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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

City of Decorah
DECORAH PARKS AND RECREATION
Andy Nimrod, Director
400 Claiborne Drive
Decorah, IA 52101
563-382-4158
parkrecdirector@decorahia.org

Rich Gaard, Board Member and Chair
Shirley Vermace, Board Member and Vice Chair
Cindy Albers, Board Member
Kathy Bakken, Board Member
Brian Fuhrmann, Board Member

DEORAH HUMAN POWERED TRAILS
www.decorahmtb.com

Nick Pearce, President
Brian Fuhrmann, Vice President
Josie Smith, Secretary
Jeff O’Gara, Treasurer

Consultants
JEFFREY L. BRUCE & COMPANY, LLC
David Stokes, Managing Principal
300 4th Street
West Des Moines, IA 50265
815-842-8999
515-778-8397
dstokes@jbruce.com
www.jbruce.com

Emma Lorenz, Designer
elorenz@jbruce.com

BACKYARD TRAILS LLC
Ken Barker, Owner
641-512-1105
www.backyardtrailsllc.com
PROJECT OVERVIEW

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Carlson Park is a 110-acre site located on the southern boundary of Decorah, at the corner of Highway 9 and Pleasant Avenue. The land was donated to the City by the Carlson Family.

PROJECT GOALS
- Enhance User Experience for Residents and Visitors
- Provide Programs and Amenities Absent from Other Places in Decorah
- Maintain and Improve Vehicular and Pedestrian Safety
- Establish Connections to Existing Parks and Trail Systems
- Improve Access to the Site and within the Site
- Protect Native Vegetation while Mitigating Invasive Species

OBJECTIVES
- Gather Information from Local Residents and Organizations
- Program Areas for Suitable and Desirable Activities
- Preserve Healthy, Mature Trees
- Install Stormwater Best Management Practices where Applicable
- Establish and Adopt a Maintenance Plan

DESIGN PRINCIPLES
Placemaking, maintenance, and sustainability are common values that are woven into each of the following principles:
- Connectivity - Provide access and link to other trails and parks within the larger Decorah parks and trails systems.
- Safety - Make sure there is a feasible and accessible plan for use of the park.
- Activity - Utilize the park for appropriate and sought-after activities, with the park having year-round options for visitors to enjoy.
- Stewardship - Implement activities and programs that complement and preserve ecological features and processes on site.

LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN STUDY AREA
The focus of this Landscape Master Plan is to study the existing conditions of Carlson Park and identify constraints and opportunities to consider in helping achieve the project’s goals and objectives. In general, this Master Plan identifies broad-based vegetation, recreation programming and access areas. A 2-acre parcel to the southeast of the park owned by the City of Decorah is also included in the study area.
Parks in Decorah provide a variety of amenities and activities to residents and visitors. The existing parks range in size from half an acre to 120 acres, each offering an array of opportunities for users. A matrix of the parks and their facilities located in Decorah can be viewed on the next page (page 5).

Carlson Park is located at the southern edge of the city limits, near Miller Park and Phelps Cemetery. The park is also in close proximity to Trout Run Access Park and the Trout Run Trail. Carlson Park has the opportunity to become another link within the Decorah parks and trails system.

The southeast corner of Carlson Park comes close to Trout Run, with the Trout Run Trail running along the opposite side of the river. A connection between the park and the trail would provide an access point for visitors coming from the Trout Run Trail and connect Carlson Park to the larger Decorah parks system.

Miller Park is located to the west of Carlson Park on the other side of Pleasant Avenue. The connection between the two parks is made difficult by the road conditions of Pleasant Avenue, specifically the speed limit and the bridge over Highway 9.
# DECORAH PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS MATRIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS</th>
<th>FACILITIES</th>
<th>POINTS OF INTEREST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Barnhart Van Peenen Memorial Park</td>
<td>120 X X X X</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Selland Wayside Park</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlson Property</td>
<td>110 X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Ball Diamond #1</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Ball Diamond #2</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Prairie and Butterfly Garden</td>
<td>34 X X X X X</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decorah Dog Park</td>
<td>2 X X X X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunning's Spring Park and Ice Cave Hill</td>
<td>115 X X X X X X X X X X X</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeport Trail to WWTP</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Christopher Park</td>
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<td>Miller Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nordheim Park</td>
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<td>Pulpit Rock Campground</td>
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<td>Swimming Pool Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennis Courts (6)</td>
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<td>Trout Run Trail</td>
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<td>Twin Springs Park</td>
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<td>Vennehjem Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Street Park</td>
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<td>Will Baker Park and Canoe Landing</td>
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<td>Will Baker Athletic Fields</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wold Park</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Decorah Parks & Recreation
ENVIRONMENTAL FRAMEWORK
HISTORIC AERIAL IMAGERY

CHANGES OVER TIME

Historically, Carlson Park has consisted of timber areas that were periodically harvested and used as farmland for both grazing and production. In the aerial images from the 1930s and 1950s, the area was primarily undeveloped with few roads or housing developments. The areas cleared for farming and grazing clearly contrast the forested areas left undisturbed. Starting in the 1970s, the construction of Pleasant Avenue, Highway 9 and the Minowa Heights housing development can be seen along the northern and western boundaries of Carlson Park.

Beginning in the 1990s, the areas cleared for agricultural use slowly start transitioning toward undesirable vegetation. While these areas account for most of the open space on site, the invasive species that are present make it hard to traverse those parts of the park.

The aerial images from 2010 and 2019 show the addition of the Trout Run Trail near the southeast corner of the Carlson Park property. The proximity of the site to the existing trail provides a potential connection between the park and Decorah’s existing trail system.

Source: Iowa Geographic Map Server - Iowa State University Geographic Information Systems Support & Research Facility
EXISTING CONDITIONS

NORTH SITE

Directly south of Highway 9, the north half of the site includes both open space and forested canopy areas. At the northwest corner are two low spots with existing drain structures. Also present at this corner are two culverts, one that runs under Highway 9 and one that runs under Pleasant Avenue (see corresponding images on page 9).
CORNER OF PLEASANT AND HWY 9
This open area offers elevated southern views of the property, as well as Miller Park.

SPECIMAN TREES
Several specimen trees can be found scattered throughout the mature forest areas within the park. The trees can be utilized as landscape features and wayfinding devices.

MAIN TRAIL LOOP
The two-mile grass loop trail takes visitors around the site, through forested and open areas.

PLEASANT AVENUE CULVERT
The culvert under Pleasant Avenue is a possible pedestrian connection between Carlson Park and Miller Park.
EXISTING CONDITIONS

SOUTH SITE
The south half of the site contains the only current parking area for the park, a large open field area and a mature forest stand. At the southeast corner is a 2-acre parcel of land owned by the City of Decorah, which could serve as a connection to the Trout Run Trail (see corresponding images on page 11).
THE LOOKOUT
This high point of the park offers panoramic views of the park and Decorah itself.

THE WINDMILL
The windmill serves as a wayfinding device and can be seen from several points on the main loop.

MATURE FORESTS
There are many areas within the park with stands of mature forest. Their large canopies provide ample amounts of shade for those traversing below.

CARLSON PARK ENTRANCE
The entrance to Carlson Park is currently marked by a park sign and gravel parking lot.
SITE TOPOGRAPHY AND DRAINAGE

TOPOGRAPHY

The site contains undulating topography, with some areas that have more than a 10% slope making them hard to traverse. The flatter areas coincide with the larger open spaces, as these areas were historically cleared and used for agriculture and grazing. The steepest slopes occur in the southeast corner of the park.

DRAINAGE

The park is bisected into two watersheds, with low points at the northern edge and southeastern corner of the site. The southeastern low point sits at the bottom of several converging ravines that cut through an area of mature forest. The slopes continue to drain to the southeast until the water meets Trout Run. The low point at the northern boundary collects water from the site, as well as the culvert that connects under Pleasant Avenue to Miller Park, and runs through another culvert under Highway 9.
EXISTING VEGETATION

There are three large wooded areas present at Carlson Park, with many native species found in all of them. Large specimen trees are scattered around the park and could be used as wayfinding landmarks or points of interest.

HISTORIC FOREST STAND SPECIES

1. Black Oak, Bitternut Hickory, Cottonwood, Boxelder, Red Cedar, White Ash
2. Bur Oak, Red Cedar, Black Walnut, Basswood
3. Bur Oak, Basswood, American Elm, Red Cedar, Hackberry
4. Boxelder, American Elm
5. Boxelder, American Elm, Black Walnut
6. Bur Oak, Black Oak, Red Oak, American Elm, Ironwood
7. Bur Oak, Black Oak, Red Oak, American Elm, Maple, Basswood, Ironwood

INVASIVE SPECIES

Several invasive species are present throughout the site. Buckthorn and garlic mustard dominate the understory in the canopy areas. Wild parsnip is abundant in the open fields. Honeysuckle and crown vetch are also found throughout the site. Detailed vegetation management plans are needed to eradicate the invasive species in the park. The presence of these invasive species, especially Buckthorn, impedes future development if efforts to control the spread are not made immediately.

LEGEND:

- SPECIMEN TREES
- MAIN TRAIL LOOP
- HISTORIC FOREST STANDS
- 100% CANOPY COVER
- 50-75% CANOPY COVER
- <50% CANOPY COVER
- OPEN SPACE
- LOW/SEASONALLY WET AREA
Carlson Park is mainly accessible by vehicle via Pleasant Avenue, which runs along the western edge of the park. Highway 9 serves as the northern border of the park, but does not currently offer any access points. The speed limit on Pleasant Avenue increases from 25 miles per hour to 45 miles per hour south of the bridge. The Pleasant Avenue road conditions and vehicular speeds affect the safe accessibility of Carlson Park, especially at the existing sidewalk connecting to Miller Park where crossing Pleasant Avenue is difficult.

PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC

There are not many sidewalks present around Carlson Park. There is a sidewalk along the southbound side of the Pleasant Avenue bridge and a sidewalk that connects to Miller Park. The two-mile main trail loop allows pedestrians to traverse through the park. Currently, it is the only cleared path within the park.
MAIN TRAIL LOOP
A two-mile main trail loop has been established as the main loop through Carlson Park, traversing through both open and canopied areas. The trail ranges from ten to fourteen feet in width and allows for multiple user groups to utilize it.

Secondary trails that cut through the two larger open spaces have also been established. Three wider maintenance trails for ATVs and trucks are located at certain areas of the main trail loop.

WATER
The only source of water currently on site is an abandoned well located beneath the existing windmill. Water access would need to be provided to any proposed infrastructure on site, such as restroom/shower or maintenance facilities.

ELECTRIC
Existing overhead power lines and utility poles are present along Pleasant Avenue.

SANITARY SEWER
A sanitary sewer line runs through the northwest corner of the property.
Spatial Organization

VIEWSHEDS + SIGHTLINES

The high points on the property offer views both within the park and to the surrounding areas. The highest point at the southern edge of the park offers a viewshed looking north and the high point at the northwest corner of the park offers a viewshed looking southeast. Highway 9 offers sightlines into the northwestern highpoint of the park for drivers traveling in either direction. Sightlines give visitors visual access to all areas within the park while using the primary loop trail. While there are many sightlines present on site, selective pruning of vegetation offers opportunities for improved visual access, security, and clarity.

POINTS OF INTEREST

There are several points of interest in Carlson Park that can be utilized as both destinations within the park or wayfinding devices for visitors. The highpoints give visitors the opportunity to get a better view of the park and verify their location. The windmill is one of the only existing structures on site and serves as both a point of interest and a wayfinding device.
SITE CONSTRAINTS

Carlson Park is constrained by heavily trafficked roads to the north and west, and private property boundary lines to the east and south. The traffic on Pleasant Avenue makes pedestrian access to the park difficult. Currently, the gravel parking lot area is the only entrance to the park. These factors create accessibility and circulation issues for Carlson Park.

EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE

The existing infrastructure on site restricts where certain proposed elements or activities can be located. The underground sanitary sewer line and the overhead power lines that are located on the western edge of the park need to be avoided. The culverts that run under Pleasant Avenue and Highway 9 also need to be taken into consideration when programming those areas.

TOPOGRAPHY

There are several locations on site that contain severe slopes, creating a challenge for the accessibility and programming of those areas. Trails and access points need to be developed in a way that is both sensitive to existing ecology and compatible for multiple user groups and activities. Low areas that are seasonally wet need to be programmed with activities that are not affected by occasional water.

LEGEND:

- CULVERT
- OVERFLOW DRAIN PIPE
- STEEP SLOPES
- POSSIBLE STREET ENTRY
- VEHICLE TRAFFIC
- SANITARY SEWER
- UTILITY POLE
- OVERHEAD POWER LINES
- MAIN TRAIL LOOP
- PLEASANT AVENUE BRIDGE
- NO VEGETATION SCREEN
- LOW/SEASONALLY WET AREA
- POSSIBLE TRAIL ENTRY
- STORMWATER FLOW LINE
- SITE ENTRY
- SINKHOLE
- GRAVEL PARKING LOT
- PROPERTY BOUNDARY
SITE OPPORTUNITIES

SITE ACCESS

There are several opportunities for additional access points to Carlson Park for both vehicles and pedestrians. The southern boundary of the park provides a good location for an entry drive and parking lot that allow vehicular access further into the site. The existing sidewalk from Miller Park creates a possible connection between the two parks. An access point at the southeast corner of the park could serve as a connection between Carlson Park and the Trout Run Trail. Other access points along Highway 9 and through the existing culverts can also be explored.

VIEWSHEDS

The topography at Carlson Park provides good views and viewsheds both within the park and to the surrounding areas. Visual access to the park and its activities create interest for passersbys to stop and explore. Visual access within the park allows visitors to easily see activities, locations and landmarks.

ACTIVE RECREATION

The existing main trail loop has created large module areas that could be utilized for multiple types of recreation. These areas are made up of different landscape typologies, ranging from open fields to canopied forests. This provides visitors with several different experiences within Carlson Park.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
CARLSON PARK SOFT OPENING

OCTOBER 2-3 SOFT OPENING EVENT

The Decorah Parks and Recreation department hosted a two day on-site soft opening of Carlson Park and invited the public to explore and offer their input as to what they wanted to see at the park. Visitors were able to draw their ideas on a map, fill out a questionnaire and look at images of possible amenities and recreation opportunities.

VISUAL PREFERENCE BOARDS

Two visual preference boards were displayed at the soft opening event, with images of different recreation activities and amenities. Guests were given stickers and asked to vote for their top three choices of what they would like to see implemented at Carlson Park.

Would love to do [the] whole trail and bring [the] grandchildren. Great project!!

Go big or go home.

[I would like] Hiking - year round. I bring groups out on trails for walking and hiking even in the winter. Also, benches to sit in a few places.
ONLINE SURVEY

SURVEY QUESTIONS

In partnership with the open house event, an online survey was also created to allow those who could not attend the event in person the chance to give their input for the park or for those who wanted to give additional feedback. The survey consisted of 11 questions, in which participants were asked to answer questions about activities or programs Decorah as a whole was missing and specific questions about the things they want to see implemented at Carlson Park.

SURVEY RESULTS

The online survey was open for two and a half weeks (September 23 to October 11) and was highly successful. It received 197 responses from both residents and non-residents of Decorah, with many written responses from people who wanted to add more information about what they wanted to see happen with Carlson Park. The responses to the survey are summarized on these pages.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

are you a decorah resident? yes no
86.3% [170] 13.7% [27]

are you familiar with Carlson Park? yes no
80.1% [157] 19.9% [39]

is it important to attract more visitors to spend their dollars in Decorah? yes no
80.6% [154] 19.4% [37]

how old are you?

0 -15 16 -25 26 -35 36 -45 46 -55 56 -65 66+

are you a decorah resident? yes no
86.3% [170] 13.7% [27]

are you familiar with Carlson Park? yes no
80.1% [157] 19.9% [39]

is it important to attract more visitors to spend their dollars in Decorah? yes no
80.6% [154] 19.4% [37]

WHAT ARE SOME ACTIVITIES OR FACILITIES THAT DECORAH IS MISSING OR LACKING?

BIKING
• mountain bike trails for all experience levels
• professionally built trails
• skills course + pump track

CAMPING
• Hike-in / primitive camping
• Long term camp sites with hookups
• Cabin or yurt rentals

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAILS

DISC GOLF COURSE

HIKING TRAILS

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT TO LEAVE LARGE AREAS OF CARLSON PARK UNDEVELOPED?

1 = not important
2
3
4
5 = very important

The less developed, the better.

A combination of developed and undeveloped seems appropriate for this space. Seems like a great opportunity to do something new!

Make it a fantastic set of trails that will attract both people from Decorah and surrounding areas outside to exercise, enjoy the outdoors and be healthier.
BY WHAT MEANS ARE YOU MOST LIKELY TO ACCESS CARLSON PARK?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Car</th>
<th>Bicycle</th>
<th>Foot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = not likely</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5 = very likely</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHAT ACTIVITIES WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN HAVING AT CARLSON PARK?

- 1 = not interested
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 = very interested

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mountain biking trails</td>
<td>[34]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paved trails</td>
<td>[84]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross-country ski trails</td>
<td>[39]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hiking trails</td>
<td>[112]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote / walk-in camping</td>
<td>[62]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular camping</td>
<td>[89]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cabin / yurt rentals</td>
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<td>Archery range</td>
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<td>Athletic / sports fields</td>
<td>[11]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warming hut</td>
<td>[7]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER ACTIVITIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE AT CARLSON PARK?

- Skills course and pump track
- Ropes course
- Snowshoeing trails
- Picnic and seating areas
- Horseback riding trails
- Warming hut
DESIGN CONCEPT
The concept for this master plan incorporates a variety of activities and elements into Carlson Park, building off of the existing trails of the site. A new entry drive and parking lot bring visitors into the southwest corner of the park. A hub of activity and amenity areas are located adjacent to the parking lot, including a nature playground, restroom, lookout tower and a bicycle skills park and pump track.

From here, the existing main trail loop, existing maintenance loop and new hiking loop are easily accessible. The entrance to the arboretum trail is also at the primary entry hub. Trailheads along the main loop allow access to three trails zones of varying skill level. Other elements incorporated into the master plan include an 18-hole disc golf course, remote tent camping sites, and an amphitheater and stage.
PRIMARY ENTRY AND AMENITY AREA

- Future Parking Lot Expansion (+/- 100 Stalls)
- Modified Main Trail Loop
- Parking Lot (30 Stalls)
- Bike Trailhead and Staging Area
- Future Maintenance/Storage Building
- Entry Drive
- Skills Park
- Pump Track
- Hiking Trailhead
- Hiking Trail Loop
- Natural Amphitheater
- Reconstructed Prairie
- Arboretum Trail
- Nature Playground
- Bouldering Area
- Lookout Tower/Restroom
- Novice Bike and Cross-Country Ski Loop
- Future Parking Lot Expansion (+/- 100 Stalls)
CITY OF DECORAH

amenity area facing south

- PARKING LOT (30 STALLS)
- BIKE TRAILHEAD AND STAGING AREA
- HIKING TRAILHEAD
- HIKING TRAIL LOOP
- PUMP TRACK
- SKILLS PARK
- BOULDERING AREA
- LOOKOUT TOWER/RESTROOM
- NATURE PLAYGROUND
NORTHWEST ENTRANCE

CARLSON PARK LANDMARK FEATURE

NEW SIDEWALK CONNECTION TO MILLER PARK

BOULDER TRAIL FEATURE

EXISTING TREES

TRAILHEAD PULL-OFF AREA

CROSSWALK, STRIPING AND SIGNAGE

CONNECTION TO MAIN TRAIL LOOP

BOARDWALK TRAIL FEATURE

SELECTIVE CLEARING OF EXISTING VEGETATION

PLEASANT AVENUE

NEW SIDEWALK CONNECTION TO MILLER PARK

FREIGHT PLAZA AVENUE
CARLSON PARK LANDMARK FEATURE
TRAILHEAD PULL-OFF AREA
BOULDER TRAIL FEATURE
PLEASANT AVENUE BRIDGE
HIGHWAY 9
BOARDWALK TRAIL FEATURE
CROSSING TO MILLER PARK

view 2
northwest entrance facing east
SECONDARY GATHERING AREA

- Hiking Trail Loop
- Warming Hut
- Trailhead Pull-Off Area
- Novice Bike and Cross-Country Ski Loop
- Council Ring with Fire Pit
- Existing Main Trail Loop
- Existing Windmill
WARMING HUT
HIKING TRAIL LOOP
EXISTING WINDMILL
COUNCIL RING WITH FIRE PIT
MAIN LOOP TRAIL
TRAILHEAD PULL-OFF AREA
view 3
gathering area facing east
<table>
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<tr>
<th>PARK ELEMENTS</th>
<th>Page</th>
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<tr>
<td>Trails and Trail Zones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Trail Zone</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hiking Loop + Arboretum Trails</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skills Park + Pump Track</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bike Amenities</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disc Golf Course</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature Playground + Bouldering</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observation Tower + Restroom</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphitheater + Event Staging</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camping Sites</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayfinding and Signage</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OVERVIEW

Mountain biking is a proven conduit for youth involvement in outdoor recreation, and trails allow people of all ages to learn and enjoy bicycling, away from motor vehicles. Trails and adjacent landscapes can be augmented with bicycle-specific “play areas”, commonly referred to as bike parks or bicycle playgrounds. These bicycle parks and playgrounds encourage cyclists to socialize and enjoy healthy outdoor exercise. Such bike park features and facilities provide opportunities for users to develop and practice skills transferable to trails and bicycling in general.

Carlson Park provides many recreation opportunities in addition to biking. These activities include hiking, trail running and dog walking. Year-round recreation is also available within the park, as the trails cater to winter activities such as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

USER GROUPS

- bikers
- hikers
- dog walkers
- snowshoers
- runners
- skiers
- snowboarders
- skiers

TRAIL FEATURES

- drops
- berms
- jumps
- boardwalks
- skinnies
- log climbs

LEGEND:

- MAIN TRAIL LOOP
- NOVICE TRAIL ZONE
- NH FEATURE TRAIL
- INTERMEDIATE TRAIL ZONE
- SKILLS PARK AND PUMP TRACK
- ADVANCED TRAIL ZONE

TRAILS AND TRAIL ZONES
MAIN TRAIL LOOP

OVERVIEW

The main loop trail at Carlson Park provides a route for biking, hiking, running and maintenance access that traverses most of the park. Slight modifications to accommodate the proposed amenities and features have been made.

The novice bike and cross-country ski loop provides a short, easy trail for young or new bicycle riders to practice and develop their skills before they venture out to the other trails within the park.

TRAIL METRICS

- Main Loop Length = 1.96 Miles
- Main Loop Width = 14 Feet
- Main Loop Surface = Mown Grass
- Novice Bike Loop Length = 0.60 Miles
- Novice Bike Loop Width = 10 Feet
- Novice Bike Loop Surface = Mown Grass

USER GROUPS

- bikers
- hikers
- skiers
- dog walkers
- snowshoers
- runners

Scale: 1" = 400'

Scale: 1" = 5'-0"

section 4

main loop trail facing east

view 4

main trail loop facing east
NW FEATURE TRAIL

OVERVIEW

This trail allows for visitors to access Carlson Park through a bike/pedestrian entrance at the northwest corner of the park. The trail includes features that have a visually appealing trail aesthetic and are visually enticing for people to explore the park.

A pull-off with a trailhead kiosk near Pleasant Avenue provides an area for those entering or leaving the park to stop and rest. This entrance creates a connection to the existing sidewalk that leads to Miller Park. Proposed improvements to the Pleasant Avenue crossing provides a safe passage for pedestrians going between the two parks.

TRAIL METRICS

- Length = 0.32 Miles
- Width = 8 Feet (Trail) - 12 Feet (Boardwalk)
- Surface = Compacted Earth

USER GROUPS

- bikers
- hikers
- boardwalks
- berms
- dog walkers
- runners

TRAIL FEATURES

- BOARDWALK TRAIL FEATURE
- PRAIRIE

Scale: 1" = 5'-0"

Scale: 1" = 200'

section 5

nw trail facing west

view 5

nw trail facing west
NOVICE TRAIL ZONE

OVERVIEW

Accessible from the main trail loop, this trail is a gateway to the riding experience of surfing the contours of Carlson Park’s landscape. Target users of this trail design include novice riders and hikers who may lack the fitness, skill, and confidence to wander further from familiar surroundings; also more experienced trail enthusiasts beginning a longer journey to explore the park. Examples may include young or new bicycle riders, dog walkers, hikers, visiting the park with friends and family, also endurance cyclists or trail runners seeking exercise and or escape from the daily grind.

TRAIL METRICS

- Length = ~1.50 Miles
- Width = 2 Feet
- Surface = Compacted Earth

USER GROUPS

- bikers
- hikers
- dog walkers
- runners

TRAIL FEATURES

- jumps
- berms

Scale: 1" = 200’

MATURE FOREST STAND

NOVICE ZONE SUITABLE FOR ALL AGE GROUPS

TRAIL ON GENTLE SIDE SLOPES

section 6

novice trail facing north

Scale: 1" = 5'-0”
**INTERMEDIATE TRAIL ZONE**

**OVERVIEW**
Near the eastern access point to the novice trail zone, the option for trail users to venture further into the park presents itself via this more difficult trail experience. Average in difficulty, this trail provides the most extensive singletrack trail experience at Carlson and is combined with adjacent trails for an “adventure tour” of a practically unused park in Decorah.

**TRAIL METRICS**
- Length = ~2.55 Miles
- Width = 2 Feet
- Surface = **Compacted Earth**

**USER GROUPS**
- bikers
- runners

**TRAIL FEATURES**
- jumps
- berm
- boardwalk

**MATURE FOREST STAND**

**MORE TECHNICAL TRAIL FEATURES (I.E. BERMS)**

**STeeper SLOPES AND TRAIL GRADES**

**section 7**
intermediate trail facing north
ADVANCED TRAIL ZONE

OVERVIEW
Traversing the north central portion of Carlson Park, this conceptual alignment provides a difficult trail design and is intended to produce a contour surfing experience for advanced riders seeking a more challenging ride.

TRAIL METRICS
- Length = ~1.51 Miles
- Width = 2 Feet
- Surface = Compacted Earth

USER GROUPS
- bikers

TRAIL FEATURES
- drops
- bems
- skinnies
- jumps
- boardwalks
- log climbs

SCALE: 1" = 200'

SCATTERED CANOPY TREES
ADVANCED TECHNICAL TRAIL FEATURES (I.E. DROPS)

STeeper Trail Grades

Scale: 1" = 5'-0"

section 8
advanced trail facing east
HIKING LOOP + ARBORETUM TRAILS

OVERVIEW
The hiking loop, reserved for non-biking activities, traverses the southeastern half of Carlson Park, bringing users through prairie and forested areas. The hiking loop provides a connection to the Trout Run Trail at the southeast corner of the park. The arboretum trail provides an option for a shorter hike with educational signage about native vegetation found along the trail.

TRAIL METRICS
- Hiking Loop Length = 1.20 Miles
- Hiking Loop Width = 8 Feet (2.5 Feet in Canopy Areas)
- Hiking Loop Surface = Mown Grass/Compacted Earth
- Arboretum Trail Length = 0.32 Miles
- Arboretum Trail Width = 5 Feet
- Arboretum Trail Surface = Mown Grass

USER GROUPS
- runners
- hikers
- skiers
- dog walkers
- snowshoers

TRAIL TRANSITIONS TO CANOPIED FOREST

HIKING TRAIL
PRAIRIE

section 9
hiking trail facing east

view 9
arboretum trail facing south
SKILLS PARK

OVERVIEW
A bike skills park contains practice features - such as drops, berms, jumps, log rides, and bridges. Each provide the opportunity for riders of all levels to develop and improve on bike skills before they move to the designated bike trails.

TRAIL METRICS
- Length = ~0.25 Mile
- Width = 4 Feet
- Surface = Compacted Earth

USER GROUPS
- bikers

TRAIL FEATURES
- drops
- berms
- skinnies

- jumps
- boardwalks
- log climbs

PUMP TRACK

OVERVIEW
A pump track is a course consisting of rollers, banks, turns and other features for riders to generate momentum and speed by ‘pumping’ their bodies. While the main users of pump tracks tend to be bikes, it is also inclusive of skateboards, rollerblades, scooters and more.

TRAIL METRICS
- Area = 3,000 Square Feet
- Surface = Asphalt

USER GROUPS
- bikers

TRAIL FEATURES
- jumps
- berms

- skills park facing east
- pump track facing south
BIKE AMENITIES

OVERVIEW

Amenities for biking activities add to the accessibility of Carlson Park. Features such as bike wash stations, fix-it stations and changing stations are valuable and useful to visitors of the trail systems. Located at the biking trailhead near the parking lot and primary amenity area, these amenities are made available to every day visitors to the park as well as to large events such as bike races.
Disc golf, or frisbee golf, is becoming a common amenity in Iowa, in both urban and rural settings. Disc golf provides light cardiovascular exercise in the great outdoors. The game plays similarly to golf. Putters, mid-range, and driver discs provide variability in throwing distances. The goal is to get your disc in the basket in as few throws as possible. Official disc golf rules can be found at the following website https://www.pdga.com/rules.

Disc golf is free to play and requires inexpensive equipment. Required infrastructure includes concrete pads, signage, and baskets installed in areas typically deemed unusable for development. Areas with steep slopes and flood plains only add to the experience of disc golf.

The proposed 9-hole disc golf course traverses through the grade changes of Carlson Park, while also offering panoramic views of the property. An area for a potential expansion to create an 18-hole course is identified on the map below.

### Disc Golf Course

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<th>Par</th>
<th>Players</th>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>33</td>
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</table>

Scale: 1” = 200’
NATURE PLAYGROUND + BOULDERING

OVERVIEW

The nature playground and bouldering area is located adjacent to the parking lot and restroom building near the entrance to Carlson Park, making it easily accessible. Natural features such as rocks, tree stumps, tree logs, plants and earth mounds allow children of all ages to climb, explore and play.

The larger bouldering elements with handholds allow visitors to practice rock and free climbing skills without the need for ropes, harnesses or other equipment.
OVERVIEW

While the topography of Carlson Park offers spectacular views both within the park and to the surrounding landscape, the observation tower allows visitors an even greater experience with the opportunity to get a true birds eye view of the park. The tower is reached by a staircase climbing the two stories to the top.

Visitors who might not have much time to spend at the park can easily see it by climbing the tower adjacent to the parking lot and entry drive. At the base of the tower is a restroom, located near the amenity area that includes the nature playground, bouldering area and bicycle skills park.
OVERVIEW

The natural event amphitheater is located near the primary entry and amenity area and is accessed by either the hiking loop trail or maintenance loop trail. The amphitheater and stage allows large events such as competitions, concerts or outdoor films to be hosted at Carlson Park.

The unprogrammed areas near the parking lot and amphitheater provide the open space needed for hosting large events such as bicycle races or competitions. The diagram to the right shows the potential set up for a youth mountain bike race. The open space allows flexibility in the types of events that can be held at the park.
CAMPING SITES

PRIMITIVE TENT CAMPING

Primitive tent camping gives visitors the opportunity to experience living ‘off the grid’. The sites offer no water or electricity. The sites are located on the southern edge of the park along the hiking loop trail. The trail provides a path to the restrooms near the parking lot.

Campers are required to hike (or bike) to their site as vehicle access is not provided. The camp sites offer a fire ring with a grill rack and a picnic table. These sites create more options for camping while still allowing easy access to town, trails and other amenities in Decorah.

YURT CABINS (FUTURE)

If camping options reach a higher demand, a future phase of the project implements additional sites. Yurt cabins offer another style of camping and are used for short term or long term purposes.
WAYFINDING AND SIGNAGE

OVERVIEW

Decorah has many existing signs with various styles and logos throughout the community. There are park entry signs, as well as some pedestrian wayfinding and historic signage along Water Street. Prominent community entry signs are located east and west of the city.

A cohesive family of signage throughout Carlson Park that speaks to the existing signage in Decorah enhances community and visitor familiarity and exposure to recreation and businesses throughout the park and in town.

Shown are several options for alternative branding inspired by existing Decorah signage and the various applications for their use.

A Carlson Park Landmark Feature is proposed as a signifying vertical monumentation of the park and represents the geological features and recreational opportunities found in Decorah.
VEGETATION RECOMMENDATIONS
OVERVIEW

There are four different vegetation zones within Carlson Park, consisting mainly of two prairie/savanna zones and two forest zones. The proposed prairie areas coincide with areas that do not have many overstory trees present and were historically used for farming and grazing. Several invasive species are found in each vegetation zone.

The vegetation goals and strategies are different for each zone and can be found on the next two pages.
**RESTORED PRAIRIE AND ARBORETUM**

**EXISTING**

**GOALS**
- Restore the area to prairie with native grasses and forbs
- Implement an arboretum to showcase and educate visitors about native trees and vegetation

**STRATEGIES**
- Implement trail routes and establish areas that are not meant for walking
- Seed prairie areas
- Plant native trees for arboretum

**PROPOSED**

**RECONSTRUCTED PRAIRIE AREAS**

**EXISTING**

**GOALS**
- Restore the area to prairie with native grasses and forbs
- Remove and replace undesirable overstory trees with native species

**STRATEGIES**
- Chemically treat and eradicate invasive species in area (honeysuckle)
- Seed and plant native grasses and forbs
- Plant trees per plan

**PROPOSED**
ADVANCED TRAIL ZONE

EXISTING

GOALS
• Clear understory of invasive species (honeysuckle and buckthorn)
• Restore area with native species

STRATEGIES
• Remove/control invasive species
• Introduce native species
• Continual monitoring and treatment of invasive species

PROPOSED

NOVICE AND INTERMEDIATE TRAIL ZONES

EXISTING

GOALS
• Clear understory of invasive species (honeysuckle and buckthorn)
• Remove undesirable overstory trees

STRATEGIES
• Remove/control invasive species
• Introduce native species
• Continual monitoring and treatment of invasive species

PROPOSED
PHASING AND IMPLEMENTATION
PHASING PLAN

PHASE 1
- Gravel Entry Drive and 30 Stalls Parking
- Primary Loop Modifications
- Partial Hiking Trail
- Wooded Remote Tent Areas
- Novice Singletrack (1.5 Miles)
- Intermediate Singletrack
- NW Feature Trail and Streetscape Safety Enhancements
- 9 Hole Disc Golf
- Park Maintenance/Storage Building

PHASE 2
- Restroom/lookout
- Paved Entry Drive and 30 Stalls Parking
- Rest of Hiking Trail/South Access to Trout Run
- Pump Track and Skills Course
- Arboretum Trail
- Advanced Singletrack

PHASE 3
- Nature Play/Bouldering Areas
- Secondary Gathering Area (Warming Hut, Council Ring)
- Clearing/Prairie Restoration (and Ongoing Maintenance)
- Additional Remote Tent/Yurt Camping
- NW Landmark Sculpture

PHASE 4
- Yurt Camping
- Pleasant Street Bridge Improvements
- Additional Parking
- Event/Amphitheater Space
- Miller Park Trail Updates
### PHASE 1 COST ESTIMATE

**Carlson Park Landscape Master Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Line Total</th>
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**Note:** These are opinions of probable cost, using research and data in 2021. These costs fluctuate from year to year, and are influenced by market supply and demand. If any of these phases are implemented after 2021, then the unit costs shall be re-verified prior to engaging in the design and implementation of that phase(s).

### PHASE 2 COST ESTIMATE

**Carlson Park Landscape Master Plan**

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<tr>
<td>Site Amenities (Signage, Seating, Bike Racks, Etc.)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$699,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% Design &amp; Contingency</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$179,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$878,800.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** These are opinions of probable cost, using research and data in 2021. These costs fluctuate from year to year, and are influenced by market supply and demand. If any of these phases are implemented after 2021, then the unit costs shall be re-verified prior to engaging in the design and implementation of that phase(s).
### PHASE 3 COST ESTIMATE

#### Carlson Park Landscape Master Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Line Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demolition/Site Preparation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobilization/Construction Survey</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select Clearing and grubbing/invasive species mitigation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Protection</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erosion Control Implements</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Earthwork</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Subgrade Excavation, Preparation, and Grading</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm Drainage Systems - Pipe, Culverts and Connections</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Hardscape</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$36,000.00</td>
<td>$36,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Concrete Walkway</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>sf</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Plant Material</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ornamental Trees</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evergreen Trees</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie Restoration (8 acres)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>ac</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$37,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Amenities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature Play Areas</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bouldering Area</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$75,000.00</td>
<td>$75,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tall Structures ( ten feet)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ea</td>
<td>$60,000.00</td>
<td>$60,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Control Ring</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2' Tall Landscape Feature including Trail Access at Northwest Entrance</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Amenities (Signage, Seating, Bike Racks, Etc.)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Sub-Total | $763,500.00 |
| 20% Design & Contingency | $152,700.00 |
| Total | $916,200.00 |

#### PHASE 4 COST ESTIMATE

#### Carlson Park Landscape Master Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Line Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demolition/Site Preparation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobilization/Construction Survey</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select Clearing and grubbing/invasive species mitigation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Protection</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erosion Control Implements</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Earthwork</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Subgrade Excavation, Preparation, and Grading</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm Drainage Systems - Pipe, Culverts and Connections</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Hardscape</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$270,000.00</td>
<td>$270,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasant Street Bridge and Sidewalk Improvements</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$250,000.00</td>
<td>$250,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grass Parking lot (48 stalls)</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>sf</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>$28,800.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>sf</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$22,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Site Plant Material</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ornamental Trees</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evergreen Trees</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$40,000.00</td>
<td>$40,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Amenities</td>
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<td>$75,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event/Amphitheater Space Including Basic Performance Stage</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>ls</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primative Yurt Cabins</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ea</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
<td>$75,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Sub-Total | $271,260.00 |
| 20% Design & Contingency | $54,252.00 |
| Total | $325,512.00 |

Note: These are opinions of probable cost, using research and data in 2021. These costs fluctuate from year to year, and are influenced by market supply and demand. If any of these phases are implemented after 2021, then the unit costs shall be re-verified prior to engaging in the design and implementation of that phase(s).
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUNDING PROGRAM</th>
<th>PROGRAM DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
<th>SUBMISSION DEADLINE</th>
<th>WEBSITE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Education</td>
<td>Funding mechanism for projects to help the public make informed decisions that affect environmental quality.</td>
<td>Tamara Freeman</td>
<td>Early January</td>
<td><a href="https://www.epa.gov/education/environmental-education-ee-grants">https://www.epa.gov/education/environmental-education-ee-grants</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greening America’s Communities</td>
<td>EPA program to help cities and towns develop an implementable vision of environmentally friendly neighborhoods that incorporate innovative green infrastructure and other sustainable design strategies.</td>
<td>Clark Wilson</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td><a href="https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/green-americas-communities/background">https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/green-americas-communities/background</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Keep Iowa Beautiful

| Build with Bags Grant (via the Iowa Grocery Industry Association) | Funding made available to be used for the purchase of outdoor furniture or equipment that is made from recycled plastic grocery bags. | Iowa Grocery Industry | End of March | http://www.iowagrocers.com/build-with-bags-grant-application.cfm |
| Paint Iowa Beautiful | The Paint Iowa Beautiful program provides free paint to a wide variety of public service projects throughout Iowa through a partnership with diamond Vogel Paint of Orange City, Iowa. | Bill Jackson | Mid-February | https://keepiowabeautiful.org/2020-paint-iowa-beautiful-program/ |

Winnebago County Grants

| Winnebago County Community Foundation | The Winnebago County Community Foundation provides grants to improve life in Winnebago County, Iowa. We want to help develop communities that people want to live in, as well as benefit rural areas of the county. | Dotti Thompson | Early January | https://www.chwia.org/grants/grant-opportunities/22-winnebago-county-grants |

The Wellmark Foundation

| Small MATCH grant | The Matching Assets to Community Health grant program supports sustainable projects that increase access to and consumption of nutritious foods, or promote safe and healthy environments that encourage activity, 50% Match | Gina Rooney | June | https://www.wellmark.com/grant-foundations/fts.html |
| Large MATCH grant | The Matching Assets to Community Health grant program supports sustainable projects that increase access to and consumption of nutritious foods, or promote safe and healthy environments that encourage activity, 100% Match | Gina Rooney | February | https://www.wellmark.com/grant-foundations/fts.html |

Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT)

| Iowa DOT/GNR Fund | Roadside beautification of primary system corridors with plant materials. | Iowa Department of Transportation Bureau of Design | Ongoing | (Use Contact Information) |
| Living Roadway Trust Fund (SRTF) Program | Implement Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management programs (IRVM) on city, county, or state right-of-way or publicly owned areas adjacent to traveled roadways. | Troy Siefert | Ongoing | (Use Contact Information) |
| Federal Recreational Trails (FRT) Program | Program established to provide trail systems for public use throughout Iowa. | Scott Flagg | Early January and Early July | https://iowadot.gov/fitf/GRTs/Federal-and-State-RecReational-Trails |

Alliant Energy

| Community Grants | Community Grants are directed to programs and projects that benefit residents and communities in the three Midwestern states Alliant Energy serves. Primary emphasis is given to organizations in areas where Alliant energy has a presence. | 1(866)769-3779 | March 1st, September 1st | https://www.alliantenergy.com/CommunityAndStewardship/CommunityGrants |
| Branching Out | Branching Out is a nationally recognized and award-winning tree planting program in which Alliant Energy, Trees Forever and your community work together to plan, fund and implement community tree planting projects. | Dab Roman | November 1st | http://www.treesforever.org/BranchingOut |

Black Hills Energy

| Power of Trees | Black Hills Energy provides matching grants of $500 to $7,000 per project. Trees Forever administers and facilitates the program, providing on-site technical and planning support. | Dab Roman | November 1st | http://www.treesforever.org/Power_of_Trees |
The Trees for Kids program serves to educate K-12 and college students in Iowa about the importance of trees through tree planting events at schools and on public land. Grant recipients are awarded $1,000-$5,000 per project to purchase trees and mulch from Iowa nurseries.

Wildlife Diversity (non-game) Program Grants

The wildlife diversity program offers three grants programs to encourage research, habitat management and environmental education that supports non-game wildlife in Iowa.

## Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA)

### Community Attraction and Tourism Program (CAT)

The Community Attraction and Tourism Program (CAT) is designed to assist communities in the development and creation of multipurpose attraction or tourism facilities. This Program can help position a community to take advantage of economic development opportunities in tourism, and strengthen a community’s competitiveness as a place to work and live.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Submission Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iowa Reinvestment Districts</td>
<td>The Iowa Reinvestment District Program is designed to assist communities in developing transformative projects that will improve the quality of life, create and enhance unique opportunities and substantially benefit the community, region and state.</td>
<td>Ahna Sanchez (515) 348-6162</td>
<td>February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance Iowa</td>
<td>Enhance Iowa provides grant funds to assist projects that provide recreational, cultural, entertainment and educational attractions, as well as parks and tourism. The funds help communities create transformational projects that enhance the vitality of a region and the state overall.</td>
<td>Ahna Sanchez (515) 348-6162</td>
<td>January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Historical and Cultural Affairs

#### Iowa Arts Council Project Grant

Project established to positively affect towns through arts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Submission Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Veronica O’Hern (515) 281-3293</td>
<td>June</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Miscellaneous Grants

#### People for Bikes

Program is established to provide a funding source for bicycling, active transportation and community development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Submission Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zow Krcics (720) 726-3335</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Trees Forever

Granting a Better Tomorrow grants are for tree-planting and educational projects, including tree planting, seeding give-a-ways, pollinator (trees & plants) plantings, rain gardens with trees, educational classroom projects, club or church projects, fruit and nut orchards, school memorials, cemetery plantings and disaster recovery projects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Submission Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dale Roman (319) 373-0550</td>
<td>February or July</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Envision Iowa

Trees Forever’s Working Watersheds: Buffers & Beyond program helps to improve water quality, soil retention and habitat improvement by working with Iowa landowners to implement conservation practices and promote land stewardship.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Submission Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Jensen (515) 320-7676</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**FUNDING PROGRAM** | **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION** | **CONTACT** | **SUBMISSION DEADLINE** | **WEBSITE**
---|---|---|---|---
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) | The LWCF Program is federally funded grant program that provides match funds of 50% for outdoor recreation area development and acquisition. Iowa’s cities and counties are eligible to participate. | Nick Dellaca (515) 725-6027 Nick.Dellaca@dnr.iowa.gov | Mid-March | http://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/LWCF/Land-Water-Conservation-Fund |
REAP City Parks and Open Spaces | The grants are 100% matching local matching funds are not required. This grant program is very competitive. Funds are available for single or multipurpose athletic fields, Parkland expansion and multi-purpose recreation developments are typical projects funded under this REAP Program. | Tammy Krausman REAP Coordinator 515-402-8763 Wallace State Office Building 502 E. 9th St. Independence, IA 50339 Tammy.Krausman@dnr.iowa.gov | Mid-August | https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/REAP-REAP-Funding-at-Work-City-Parks-Open-Spaces |
REAP County Conservation | County Conservation (20% of REAP funds) - This money is available to counties for land acquisitions or capital improvements, stabilization and protection of resources, repair and upgrading of facilities, environmental education, and equipment. | Tammy Krausman Tammy Krausman REAP Coordinator 515-402-8763 Wallace State Office Building 502 E. 9th St. Independence, IA 50339 Tammy.Krausman@dnr.iowa.gov | Mid-August | https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/REAP-REAP-Funding-at-Work-County-Conservation |
REAP Conservation Education Program | The Conservation Education Program (CEP) is a key provision of the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Act of 1999. A five-member board implements the CEP and annually they allocate approximately $350,000 in grants for conservation education in Iowa. | Jeana Shewmaker Reap CEP Representative 515-313-8909 reapcep@dnr.iowa.gov | November 1 | https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/REAP-REAP-Funding-at-Work-Conservation-Education |
Trees for Kids | The Trees for Kids grant program services to educate K-12 and college students in Iowa about the importance of trees through tree planting events at schools and on public land. Grant recipients are awarded $1,000-$5,000 per project to purchase trees and mulch from Iowa nurseries. | Gabrielle Edwards (515) 725-8456 | Fall/Spring | http://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/EDUCATION/Opportunities |
Wildlife Diversity (non-game) Program Grants | The wildlife diversity program offers three grants programs to encourage research, habitat management and environmental education that supports non-game wildlife in Iowa. | Stephanie Shepherd Wildlife Diversity Biologist Boone Wildlife Research Station Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources 439 255th Street Boone, IA 50036 (515) 230-4599 Stephanie.Shear@dnr.iowa.gov | November | https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Recreation/Wildlife-Diversity/Wildlife-Diversity-Program/Wildlife-Grant-Opportunities |