

Plan Adopted on April 20, 2009



**Parks
&
Recreation
Plan**

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SECTION I

PURPOSE & INTENT

The City of Airway Heights Parks and Recreation Plan is intended to lay the groundwork for the future of the City Park & Recreation System. The Park and Recreation Plan is designed to supplement the Parks and Recreation element of the City's Comprehensive Plan. It expands on the information contained in the Comprehensive Plan by providing significantly greater detail regarding the City, the department and the inventory of the Park and Recreation facilities. This plan inventories existing parks and identifies future park and recreation needs, outlines parks and recreation management and operations, discusses recreation program and services issues, and identifies parks and recreation, goals and objectives. This plan also contains an action plan which describes existing and potential funding sources that will be needed to meet level of service standards and maintain park facilities and recreation services.

This plan contains a detailed inventory of City parks, recreation facilities and related sites. The inventory is supplemented by a description of other facilities available to City residents; specifically, sites and facilities owned by Cheney School District and the Off Road Vehicle Park located outside the City that is owned and controlled by Spokane County. The analysis of this inventory involves an assessment of the size, location, and age of each facility.

In all communities, Parks and Recreation facilities and programs provide an important personal, as well as social, outlet. Parks and Recreation facilities are common areas enjoyed by those people living within the City, those living adjacent to the City in the unincorporated county, as well as by visitors to the City. They provide places for exercise, sporting events, children's playgrounds, relaxation, and community gatherings. Parks and recreation areas also enhance the aesthetic quality of the City and the overall quality of life for its residents. They promote health and wellness, safety and security and economic development for the community. They serve as important community centers and are among the most enjoyed places within the community.

As with other facilities and services the City of Airway Heights provides, Parks and Recreation must be planned to meet the changing demands occurring with growth. As the population within the City limits and the West Plains increases, so to does the demand upon existing facilities and services. As such, Parks and Recreational opportunities must be expanded in order to meet these growing needs. Adequate land must be set-aside for these purposes and capital funds need to be available for development of the facilities. This Parks and Recreation Master Plan makes certain provisions to prepare for future needs so the citizens of Airway Heights will continue to enjoy a high level of Parks and Recreational opportunities in the years to come. This plan was developed pursuant to a public involvement process that sought to actively engage citizens from the Airway Heights Community.

GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

One of the City's most important features is its proximity to Spokane, and its inclusion in the Spokane Metropolitan Statistical Area. Airway Heights is centrally located between Fairchild Air Force Base to the west, and Spokane International Airport to the southeast. Both facilities have an influence on the economic climate of Airway Heights and also play a major part in the overall community population.

The City is also bisected by U.S. Highway 2 and is located just north of Interstate 90. U.S. Highway 2 plays a major role in shaping the future development of the City. In addition to traversing the City, U.S. Highway 2 also has an extensive right-of-way which further divides the City into its "south" and "north" districts.

The south district is comprised primarily of industrial and commercial activities with scattered residential development while the North district consists of mostly residential and commercial uses.

As for the actual physical lay of the land, the City is relatively flat with some low, rolling hills. Changes in elevation do not exceed 100ft. The soils are primarily silt loam, with the average depth to the subsurface water table ranging from six to eight feet.

HISTORY

In 1940, Carl and Flora Lundstrom purchased a section of land (640 acres), on the south side of the Sunset Highway (U.S. Highway 2). Recognizing the need for housing and businesses in the area, officials from the air depot approved the sale. In 1953, Carl Lundstrom announced plans to incorporate one square mile of the west Plains into the City of Airway Heights and on April 15, 1955 the City was incorporated by a 50 to 8 vote. The first City Council meeting was held on May 3, 1955 with Carl Lundstrom presiding as Mayor.

The City of Airway Heights is still a young and evolving community. Within the past few years, the City has experienced significant growth, placing increased demands on the City’s ability to provide services and infrastructure. Due to limitations in available funding to meet these needs, the City must rely on fair and equitable project prioritization to meet the character and personality of the community, as well as look for creative and innovative ways to implement projects to meet demands. The City has a mix of temporary and long-term permanent residents, making planning for the City’s future a challenging task. This results in a community of constant formation and continuous transition.

POPULATION

Population tends to drive development. The demand for City park and recreation services tends to grow as population increases. Demand also increases for living areas, work areas, shopping areas, social and cultural areas, and the many other areas necessary for daily life. The data on the following tables are compiled from the U.S. Census Bureau and data from Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM).

Table 1.4 forecasts the likely population change over the next 20 years. The methodology for determining this forecast was based on the number provided by the State of Washington’s Office of Financial Management (OFM) and the numbers assigned to the city by Spokane County Board of County Commissioners.

Table 1.1 *Population Forecast for Airway Heights, 2009 – 2029 on a 3.46% growth rate*

Year	Population	Year	Population	Year	Population
2009	5,360	2016	6,801	2023	8,629
2010	5,545	2017	7,036	2024	8,928
2011	5,737	2018	7,280	2025	9,237
2012	5,936	2019	7,532	2026	9,556
2013	6,141	2020	7,792	2027	9,800
2014	6,354	2021	8,062	2028	10,052
2015	6,574	2022	8,341	2029	10,313

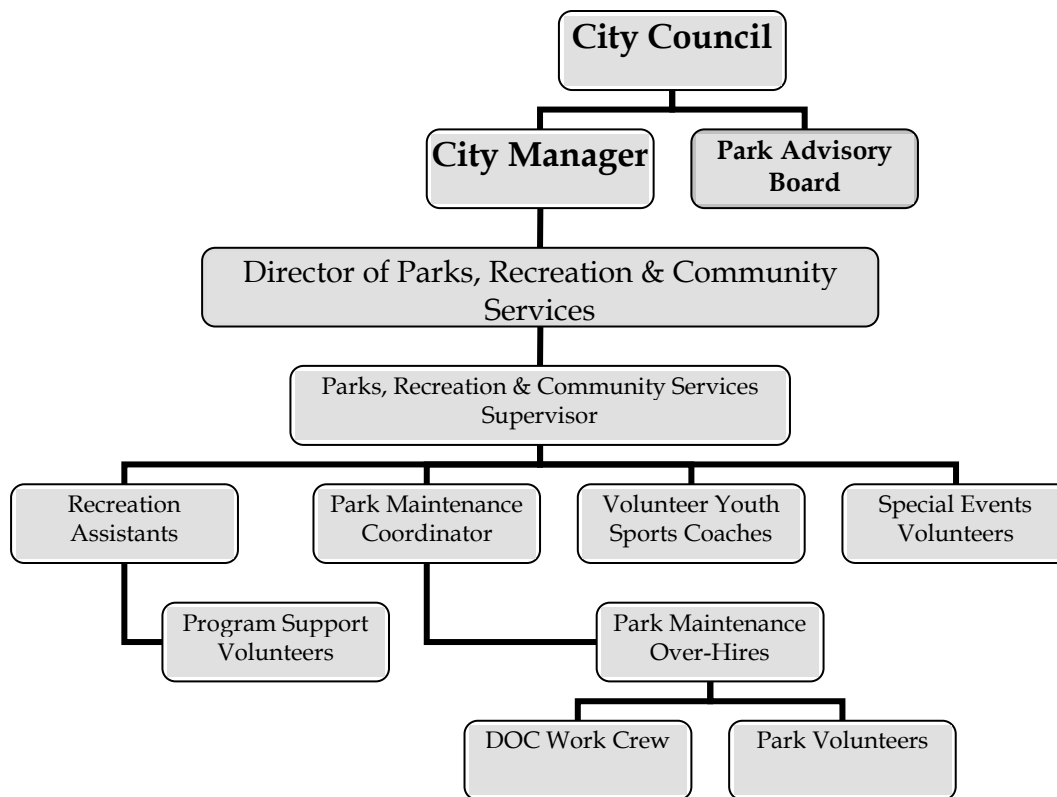
SECTION II

CITY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The City of Airway Heights operates as a Code City with a Council/Manager form of government. Under this form of Government, the Mayor presides at meetings of the City Council. In addition to the Powers conferred upon him as Mayor, he has the rights, privileges and immunities of a member of City Council. The Mayor is recognized as the head of the City for ceremonial purposes and by the Governor for purposes of military law and has no regular administrative duties. The City Manager oversees City operations and specifically the maintenance and operations of City owned facilities.

The Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department has the responsibility for maintenance and operation of the City parks and recreation programs.

Table 2.1 below outlines the organizational structure for the department.



PARK ADVISORY BOARD

The board consists five individuals who are citizens of recognized fitness for such positions who have an interest in the City. Following the appointment by the Mayor, the members are confirmed by the City Council. The terms of the members are three years. The members elect a president, a secretary and such other officers as they deem necessary, these appointments are for a one year period. Election of officers occurs yearly at the first meeting following January 31st of each year. It is the duty of the president to reside at all the meetings of the Board and of the secretary to keep notes at all proceedings of the Board. A majority of the board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business and a majority vote of those present is necessary to carry any proposition. Meetings of the board are held the first Thursday following the first Monday of each month. The board advises city staff regarding the direction of the parks in the planning and development of facilities and programs. The board serves on a volunteer basis and receives no compensation for their service.

Position	Park Advisory Board Appointee	Term Ends
#1	Mrs. Claudette Martin: Secretary	1/31/2011
#2	Mr. Patrick Carbaugh	1/31/2011
#3	Ms. Mary Henson: President	1/31/2010
#4	Ms. Fran Osborne	1/31/2012
#5	Mr. William Boyle	1/31/2012

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Our Vision

We Create Community & Quality of Life through People, Parks & Programs

Airway Heights Parks and Recreation Department strengthens our community’s fabric, health and well-being, economic base and security. Airway Heights residents have long valued neighborhood and community parks as special natural places where they can relax, walk, meditate, enjoy family time, and

seek spiritual renewal. As our quality of life has been threatened by crime, family disintegration, and other modern pressures, the Airway Heights Parks and Recreation Department – in partnership with our School District, the Airway Heights Festival Association and other community-based organizations and business – has risen to the challenge, providing services to increase community health and stability. Today, the Airway Heights Parks and Recreation Department provides much more than recreation experiences.

Through diverse and innovative programming, and broad partnerships, the Parks and Recreation Department plays an important role in creating a healthy community.

We Strengthen Community Image and Sense of Place

Parks, recreation facilities, programs and community events are key factors in strengthening community image and creating a sense of place.

We support Economic Development

Recreation programs and facilities attract and retain businesses and residents, as well as tourists. Parks and recreation provides jobs and generates income for the community and for local businesses.

We Strengthen Safety and Security

Park and recreation professionals provide safe environments for recreation activities and design programs and services specifically to reduce criminal activity.

We Promote Health and Wellness

Participation in recreation activities improves physical, social and emotional health that positively impacts community health and wellness.

We Foster Human Development

Parks and recreation services foster social, intellectual, physical and emotional development.

We Increase Cultural Unity

Parks and recreation increases cultural unity through experiences that promote cultural understanding and celebrate diversity.

We Protect Environmental Resources

By acquiring and protecting valuable resources as open space, greenways, areas, and natural resources are protected and habitat required for the survival of diverse species is preserved.

We Provide Recreational Experiences

Through programmed and self-facilitated recreation, a variety of benefits to individuals, families, neighborhoods, and communities are achieved. Recreational experiences are important as an end in themselves for personal enjoyment.

We Facilitate Community Problem Solving

Park and recreation professionals possess facilitation and leadership skills that can be applied to resolve community problems and issues.

*Parks and Recreation in Airway Heights provides the Space
to Learn & Play to be Safe & Secure to Create & Imagine.*

*We provide the Place, Space and Experiences that Build High
Self-Esteem and the feeling of Living a Full Life.*

Our Mission

Airway Heights Parks & Recreation is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all residents, by providing a wide variety of quality and wholesome leisure activities that meet the community’s recreational needs and interests. We are committed to promoting a leisure services system that includes well maintained Parks and Public Areas and will remain devoted to effectively utilizing all available resources to sustain the confidence of those we serve.

SECTION III

PARK CLASSIFICATION & DESIGN

The following guidelines are taken from **Park, Recreation, Open Space and Greenway Guidelines**, a publication of the National Recreation & Park Association by James D. Mertes, Ph.D., CLP and James R. Hall, CLP. The following classifications are intended to be used as guidelines at the local level. The revised classifications for parks, recreation areas, and open spaces expand upon past classifications to take into consideration local community needs. Park facilities can generally be classed into various categories, such as Mini Parks, Neighborhood Parks, School Parks and Community Parks, each designed to meet the needs of a different type of user group. This section describes each type of park and certain design considerations that influence the placement and design of these parks.

Mini Park

Mini Park is the smallest park classification and is used to address limited or isolate recreational needs. Examples include:

- Concentrated or limited populations.
- Isolated development areas.
- Unique recreational opportunities.

In a residential setting, vest-pocket parks serve the same general purpose as mini-parks and tot-lots of the past. They are also intended to address unique recreational needs, such as:

- Landscaped public use area in an industrial/commercial area.
- Scenic overlooks.
- A play area adjacent to the downtown shopping district.

Although in the past the classification mini-park was often oriented toward active recreation, the new classification has a broader application that includes both active and passive uses. Examples of passive uses include picnic areas, arbors, and sitting areas.

Location & Criteria: Although demographics and population density play a role in location, the justification for a Mini Park lies more in servicing a specific recreational need or taking advantage of a unique opportunity. Given the potential variety of Mini Park activities and locations the service area will vary. In a residential setting, however, the service area is usually less than a ¼ mile in radius. Accessibility by way of interconnecting trails, sidewalks, or low-volume residential streets increases use opportunities and therefore is an important consideration.

Size Criteria: Typically mini parks are between 2,500 square feet and one acre in size, however, park areas less than 5 acres would technically be considered a mini park. Anything larger would be considered a neighborhood park.

Site Selection Criteria / Guidelines: Servicing a specific recreation need, ease of access from the surrounding area, and linkage to the community pathway system are key concerns when selecting a site. The site itself should exhibit the physical characteristics appropriate for its intended uses. It should have well-drained and suitable soils with positive drainage. The desirable amount of topographical change and vegetation is dependent upon intended uses. Usually, these sites are fairly level. Vegetation (natural or planted) should be used to enhance its aesthetic qualities rather than impede development. Ideally, it should also have adjacency to other park system components, most notably greenways and the trail system.

Development Parameters / Recreation Activity Menus: Customer input should be the primary determinant of the development program for a mini park. Although these parks often include elements similar to that of a neighborhood park, there are no specific criteria to guide development of facilities. Given their size, they are typically not intended to be used for programmed activities. Parking is typically not required. Site lighting should be used for security and safety.

Neighborhood Park

Neighborhood Parks remain the basic unit of the park system and serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. They should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities geared specifically for those living within the service area. Accommodating a wide variety of age and user groups, including children, adults, the elderly, and special populations, is important. Creating a sense of place by bringing together the unique character of the site with that of the neighborhood is vital to successful design.

Location & Criteria: A neighborhood park should be centrally located within its service area, which encompasses a ¼ to ½ mile distance uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers. These distances might vary depending on development diversity. The site should be accessible from throughout its service area by way of

interconnecting trails, sidewalks, or low-volume residential streets. Ease of access and walking distance are critical factors in locating a neighborhood park. A person's propensity to use a neighborhood park is greatly reduced if they perceive it to be difficult to access or not within a reasonable walking distance. Frequently neighborhood parks are developed adjacent to elementary schools.

Size Criteria: Demographic profiles and population density within the park's service area are the primary determinants of a neighborhood park's size. Generally 5 acres is accepted as the minimum size necessary to provide space for a menu of recreation activities, 7 to 10 acres is considered optimal.

Site Selection Criteria / Guidelines: Ease of access from the surrounding neighborhood, central location, and linkage to greenways are the key concerns when selecting a site. The site itself should exhibit the physical characteristics appropriate for both active and passive recreational uses. Since one of the primary reasons people go to a park is to experience a pleasant outdoor environment, the site should exhibit some innate aesthetic qualities. "Left-over" parcels of land that are undesirable for development are generally undesirable for neighborhood parks as well and should be avoided. Additionally, it is more cost effective to select a site with inherent aesthetic qualities, rather than trying to create them through extensive site development. Given the importance of location, neighborhood parks should be selected before a subdivision is platted and acquired as part of the development process.

The site should have well-drained and suitable soils and level topography. Ideally, it should be connected to other park system components such as natural resource areas, lakes, ponds, and greenways. Land within a flood plain should only be considered if the facilities are constructed above the 100 year flood elevation. Although a minimum park size of 5 acres is recommended, the actual size should be based on the land area needed to accommodate desired uses.

Development Parameters / Recreation Activity Menus: Since each neighborhood in a community is unique, neighborhood input should be used to determine the development program for the park. The guidelines presented here should be used as a framework to guide program development and ensure consistency with other park system components. They should not be used as an impediment to creative design outcomes.

Development of a neighborhood park should seek to achieve a balance between active and passive park uses. Active recreational facilities are intended to be used in an informal and unstructured manner. With the exception of limited use by youth teams, neighborhood parks are not intended to be used for programmed activities that result in overuse, noise, parking problems, and congestion.

A menu of potential active recreation facilities includes play structures, court games, "informal" playfield or open space, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts, horseshoe area, ice skating area, wading pool, and activity room. Facilities for passive activities include internal trails, picnic/sitting areas, general open space, and "people watching" areas. As a general rule, active recreational facilities should consume roughly 50% of the park's acreage. The remaining 50% should be used for passive activities, reserve, ornamentation, and conservation as appropriate. Developing an appealing park atmosphere should be considered an important design element.

The site should accommodate 7 to 10 off street parking spaces, for use by those who choose or need to drive to the park. Park lighting should be used for security and safety, with very limited lighting on facilities, preferably lighted tennis courts only.

School Park

By combining the resources of two public agencies, the School-Park classification allows for expanding the recreation, social, and educational opportunities available to the community in an efficient and cost effective manner.

Depending on the circumstances, school-park sites often complement other community open lands. As an example, an elementary/middle school site could serve as a neighborhood park. Likewise, a middle or high school could serve as a community park or as youth athletic fields. Depending on its size, one school-park site may serve in a number of capacities, such as a neighborhood park, youth athletic fields, and a school. Given the inherent variability of type, size, and location, determining how a school-park site is integrated into the park system will depend on the particular circumstances of the community. The important outcome in the joint-use relationship is that both the school district and the park system benefit for shared use of facilities and land area.

Location Criteria: for the most part, the location of a school-park site will be determined by the school district based on local policy for the distribution of schools. Given this, the location of a school will often dictate how it is best integrated into the park and recreation system. Where planning efforts coincide, attempts should be made to coordinate the needs of the school district with that of the park and recreation system. This allows for siting, acquisition, and facility development to be responsive to community needs in a most effective and efficient manner. Service areas for school-park depend on the type of use. They should be surrounded by neighborhood streets.

Size Criteria: The optimum size of a school-park site is dependent upon its intended use. The size criteria established for Neighborhood Park and Community Park classifications should be used as appropriate. The school lands, including the building or special use facilities, should not be considered in the LOS.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: The criteria established for Neighborhood Park and Community Park classifications should be used to determine how a school-park site should function. The key factor is to ensure that the site exhibit the physical characteristics appropriate for intended uses.

Development Parameters/Recreation Activity Menus: The criteria established for Neighborhood Park and Community Park should be used to determine how a school-park site is developed. Where feasible, if athletic fields are developed at a school-park site, they should be oriented toward youth rather than adult programs.

Establishing a clearly defined joint-use agreement between involved agencies is critical to making school-park relationships workable. This is particularly important with respect to acquisition development, maintenance, liability, use, and programming of facilities issues. Different populations in a larger service area challenge planners to fashion the proper recreation activity menu to meet local needs.

Community Park

Community parks are larger in size and serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. Their focus is on meeting the recreation needs of several neighborhoods, large sections of the community, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces. They allow for group activities and offer other recreational opportunities not feasible, nor perhaps desirable, at the neighborhood level. As with neighborhood parks, they should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities.

Location Criteria: A community park should serve two or more neighborhoods. Although its service area should be ½ mile to 3 miles in radius, the quality of the natural resource base should play a significant role in site selection. The site should be serviced by arterial and collector streets. Community parks should be strategically sited throughout the community, their locations can be significantly impacted by other types of parks. Most notable among these are school parks, natural resource areas, and regional parks, each of which may provide some of the same recreational opportunities provided in community parks. The level of service these other parks provide should be used, in part, as justification for or against a community park in a specific area.

Size Criteria: Demographic profiles, population density, resource availability, and recreation demand within its service area are the primary determinants of a community park's size. Although an optimal size for a community park is between 20 and 50 acres, its actual size should be based on the land area needed to accommodate desired uses.

Site Selection Criteria / Guidelines: The site's natural character should play a very significant role in site selection, with emphasis on sites that preserve unique landscapes within the community and/or provide recreational opportunities not otherwise available. Ease of access from throughout the service area, geographically centered, and relationship to other park areas are also key concerns in site selection.

The site should exhibit physical characteristics appropriate for both active and passive recreation use. It should have suitable soils, positive drainage, varying topography, and a variety of vegetation. Where feasible, it should be adjacent to natural resource areas and greenways. These linkages tend to expand the recreational opportunities within the community and enhance one's perception of surrounding open space.

Development Parameters Recreation Activities Menu: Neighborhood and community input should be the primary determinant of development for a community park. As with a neighborhood park, community parks are typically developed for both active and passive uses. Although active recreation facilities are intended to be used in an informal and unstructured manner, reserved and programmed use is compatible and acceptable. However, community parks are not intended to be used extensively for programmed adult athletic use and tournaments.

A menu of potential active recreation facilities includes large play structures and/or creative play attractions, game courts, informal ball fields for youth play, tennis courts, volleyball courts, horseshoe areas, ice skating areas and swimming pools. Passive activity facilities include extensive internal trails (that connect to the community trail system), individual and group picnic/sitting areas, general open space and unique landscapes/features, nature study areas, and ornamental gardens. Facilities for cultural activities, such as plays and concerts in the park, are also appropriate. The distribution of land area between active and passive recreation, reserve, ornamentation, conservation, and cultural areas is determined on a site by site basis.

Parking lots should be provided as necessary to accommodate user access. Park Lighting should be used for security, safety, and lighting facilities as appropriate.

Sports Complex

The Sports Complex classification consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities at larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community. This allows for:

- Economies of scale and higher quality facilities.
- Improved management / scheduling.
- Improved control of the facility use.
- Greater control of negative impacts to neighborhood and community parks, such as overuse, noise, traffic congestion, parking, and domination of facilities by those outside the neighborhood.

Sports complexes should be developed to accommodate the specific needs of user groups and athletic associations based on demands and program offerings. Where possible, school-park sites should be used for youth athletics such as Tee-ball, soccer, and flag football, to minimize duplication of facilities; athletic fields are a good example of the multiple use concept in park facility grouping. The fields can be used for a variety of sports so as to accommodate more participants. Also, the facility can be scheduled more heavily than a single use facility. Sports Complexes include fields and courts for softball, soccer, tennis, basketball, volleyball, and racket ball.

Location Criteria: Sport complexes should be viewed as strategically located community-wide facilities rather than serving well-defined neighborhoods or areas. They should be located within reasonable and equal driving distance from populations served. Locating them adjacent to non-residential land uses is preferred. Buffering (topographic breaks, vegetation, etc.) should be used where facilities are located adjacent to residential areas. Identifying athletic field sites prior to residential development is critical to avoiding long term conflicts. Sites should be accessible from major thoroughfares. Direct access through residential areas should be avoided. Given that athletic facilities will likely be used for league play and tournaments, access routes from outside the community should also be considered. The site should be easily accessible by way of interconnecting trails, as well.

Projected facility needs based on demographic profiles, age-group population forecasts, and participation rates should be used to determine the facilities menu for a sports complex. The space requirements should be facility driven to meet projected need. Space for adequate spectator seating should be provided. Consideration should be given to acquiring an additional 20% to 25% of the total acreage for reserve against unforeseen space needs. To minimize the number of sites required, each site should be a minimum of 40 acres, with 80 to 150 acres being optimal.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: The site should exhibit physical characteristics appropriate for developing athletic facilities. Topography and soils are of the utmost concern in this instance. Although extreme topographical change should be avoided, some elevation change is desirable to allow for drainage and to give the site some character. Well drained and suitable soils are also important. Natural vegetation along the perimeter of the site and in non-field areas is desirable in that it adds to the overall visual appeal of the site. Locating sports complexes adjacent to other park system components, especially natural resource areas and greenways, is also desirable to buffer their impact on surrounding land uses. Access to public utilities must also be considered.

Development Parameters: Projected demand for specific types of facilities should be the primary determinant of a sports complexes development program.

Sports complexes are intended for programmed athletic use, such as adult organized softball, etc. and tournaments. Sports complexes increase tourism, drawing both tournament participants and spectators. A menu of potential facilities includes ball-fields, soccer fields, football fields, outdoor and indoor skating rinks, tennis courts, play structures, hard-courts, and volleyball courts. Internal trails should provide access to all facilities as well as connection to the pathway system. Group picnic areas and shelters should also be considered. Support facilities include multipurpose buildings, restrooms, and common space.

Parking lots should be provided as necessary to accommodate participants and spectators. Lights should be used for security, safety, and lighting facilities as appropriate. Field lighting should not be located so as to create a nuisance to nearby residents. Also, note that each sports governing body provides specific facility development standards.

Special Use Park

The special; use classification covers a broad range of parks and recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use. Special uses generally fall into three categories:

- Historic/Cultural/Social Sites-unique local resources offering historical, educational, and cultural opportunities. Examples include historic downtown areas, performing arts parks, arboretums, ornamental gardens, performing arts facilities, indoor theaters, churches, public buildings, and amphitheaters.

- Recreation Facilities – specialized or single purpose facilities. Examples include community centers, senior centers, community theaters, hockey arenas, marinas, golf courses, and aquatic parks. Frequently community buildings are located in neighborhood and community parks.
- Outdoor Recreation Facilities – examples include tennis centers, softball complexes, and sports stadiums.

Location Criteria: Recreation need, community interests, the type of facility, and land availability are the primary factors influencing location. Special use facilities should be viewed as strategically located community-wide facilities rather than as serving well-defined neighborhoods or areas. The site should be easily accessible from arterial and collector streets, where feasible. It should also be accessible from the light traffic system.

Size Criteria: Facility space requirements are the primary determinants of site size. As an example, a golf course may require 150 acres, whereas a community center with parking may fit on 10 or 15 acres.

Site Selection Criteria/Guidelines: Where feasible, a geographically central site is optimal. Given the variety of potential special uses, no specific standards are defined for site selection. As with all park types, the site itself should exhibit the physical characteristics appropriate for its use.

Development Parameters/Recreation Activities Menu: Since each special use facility is unique, community input through surveys and focus meetings should be the primary determinant of its development program. There are numerous technical books, manuals, and planning guidelines in the literature addressing the preservation, restoration, operation, maintenance, and interpretation of historic and cultural sites, buildings and artifacts.

SECTION IV

PARKS & RECREATION INVENTORY

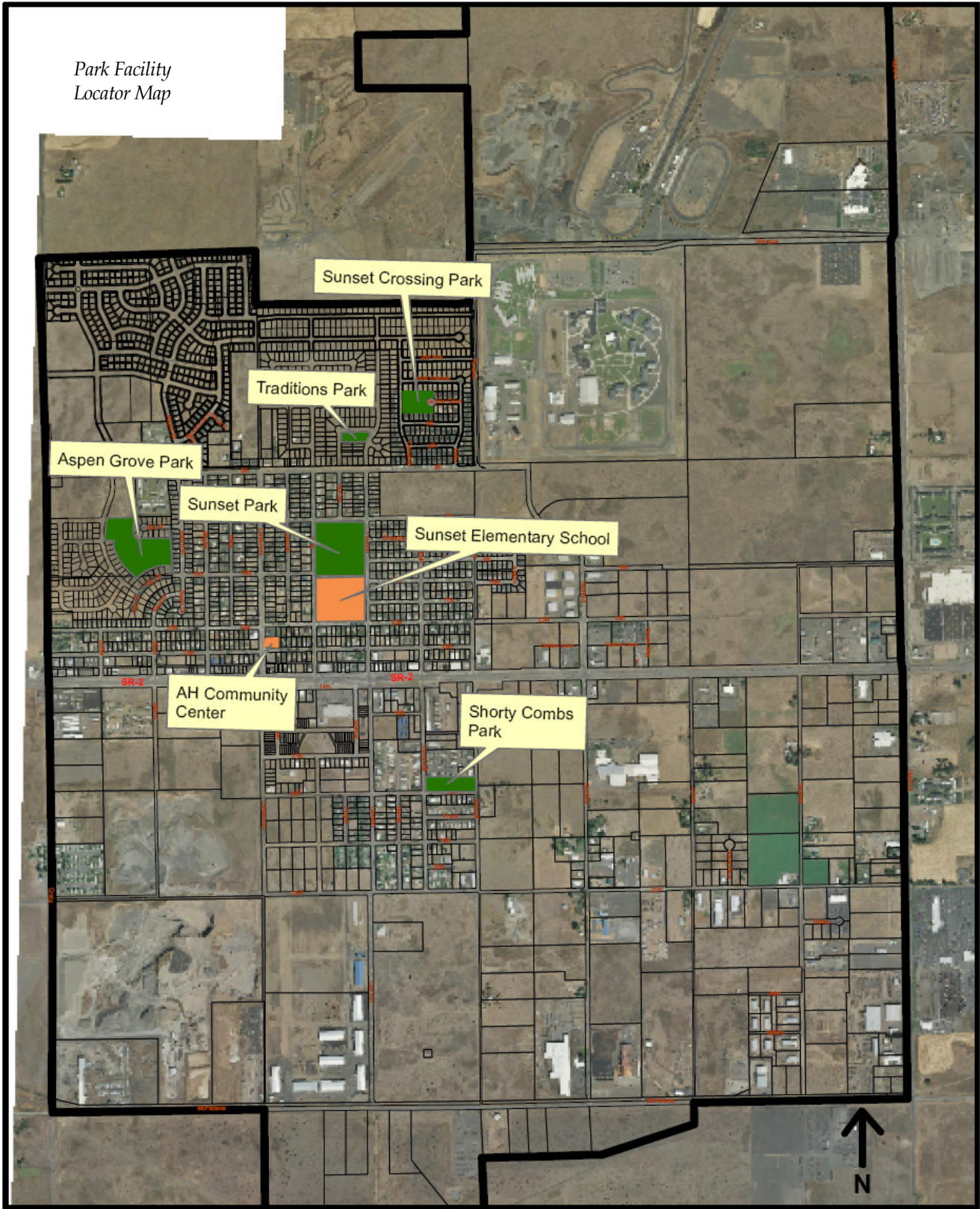
The existing park and recreation facilities and services provide the basis upon which to build a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. An inventory and assessment of the location, quantity, and quality of such facilities and services provides the basis for comparing existing supply against current and future park and recreation demand. An understanding of the existing system’s facilities and capabilities will help determine the extent of improvements necessary to meet future demand.

The City of Airway Heights parks system is currently comprised of 4 parks encompassing 14.97 acres and has approved the Master Plan to develop a 5th park that will encompass an additional 8.5 acres. The City also operates a community center and has a partnership in place with the elementary school (operated by Cheney School District) allowing additional recreational opportunities to take place. Figure 4.1 below shows the current park land inventory and the Park & Recreation Facility locator map is on the following page.

Figure 4.1 *Park Land Inventory*

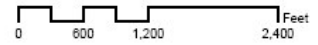
Park Name	Developed Acres	Undeveloped Acres
Sunset Park	9.6 Acres	*
Shorty Combs Park	2 Acres	*
Sunset Crossing Park	2.04 Acres	*
Aspen Grove Park	*	8.5 Acres
Traditions Park	0.97 Acres	*

Park Facility
Locator Map



Airway Heights GIS
February, 2009

City of Airway Heights
Park Facility Locator Map



The following is a list and description of the parks and recreational opportunities within the City of Airway Heights.

Sunset Park: Approximately 9.6 acres, this park is located in a residential neighborhood in the northwest area of the City at 924 South Lawson St. It serves both young and old, providing a baseball/softball field, a skate park, volleyball court, a basketball court and age-appropriate playgrounds for pre-kindergarten and grade school age children. There are also picnic facilities, including covered picnic shelters. Paved parking is available at the perimeters of the park, along with jogging/walking trails. Restroom facilities are located within the park as well and are handicap accessible. Maintenance storage facilities are also found within the park boundaries.

Shorty Combs Park: Approximately 2 acres in size, this park is located in the southern section of the City at 12500 18th Avenue. This park offers a basketball court, a playground, a youth soccer field, a tee-ball field and three barbecue areas and restroom facilities.

Sunset Crossing Park

Sunset Crossing Park (working title) is approximately 2.04 acres in size. This park is located in the Sunset Crossing subdivision at 335 South Campbell St., park elements include a concrete restroom building; age-appropriate playgrounds for pre-kindergarten and grade school age children; benches and drinking fountains; paved pathways; additions of low berms for play; large open play areas for football, Frisbee, etc.; deciduous shade trees, flowering trees, and evergreen trees to break up the park space.

Traditions Park: Approximately one acre in size, located in the Traditions subdivision at 508 South Lawson St.; park elements include a playground, an open play area, deciduous shade trees, flowering trees and evergreen trees to break up the park space.

Aspen Grove Park: Approximately eight and a half acres in size, this new park is yet to be developed. In the spring of 2007 the City undertook the task of developing a site plan for this park. Through the master planning process, a series of design alternatives were explored, with a final master plan prepared in early 2008. The Master Plan was approved by the City Council in December of 2008.

Sunset Elementary School: Located adjacent to Sunset Park and owned by the Cheney School District, its outdoor facilities encompass approximately seven and a half acres. It provides opportunities such as a playground facility, play courts, and a large open playfield. The indoor gymnasium is utilized to offer an after school program and for other activities including meeting space for large groups. The Recreation Department enjoys use of the school grounds and gymnasium through an intergovernmental agreement and relies heavily on the use of these facilities to provide the various youth and adult sports leagues that are offered to the community through cooperative agreements with the City of Medical Lake, the City of Cheney and Fairchild Air Force Base.

Airway Heights Community Center: Located at 13120 West 13th Avenue, this facility is often utilized for public meetings and various other programs, and encompasses 4,644 square feet. There is also an outdoor play area for preschool children, as well as an additional one-third acre of outdoor green space. The Community Center facilitates numerous community and city programs such as Early Childhood Education and Parenting (ECEAP) Program, Women with Infants and Children (WIC) Program, Spokane Neighborhood Action Programs (SNAP), Boy Scouts, Summer Meals Program, Summer Adventure Program, After School Mentoring Program, Drop In Program, Senior Lunch Program and various other recreational programs serving youth and active adults. The Community Center also shares facilities with City planning and building departments and the Fire Chief and Fire Marshall offices are also located on the lower level. The upper level of the building serves as the Municipal Court Room, City Council Chambers, and the meeting room for the Planning Commission.

SECTION V

TRAIL - BIKE ROUTE CLASSIFICATION & DESIGN GUIDELINES

Background

Providing alternative modes of transportation is an important element of the Airway Heights Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Plan, and Parks & Recreation Master Plan. The Growth Management Act (GMA) requires that communities try and develop alternative transportation systems. Such transportation systems help to create a health conscious community and interconnectivity between neighbors. Well developed bicycle routes also provide excellent recreation opportunities for individuals and families. They expand the accessibility to parks for residents and visitors, provide increased opportunities to observe local flora and fauna, and provide increased fitness activities. With the negative health impacts brought about by the lack of exercise opportunities in our communities, providing a safe, clearly defined, non-motorized transportation system is more important than ever.

A non-motorized transportation system should provide connectivity between three key elements of a community. Those elements are employment centers, recreation areas, and residential areas. Residents should be able to utilize non-motorized transportation modes to access recreational areas and to commute to work. Therefore, when developing bicycle facilities, emphasis should be placed on ensuring bicyclists can access any combination of these options, on a continuous route.

Local non-motorized transportation routes should also be developed to connect to a greater regional system. This prevents the development of a bicycle "island" – a non-motorized trail system that is completely self-contained with no connectivity to external routes. Without adequate connectivity to a regional trail network, commuters from other jurisdictions cannot access different jurisdictions using non-motorized transportation alternatives. This would effectively prevent one of the primary purposes intended under the GMA for these routes – to reduce motorized commuter trips.

One of the major concerns preventing more individuals from using non-motorized transportation alternatives is safety. This is a key element in determining the likelihood that any transportation route will be utilized. Specifically defined routes, built to appropriate standards, help to increase the actual safety for non-motorized commuters. On shared roads, painted lanes and signage increase the awareness of drivers that non-motorized vehicles are sharing the road with them. As more bicycles use the roads, drivers also become more comfortable with sharing these routes with non-motorized forms of transit.

Bike Facility Classification

To better integrate the City of Airway Heights' bicycle route plan with the regional system, Airway Heights will use the five (5) tier route classification system recommended by the Spokane Regional Transportation Council (SRTC). Generally, non-motorized transportation facilities are developed along pre-existing transportation routes such as local streets, collector arterials, railways, and highways. Bicycle facilities are usually shared routes, providing for both automobiles and bicycles. Often, separated bicycle routes (Class I) are shared with pedestrians, but this should be minimized through the use of a dedicated pedestrian trail system and sidewalk installation.

The amount of infrastructure development needed to provide safe alternative modes of transportation can be generally correlated to the speed limit, width, and state of repair of any road that will become a proposed route and the type of bicycle facilities intended. For example, the higher the speed limit associated with a proposed route, the more important providing distinct separation between motorized and non-motorized traffic becomes. Also, it is generally more cost effective to develop Class I routes from the ground up, along road or railway easements, or along unfinished roads, than it is to retrofit a pre-existing road. The most cost effective way to develop Class II routes is to develop them on currently existing roads that are paved wide enough to accommodate a bike lane, but may require re-striping and narrowing of travel and parking lanes. Class II facilities can also be easily implemented when installing new street improvements. Class III routes are designated through signage, and require minimal infrastructure development. The five (5) tier route classification systems recommended by the SRTC are as follows:

Class I - Shared Use Path

Facilities on separate right-of-way and with minimal cross flow by motor vehicles. Minimum width of 6 feet.

Class II - Bike Lane

A portion of the roadway which has been designated by striping, signage, and/or pavement marking, for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. Minimum width of 5 feet with an additional 8 inch stripe.

Class III - Signed Shared Roadway

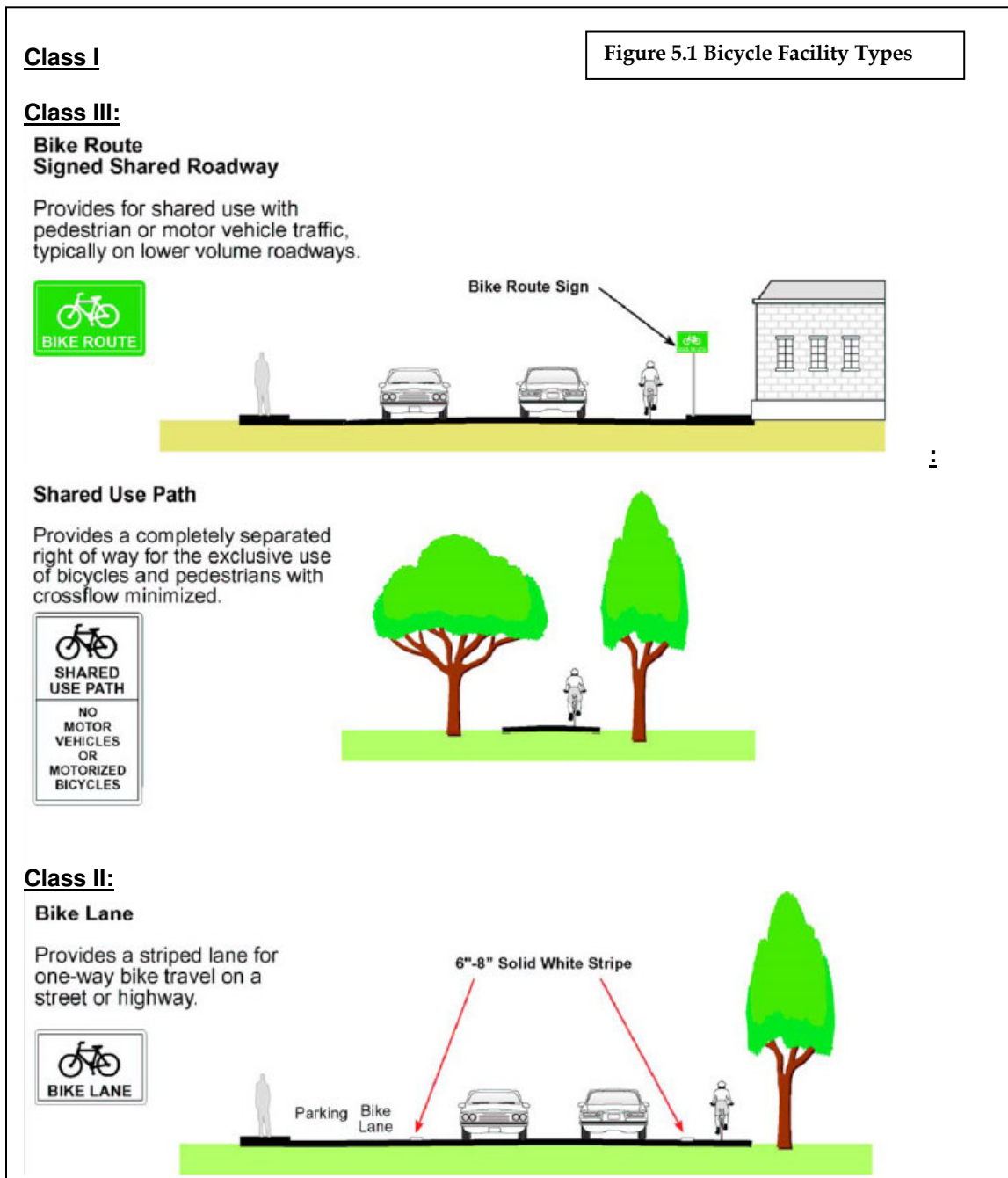
A lane allowing both motorized traffic and bicycle traffic, marked with signage. Minimum width of 14 feet.

Class IV - Shared Roadway

A lane allowing both motorized traffic and bicycle traffic. Outside or curb lane minimum of 14 feet.

Class IX - Bicycles Prohibited

Bicycles are prohibited from using the street. There are no streets in Airway Heights, currently, that prohibit bicycle traffic.



Class IV routes are not shown because Class IV routes are any routes that allow for non-motorized traffic, but are not specifically designated as such through signage or striping. Any route not designated as Class I, Class II, or Class III, is considered a Class IV bicycle route. These consist primarily of neighborhood streets in residential areas.

There are no Class IX routes within the Airway Heights city limits.

Bicycle Route Designations

The Airway Heights Parks Advisory Board and Staff designated seven (7) primary routes. These are the main access routes into and through the City. They also connect employment centers, parks, and residential areas. These should be initially built to either Class II or Class III bicycle facility standards.

The primary north/south routes are Hayford Rd, Craig Rd, Garfield Rd, Lawson St and the future extension of Lundstrom St. The primary east/west routes are 12th Ave, Sections of SR-2, 6th Ave, McFarlane Rd, and Deno Rd. Deno Rd, Craig Rd, Hayford Rd, and McFarlane Rd border the City limits and will require coordination with Spokane County in order to implement any changes to these roads. (*note: Hayford Rd is already designated as a Bike Route*) The development of the route following the future extension of Lundstrom St will also require coordination with Spokane County. (*See Map on page 16*)

The Park Advisory Board and Staff have designated eighteen (17) routes as secondary routes. Secondary routes should branch off primary routes. Secondary routes provide direct access to employment centers, parks, and residential areas, or they act as connection routes between primary routes.

Lundstrom St, Lawson St, Ketchum St, and Lyons St, Solar St, as well as sections of Campbell St, Russell St, and Hayden St, comprise the north/south secondary routes. The east / west routes are comprised of Sections of 1st Ave, 8th Ave, 10th Ave, 12th Ave 21st Ave, sections of 18th Ave, Pacific Ave, Sprague Ave and Meadow Ct. The minimum bicycle facility standards for these routes are Class II or Class III.

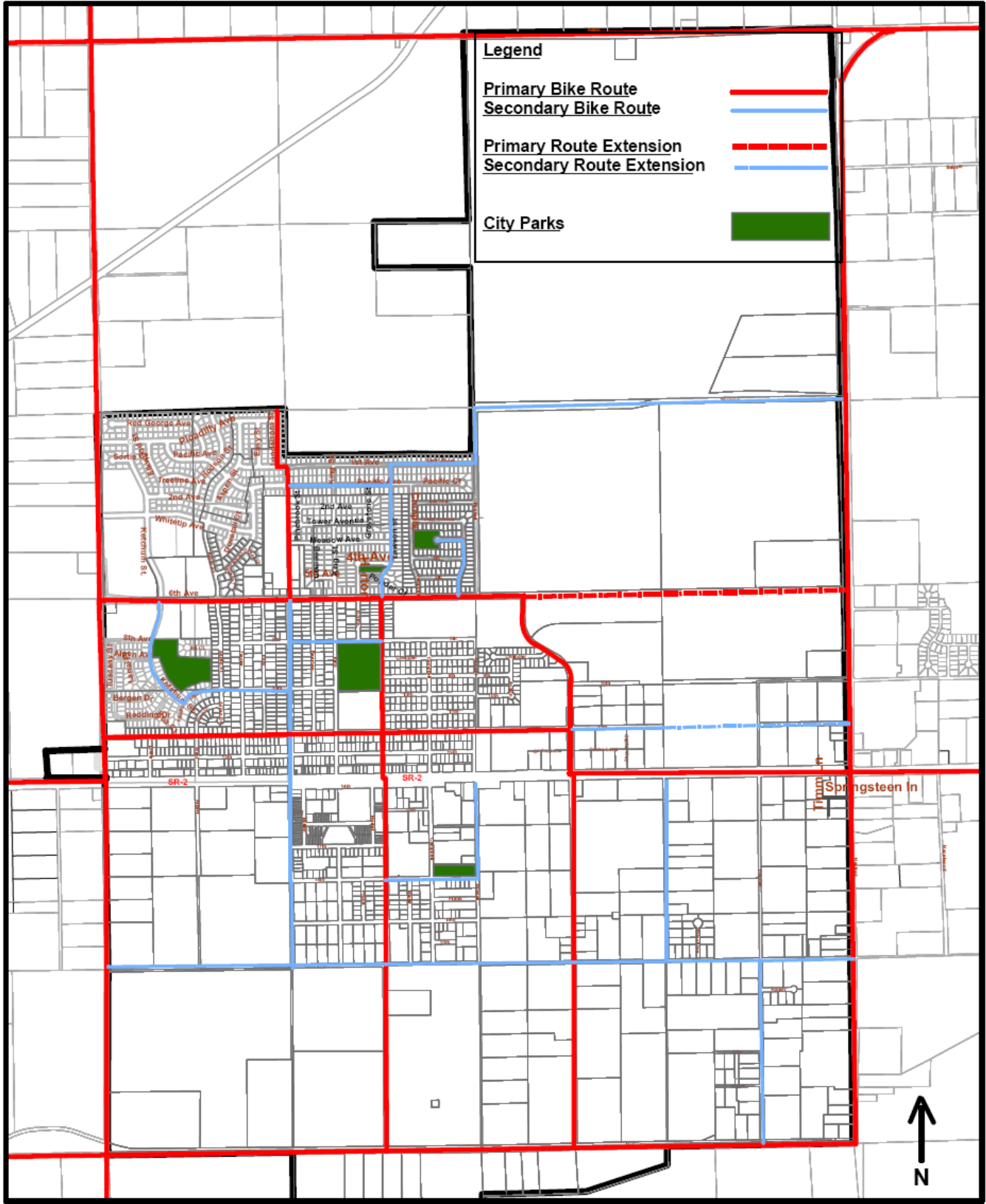
All other streets in Airway Heights are considered Class IV bicycle facilities.

Road Inventory & Analysis

In this analysis, existing roads in Airway Heights are categorized under three (3) primary categories. These categories are "gravel"; "paved, too narrow"; "paved Rd. adequate width". (*See Map on page 17*)

The state of Airway Heights' road system in relation to developing a comprehensive non-motorized transportation system is mixed. There is a distinctive difference in the level of development of roads between those roads located north of SR-2 and those located south of SR-2. Almost all the roads north of SR-2 are paved. These serve the majority of residential areas in the City. Over half the roads south of SR-2 are un-paved or dead end. These primarily serve the industrial and manufacturing areas of the City.

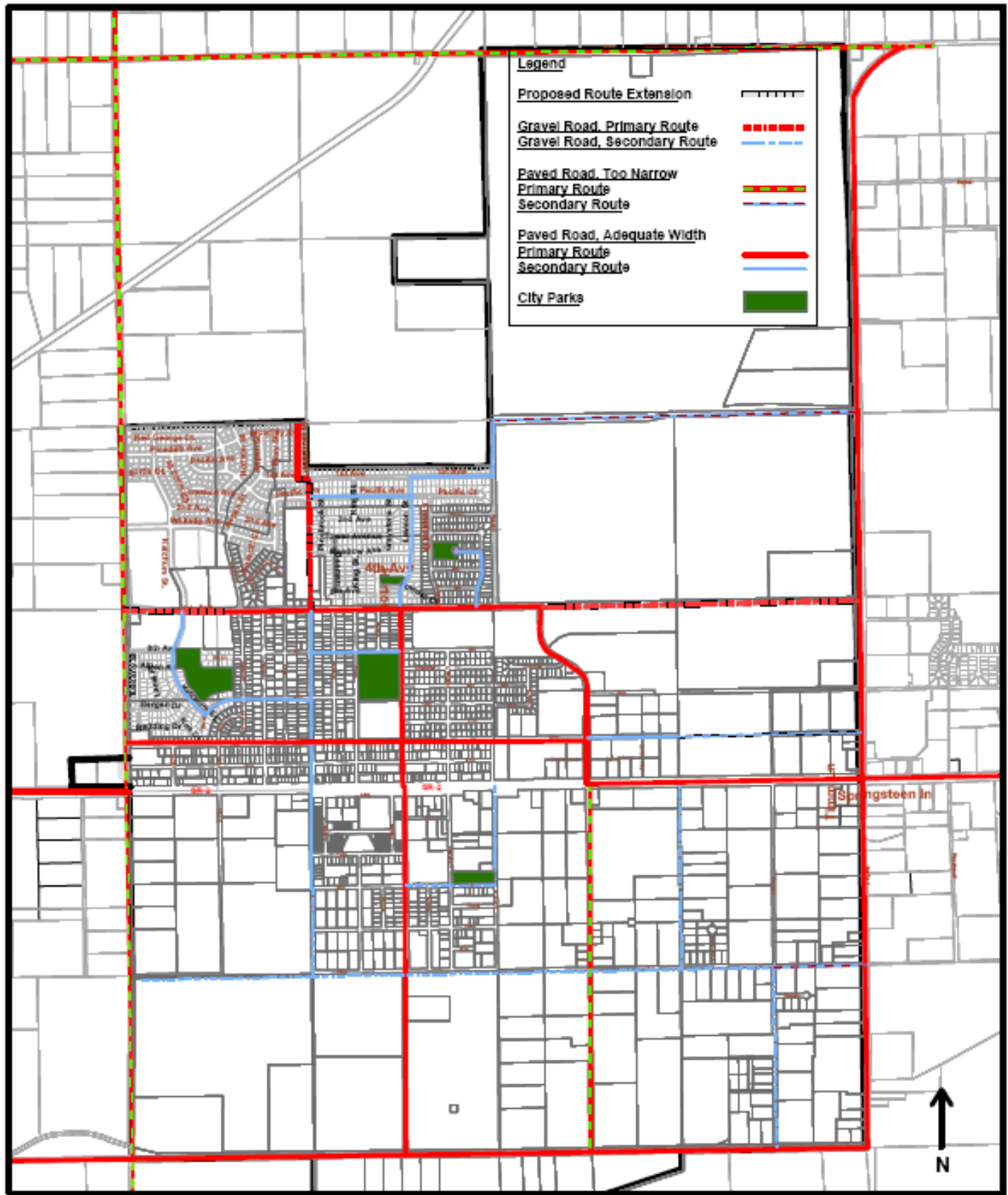
Many of the existing paved roads are not currently wide enough to accommodate a bike lane. In order to accommodate bicycles, the sides of the roads will need to be built up and the roads widened. Those paved roads that are wide enough usually allow for on-street parking, effectively preventing the use of the right of way closest to the curb as bike lanes at this time. Non-paved roads allow for the most potential, but tend to be located in areas of minimal development and are low on the priority list for road improvements.



Airway Heights GIS
August, 2008

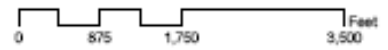
**Airway Heights
Proposed Bike Routes
(20 Year Plan)**





July, 2008
Airway Heights, GIS

**Proposed Bike Routes
& Road Inventory**



SECTION VI

PARKS & RECREATION ISSUES & GOALS

A survey to determine the needs and wishes of the community was completed in 2008 with a series of follow-up workshops completed in 2009. The outcomes will be discussed in more detail later in this Plan. *It is the intent of this Plan to enhance and strengthen the City's park system by addressing those issues identified by Airway Heights residents into a plan of action.* This Plan also helps ensure the potential for additional funding for those projects identified in the Parks and Recreation Improvement Program of this Plan.

Maintaining and developing high quality parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces as the City of Airway Heights continues to grow will help preserve the quality of life afforded to its residents. The goals of the City are based on the premise of providing parks for both active and passive recreational activities, suited to meet the needs of compact development patterns. Emphasis will be placed on the importance of ensuring that open space is preserved and in close enough proximity to be enjoyed by all residents. Emphasis will also be placed on the maintenance and continued enhancement of existing park and recreation facilities.

The City of Airway Heights has therefore established a series of goals (Table 6.1) in support of its overall parks and recreation goal, to help address those current issues facing the City. These goals are consistent with the demonstrated needs and desires of the community. These goals are also entirely consistent with the goals of the Growth Management Act (GMA), specifically Goal #9; *"encourage the retention of open space and development of recreational opportunities, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to resource lands and water, and develop parks"* [RCW 36.70A.020(2)].

Table 6.1 *Issues & Goals of Parks & Recreation*

<i>Overriding Community Goal for Parks & Recreation</i>	<i>Develop and maintain an attractive, safe, and functional parks and recreation system available to all people within the community that meets the needs and demands of the community.</i>
Parks & Recreation Issue	Goal
The City recognizes the increasing demand on the west plains for quality parks, recreational facilities & programs that create opportunities for living, learning, & leading full, productive, healthy lives.	Ensure that every home in the City lies within the service area of a park. Establish a Regional Community Recreational Complex, with sport fields & room for future expansion for other recreational pursuits.
The City recognizes the importance of establishing areas that create opportunities to live & interact with families, work groups, & neighbors.	Improve the overall community image by creating areas that enhance the sense of civic pride within the City.
The City recognizes it should seek creative ways to address the need & demand for recreational opportunities of its citizens.	Creatively optimize recreational opportunities for the City's residents.
The City understands that parks, recreation, & open spaces are an investment in the future well-being of individuals & groups as well as the continued vitality of the community.	Ensure park & recreation facilities within the community are of a safe & healthy nature.
The City recognizes it has a diverse population of old & young alike.	Provide both active & passive recreational opportunities for the community.
The City recognizes the community as ever-changing & expanding.	Provide parklands & recreational opportunities that enhance the livability & meet the needs of the City's residents.
The City recognizes the need for better access & linkage opportunities to the park & recreation facilities it provides.	Provide a network of trails & pathways throughout the community to maximize access to the City's parks & recreation system
The City recognizes that trees enhance the aesthetic value of the community.	Maintain status as a Tree City USA.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

As part of this Plan's preparation, the City of Airway Heights conducted a survey, which was distributed in the City's monthly utility billing. The City's Community Development Department also participated ensuring this Plan's consistency with the community visions, goals, and objectives of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Public workshops involving the Park Board, Planning Commission, City Council, and citizens were also conducted.

The survey assisted in determining the community's existing needs and future demands for parks and recreational opportunities. In addition, Park Board, and Planning Commission workshops helped frame the policies to support the City's public investments and day-to-day activities in meeting those future needs.

The City distributed 923 copies of the survey in its monthly utility billing for January & February 2008 and estimates all households in Airway Heights received a copy. Of these, 125 (13%) were returned to the City and the results of the survey are compiled in Table 6.2 below.

Table 6.2 Quick Trend Results of the 2008 Community Park & Recreation Needs Assessment Survey

Question	Results	Question	Results
1. How important are: <u>Very Important*</u>		1. How important are: <u>Moderately Important**</u>	
Natural Areas	78%	Playgrounds	63%
Trails & Sidewalks	78%	Community Center	61%
Restrooms	74%	Recreation Programs	55%
Picnic Areas	71%	Community Fitness Facility	52%
		Athletic Fields	53%
		Play Courts	45%
Notes: For Question 1, recipients were asked to rate items on a scale of 1 (less important) to 5 (very important). *Considered Very Important if answers of 4 & 5 exceeded 70%. **Considered Moderately Important if answers of 4 & 5 were between 40 - 69%. For example; restrooms had 16% of survey responses rated 4 & 58% rated 5, thereby 74% (16 + 58) of survey responses were felt to consider Restrooms to be Very Important.			
Question	Results	Question	Results
2. Are existing Parks & Recreation Facilities adequate?		3. What Park Facilities do we need more of?	
No	46%	Mini Parks	29%
Yes	30%	Neighborhood Parks	38%
Don't Know	24%	Natural Areas	52%
		Athletic Fields	29%
		Play Grounds	35%
		Skate Parks	10%
		Trails	64%
		Picnic Areas	50%
Question	Results	Question	Results
4. What programs are being used?		5. What programs would you like more of?	
Youth	26%	Youth	28%
Teen	14%	Teen	32%
Adult	26%	Adult	35%
Special Event	32%	Athletic/Sports	20%
Senior	16%	Instructional/Educational	20%
Athletic	18%	Exercise/Leisure	44%

Question	Results	Question	Results
6. Should the City revisit the development of a Recreation Center? Yes No	70% 30%	7. What other specific projects & or improvements to the City's Parks & Recreation services would you like to see in the future?	Question 7 provided space for respondents to write in comments; the majority of the responses emphasized the need for a swimming pool in the community.

Notable Trends

- Residents support the idea of a community pool or water park.
- Residents feel that Natural Areas, Trails, Picnic Areas and Restrooms are very important considerations when planning parks.
- Residents believe existing park & recreational facilities are inadequate & prefer balancing acquisition of new facilities while maintaining existing ones.
- Residents would like to see more linkages between park & recreational facilities, as well as amenity improvements to existing facilities.
- Residents participate in active recreational programs.
- Residents would like to see a balance between establishing new recreation programs & enhancing existing ones.
- Residents support the idea of a new community/recreation center in the community & would like to see a swimming pool, activity rooms, & youth activities as part of such a center.

The Park Advisory Board held a public workshop on July 10, 2008 to present the results of the survey to the public and garner further public input. On August 7, 2008 the Park Advisory Board held a public workshop that focused on the addition of a bicycle section to the plan. Work on the addition of this section consumed the remainder of 2008. A draft version of the plan was then sent out for Public Comment on January 29, 2009. A notice was placed in the utility billing and on the City's public access television channel informing all residents that the Parks & Recreation Department was seeking public comment on the suggested updates to the plan. The Plan was available for review on the City's website and copies of the plan were also made available at City Hall and at the Community Center. Copies of the draft were also sent to the following public agencies:

- The Washington State Recreation Conservation Office (RCO)
- Spokane County Department of Parks, Recreation & Golf
- The City of Cheney Parks & Recreation Department
- The City of Medical Lake Parks & Recreation Department
- Cheney School District
- Washington State Department of Transportation
- Spokane County Division of Engineering & Roads
- The Kalispel Tribe
- The Spokane Tribe
- Spokane Regional Transportation Council
- Friends of the Centennial Trail
- Fairchild Air Force Base
- City of Spokane Planning Services
- City of Spokane Parks & Recreation Department
- Washington State Department of Natural Resources
- Washington State Community Trade and Economic Development - Growth Management Services

Following the comment period a joint public workshop was held by the Park Advisory Board and the Planning Commission on March 9, 2009. The plan was presented to the City Council at a public workshop on March 16, 2009. The City Council held a public hearing on the suggested updates to the plan on April 6, 2009. On April 9, the Park Advisory Board approved resolution PB09-02 and on April 13, 2009 the Planning Commission held public hearing and passed resolution PC 09-01 supporting the Park Advisory Board resolution recommending that the City Council adopt the updated plan. On April 20, 2009 staff presented Resolution 2009-009 to the City Council.

PARK & RECREATION DEMAND & NEEDS ASSESSMENT

It is those people who live here, who live in the surrounding areas, who work here and who visit the City of Airway Heights that drive the demand for parks and recreation opportunities in the community. Surrounding land uses also influence demand for parks and recreational facilities. As demonstrated by the surveys and in interactions with the public, there is a need to enhance existing facilities; provide new facilities, activities, and events; and provide more linkages, including sidewalks and trails, within the overall community.

A park demand assessment was also completed comparing the population of Airway Heights to the park and recreation standards established by the City. Table 6.3 shows this comparison of what the City now has, using 2009 population projections from the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM), and what the City is expected to need in the future, using a 2029 population projection from OFM.

Table 6.3 Existing & Future Park Facility Demand

Activity/Facility	City Adopted Standard (per unit of population)	Current Available	2009 Demand (2,860 pop.)	2029 Demand (7,813 pop.)
Parks	10ac/1,000 pop.	14.97 acres	28.6 acres	78.13

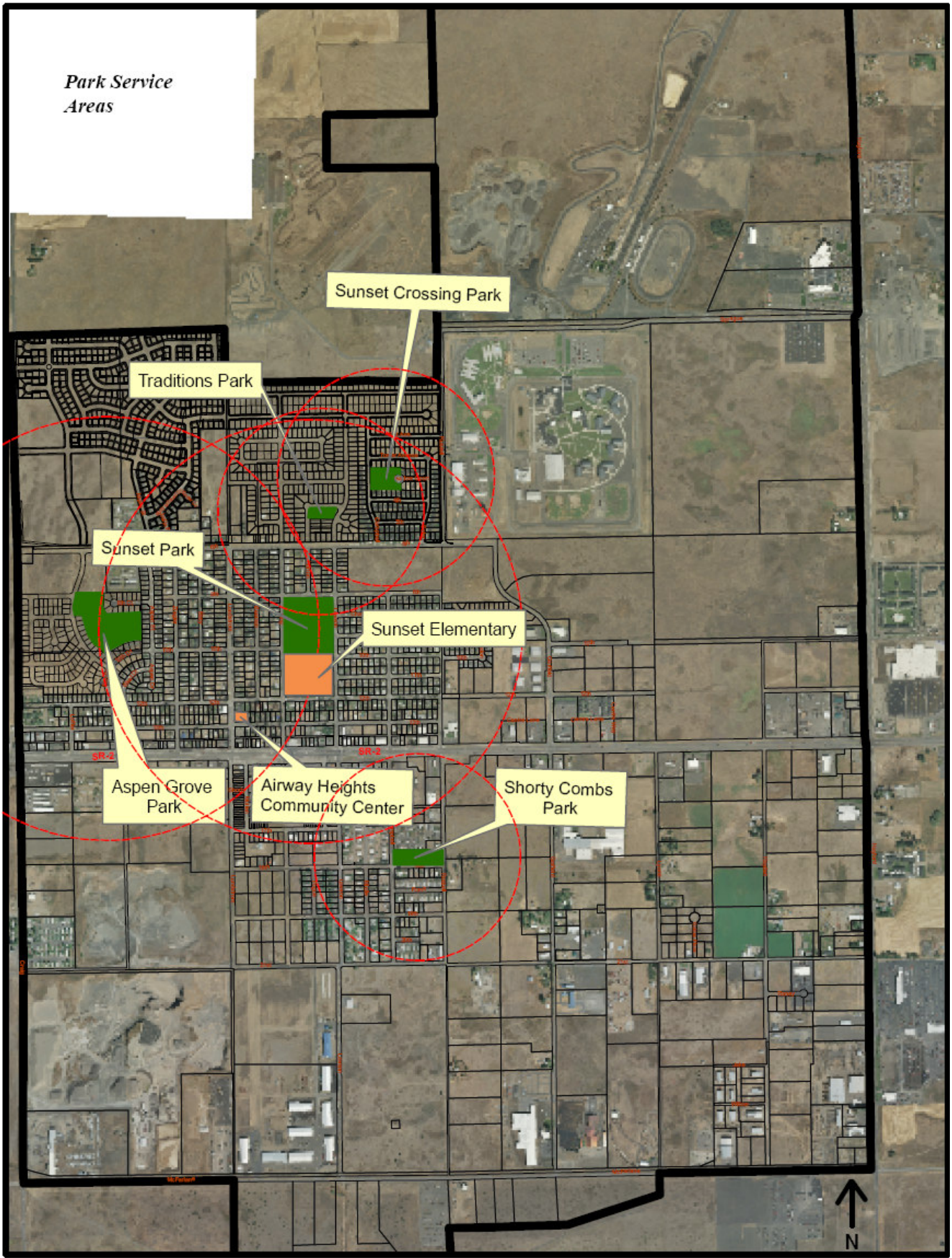
The City has chosen to plan for a level-of-service (LOS) standard of ten acres per one thousand non-institutional population. The future demand for additional park facilities necessary to maintain this LOS is presented in Table 9.5 above (2029 Demand). In the analysis of future demand, population numbers reflect only the residential population of Airway Heights and do not include the expanding residential population in the unincorporated areas adjacent to the City boundaries and the institutional population of the Washington State Department of Corrections facility. However, it is important to note that the expanding residential areas adjacent to the City do have an impact on the City's park and recreation infrastructure.

The analysis shows the City is not currently meeting its LOS standard of ten acres per one thousand population. The demand in 2009 is 28.6 acres the City currently has 14.97 acres of developed park land. The City has approved plans for an additional 8.5 acres of park land that is undeveloped; this is the Aspen Grove park area. When the Aspen Grove Park is developed the City will have a total of 23.47 acres of park land. In addition to developing the Aspen Grove Park the City will need to acquire and develop an additional 5.13 acres to meet the present demand. The City will need to add an additional 54.66 acres in the next twenty years to meet the future demand at its adopted LOS standard.

In conjunction with this park land demand analysis park service area issues were also analyzed. The findings are intended to serve as a guide for future site locations and facilities, keeping in mind issues of physical boundaries (such as SR2) as barriers to site accessibility. (See Map on Page 22)

This analysis revealed that there is need for additional park space in the northwest section of the City where future homes are platted. This section of the City lies outside of the service areas of the existing parks. It will be important for the City to work to acquire and develop a park to service this section of the City.

Park Service Areas



PARK & RECREATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The GMA requires public facilities and services are available with proposed development to insure locally adopted LOS standards are not jeopardized. A Capital Facilities Program (CFP) determines whether existing or future public facilities and services will support the projected growth, utilizing the revenue generated by the City. The goals and policies of this Parks and Recreation Master Plan are consistent with future planned improvements of the existing park and recreation system, which are listed in the City’s CFP, found in Chapter 6, Capital Facilities, of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. The priorities outlined in this section will guide development of projects slated for funding in the CFP and/or the City’s Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). The CFP/CIP provides direction for the Parks and Recreation Department in identifying specific projects, project phasing, associated costs, funding sources, and implementation dates. The CFP generally covers twenty years, whereas the CIP spans a six-year window, but both closely mirror the project priorities outlined in this Plan.

This Plan outlines implementation policies and programs in response to the issues and goals presented earlier. The City has given high priority and consideration for the future by addressing this implementation policy in a Parks and Recreation Improvement Program, which prioritizes identified needs, addresses the tactics necessary, the timing, and the cost to address those needs. The foundation for this improvement program are policies involving improvements to both existing park and recreation facilities, as well as development of new facilities and opportunities for city and surrounding local residents. Table 6.4 illustrates the policies as they relate to the goals.

Table 6.4 *Goals & Guiding Policies of Parks & Recreation*

Goal	Policy
A. Ensure that every home in the City lies within the service area of a park.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pursue partnerships with developers. 2. Pursue funding opportunities from the RCO and Spokane County.
B. Establish a Regional Community Recreational Complex, with sport fields & room for future expansion for other recreational pursuits.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pursue avenues of funding. 2. Pursue partnerships with other government agencies. 3. Pursue partnerships with private & non-profit organizations.
C. Improve the overall community image by creating areas that enhance the sense of civic pride within the City.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify & encourage areas appropriate for civic areas, town/neighborhood squares, & other public open spaces. 2. Encourage the establishment community civic groups dedicated to improving the community’s appearance.
D. Creatively optimize recreational opportunities for the City’s residents.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate with Spokane County & surrounding communities to develop & enhance linkages & partnerships to maximize the recreational opportunities for all residents. 2. Coordinate with Cheney School District to maximize recreational opportunities at school facilities. 3. Establish partnerships with private & non-profit enterprises offering recreational opportunities to the community.
E. Ensure park & recreation facilities within the community are of a safe & healthy nature.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Designate & locate park facilities in a manner ensuring compatibility with surrounding uses, especially as new development occurs. 2. Provide landscaping, serving to buffer neighboring land uses & also provide shade & aesthetic amenity for park users. 3. Ensure that park sites that are developed in residential neighborhoods are fronted on at least 50% of their perimeter by a public road to allow adequate public access to the site. Ensure visibility into park facilities is maintained from street & other public access areas.
F. Provide both active & passive recreational opportunities for the	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote active areas of activity, such as playgrounds & play courts, in city parks.

community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Provide passive areas of activity, such as benches & trails, in city parks & throughout the community. 3. Maintain a balance of active & passive recreational opportunities throughout the community.
G. Provide parklands & recreational opportunities that enhance the livability & meet the needs of the City's residents.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conserve & enhance those areas of scenic value within the community. 2. Provide a network of open spaces within the community ensuring a high quality of life & a pleasant living environment for its residents.
H. Provide a network of trails & pathways throughout the community to maximize access to the City's parks & recreation system.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide pedestrians easy & safe access to all park facilities of the City. 2. Visually & physically link all park facilities whenever possible to assure greater accessibility and continuity.
I. Maintain Tree City USA Status.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage the planting of new trees throughout the community's public places. 2. Encourage the maintenance of the community's older trees.
J. Establish a community pool / water park.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pursue avenues of funding. 2. Pursue partnerships with other government agencies. 3. Pursue grant opportunities to place spray pads in existing parks.

The following table, Table 6.5, outlines the proposed capital projects to be undertaken by the City of Airway Heights to fulfill this Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Indicated are specific projects to be undertaken by the City and their associated project schedule, project cost, and the likely funding source. In determining project costs, services such as planning, engineering, land acquisition, and construction are considered. Often times, these are large amounts that are scheduled over several years or paid through the use of local and private funds, as well as local, state, and federal grants.

Table 6.5 *Proposed Parks & Recreational Capital Improvement Projects*

Project	Timing	Cost	Funding	Goal/Policy
Sunset Crossing Park Development Bid Documents	2009	\$25,000	City	A/1 A/2 C
Sunset Crossing Park Development	2009	\$310,000	City RCO	A/1 A/2 C
Traditions Park Development	2009	\$320,000	Developer	A/1 A/2 C
Aspen Grove Park Development Phase 1	2011	\$650,000	City RCO	A/1 A/2 C
Sunset Park Playstructure Replacement	2012	\$75,000	Local County	E
Aspen Grove Park Development Phase 2	2013	\$600,000	City RCO	A/1 A/2 C
Shorty Combs Park Gazebo	2014	\$25,000	Local CDBG	C/1 F/2

Sunset Park Spray Pad	2015	\$150,000	Local County RCO	J / 1 J / 2 J / 3
Sunset Park Gazebos	2015	\$65,000	Local CDBG RCO	C/1 F/2
Martella Field Reconstruction	2015	\$125,000	Local RCO In-kind	E
SR2 Landscape Improvements	Ongoing	\$150,000	Local RCO CDBG WSDOT	H/1
Bicycle Route Linkages	Ongoing	Project Specific	DOT City CDBG SRTC RCO	H/1
Recreation Center	2017	\$8,000,000	Local CDBG In - Kind	B.2 B.3 F.3 G

Capital Facility Elements for Bike Routes

The development of the Airway Heights Bicycle Route system will require capital facility planning. The amount of capital involved in developing each element of the bicycle route plan is dependent on the specific location of each project, the existing infrastructure in place, the existing width and level of development, for example whether the road is paved or not, and the proposed classification of the route. Most projects will be developer driven, but the City will seek grants and other funding sources independent of development in order to supplement the development of this system.

The capital costs are the highest with Class I routes. These require total infrastructure development from the ground-up. Some of the capital costs associated with a Class I bicycle facilities are right-of-way purchases, building materials such as gravel and asphalt, paint for lane markings, labor, and signage.

The capital costs associated with Class II and Class III routes are less expensive than Class I facilities. This is because these route classifications are generally developed along pre-existing routes. The primary costs associated with these classifications are paint for lane markings, labor, and signage. Class III routes will only require signage. Added maintenance costs for these facilities should be minimal, as the current roads already require similar maintenance, such as sweeping and plowing.

Those Class II and Class III routes that utilize non-paved roads will have higher installation costs, as will those that are on future extensions of roads. However, most of these routes will be development driven. As properties along these routes are developed, the developers will be required to install road frontage improvements, such as paving portions of the road and installing sidewalks. Any needed widening of roads to accommodate Class II bike facilities will only be required on those routes specifically designated by the plan as Class II routes.

MONITORING & EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation are essential steps within the planning process for many reasons. First, it assures the goals and programs will be maintained and monitored during implementation to ensure they do not change form unintentionally. Next, it helps determine if the intended outcome is occurring and measures those outcomes. Finally, it helps decide whether or not the implemented strategy should be continued, modified, or extinguished. Therefore, the Parks and Recreation Improvement Program must remain flexible to accommodate changes and preferences within the community to take advantage of special opportunities as they arise. Therefore, this Parks and Recreation Master Plan is subject to regular review and update by the Parks Board in partnership with the Planning Commission.

