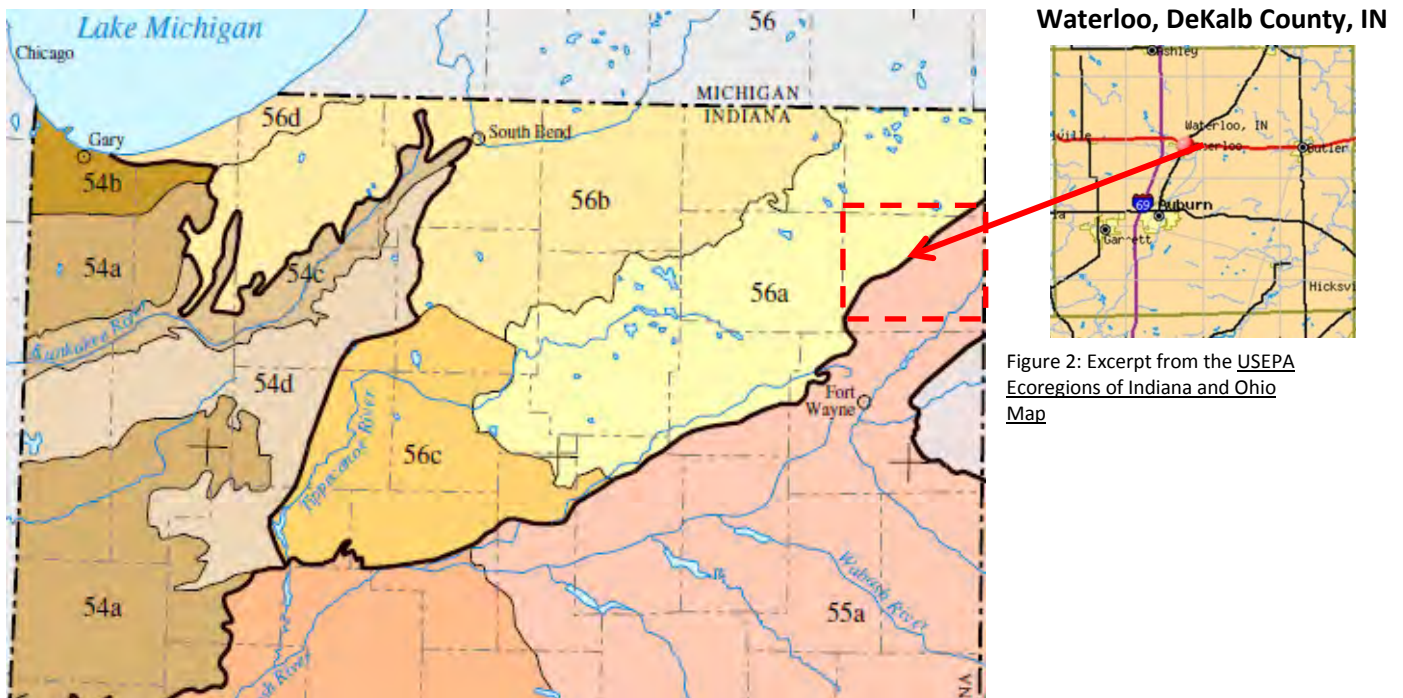


Figure 2: Ecoregion Map

Source: USEPA website: http://newftp.epa.gov/EPADDataCommons/ORD/Ecoregions/oh/ohin_front.pdf

2.1.2 Vegetation

The natural vegetation types that are found within this region include broadleaf forests, oak savannas, and a variety of prairie communities. However, over 69% of the land area in DeKalb County, or 160,894 acres, is dedicated farmland that supports an estimated 123,036 acres of cropland and 13,890 acres of woodland. Soybeans, corn, wheat and hay are the top crops (acres) grown within 924 farms in DeKalb County as reported in the “USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture Profile.”

The entire state of Indiana is under quarantine for the Emerald Ash Borer as of December 1, 2006. Unfortunately, Waterloo had lost several Ash trees in local parks due to the Emerald Ash Borer; but the town hired a professional arborist and was able to save three large ash trees following inoculation and three

consecutive years of treatments. The *DNR Emerald Ash Borer Locations* map identified three infestation sites to the west of Waterloo along U.S. Highway 6, but no sites were specified within the town's corporate boundaries.

2.1.3 Climate

The Town of Waterloo gets 38.5 inches of rain, on average, per year and 34.8 inches of snow per year. The U.S. average is 39.2 inches of rain per year and 25.8 inches of snow. On average, there are 183 sunny days per year in Waterloo. The U.S. average is 205 sunny days per year. The summer high temperature in July is approximately 84 degrees and the January low is 16 degrees. Waterloo receives some kind of precipitation, on average, 81 days per year. Precipitation is rain, snow, sleet, or hail. Sperling's comfort index for Waterloo is ranked 48 out of 100. The U.S. average comfort index is 54. This index is based on the total number of days annually within the comfort range of 70-80 degrees. Penalties are applied for days of excessive humidity.

2.1.4 Soils / Geology

There are 19 soil types found in and around the Town of Waterloo: However, 46.5 percent of soil in town consists of Blount silt Loam with 1-4 percent slopes, eroded, and 13.2 percent of soil consists of Pewamo silty clay. Properties of the Blount silt loam soil type does not have a frequency of flooding, and is a non-saline to very slightly saline soil. Pewamo silty clay (Pe) soils are classified as poorly drained and comprise of up to 35% calcium carbonate. If drained, Pe soils are classified as "prime farmland" and have "mixed/ native vegetation" properties.

Francis Thomson Memorial Park (FTMP) soil consists mainly of Blount silt loam with a 1-4 percent slope, eroded (BaB2) and some Pewamo Silty Clay (Pe) soil.

Eagle Park and Pankop Park soils consist mainly of Blount silt loam with 1-4 percent slopes, eroded soil (BaB2).

The site of the proposed **Veterans Memorial Park** is comprised mainly of Blount silt Loam soil (BaB2) with a small area of Houghton muck, drained soil (Hw) located on the southern edge of the property near the location of the future pond.

Table 3: Soil Types Reference

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
BaA	Blount silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	26.4	2.4%
BaB2	Blount silt loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes, eroded	515.8	46.5%
BoB	Boyer sandy loam, 1 to 6 percent slopes	98.0	8.8%
BoC	Boyer sandy loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes	2.3	0.2%
Em	Eel loam, frequently flooded	49.9	4.5%
GnB2	Glynwood loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	89.2	8.0%
HaA	Haskins loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	16.8	1.5%
Hw	Houghton muck, drained	8.3	0.7%
Ld	Landes fine sandy loam, frequently flooded	69.0	6.2%
MoC2	Morley silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded	1.0	0.1%
MrC3	Morley silty clay loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, severely eroded	0.2	0.0%
OhB	Oshtemo sandy loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes	11.0	1.0%
Pe	Pewamo silty clay	146.3	13.2%
RaB	Rawson sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	29.3	2.6%
Re	Rensselaer loam	16.0	1.4%
Se	Sebewa loam, disintegration moraine, 0 to 1 percent slopes	22.0	2.0%
Ud	Udorthents, loamy	5.7	0.5%
Wa	Wallkill silt loam	2.5	0.2%
Wt	Whitaker silt loam	0.2	0.0%
Totals for Area of Interest		1,109.9	100.0%

2.1.5 Hydrography / Waterbodies

The Town of Waterloo is located within the 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) Sub-basin Code 04100003 of the watershed of the Great Lakes Region; a sub region of the Western Lake Erie and St. Joseph River sub-basin. Waterbodies within Waterloo consist of Cedar Creek that runs along the north and northeastern perimeter, and the east to southeastern edge of town. However, none of the town's existing parks or proposed Veterans Memorial Park is located within the floodway inundation area.

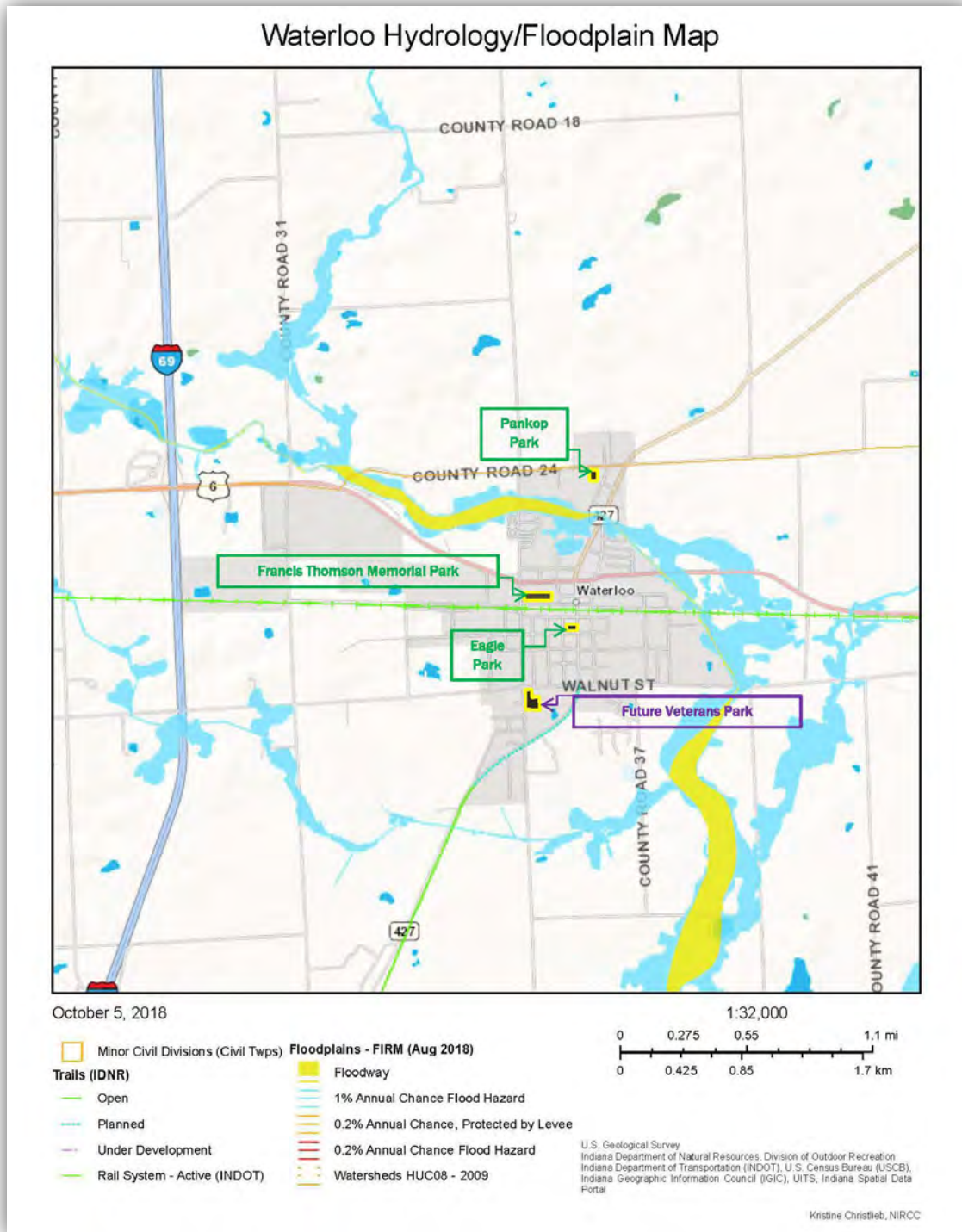


Figure 3: Hydrology/Floodplain Map

Source: U.S. Geological Survey

2.1.6 Wetlands

Waterloo has a few scattered freshwater ponds, freshwater emergent wetlands, and/or freshwater forested/shrub wetlands within its corporate boundaries. A bridge crossing Cedar Creek was the nucleus of the formation of what is now the Town of Waterloo.

See adjacent map

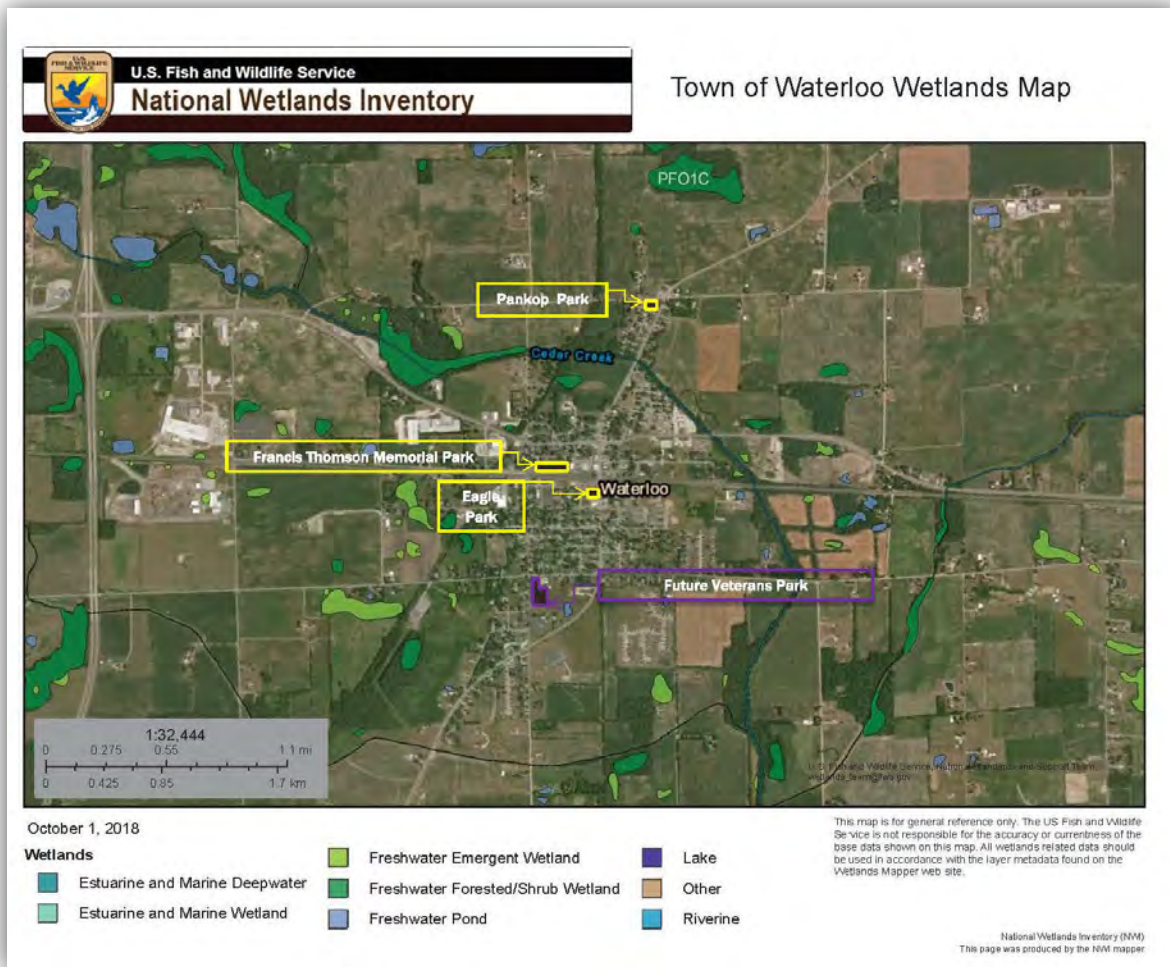


Figure 4: Wetlands Map Source: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

2.1.7 Wildlife

Before there was a Waterloo, there was the land, Native Americans and animals. The skeletal remains of a mastodon, one of the largest animals to have ever walked the earth, was discovered in 1898 in a farmer's field just one mile west of Cedar Lake Church near Waterloo. The skeleton of the mastodon was found by Laurel G. Spindler and is on exhibit at the Carnegie Institute of Pittsburg, PA. Spindler reported that a tooth from the mastodon weighed 13 pounds (Photo: CM 67, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA).



Currently, the predominate wildlife present within and around Waterloo are deer, raccoon, black squirrel, rabbit, opossum, groundhog and skunk. One may also observe the presence of fox, coyote and muskrat

along the riverbed. Many birds of prey are found in the area including owls, hawks, and more recently, a bald eagle has been sighted in Noble County. No exceptional fish communities exist in this region.

2.2 Man-made, Historical, and Cultural Characteristics

2.2.1 Commercial and Industrial

Commercial Land Use

Most commercial businesses in Waterloo are located along S.R. 427 (Wayne Street) with the highest concentration in the downtown area. Businesses are also interspersed along U.S. Highway 6 (Union Street). Outside of corporate boundaries, commercial businesses exist to the northwest and southwest sides of the I-69 interchange.

Industrial Land Use

Industrial land use areas within the Town of Waterloo are generally located in the Industrial Park on the west side of town and at the southeast corner of the I-69 interchange, U.S. Highway 6 and along the Norfolk Southern Railroad. Additional industrial sites are scattered throughout the town, primarily along U.S. Highway 6 (Union Street), and to the south of the Norfolk Southern Railroad. Outside of the corporate boundaries, an industrial site exists to the northwest of Interstate 69.

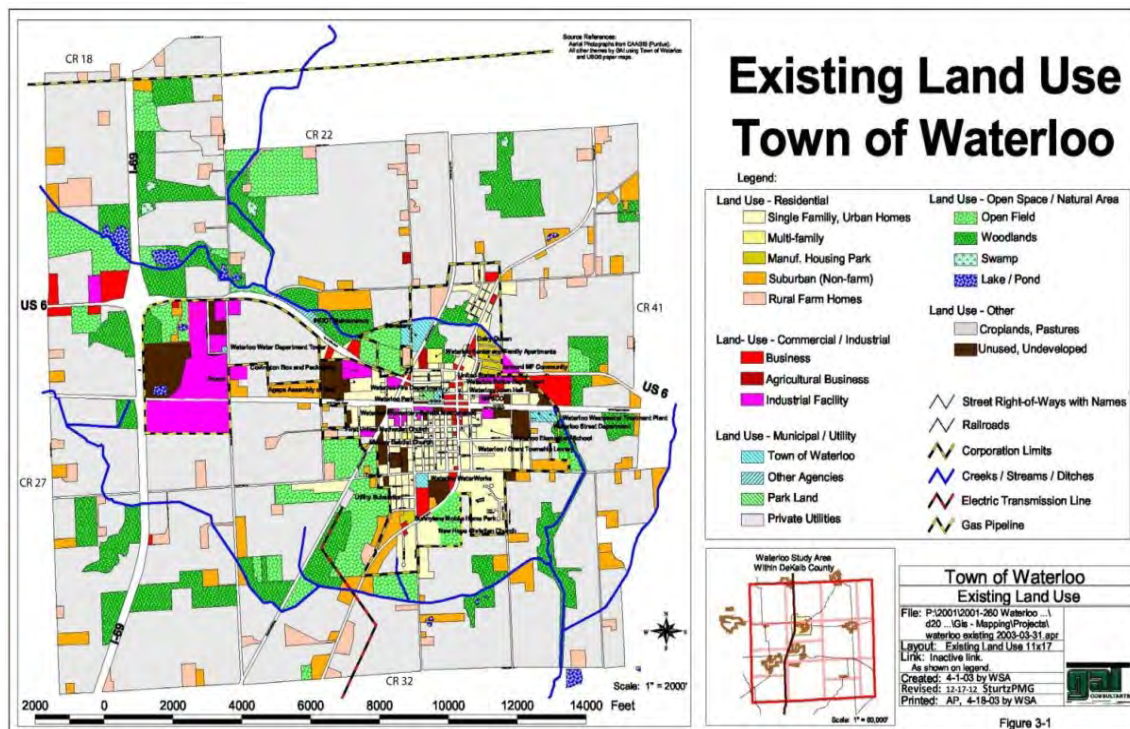


Figure 5: Land Use Map

Source: Land Use Map reproduced by permission, Town of Waterloo, "2013 Comprehensive Plan."

Following is a list of the types of manufacturing companies in the Waterloo area:

- Pre-engineered metal buildings manufacturing
- Epoxies
- (UPS) Parcel Shipping and Delivery
- Renewable Diesel Fuel
- Hydraulic Fittings and Accessories
- Mill Work
- Industrial Machinery
- Packaging
- Concrete Landscaping Materials
- Food Product Machinery
- Anchor Bolts (for use in concrete)
- Metal-X Recycling
- Specialized Wood Products
- Custom Vehicle & Parts Producers



Public

There are several public facilities located within the Town of Waterloo: the Waterloo Waterworks Plant and water tower (located in the south part of town), Waterloo Town Hall, Police Station, Waterloo-Grant Township Public Library, U.S. Post Office, Lion's Club building, Historic Train Depot/Amtrak Station, Waterloo Fire Station (located in the downtown area), the Waterloo Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Waterloo Street Department are located on the east side of town on E. Best Street. Waterloo area parks are discussed in depth in [Section 3.0 Inventory](#).

In addition, there are two educational facilities located within town: The Waterloo Elementary School is located at 300 E. Douglas Street, and the Early Head Start Center is located a block west of the elementary school at 300 S. Washington Street. The Waterloo Elementary School provides two playgrounds for students to use during school hours and after school events. There is no formal *Joint Use Agreement* between the school corporation and park department; however, DeKalb schools provide free lunches for children for field day events conducted at both the FTMP and Pankop Park, and the town opens restrooms for school events held at Francis Thomson Memorial Park.

Undeveloped

Within the corporate boundaries of the Town of Waterloo, there are a number of undeveloped sites. These sites predominantly exist in the west side of town near existing industrial land. In addition, there are undeveloped areas near existing residential land throughout the community.

2.2.2 Transportation Links

Waterloo has been coined the “crossroads” of Northeastern Indiana, as it links several major transportation routes that include an Amtrak passenger train stop, freight lines, Interstate I-69, U.S. Hwy 6 and IN 427. The Town of Waterloo has been implementing a *Safe Routes to Schools Program* with funding and planning assistance from Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). Three phases have been completed and several additional routes have been prioritized for upgrades. The sidewalks in Waterloo span across large portions of town that range from newly constructed to poor condition and include both ADA compliant and non-compliant facilities. A complete sidewalk inventory and action plan is provided in the *2013 Waterloo Comprehensive Plan (WCP)* available on the town's website at: <https://waterlooin.gov/plan-commission/>.

Trails

The Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway trail is another transportation link that connects Waterloo with the City of Auburn along C.R. 427. The trail was constructed by volunteers in 1976, and it is considered the first rail-trail in Indiana. It is a four-mile corridor of both 8' wide asphalt and 5' concrete sections allowing for walking, bicycling, inline skating, cross country skiing, and it is wheelchair accessible. The south end of the trail begins in Auburn, and when traveling north to Waterloo, passes by both established and developing neighborhoods, senior living centers, farmland, open fields, a few businesses, DeKalb Central High School, Middle School and a community recreational center. The four miles of bikeway between Waterloo and Auburn are used year-round by residents from both communities, and now, is more commonly known as the Auburn-Waterloo Trail. The trail has been a part of the culture for these two communities for over 40 years and has remained very popular.



Current end of Auburn/Waterloo Trail from Cedar St. at CR 427/Wayne St.

The 2013 WCP study indicated that connecting the existing trail to the town's sidewalk network and parks is a "high priority" from feedback received at several community planning sessions. Overwhelming community support to expand "healthy recreational opportunities" prompted a focus on completing sidewalks between neighborhoods, schools and parks. The town constructed new sidewalks in 2016 to link neighborhoods around the Waterloo Elementary School and a suburban neighborhood to major sidewalks leading north toward the library, downtown, and Francis Thompson Memorial Park; however, no sidewalk exists to link downtown Waterloo to the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway. The proposed trail will connect existing sidewalks through Waterloo, thus allowing any new sidewalks built within town to also connect to the trail.

Since its inception, the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway has stopped abruptly across the street from the intersection of CR427 and Cedar Street in Waterloo. At this point to continue north through town, users would need to either continue on C.R. 427, or cross the busy road (no crosswalk system in place) to Cedar Street and travel on mostly residential roads. The proposed trail offers a more efficient, and a safer connection between the existing trail and downtown amenities and sidewalks. The Street Department researched the feasibility of installing bikes lanes on Wayne Street (CR 427) through the town and will likely install lanes within the next year or two. The bike lanes would link to the proposed trail connection and alleviate potential congestion on sidewalks. Currently, there are no dedicated trails to the industrial park.

The Town of Waterloo submitted a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant application in 2018 that recently received federal approval of \$200,000 for funding in 2019 to complete the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway connection. The trail extension is scheduled to be completed in 2020 (see additional RTP trail information provided in [Section 4.7.2](#)).

Railroad

In addition to roadways and trails, the railroad continues to be an integral transportation link for the town. Waterloo is one of the few Amtrak stops in Indiana. The "Lake Shore Limited" runs between Chicago and New York with stop at Waterloo eastbound at 6:18 a.m. and westbound at 10:40 p.m. On average, over 20,000 passengers use the Amtrak stop each year, or approximately 62 passengers daily. At one point, Amtrak provided a bus service between Waterloo and Fort Wayne; however, bus services have since been discontinued.

2.2.3 Historic Waterloo

Waterloo, once known as a village called Uniontown, was originally established in 1837 where State Road 427 intersects with Cedar Creek. Wesley Parks, the first road commissioner for DeKalb County, had organized Uniontown. Since its inception, the railroad has been the historical identifier for the Town of Waterloo. The railroad office was the first structure in town. A group of investors established the town of Waterloo City just south of Uniontown in 1856. "City" was added to distinguish the town from another Waterloo in Indiana, but later dropped in 1871. The "Air Line" railroad, as it was once called, (later named the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern and now Norfolk Southern) was completed in Waterloo in 1857. The railroad was the catalyst of growth for Waterloo, and for many years, was larger than Auburn. Without a railroad, Auburn became stagnant, and Waterloo attempted to gain the county seat. However, the building of the Fort Wayne Jackson and Saginaw railroad through both



Train Station: West Van Vleet St.

Waterloo and Auburn in 1870 improved Auburn's outlook, and the county seat was retained. The Waterloo Depot was constructed in 1880 and was called the "Union Depot." (Source: the "2013 Waterloo Comprehensive Plan"). At present, the Amtrak stop at the Waterloo station has the third highest ridership of any Indiana station after the larger cities of Indianapolis and Lafayette. In 2017, the ridership at the Waterloo Train Depot totaled 23,137.

The Indiana State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD) showed 60 historic sites and/or structures located within the Town of Waterloo. Of the 60 historic sites and structures surveyed in Waterloo, five (5) are rated as outstanding and 15 structures are rated as "notable" in terms of the level of historic integrity. See Tables 4 and 5 below:

Outstanding:

Table 4: Waterloo Historic Sites - DNR Interim Report Survey

Survey Number	Historic Name	Address
033-664-26008	House	West Union Street
033-664-26033	House	840 Lincoln Street
033-664-26043	Goodwin House	425 Maple Street
033-664-26046	Grant Township Public Library	300 South Wayne Street
033-664-26058	*House	225 West Walnut Street

Notable:

Table 5: Waterloo Historic Sites - IDNR Interim Report Surveys

Survey Number	Historic Name	Address
033-664-26002	Farm	490 Lockhart Street
033-664-26007	House	480 West Union Street
033-664-26009	House	320 West Union Street
033-664-26011	House	West Union Street
033-664-26016	House	380 Washington Street
033-664-26023	House	335 South Center Street
033-664-26030	**Train Station	Van Vleek Street
033-664-26031	House	215 North Center Street
033-664-26032	House	820 Lincoln Street
033-664-26035	**Train Depot	Van Vleek Street
033-664-26039	United Brethren Church	300 West Maple Street
033-664-26051	House	135 Douglas Street
033-664-26052	House	125 Douglas Street
033-664-26056	House	480 South Oak Street
033-664-26057	*House	590 Oak Street

*Historic site close to future Veterans Park

** Historic site close to Francis Thomson Memorial Park



The Waterloo Grant Township Public Library is rated as outstanding. It was built with funds from the Carnegie Foundation in the early part of the 20th Century and has recently expanded.



*Outstanding Home: 225 W Walnut Street



Notable Church: 300 W Maple Street

2.2.4 Community Events

The Town of Waterloo has sponsored various activities to foster community involvement and provide a pleasant and welcoming environment for all residents and visitors. Local events include:

Treats Before Dark: This activity is conducted annually and is sponsored by local businesses to provide an opportunity for children to dress up in costumes and provide games, activities and treats over the Halloween holiday.

Town-Wide Trick or Treating: Provides two (2) hours of scheduled trick-or-treating conducted annually by citizens of the town.

Light Up Waterloo Decorating Competition: A competition for local residents to decorate homes and promote community pride over the holidays.

Chili Supper Award: Provides an opportunity for the community to meet for food and refreshments and recognize winners from the “Light Up Waterloo” contest.

National Night Out: This is an annual community-building campaign held at the Francis Thomson Memorial Park to promote police-community partnerships and enhance the relationship between neighbors, law enforcement and the volunteer fire department. Popcorn and door prizes are provided to attendees.

CP Holiday Train Block Party: Waterloo Main Street hosts an event to celebrate the 20th annual trip of the beautifully lit Canadian Pacific (CP) Railroad Holiday Train as it passes by the historic Train Station.

Note: The Holiday Train Block Party also is an opportunity to collect canned goods for local food pantries.

Old 27 Car Tour: A vintage car show is held annually by the historic Depot and is a fun attraction as the tour visits DeKalb County before traveling from Old Highway 27 to Michigan.



The Waterloo Depot is the Town’s most recognized historic property. In 2005, the Town received a Transportation Enhancement grant through the Indiana Department of Transportation to rehabilitate it. The Depot was eligible for the National Register based on its structure and the railroad it has served being central to the foundation of the Town of Waterloo.

Rehabilitation of the structure was completed in September 2010. It is now used as a community meeting center and Amtrak Station.

The project was the impetus for a 2010 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) II grant application that the Town submitted in partnership with Amtrak. The purpose was to construct an improved passenger platform, pedestrian grade crossing, ADA compliant walkways, site improvements, passenger shelter, and relocate the Depot to service as the Amtrak Station. The Town of Waterloo received the highly competitive TIGER grant award (3% approval and the only award in the State of Indiana in 2010) for \$1.8 million.



Historic Depot Open House: The Historic Train Depot conducts an open house on the first Saturday of each month (April–October) for those interested in viewing the historic displays at the Train Depot.

Spring Clean Up Day: A city-wide clean-up day is provided for electronic and non-hazardous waste items to be dropped off and discarded for residents of Waterloo.



Yarn-Bombing: Waterloo participates in regional art exhibits and activities that coincide with the future "Poka-Bache Trail."

Future Events: On July 16, 2019, the DeKalb County Historical Society scheduled a second annual Waterloo History Day at the Depot. The Waterloo Main Street program offered the event in cooperation with the Historical Society and the DeKalb County Convention and Visitor's Bureau (DCCVB) to participate in a county-wide celebration of the 20th year for the DCCVB, with activities planned at the Train Depot and Francis Thomson Memorial Park.

2.2.5 Future Downtown Revitalization Initiative

The Town of Waterloo has a Main Street 501(c)3 non-profit organization that oversees an active Waterloo Events Committee. The town recently completed a downtown revitalization study in April 2018 to identify community needs and outline strategies for future downtown development. A field study was conducted by Ball State University, along with three (3) community forums, and a community survey that received 409 responses. Several key findings were identified from this study, and a list of the results is outlined below:

- **Favorite Downtown Features:** Restaurants, Historic Charm, and Walkability
- **Desired Physical Features:** Improved Landscaping, Event Space, and Public Art
- **Establishments to Expand:** Restaurants, Grocery Store, and Downtown Shopping
- **Desired Events:** Farmers' Market, Festivals and Summer Movie Nights at FTMP
- **Favorite Aspects of Downtown Waterloo:** Train Depot, Library, and Park
- **Least Favorite Aspects of Downtown Waterloo:** Vacant/Abandoned/Run Down Buildings
- **Main Expenditures Outside Waterloo:** Grocery, Clothing, and Household Items
- **Main Services Outside Waterloo:** Medical, Automotive, and Banking

Future downtown revitalization strategies that developed from the study included adding signage and streetscaping to improve the quality and aesthetics of the downtown district. Other elements included:

- **Add curb bump-outs** at all intersections along Wayne Street to expand pedestrian space, room for art and provide safety.
- **Trail Connection:** Expanding the trail into Downtown as a multi-use path with the sidewalks.
- **Trail Depot:** To be located at the vacant space at the intersection of Wayne and Railroad Street to create a gathering



place for residents and visitors to Waterloo. The proposed Trail Depot will have restrooms, bicycle repair station, and a possible concession stand.

The streetscaping project was ranked a “high priority” by townspeople, with implications to local parks: The Revitalization Plan proposes to connect all the parks to the trails and sidewalk network in town. With the DeKalb County Trail’s planned expansion into Waterloo, and the trail’s eventual incorporation into a wider Poka-Bache Connector trail network, Waterloo was advised to “redesign its downtown corridor to accommodate multiple modes of transportation to serve its pedestrian, automotive, and bicyclist visitors.” (Source: *Town of Waterloo 2018 Downtown Revitalization Plan*, pgs. 26-32).



Additionally, a proposed “Summer Movie Night” program was coordinated by the Waterloo Main Street organization and held at Francis Thompson Memorial Park because of its ample parking and distance away from busier roads; however, there became issues with mosquitoes and the weather, so movie night was moved indoors to the library.

2.3 Social and Economic Factors

2.3.1 Population

Since 1960, Waterloo has experienced steady growth in population. Census data shows that since 1990, the population of Waterloo has increased from 2,040 to 2,242. The most growth occurred from 1960 to 1970 when the population increased by 31% (from 1,432 to 1,876). This was the most significant increase over a ten-year period. Another rise in population growth brought 160 citizens to Waterloo during the 1990 decade. Waterloo’s population has seen a steady growth over the last century. However, from 2000 to 2010, a slower growth rate of 2% occurred, with only an increase of 42 in population. 2017 ACS estimates showed a slight decline in population of 15 (-0.7%) following the 2010 recession. See Figure 6.

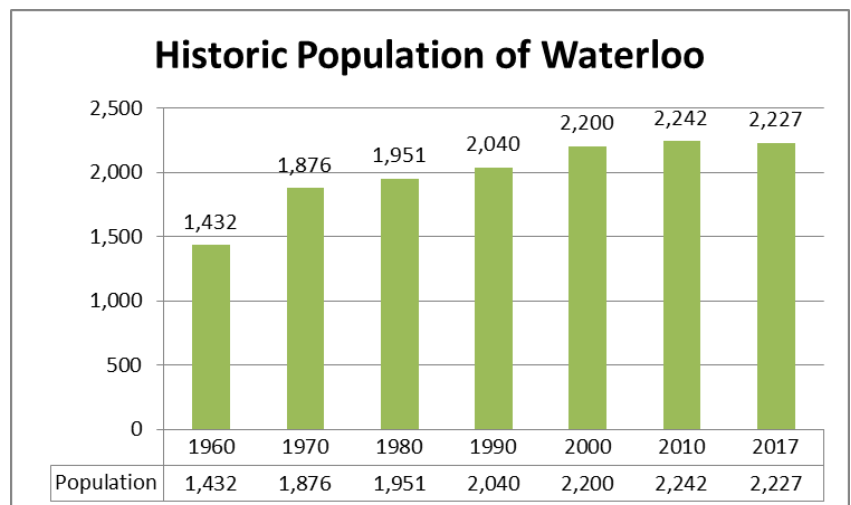


Figure 6: Historic Population

Source: [Stats.indiana.edu](https://stats.indiana.edu) (2013-2017 U.S. Census ACS 5-Year Estimates)

2.3.2 Age Distribution

According to 2017 estimates, Waterloo's population has a younger median age of 33.3 when compared to Indiana (median age 37.5) and DeKalb County (median age 39.1). However, in 2016 the estimated median age was 29.8 (considerably lower than the county and the state). In 2010, the median age in Waterloo was 31.5. This data suggests the median age has increased slightly, but remains to be younger than other communities.

See Figure 7.

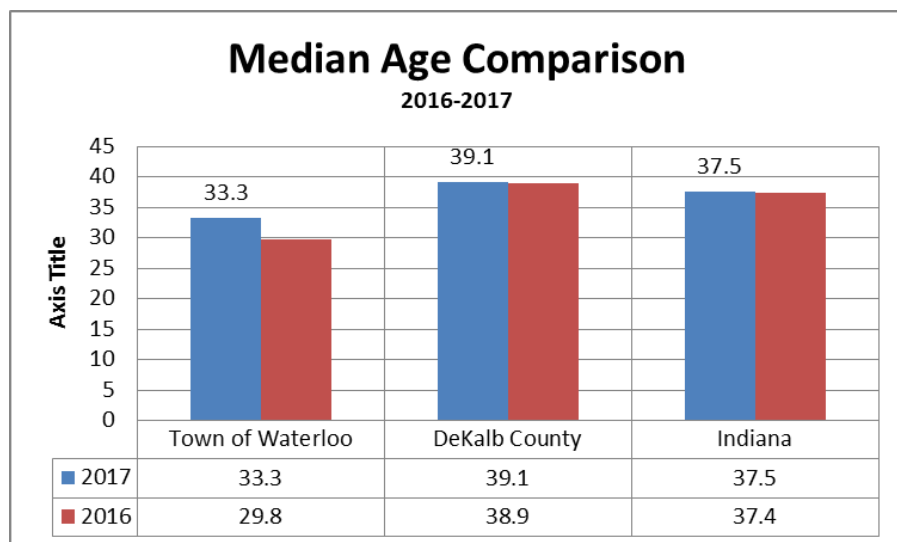


Figure 7: Median Age

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, latest ACS 5-Year Estimates

*Median Age is averaged for combined areas

When comparing population by age with Indiana and DeKalb County, the Town of Waterloo has a proportionally higher number of children aged 0-4, school-aged children and young adults; and a proportionally smaller number of adults aged 45-64, and 65 and over (See adjacent Table 8).

Using 2000 U.S. Census data to compare changes in the current population by age, Waterloo experienced the greatest “numerical” increase to the population of children aged 0-4: an increase of 80 children from 213 in 2000 to 293 in 2017. One possible explanation to a rise

in children 0-4 aged and a large proportion of school-aged

children in Waterloo could be that the schools are particularly

good: The school system has five specialized elementary schools feeding into the middle/high school system that is located at the edge of town. Additionally, Waterloo has a “New Tech Network” school that promotes project-based learning, is inquiry-based, and has a community focus.

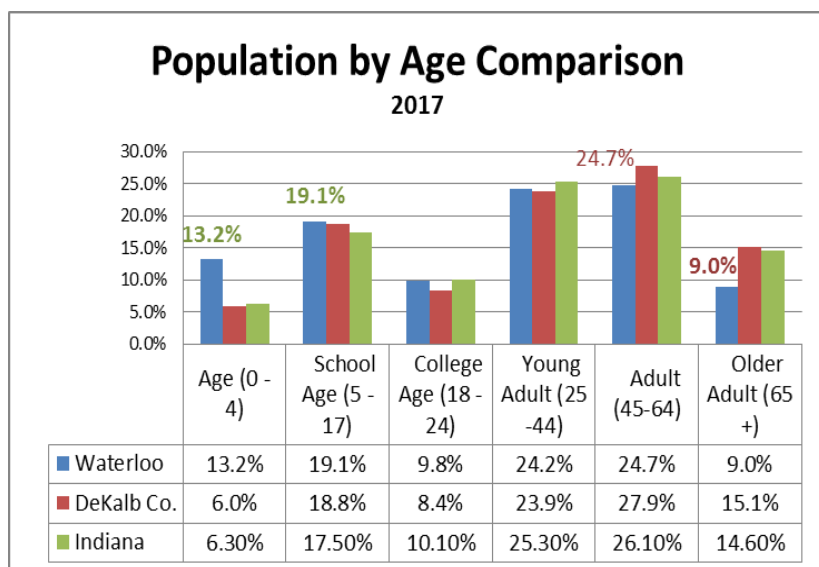


Figure 8: Population by Age Comparison Chart

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS latest 5-Year Estimates

By comparison, the greatest “percentage” increase in population occurred in the adult group aged 55-59: This age group experienced a numerical increase of 76 persons since 2000; but had experienced an overall population change of 84%. Conversely, the greatest “numerical” decrease occurred in the population of young adults aged 25-34 that experienced a reduction in population of 108 persons since 2000: an overall decline of -30%. This decrease in the young adult population mirrors a national trend of “millennials” moving from smaller towns seeking high-paying careers in larger metropolitan areas.

See Table 6 on the following page:

This statistical information would indicate that, while there may not be as great a need for outdoor recreation facilities for older teens and college-aged persons as seen at the state level, since the Waterloo population within this age bracket is on the decline; however, there is a significant population of children aged 0-4 and 10-14, and significant growth trends in ages 55-59 and 60-64 age brackets. This trend would suggest a focus on facilities and programming for these age groups, in particular, is merited

See Figure 9.

Table 6: Change in Community Population Age

Age	2000	2010	2017	# Change	% Change
Under 5 years	213	201	293	80	38%
5 to 9 years	184	184	168	-16	-9%
10 to 14 years	182	189	205	23	13%
15 to 19 years	135	166	80	-55	-41%
20 to 24 years	163	159	191	28	17%
25 to 34 years	363	340	255	-108	-30%
35 to 44 years	362	312	284	-78	-22%
45 to 54 years	259	304	272	13	5%
55 to 59 years	90	125	166	76	84%
60 to 64 years	64	83	113	49	77%
65 to 74 years	113	100	104	-9	-8%
75 to 84 years	50	64	78	28	56%
85 years and over	22	15	18	-4	-18%

The green highlights indicate age brackets where the community experienced an increase; red highlights indicate age brackets where the population experienced a decline.

Source: U.S. Census 2000; 2010; 2017 ACS latest 5-Year Estimates

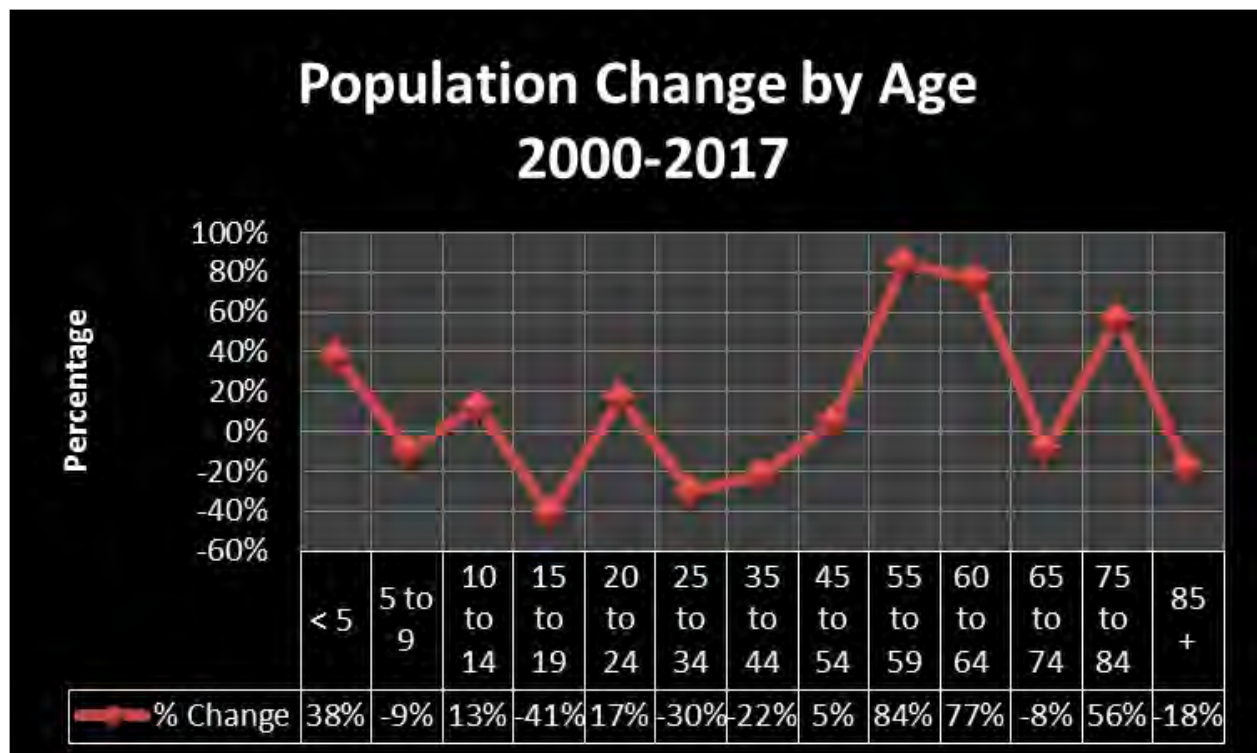


Figure 9: Population Change by Age Comparison

Source: U.S. Census 2000 and 2017 ACS, latest 5-year estimates

2.3.3 Race

The Town of Waterloo is substantially less diverse than the State of Indiana, as a whole, but similar in racial and ethnic distribution to DeKalb County, with the exception of a recent change in the Asian population per estimates from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). U.S. Census: ACS estimates reported a population of 31 Asian in 2017; however, a population a zero (0) Asian for the Town of Waterloo was reported in 2010. This sudden shift within a seven-year period would appear somewhat sporadic; nevertheless, a careful review of potential language barriers and/or cultural and ethnic needs should be monitored in the event that this trend should continue. See Table 7 below:

Table 7: Community by Race and Ethnicity Comparison

2017 US Census 5-Year Estimates	Waterloo	%	DeKalb County	%	Indiana	%
Population	2,227	100.00%	42,836	100.00%	6,614,418	100.00%
White	2,131	95.70%	41,354	97.20%	5,546,787	83.90%
Black	0	0.00%	126	0.30%	613,060	9.30%
Asian	31	1.40%	129	0.30%	137,680	2.10%
American Ind. or Alaskan Native Alone	3	0.10%	23	0.10%	15,027	0.20%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pac. Isl. Alone	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2,635	0.03%
Two or More Races	34	1.50%	746	1.80%	153,438	2.30%
Hispanic or Latino	124	5.60%	1,175	2.80%	441,968	6.70%
Not Hispanic or Latino	2,103	94.40%	41,349	97.20%	6,172,450	93.30%

A blue background indicates age brackets where the County or State population is proportionally lower than the Waterloo population; red indicates brackets where the population is proportionally higher.

2.3.4 Income

Median household income in Waterloo is lower than median income levels found in DeKalb County, the State of Indiana, and the U.S. Waterloo median incomes have experienced an increase of 19.8% since 2000. Additionally, income levels of Waterloo have not kept pace with income levels experienced by Indiana or the U.S. This would suggest that financial factors may be a concern for funding outdoor park and recreation facilities: It also may justify a higher level of need for “free” sources of recreation.

See Figure 10.

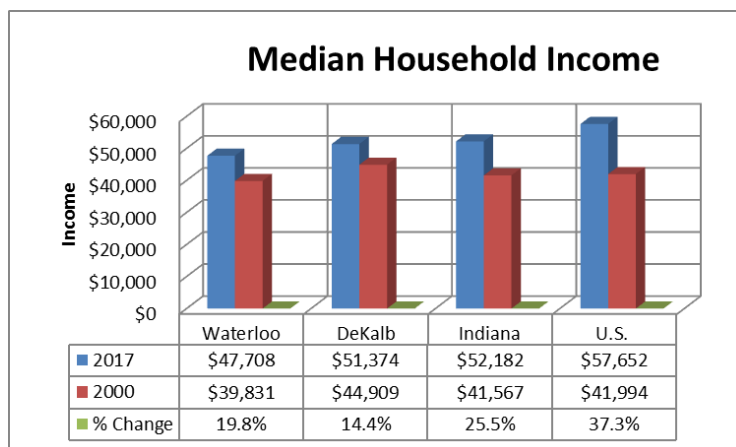


Figure 10: Median Household Income Comparison
Source: U.S. Census Bureau; 2013-2017 ACS 5-Year Estimates

While median income levels have consistently remained lower for Waterloo, poverty levels were considerably higher in 2016 when compared to DeKalb County, Indiana, and the U.S. However, a recent 2017 ACS 12-month report indicates a significant improvement in poverty levels: from 19.7% in 2016 to 12.3% in 2017; and now ranges *below* the poverty levels experienced in DeKalb County, Indiana, and the U.S. The recent economic recovery in manufacturing and a decline in population and housing in Waterloo may account for a sudden contrast in poverty levels.

Note: Starter homes are especially inexpensive in Waterloo and as the adjacent City of Auburn grows, its housing market is more expensive. By contrast, the cost of living is more affordable in Waterloo; however, both communities are in the same school district. Auburn is the county seat and provides a wide variety of services and shopping accommodations conveniently located within five miles of Waterloo. These factors may help to explain the lower income levels found in Waterloo. See Figure 11.

2.3.5 Unemployment

When compared to other trade areas in the region, Waterloo held the highest unemployment rates of 13.5% in 2016, and 8.5% in 2017. Kendallville had the second highest rate in 2016 with an unemployment rate of 9.5%, and tied with Garrett in 2017 with 7.2% unemployment. Garrett, Butler, Angola and Hamilton were mid-ranged with unemployment rates from 6.7% to 7.5% in 2016, and 4.9% to 7.2% in 2017. Auburn and DeKalb County were low-ranged with unemployment rates from 3.9% to 4.1% in 2016, and 2.9% to 4.0% in 2017. Indiana averaged 4.3% unemployment in 2016 and dropped to 3.6% in 2017. However, 2018 reports indicate that DeKalb County holds a 3.9% unemployment rate and is evenly matched with the U.S. average of 3.9%; Indiana's unemployment rate dropped below the U.S. average and was reported at 3.5% in 2018.

Furthermore, the City of Auburn held the lowest unemployment rate for the trade area at 3.9% in 2016 and 4.3% in 2017. DeKalb County, as a whole, averaged 4.0% unemployment in 2016 and dropped to the lowest rate of 2.6% in 2017. Indiana averaged 4.3% unemployment in 2016 and dropped to 3.6% in 2017. However, 2018 reports indicate that DeKalb County holds a 3.9% unemployment rate and is evenly matched with the U.S. average of 3.9%; Indiana's unemployment rate dropped below the U.S. average and was reported at 3.5% in 2018.

See Figure 12.

2.3.6. Disabilities

The estimated population with a disability of any kind in Waterloo (22.3%) is higher than that found in DeKalb County (15.1%) and proportionately higher than the level found in the State of Indiana (13.8%). This proportion of disability may have implications that require a relative consideration of ADA accommodations of public facilities and services. See Figure 13.

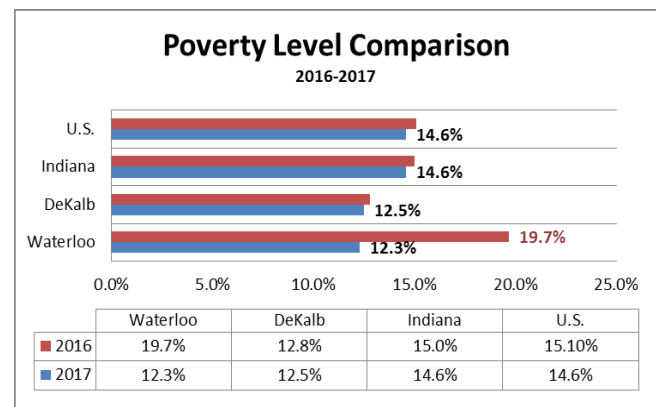


Figure 11: Poverty Levels Comparison
Source: U.S. Census Bureau; 2013-2017 ACS 5-Year Estimates

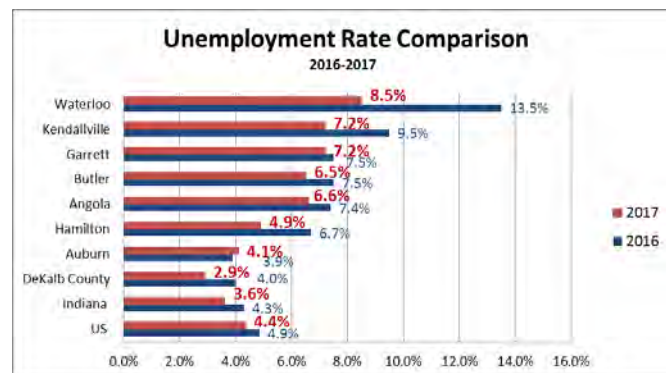


Figure 12: Unemployment Rate Comparison
Source: U.S. Department of Labor: USA Towns in Profile (2016 -2017)

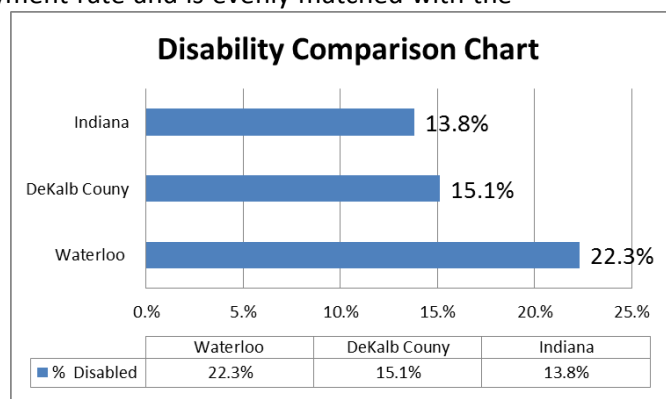


Figure 13: 2017 Population with a Disability
Source: U.S. Census 2013-2017 ACS 5-Year Estimates

2.3.7 Education Attainment

Waterloo is very similar in terms of educational attainment for the proportion of those earning a high school diploma or higher when compared to DeKalb County and the State of Indiana. 2017 ACS estimates that 88.1% of Waterloo's population achieved a high school diploma or higher, 89.7% of the population of DeKalb County, and 88.3% of the population of Indiana achieved a high school diploma or higher. There is, however, a disproportion for those earning a bachelor's degree or higher: In 2017, Waterloo had only 13.9% of the population earning a bachelor's degree or higher; whereas, DeKalb County had 17.8%, and Indiana had 25.3% earning a bachelor's degree or higher. On the other hand, Waterloo had experienced a significant percentage increase of those achieving a bachelor's degree or higher; with an increase of 7.1% since 2010 (from 6.8% in 2010 to 13.9% in 2017) over double the percentage increase of the county and state.

See Figure 14 below:

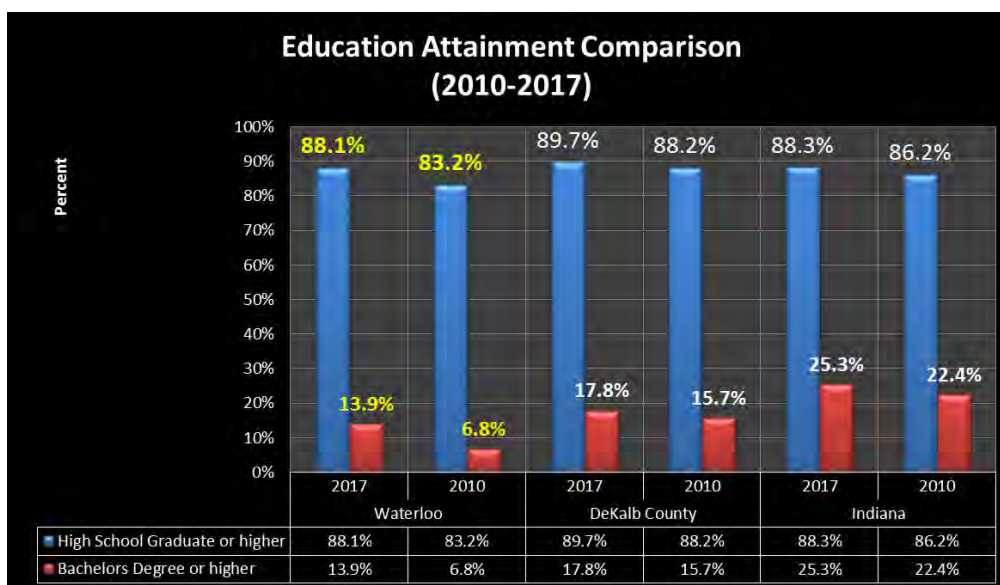


Figure 14: Education Attainment Comparison

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates,

Website: <https://factfinder.census.gov>

2.3.8 Occupations

Civilian workers in the Town of Waterloo work primarily in "Production, transportation and material moving" occupations (40.4%) with two-thirds working in "Production" alone: This proportion is substantially more than the State of Indiana (18.6%). In Indiana, about one third of the civilian population (32.5%) works in "Management, business science, and arts" occupations, whereas only 27% do so in the Town of Waterloo. Nearly a quarter of the population of the State of Indiana (23.1%) works in "Sales and office" occupations, while only 16.4% do so in Waterloo.

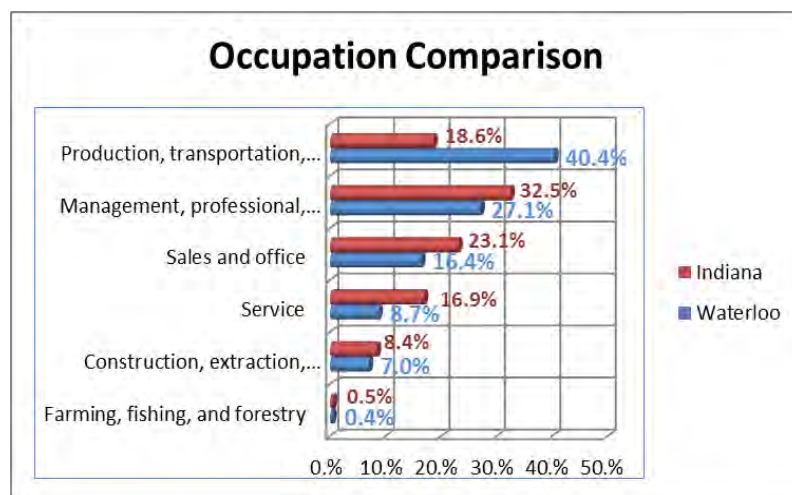


Figure 15: Occupation Comparison of Civilian Employed Population 16 and Over
Source: U.S. Census Data; 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

See Figure 15.

The types of occupations found in a community may have important implications as parks are often used as a place to “get away” for lunch or a break for those working in manufacturing or office settings. Locating parks in close proximity to industrial and or office locations can help to fulfill this need. See Table 8 below:

Table 8: Community by Race and Ethnicity Comparison

OCCUPATIONS	Waterloo	%	Indiana	%
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	852	100%	3,085,179	100%
Management, business, science, and arts	231	27%	1,003,818	33%
Management, business, and financial	110	13%	395,595	13%
Management occupations	66	8%	274,645	9%
Business and financial operations occupations	44	5%	120,950	4%
Computer, engineering, and science	5	1%	132,454	4%
Computer and mathematical occupations	0	0%	55,099	2%
Architecture and engineering occupations	5	1%	56,414	2%
Life, physical, and social science occupations	0	0%	20,941	1%
Education, legal, community service, arts, and	76	9%	291,143	9%
Community and social services occupations	8	1%	51,382	2%
Legal occupations	0	0%	24,216	1%
Education, training, and library occupations	57	7%	173,408	6%
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and	11	1%	42,137	1%
Healthcare practitioner and technical	40	5%	184,626	6%
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners	22	3%	123,031	4%
Health technologists and technicians	18	2%	61,595	2%
Service occupations:	74	9%	522,908	17%
Healthcare support occupations	6	1%	74,532	2%
Protective service occupations:	16	2%	55,043	2%
Fire fighting and prevention, and other	0	0%	29,825	1%
Law enforcement workers including	16	2%	25,218	1%
Food preparation and serving related	22	3%	184,911	6%
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	13	2%	113,500	4%
Personal care and service occupations	17	2%	94,922	3%
Sales and office occupations:	140	16%	712,936	23%
Sales and related occupations	66	8%	307,932	10%
Office and administrative support occupations	74	9%	405,004	13%
Natural resources, construction, and	63	7%	272,936	9%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	3	0%	13,891	0%
Construction and extraction occupations	5	1%	148,346	5%
Installation, maintenance, and repair	55	6%	110,699	4%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations:	344	40%	572,581	19%
Production occupations	210	25%	327,965	11%
Transportation occupations	34	4%	120,955	4%
Material moving occupations	100	12%	123,661	4%

2.3.9 Major Employers

The Town of Waterloo has approximately 88 businesses registered in its business directory and recent reports of a new Welder facility is expected to locate in Waterloo. Top industries identified on the DeKalb County Economic Development Partnership (DCEDP) website indicate that Nucor Building Systems, Metal X and Covington Box & Packaging Incorporated are key industries in Waterloo. Other core industries include:

- 1st Attack Engineering, Inc.
- A-1 Carpet Cleaning
- Anderson's Inc.
- Best Deal Autos
- Bunge Grain
- Charleston Metal Products
- Classic City Center
- Concord MFG Community
- Covington Box & Packaging (100 employees)*
- Crestwood
- Elsie Manufacturing
- Hoosier Propane
- Indiana Anchor Bolts
- Heartland Castings
- L & L Leasing
- Metal X*
- NIPSCO Electric Power
- Nucor Building Systems (870 employees)*
- Oldcastle Lawn & Garden
- Horizon Bank
- Propane People
- R.P. Wakefield
- Roth Floor Covering
- Richard Squire Pallets
- Star Technology
- U.P.S.
- Waterloo Cabinet Company
- Waterloo Express
- Techno-Bloc
- Welder (new coming 2019)

* Top employers listed on the DeKalb County EDP website for the Town of Waterloo

Note: A full list of local businesses is available on the Waterloo webpage at: <https://waterlooin.gov>

2.3.10 Veterans

The Town of Waterloo has a higher representation of veteran population in proportion to the State of Indiana and DeKalb County. Based on 2017 ACS estimates, Waterloo has a veteran population of 10.2% (154) with a numerical increase of 12 veterans since 2000. However, in proportion to the 2000 population, Waterloo experienced a -0.2% decline in the veteran population, DeKalb County experienced a -2.7% decline and Indiana has experienced a -2.3% decline in the veteran population: Although, by comparison, Waterloo has maintained a relatively static proportion of its veteran population since 2000; whereas DeKalb County and the state have experienced more fluctuation. See Figure 16.

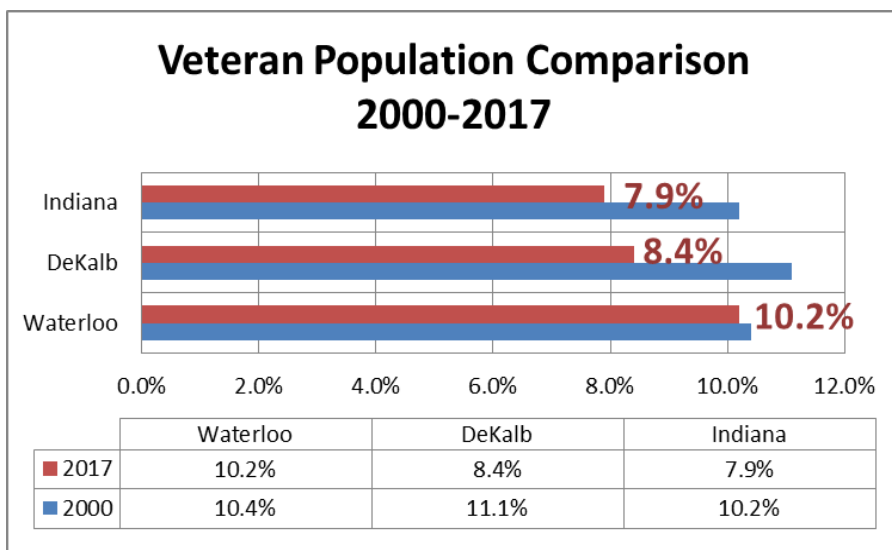


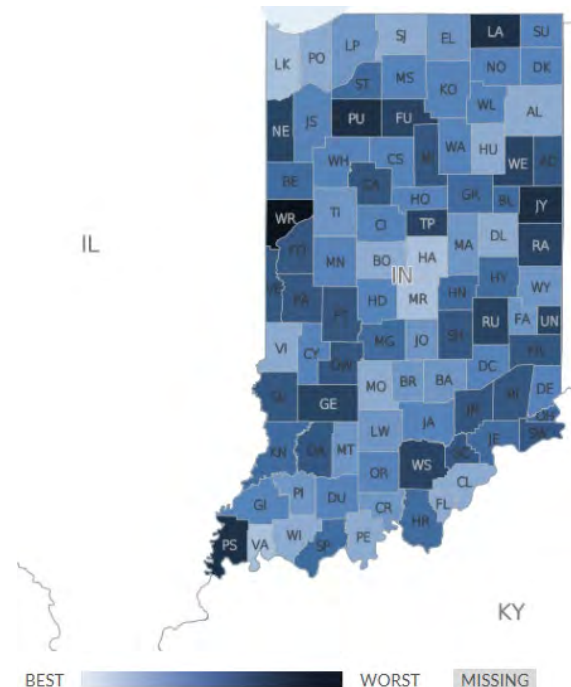
Figure 16: Veteran Population Comparison

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Data and; 2013-2017 ACS 5-Year Estimates

2.3.11 Access to Exercise Opportunities

According to Indiana County Health Rankings for DeKalb County (DK), 69% of the population has reasonable access to exercise opportunities. Indiana, as a whole, estimates 77% of the average population with reasonable access to exercise. U.S. top performers range at 91% for access to exercise. *Note: Locations for physical activity are defined as parks or recreational facilities. Individuals are considered to have access to exercise opportunities if they 1) reside in a census block that is within a half mile of a park; 2) reside in an urban census block that is within one mile of a recreational facility; or 3) reside in a rural census block that is within three miles of a recreational facility.*

Parks included in the “Access to Exercise Opportunities” measure include local, state, and national parks. Recreational facilities included in the “Access to Exercise Opportunities” measure are businesses including gyms, community centers, YMCAs, dance studios and pools.



See Figure 17.

Figure 17: Access to Exercise Opportunities Ranking Map

Source: Indiana County Health Rankings: website: <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org>

2.3.12 Summary of Findings

The following is a summary of findings related to the social and economic analysis with implications for park planning:

- The population of Waterloo has remained stable over the last decade with a minimal decline following the recession of 2010;
- The population is relatively young when compared to the median age of DeKalb County and state;
- The population of children and middle-aged (55-64) is growing, while the population of teens and young adults (aged 25-34) is declining;
- The median income levels in Waterloo are substantially lower than both DeKalb County and state;
- Waterloo is less diverse than the State of Indiana; however, an unexpected increase to the Asian population occurred since the 2010 U.S. Census;
- The estimated percentage of individuals with disabilities is proportionally higher than DeKalb County and the state, and statistical data emphasizes a need for affordable and accessible recreational activities;
- The population of Waterloo is similar in education attainment levels for those earning a high school diploma or higher when compared to DeKalb County and the state; however, a lower proportion of educational attainment exists for those earning bachelor’s degree, or higher levels of education;
- The majority of Waterloo workers are employed in “Production, transportation, and material moving” occupations;
- The Town of Waterloo has a higher proportion of veterans in its current population when compared to DeKalb County and the state;
- Persons in DeKalb County, as a whole, may have fewer recreational opportunities than others in the state.

PARK INVENTORY

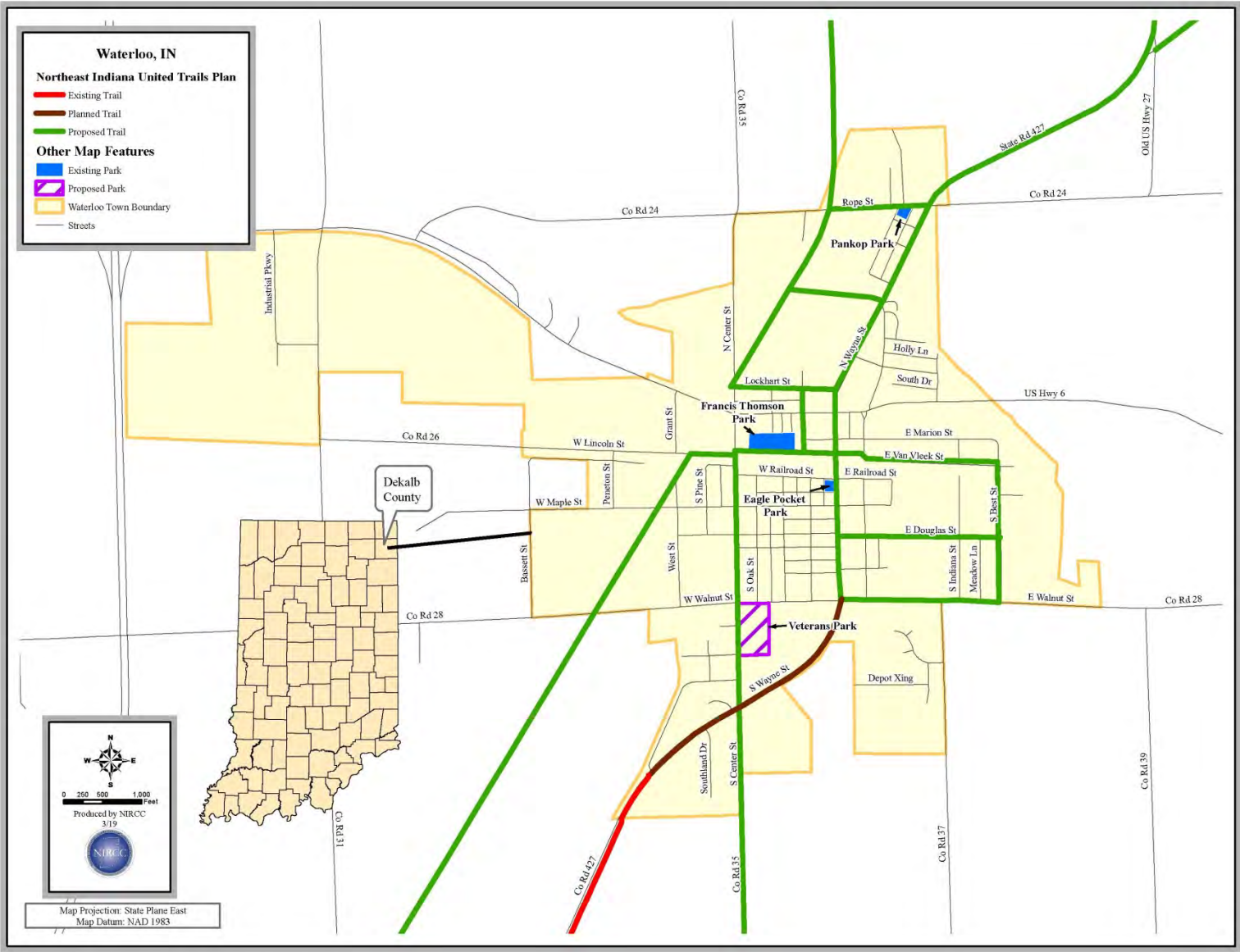


3.0 Inventory

3.1 Parks Located within Waterloo

There are three (3) existing parks located within the political boundaries of Waterloo: Francis Thomson Memorial Park, a 2.9 acre park located on West Van Vleck Street across from the historic train depot (the largest park owned by the town); Pankop Park, a 0.43 acre park located at the corner of West Rope Street and Colgrove Street; and Eagle Park, a 0.23 acre park, centrally located on South Wayne Street across from the Town Hall. Figure 18 depicts the *Town of Waterloo Parks, Trail and State Projection Map* identifying the location of existing Waterloo parks and trails, the future site of Veterans Memorial Park, a 4.1 acre lot located on the corner of West Walnut Street and Center Street, and the site of the proposed trail connection.

Figure 18: Town of Waterloo Parks, Trail and State Projection Map
Source: Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council



3.2 Park History

In 1999, the Waterloo Lions Club initiated an ambitious playground improvement project at the Francis Thomson Memorial Park, which was named for a lifelong Waterloo resident who died in 1997. Francis Thomson was a World War II Veteran and Japanese prisoner of war for three years. His son John Thomson, a current park board member, says that his father's greatest passion was for children. Thomson was a familiar face to local children from his years working as a school crossing guard. The original park cost \$85,000 to build and was funded by a DeKalb County Community Foundation grant and several generous donations.



Photo of Original Francis Thomson Park, Google Maps (9- 2013)

3.2.1 Playground Fire

On March 29, 2015, a fire destroyed approximately 75 percent of the wooden playground at Francis Thomson Memorial Park when three young boys started a campfire on playground mulch to warm up. Many area businesses, churches and local residents rallied efforts to rebuild the playground. Insurance covered much of the materials and equipment costs to replace the park; however, it took efforts of approximately 900 volunteers working 15 different shifts and 60 volunteers per shift to rebuild the playground. The new playground equipment cost \$130,000.



Photo of Fire Damage: Permission to reproduce, WANE 15 (4-2015)

Residents of the town assembled the new Francis Thomson Memorial Park from September 22 to September 30, 2015. The surface under the playground was paid for by the AWS Foundation, which dedicates the funding of projects solely for people with disabilities. The surface is rubber and ADA approved for playground surfaces.

The new Francis Thomson Memorial Park opened October 4, 2015.

3.3 Park Facilities

The Town of Waterloo owns one (1) larger community park within the Waterloo corporate limits that is used frequently by residents, and two (2) smaller parks that were recently added in 2013 and 2016. The parks system includes the following:



(Photo provided by the Town of Waterloo (9-2015))

3.3.1 Francis Thomson Memorial Park (FTMP)

Francis Thomson Memorial Playground – Year Built: 2000 (Original Playground) Year Built: 2015 (New Playground).

Contained within the 2.9 acre FTMP includes a multi-age playground area with seven (7) swings, five (5) slides, a climbing rock wall and ladders, four plus (4+) interactive play sets, a wooden play house area, rubber mulch, benches, picnic areas with grills, fenced in basketball court, eight (8) horseshoe pits, pavilion with picnic tables, fireplace and electricity, water fountain, and an ADA restroom facility.



The park is bounded on the west and north by residential developments, the Volunteer Fire Department is to the east, and the historic Train Depot and new ADA parking lots are located to the south of the park. The historic Waterloo Train Depot is available for year-round use. Both the Francis Thomson Memorial Park pavilion and Train Depot are available to rent for reunions and other gatherings.

Francis Thomson Memorial Park closes as dusk and dogs must be leashed at all times in the park.



A FTMP park schematic is provided below: (FTMP photos and Inventory Table are provided on pgs. 71-72)

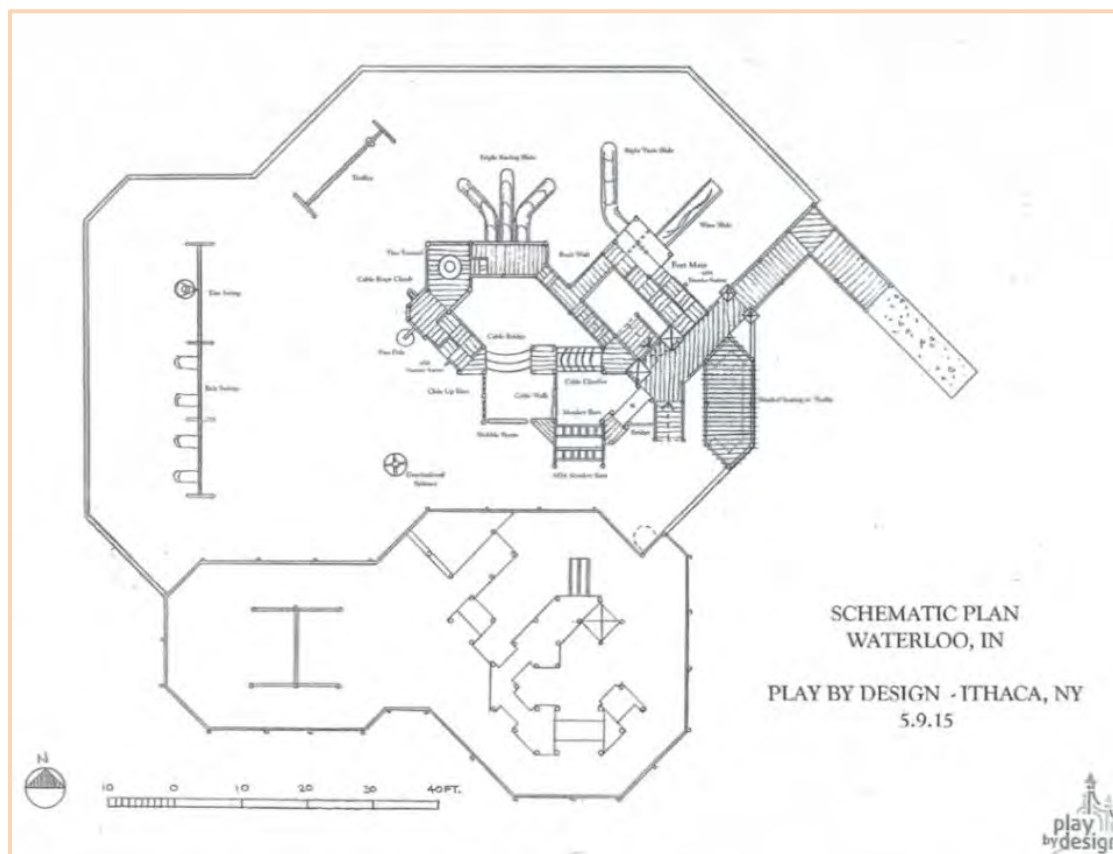


Figure 19: Waterloo, IN Francis Thomson Memorial Park Playground Schematic

Source: Play by Design with permission to reproduce, Town of Waterloo Parks and Recreation Board



Pavilion with bell tower: Built 1996 (facing north)



Pavilion picnic area with fireplace (facing west)



Pavilion w/water fountain (facing south)



Climbing rock wall and hanging ladders (facing north)



Swings and playground area (facing southeast)



Interactive play area (facing northeast)



ADA Restrooms with paved sidewalks (facing north)



Horseshoe pits (facing southwest toward the Waterloo Train Depot)



Toddler interactive play area with ADA swing (facing southwest)



Basketball court with bench and trash receptacle (facing east)

The new FTMP playground was built according to ADA standards; however, the main access point to connect the playground to the existing sidewalk is scheduled to be completed in 2019. The sidewalk connection is categorized a “Level 1” priority in the Park Board’s *Action Plan*. An illustrative aerial map of current park amenities and the location of a future ADA access point is labeled and identified in bold orange in Figure 20 below:



Figure 20: Francis Thomson Memorial Park Aerial Map
Source: Beacon GIS website, <https://beacon.schneidercorp.com/>

Table 9: Francis Thomson Memorial Park Inventory List

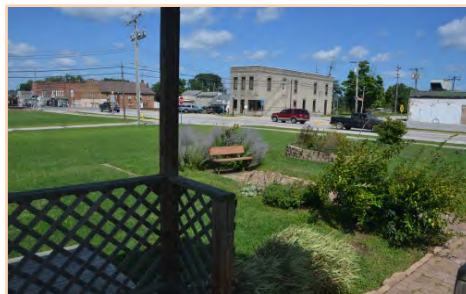
INVENTORY LIST				
FRANCIS THOMSON PARK	AMENITIES	(V)	PARK PROFILE	STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES
Baseball diamond	0	Use	Passive/Active (P,A)	Active Park
Basketball hoops (2)	1 Court	✓ Usage	Low/Moderate/Heavy (LMH)	Heavy /Moderate use
Running/walking	Grassy Area	✓ Category	Private/Town/Regional	Town Park/open to public
Horseshoe pit(s)	8 pits	✓ Condition	Poor/Fair/Excellent (P,F,E)	Excellent/Fair condition
Merry-go-round (hanging)	1	✓ Size (Acres)	Size: 2.9 Acres	Spacious open grassy area
Spring rocker	1	✓ Age of Park	Built: 2000 (Orig.) 2015 (New)	Playground Ages: 1-12
Grill	3 @ Park	✓ Buildings	Pavilion & Restrooms: Built: 1996	Pavilion with Rental capabilities (1000 Capacity)
Climbing equipment	3 (1-rock wall)	✓ ADA Rating	Poor/Fair/Excellent (P,F,E)	E/F (ADA)
Toddler swings	2 toddler sets	✓ Additional Climbing: (2) hanging ladders		Strengths
Swings	5	✓ (1-tire swing)		New Park: Excellent/Good condition
Slides	6	✓		Pavilion with rental capabilities (1000 Capacity)
Play structures	8	✓ Benches provided in play area		Activities for various ages
Picnic tables	3	✓ (2)wooden (1) concrete		Nice concrete picnic table area
Pavilion w/ tower: Built 1996	1000 Capacity	✓ Note: 12+ picnic table at pavilion		(ADA) Fire retardant mulch
Restrooms: Built 1996	ADA Men/Women	✓ 3 stalls w/ flushable toilets (1 urinal)		ADA Parking (4 + ADA spaces @ Depot)
Bandstand area w/electricity	1	✓ Pavillion		Interactive play areas / good selection
Benches/seating	9 +	✓ 3 long benches provided in play area		Swings for various ages
Drinking fountain	2 spigots	✓ Located @ pavilion area		Attractive restrooms w/ flushable toilets
OTHER: Rubber mulch	ADA Mulch	✓ ADA play surface area		Paved walkways to most amenities
OTHER: Parking/asphalt/gravel	40+ spaces (asphalt)	✓ Asphalt parking @ Depot / 3+ gravel parking area along alley		Centrally located/close proximity to Depot
OTHER: Interactive play sets	4+	✓ Time clock/Sign language board/gears & balls		Weaknesses
OTHER: Benches	Depot Area	✓ 4 additional benches at Depot		Paved to grassy area at playground
OTHER: Fencing	Pavilion & BB Court	✓ Fencing built: 1960;1996		Restrooms locked: open for rentals/events
OTHER: Trash receptacles	3+	✓		Some perimeter fencing 60+ years-old

3.3.2 Eagle Park

Eagle Park: Year Built: 2015 on a small 0.23 acre lot owned by the Town of Waterloo and located on South Wayne Street. Eagle Park was built by the Boy Scouts and is a relaxing place to rest in the heart of town. It is a passive park that consists of a small gazebo, trellis with walking path, plantings and donated benches.



Signage and gazebo (facing west)



Gazebo looking northeast at the plantings, bench and roadway (facing Wayne Street)



Trellis and brick walkway (facing west to gazebo)

Table 10: Eagle Park Inventory List

INVENTORY LIST					
EAGLE PARK	AMENITIES	(v)	PARK PROFILE		STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES
Play Structures	0		Use	Passive/Active (P,A)	Passive Park
Exercise Equipment	0		Usage	Low/Moderate/Heavy (LMH)	Low usage
Grill	0		Category	Private/Town/Regional	Town park
Picnic Table	0		Condition	Poor/Fair/Excellent (P,F,E)	Fair
Gazebo	1	✓	ADA Rating	Poor/Fair/Excellent (P,F,E) (Fair)	<u>Strengths</u>
Restroom	0		Size (Acres)	0.23 Acres	Close proximity to Library and Town Hall
Benches/Seating	3	✓	Age of Park	Built: 2015	Attractive pocket park
Drinking Fountain	0				<u>Weaknesses</u>
Grassy / Vegetation Area	Yes	✓			Limited Patronage / underutilized space
OTHER:	Trellis	✓			Limited ADA / street parking
OTHER:	Walking Path	✓	Brick Pavers		Limited activities

3.3.3 Pankop Park

Pankop Park: Year Built: 2013-15 on a 0.43 acre lot donated to the town September 2013, by Virgil & Eneid Pankop. The new park is located to the north end of town and a pleasant place for residents to visit. The park sits on the corner of Rope Street and Colgrove Street and includes amenities such as a new pavilion and water faucet, a playground area with five (5) sets of play equipment: Three (3) climbing areas with three (3) slides; and two (2) swing areas with one (1) ADA swing and tire swing. The park includes safety fencing and gravel parking lot with approx. six (6) parking spaces. The pavilion was provided by a generous donation from Nucor Building Systems.



Facing northeast at new playground structures



Facing southwest at new playground structures, pavilion and parking area



New pavilion and playground area (facing north)



New ADA swing set (facing southeast)



New hanging ladder and play structures (facing southwest)



New spigot, pavilion picnic area and play areas (facing east)

Table 11: Pankop Park Inventory List

INVENTORY LIST					
PANKOP PARK	AMENITIES	(v)	PARK PROFILE		STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES
Running/Walking Trail	0		Use	Passive/Active (P,A)	Active Park
Baseball/Football	0		Usage	Low/Moderate/Heavy (LMH)	Moderate / Low
Horseshoe Pit	0		Category	Private/Town/Regional	Town Park
Teeter Totter	0		Condition	Poor/Fair/Excellent (P,F,E)	Excellent/Fair condition
Spring Rocker	0		ADA Rating	Poor/Fair/Excellent (P,F,E)	Fair / ADA Swing
Merry-go-round	0		Size (Acres)	0.45 Acres	Strengths
Climbing Equipment	2	✓	Age of Park	Built: 2013-2015	New ADA Swing
Swings	7	✓	Includes: (1-ADA) (1-toddler) (1-tire swing)		New pavilion w/picnic area
Slides	3	✓	Includes: (1) Toddler		Security Fence
Play Structures	3	✓	Includes: (1) hanging ladder (2) play centers		Gravel Parking area / 6 spaces
Exercise Equipment	1	✓	Includes hanging ladder		Playground Equipment for varying ages
Grill	0				Weaknesses
Picnic Table(s)	2	✓	New 2015		ADA Limitations (firm & stable route)
Restroom	0				No Restrooms
Benches/Seating	2	✓	Picnic Tables (seating for up to 16 persons)		Limited lighting
Water Spigot	1	✓	1 spigot / locked		Water source/locked
Fencing	1	✓	Built 2014	(new security parameter fence)	No ADA Parking
Pavilion (New)	1	✓	Built 2015		

(Pictures taken: August 23, 2018)

3.3.4 Park Programming

National Night Out: In early August, Waterloo observes a community day to mingle with local police and fire departments. The town offers activities, games and prizes at these events that are held at Francis Thomson Memorial Park.

Pavilion Rentals: The Waterloo Park pavilion located at FTMP is available to rent throughout the year and is frequently booked for reunions, community and/or private events over the summer months. Fees are charged to assist with overhead, maintenance and overall sustainability of the park. The pavilion will accommodate up to 1000 patrons at an event. The fee schedule is as follows:

Town Residents	\$ 40 plus deposit (\$20) and sales tax
Non-Resident	\$60 plus deposit (\$20) and sales tax
Not for Profit Groups	\$ 30 maintenance fee, plus deposit

If indoor events are desired to conduct private or community events, the town also rents the Community Room at the historic Waterloo Train Depot. The fee schedule for the Train Depot is as follows:

Town Residents	\$ 75 plus deposit (\$75) and sales tax
Non-Resident	\$100 plus deposit (\$100) and sales tax
Not for Profit Groups	\$ 30 maintenance fee, plus deposit

In addition to pavilion and Train Depot rentals, the Park Board sponsors a “Purchase a Picket” to name donors who assisted and/or volunteered to rebuild the playground. The pickets are on sale for \$25 until the fence around the playground is fully completed. Approximately 50 pickets have been sold to date and 100 pickets are available for purchase.



Pickets at Francis Thomson Memorial Park

3.3.5 Trail Area

A bicycle-pedestrian trail connects Waterloo with the City of Auburn along County Road 427. DeKalb Middle and Senior High Schools are less than two miles south at the edge of town, in between the location of the trailhead that leads into town. Waterloo recently received a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant to complete a trail connection into town. The proposed trail extension and future Veterans Memorial Park are discussed in more detail in Section 4.7.



Trailhead at Co. Rd 427 (south edge of Waterloo)

3.3.6 Other Recreational Facilities

1. **Waterloo Elementary School**, located at 300 East Douglas Street, serves students in grades Prekindergarten – 5. The school has two (2) playground areas; the larger play area has a parameter fence that is open for students during school hours.



Waterloo Elementary School playground area

2. **The Classic City Center (CCC)**, located at 3375 County Road 427, Waterloo, just north of Auburn, is a 48,000 sq. ft. facility that provides indoor soccer, rock climbing, dance studio, gymnastics, cheer tumbling, bubble soccer, batting cages, Ninja Warrior training, and flag football. The CCC is open Mon-Thursday from 4 p.m.-8 p.m. (closed

Friday - Sunday). The facility is available for party rentals, conventions, gaming and "Fight Nights." Fees vary based on the type of activity and length of classes and/or training or event.

3.4. Accessibility and Universal Design

The Town of Waterloo takes pride in the advancements it has made in creating a more accessible environment for individuals of all abilities, and continuously strives to improve accessibility as barriers are identified. The Town of Waterloo is responsible to ensure that all activities and facilities offered by the Parks Department are accessible to residents and visitors of all abilities.



3.4.1 ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan

The Town of Waterloo conducted an Americans with Disabilities Act Self-evaluation and Transition Plan that was adopted November 13, 2012, and updated in 2017. Following the guidance provided in the Transition Plan, all new facilities built within the town will be in compliance with the *Architectural Barrier Act of 1968, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973*, as amended, and the *Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990*. According to the 10-Year Transition Plan, the town will spend up to \$5,000 of local funds annually to repair, modify, or reconstruct sidewalk and ramps to meet current ADA standards.

In addition, the adopted plan states that every two years the Town Council shall meet with the ADA Coordinator to review the town's efforts put forth the previous two years to comply with the ADA and the implementation of the Transition Plan. The Town Council and ADA Coordinator will review the prioritization of repairs, modifications, or replacement of sidewalks and curb ramps for the upcoming year, and determine the number of sidewalks and curbs that can be brought into compliance with ADA standards.

A formal "Grievance Procedure" under the ADA Transition Plan has been established and a Grievance Policy and Complaint Forms are available to persons in the event that accessibility issues or Title VI discrimination violations are discovered. The complete *Waterloo Transition Plan* is available in the Town Hall and found online on the town's website at: <https://waterlooin.gov/ada-title-vi-policy/>. A full copy of the Waterloo Grievance Policy and Grievance Form is provided in the Appendix Section 6.13.

The proposed trail and associated amenities will meet all required standards to ensure the trail is accessible to all potential users regardless of their abilities. The trail will be constructed with properly sloped ramps and access points at all street and driveway crossings and across one open ditch. Additionally, the new bench and drinking fountain will be ADA compliant. The Town Manager and code enforcement officer plan to attend the national ADA symposium in June 2019 to be instructed on playground and park rules to ensure proper oversight of upcoming park projects.

3.4.2 ADA Coordinator

Information regarding the ADA nondiscriminatory requirements and accessible facilities programs and services are available by contacting the Town of Waterloo's ADA Coordinator at the following address:

Tena Woenker, Town Manager
280 S. Wayne Street, P.O. Box 96
Waterloo, IN 46793
Phone: 260-837-7428 ~ Email: townmanager@waterlooin.gov

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



4.0 Public Participation

The Town of Waterloo and the Waterloo Parks and Recreation Department have made many improvements over the past several years which, in part, were prompted by a donation of land in 2013 to build Pankop Park. In 2017, Waterloo hosted a “United Day of Caring” event to celebrate the opening of Pankop Park. A five-year “Progress Report” is provided in Section 5.3 to outline park improvements and investments made from 2014 through 2018.

In addition, the outpouring of community support and community participation was demonstrated by numerous residents who rallied together to rebuild the Francis Thomson Memorial Park damaged by the fire in 2015.



(Photo of Pankop Park “United Day of Caring” event provided by the Town of Waterloo)

Public participation had been important part of the planning process and was necessary in determining local needs and establishing a consensus of desired activities. Several means of public participation and data collection were used for park planning that included: an “adult” web survey disseminated on the Waterloo Parks and Recreation webpage; a “youth” paper survey distributed to fourth and fifth grade students at the Waterloo Elementary School; and a public participation meeting with activities provided to identify the needs and desires of the public. Additionally, a Trails Forum was conducted in April 2018, along with a “Trail and Park” web survey that ran intermittently from April 2017 to April 2018, to establish public support of a proposed Auburn-Waterloo trail connection as part of a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant initiative. The first RTP application submitted in 2017 was not funded, and the “Trails and Park” survey was reopened for a second application submittal in 2018; however, the second application was successful, and the town received notice of federal approval in March 2019. The data extracted from RTP “Trail & Park” survey was current and relevant for the purposes of a comprehensive park plan, and thereby included with this study. Public meetings and survey information was advertised in the local newspaper and on Waterloo Park Board webpage. In addition, flyers were created and distributed at the Town Hall and public gathering places to provide notice of all public meetings (see Appendix Sections 6.3 through 6.11 for public participation documentation).

4.1 Public Meetings

4.1.1 Public Meeting # 1

A public meeting was held on November 14, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at the Waterloo Train Depot to inform the public of planning efforts and conduct activities to determine desired park amenities. The meeting was attended by seven (7) private citizens, the Town Manager and Park Superintendent, seven (7) Park Board members, and two (2) planners from the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC). NIRCC planners provided a PowerPoint presentation, held a public discussion time, and conducted interactive activities with the community. Refreshments were provided for those in attendance.

Advertisements: To advertise the public meeting and provide survey information, a legal notice was sent to the “Auburn Star,” and flyers were distributed at the Town Hall and public gathering places. Additionally, meeting and survey information was provided on the Waterloo Park Board website at: <https://waterlooin.gov/park-board/>.

Following a formal presentation and discussion time, two activities were conducted. The first activity included a “Public Priority Ranking” to allow individuals to select and rank their top desired park activities. Using a weighted ranking system, attendees top activities were then scored: Top priority = 10 points; second priority = 9 points; third priority = 8 point; fourth priority = 7 points.

Table 12: Public Priority

ACTIVITY	POINTS	RANK
Picnic Areas	51	1
Sledding Hill/Pond - Veterans Park	49	2
Veterans Memorial/Benches	41	3
Dog Park /w Benches	35	4
Parking Area - Veterans Park	31	5
Splash Pad	24	6
Trails / Veterans Park	17	7
Trees/Planting	9	8
ADA Parking	8	9
Restrooms	7	10
Outdoor stage area	0	11
Play Areas / Veterans Park	0	11

The highest ranking activities include: 1) picnic areas, 2) a sledding hill at a proposed Veterans Park, 3) Veterans Memorial/with benches, 4) Dog park w/benches, and 5) parking areas at Veterans Park. The lowest priorities receiving zero points include: an outdoor stage area and play areas at Veterans Park. See Table 12.

The second activity included “buy-in bucks” to determine the level of commitment for each park amenity. Community members were asked to place play money in cups representing activities they would prefer local dollars to be used for activities identified on the “Priority Ranking List.” This activity helped to establish a public “buy in” of desired activities.

The results of the “buy-in bucks” activity determined that people would be more inclined to spend dollars to build a sledding hill and Veterans Memorial w/benches, splash pad and dog park. When compared to interest levels of the “buy in” activity to the “Priority Ranking,” it was determined that adding picnic areas achieved the highest ranking; however, picnic areas received very few dollars of “buy-in.”

Table 13: Buy-In Bucks

BUY IN BUCKS			
Activity	\$5	\$1	Total
Sledding Hill/Pond - Veterans Park	\$ 30	\$ 1	\$ 31
Veterans Memorial/Benches	\$ 20	\$ 5	\$ 25
Splash Pad	\$ 5	\$ 3	\$ 8
Dog Park /w Benches	\$ 5	\$ 2	\$ 7
Play Areas / Veterans Park		\$ 5	\$ 5
Picnic Areas	\$ -	\$ 4	\$ 4
Trails / Veterans Park		\$ 4	\$ 4
Parking Area - Veterans Park		\$ 3	\$ 3
ADA Parking	\$ -	\$ 3	\$ 3
Trees/Planting		\$ 2	\$ 2
Restrooms		\$ 2	\$ 2
Outdoor stage area		\$ 2	\$ 2
Total	\$ 60	\$ 36	\$ 96
# of Responses (\$8 per person)	12		

See Table 13.

4.1.2 Public Presentation of Final Plan

A second public meeting to present the final plan was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the Waterloo Train Depot. The meeting was attended by eight (8) private citizens; the Town Manager and Park Superintendent; six (6) Park Board members; and one (1) planner from the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC). The results of the study and the *Park Board Action Plan* were presented in a PowerPoint presentation. In addition, a hard copy of the *Waterloo Parks & Recreation 5-Year Master Plan* was available for public review and comment sheets were distributed. A question and answer time followed the formal presentation. Two citizens provided written approvals of the actions identified in the plan.

Advertisements: To announce the final public review of the park plan, a press release was sent to local news media, and a front page article published in the “Auburn Star” on March 5, 2019. The press release also was provided on the Waterloo Park Board webpage. Additionally, a legal notice published in the “Auburn Star” on Tuesday, March 7, 2019, and flyers were distributed at the Town Hall and public gathering places to provide meeting information.

4.2 Public Surveys

A total of three (3) surveys were conducted between 2017-2018: An online adult “park” specific survey was launched September 2018 and closed November 30, 2018 (provided on the Town of Waterloo’s website); a youth “park” specific paper survey was conducted the week of October 22, 2018 (surveys distributed to students at the Waterloo Elementary School); and an online “trails” specific survey was conducted intermittently between April 2017 to April 2018 for the Recreational Trails Program application (provided on the Town of Waterloo’s website). From these efforts a total of 109 responses were received: 27 online “adult” park responses (19 female; 8 male); 58 “youth” responses (31 female; 27 male); and 24 online “trails” responses from 2017-18 survey (trails survey demographic data unavailable).

4.3 Adult Survey

4.3.1 Demographic Profile

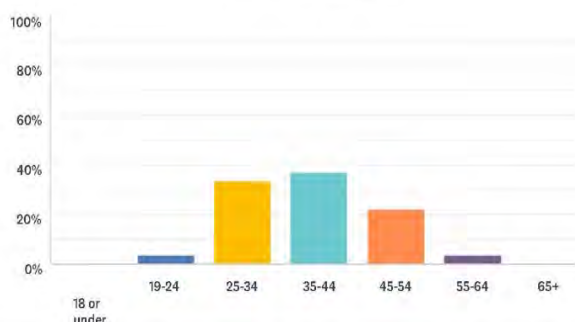
Question 10: What is your age?

To determine a demographic profile, each respondent was asked to provide their age. From those responding, it was determined that over 37% of adult respondents were of the 35-44 age group, and the second largest group of respondents were ages 25-34 (33.3%). No responses were received from persons aged 18 or under, or 65 or over. Only one (1) response was received from the 19-24-age bracket (3.7%).

See Chart Q10.

Q10 What is your age?

Answered: 27 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
18 or under	0.00%	0
19-24	3.70%	1
25-34	33.33%	9
35-44	37.04%	10
45-54	22.22%	6
55-64	3.70%	1
65+	0.00%	0
TOTAL		27

Question 11 (A-B): How many people live in your household and what ages are they?

A. The household size of the majority of adult respondents was 3 to 4 members (60%). The second highest household size of respondents was 5-6 persons (24%). The family size of over 6 persons and smaller household size of 1-2 persons both had a proportion of 8% of adults responding to question (11a).

Q11-a: FAMILY SIZE	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 6	Over 6	Total Responses
Number of Responses	2	15	6	2	25
Percentage	8%	60%	24%	8%	100%

Answered: 25 Skipped: 2

B. Of the adult respondents who had provided ages for persons living in their households, the highest number of persons identified was from the 25-44-age group (39%), and the second highest number of persons identified was from the 5-7-age group (34%). The smallest number of persons identified was from the college-age group (5%) and older adults aged 65 and over (0%). A total of 76 household members were identified by age from the 25 adult respondents. Two (2) respondents had skipped this question.

Q11-b: What are their ages	Preschool (0-4)	School Age (5-17)	College Age (18-24)	Young Adult (25-44)	Adult (45-64)	Older Adult (65+)	Total # Identified		
Ages identified by respondents	12	26	4	30	4	0	76		
Percentage	16%	34%	5%	39%	5%	0%	100%		
Answered: 25 Skipped: 2 Note: Some provided # of persons but did not provide ages of persons residing in the household									

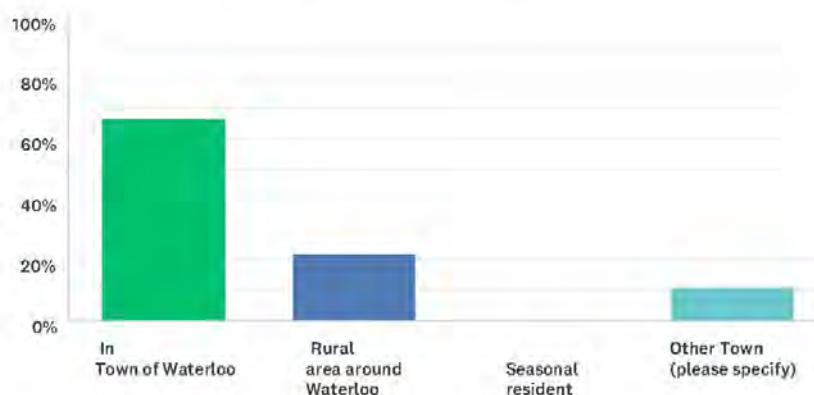
Question 12: Which best describes where you live?

Most adult responses were from persons residing in the Town of Waterloo or rural areas near Waterloo (88.9% of responses). Only three (3) responses (11.1%) were from persons residing in another town.

See Chart Q12

Q12 Which best describes where you live?

Answered: 27 Skipped: 0



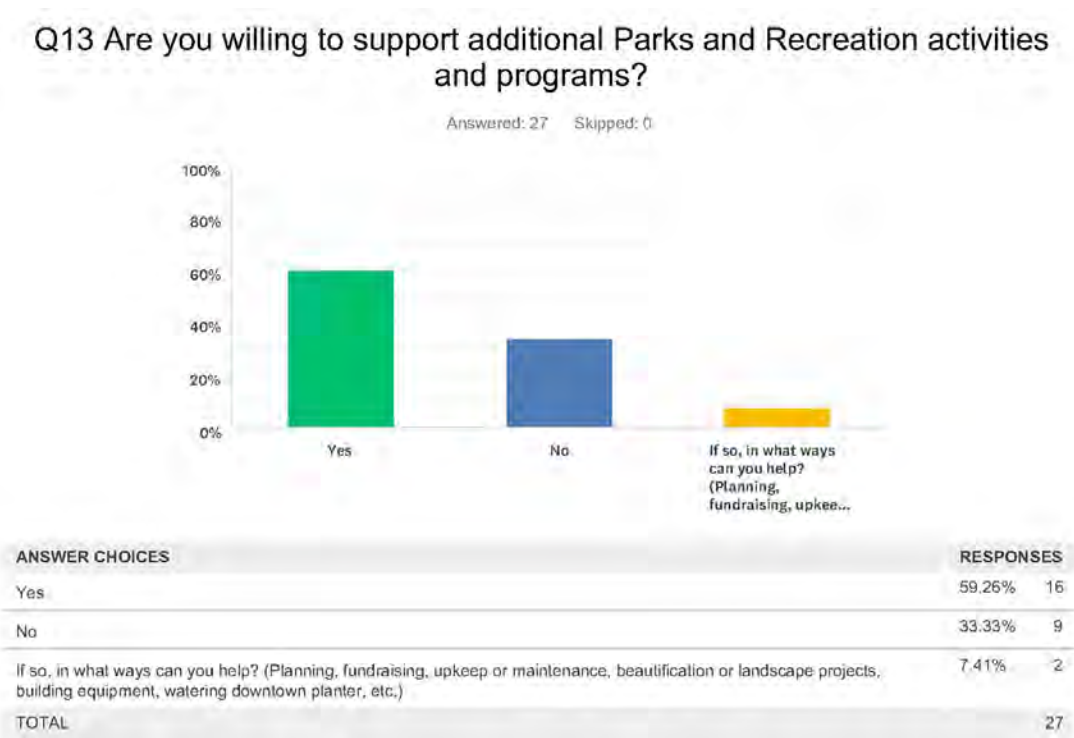
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
In Town of Waterloo	66.67%	18
Rural area around Waterloo	22.22%	6
Seasonal resident	0.00%	0
Other Town (please specify)	11.11%	3
TOTAL		27

Question 13: Are you willing to support additional Parks and Recreation activities and programs?

When asked if respondents are willing to support additional park activities and programs, over 59% answered “yes” to this question.

As identified in the Chart Q13, nearly two-thirds of respondents were willing to support additional Parks and Recreation activities and programs (59.3%). One third of respondents answered that they would “not” support additional activities and programs (33.3%).

See chart Q13

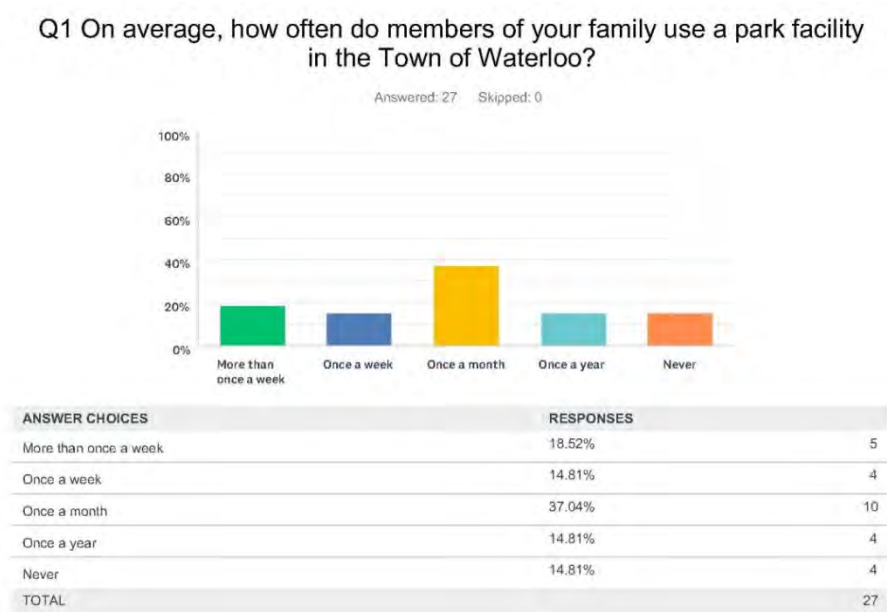


4.3.2 Use

Question 1: On average, how often do members of your family use a park facility in the Town of Waterloo?

As shown in the following Chart Q1, 37% of respondents visit the park system once a month. One third of respondents (33%) visit more frequently than this, including 18.5% who visit more than once a week. 29.7% of respondents visit less frequently than this, including the 14.8% of respondents who never use the parks.

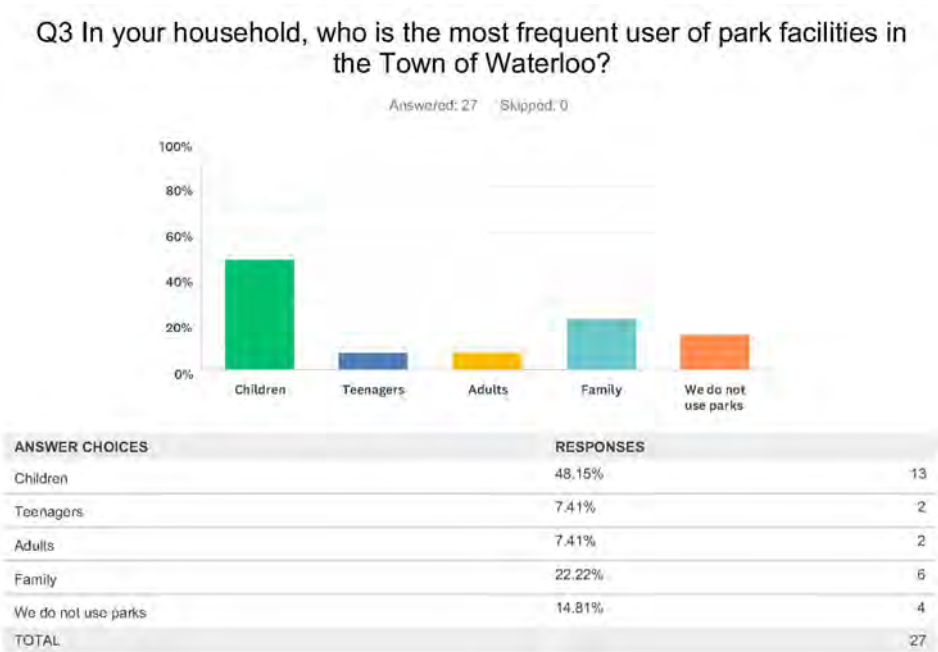
See Chart Q1.



Question 3: In your household, who is the most frequent user of park facilities in the Town of Waterloo?

As shown in Chart Q3, the most frequent users of Waterloo parks are children (48.2%). Families represent 22% of park usage and teenagers represent 7.4% of park usage.

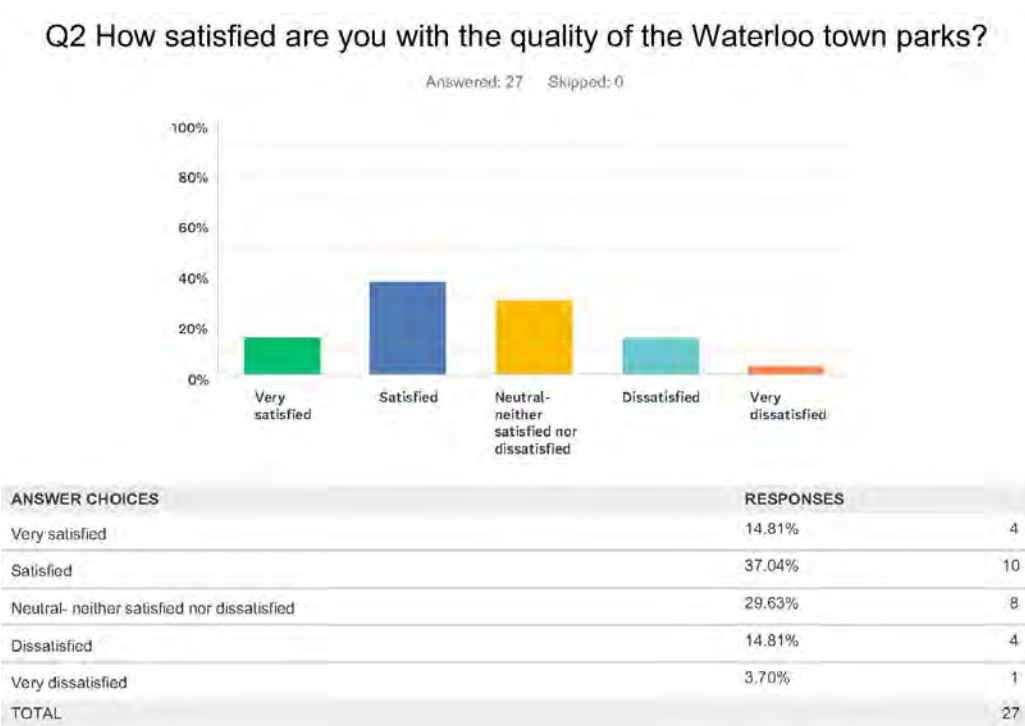
See Chart Q3



4.3.3 Satisfaction

Question 2: How satisfied are you with the quality of the Waterloo town parks?

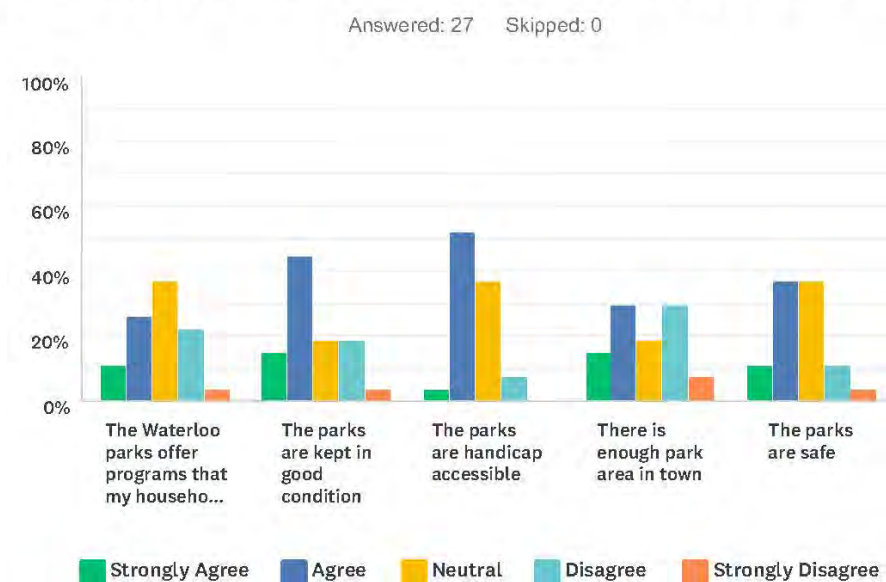
Chart Q2 reveals that the majority adult respondents are either “satisfied” to “very satisfied” with the quality of the Waterloo park system (51.9%). Approximately 18.5% of respondents say they are either “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with the park quality. See Chart Q2



Question 5: Rate the following statements in terms of the Waterloo park facilities:

To assess park facilities, questions were presented to identify strengths and potential weaknesses of the current park system. Responses reveal that 37% of persons “agree” or “strongly agree” that the park offers programs used by their household; 59% “agree” or “strongly agree” that the parks are kept in good condition; 56% “agree” or “strongly agree” that the parks are handicap accessible; 48% “agree” or “strongly agree” that the parks are safe; however, only 44% “agree” or “strongly agree” that there is enough park area in town. The highest percentage of persons, 37% “disagree” or “strongly disagree” that there is enough park area in town. An anomaly to this question is the number of respondents who answered “neutral” when asked if “the parks offer programs that my household uses” and if the “parks are handicap accessible.” Over 37% of persons answered neutral for both of these questions: This may indicate that respondents are unaware of park programming, safety, and/or ADA accessible activities (hence the large number of “neutral” responses); or that park programming, safety and/or or ADA accommodations may not be meeting the needs of their household. **See Chart Q5**

Q5 Rate the following statements in terms of the Waterloo park facilities:

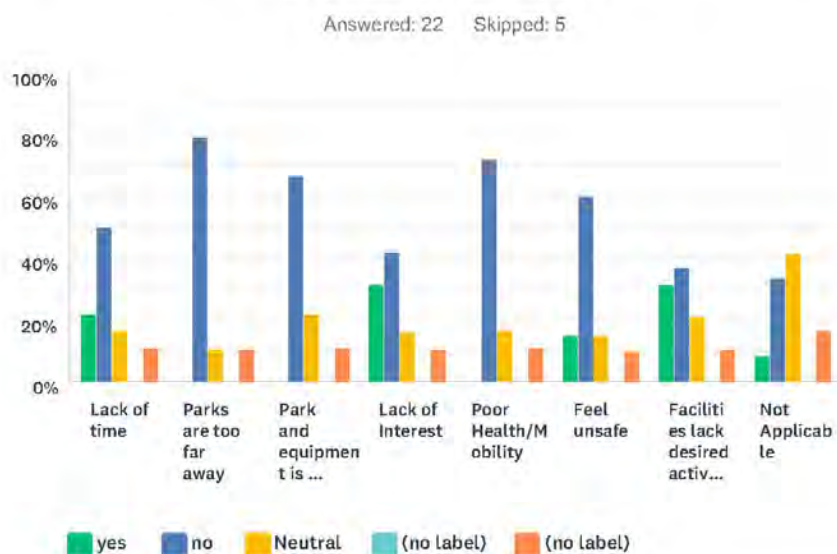


	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEUTRAL	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
The Waterloo parks offer programs that my household uses	11.11% 3	25.93% 7	37.04% 10	22.22% 6	3.70% 1	27	2.81
The parks are kept in good condition	14.81% 4	44.44% 12	18.52% 5	18.52% 5	3.70% 1	27	2.52
The parks are handicap accessible	3.70% 1	51.85% 14	37.04% 10	7.41% 2	0.00% 0	27	2.48
There is enough park area in town	14.81% 4	29.63% 8	18.52% 5	29.63% 8	7.41% 2	27	2.85
The parks are safe	11.11% 3	37.04% 10	37.04% 10	11.11% 3	3.70% 1	27	2.59

Question 7: If you do not frequent any of the Parks in Waterloo, check the answer(s) that best explain the reason(s) why (*at least one row requires an answer).

Another question was asked to determine why persons may or may not attend parks. The top reasons respondents did not attend parks, (31%), were due to “lack of interest” and “lack of desired activities” (31.5%). No respondent(s) said parks are “too far away” or they had “poor health/mobility” limitations. **See Chart Q7**

Q7 If you do not frequent any of the Parks in Waterloo, check the answer(s) that best explain the reason(s) why (*at least one (1) row requires an answer).



	YES	NO	NEUTRAL	(NO LABEL)	(NO LABEL)	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Lack of time	22.22% 4	50.00% 9	16.67% 3	0.00% 0	11.11% 2	18	2.28
Parks are too far away	0.00% 0	78.95% 15	10.53% 2	0.00% 0	10.53% 2	19	2.42
Park and equipment is not handicap accessible	0.00% 0	66.67% 12	22.22% 4	0.00% 0	11.11% 2	18	2.56
Lack of Interest	31.58% 6	42.11% 8	15.79% 3	0.00% 0	10.53% 2	19	2.16
Poor Health/Mobility	0.00% 0	72.22% 13	16.67% 3	0.00% 0	11.11% 2	18	2.50
Feel unsafe	15.00% 3	60.00% 12	15.00% 3	0.00% 0	10.00% 2	20	2.30
Facilities lack desired activities	31.58% 6	36.84% 7	21.05% 4	0.00% 0	10.53% 2	19	2.21
Not Applicable	8.33% 1	33.33% 4	41.67% 5	0.00% 0	16.67% 2	12	2.83

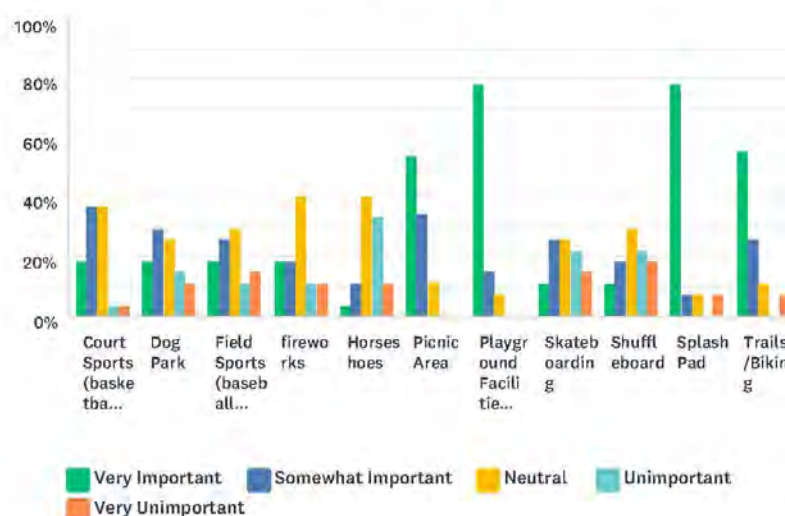
4.3.4 Park Priorities

Question 4: How important is it to your household that the Waterloo Parks & Recreation provide the following:

According to adults surveyed, over 92% responded that playground facilities are “very important to somewhat important”; 88.7% responded that picnic areas are “very important to somewhat important”; 85% responded that a splash pad is “very important to somewhat important”; and 81.5% said trails are “very important to somewhat important.” In addition, 44.4% responded that horseshoes is “unimportant to very unimportant,” and 40.7% responded that shuffleboard is “unimportant to very unimportant” park services. **See Chart Q4**

Q4 How important is it to your household that the Waterloo Parks & Recreation provide the following:

Answered: 27 Skipped: 0



	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	UNIMPORTANT	VERY UNIMPORTANT	TOTAL
Court Sports (basketball, volleyball, tennis, etc)	18.52% 5	37.04% 10	37.04% 10	3.70% 1	3.70% 1	27
Dog Park	18.52% 5	29.63% 8	25.93% 7	14.81% 4	11.11% 3	27
Field Sports (baseball, soccer, football)	18.52% 5	25.93% 7	29.63% 8	11.11% 3	14.81% 4	27
fireworks	18.52% 5	18.52% 5	40.74% 11	11.11% 3	11.11% 3	27
Horseshoes	3.70% 1	11.11% 3	40.74% 11	33.33% 9	11.11% 3	27
Picnic Area	53.85% 14	34.62% 9	11.54% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	26
Playground Facilities (swings, slides, etc)	77.78% 21	14.81% 4	7.41% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	27
Skateboarding	11.11% 3	25.93% 7	25.93% 7	22.22% 6	14.81% 4	27
Shuffleboard	11.11% 3	18.52% 5	29.63% 8	22.22% 6	18.52% 5	27
Splash Pad	77.78% 21	7.41% 2	7.41% 2	0.00% 0	7.41% 2	27
Trails/Biking	55.56% 15	25.93% 7	11.11% 3	0.00% 0	7.41% 2	27

Question 6: What priority are the following improvements: See Chart Q6

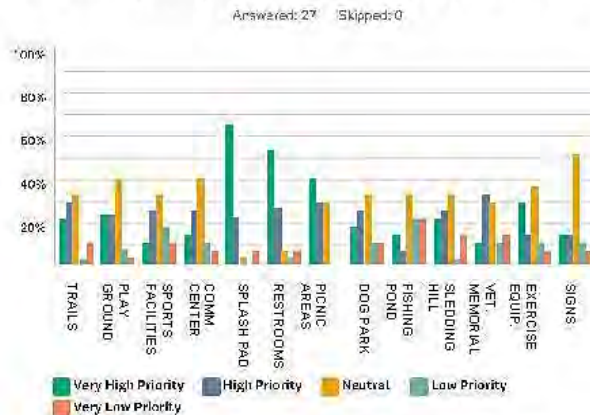
Activities that received “high” or “very high” priority rankings from responding adults included:

- #1) Splash pad (88.5%)
- #2) Restroom facilities (80.7%)
- #3) Benches/picnic areas (70.4%)
- #4) Trails (51.9%)
- #5) Sledding hill (48%)
- #6) Playground equipment (48%)
- #7) (Tied)
 - Veterans Memorial (44%)
 - Dog park (44%)
 - Exercise equipment (44%)

Activities that received “low” or “very low” priority rankings from adults included:

- #1) Sports facilities (30%)
- #2) Informational signs (29.6%)
- #3) Fishing pond (22%)

Q6 What priority are the following Improvements:



	VERY HIGH PRIORITY	HIGH PRIORITY	NEUTRAL	LOW PRIORITY	VERY LOW PRIORITY	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Adding more trails	27.27% 6	29.33% 8	33.33% 9	3.70% 1	11.11% 3	27	2.52
Adding playground equipment	24.00% 6	24.00% 6	40.00% 10	8.00% 2	4.00% 1	25	2.44
Adding sports facilities	11.11% 3	25.93% 7	33.33% 9	18.52% 5	11.11% 3	27	2.93
Adding a community center/leisure center	14.81% 4	25.93% 7	40.74% 11	11.11% 3	7.41% 2	27	2.70
Adding a splash pad	55.38% 15	23.08% 6	3.85% 1	0.00% 0	7.69% 2	26	3.62
Improving restroom facilities	53.85% 14	26.92% 7	7.69% 2	3.85% 1	7.69% 2	26	3.85
Adding more benches/picnic areas	40.74% 11	29.59% 8	29.59% 8	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	27	3.89
Dog Park/leisure running area	13.52% 5	25.93% 7	33.33% 9	11.11% 3	11.11% 3	27	2.70
Adding a fishing pond	14.81% 4	7.41% 2	33.33% 9	22.22% 6	22.22% 6	27	3.30
Adding a sledding hill	22.22% 6	25.93% 7	33.33% 9	3.70% 1	14.81% 4	27	2.63
Creating a Veteran's Memorial	11.11% 3	33.33% 9	29.59% 8	11.11% 3	14.81% 4	27	2.85
Exercise equipment	29.59% 8	14.81% 4	37.04% 10	11.11% 3	7.41% 2	27	2.52
Informational Signs	14.81% 4	14.81% 4	51.85% 14	11.11% 3	7.41% 2	27	2.91

4.4 Youth Survey

4.4.1 Demographic Profile

A total of 58 youth survey responses were received from fourth and fifth grade students who attend the Waterloo Elementary School.

Question 10: What is your age?

The majority of students surveyed, 86% were ages 9 and 10, and the other 14% were ages 11 and 12.

What is your age?	Age 9	Age 10	Age 11	Age 12
Total # of Responses (57)	17	32	7	1

Question 11 A): How many people live in your household?

Of the 56 children responding to the number of persons living in their household, 24 children said they live in household with 3- 4 persons (43%) and only 3 live in a household size of 1-2 persons (5%). However, a total of 29 children said that they live in a household size with 5 to 6 persons or 6 and over (52%).

11 A) How many people live in your household?	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 6	Over 6
Total # Identified (56)	3	24	16	13

Question 11 B): What are their ages?

Of the 56 children responding, a total of 233 household members were identified by age. The highest representation of persons identified were ages 5-17 (51.5%). The second highest representation of persons identified were ages 25-44 (33%). The lowest representation of persons identified were ages 18-24 (2%) and adults aged 65 and over had no representation (0%).

11 B) What are their ages?	Preschool (0-4)	School Age (5-17)	College Age (18-24)	Young Adult (25-44)	Adult (45-64)	Older Adult (65 +)
Ages identified by respondents	25	120	4	77	7	0

Question 12: Which best describes where you live?

Of the 53 youth responding to Question 12, 89% said that they live in the Town of Waterloo or a rural area around Waterloo. Only 7% of youth said that they lived in another town or were a seasonal residents.

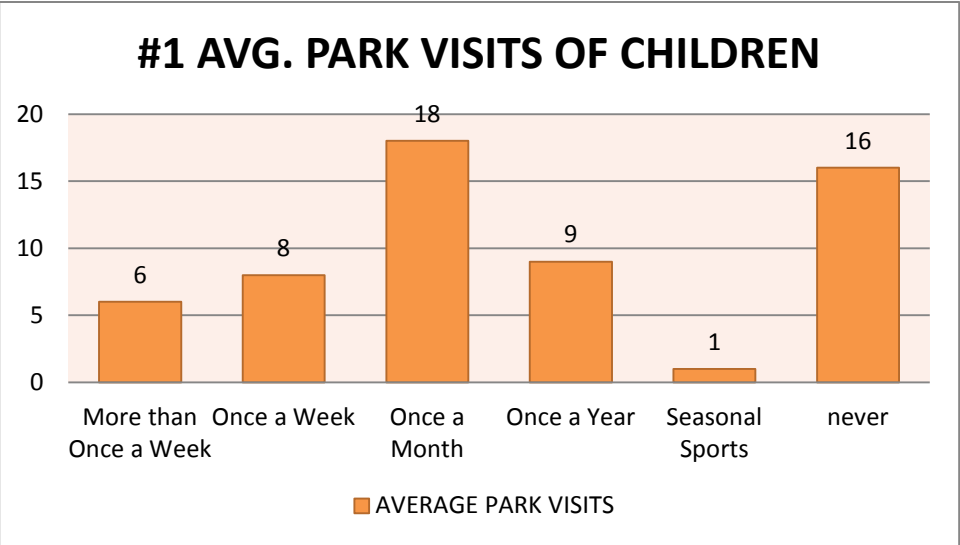
Which best describes where you live?	Town of Waterloo	Rural Area around Waterloo	Other Town	Seasonal Resident
Total # Identified (53)	41	8	3	1
Other			Auburn	Angola

4.4.2 Use

Question 1: On average, how often do members of your family use a park facility in the Town of Waterloo?

Most children responded that they use the parks at least once a month (32%), and a total of 14 children said that they use the parks at least once a week or more than once a week (24%).

Sixteen (16) children said that they never use the Waterloo parks (28%). Only one (1) response said that they use the parks for seasonal sports (1.8%).

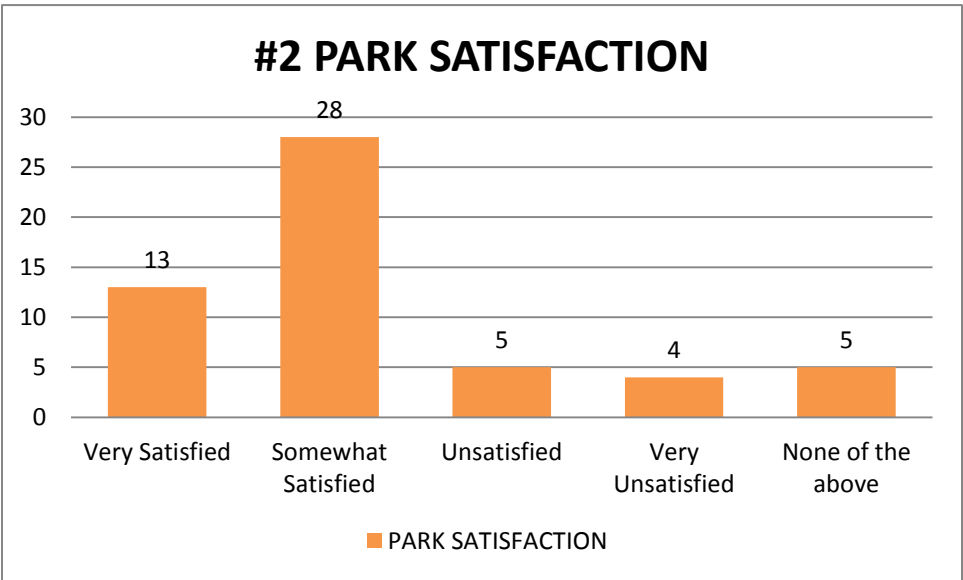


See Chart # 1

Question 2: How satisfied are you with the quality of the Waterloo town parks?

Park Satisfaction: Of the 55 youth responses, 75% said that they were “somewhat satisfied” to “very satisfied” with the quality of Waterloo parks. Only 16% of youth said that they were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” with the quality of Waterloo parks.

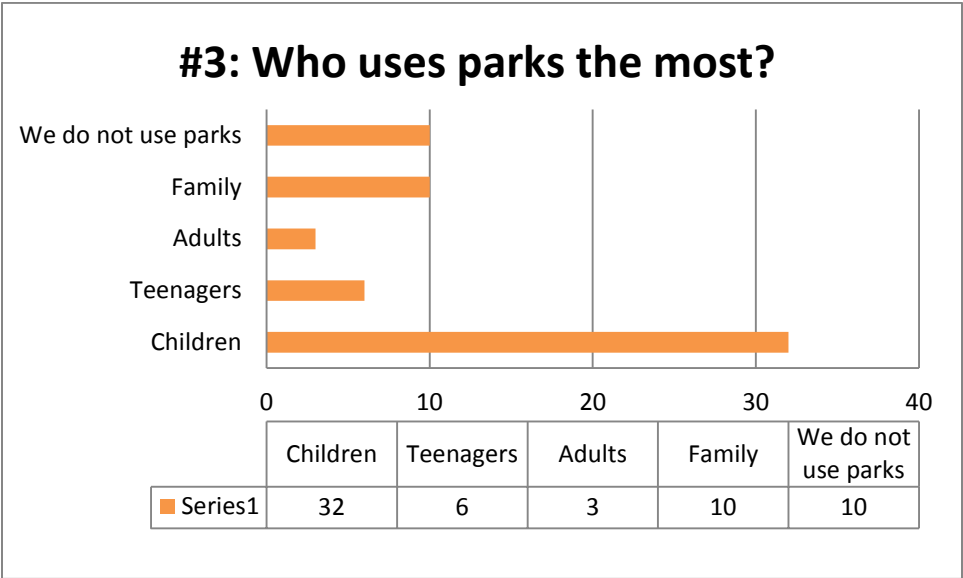
See Chart # 2



Question 3: In your household, who is the most frequent user of park facilities in the Town of Waterloo?

As expected, the highest level of park use is from children and families (69%). Just over 16% of respondents said that they “never” use parks. Teenagers represent 10% of park use (Note: some youth answered more than once to question #3).

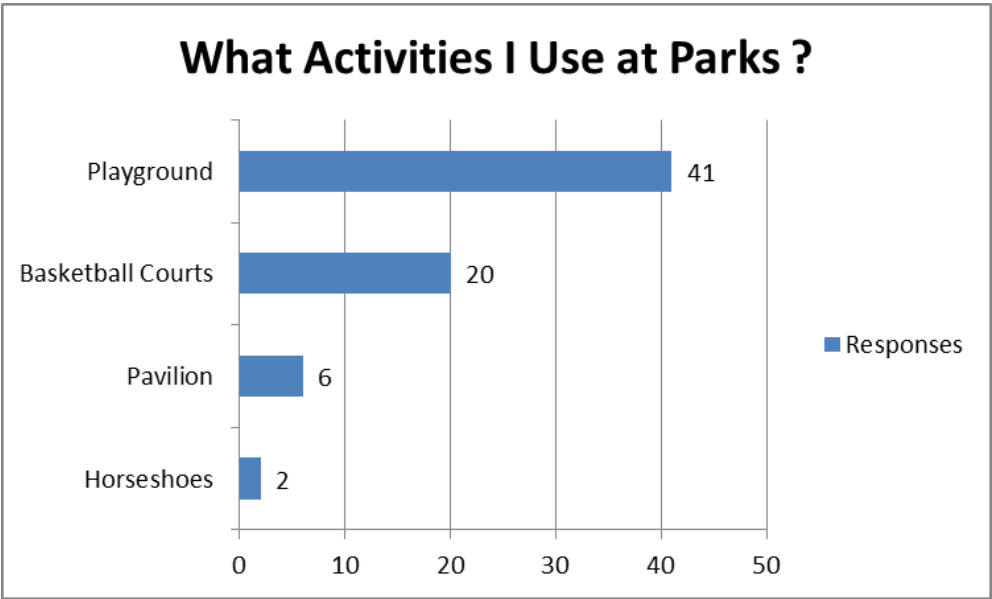
See Chart # 3 **Question 3: Who Uses Parks the Most**



Question 13: What types of activities do you use at the parks?

Over 70% of children responded that they use the playground area, 35% of children use the basketball courts, and 10% use the pavilion. Only 4% of children responded that they use the horseshoe pits.

Question 13: Activities I Use at Parks



Question 14: What types of activities would you use if available?

When children were asked what types of activities they would use if available:

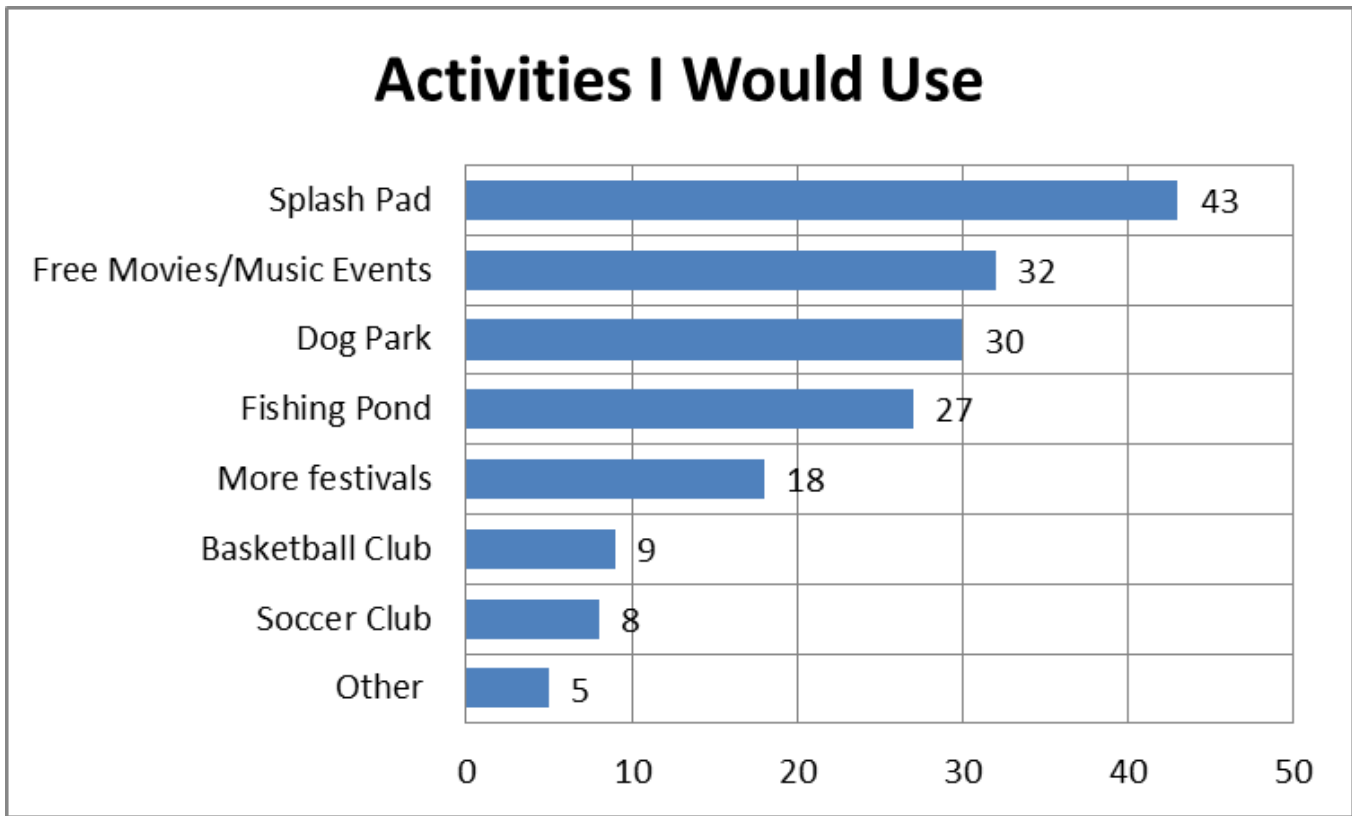
- 75% said they would use a splash pad
- 55% said they would attend free movies or music events
- 52% said they would use a dog park
- 47% said they would use a fishing pond

Only 16% said they would join a basketball club and 14% would join a soccer club.

Other activities that children said they would like to have if available included:

- Softball field
- Treehouse
- Pool
- Garden
- Additional playground activities

Question 14: Activities I Would Use If Available



4.4.3 Park Importance / Priorities

Question 4: How important is it to your household the Waterloo Parks & Recreation provide the following:

The rank of “Very Important” and “Important” Park & Recreation activities for youth are as follows:

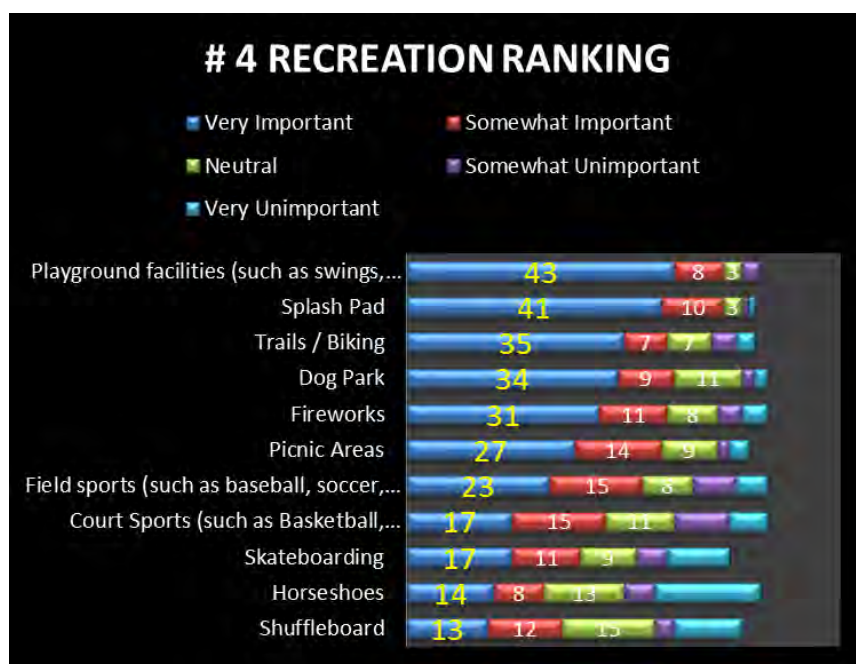
- #1) Splash pad (91%)
- #2) Playground facilities (89%)
- #3) Trails/biking (75%)
- #4) Picnic areas (75%)
- #5) Dog park (74%)
- #6) Fireworks (72%)
- #7) Field sports (66%)

Lowest Priority ranking for youth are as follows:

- #8) Court sports (55%)
- #9) Skateboarding (54%)
- #10) Shuffleboard (46%)
- #11) Horseshoes (39%)

See Chart # 4 and
Activity Rank Table below:

Chart # 4: Important Recreation Activity Ranking



Question 4: Activity Rank Table

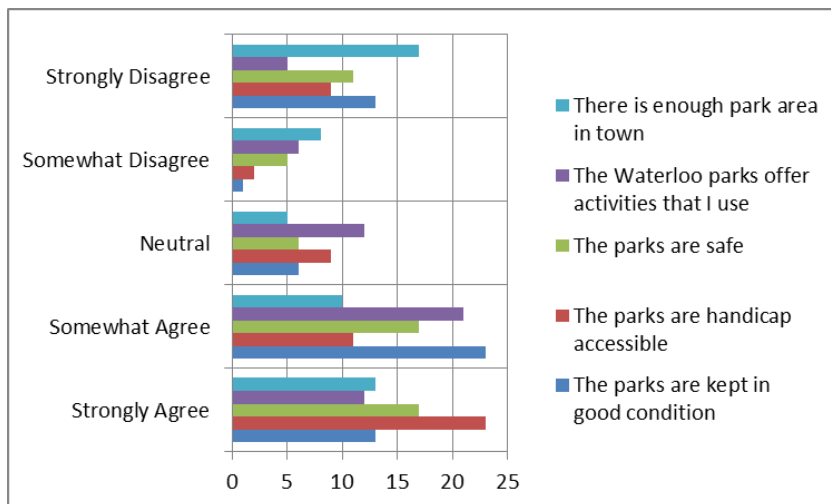
ACTIVITY RANK	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant	% (Very Important/Somewhat Important)
Splash pad	41	10	3	1	1	91%
Playground facilities (such as swings, slides, climbers)	43	8	3	3	0	89%
Trails/biking	35	7	7	4	3	75%
Picnic areas	27	14	9	2	3	75%
Dog park	34	9	11	2	2	74%
Fireworks	31	11	8	4	4	72%
Field sports (such as baseball, soccer, football)	23	15	8	7	5	66%
Court sports (such as basketball, tennis, volleyball)	17	15	11	9	6	55%
Skateboarding	17	11	9	5	10	54%
Shuffleboard	13	12	15	3	11	46%
Horseshoes	14	8	13	5	17	39%

Question 5: Rate the following statements in terms of the Waterloo park facilities:

Question 5: Facility Satisfaction Chart

The ranking of youth who “strongly agree” or “somewhat agree” with the following statements include:

- #1) Parks are in good condition (64%)
- #2) Parks are handicap accessible (63%)
- #3) Parks are safe (61%)
- #4) Park offers activities that I use (59%)
- #5) There is enough park area in town (43%).



Question 5: Facility Satisfaction Table

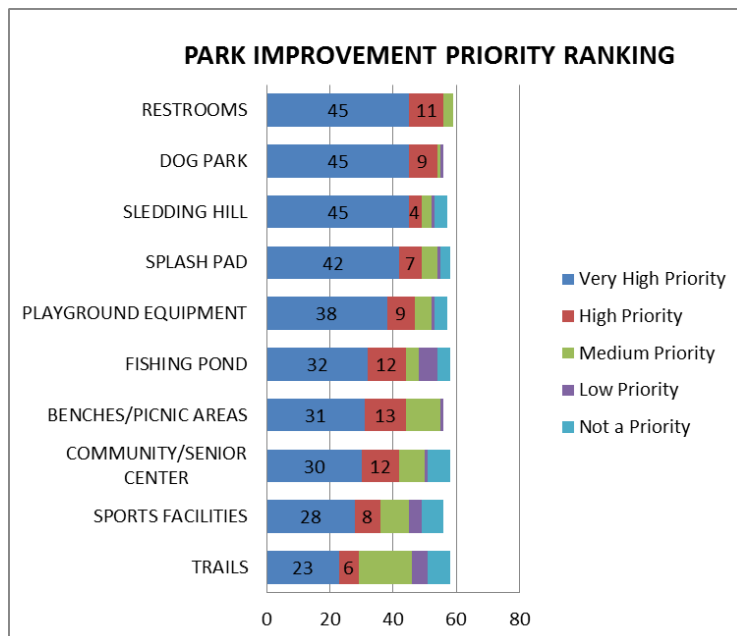
Rate the following statements in terms of the Waterloo park facilities:	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	% (Strongly Agree/Agree)
The parks are kept in good condition	13	23	6	1	13	64%
The parks are handicap accessible	23	11	9	2	9	63%
The parks are safe	17	17	6	5	11	61%
The Waterloo parks offer activities that I use	12	21	12	6	5	59%
There is enough park area in town	13	10	5	8	17	43%

Question 6: What priority are the following Improvements:

Question 6: Top Priority Rank Chart

The top list of park improvements desired by youth ranked as “very high” to “high” priorities are as follows:

- #1) Restroom facilities (95%)
 - #2) Dog park (94%)
 - #3) Sledding hill (86%)
 - #4) Splash pad (85%)
 - #5) Playground equipment (81%)
 - #6) Benches/picnic areas (77%)
 - #7) Fishing pond (75%)
- Lowest Priority ranking for youth are as follows:
- #8) Community center (71%)
 - #9) Sports facilities (63%)
 - #10) Adding trails was not as high a priority for the youth (only 50% ranked as a “very high” or high” priority)



Question 6: Top Priority Rank Table

What priority are the following Improvements:	Very High Priority	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Not a Priority
RESTROOMS	45	11	3	0	0
DOG PARK	45	9	1	1	0
SLEDDING HILL	45	4	3	1	4
SPLASH PAD	42	7	5	1	3
PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	38	9	5	1	4
BENCHES/PICNIC AREAS	31	13	11	1	0
FISHING POND	32	12	4	6	4
COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER	30	12	8	1	7
SPORTS FACILITIES	28	8	9	4	7
TRAILS	23	6	17	5	7

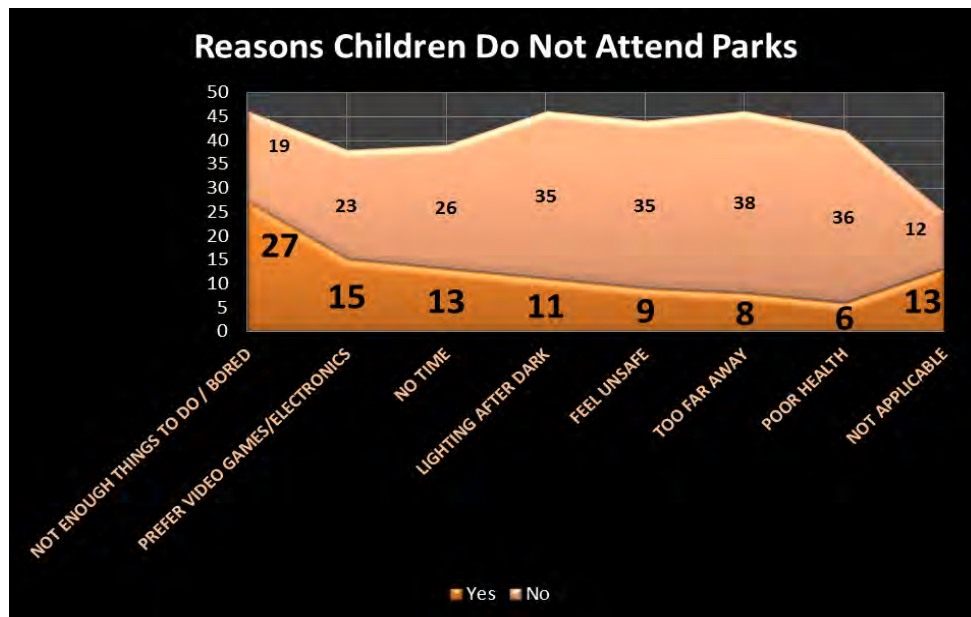
Question 7: If you do not attend any of the parks in Waterloo, check the answer(s) to best explain the reason(s) why (*at least one (1) row requires an answer).

Question 7: Youth Attendance Reasons Chart and Table

The top reasons for youth not attending a Waterloo Park is that there are not enough things to do/bored and that they prefer video/electronic activities.

The ranked order is as follows:

- #1) Not enough things to do/bored (56%)
- #2) Prefer video/electronic activities (29%)
- #3) No time (27%)
- #4) Poor lighting (19%)
- #5) Feel unsafe (19%)
- #6) Distance to parks (16%)
- #7) Poor health (12%)



Reason	Yes	No	Neutral
NOT ENOUGH THINGS TO DO / BORED	27	19	2
PREFER VIDEO GAMES/ELECTRONICS	15	23	13
NO TIME	13	26	10
LIGHTING AFTER DARK	11	35	6
FEEL UNSAFE	9	35	4
TOO FAR AWAY	8	38	5
POOR HEALTH	6	36	7
NOT APPLICABLE	13	12	10

Question 8: Who do you attend parks with?

As to be expected, the majority of children, (81%) attend parks with either family and/or friends.

(Note: some children answered more than one response to Question 8).

Who do you attend parks with?	Friends	Family	Other	Myself
Total	21	34	9	4

Question 9: Are you a boy or girl?

53.4% youth responses came from girls and 46.6% of responses came from boys (aged 9-12).

Are you a Boy or Girl?	Boy	Girl
TOTAL	27	31

4.5 Trail Survey

A trail survey conducted from 2017 to 2018 to assist with a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant application was used for the purposes of park planning as it included relevant data pertaining to the Waterloo parks and recreation system. The trail survey had a total of 24 responses. From this data, an estimated 61.9% or respondents use the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway weekly or once a month.

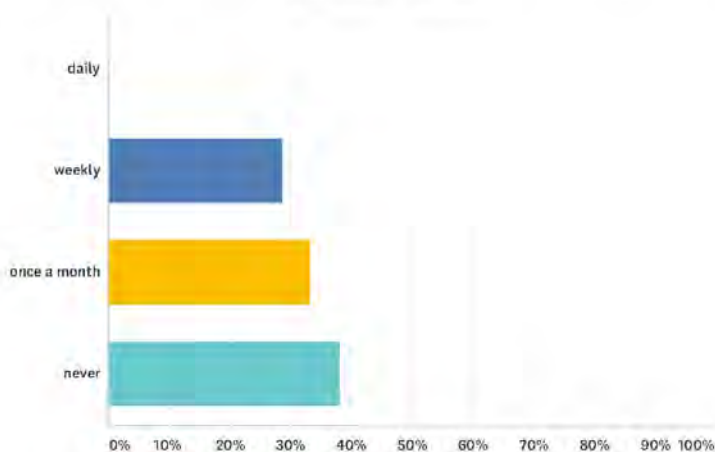
Question 1: How often do you use the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway?

Of those responding to the frequency of use, 31.3% said they use the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway once a month and 28.6% use it weekly. 38.1% of respondents never use the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway, and no respondents use the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway daily.

See Chart Q1

Q1 How often do you use the Auburn Waterloo Bikeway?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 3

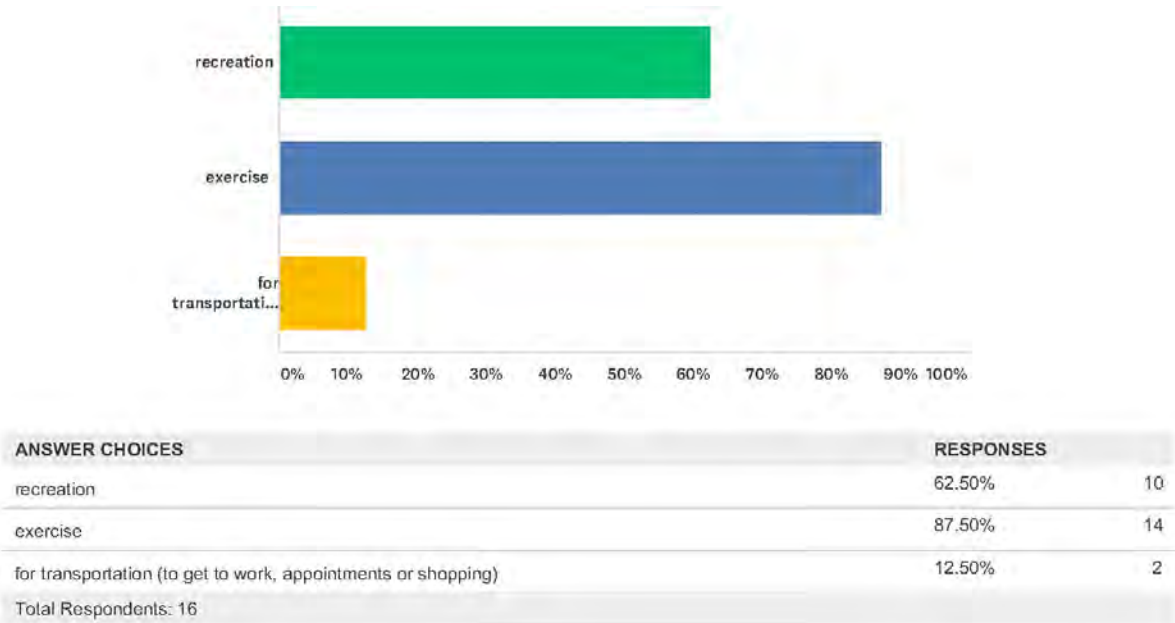


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
daily	0.00%	0
weekly	28.57%	6
once a month	33.33%	7
never	38.10%	8
TOTAL		21

Question 2: Why do you use the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway?

The majority of respondents use the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway for exercise (87.5%). Only two (2) respondents (12.8%) use the trail as a means for transportation for work, appointments, or shopping. **See Chart Q2**

Chart Q2

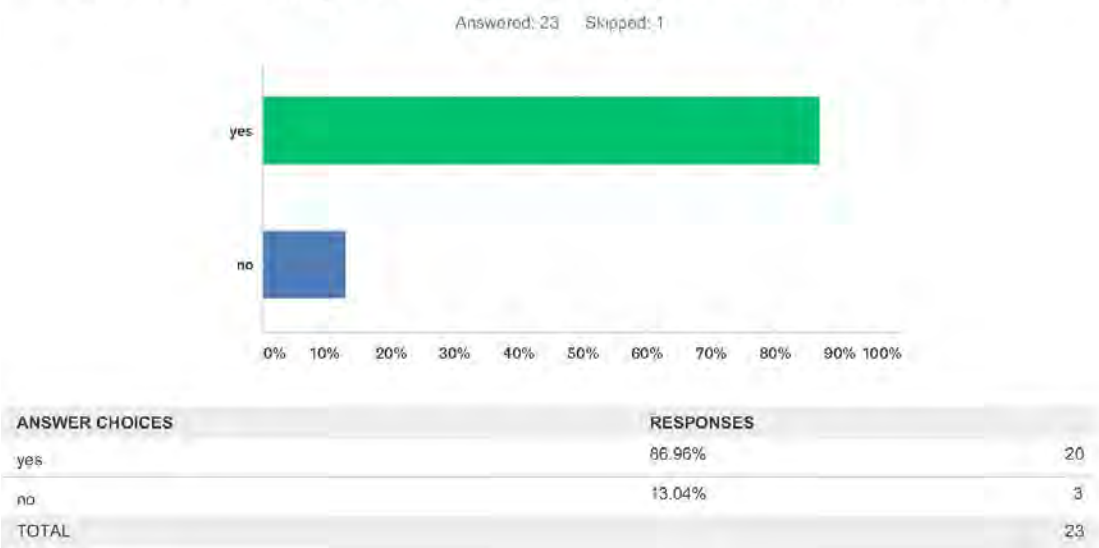


Question 3: Do you support the Town of Waterloo’s goal to extend the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway around CR 427/Wayne Street to Walnut Street?

The majority of respondents supported the Town of Waterloo’s goal to extend the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway into town (86.9%).

See Chart Q3

Q3 Do you support the Town of Waterloo's goal to extend the Auburn Waterloo Bikeway around CR 427/Wayne Street to Walnut Street?

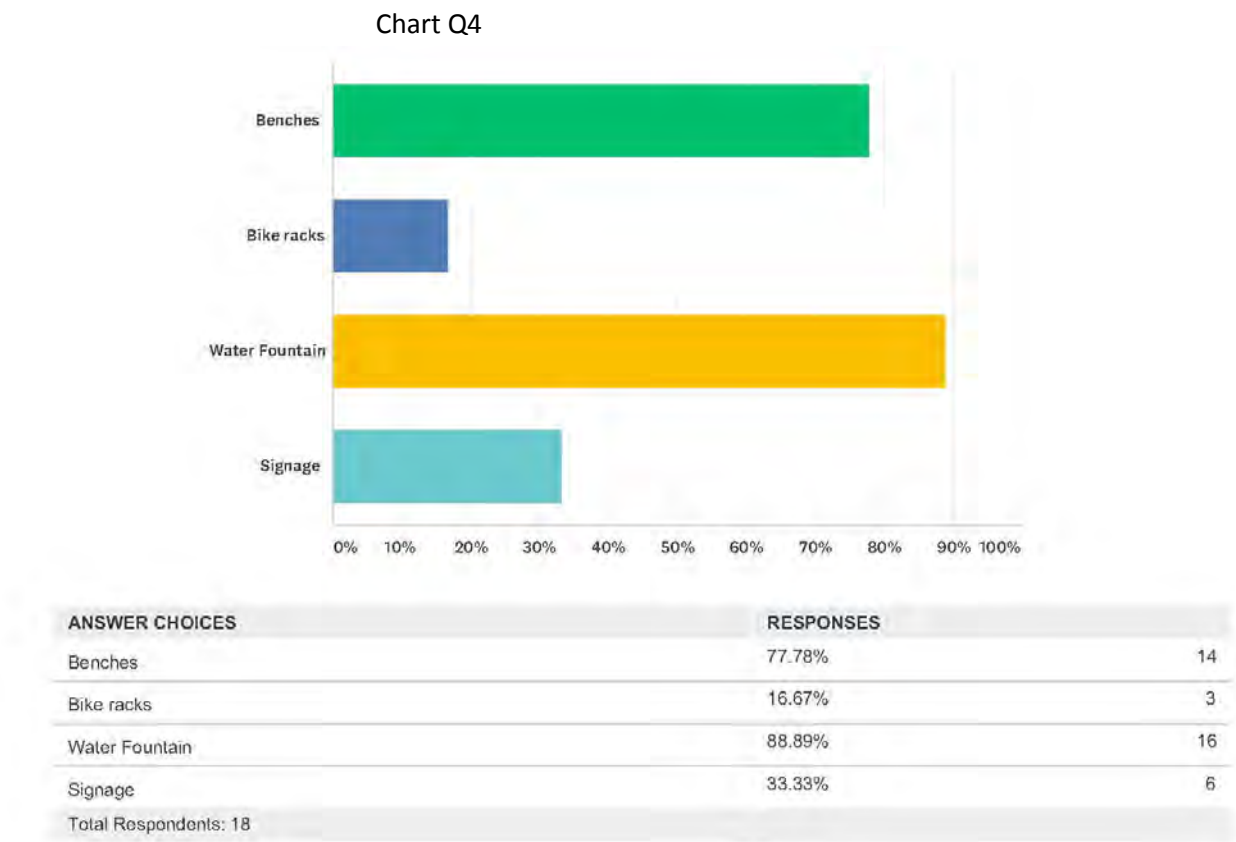


Question 4: What features do you use or would you like along the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway? Give ideas or suggestions:

The top needs identified for the trails extension are as follows:

- 1. Water fountain (89%)
- 2. Benches (78%)
- 3. Signage (33%)
- 4. Bike racks (17%)

See Chart Q4



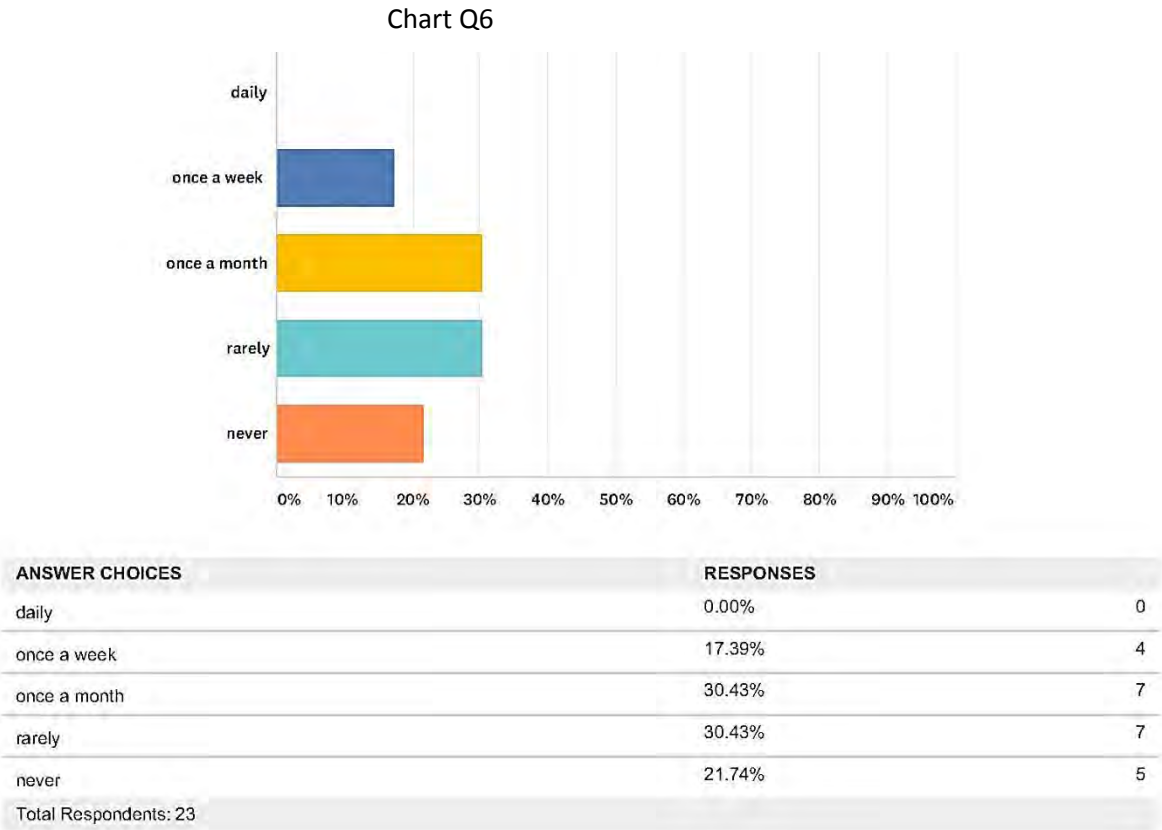
Question 5: Please give your ideas or suggestions for trails in Waterloo?

(Data currently unavailable)

Question 6: How often do you use a park in Waterloo?

The majority of respondents from the trails survey either use a park once a month or rarely (61%). Only 17% of respondents use the parks once a week and 22% never use the parks. No respondent from the trails survey said they use a park daily.

See Chart Q6

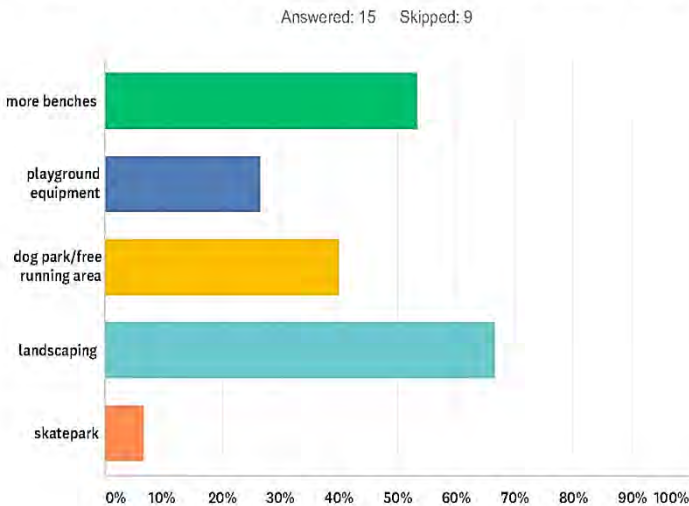


Question 7: The Park Board is making plans for the next 5 years. What do you want to see improved or added to Waterloo Parks?

In addition to the 86% approval of the trail extension, respondents preferred park improvements that included:

- (#1) Landscaping
 - (#2) Adding benches
 - (#3) Adding a dog park
 - (#4) Adding playground equipment
 - (#5) Adding a skate park
- (Note: Adding a skate park received only (1) response)

Q7 The Park Board is making plans for the next 5 years. What do you want to see improved or added to Waterloo Parks?



See Chart and Table Q7:

Table: Q7 Continued

Waterloo, IN Trail and Park Survey

SurveyMonkey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
more benches	53.33%	8
playground equipment	26.67%	4
dog park/free running area	40.00%	6
landscaping	66.67%	10
skatepark	6.67%	1
Total Respondents: 15		

Q8 Please add your ideas or suggestions for Waterloo Parks below:

Answered: 7 Skipped: 17

Question 8: Please add your ideas or suggestion for Waterloo Parks

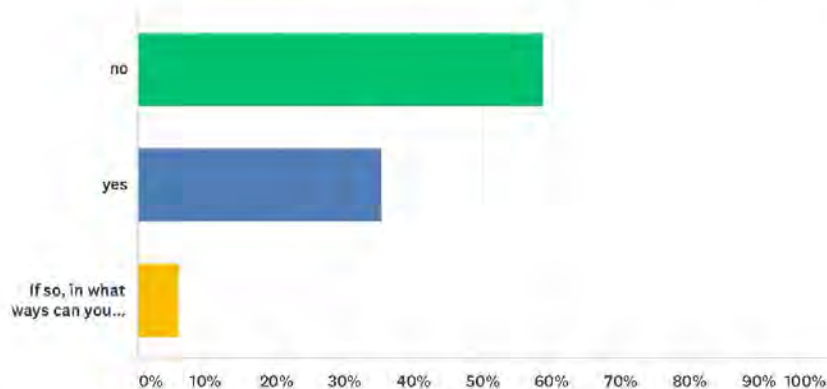
(Data currently unavailable)

Question 9: Are you interested in volunteering for Waterloo Parks & Trails?

Of those responding to Question 9, 58.2% said “no” to an interest in volunteering and 35.2% said “yes.” Seven respondents (7) skipped this question. **See Chart Q9**

Q9 Are you interested in volunteering for Waterloo Parks & Trails?

Answered: 17 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
no	58.82%	10
yes	35.29%	6
If so, in what ways can you help?	5.88%	1
TOTAL		17

4.6 Summary of Findings

A priority list of the top needs identified from a collection of three (3) public surveys for Waterloo Parks and Recreation is provided in Table 14 below:

Table 14: Survey Priority Lists

WATERLOO PARKS AND RECREATION: COMMUNITY SURVEYS					
2018 Adult Survey		2018 Youth Survey		2017 Trail Survey	
RANK	PRIORITY	RANK	PRIORITY	RANK	PRIORITY
1	Splash pad	1	Restroom facilities	1	Trails (87% approved)
2	Restroom facilities	2	Dog park	Other Park Needs:	
3	Benches/picnic areas	3	Sledding hill	2	Landscaping
4	Trails	4	Splash pad	3	Benches
5	Sledding hill	5	Playground equipment	4	Dog park
6	Playground facilities	6	Fishing pond	5	Playground equipment
7	Veterans Memorial	7	Benches/picnic areas	6	Skatepark
7	Dog park	8	Community center		
7	Exercise equipment	9	Sports facilities		
8	Fishing pond	10	Trails		
9	Sports facilities				

The top needs identified from two activities conducted at the November 14, 2018 public participation meeting are provided by rank in Table 15 below:

Table 15: Public Participation Priority Lists

November 14, 2018: Public Participation Meeting			
RANK	PRIORITY LIST	RANK	PRIORITY (BUY-IN ACTIVITY)
1	Picnic areas	1	Sledding hill/pond (Veterans Park)
2	Sledding hill/pond (Veterans Park)	2	Veterans Memorial/benches
3	Veterans Memorial w/benches	3	Splash pad
4	Dog park w/benches	4	Dog park w/benches
5	Parking area (Veterans Park)	5	Play areas (Veterans Park)
6	Splash pad	6	Picnic areas
7	Trails (Veterans Park)	7	Trails (Veterans Park)
8	Trees/planting	8	Parking area (Veterans Park)
9	ADA parking	9	ADA Parking
10	Restrooms	10	Trees/planting
11	Outdoor stage area	10	Restrooms
11	Play areas (Veterans Park)	10	Outdoor stage area

Each member from the Park Board was asked to rank their own top priorities for park improvements. These lists were then scored and combined to create a single list of the Board's top priorities. The results from seven (7) responding Park Board members are listed by rank in Table 16 below:

Table 16: Park Board Priority

2018 Park Board	
RANK	PRIORITY
1	Sledding hill/pond (Veterans Park)
2	Veterans Memorial w/benches
3	Parking area (Veterans Park)
4	Trails (Veterans Park)
4	Dog park w/benches
5	Trees/planting
6	Map board (Veterans Park)
7	Restrooms
8	ADA parking
9	Picnic areas
9	Outdoor stage area
10	Splash pad
11	Play areas (Veterans Park)
12	Signage
13	Maintenance Fund

4.7 Needs Analysis

Using information obtained from the Park Board, public surveys and participation, inventory assessment, as well census data and external sources; a summary of identified strengths and needs with implications for park planning is provided below:

Strengths:

- Small, focused department with only three parks to maintain/operate (has capacity and land area to expand);
- History of donations and volunteerism with a core group from which to draw help from;
- Dedicated Park Board with a sincere concern for the wellbeing and future development of the park system;
- Higher proportion of a veteran population with community support of a veterans memorial;
- Recently obtained a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant to help fund a desired trail connection to the Town of Waterloo;
- An estimated 70% of children use the facilities and over 60% agree that the parks are in good condition;
- Proactive Park Board that has overseen the creation of two (2) new parks since 2015 and implementation of successful funding campaigns: RTP, AWS and current pursuit of Patronicity funds to build a future Veterans Memorial Park;

- Since Waterloo has the third highest ridership of any Indiana train station with stops totaling 23,137 visitors; this increases the potential for park usage as well as creates opportunities and challenges for providing accommodations for a high-volume of visitors to town.

Needs Identified:

- Over 56% of school-aged children expressed a lack of things to do at area parks, or they are bored;
- Persons in DeKalb County, as a whole, may have fewer recreational opportunities than others found in the state, which may have implications for the Town of Waterloo;
- Waterloo's available parkland acreage is below the recommended "level of service" (LOS) standards of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR);
- A high population of pre-school aged and school-aged children would indicate an emphasis of youth-related activities and programming;
- Efforts to attract and retain older teens aged 15-19 and young adults aged 25-34 may have a significant impact to the future vitality of Waterloo;
- A higher proportion of a veteran population (10.2%) and current public input would indicate that a Veterans Memorial would be a desired park amenity for the Town of Waterloo;
- A higher proportion of disabled (22.3%) would indicate that ADA accommodations and activities are especially merited;
- A low median income with a higher level of unemployment in Waterloo would indicate that low and/or free activities and programming are very important;
- Noise from the Amtrak train has created interference with musical events located at FMTP, and options for an amphitheater or stage located further away from the train may provide additional venue opportunities (Note: additional feedback from the community would be beneficial);
- Limited and/or restricted restroom availability at area parks is a high priority as identified in public input (both adult and children) and could be affecting patronage; options and possible solutions should be considered;
- Community input indicated that picnic areas, sledding hill, fishing pond, and a dog park are high priorities; a strong desire for a splash pad was identified in surveys of adults and children;
- ADA accessible routes to playground areas at Pankop Park and Francis Thomson Memorial Park are needed to obtain compliance at both parks;
- ADA parking space(s) needed at gravel parking lot at Pankop Park to obtain compliance.

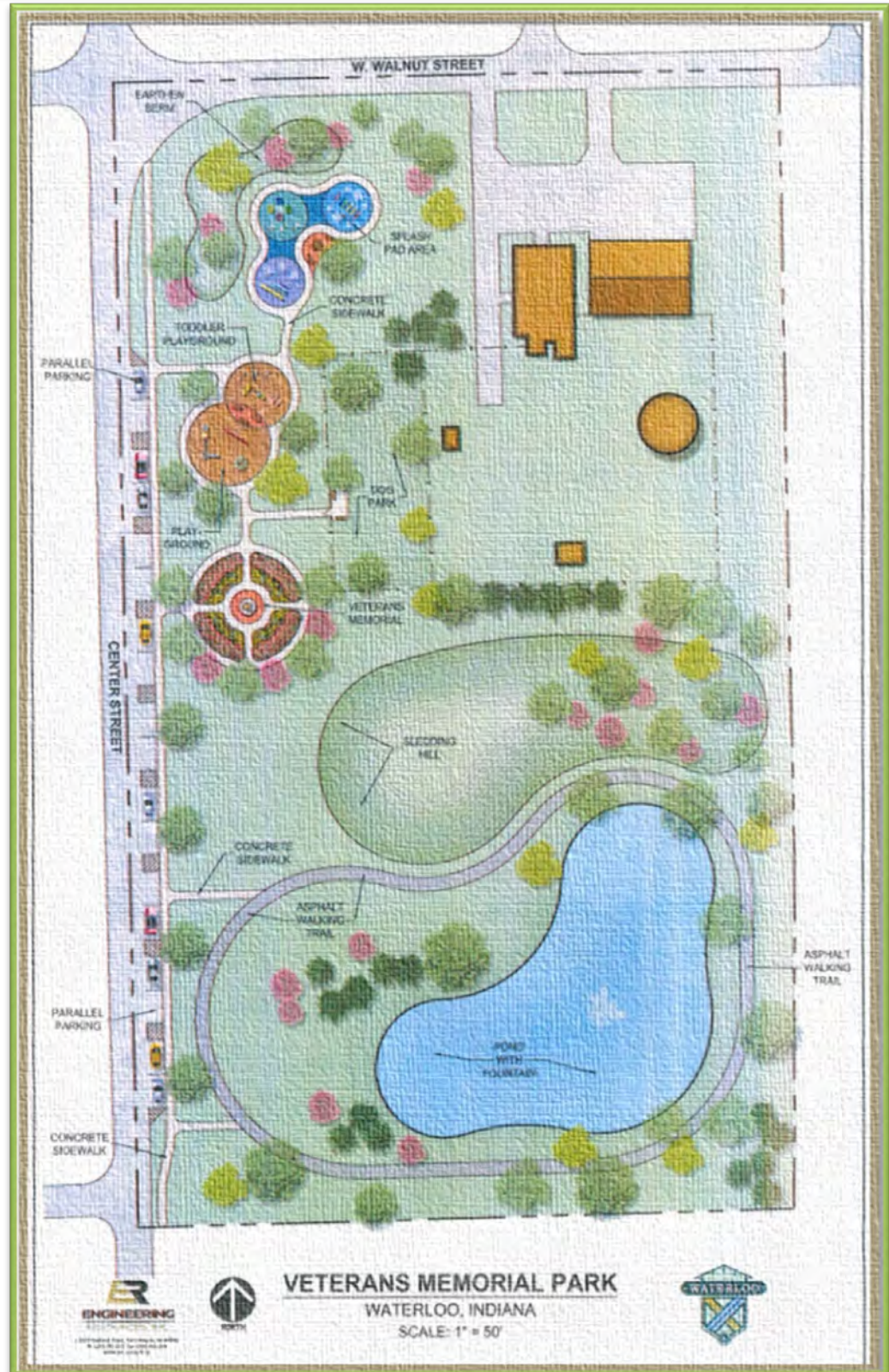
(See Table 17 for ADA requirements for playground components and accessible routes).

Table 17: ADA Accessible Route Matrix

ADA Number and Types of Ground Level Play Components Required to be on Accessible Route		
Number of Elevated Play Components Provided	Minimum Number of Ground Level Play Components Required to be on Accessible Route	Minimum Number of Different Types of Ground Level Play Components Required to be on Accessible Route
1	Not applicable	Not applicable
2 to 4	1	1
5 to 7	2	2
8 to 10	3	3
11 to 13	4	3
14 to 16	5	3
17 to 19	6	3
20 to 22	7	4
23 to 25	8	4
More than 25	8 plus 1 for each additional 3 over 25, or fraction thereof	5

Source: Guide to ADA Accessibility for Play Areas, website:
<http://www.playgroundregs.com/resources/ADA%20guide.pdf>

ACTION PLAN



4.7.1 Future Veterans Memorial Park

The future Veterans Memorial Park (VMP) will be located at the corner of West Walnut Street and Center Street on a 4.1 acre lot owned by the Town of Waterloo. The property is adjacent to the Water Department building and water tower, and it is within one-half mile proximity of every household within the corporate boundaries of Waterloo.

The needs identified through public input and park planning prompted the Park Board to consult an architect to provide a rendering of desired improvements to be constructed on bare land owned by the town.

The amenities proposed for the Veterans Memorial Park are as follows:

1. Trails
2. Fenced dog park
3. Veterans Memorial
4. Splash pad
5. Fishing pond
6. Sledding Hill
7. Parking area
8. Trees/plantings
9. Playground areas
10. Water fountain

Adding the proposed 4.1 acre VMP will more than double the amount of cumulative park acreage available in Waterloo: Currently, there is 3.6 acres of developed park area in town; Veterans Park will provide a cumulative total of 7.7 acres of park area available to the community.

Due to the estimated costs of the proposed VMP improvements and desire of the town to avoid additional assessments on property owners, the Park Board had researched grant and donation funding to build the desired park amenities.



Figure 21: Veterans Memorial Park Schematic

Source: Provided by the Town of Waterloo; Prepared by Engineering Resources, Inc., 2018

The Project Development Budget for Veterans Memorial Park has been divided into two phases and a breakdown of estimated costs is provided in Table 18 below:

Phase 1:

The first phase of the proposed VMP project is to build a dog park, dig the pond and sledding hill, conduct preliminary trail preparations, and install a map/design board to inform and promote the VMP project to the public. To help generate funding, the town initiated a *Crowdfunding Campaign* to inform the public of the ongoing efforts and encourage donations.

The *Crowdfunding Campaign* works in conjunction with 'Patronicity.com,' a website program that includes a 50/50 matching grant initiative through IHCD's *CreatINg Places* program.

The fundraising campaign was scheduled to launch March 2019 and end May 2019.

Phase 2:

The second phase will require additional funding and the town intends to pursue a DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant to assist with asphaltting the trail and parking lot, building a Veterans Memorial, and installing a water fountain, playground and splash pad amenities. Note: Restroom costs and design are pending.

Table 18: Veterans Memorial Park Budget

VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK DEVELOPMENT BUDGET			
PHASE BREAKDOWN			
ITEM	AMOUNT	PHASE 1	PHASE 2
Dog run fence (55' x 140')	\$6,500	\$6,500	
Digging pond/sledding hill	\$25,000	\$25,000	
Trail preparation	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Sledding hill shrubs, plants	\$700	\$700	
Trail asphalt	\$105,000	\$35,000	\$70,000
Parking lot	\$25,000		\$25,000
Benches	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Water fountain	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Environmental clearance	\$10,000	\$10,000	
Design/engineering	\$20,000		\$20,000
Map & Design Board	\$300	\$300	
Trees & Landscaping/NIPSCO			
Memorial and benches	\$10,000		\$10,000
Playground	\$25,000		\$25,000
Splash pad	\$75,000		\$75,000
Restrooms (Pending)			
Land for trail by Fellers	\$26,000		\$26,000
Maintenance Fund 10%	\$35,000		\$35,000
Total	\$388,500	\$97,500	\$291,000
CreatINg Places \Patronicity			
50/50 Grant		\$48,750	
Donations		\$48,750	
LWCF (50/50 Grant)			\$194,250
Balance			\$96,750

4.7.2 Future Auburn Waterloo Trail Connection

The Town of Waterloo recently received federal approval for a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant to construct a connecting trail to the existing Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway. The connecting trail will be approximately 3,400' along County Road (CR) 427 (Wayne Street) north of the existing bikeway trailhead. The trail extension will complete the connection between the City of Auburn and the Town of Waterloo to provide a safer and more efficient link between the two communities. The

Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway is a segment of the Poka-bache, the Indiana State Visionary Trail.



Figure 22: Trail Site Plan Map

Source: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Application Site Map

The proposed project will include the following:

1. 3,400' asphalt trail which is 8' wide connecting an existing 8' trail (part of the State Visionary Trail) and a 5' wide sidewalk through the Town of Waterloo;
2. Acquisition of approximately 750 sq. ft. of land currently owned by New Hope Christian Center, which will be utilized as a resting node
3. One ADA compliant park bench
4. One ADA compliant drinking fountain
5. One informational sign at the trailhead which will be approximately 4' x 4'
6. Trail guide provided via the Town of Waterloo website

The project will connect the sidewalk network within the Town of Waterloo to the exiting Auburn-Waterloo bikeway. Waterloo owns the right-of-way where the trail will be constructed so land acquisition is not necessary to complete the linear trail connection. There is, however, a need to include a resting node as the next closest resting area is approximately 1.4 miles south, or halfway between Waterloo and Auburn; therefore, approximately 750 sq. ft. of land will be acquired from New Hope Christian Center to install an ADA compliant bench and drinking fountain.

See **Table 19** the *Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway Connection Budget* provided on the following page:

Table 19: Auburn-Waterloo Trail Connection Budget

Town of Waterloo, Indiana 2018 DNR Recreational Trails Application Budget Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway Connection Project			
Item #	Description	Unit	Total Costs
1	Preliminary Expenses - Paid		\$5,966.00
	Preliminary Engineering, Right of Way preparations		
2	Land Acquisition (N/A)		\$4,000.00
	Approx. 750 sq. ft. at New Hope Christian Center	750 SF	
3	Architectural and Engineering Fees		
	Environmental Clearance (CE)		\$20,000.00
	Survey, Design, and Engineering		\$38,400.00
4	Construction of Trail		
	8' Wide Asphalt Trail	3400 LFT	\$176,000.00
5	Construction of Trail Facilities		
	Benches	1	\$1,000.00
	Drinking Fountain	1	\$4,634.00
6	Website Update		
	Digital Trail Maps and User Guide	1	\$0.00
	TOTAL		\$250,000.00
Budget Breakdown	RTP Grant (80%)		\$200,000.00
	Waterloo Local Match from CEDIT, Rainy Day, and Street Dept. (20%)		\$50,000.00

5.0 Action Plan

5.1 Level of Service

- Waterloo's total acres of local parks and recreation land is: 3.6 acres
- Waterloo's current population by the most recent U.S. Census is: 2,242 people
- Waterloo's park acreage per 1,000 people is: 1.6
- Waterloo currently has three (3) local parks for: 2,242 people
- DNR Level of Service recommendation ratio (for "local" recreation areas) is: 20 acres/1,000 people; or 44.9 acres /2,242 people
- *The Indiana Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2016-2020 (SCORP)* identified that DeKalb County "does not meet recommendations" for local outdoor recreation acres, by County (See Figure 23: Local Outdoor Recreation Acres, by County)
- The *National Recreation and Park Association 2016 (NRPA)* finds that jurisdictions with less than (<) 20,000 residents has one (1) park for every 1,335 people¹
- The National Recreation and Park Association 2016 (NRPA) acreage of parkland per 1,000 people: 10.6 acres/1,000 people; or ratio of 23.8 acres/2,242 people (for jurisdictions serving <20,000 residents)¹

1. Parks and Recreation National Database Report, National Recreation and Park Association, downloaded 1-3-19 from:

https://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Publications_and_Research/Research/Field-Report.pdf

Local Outdoor Recreation Acres, by County



Figure 23: Outdoor Recreation Acres, by County Map

(Source: *The Indiana Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2016-20*
Website: <https://www.in.gov/dnr/outdoor/files/chap3.pdf>)

What are Level-of-Service Standards?

Level-of-service (LOS) standards are measures of the minimum amount of a public facility which must be provided to meet that community's basic needs and expectations. LOS measures are typically expressed as ratios of facility capacity to the number of users. For example, a community may set a standard for how many park acres are needed per 1000 population. Once a community establishes LOS, they are used to measure whether existing facilities and services are adequate to serve its citizens, or whether there are deficiencies that should be corrected. They also serve as yardsticks to measure whether existing capacity is adequate to handle new development, or to determine what facility improvements will be required to avoid overloading existing facilities. As the community grows in population, LOS assures that facilities and services will keep pace with that growth.

The definition of "adequate" facilities and services will vary even among similar-sized communities. For instance, "adequate" park acreage will vary depending on the percentage of seniors or youth, the natural assets such as lakes or beaches, and other factors. If the existing ratio of park acreage to population seems adequate to residents, those ratios may serve well as standards for the future. If there are waitlists for the use of playfields and swimming pools, residents may want higher standards.

Source: MRSC Local Government Success

5.1.1 Level of Service-Accessibility

Highways, railroads, and natural features can potentially decrease the Level of Service (LOS) and act as physical barriers. U.S. Highway 6, which is an east-west highway, divides the northern portion of Waterloo from the downtown. In addition, the Norfolk Southern railroad runs along an east-west route through the center of town, just south of Van Vleet Street and Francis Thomson Memorial Park. While there are pedestrian crossings for the rail line, they can act as potential barriers limiting pedestrian access to the park system. Using the seven “Principles of Universal Design” (equitable use, flexibility in use, simple and intuitive use, perceptible information, tolerance for error, low physical effort, and size and space for approach and use) can help to improve accessibility and usability of local facilities (“The Principles of Universal Design” by: The U.S. Access Board, website, <https://www.access-board.gov>).

5.2 Previous Plans

The last Waterloo Parks and Recreation Five Year Master Plan was completed in January 1990 for the period of 1989 to 1994. The plan’s Action Register and the status of completed tasks are listed below:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>Completed /Not Completed</u>
1989	Form a Park Board under IC36-10-3	Completed
1989	Develop a 5 Year Master Plan	Completed
1990	Enter Cooperative Agreements with organized park users	**
1990	Develop annual budget and funding sources	Completed
1990	Initiate recreational programs:	**
	1. Band concerts	**
	2. Adolescents’ sports	**
	3. Arts and crafts	**
1990	Upgrade Existing Waterloo Park	Completed
	1. Restrooms	Completed
	2. Playground equipment	Completed
	Basketball/Volleyball (Basketball courts only)	Completed
1990-91	Develop park/reforestation on existing Town property	Completed
	1. Playground equipment	Completed
	2. Tennis courts	Not Completed
	3. Trees	Completed
1991-92	Acquire property adjacent to School ball diamonds and construct additional diamond, parking, restrooms	Not Completed
1991-93	Acquire property adjacent to Cedar Creek (flood prone) and Develop for park: (Campgrounds, Pond, Access road/parking/reforestation)	Not Completed
1992-94	Acquire abandoned R.R. right-of ways and other properties suitable for trail development. Make necessary improvements	Completed

(** indicates the information is currently unavailable at the time of this review)

5.3 Progress Report

Since the Waterloo Parks and Recreation Board was reestablished in 2014, the Board has worked diligently to make improvements to local parks. The *Progress Report* provides an itemized list of improvements that include: costs of completed improvements; funding sources utilized; and estimated costs and funding sources of pending projects scheduled for 2019-2020.

See Table 20 below:

Table 20: Progress Report

Progress Report			
Waterloo Parks and Recreation Department (2013-2018)			
YEAR	IMPROVEMENT	Funding Source	Estimated Cost
2013	Land donation to build Pankop Park - 10/2/13 (Assessed Value \$19,900 + \$22,600)	Donation	\$ 42,500
	2013 Subtotal		\$ 42,500
2014	Call out for new Park Board (10-29-14)	N/A	\$ -
	Pankop Park (clear land)	Local	\$ -
	2014 Subtotal		\$ -
2015	Picnic tables / Pankop Park	Park/Local	\$ 2,000
	Signage / Pankop Park	Park/Local	\$ 400
	Fire Damage Demolition / FTMP	Park/Local	\$ 950
	Rebuild Francis Thomson Memorial Park (Re-opened October 2015)	Insurance	\$ 192,000
	Labor to rebuild FTMP (Appx. 900 volunteer hrs. 15 shifts: Sept. 22 to Sept. 30)	Volunteer	\$ -
	2015 Subtotal		\$ 195,350
2016	Held Public Forum to determine goals for Pankop Park	Local	\$ -
	Installed playground at Pankop Park (playset with swings)	Park/Local	\$ 852
	Added 2 handicap parking w/new curb at FTMP (May 2016)	Local/Streets	N/A
	Installed ADA ASTM certified rubber flooring / FTMP by AWS Foundation	Grant	\$ 25,000
	Installed 134' X 6' high fence along Rope Street @ Pankop Park by Comm. Foundation	Donation	\$ 2,900
	Eagle Park - Assessed Value for 66' X 125' lot by Redevelopment Commission	Local	\$ 21,650
	Added a vacant lot to Eagle Park on Wayne Street (Assessed Value for 19'X 125' lot)	Local	\$ 6,230
	Installed new security camera destroyed by lightning / FTMP	Insurance	N/A
	GME Soil Testing - (Skate park) by A & Z Engineering	Donation	\$ 1,250
	Poured cement for pavilion at PanKop Park by Henderson Construction donation	Donation	\$ 5,000
	2016 Subtotal		\$ 62,882
2017	Build fence @ Pankop Park (6' green coated fencing) by Arrow Fence	Local/Donation	\$ 2,900
	Held "United Day of Caring" at Pankop Park (ribbon cutting)	Local	\$ -
	Constructed a 15' x 25' Pavilion at Pankop Park by NUCOR	Donation	\$ 2,000
	Applied for RTP trail grant - Auburn/Waterloo Bikeway connection (1st Application)	In-Kind	\$ -
	2017 Subtotal		\$ 4,900
2018	Applied for RTP trail grant - Auburn/Waterloo Bikeway connection (2nd Application)	NIRCC	\$ -
	Awarded RTP Trail Grant: (\$200,000 RTP) (\$50,000 Local funds)	N/A	\$ -
	Start 5-Year Master Plan (July 2018)	NIRCC	\$ -
	Rubber mulch installed @ Pankop Park	Park/Local	\$ 600
	Roof for slides installed @ Pankop Park	Donation	\$ -
	Veterans Memorial Park schematic and budget - Engineering Resources Inc. (ERI)	Park/Local	\$ 2,800
	2018 Subtotal		\$ 3,400
	Subtotal: Completed Projects		\$ 309,032
2019	Connecting trail extension between Auburn/Waterloo (RTP /Local funds)	RTP Grant/Local	\$ 250,000
	Plant 10 trees (NIPSCO donation)	Donation	\$ -
2019-20	Phase 1: Veteran Memorial Park (Dog park fence, pond/sledding hill, trail prep)	Grant/Local	\$ 97,500
	Subtotal: Pending Projects		\$ 347,500
	TOTAL		\$ 656,532

5.4 Priorities

With information provided by public participation and the Park Board priority lists compiled, the Board, as a group, considered all the issues presented to them. Through discussion, they created a priority ranking list (ranging from priority levels of 1 to 3) to reflect the Board's wishes for the next five years. As they did this, they worked to create a list that was as realistic as possible, but keeping in mind to balance larger projects against smaller ones that were easier to accomplish. The Park Board Priority Rank is provided in the bulleted list below:

Park Board Priority Rank

Rank # 1

- Phase 1 and 2 - Veterans Memorial Park Development Project
- Administer RTP grant – Trail Extension
- Submit LWCF application – VMP
- Patronicity fundraising website administration - VMP
- Trail extension – Waterloo-Auburn Connection
- Tree plantings – VMP
- ADA firm/stable route – Francis Thomson Memorial Park (FTMP)
- Picket fence sales – FTMP
- Create/sustain maintenance fund – All Parks
- Add ADA mulch – Pankop Park
- Install roof for slides – Pankop Park
- Annual safety inspections – All Parks
- Restrooms research and implementation plan – To Be Determined
- Conduct monthly Board meetings and appoint members per Park Ordinance – Administrative
- Renewal of a 5-Year Master Plan for 2024 – Administrative
- Park grounds maintenance equipment & supply needs – All Parks

Rank # 2

- Add activity – Pankop Park
- Add grill – Pankop Park
- Evaluate programming efforts and assess park needs – Administrative
- Bike racks (relocate from Waterloo Library) - VMP
- Bury/re-route overhead lines per DNR/LWCF recommendations – VMP
- Trailhead signage – Waterloo-Auburn Connection
- Paint restrooms – FTMP
- Update bandstand area – FTMP
- Add picnic areas – To be Determined
- Fireworks – VMP
- Bell tower maintenance – FTMP

Rank # 3

- Splash pad – VMP
- Amphitheatre / outdoor stage area – To be Determined

Note: The ability to accomplish Phase 1 and 2 of the VMP is contingent upon the success of acquiring sufficient grant funds and donations to cover anticipated costs. Additionally, the priorities the Board placed in rank # 3 were not unanimous due to concerns with the costs to install and maintain these activities– thus the splash pad and amphitheater were ranked a lesser priority.

5.5 Action Plan

The Park Board Action Plan, cost projections and implementation schedule are outlined in Table 21 (A, B) below:

Table 21 A: Action Plan

ACTION PLAN-5-YEAR COST PROJECTION							
Priority Rank	ACTION ITEM	IMPLEMENTATION YEARS AND ESTIMATED COSTS					Potential Funding Source
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
		VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS					
		STAGE 1		STAGE 2			
1	Map Board	\$300					PG/D
1	Environmental Clearance	\$10,000					PG/D
1	Fishing Pond	\$25,000					PG/D
	Sledding Hill						
1	Fenced Dog Park	\$6,500					PG/D
1	Shrubs/Plantings @ Sledding Hill	\$700					PG/D
1	Drinking Fountain	\$5,000					PG/D
1	Trail Preparation (leveling for asphalt)	\$10,000					PG/D
1	Acquire Land / Trails			\$26,000			LWCF/D
1	Benches: 2 Phases	\$5,000		\$5,000			LWCF/D
1	Asphalt Trail: 2 Phases	\$35,000		\$70,000			LWCF/D
1	Design/Engineering			\$20,000			LWCF/D
1	Playground			\$25,000			LWCF/D
3	Splash Pad			\$75,000			LWCF/D
1	Memorial/Benches			\$10,000			LWCF/D
1	Parking Lot			\$25,000			LWCF/D
2	Bury/Re-route Overhead Lines (VMP)			✓			Admin/NIPSCO
1	Plant 10 Trees	✓					NIPSCO/ GD
2	Bike Racks	✓					Relocate from Library
VMP Cost Projections:		\$97,500		\$256,000			\$353,500
TRAIL EXTENSION IMPROVEMENTS							
1	Waterloo/Auburn Trail Extension	\$ 250,000					RTP Grant/Local
2	Trailhead Signage	TBD					PB
Trail Cost Projections:		\$250,000					\$250,000
FRANCIS THOMPSON MEMORIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS							
2	Paint Bathrooms	✓					Admin/PB
2	Add Picnic Areas			*TBD			PB
1	ADA Stable Route Extension/Parking		✓				Admin/PB
2	Bell Tower Maintenance	✓					Admin/PB
2	Update Bandstand				✓		PB
PANKOP PARK IMPROVEMENTS							
1	ADA Mulch /Playground	\$600					Admin/PB
2	Add Grill		\$120				Admin/PB
1	Install Roof on Slides	✓					PB
Pankop Cost Projections		\$600	\$120				\$720
Subtotal:		\$348,100	\$120	\$256,000			\$604,220

Table 21 B: Action Plan - continued

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK PROGRAM							
Priority Rank	ACTION ITEM	IMPLEMENTATION YEARS AND ESTIMATED COSTS					Potential Funding Source
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
PROPOSED PROGRAMMING							
2	Fireworks: VMP					TBD	PB/D
2	Add Activity at Pankop Park				✓		PB/D
1	Picket Fence Sales	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Admin/Ongoing
ADMINISTRATIVE SCHEDULE							
1	Create & Sustain VMP Maintenance Fund	✓	✓	\$35,000	✓	✓	LWCF/D
1	Playground Maintenance & Safety Inspections	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Admin/PB
1	Restrooms (Research Options/Costs)	✓	✓				Admin/PB
1	Restroom Implementation Plan			✓	✓		Admin/PB
3	Amphitheater/Outdoor Stage (Options/Need)			✓	✓		Admin
1	Apply for LWCF		✓				Admin/PB
1	Implement/Administer RTP & LWCF Grant(s) as needed (TBD)	✓	✓	✓	✓		Admin/PB
1	Park Grounds Maintenance Equipment & Supply Needs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Admin/PB
2	Evaluate Programming Efforts and Assess Park Needs				✓	✓	Admin
1	Schedule Master Plan Renewal for 2024					✓	Admin/PB
1	Conduct Monthly Board Meetings & Appoint Board Members per Park Ordinance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Admin/Ongoing
Administrative:				\$35,000			\$ 35,000
TOTAL COSTS		\$ 347,500		\$291,000			\$ 638,500
Funding Key: LWCF = Land and Water Conservation Fund; G=Grant; PB = Park Budget D = Donations; RTP = Recreational Trails Program Grant; PG/D = Patronicity 50-50 Grant/Donations Admin/PB = In-house Administration/Park Budget ✓ = Tasks to be addressed, but cost not established; TBD = To Be Determined *Estimate based on average cost							

5.6 Plan Evaluation

The plan should be reviewed at the first Park Board meeting of the calendar year to determine if the priorities established for each year are still appropriate and in accord with the desires of the Board. After five years, this plan will expire and a new plan should be drafted to maintain congruence between departmental development and town priorities.

5.7 Potential Funding Sources

The ability to accomplish many of the priorities and actions outlined in the Action Plan is contingent on the success of acquiring sufficient grant funds and donations to cover the anticipated costs. A list of potential funding sources is provided as a reference for the Board to use in making appropriate decisions. See Tables 22 (A, B, and C) below:

Table 22 A: Funding Sources (Financing Tools)

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES				
FINANCING TOOLS	TYPE OF FUNDS	DESCRIPTION	USES	TIMEFRAME
	Bond-General Obligation	Loan taken out against the value of taxable property	Park, open space, and recreation: acquisition and capital improvements	Typically issued for 15, 20 or 30 years
	Bond-Revenue	Loan paid from the proceeds of a tax levied for the use of a specific public project, or with the proceeds of fees charged to those who use the facility that the bonds finance	Park, open space, and recreation: acquisition and capital improvements Bonds are typically	Typically issued for 15, 20 or 30 years
	Income Tax	Tax on individual income	Park: acquisition, maintenance, and capital improvements	Ongoing
	Park Impact Fee	One-time fee to off-set costs of infrastructure caused by new development	Park, open space, and recreation: acquisition and development	One-time cost to developer
	Property Tax	Tax on real property	Park, open space, and recreation: maintenance, operations, and capital improvements	Tax ongoing or increased for a defined time period
	Real Estate Transfer Tax	Tax on the sale of property	Park and open space: acquisition (proceeds are often deposited into land banks)	One-time cost to home seller or buyer
	Sales & Use Tax	Tax on the sale of goods or services	Park, open space, and recreation: maintenance, operations, acquisition, and capital improvements	Tax ongoing or increased for a defined time period
	Special Assessment District	Separate units of government that manage specific resources within defined boundaries	Park, open space, and recreation: maintenance, operations, acquisition, and capital improvements	Tax ongoing or increased for a defined time period
	User Fee	Fees that cover costs of service	Park, open space, and recreation: maintenance and operations	One-time cost to user
	Tax Increment Financing	Financing mechanism used to stimulate economic development in a blighted area	Park: acquisition and capital improvements	Normally a duration of 20 to 30 years

Table 22 B: Funding Sources (Grants/Other)

GRANTS & OTHER PROGRAMS				
GRANT PROGRAMS	PROGRAM/SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	MIN/MAX AMOUNT	TIMEFRAME
	Recreational Trails Program (RTP): Federal (DNR) 80/20 MATCH	Applications may include land acquisition and/or development, maintenance, and ethics education of multi-use trails	\$10,000-\$200,000	Applications due by May 1st
	Land & Water Conservation Fund: Federal (LWCF) 50/50 MATCH - (Only park and recreation boards established under Indiana law are eligible)	Applications may consist of land acquisition and/or outdoor recreation facility construction or renovation.	\$50,000 - \$250,000	Applications due by June 1
	CreAtIng Places: State (IHCD) 50/50 Match	As a place-based crowd-granting program, CreAtIng Places empowers the public - residents, businesses and community organizations - to play a role in achieving community improvements and building community pride.	\$5,000 - \$50,000	Varies
	Quick Impact Place based (QulP): State (IOCRA) 50/50 Match	Alley activation / art alley; Creative project to showcase community identity; Enhancement of existing or underutilized public assets into a new or usable space; Interactive life-size games or game sheds for public use; Pop-up public gathering spots	\$2,500 - \$5,000	Varies (2019 due March 8)
	Community Facilities Direct Loan/Grant Program-Federal (USDA)	Provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area	Funds vary on availability - Used for small communities with a population of 5,500 or less: Low-income communities having a median household income below 80% of the state nonmetropolitan median household income.	Indiana Director: Michael R. Dora 5975 Lakeside Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46278 VM: (317) 290-3100 Fax: (855) 541-9018 www.rd.usda.gov/in
	AWS Foundation	Focus is specific to individuals with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities. Priorities Include: Social Enrichment, Education & Employment, Transportation, Early Diagnosis of disabilities & Housing	Varies: Grants > \$50,000 = Letter of Intent (LOI) / Grants < \$2,500 simple application	Applications accepted any time throughout the year. (Limit 1 application per year).
	Dekko Foundation: Indiana (Available in DeKalb, LaGrange, Kosciusko, Noble, Steuben, and Whitley Counties)	Child Development Focus Dekko "is all about ensuring that children have the developmental experiences that they need, at the time that they need them, to build that foundation of independence"	Varies: Contact Dekko Foundation (Call 260-347-1278 for details)	No Deadline - 90 day proposal Website: http://www.dekkofoundation.org
OTHER	The Nutro Company ROOM TO RUN Dog Park Appreciation Project: Corporate program	To create dog parks and off-leash areas for more suitable facilities for pets and pet owners	Varies: Projects have included landscaping and adding trees and other shade structures, as well as adding benches, agility equipment, signage and more for the enjoyment of	Varies - Contact website: https://www.nutro.com/about-us/nutro-community-initiatives
	Maintenance Endowments	Created and administered by Community Foundation and established as Designated Fund & included in the finance formula	For a developed parkland project: a \$3,000 per year budget (per acre of park)	Varies
	Naming Rights / Sponsorships	Donor Funds: dedicated to the acquisition and/or development of a park feature	Park facility, paid for and named for the sponsor (can be assured w/maintenance endowment)	Varies

Source: Permission to reproduce portions, *City of Kendallville 2013-18 5-Year Master Park Plan*

Table 22 C: Funding Sources (Local)

LOCAL FUNDING		
LOCAL	TYPE OF FUNDS	DESCRIPTION
	Parks and Recreation General Budget	Annual tax allocations from the General Tax Levy, Auto- Air Excise Tax and other local funding could be utilized for both staffing and financing capital improvements within the Park and Recreation Department. However, general tax dollars may be limited or unavailable for extensive capital improvements.
	Non-Reverting Account Funds	Monies collected from certain fees and rentals can be placed in one of two non-reverting accounts. Funds are available from the Non-Reverting Operating Account to offset operation costs from administration of programs within the Park and Recreation Department. Funds from the Non-Reverting Capital Account are available for capital improvements in the Park and Recreation Department.
	Gifts and Donations Fund	Donations of money, land and time are important resources to any Park and Recreation Department. Donations are important from the point that they can be used to match grants from other sources.
	Lease Purchase	This is a traditional mechanism used to finance capital projects including equipment and vehicles. City Council must annually levy a tax payable from property taxes sufficient to pay lease rentals; except that the levy may be reduced any year to the extent other money is pledged or available for the payment of the lease rentals (I.C. 36-10-1).
	Cumulative Capital Improvement Funds	The Park and Recreation Law (36-10-3-20) allows money to be placed in a fund for the purposes of acquiring land or making specific capital improvements. The Park and Recreation Department can also make requests to the Council for funds from the general CCI Fund for specific projects. (Note: A CCI Fund cannot be established if a Recreational Impact Fee is in place)
	Recreational Impact Fees	In 1991, the Indiana General Assembly passed an impact fee bill that created an alternative funding mechanism for infrastructure improvements in fast growing areas. The essence of the legislation was to allow local governments the option of passing onto new residents the costs of building the new infrastructure expected by those same residents
Source: Permission to reproduce, <i>City of Kendallville 2013-18 5-Year Master Park Plan</i>		

APPENDICES



6.0 Appendices

6.1 Section 504 Compliance Form



**ASSURANCE OF ACCESSIBILITY COMPLIANCE WITH:
ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS ACT of 1968 (As Amended);
SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (As Amended);
AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990
(As Amended)**

The Waterloo Park Board (Applicant) has read the guidelines for compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (As Amended); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (As Amended); and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (As Amended) and will comply with the applicable requirements of these Acts.

SIGNATURE: _____

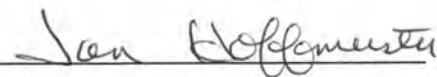


APPLICANT PRESIDENT

Ed McDowd

(President's printed name)

SIGNATURE: _____



Jan Hoffmeister

(Secretary's printed name)

DATE: March 13, 2019

6.1.1 Non-discrimination Notice

Non-discrimination Notice

In accordance with the requirements of title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the **Town of Waterloo** will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment: **Town of Waterloo** does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under title I of the ADA.

Effective Communication: **Town of Waterloo** will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in **Town of Waterloo** programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

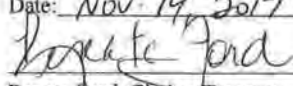
Modifications to Policies and Procedures: **Town of Waterloo** will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in **Town of Waterloo** offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

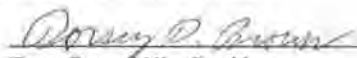
Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of **Town of Waterloo**, should contact the office of the Town Manager at the Town Hall at 280 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, IN 46793, 260-837-7428 as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

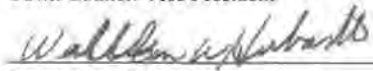
The ADA does not require the **Town of Waterloo** to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

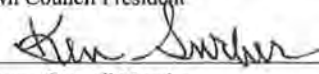
Complaints that a program, service, or activity of **Town of Waterloo** is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to *the Town Manager at the Town Hall at 280 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, IN 46793, 260-837-7428.*


Town of Waterloo will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

Date: Nov. 14, 2017

Renata Ford, Clerk - Treasurer


Town Council Vice President


Town Council Member

Town Council President

Town Council Member


Town Council Member

6.2 Board Resolution



RESOLUTION WATERLOO PARK BOARD

WHEREAS, the Waterloo Park Board, organized and existing under the laws of Indiana, and having its principal place of business at 280 S. Wayne Street Waterloo, Indiana, 46793; and

WHEREAS, the Board is aware of the parks and recreation needs of the residents of the Town of Waterloo; and

WHEREAS, the Board realizes the importance of sound planning in order to meet the needs of its residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE WATERLOO PARK AND RECREATION BOARD, by unanimous declaration, does adopt the Waterloo Park and Recreation Master Plan as its official plan for the next five years, for the growth and development of parks and recreational opportunities in the Town of Waterloo, and which, a copy will be made available at the Waterloo-Grant Township Public Library and the Town of Waterloo Community website.

Adopted and signed the 13th day of March, 2019.

WATERLOO PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

President

Vice President

Member

Member

Member

Member

Attested:

Board Secretary

6.3 Adult Survey

Town of Waterloo Parks and Recreation Survey

Thank you for taking a moment of your time to provide input on the town parks. Your answers will help the Park Board complete its five-year plan for the parks. **We value your perspective!**

Q1. On average, how often do members of your family use a park facility in the Town of Waterloo?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Once a year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal Sports |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once a month | <input type="checkbox"/> Never |

Q2. How satisfied are you with the quality of the Waterloo town parks?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> Dissatisfied |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> Very dissatisfied |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral-neither satisfied or dissatisfied | |

Q3. In your household, who is the most frequent user of park facilities in the Town of Waterloo?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teenagers | <input type="checkbox"/> We do not use parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adults | |

Q4. How important is it to your household that the Waterloo Parks & Recreation provide the following:

Activity/Facility	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Somewhat <u>Un</u> important	Very <u>Un</u> important
Court Sports (such as Basketball, Tennis, Volleyball)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Field sports (such as baseball, soccer, football)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fireworks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horseshoes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Picnic Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playground facilities (swings, slides, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skateboarding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shuffleboard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Splash Pad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trails / Biking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (Please explain) _____

Q5. Rate the following statements in terms of the Waterloo park facilities:

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The Waterloo parks offer programs that my household uses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The parks are kept in good condition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The parks are handicap accessible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is enough park area in town	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The parks are safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q6. What priority are the following Improvements:

Description	Very High Priority	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Not a Priority
Adding more trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding playground equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding sports facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding a community center/senior center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding a splash pad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving restroom facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding more benches/picnic areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog Park/free running area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding more community festivals and activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (Please explain)_____

Q7. If you do not frequent any of the Parks in Waterloo, check the answer(s) that best explain the reason(s) why (*at least one (1) row requires an answer).

Reason	Yes	No	Neutral
Lack of time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks are too far away	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Park and equipment is not handicap accessible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of Interest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor Health/Mobility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feel unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facilities lack desired activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not Applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (Pleases explain)_____

Q8. To cover the ongoing costs of a new splash pad at Veterans Park and/or trails, what funding source(s) would you agree should be used to pay for continued operating and maintenance costs of a new splash pad and/or trails?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax Revenue Only | <input type="checkbox"/> Both Tax Revenue and User Fees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> User Fees Only | <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral |

About You:

Q9 Are you Male or Female?

- ☐ Female ☐ Male

Q10. What is your age?

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 or under | <input type="checkbox"/> 35-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65 or over |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 19-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 45-54 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55-64 | |

Q11 (a). How many people live in your household? _____

Q11 (b). What ages are they? _____

Q12. Which best describes where you live?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> In Town of Waterloo | <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal resident |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some other town | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Town (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural area around Waterloo | _____ |

Q13. Are you willing to support additional Parks and Recreation activities and programs?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ If so, in what ways can you help?

Planning, fundraising, upkeep or maintenance, beautification or landscape projects, building equipment, watering downtown planter, etc.

Thank you for your participation!

Your answers will be kept confidential and only reported together with all other surveys received. Survey results will be presented in a public meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 5:30 p.m., located at the Waterloo Grant Township Library, 300 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, IN 46793. If you have any questions or comments about the survey, please contact Kristine Christlieb at the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC) by phone at: (260-449-4704) or email (Kristine.Christlieb@co.allen.in.us).

Note: Survey Questions formatted on Survey Monkey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S2JMJ7>

6.4 Youth Survey

Town of Waterloo Parks and Recreation Survey

Thank you for taking a moment of your time to provide input on the town parks. Your answers will help the Park Board complete its five-year plan for the parks. **We value your perspective!**

1. On average, how often do members of your family use a park facility in the Town of Waterloo?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Once a year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal Sports |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once a month | <input type="checkbox"/> Never |

2. **How satisfied** are you with the quality of the Waterloo town parks?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Uns</u> satisfied |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> Very <u>uns</u> satisfied |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None of the Above | |

3. In your household, who is the most frequent user of park facilities in the Town of Waterloo?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teenagers | <input type="checkbox"/> We do not use parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adults | |

4. How important is it to your household that the Waterloo Parks & Recreation provide the following:

Activity/Facility	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Somewhat <u>Un</u> important	Very <u>Un</u> important
Court Sports (such as Basketball, Tennis, Volleyball)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Field sports (such as baseball, soccer, football)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fireworks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horseshoes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Picnic Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playground facilities (such as swings, slides, climbers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skateboarding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shuffleboard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Splash Pad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trails / Biking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (Please explain) _____

5. Rate the following statements in terms of the Waterloo park facilities:

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The Waterloo parks offer activities that I use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The parks are kept in good condition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The parks are handicap accessible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is enough park area in town	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The parks are safe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. What priority are the following Improvements:

Description	Very High Priority	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Not a Priority
Adding more trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding playground equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding sports facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding a community center/senior center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding a splash pad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving restroom facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding more benches/picnic areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog Park/free running area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding a fishing pond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adding a sledding hill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (Please explain)_____

7. If you do not attend any of the Parks in Waterloo, check the answer(s) to best explain the reason(s) why (*at least one (1) row requires an answer).

Reason	Yes	No	Neutral
No time to go to parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks are too far away	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I prefer to play video games/technology at home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not enough lighting to play after school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor Health/Mobility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel unsafe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not enough things to do for my age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not Applicable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (Plases explain)_____

8. Who do you attend parks with?

- ☐ Friends
☐ Family

- ☐ Other
☐ Myself

About You:

9 Are you a Boy or Girl?

- ☐ Boy ☐ Girl

10. What is your age?

**11. How many people live in your household? _____
What are their ages? _____**

12. Which best describes where you live?

- ☐ In Town of Waterloo _____
☐ Rural area around Waterloo
☐ Other Town (Please specify) ☐ Seasonal resident

13. What types of activities do you use at the parks?

- ☐ Horseshoes
☐ Playground ☐ Pavilion
☐ Basketball Courts ☐ I don't use parks

Other:

14. What types of activities would you use if available?

- ☐ More festivals ☐ Splash Pad
☐ Basketball Club ☐ Fishing Pond
☐ Soccer Club
☐ Free Movies/Music Events
☐ Dog Park

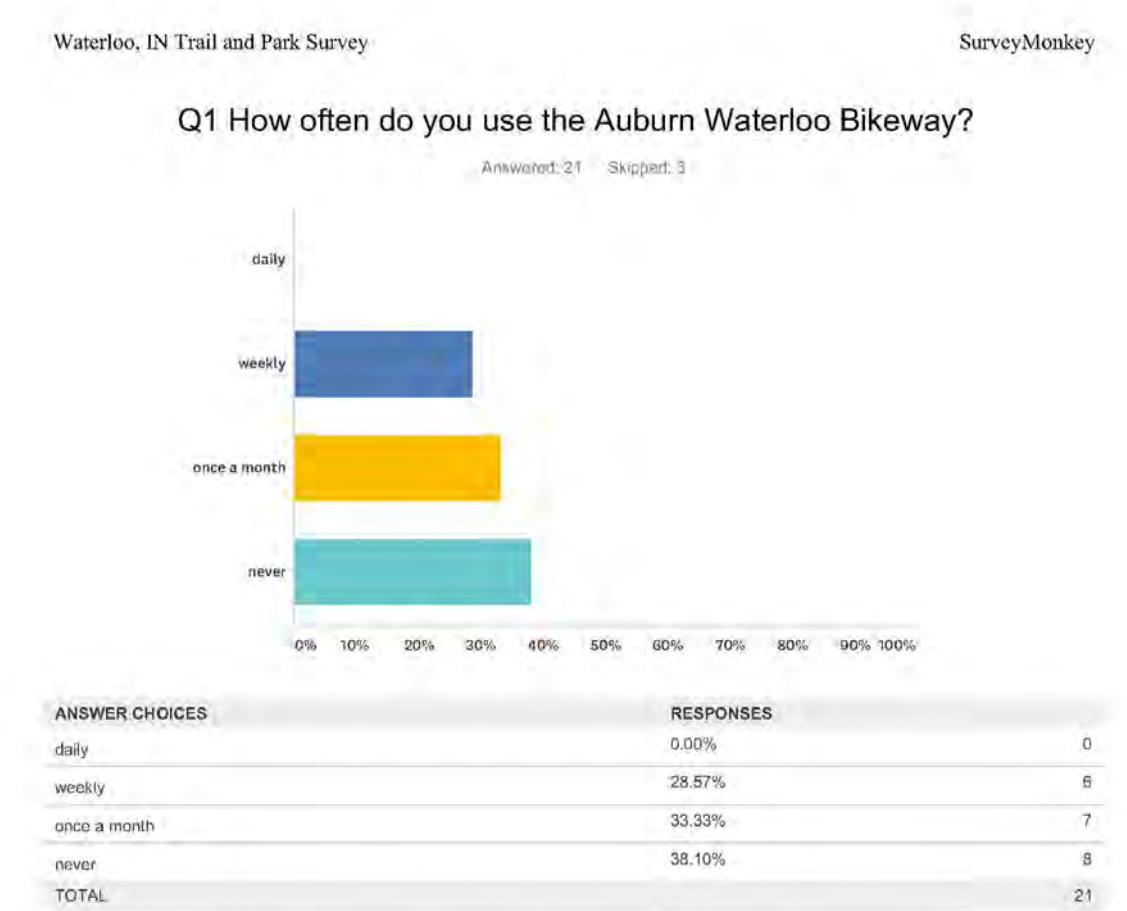
Other:

Thank you for your participation!

Your answers will be kept confidential and only reported together with all other surveys received. Survey results will be presented in a public meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 5:30 p.m., located at the Waterloo Train Depot, 485 W Van Vleet Street, Waterloo, IN 46793.

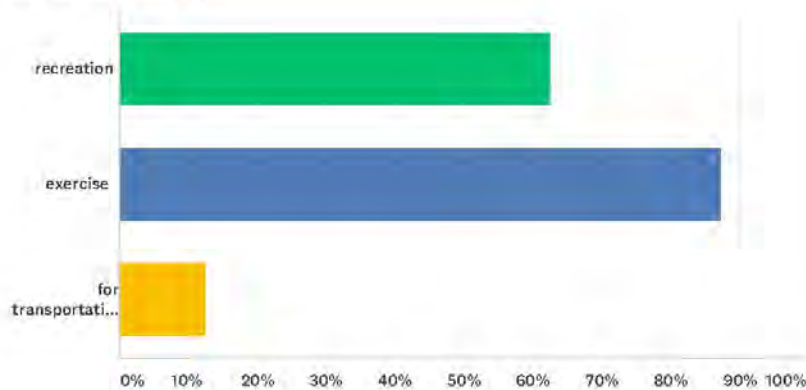
If you have any questions or comments about the survey, please contact Kristine Christlieb at the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC) by phone at: (260-449-4704) or email (Kristine.Christlieb@co.allen.in.us)

6.5 Trails Survey



Q2 Why do you use the Auburn Waterloo Bikeway?

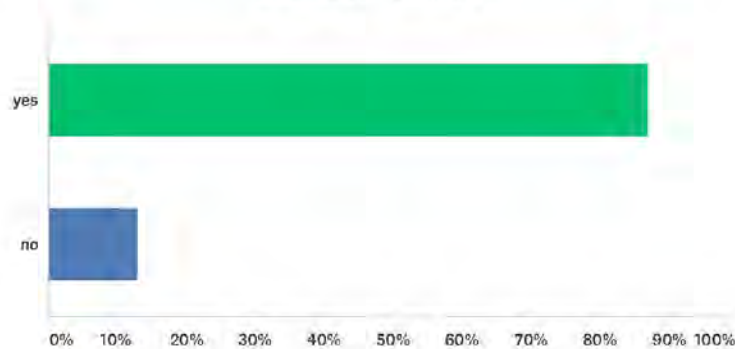
Answered: 16 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
recreation	62.50%	10
exercise	87.50%	14
for transportation (to get to work, appointments or shopping)	12.50%	2
Total Respondents: 16		

Q3 Do you support the Town of Waterloo's goal to extend the Auburn Waterloo Bikeway around CR 427/Wayne Street to Walnut Street?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 1

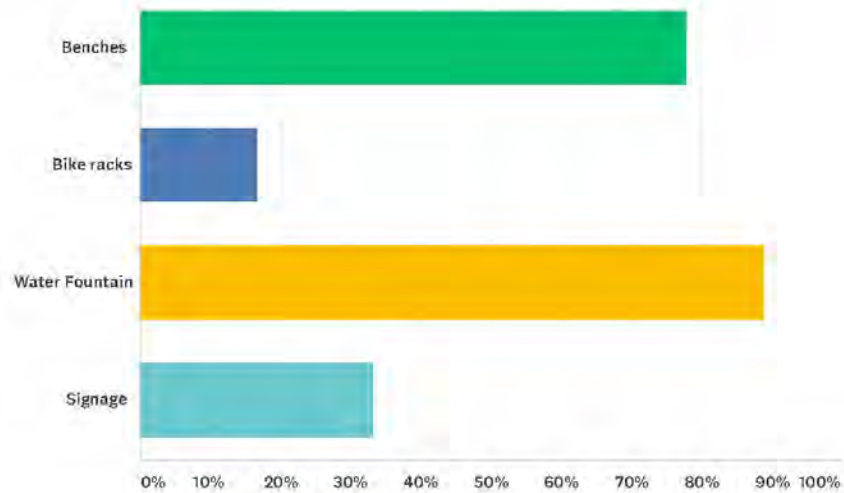


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
yes	86.96%	20
no	13.04%	3
TOTAL		23

Q4 What features do you use or would you like along the Auburn Waterloo Bikeway?

Answered: 18 Skipped: 6

2 / 5



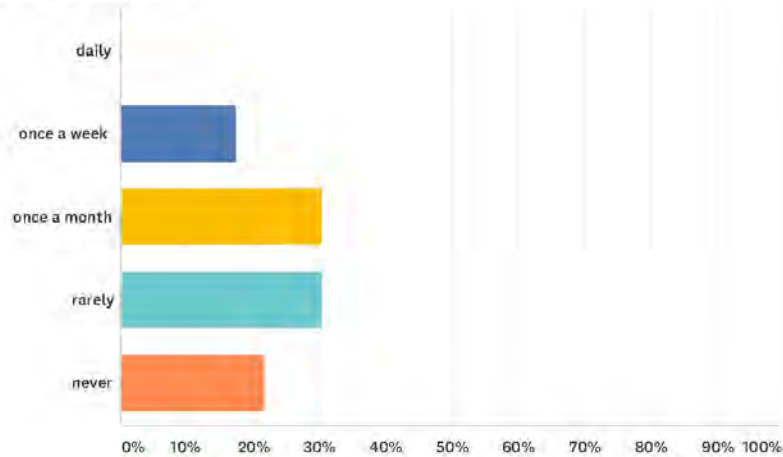
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Benches	77.78%	14
Bike racks	16.67%	3
Water Fountain	88.89%	16
Signage	33.33%	6
Total Respondents: 18		

Q5 Please give your ideas or suggestions for trails in Waterloo.

Answered: 10 Skipped: 14

Q6 How often do you use a park in Waterloo?

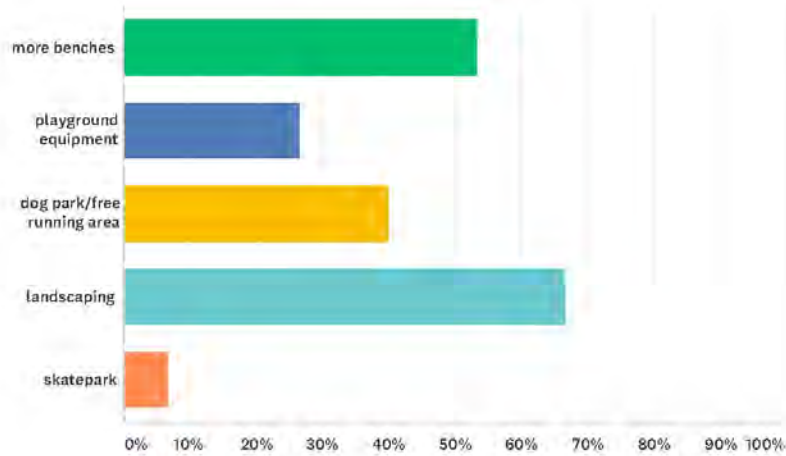
Answered: 23 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
daily	0.00%	0
once a week	17.39%	4
once a month	30.43%	7
rarely	30.43%	7
never	21.74%	5
Total Respondents: 23		

Q7 The Park Board is making plans for the next 5 years. What do you want to see improved or added to Waterloo Parks?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 9



4 / 5

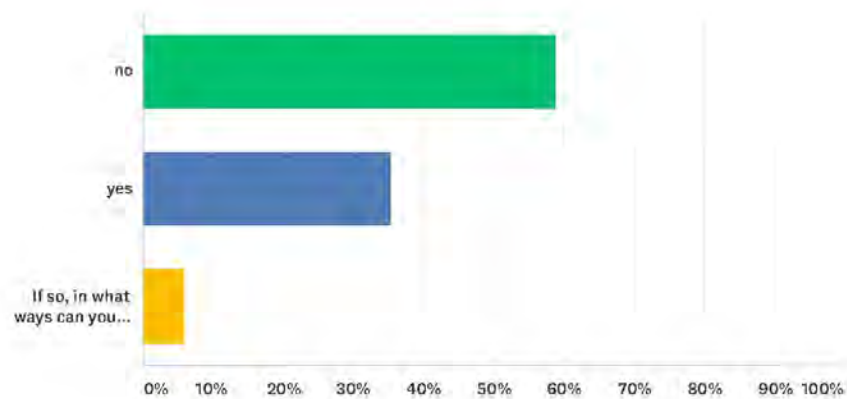
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
more benches	53.33%	8
playground equipment	26.67%	4
dog park/free running area	40.00%	6
landscaping	66.67%	10
skatepark	6.67%	1
Total Respondents: 15		

Q8 Please add your ideas or suggestions for Waterloo Parks below:

Answered: 7 Skipped: 17

Q9 Are you interested in volunteering for Waterloo Parks & Trails?

Answered: 17 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
no	58.82%	10
yes	35.29%	6
If so, in what ways can you help?	5.88%	1
TOTAL		17

6.6 Public Meeting Notice #1

Auburn Star: Friday, October 26, 2018

Legal Copy Deadline
Copy due Publish
Wed/Thurs, 4 p.m. Tues.
Fri, 4 p.m. Wed.
Mon, 4 p.m. Thurs.
Tues, 4 p.m. Fri.
Annual Reports & Budgets due 5 working days before the publish date.

Email your legal
legals@hpcmedia.com
Call Lanette at
877-791-7877 x1154

PUBLIC HEARING
Town of Waterloo
5-Year Master Park Plan
Wednesday, November 14, 2018
at 5:30 p.m.
Located at the Waterloo Train Depot
485 W. Van Vleet St.
Waterloo, IN 46793

The Town of Waterloo is requesting that interested citizens attend and provide input.

The Town of Waterloo will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. located at the Waterloo Train Depot, 485 W. Van Vleet St., Waterloo, IN 46793, to allow the public to provide input regarding the Waterloo Parks and Recreation system. The Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council is compiling a 5-Year Master Park Plan for the Town of Waterloo and public input is needed to guide the Park Plan to ensure it includes the desires of the residents of Waterloo. Every effort will be made to allow persons to voice their opinions at the public meeting.

Additionally, residents of Waterloo are asked to take the public survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S2JJMJ7> and also available on the Waterloo Park Department webpage. Paper copies of the survey will also be available at the Town Hall. If persons are unable to attend the meeting it is important to complete the survey to provide your feedback. An oral or written translation of the public notice will be available in Spanish upon request. (Una traducción oral o la traducción escrita de la notificación pública estará disponible en español bajo petición). Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons who wish to attend the public hearing should

contact Kristine Christlieb, at NIRCC at 200 E. Berry Street, Suite 230, Fort Wayne, IN 46802 or by e-mail at Kristine.Christlieb@co.allen.in.us, not later than Monday, November 5, 2018.

TS,2054356,10/26,hapaxip

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING DEKALB COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the DeKalb County Plan Commission will hold a public hearing starting at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 21, 2018 in the County Commissioners Hearing Room, 2nd Floor, DeKalb County Courthouse, 100 S. Main St., Auburn, Indiana. During this hearing, the Board will consider the petition of Richard Squier Jr. and Jerry and Lona Nussbaum requesting to vacate Tullis Acres subdivision. The property is located at the intersection of County Road 28 and State Road 327 in Corunna, Indiana and is zoned A2, Agricultural.

The property is more fully described by as:

Part of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 8, Richard Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, on County Road 28 and State Road 327, containing 59.224 acres, more or less.

Interested persons desiring to express their views on this petition, either orally or in writing, will be given the opportunity at the above time and place. Opinions expressed in writing may be sent to Department of Development Services, Attn: Plan Commission, 301 S. Union St., Auburn, IN 46706, or faxed to 260-927-4791 and must be received by 2:00 PM the day before the hearing.

The hearing may be continued from time to time. An adverse decision may be appealed to the Plan Commission within (5) five days.

A copy of the staff report will be available at the DeKalb County Department of Development Services, 301 S. Union St., Auburn, Indiana five days prior to the hearing.

Tim Griffin, Chairperson
DeKalb County Plan Commission
TS,2054570,10/26,hapaxip

PUBLIC NOTICE INVITATION FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Garrett, Indiana, by and

Town of Waterloo 5-Year Master Park Plan Public Hearing Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Located at the Waterloo Train Depot 485 W. Van Vleet St., Waterloo, IN 46793.

The Town of Waterloo is requesting that interested citizens attend and provide input.

An oral or written translation of the public notice will be available in Spanish upon request. (Una traducción oral o la traducción escrita de la notificación pública estará disponible en español bajo petición).

The Town of Waterloo will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 5:30 p.m., located at the Waterloo Grant Train Depot, 485 W Van Vleet St., Waterloo, IN 46793, to allow the public to provide input regarding the Waterloo Parks and Recreation system. The Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council is compiling a 5-Year Master Park Plan for the Town of Waterloo and public input is needed to guide the Park Plan to ensure it includes the desires of the residents of Waterloo. Every effort will be made to allow persons to voice their opinions at the public meeting. Additionally, residents of Waterloo are asked to take the public survey online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S2JJMJ7>

and also available on the Waterloo Park Department webpage.

Paper copies of the survey will also be available at the Town Hall. If persons are unable to attend the meeting it is important to complete the survey to provide your feedback. Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons who wish to attend the public hearing and need assistance should contact Kristine Christlieb, at NIRCC at 200 E Berry Street, Suite 230 Fort Wayne, IN 46802 or by e-mail at Kristine.christlieb@co.allen.in.us, not later than Monday, November 5, 2018.

6.6.1 Trails Grant Notice

Auburn Star: Wednesday, April 4, 2018

4-4-18
STAR

Waterloo seeking grant to extend bikeway/trail

KPC NEWS SERVICE

WATERLOO — In 2017, the Town of Waterloo applied for a Federal Recreational Trails Program grant administered through the Indiana Department of Recreation to extend the Auburn-Waterloo Bikeway trail to connect to the sidewalks within the town boundaries at Wayne and Walnut streets.

After a public meeting and survey conducted in 2017, it was determined that the residents of Waterloo were in support of the project.

The plan, if Waterloo receives the funding, is to extend the bikeway from Cedar Street along C.R. 427/ Wayne Street to sidewalks at Walnut Street. The trail will

be 8-foot-wide asphalt with ADA-compliant ramps at corners and slopes and will follow along the road in the right of way. This will give easier access to all residents who utilize the trail for both work and play.

While the project was not funded, momentum to complete the project has continued, and the Town of Waterloo will be applying once again for the RTP program in 2018. The town is soliciting for residents input on the Bikeway project once again.

Town Manager Tena Woenker is asking residents to please take a moment to complete a survey found at surveymonkey.com/r/trailsparks. All comments received by April 23 will be considered and included in the project application.

Poeple may contact Woenker at 837-7428 for more information about the project or the RTP grant.

Tuesday through Friday
5 p.m. Saturday and
7 a.m.-10 a.m.

SUBSCRIPTION R

Motor and Foot

Delivery Type: 6-DAY
Monthly: \$18.10
3 Months: \$54.30
6 Months: \$106.10
1 Year: \$202.80

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION

Out of Four-Coun

Delivery Type: 6-DAY
Monthly: \$20
3 Months: \$60
6 Months: \$120
1 Year: \$240

NEED EXTRA C

If you would like extra copies of a particular issue of The Star, call 837-7428. Available at the Auburn office for \$1.75 per copy daily, and \$1.75 Sunday.

kpc kpc

Published by KPC Media
102 N. Main
Kendallville, IN 47032
Published Tuesday through Friday
except New Year's Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas
Periodical postage paid at
Kendallville, IN 47032
additional mailing offices

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to
THE STAR
P.O. Box 39, Kendallville, IN 47032

VIDEO FEATURE

kpcnews



The Town of Waterloo Park Board

Public Meeting to Gather Your Input on the Future of Our Town Parks



November 14, 2018 @ 5:30 pm
Waterloo Train Depot
485 W Van Vleet St.
Waterloo, IN 46793

- Who:** All residents of the Town of Waterloo with an interest in the development/improvement of the Waterloo Town Parks.
- What:** Provide your input regarding Waterloo's Park and Recreation system and help to guide the development of a comprehensive 5-Year Master Park Plan currently being developed for the Town.
- When:** November 14, 2018 at 5:30 pm.
- Where:** Waterloo Train Depot, 485 W Van Vleet St., Waterloo, IN 46793
- Why:** The Park Plan is being written for YOU! Your input is vital to create a comprehensive plan that will outline the future of Waterloo's Park and Recreation system!



For additional information please call: (260) 449-4704

Website Park Board Survey Notice: September-November

Park Board Survey (Screen shot: October 18, 2018)

Website: <https://waterlooin.gov/park-board/>

The screenshot shows the Waterloo, Indiana website. The header features the Waterloo logo, navigation links (Live/Visit, Business, Town Hall, Town Marshal, How Do I..., Information), and buttons for AMTRAK INFO and ONLINE PAYMENTS. Below the header is a green banner with the text "WATERLOO, INDIANA: THE CROSSROADS OF NORTHEAST INDIANA". The main content area is titled "PARK BOARD". It includes a survey link: "The Park Board wants your opinion on trails & parks. Click here and tell us your ideas: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7K2VTXJ>". A paragraph states: "Because recreational and common use areas enhance the livability and enjoyment of our community, the Waterloo Park Board works hard to plan, develop, and works with the Street Department to maintain our facilities." A list of board members is provided: Ed McDowd, President; Ken Rhodes, Vice President; Jan Hoffmeister, Secretary; Dwight Zerkle; John Thomson; and Jay Baumgartner, DeKalb Central Schools. A note mentions: "Regular meetings are the second Wednesday of each month, at Town Hall, at 5 p.m." A section titled "CONTACT THE PARK BOARD" includes a form for "YOUR NAME (REQUIRED)". On the right, there is a search bar and a section titled "Agendas and Minutes" with links: "Take the 2018 Parks Survey", "Park Board Recognizes Supporters", "No November Meeting", and "Archive of board agendas and minutes".

Website Trail Survey Notice (2nd Round): February-April 2018

The screenshot shows the Waterloo, Indiana website's "NEWS" section. The header is identical to the previous screenshot. The main content area is titled "NEWS" and features a post titled "Take the trail & park Survey". The post includes a date "MARCH 23, 2018" and a category "NEWS". The text of the post reads: "The Town of Waterloo applied for a Recreational Trail grant last year but didn't get the funding to complete a trail from the sidewalks at Wayne and Walnut Streets to the bikeway that connects Waterloo and Auburn. We need your feedback about parks and trails as we try again for the 2018 funding cycle. Please take the simple survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/trailsparks> Thank you!". Below the text is a photograph of a paved trail winding through a grassy area with trees in the background. At the bottom of the page, there are two small footnotes: "Waterloo Office Closed Friday" and "Final Downtown Ideas Presentation from Ball State".

6.7 Minutes / Sign-in Sheet #1

Minutes

Waterloo Public Participation Meeting
Waterloo Train Depot, 485 W. Van Vleet Street, Waterloo IN 46793
November 14, 2018
5:30 p.m.

The public participation meeting began as advertised at 5:30 p.m. November 14, 2018 at the Waterloo Train Depot.

Attendees: (18 Total)

Ed McDowd, Board President
Jan Hoffmeister, Board Secretary
William Hubartt, Board Liaison
Jay Baumgartner, Board Member
Julie Buss, Board Member
John Thomson, Board Member
Dwight Zerkle, Board Member
Tena Woenker, Town Manager
David Wolfe, Park Supervisor
Kristine Christlieb, NIRCC Planner

Kyle Quandt, NIRCC Planner

Community Members (7):

Margaret Haller
Ken Surber
David Bolton
Deb Iddings
Mark Henderson
Jess Jessup
Diane Reynolds

Introductions

Introductions were made by Tena Woenker, Town Manager. Kristine Christlieb, Principal Planner, from the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC) conducted a PowerPoint presentation of the 5-Year Master Plan and provided additional planning activities. The Sign-In Sheet and PowerPoint slides are attached to minutes.

Waterloo Park and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan 2019 - 2023

Kristine Christlieb introduced Kyle Quandt, NIRCC Planner and gave a PowerPoint presentation that started with a brief description and the demographics of the town. The population of Waterloo is 2,239, the average family size 3.4 persons, and median age is 29.8. The purpose and goals of the plan were discussed next, followed by the park plan timeline. The history of the parks was presented along with the parks' strengths and weaknesses. The Park Board selected their priorities for park improvements with a sledding hill/pond, benches, and parking being their top three priorities. Ms. Christlieb then covered the students' responses from the survey distributed to the 4th and 5th graders at Waterloo Elementary School. A sledding hill, Dog Park, and improved restrooms were the top three priorities for students. Tena Woenker shared the online survey results. There were 24 responses with the highest priorities being a splash pad, improved restrooms, and benches. Activities were conducted for the attendees to select their top park priorities.

Public Questions and Comments

Attendee #1 asked where will Veteran's Park be located, and Tena Woenker answered between the Feller and Clark Funeral Home and the water tower.

Attendee #2 asked about the children who took the survey. Kristine Christlieb answered they were 4th and 5th graders from Waterloo Elementary School.

Attendee #3 commented that there are very few in attendance that are not part of the board and asked if this was common. Kristine Christlieb answered that it is not uncommon to have poor attendance at these types of meetings.

Attendee #3 asked Tena Woenker if they were asking individuals or corporations for donations. Tena Woenker answered that they will be looking for donations from both.

Attendee #3 asked if the Town supported the parks and Tena Woenker answered there is a small maintenance budget for the parks.

Attendee #3 asked Kristine Christlieb if it was unusual that the town did not financially support the parks and Kristine Christlieb answered it is not too unusual, but depends on various factors.

Attendee #3 asked if the pond is planned for Veteran's Park and Tena Woenker answered that it is.

Next Meeting

The next Public Meeting will be held in March 2019.

There being no other questions or comments the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

TOWN OF WATERLOO		
SIGN-IN SHEET		
PARKS & RECREATION 5 YEAR MASTER PLAN		
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING		
November 14, 2018		
5:30 P.M.		
Print Name		Telephone/Email
		Volunteer? Please list your area of interest
1	Kristine Christlieb, WIIECC	260-449-7309 Kristine.Christlieb@co.allen.in.us
2	MARGARET HALLER	
3	Jan Hoffmeister	
4	John Thomson	
5	Ken Surber	
6	David Bulten	
7	Deb Eddings	
8	Mark Henderson	gmail.com.
9	Tena Woenker	
10	Ed McDaniels	
11	Jess Jessup	
12	Diane Reynolds	
13	WILLIAM W HURBART	
14	Jay Baumgartner	
15	Kyle Guardt, WIIECC	
16	Dave Wolfe	
17	Julie Buss	
18	Dwight Zerkle	
19		

TOWN OF WATERLOO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING: 11-14-18

6.8 Presentation # 1

Slide 1.



Francis Thomson Memorial Park



Pankop Park



Eagle Park

Waterloo Park and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan 2019-2023

Kristine Christlieb
(kristine.christlieb@co.allen.in.us)
Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council

Slide 2.

Who Are We?

PARK BOARD

ED MCDOWD – PRESIDENT
JAN HOFFMEISTER - SECRETARY
JAY BAUMGARTNER
DWIGHT ZERKLE
JOHN THOMSON
JULIE BUSS

OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

TENA WOENKER - TOWN MANAGER
WILLIAM HUBARTT - COUNCIL LIAISON
DAVID WOLFE - PARK SUPERINTENDENT

Slide 3.

Why a Park Plan?

- Provide an outline for the Town and residents to follow regarding park improvements.
- Show potential funders that Waterloo has a strategy and prioritization for the Park.
- Keep momentum for the Town Parks going.
- Improve amenities available at the park for residents and visitors.

Slide 4.

Goals of the Plan:

- Provide opportunities to share information and receive feedback on the current park system and future park developments to make informed decisions and establish a consensus of desired goals.
- Develop a master plan to provide direction with the existing parks and future developments that will create connectivity between parks and amenities.
- Use natural resources effectively and seek available funding opportunities to make the Waterloo parks welcoming for persons of all ages to enjoy

"A goal without a plan is just a wish,"
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Slide 5.

Park Plan Timeline:

- Meet with Park Board (Initial) July 11, 2018 – Monthly
- Collect Background Information - July - October 2018
- Disseminate Public Survey – Sept-Oct 2018 (Extended through November)
- Hold 1st Public Meeting – November 14, 2018
- Analyze/Interpret Public Input – Nov. thru Dec. 2018
- Submit 1st Draft of Plan to IN DNR – January 15, 2019
- Complete Needs Analysis – February 2019
- Prioritize needs/wants and Develop Action Plan - February 2019
- Hold 2nd Public Meeting to Present Final Draft Plan – March 2019
- Make Revisions Based on Public Comment – March thru April 2019
- Submit Final Master Plan to IN DNR – April 15, 2019

Slide 6.

Waterloo Park History:

- Waterloo Park Board established November 1989
- Park Board is comprised of at least 4 appointed members
- Park Board is the governing body for the Park system
- Parks funds come from donations & park pavilion rental fees

PARK BOARD MISSION
"To provide proper oversight of necessary recreational facilities and green space, and optimize the use of available resources to create a pleasant and welcoming environment for residents and visitors to the Town of Waterloo."

Slide 7.



Slide 8.



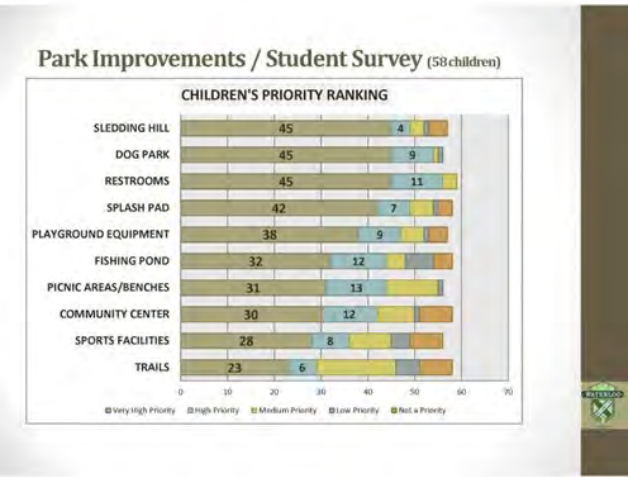
Slide 9.



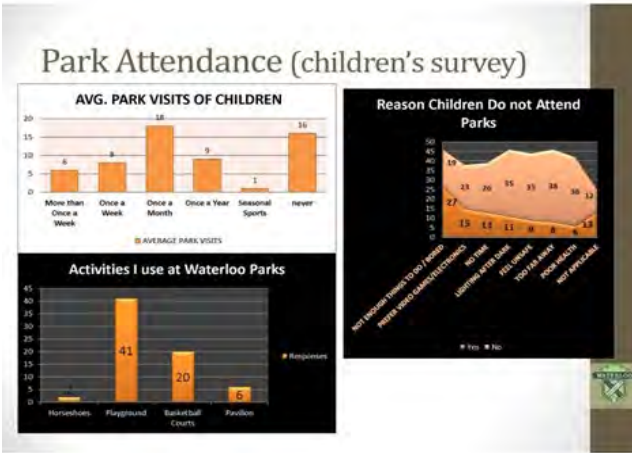
Slide 10.



Slide 11.



Slide 12.



Slide 13.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

- Sledding Hill / Pond
- Parking Area
- Trails / Veterans Park
- Veterans Memorial/Benches
- Dog Park w/Benches
- Map Board / Veterans Park
- Trees/Plantings
- Picnic Areas
- Outdoor Stage/Amphitheater
- ADA Parking
- Play Areas
- Other?


What type of activities would you be interested in?




Slide 14.


How to Fund and Sustain a Vibrant Waterloo Park System

- Program Fees
- Donations / Pickets
- Volunteers
- Attain Available Grants
DNR: LWCF/RTP (trails)
Creating Places / Patronicity



A Vibrant Park

"Without leaps of imagination or dreaming, we lose the excitement of possibilities. Dreaming, after all is a form of planning."
— Gloria Steinem



Slide 15.

PARK SURVEY EXTENDED

If you haven't taken the survey – please do so on the town's park page at:

<https://waterlooin.gov/park-board/>

Thank you for coming!
November 14, 2018
Kristine Christlieb
260-449-4704
Kristine.Christlieb@co.allen.in.us




6.9 Public Meeting Notice # 2

Auburn Star: Tuesday, March 7, 2019

Commissioners Room, 2nd Floor, 100 S. Main St. in the city of Auburn in said county, to investigate the propriety of holding an alcoholic beverage permit by the applicants listed herein to wit:

RC1703992 Beer, Wine & Liquor - Fraternal Club RENEWAL. LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE 566, 402 S. MAIN ST., Auburn, IN D/B/A LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE #566.

DL1719084 Beer, Wine & Liquor - Drug Store RENEWAL. KROGER LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, 1005 W. 7TH ST., Auburn, IN D/B/A KROGER J-991.

DL1716831 Beer & Wine Dealer - Grocery Store RENEWAL. ASHLEY FOODS OF INDIANA, INC., 700 WEST STATE, Ashley, IN D/B/A ASHLEY VILLAGE FOODS. DAVID BROWN, 7432 SOUTH 700 EAST, Hamilton, President. BRANDON BROWN, 1574 CR 79, Butler, Secretary.

TS,2056086,3/7,hspaxlp

LEGAL NOTICE

Town of Waterloo 5-Year Master Park Plan Public Meeting
Wednesday, March 13, 2019
at 5:30 p.m. Located at the
Waterloo Train Depot
485 W. Van Vleet St.,
Waterloo, IN 46793.

The Town of Waterloo Public Presentation of Park 5-Year Master Plan.

An oral or written translation of the public notice will be available in Spanish upon request. (Una traducción oral o la traducción escrita de la notificación pública estará disponible en español bajo petición).

The Town of Waterloo will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., located at the Waterloo Train Depot, 485 W. Van Vleet St., Waterloo, IN 46793, to provide a final review and allow public comment of the Waterloo Parks and Recreation Master Plan. A representative from the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC) will present their findings on the completion of a 5-Year Master Park Plan for the Town of Waterloo. Every effort will be made to allow persons to voice their opinions at the public meeting. Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons

who wish to attend the public meeting and need assistance should contact Kristine Christlieb, at 200 E Berry Street, Suite 230 Fort Wayne, IN 46802, or by e-mail at Kristine.Christlieb@co.allen.in.us, not later than Monday, March 8, 2019.
TS,2056148,3/7,hspaxlp

NOTICE OF SUIT SUMMONS SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

IN THE DEKALB
SUPERIOR COURT
Cause No. 17D02-1902-PL-000005
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF DEKALB SS:
RD CAPITAL PARTNERS, LLC,
Plaintiff

-v-

ESTABEN QUINKA a/k/a
Esteban Cuenca,
CONCORD MFG COMMUNITY,
ANY OCCUPANT OF
122 Walnut Street,
Butler, Indiana 46721, and ANY
PERSON, CORPORATION,
ORGANIZATION or OTHER ENTITY
interested in the property at
122 Walnut Street, Butler, Indiana,
Defendants.

The State of Indiana to the Defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned:

You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is a Complaint to possession of real property (ejectment) and to Quiet Title. Specifically the lawsuit seeks to have a declaration that you own no right or interest in real property previously owned of record by Raymond Carnahan Revocable Trust of 1983, now owned by RD Capital Partners, LLC, commonly known as 122 Walnut Street, Butler, DeKalb County, Indiana and described as:

Lot Numbered 238 in the Original Plat of the Town of Butler, DeKalb County, Indiana EXCEPTING THEREFROM: The east Four (4) feet off of Lot numbered Two Hundred Thirty-Eight (238) in the Original Plat of the Town of Butler, in DeKalb County, State of Indiana.

ALSO: Lot numbered Six (6) in Hubbell's Addition to the Town of Butler, DeKalb County, Indiana.

This Summons by Publication is directed to the following name

Town of Waterloo 5-Year Master Park Plan

Public Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Located at the

Waterloo Train Depot

485 W. Van Vleet St., Waterloo, IN 46793.

The Town of Waterloo Public Presentation of Park 5-Year Master Plan

An oral or written translation of the public notice will be available in Spanish upon request. (Una traducción oral o la traducción escrita de la notificación pública estará disponible en español bajo petición).

The Town of Waterloo will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., located at the Waterloo Train Depot, 485 W. Van Vleet St., Waterloo, IN 46793, to provide a final review and allow public comment of the Waterloo Parks and Recreation Master Plan. A representative from the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC) will present their findings on the completion of a 5-Year Master Park Plan for the Town of Waterloo. Every effort will be made to allow persons to voice their opinions at the public meeting. Persons with disabilities or non-English speaking persons who wish to attend the public meeting and need assistance should contact Kristine Christlieb, at 200 E Berry Street, Suite 230 Fort Wayne, IN 46802, or by e-mail at Kristine.Christlieb@co.allen.in.us, not later than Monday, March 11, 2019.

###

Town of Waterloo Park Board

Public Meeting to Present Findings



March 13, 2019 @ 5:30 pm
Waterloo Train Depot
485 W Van Vleet St.
Waterloo, IN 46793

Who: All residents of the Town of Waterloo with an interest in the development/improvement of the Waterloo Town Parks.

What: Present findings of the Waterloo 5-Year Master Park Plan and seek feedback for the direction of the Waterloo Park System.

When: March 13, 2019 at 5:30 pm.

Where: Waterloo Train Depot, 485 W Van Vleet St., Waterloo, IN 46793.

Why: The Park Plan is being written for YOU! Your input is vital in creating a comprehensive plan to help determine the future of Waterloo's Park System.



REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED!



For additional information please call: (260) 449-4704



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT:
Kristine Christlieb
(260) 449-4704
Kristine.Christlieb@co.allen.in.us

WATERLOO PARK DEPARTMENT TO PRESENT FINDINGS OF MASTER PLAN

WATERLOO, INDIANA, February 28, 2019 - The Waterloo Park Department is hosting a second public participation meeting to discuss its findings of a Five Year Park and Recreation Master Plan. The public meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 5:30 p.m., located at the Waterloo Train Depot, 485 W. Van Vleet St., Waterloo, IN 46793. A representative from Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC) will attend to present results and planning strategies for park development.

Public participation has been instrumental in determining the goals and direction of the Waterloo Parks Department, as well as identifying recreational needs of residents. In addition, a 5-Year Park Master Plan is required by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to apply for federal grants such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant funded through the Division of Outdoor Recreation. DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation grant programs could possibly assist the park department with meeting goals and actions designed within the approved Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan.

Ed McDowd, Park Board President said of the plan, "the needs identified through community surveys and public input has helped to provide the Board with guidance and establish future goals for park development. McDowd goes on to say, "Community support is also very important in implementing these goals and sustaining a thriving park system for the town."

The public is invited to join in the discussion and review of the Waterloo Five Year Park and Recreation Master Plan and provide feedback. For additional information, please contact Kristine Christlieb at 260-449-4704 between the hours of 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided at the meeting.

###

Auburn Star: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 (front page)

Waterloo to present park study

KPC NEWS SERVICE

WATERLOO — The Waterloo Park Department is hosting a second public participation meeting to discuss its findings of a five-year park and recreation master plan.

The public meeting will be Wednesday, March 13, at 5:30 p.m. at the Waterloo Depot, 485 W. Van Vleet St.

A representative from the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council will present results

and planning strategies for park development.

Public participation has been instrumental in determining the goals and direction of the Waterloo Parks Department, as well as identifying recreational needs of residents, a news release said.

A five-year park master plan is required by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to apply for federal grants such as the Land and Water

Conservation Fund grant funded through the Division of Outdoor Recreation. The DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation grant programs could assist the town's park department with meeting goals and actions designed within the approved Waterloo Parks and Recreation Five-Year Master Plan.

Park Board President Ed McDowd said, "The needs identified through

SEE **WATERLOO, PAGE A6**

manager for Hanna Meyer.

"If we were to have moved over to the

Paving bids beat

KPC NEWS SERVICE

AUBURN — Two of three bids on DeKalb County paving projects came in lower than expected, county officials learned Monday.

The county opened bids on two projects. One would repave C.R. 61 from Butler to intersection with S.R. 1 at the east edge of Hamilton.

The other project would repave C.R. 11-A south of Garrett, between C.R. 327 and C.R. 11-A.

API Construction of LaOtto submitted the lowest bid of \$1,318,038 for the

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he success
paigns and
unless

whose political worldview
is deeply and constantly set
on the poor, the oppressed
and those without power or
privilege. Giving voice to
the voiceless." It concluded,
"Vote for integrity as more
important than position,
people as more important
than party, and equity/justice
as infinitely more important
than wealth."

community partnerships, we
can celebrate DeKalb's rich
history and continue to grow
alongside Parkview Health.

and northwest Ohio popula-
tion of more than 850,000.
With more than 12,000
co-workers, Parkview

maintain its name for now,
although a spokesman said a
name change is expected this
summer.

WATERLOO: Public invited to join parks discussion

FROM PAGE A1

community surveys and
public input has helped
to provide the board with
guidance and future goals
for park development.
Community support is
also very important in

implementing these goals
and sustaining a thriving
park system for the town."

The public is invited
to join the discussion and
review of the Waterloo
Five-Year Park and
Recreation Master Plan and

provide feedback. Refresh-
ments will be provided at the
meeting.

For more information,
people may contact Kristine
Christlieb at 449-4704
between the hours of 8 a.m.
and 4:30 p.m.

kpcnews.com

6.10 Minutes / Sign-in Sheet # 2

Minutes

Waterloo Public Participation Meeting
Final Public Review
Waterloo Train Depot, 485 W Van Vleet Street, Waterloo IN 46793
March 13, 2019
5:30 p.m.

The public participation meeting began as advertised at 5:30 p.m. March 13, 2019 at the Waterloo Train Depot.

Attendees: (17 total)

Ed McDowd, Board President
Jan Hoffmeister, Board Secretary
William Hubartt, Board Liaison
Jay Baumgartner, Board Member
John Thomson, Board Member
Dwight Zerkle, Board Member
Tena Woenker, Town Manager
David Wolfe, Park Supervisor
Kristine Christlieb, NIRCC Planner

Community Members: (8)

Margaret Haller
Stephen Liebbe
Ken Surber
Deb Iddings
Mark Henderson
Jess Jessup
Barbie Pina
Mike Makarewich

Introductions

Members of the Park Board were introduced and Kristine Christlieb, Principal Planner from the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council (NIRCC), conducted a presentation of the final review of the Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan. Comment sheets were available on seats in each row. The Sign-in Sheet and PowerPoint slides are attached to the minutes.

Waterloo Park and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan 2019 – 2023

Ms. Christlieb provided background information pertaining to the study and noted that the park plan was complementary to other studies that had been conducted by the Town of Waterloo, such as the *2013 Waterloo Comprehensive Plan* and the *2018 Waterloo Main Street Study*. She also mentioned that the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant recently received federal approval for the extension of the Auburn-Waterloo trail.

A comprehensive master park plan was needed as the last plan was completed in 1990 after the Board was established in 1989. Many changes have occurred since then, and the new park plan will document these changes and provide an outline for future improvements. Ms. Christlieb also noted that the town needed a current park plan to be eligible for grant funding to complete many of the activities presented in the plan. A copy of the *2019-2023 Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan* was distributed for attendees to review during the presentation.

The Park Board had been working on the plan since July 2018, and the first draft was submitted to IDNR on January 2019. There were three (3) outstanding items that required completion before submitting the final plan for DNR approval that included: the final public review of the park plan and proposed action plan; the Board Resolution approving the plan; and the Board approved ADA Assurances documentation.

Topics of the Master Plan: Ms. Christlieb discussed the structure of the 5-Year Master Plan and identified the key topics of the Master Plan as follows: 1) Introduction, 2) Existing Conditions, 3) Park Inventory, 5) Public Participation, and 5) Action Plan.

Park Goals and Community Profile: The “goals” of the study were identified and the “community profile” with implications for planning were discussed such as: Waterloo has a younger median age than DeKalb County and the State of Indiana; 32% of the population of Waterloo is under 18; the “under 5” age group increased by 38% since 2000; there is a smaller proportion of adults aged 45-65 and over when compared to the county and state; the largest numerical decrease was experienced by 25-34 age persons, or “millennial” age group, which saw a decrease of 108 people in Waterloo since 2000; and the “exodus” of millennials in Waterloo mirrors many other small towns in Indiana and the U.S.; Waterloo has a higher proportion of those with a disability; and Waterloo has a higher population of veterans when compared to the State and the U.S.

Level of Service: The “level of service” of Waterloo parks was discussed. Waterloo has an estimated 3.6 acres of designated park area for a population of 2,242 people. It was determined that DeKalb County and the Town of Waterloo does “not” meet the recommended level of service when compared to standards identified by the National Recreation and Parks or Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). The Indiana County Health Rankings also indicated that DeKalb County has a lower access to exercise opportunities than some counties in the state. Adding the Veterans Memorial Park will increase the level of service by 4.1 acres with a combined total of 7.7 acres of park area.

Park Inventory: Park Inventory at each of the Waterloo Town Parks was discussed as well as the two newer parks were identified on a location map: Both Pankop Park to the north of town and Eagle Park on Wayne Street [in the center of town] had been added to Waterloo park inventory since 2015. The location of the future Veterans Memorial Park [to the south of town] was identified and discussed. Veterans Park is within ½ mile to all residents within the corporate boundaries of Waterloo

Survey Results: Three (3) surveys were discussed and compared: 1-adult, 1-youth, and 1-trails survey. The key findings from the survey are as follows: Most adults and children attend parks at least once a month; twenty-eight percent (28%) of children said they “never” attend Waterloo parks and 14.8% of adults said they “never” use parks, which seemed unusual. The #1 reason kids do not attend parks (56%) is there is “not enough things to do”; the #1 reason adults do not attend parks is a “lack of interest or time.”

Park Rating: Over 60% of children surveyed “strongly agree or agree” that parks are in good condition, parks are handicap accessible, and parks are safe. It was also noted that only 43% of children “strongly agree or agree” that there is enough park area in town. From the Adult survey it was identified that 59% of adults “strongly agree or agree” that parks are in good condition; 56% “strongly agree or agree” that parks are handicap accessible; and 48% “strongly agree or agree” that parks are safe. Only 44% of adults “strongly agree or agree” that there is enough park area in town.

Public Participation Ranking: Top 3 Park Priorities

- **Adults:** 1) Splash pad, 2) Restrooms, 3) Picnic areas w/benches
- **Children:** 1) Restrooms, 2) Dog park, 3) Sledding hill
- **Trail Survey:** 1) Trails (87% approved), 2) Landscaping, 3) Benches
- **Park Board:** 1) Sledding hill/pond at the future Veterans Memorial Park, 2) Veterans Memorial w/benches, 3) Parking Area at Veterans Memorial Park

Future Veterans Memorial Park: The future Veterans Memorial Park was discussed and included the proposed features and the anticipated budget. The project was broken down into two phases:

Phase 1: The first phase is scheduled for 2019-2020 and proposes to provide a map board to promote the park; add a fishing pond and sledding Hill; trail preparation; and build a dog park. The funding for Phase 1 will include “Patronicity” fundraising campaign using a “Crowdfunding” 50/50 grant from the state to secure the local match portion.

Phase 2: The second phase is scheduled for 2021-2022 and proposes to construct the Veterans Memorial w/ benches; a splash pad; acquire land for trails; and install asphalt the trails. This phase is contingent on the success of the DNR Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) grant award and fundraising to cover the local portion.

It was discussed using LWCF grant funding to complete Veterans Memorial Park would require the town to bury and/or reroute overhead power lines at the park. It was reported that the town had contacted NIPSCO to reroute the lines at the meeting. A number of trees needed to be removed to reroute lines; however, NIPSCO will replace any trees taken down, but the new trees might need to be planted in different locations.

5-Year Action Plan: A proposed 5-Year Action Plan was discussed that activities identified for the Park Board to implement. A breakdown of each task was presented. The proposed Action Plan included: a priority rank; action items and the year in which to conduct each item; and the anticipated cost schedule with potential funding sources identified. It was reiterated that the many of the tasks identified on the action schedule were contingent on acquiring the necessary grant funds and donations; however, some tasks on the action schedule were pending cost estimates, such as restrooms and an ADA connecting route at Francis Thomson Memorial Park.

Trail Extension: The project budget to extend the trail is \$250,000. The trail extension was discussed and noted that federal approval had just been announced. It is anticipated to begin construction in 2019 and completed in 2020.

Francis Thomson Memorial Park: improvements at Francis Park included: constructing an ADA route extension to the playground to bring the park into compliance; maintenance to the bell tower; updating the bandstand; painting restrooms; and adding a picnic area.

Pankop Park: Improvements to Pankop Park included: adding ADA mulch to the playground; installing a roof at the slides; and adding a grill at the picnic area.

Funding Options: Following the discussion of the action plan a list of potential funding sources were provided for park improvements. Some funding sources included: federal, state and private grant options, as well as program fees, park impact fees and property tax options that could be possible funding options to complete proposed improvements. It was also noted that the park board was selling picket fences for fundraising efforts. A newer grant opportunity is Nutro “Room to Run” a corporate program that is specific for creating dog parks.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the floor was opened to the public for questions:

Public Questions and Comments

Attendee #1 asked if fireworks could be a draw for other communities to visit town if the town were have it at the new park?

(Kristine) answered that fireworks could be an advantage to the town as it tends to draw large crowds. She said that it is included in the Board’s action plan. The costs can be high, but fireworks are planned and scheduled to be addressed in 2023 pending necessary funding.

Attendee #2 asked what the new trail extension would connect.

(Tena) answered that it would connect the bikeway to Walnut Street: The trail will come in front of New Hope Church and connect to the sidewalks completed last year at Walnut and Wayne. The town had talked about putting bike lane in on Wayne, so if you come from the trail and to Walnut, you would come to a bike lane on the road and have a flow path for biking.

Kristine then asked Tena if she would like to discuss the “Patronicity” fundraising campaign.

(Tena) answered that the CreatINg Places “Patronicity” campaign was scheduled to launch on the website on Friday [March 15, 2019]. If the town is successful in raising the full \$48,750 dollars, the grant will match \$48,750. The funds will come from the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCD). Once the town reaches their campaign goal, they will have a year to complete construction to comply with the grant – which is the reason that the Board scheduled Phase 1 to be completed this year.

(Tena) said that letters were prepared to go out that week to foundations to request donations. She encouraged the community to show their support as this is a way to let us know that they are behind the new park project and know it is something the people want. She also said that if the \$48,750 campaign goal isn’t reached, the town will not receive the matching funds from the grant; however, they will be able to keep the donations that they raise.

Attendee #3 asked how big a window do you have to raise the funds.

(Tena) answered “six weeks,” and that they have until May 1st to complete the fundraising. State program managers informed the town that if you go longer than six weeks, people tend to procrastinate. Most campaigns that run for six weeks generally tend to reach their goal. She also said that they only match up to \$10,000 per donation. However, they don’t expect too many donations to go up to that amount.

Attendee #4 asked what happens to the money when a pledge is made.

(Tena) answered when people pledge online you are told to submit a check to the town. [The town] will deposit the donations to the DeKalb County Community Foundation. All donations go through the Community Foundation. Once the donation goal is reached, then grant funds will also go directly to Community Foundation. All donations are considered “charitable” donations and the town does not handle any of the money.

Attendee #5 asked if anyone from the town had contacted “veterans” organizations for support of the new Veterans Park - or to see what they might want for a memorial.

(Tena) answered that we did talk about that as part of Phase 2, as the Veterans Memorial is part of the second phase. Tena had a letter drafted that needed the Park Board’s signatures and then they could send to various veterans groups. She also asked for community assistance with contacting organizations, and encouraged their help with contacting these groups. Tena said that it would be better to complete the pond and sledding hill first as it would help to “visualize” the kind of sculpture or memorial that would be appropriate for the setting. Also, pushing the memorial to the second phase would allow more time to engage veterans and the community to provide additional feedback as to the type of memorial they wanted. One consideration was to conduct a competition to help design the memorial.

Attendee # 1 asked if the fireworks show that had been done in years past was put on by the businesses or the community.

(Tena) answered that they had recently talked to the person who used to be in charge of that and thought a former firefighter had organized that in the past, but they needed to follow up on that.

Attendee # 4 asked if the town's park service area wasn't enough. If [Waterloo's] park acreage was lower than what it needed to be. Someone had asked me why we were adding more parks.

(Kristine) answered "yes." According to DNR and the National Parks "recommended level of service," standards are considerably higher than the available park acreage in town. Adding the Veterans Park will help to increase the park acreage to over 7 acres. The town currently has about 3.6 acres for a population of 2,242 people. DNR recommends 20 acres per 1,000 persons based on its level of service standard.

(Tena) also added that for nearly 20 years the town had planned a [Veterans park] but had never moved forward with it. The original plan was much more passive, but this plan will allow more "free" activities for people of all ages.

Attendee # 3: Asked for clarification of the disability information, if the town really had 20% of people with a disability.

(Kristine) answered that the town had about 22% with a disability of "any kind." But that included either mental or physical disabilities. The disability information was based on American Community Survey (ACS) data that comes from census information.

Attendee #4 commented that as a member of the Auburn Park Board, he was really encouraged by – and supports the activities going on in an adjacent community [Waterloo]. He said that we can learn a lot from each other and be aware of what the other is doing in order to complement the other. [Auburn] was working on Cedar Creek improvements and facing similar issues. He also saw a need for restrooms as he tends to rely on a nearby McDonalds before using a trail to assure access to a restroom. He also noted on [the IDNR level of service map on the presentation] that he was from Lake County, and it was compliant with the "recommended service level" [on the map]. He said that as a park system; "it was one of the best he had ever seen." He recommended that everyone "check out" the Lake County parks on the internet to see what they had done.

Attendee # 5 asked if the trail system was the responsibility of the state, DNR or the individual community to complete its own section of trail.

(Tena) answered that the state created a "visionary trail" plan to connect Angola's Pokagon Park with Bluffton or Wabash what's called the "Poka-Bache" trail. The state trail designed the route; however, individual communities have worked to complete their portion of the trail. Through NIRCC [Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council] we had regional trails plan that includes eleven counties looking to complete north, south, east, west routes to create a group connection between all of the trails. But the state still holds onto the visionary trail from Pokagon to Bluffton. Auburn is getting close to completing their section. We are one of the last pieces for our route. When we complete the link to Walnut Street and pave the bike lane, then "technically" we have completed our section of trail. But counties run into more problems because they don't have funding for trails. Cities and towns are more likely [to get the funds], but counties don't plan for it. South of Ft. Wayne doesn't have all of their portions mapped yet, but they have better access to funding.

Attendee # 6 said that he remembered that the town passed an ordinance concerning bikes riding on the sidewalks, and asked if the town still needed the ordinance? He stated that he preferred to ride bikes on

the sidewalks [in town] instead of his family riding bikes down the middle of busy streets. Then he asked if the bike lane would be coming through the downtown?

(Tena) answered that for now it would be coming through the downtown. We've talked many times about bringing the trail down Center Street and allowing that. But that is another phase of funding that's got to be addressed.

(Dave Wolfe) interjected that DNR rules have changed regulation on the width of trails/sidewalks. Sidewalks needed to be 4 ft. and now are going to 5 ft. DNR now wants trails to be 10 ft. wide. Paving a bike lane gets you away from those rules so that you can still apply for the funding. If you have a 3-ft. wide painted/striped lane, that is still allowed. But to ride on a sidewalk or natural bike path, they now need to be 10-12 ft. wide. We "squeaked" by for this year [for the trails to be allowed at 8 foot wide]. We just found out that the town can actually go into the county for up to 2-4 miles of trails.

(Tena) added that they had gone to the county to apply for the trails and asked for their help to pay the matching portion. However, the county has to give us the right-of way to do that. They haven't received approval yet, but it looks like we're moving in the right direction. We could go out of our [town's] boundary, but that doesn't mean that we'd have to pay for it. It just means that we'll use our grant writers and support staff, but use their money to complete it. She also said the county isn't staffed for these types of activities, or they don't own their own parks or trails, so it makes these types of activities harder for them to complete. She concluded that it was exciting to see this happening as it will help to alleviate some of the worry of seeing kids and parents with strollers walking along the busy roadways along St. Rd. 427 [where there is no trail]. Finishing this is about the best thing we can do.

Attendee # 4 encouraged persons to attend their local [commissioner/council] meetings as it does help to get the attention of local officials. If there is no public support of these types of activities, it is much more difficult to get the needed financial support to complete them.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

Ms. Christlieb asked if there were more questions and said to please return comment sheets to her by Tuesday, March 19th. She stated that the final draft of the plan is to be submitted by April 15, 2019 to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources for final review and approval. A hard copy of the master plan will be provided at the Waterloo Library and digital copy will be available online at the Waterloo Park Board website.

There being no other questions or comments the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Sign-in Sheet:

TOWN OF WATERLOO SIGN-IN SHEET PARKS & RECREATION 5 YEAR MASTER PLAN PUBLIC REVIEW March 13, 2019 5:30 P.M.		
Print Name	Telephone/Email (optional)	Volunteer? Please list your area of interest
1 Kristine Christlieb, NRCC	kristine.christlieb@co.allen.in.us 260-449-7309	
2 John Thomson		
3 Jay Baumgartner		
4 Dwight Zerker		
5 [Signature]		
6 William W. Hubbard		
7 David White		
8 Tena Wosaker		✓
9 MARGARET HALLER		
10 Stephen Liebke		✓ events, workdays
11 Jan Kahlmann		
12 Ken Surber		
13 Jess Jessup		
14 Barbie Pina		
15 MIKE MAKAREWICH		
16 Deb Iddings		
17 Mark Henderson	✓	
18		
19		

TOWN OF WATERLOO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING: 3-13-19

Public Comment Sheets

Two (2) public comment sheets were returned by community members indicating that they approve of the actions identified in the Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan.

COMMENT SHEET Waterloo Park and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan	
DATE:	13 March 2019
NAME:	Stephen Liebke
ADDRESS:	[Redacted] Waterloo IN 46793
CHECK ONE:	
I approve <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> of the actions identified in the Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan I disapprove <input type="checkbox"/> of the actions identified in Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan	
Please provide comments below:	
<hr/> <hr/>	

COMMENT SHEET Waterloo Park and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan	
DATE:	3-13-19
NAME:	Mark Henderson
ADDRESS:	[Redacted] Waterloo
CHECK ONE:	
I approve <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> of the actions identified in the Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan I disapprove <input type="checkbox"/> of the actions identified in Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan	
Please provide comments below:	
<hr/> <hr/>	

6.11 Public Presentation # 2

Slide 1.



Francis Thomson Memorial Park



Pankop Park



Eagle Park

FINAL REVIEW

Waterloo Parks and Recreation 5-Year Master Plan

March 13, 2019

Kristine Christlieb
(kristine.christlieb@co.allen.in.us)
Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council

Slide 2.

WELCOME!

WATERLOO PARK BOARD

ED MCDOWD – PRESIDENT

JAN HOFFMEISTER - SECRETARY

JAY BAUMGARTNER

DWIGHT ZERKLE

JOHN THOMSON

JULIE BUSS

OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

TENA WOENKER - TOWN MANAGER

WILLIAM HUBARTT - COUNCIL LIAISON

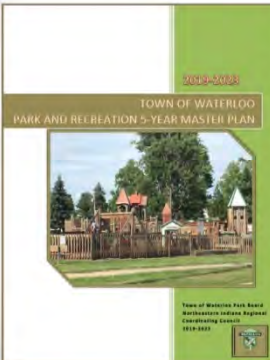
DAVID WOLFE - PARK SUPERINTENDENT

Slide 3.



Slide 4.

PLANNING RESULTS



TOWN OF WATERLOO
PARK AND RECREATION 5-YEAR MASTER PLAN

1.0 Introduction

- Background/History/Goals of the Plan
- Budget

2.0 Existing Conditions

- Natural Features/Landscape
- Man-made/Cultural/Historical Features
- Social & Economic Features

3.0 Park Inventory

- Francis Thomson Memorial Park
- Eagle Park
- Pankop Park
- Other Recreational Facilities
- ADA Self Evaluation

4.0 Public Participation

- Public Surveys: Youth/Adult/Trail
- 1st Public Hearing Activities/Results

5.0 Action Plan

- Previous Plans/Progress Report
- Priorities/Action Register
- Plan Evaluation

6.0 Appendices

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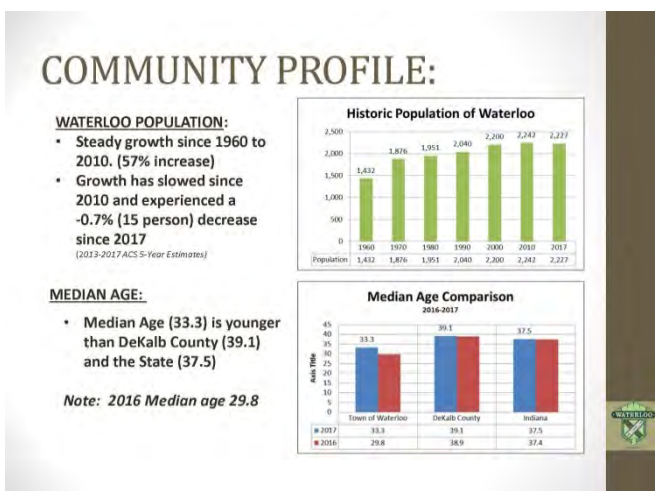
Goals of the Plan:

- Provide opportunities to share information and receive feedback on the current park system and future park developments to make informed decisions and establish a consensus of desired goals.
- Develop a master plan to provide direction with the existing parks and future developments that will create connectivity between parks and amenities.
- Use natural resources effectively and seek available funding opportunities to make the Waterloo parks welcoming for persons of all ages to enjoy

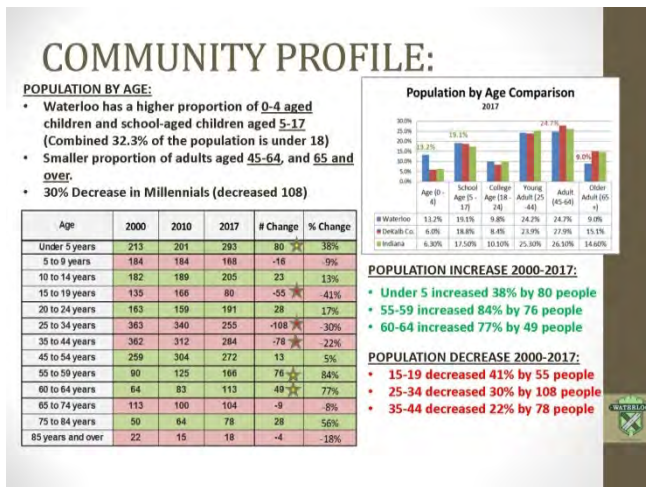
PARK BOARD MISSION

"To provide proper oversight of necessary recreational facilities and green space, and optimize the use of available resources to create a pleasant and welcoming environment for residents and visitors to the Town of Waterloo."

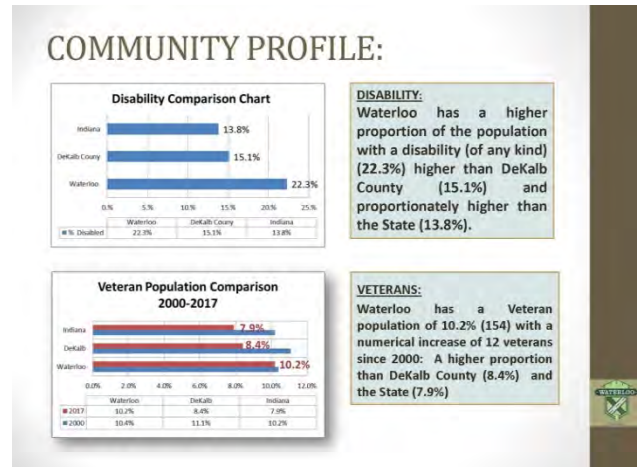
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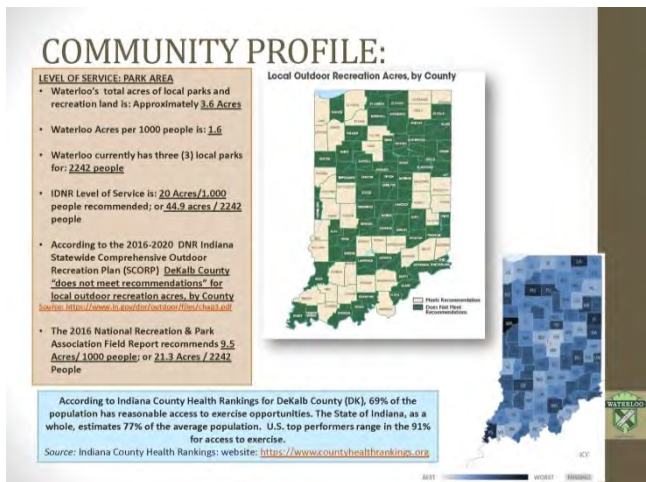
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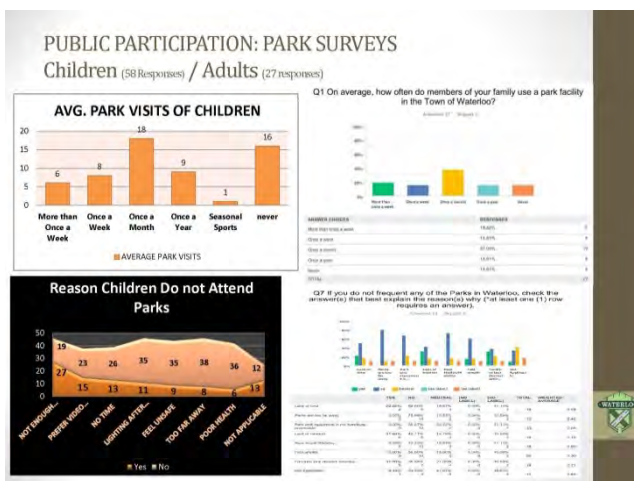
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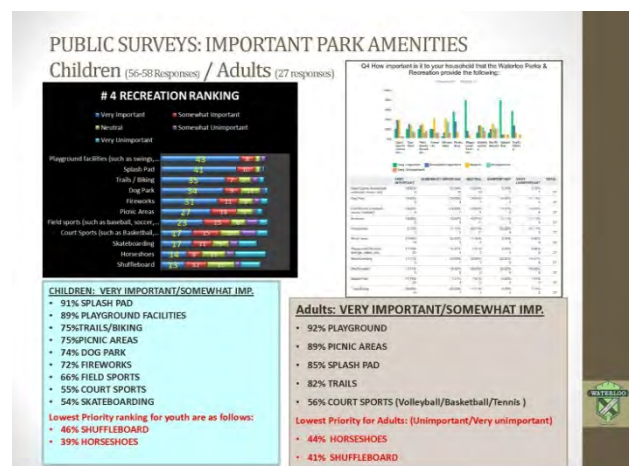
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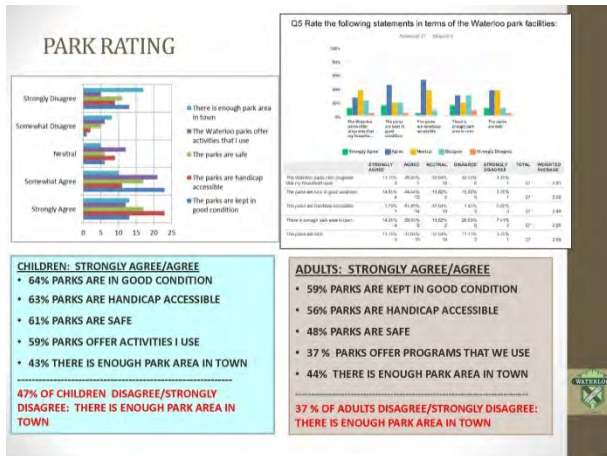
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Slide 13.



Slide 14.



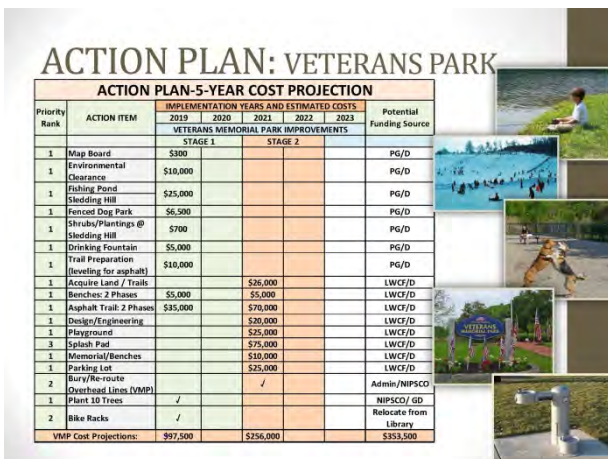
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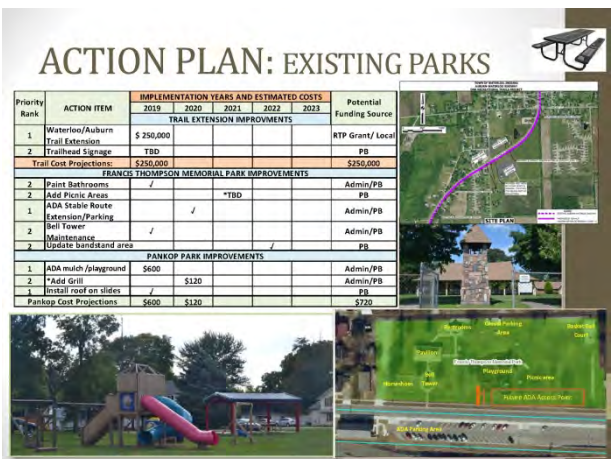
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Slide 18.



Slide 19.

ACTION PLAN: ADMINISTRATIVE

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK PROGRAM							
Priority Rank	ACTION ITEM	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Potential Funding Source
PROPOSED PROGRAMMING							
2	Fireworks, VMP						TBD
2	Art Activity at Park						P&D
3	Picket Fence Sales						Admin/Ongoing
ADMINISTRATIVE SCHEDULE							
1	Create & sustain VMP						UWCF/DO
1	Playground Maintenance & Safety Inspections						Admin/PS
1	Restroom Research options & costs						Admin/PS
1	Restroom Implementation Plan						Admin/PS
3	Amphitheater/Outdoor Stage options & need						Admin
1	Apply for UWCF						Admin/PS
1	Implement Admin/PS						Admin/PS
1	Park grounds maintenance equipment & supplies needs						Admin/PS
2	Evaluate programming efforts and assess park needs						Admin
1	Schedule Master Plan Renewal for 2024						Admin/PS
1	Conduct Monthly Board Meetings & Appoint Board Members per Park Ordinance						Admin/Ongoing
Administrative:							
TOTAL COSTS:		\$ 347,500		\$35,000		\$ 35,000	







Slide 20.

How to Fund and Sustain a Vibrant Waterloo Park System

- Program Fees
- Park/Recreational Impact Fees
- Property Tax
- Gifts/Donations/Pickets Sales (Waterloo)
- Volunteers

GRANTS:

Federal:


- DNR: Land & Water Conservation (LWCF)
- Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
- USDA – Community Facilities (Loans/Grants)

STATE:


- Creating Places / Patronicity (50/50 Matching Grant)
- QuIP – (Pop-up gathering spots of underutilized areas)

PRIVATE/LOCAL:

- DENKO (DeKalb, LaGrange, Kosciusko, Noble, Steuben, and Whitley Counties)
- AWS Foundation (ADA developmental disabilities)
- Nutro Co. Room to Run Dog Park Appreciation Projects



ihcda
Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority



A Vibrant Park

Slide 21.

THANK YOU

ANY QUESTIONS?

COMMENT SHEETS AVAILABLE

RETURN COMMENTS: TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019

TO

Kristine Christlieb

260-449-4704

Kristine.Christlieb @co.allen.in.us




6.12 Park Ordinance 96.01

Waterloo IN Code of Ordinances

CHAPTER 96: PARKS AND RECREATION

Section

- 96.01 Public park
- 96.02 Funding
- 96.03 Name
- 96.04 Town Park and Recreation Board

§ 96.01 PUBLIC PARK.

A public park is established on the ground along the north side of Van Vleet Street, in the said town, formerly used for school purposes, and for the reason of the said grounds, tract or parcel or land having been vacated by the Waterloo-Grant Township Schools, and that the said tract of land having been reconveyed to the town, therefore be it.

('92 Code, § 93.01) (Ord. 1, passed 8-4-39)

§ 96.02 FUNDING.

The tract of land above referred to, having been reconveyed to the town by the Board of School Trustees of said Waterloo and Grant Township Schools, be set aside for park purposes. Also that such improvements shall be made from time as the necessary funds may be available and used for such purpose.

('92 Code, § 93.02) (Ord. 1, passed 8-4-39)

§ 96.03 NAME.

The park shall be known as the Francis R. Thomson Memorial Park.

('92 Code, § 93.03) (Ord. 1, passed 8-4-39; Am. Res. 98-03, passed 5-12-98)

§ 96.04 TOWN PARK AND RECREATION BOARD.

(A) A Park and Recreation Board shall be created composed of:

(1) Four members appointed by the Town Council President on the basis of their interest in and knowledge of parks and recreation. No more than two members shall be of the same political party.

(2) One ex officio member who is a member of and appointed by the Board of School Trustees.

(3) One ex officio member who is a member of and appointed by the Library District Board.

(4) The Library District and School Boards shall fill any vacancies of their ex officio members. Ex officio board members have all the rights of regular members, including the right to vote.

(B) (1) Upon establishment of the board, the terms of the members initially appointed shall be:

(a) One member for a term of one year;

(b) One member for a term of two years;

(c) One member for a term of three years; and

(d) One member for a term of four years.

(2) As a term expires, each new appointment shall be made by the Town Council President for a term of four years. All terms expire on the first Monday in January, but a member shall continue in office until his successor is appointed. If an appointment for a new term is not made by the Town Council President by the first Monday in April, the incumbent shall serve another term. If a vacancy occurs, the Town Council President shall appoint a new member for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(C) At its first regular meeting in each year, the board shall elect a president and vice-president. The vice-president shall have authority to act as the president of the board during the absence or disability of the president. The board may select a secretary either from within or without its own membership.

(D) The board shall have the power to perform all acts necessary to acquire and develop sites and facilities and to conduct such programs as are generally understood to be park and recreation functions. In addition, the board shall have all the powers and duties listed in I.C. 36-10-3.

(E) The board shall prepare and submit an annual budget in the same manner as other departments of town government as prescribed by the State Board of Accounts. The board may accept gifts, donations, and subsidies for park and recreation purposes.

('92 Code, § 93.04) (Ord. 89-6, passed 6-13-89)

6.13 ADA Grievance Procedure

Grievance Procedure under The Americans with Disabilities Act Town of Waterloo, Indiana

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"). It may be used by anyone who wishes to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability in the provision of services, activities, programs, or benefits by the **Town of Waterloo**. The **Town of Waterloo's** Personnel Policy governs employment-related complaints of disability discrimination.

The complaint should be in writing and contain information about the alleged discrimination such as name, address, phone number of complainant and location, date, and description of the problem. Alternative means of filing complaints, such as personal interviews or a tape recording of the complaint, will be made available for persons with disabilities upon request.

The complaint should be submitted by the grievant and/or his/her designee as soon as possible but no later than 60 calendar days after the alleged violation to:

Waterloo Town Manager, Currently Tena Woenker ADA Coordinator
Waterloo Town Manager at the Town Hall at 280 S. Wayne St., Waterloo, IN 46793,
260-837-7428, E-mail Address: townmanager@waterlooin.gov

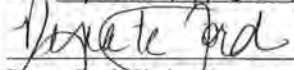
Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the complaint, **Waterloo Town Manager** or *his/her* designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and the possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days of the meeting **Waterloo Town Manager** or *his/her* designee will respond in writing, and where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, such as large print, Braille, or audio tape. The response will explain the position of the **Town of Waterloo** and offer options for substantive resolution of the complaint.

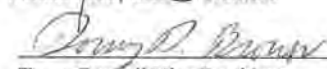
If the response by **Waterloo Town Manager** or *his/her* designee does not satisfactorily resolve the issue, the complainant and/or his/her designee may appeal the decision within 15 calendar days after receipt of the response to the **Waterloo Town Council** or their designee.

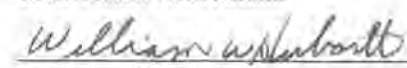
Within 15 calendar days after receipt of the appeal, the **Waterloo Town Council** or their designee will meet with the complainant to discuss the complaint and possible resolutions. Within 15 calendar days after the meeting, the **Waterloo Town Council** or their designee will respond in writing, and, where appropriate, in a format accessible to the complainant, with a final resolution of the complaint.

All written complaints received by the **Waterloo Town Manager** or *his/her* designee, appeals to the **Waterloo Town Council** or their designee, and responses from these two offices will be retained by the **Town of Waterloo** for at least three years.

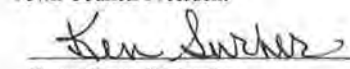
Date: Nov. 14, 2017

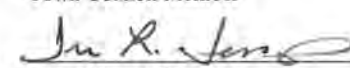

Renata Ford, Clerk-Treasure


Town Council Vice President


Town Council Member

Town Council President


Town Council Member


Town Council Member

ADA GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE - TOWN OF WATERLOO

GRIEVANCE FORM

COMPLAINANT INFORMATION:	
Name:	
Address:	
Daytime Phone:	
Email:	
LOCATION INFORMATION	
Address (If Known):	
Location Description:	
NATURE OF GRIEVANCE	
Sidewalk, Ramp:	
Crosswalk, Pedestrian Signal:	
Building Access:	
Programming:	
Other:	
Describe the Grievance/Complaint/Problem:	
Date of Incident, If Applicable:	
FOR LOCAL/ADA COORDINATOR USE ONLY	
Town Representative Preparing the Form if not by Complainant and Date Complaint Received:	
Date Received by Department Head, If Appl.:	
Date Received by ADA Coordinator:	
Date of Initial Contact:	
Date of Meeting or Site Visit:	
Date Assigned to Department Head/Who:	
Date Returned from Department:	
Date ADA Coordinator's Decision Mailed:	
Date Appeal Received by Council:	
Date First on Town Council Agenda:	
Date Town Council Decision:	
Date Council Decision Mailed:	