



*Chapter Nine:*  
**[ Parks + Recreation ]**

# Parks + Recreation

## Overview

### Chapter Purpose

The intent of the Parks + Recreation Chapter is to provide an analysis and guidance for Bondurant's parks and recreation system. While this chapter is not as detailed as a true Parks + Recreation Master Plan is, it should provide high-level recommendations to consider for the management of parks as well as ideas for what to include within an update to the Parks + Recreation Master Plan document.

The chapter includes three types of level of service analyses for the parks system today. It also provides park acre demand estimates for the community based on projected population growth. A high-level future trails plan is also provided. The chapter concludes with a series of goals, policies, and action items for Bondurant to reference when making decisions over planning and budgeting.

### Chapter Structure

The Parks + Recreation Chapter follows the following format:



Review of parks, trails and recreation today



Summary of public input received on parks + recreation



Level of service analysis for parks



Future park needs + trends



Parks + Recreation Goals, Policies, & Action Items



# Parks + Recreation Today

## Existing Park System

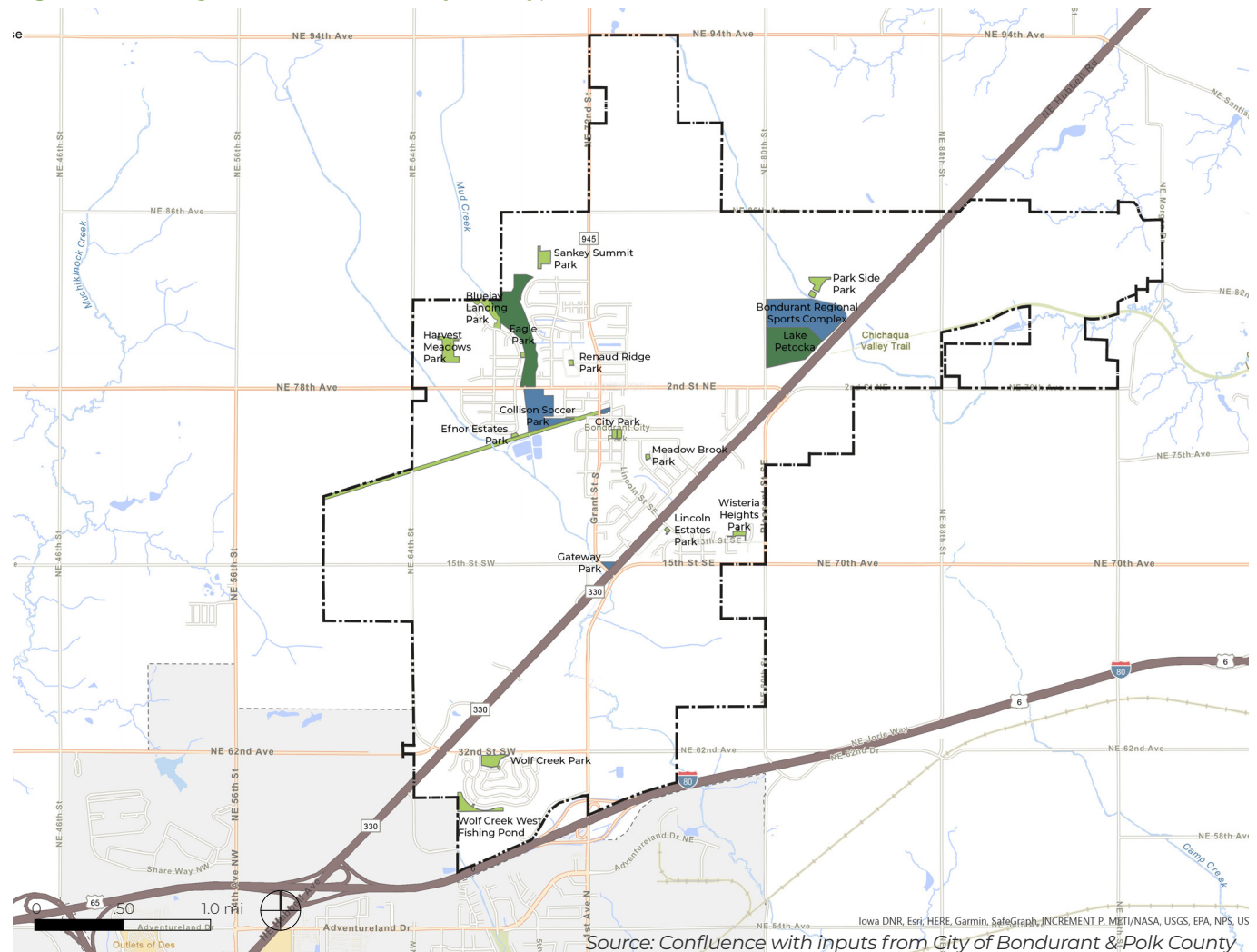
## Existing Park System

Figure 9.1 shows the current park system in Bondurant. In total, Bondurant has 18 official parks within its system. These parks combined account for a total nearly 150 acres.

Bondurant's parks vary in size, function, and degree to which each has been formally programmed.

The four largest park areas in Bondurant include Lake Petocka, the Bondurant Regional Sports Complex (BRSC), Collison Soccer Park, and Eagle Park.

Beyond the four largest parks, most of Bondurant's park system is composed of a mixture of neighborhood and special use parks that are scattered throughout the residential areas of Bondurant.



# Parks + Recreation Today

## Existing Park System

### Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks generally range in size from 2 acres up to 15 acres though some will be larger or smaller depending on the community and neighborhood in which they reside. The neighborhood-serving parks act as social and recreational areas for nearby residents and are one of the basic units of a park system. Many include a playground.

Neighborhood parks in Bondurant include:

- Bluejay Landing Park
- City Park
- Efnor Estates Park
- Lincoln Estates Park
- Mallard Pointe Park
- Meadow Brook Park
- Park Side Park
- Sankey Summit Park
- Renaud Ridge Park
- Wisteria heights Park
- Wolf Creek Fishing Pond
- Wolf Creek Park

### Community Parks

Community Parks are designed to serve the entire community. The service to the community can come from their size, their function, or a combination of both features. They range in size from 16 to 100 acres with a service area of around 1 mile depending on the park amenities. Community parks will often have on-site parking options.

Community parks in Bondurant include:

- Eagle Park
- Lake Petocka

### Special Use Parks

Special Use Parks are areas in which a specialized or single-purpose activity takes place. The areas may be golf courses, amphitheaters, sports fields, or historical areas. Since the designation is based on use and not size, there is no set acreage minimum or maximums as these numbers will vary considerably.

Special use parks in Bondurant include:

- Bondurant Regional Sports Complex
- Collison Soccer Park
- Bondurant Regional Trailhead (Depot)
- Gateway Park (Porch Swings + Fireflies)



# Parks + Recreation Today

## Existing Trail System

### Existing Trails

Figure 9.2 shows the existing trail system and sidewalk inventory in Bondurant. The defining feature of the trail system today is the Chichaqua Valley Trail (CVT). The CVT is a 27-mile regional trail that transects Bondurant where it passes Lake Petocka, Downtown Bondurant, and alongside the Collision Soccer Park.

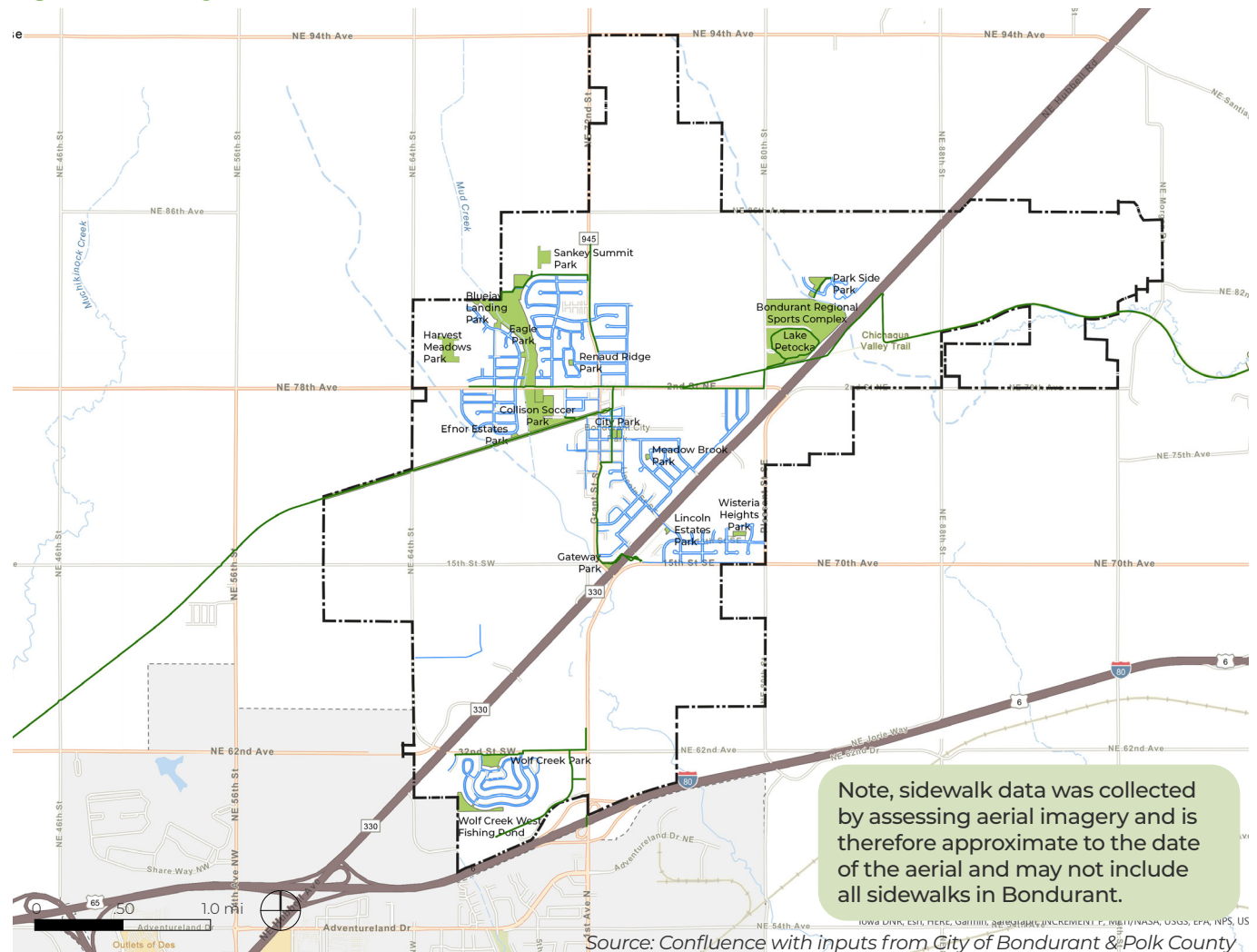
The CVT trail follows the route of the Wisconsin, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad, which dates back to 1885. The rail line was officially abandoned in 1984 and was subsequently converted to Iowa's first rail-to-trail conversion in 1987.

Bondurant maintains a 0.7-acre regional trailhead for the trail called The Depot just north of the Downtown. The park features an open-air shelter, which is a replica of the original train station in the area from 1883 to 1962.

The hugely popular trail attracts bike enthusiasts from across Central Iowa into Downtown Bondurant.

- City Limits
- Existing Park
- Existing Trail
- Existing Sidewalk

Figure 9.2 Existing Trails + Sidewalks in Bondurant



# Parks + Recreation Today

## Existing Recreation Programs + Facilities

### Recreation Programs

Bondurant has a wide variety of recreation programs and activities available for residents. Table 9.1 highlights 2022 Parks & Recreation Programming by month. Below is a list of popular recreation programs and activities held in Bondurant in recent years:

- Youth Basketball
- Public Fishing
- Keep Bondu Beautiful
- Youth Fishing Derby
- Movies in the Park
- Bondu Spooktacular
- Christmas in Bondurant
- Cribbage Tournament
- Winter Chowder Bike Ride
- Mother / Son Night
- Bags Tournaments
- Art Classes

**Table 9.1** Bondurant 2022 Parks & Recreation Programming

<b>January</b>
Winter Trout Stock, Winter Cribbage Tournament, Winter Yoga Fitness Series
<b>February</b>
Winter Yoga Fitness Series, Winter Chowder Ride
<b>March</b>
Babysitting Basics Course
<b>April</b>
Keep Bondu Beautiful, Live Healthy 5k
<b>May</b>
City-Wide Garage Sale, National Bike Month Celebration
<b>June</b>
Annual Youth Fishing Derby, Youth Activity Bus, Science in the Park, Art in the Park, Fitness in the Park
<b>July</b>
Touch-a-Truck at the Bondurant Fire Station, Youth Activity Bus, Bondu Blues, Brews & Sidewalk Chalk Festival
<b>August</b>
B-Safe Kids Camp, Youth Activity Bus, Fall Bags Tournament, Movies in the Park Series
<b>September</b>
Youth Basketball, Movies in the Park Series
<b>October</b>
Youth Basketball, Fall Trout Stock, Bondu Spook-tacular, Movies in the Park Series
<b>November</b>
Youth Basketball
<b>December</b>
Merry & Bright Parade, Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, Santa Social at the Library, Youth Basketball, Parents Day Off!

# Park Plans

## Parks + Recreation Master Plan Summary

### Existing Bondurant Parks + Recreation Master Plan

The 2013 Parks, Trail and Greenspace Master Plan identified the following goals:

1. Maintain or enhance current neighborhood park amenities; open shelter with picnic tables, play equipment, sidewalks, benches, trash receptacles, drinking fountains, park sign and landscape.
2. Enhance Mallard Pointe Neighborhood Park; add an overlook to Eagle Park.
3. Develop Meadow Brook Neighborhood Park; current Park Master Plan proposes a trail system connecting to Gay Lea Wilson Trail along with native planting and park sign.
4. Update and enhance signage throughout the community; adding plantings to the 2nd St NE & Hwy 65 city welcome sign.
5. Continue to enhance Lake Petocka; canoe landing, bank stabilization, security lighting, fishing dock, relocate ball field to BRSC, and additional parking.
6. Continue to enhance Bondurant Recreational Sports Complex; Provide additional parking.
7. Evaluate the Park Site Dedication per city code.

The Parks and Recreation board later added the following goals:

1. Develop Eagle Park with a trail system, stormwater treatment cells, butterfly garden, overlook, benches, interpretive signs, and native plantings.
2. Maintain or enhance annual programming.
3. Continue to enhance City Park; use the 2021 City Park Master Plan to guide the progress

4. . Continue acquiring funding and planning for a Bondurant Dog Park; site has been established and a committee was formed to fundraise.

5. Continue efforts to connect Gay Lea Wilson Trail to existing trail.

6. Find funding via Iowa Economic Development Funding Assistance, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Department of Transportation, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, and other sources.

7. Establish a plan for the following projects that may be incorporated into the new upcoming Park Masters Plan:

- a. Increase Green Space
- b. Plant More Trees – enhance tree canopy (2021 was a great year that contributes to a lot of enhancements within the community)
- c. Incorporate an Ice Rink
- d. Incorporate a Pickleball Court (this is included in the 2021 City Park Master Plan)
- e. Incorporate a Community Garden or pocket gardens
- f. Storage and facility options for the Recreation Department



# Parks + Recreation Public Input

## Public Input on Parks + Recreation

### Public Input Summary

Parks + Recreation related public input has been gathered for this chapter. Figure 9.3 shows the strengths and opportunities identified during stakeholder interviews for Parks + Recreation in Bondurant.

Many of the comments revolved around the strength of Lake Petocka, excitement over the planned Central Park, as well as a desire for some sort of community center to gather or hold events.

Opportunities for the parks + recreation system identified by stakeholders included building off Lake Petocka's popularity by expanding amenities at the park, a desire for a pool, tennis courts and a golf course, as well as the desire for a trail that connects to Altoona.

**Figure 9.3** Parks and Recreation Stakeholder + Public Workshop Feedback



# Parks + Recreation Public Input

## Public Input on Parks + Recreation

### Public Input Summary

Based on image voting exercises at the in-person open house and online image voting exercise, Figure 9.4 shows the most preferred park images. They depict a highly activated community park, an inclusive park, courts or fields, playground equipment, large open space, and a dog park.

Within the online survey, when asked what recreation amenities were most needed, responses included water play, water access, courts, natural areas, and trails were the highest requested recreation amenities.

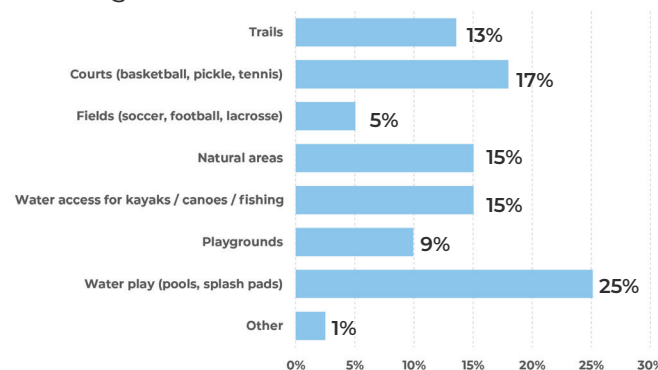
Within the online priority budget tool, park enhancements + expansion was the highest voted on priority based on allocated budget.

**Figure 9.4** Parks & Recreation Open House and Interactive Website Feedback

### Parks + Recreation



**Question 8:** Bondurant needs more of the following recreation amenities.



# Level of Service Analysis

## Bondurant, Iowa

### Level of Service Analysis

There are several ways to analyze how well a parks system serves the needs of a community. Park level of service analysis should rely on a combination of public input and technical analysis. Public input revealed that people are generally happy with the parks system today but recognize there are opportunities for improvement in the type of amenities featured within the park system.

Three common ways to provide technical analysis of park level of service include:

- Service Area / Buffer Map
- Park Acres / 1,000 Residents
- Walk-Time Analysis

### Technical Level of Service Analysis

The Parks + Recreation Chapter uses the following technical analyses to evaluate the Bondurant parks + recreation system:



Total Park Acres Per 1,000 Residents



Service Area / Buffer Map by Park Type



Walk-Time Analysis



# Level of Service Analysis

## Park Acres Per 1,000 Residents

### Total Park Acres Per 1,000 Residents

In total, Bondurant has approximately 155 acres of parkland for residents with an additional 11.02 acres planned. A common way to analyze park level of service is by calculating how many acres of parkland exist per 1,000 residents. This is commonly called the level of service (LOS). Table 9.2 shows total park acres by type as well as LOS by park type for Bondurant.

Most cities should aim to have at least 10.5 acres per 1,000 residents. Based on Bondurant's 2020 population, the current level of service far exceeds the recommended LOS. However, it should be noted that not all of the contributing parks are currently improved.

This high level of service for parks likely helps to support the high quality of life noted by many residents and is something that should be maintained as the community grows. Additional programming should also occur.

**Table 9.2** Park Level of Service Assessment

Park Name (Existing)	Acres	Category
Bluejay Landing Park	5.59	Neighborhood
Bondurant Regional Sports Complex	45.82	Special Use
Collison Soccer Park	9.5	Special Use
Bondurant Regional Trailhead (Depot)	0.67	Special Use
City Park	1.70	Neighborhood
Eagle Park	39.10	Community
Efnor Estates park	0.50	Neighborhood
Gateway Park (Porch Swings & Fireflies)	1.30	Special Use
Lake Petocka	34.93	Community
Lincoln Estates Park	0.38	Neighborhood
Mallard Pointe Park	0.46	Neighborhood
Meadow Brook Park	0.41	Neighborhood
Park Side Park	3.74	Neighborhood
Sankey Summit Park	4.03	Neighborhood
Renaud Ridge Park	0.48	Neighborhood
Wisteria Heights Park	1.32	Neighborhood
Wolf Creek West Fishing Pond	3.87	Neighborhood
Wolf Creek Park	1.47	Neighborhood
TOTAL	155.27	-
Park Name (Future)	Acres	Category
Prairie Point View Park	1.57	Neighborhood
Harvest Meadows Park	6.94	Neighborhood
Featherstone Park	2.51	Neighborhood
TOTAL	11.02	-

Existing Population (2020)	7,365	-
Existing Level of Service (LOS)	21.1	-
Future Level of Service (LOS)	22.6	-
Level of Service by Type	Acres	Level of Service
Neighborhood Park (Existing)	22.25	3.02
Neighborhood Park (Planned)	33.27	4.51
Community Park	75.73	10.28
Special Use Park	57.29	7.77
Total (Existing)	155.27	21.1
Total (Planned)	166.29	22.6
Level of Service (LOS) Recommendations	Recommended LOS*	Existing LOS*
Neighborhood Park	1.25 to 2.0	3.02
Community Park	5.5 to 8.0	10.3
Special Use Park	-	7.77
TOTAL	10.5	21.1

\* LOS - Level of Services is an attempt at standardizing how well a community is served by parks on a total acre per a certain amount of population. National standards are identified by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) as well as Planner's Estimating Guides

# Level of Service Analysis

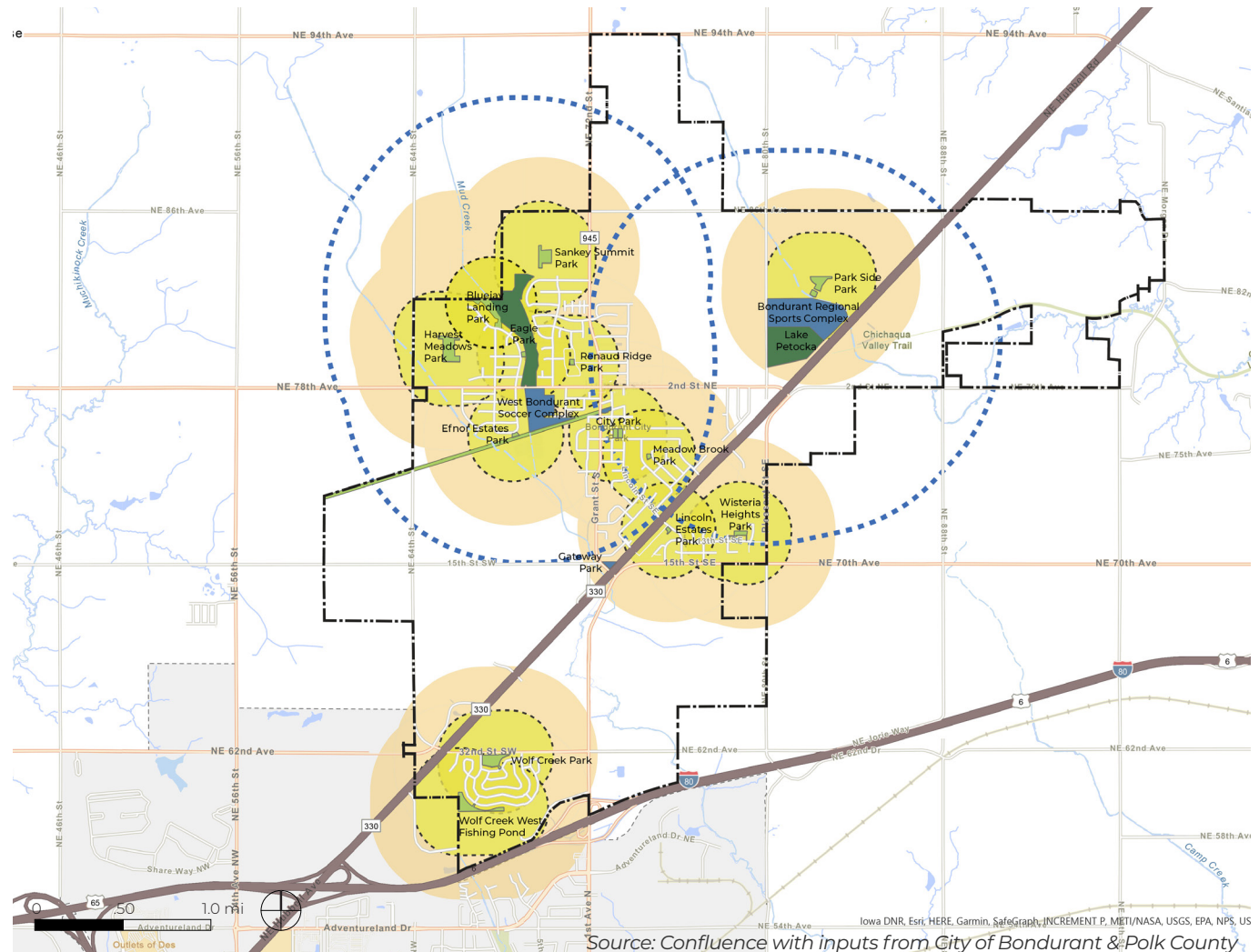
## Service Areas

### Service Areas

Another way to assess how well served a community is by parks is to look at service areas, which roughly depict how far of geographic range a park will serve. Neighborhood parks will serve an area of between 1/4 and 1/2 mile. Community parks will serve a larger area of typically at least 1 mile. Special use parks are more varied because of the wider range of unique services they offer. Figure 9.5 shows service areas for neighborhood and community parks in Bondurant.

The service areas by park type analysis shows that nearly the entire community is covered within these service area buffers. The areas not covered are mainly industrial or currently undeveloped and have less overall need for park service area.

Figure 9.5 Park Service Areas



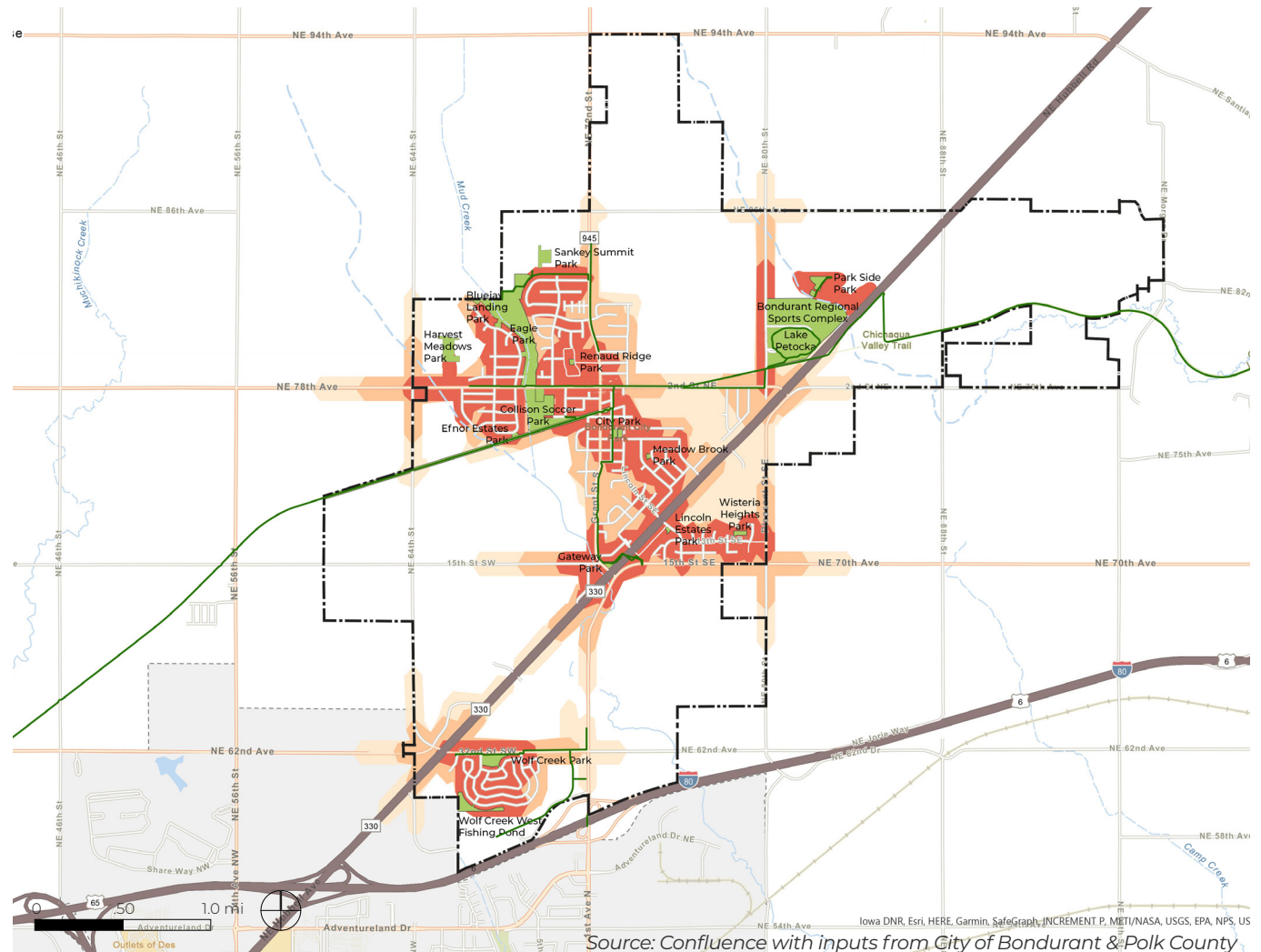
# Level of Service Analysis

## Walk Time Analysis

Another way to analyze how well a park system serves its residents is through a walk-time analysis. The Walk Time Analysis map, shown in Figure 9.6, assesses how much of the community is able to walk to the nearest park or trail from their home within a reasonable walk time of between 5 and 15 minutes.

Overall, most residents are able to reach a neighborhood park in 5 or 10-minute walk time.

There are around 2,600 existing residential parcels in Bondurant today. Approximately 1,801 of these residential parcels, or around 69%, live within the 5-minute walk time. Another 601 parcels are within 10-minutes, representing around 92% of parcels. Within 15-minutes, an estimated 96% of existing residential parcels are within a reasonable walking distance.





# Future Park Trends

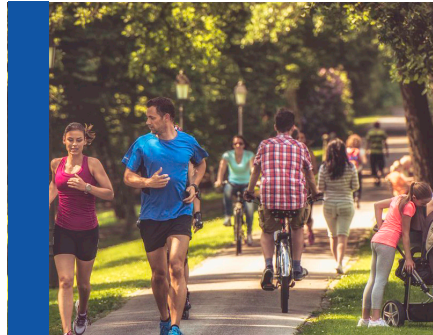
## Key Considerations

### Future Park Key Considerations

There are several nationally recognized parks and recreation trends that Bondurant should consider when comprehensive planning for a parks + recreation system. The following big picture themes are discussed:

- Impact of COVID-19
- Operations and Budget Issues
- Health + Human Services
- Technology Integration
- Changing Weather Patterns
- Inclusivity

Some of these trends are more likely than others to impact Bondurant, however, all should be kept in mind during park planning for the future.



### Impact of COVID-19

A positive outcome from the COVID-19 pandemic was a resurgence of interest in parks and outdoor space in general. There are many experts that expect this trend to continue in the coming decades, which makes the need for a well rounded and high-quality park system critical to the success of a community.



### Budget Issues

One of the many negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, was the lingering budget issues that are trickling into many parks and recreation departments. Less economic activity meant less tax collected to help fund park and recreation facilities and programs. Bondurant may be an exception to this given its ability to maintain a strong growth rate, but it may be an issue that will linger for several years and impact park systems across the country. This could make competition for park funding and grants even more competitive.



### Health and Social Services

The COVID-19 pandemic also brought on a change in the role park and recreation departments are playing across the country. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Parks Snapshots surveys show that around 60% of park departments helped with food distribution, COVID-19 testing, and other services. As the role and expectations of park and recreation systems evolve, Bondurant should consider how its programming may face pressure to change or adapt their roles in the community.

# Future Park Trends

## Key Considerations



### Technology Integration

For decades, technology has become more intertwined with everyday life including parks and recreation departments. Online scheduling has made facility rentals and youth sport programs more efficient. Other technology integrations in parks that are emerging include the integration of technology into playground equipment, smart parks, and bike rental stations. Companies such as Yalp Interactive specialize in playground that have a strong technology component. This may become requested in Bondurant parks as these amenities become more widespread.



### Changing Weather Patterns

Climate change has altered many of our weather patterns across the globe making events such as flooding or droughts more frequent and unpredictable. Both extremes can have negative impacts on our parks and recreation facilities. By integrating functional landscapes such as green infrastructure to help manage stormwater and irrigation on-site with natural ecological functions, Bondurant can have a more resilient and sustainable park system.



### Inclusivity

More and more, park systems are experiencing demand for park facilities that are inclusive to users of all ages and ability levels. ADA accessible playgrounds and amenities such as Miracle Fields are popping up across the country, state and metro area. It is likely that Bondurant will continue to hear calls for these types of facilities to be constructed within the park system. There are grant opportunities available to help fund these type of facilities as they do typically require special planning and design.

# Future Parks + Recreation

## Future Park Demand Estimate

### Future Park Demand Estimates

Table 9.4 shows the projected park acre demand estimates for Bondurant based on 2030, 2040, and 2050 population growth scenarios. Park demand estimates were created using the existing Bondurant level of service of 19.1 acres / 1,000 residents.

#### Neighborhood Parks

By 2050, Bondurant will likely need between 5 and 47 acres additional neighborhood park acres to meet park demand.

#### Community Parks

By 2050, Bondurant will likely need between 23 and 189 additional community park acres to meet park demand.

#### Total Parks

By 2050, Bondurant will likely need between 64 and 461 additional total park acres to meet park demand.

**Table 9.3** Population Growth Scenarios

Population Scenario	2030	2040	2050
Low Growth Scenario	7,914	9,767	11,619
Average Growth Scenario	10,457	15,722	21,163
High Growth Scenario	11,619	22,798	32,396

**Table 9.4** Park Demand Estimates 2030-2050

	Total			
Existing Total Park Level of Service	19.1 acres / 1,000			
Neighborhood Park Level of Service	2.0 acres / 1,000			
Community Park Level of Service	8.0 acres / 1,000			
Neighborhood Park	Existing Acres	Acre Demand 2030	Acre Demand 2040	Acre Demand 2050
Low Growth Scenario 2050	18.13 acres	16 acres	20 acres	23 acres
Average Growth Scenario 2050	18.13 acres	21 acres	31 acres	46 acres
High Growth Scenario 2050	18.13 acres	27 acres	42 acres	65 acres
Neighborhood Park Needed Acres by 2050	Between 5 and 47 acres			
Community Park	Existing Acres	Acre Demand 2030	Acre Demand 2040	Acre Demand 2050
Low Growth Scenario 2050	70.07 acres	63 acres	78 acres	93 acres
Average Growth Scenario 2050	70.07 acres	84 acres	126 acres	182 acres
High Growth Scenario 2050	70.07 acres	107 acres	169 acres	259 acres
Community Park Needed Acres by 2050	Between 23 and 189 acres			
Total Park Acres	Existing Acres	Acre Demand 2030	Acre Demand 2040	Acre Demand 2050
Low Growth Scenario 2050	158.12 acres	151 acres	187 acres	222 acres
Average Growth Scenario 2050	158.12 acres	200 acres	300 acres	404 acres
High Growth Scenario 2050	158.12 acres	255 acres	404 acres	619 acres
Total Park Needed Acres by 2050	Between 64 and 461 acres			



# Future Park Service Areas

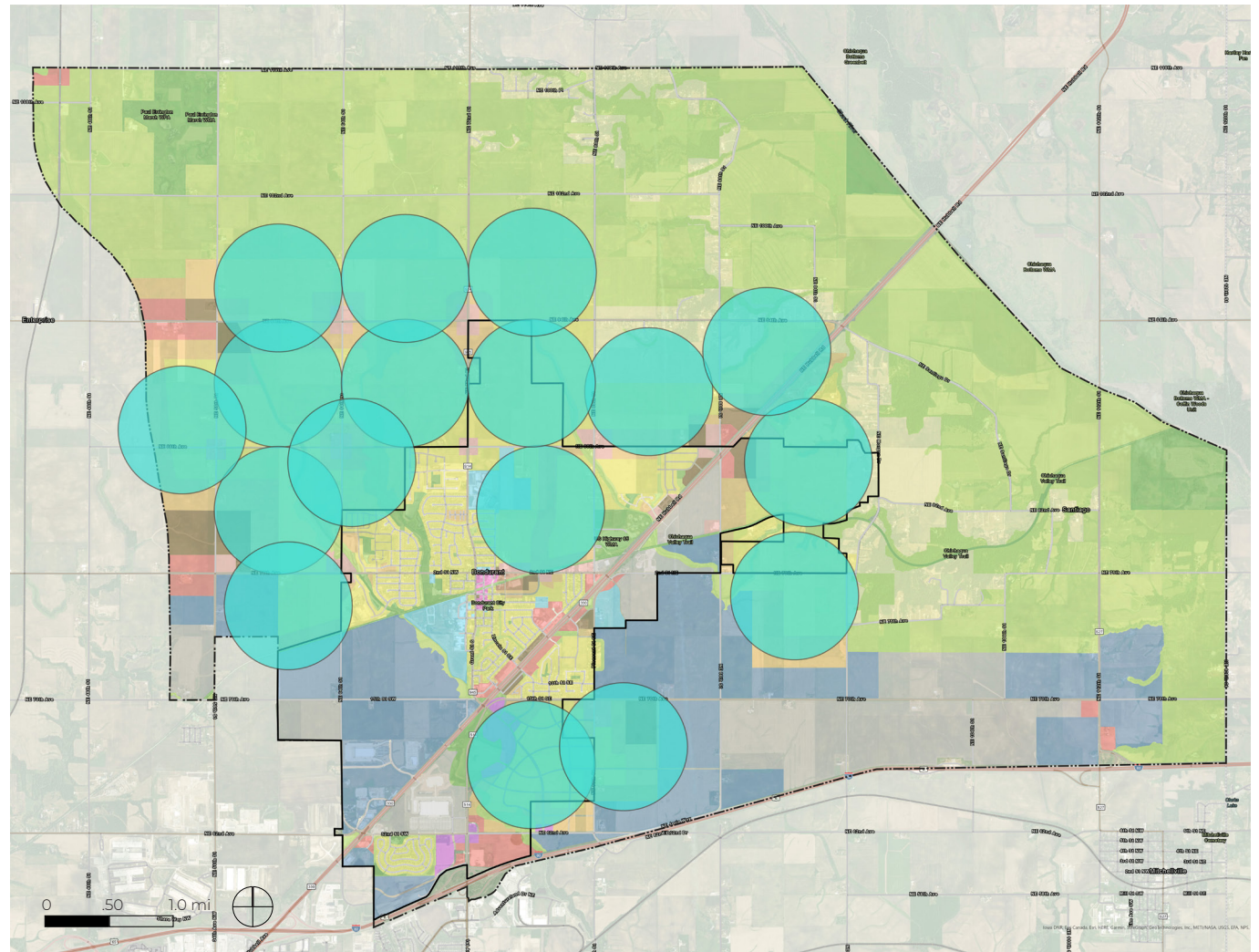
## Neighborhood + Community Park Service Areas

- Planning Boundary
- Bondurant City Limits
- 1/2-Mile Buffer Neighborhood Park Service Area
- Park Service Area

### Future Park Service Areas

While the exact location of future parks are not generally identified in a comprehensive plan, possible future service areas can be shown. Within the residential areas of Bondurant, neighborhood parks should continue to be spaced approximately every 1/2 mile. Figure 9.7 shows how neighborhood parks could be spaced along the planning boundary, particularly in those areas with low-, medium-, or high-density residential.

Figure 9.7 Future Park Service Areas



# Future Trails

## Future Trails Map

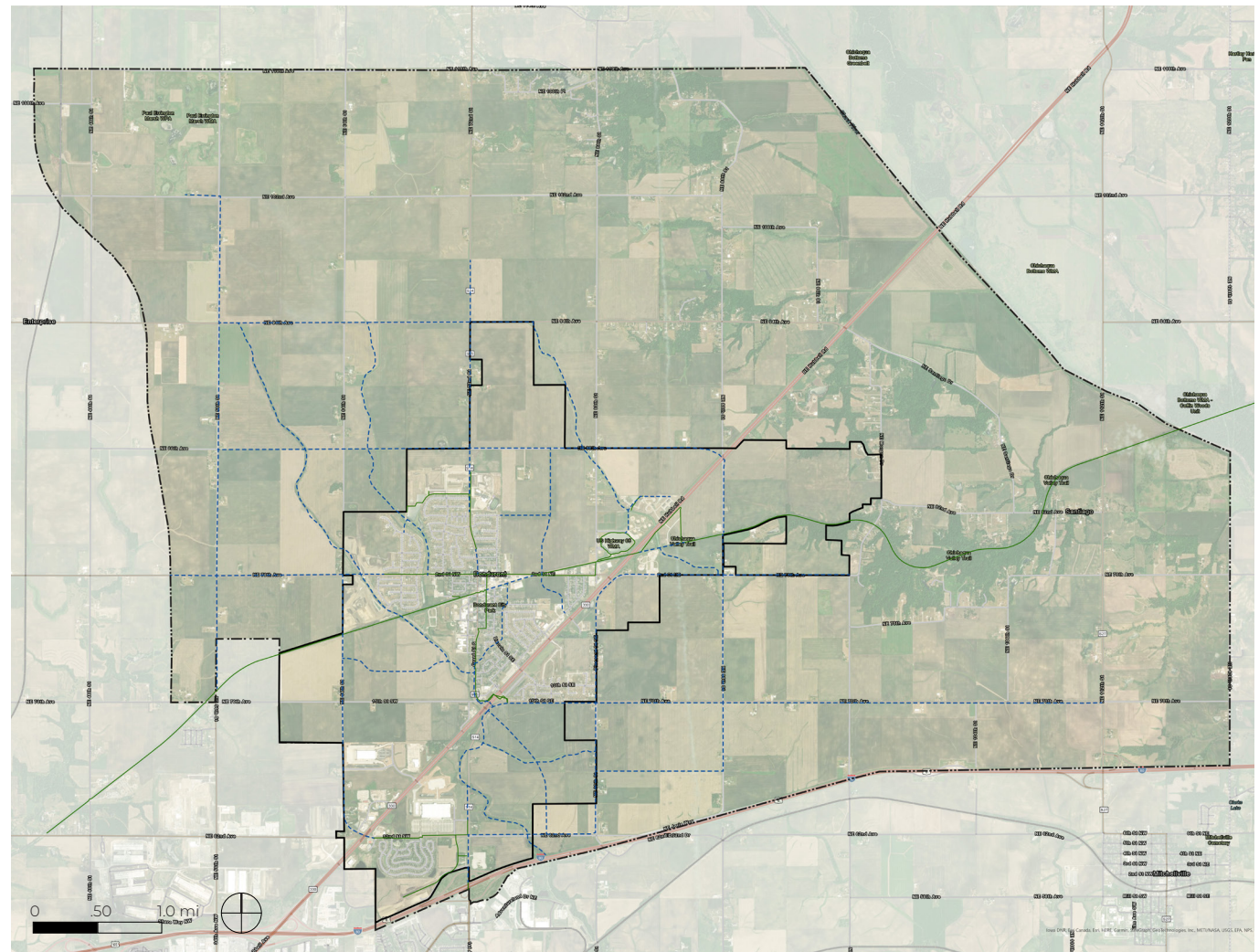
### Future Trails Map





Figure 9.8 shows a proposed future trails map for Bondurant. Existing trails are shown in dark green. Future trails, shown in dashed blue line, are proposed along known and planned greenways as well as long major arterial and collector roadways. Of note, trail connections are shown down to I-80 to ultimately connect to Altoona's system and a trail is shown north of town to the Paul Errington Marsh.

In addition to designated multi-use trails, sidewalk expansion should continue along roadways in Bondurant to support additional safe passage between locations. Mobility will be discussed in greater detail in Chapter 10 - Transportation & Mobility.

This high-level trails master plan should be explored in greater detail as part of an updated parks, trail and greenway master plan.

Figure 9.8 Future Trails Plan



-  Planning Boundary
-  Bondurant City Limits
-  Existing Trails
-  Proposed Trails



# Parks + Recreation Implementation

A series of goals, policies, and action items have been created for Chapter 9 - Parks + Recreation.

### Goal

Goals are objectives or aims which may be broad or specific.

### Policies

Policies represent on-going principles by which the City should adhere when approving new development or planning future investments.

### Action Items

Action items are specific steps and activities the City should take.

These goals, policies, and action items were created to further promote the guiding principles and vision statement of the Building Bondurant Comprehensive Plan.

In Chapter 12 - Implementation, a series of matrices will be provided that include each chapter's goals, policies, and action items. In this later chapter, the guiding principle(s) being supported by each policy or action item will be highlighted. Additional items such as priority or potential partners will also be added.

**Figure 9.10** Building Bondurant Guiding Principles



# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 19

### Maintain a high-quality and efficient parks and recreation system in Bondurant

Bondurant provides a high level of park service today, which should be continued into the future as the community grows. The community needs to ensure its parks remain fully improved and programmed with a continued emphasis of neighborhood parks. It should be the aim of the park system to provide efficient park services by taking advantage of opportunities to share facilities and integrate functional landscapes into the parks themselves. Every opportunity to improve the system should be explored.

#### Policy 19A

#### Continue to exceed the overall park level of service for total park acres in Bondurant

Bondurant maintains an overall total park level of service of around 19.1 acres per 1,000 residents. This far exceeds the national average of 10.5 per 1,000 residents. While additional programming of park space is needed to enhance the system, this exceptional total acres level of service should be maintained as the community grows.

#### Policy 19B

#### Continue development of currently under or unprogrammed parks in Bondurant

While Bondurant has a significant amount of total park acres, several parks remain under or unprogrammed. These parks should continue to receive programming and design plans to serve residents.

#### Policy 19C

#### Expand neighborhood parks in Bondurant as the community grows

Neighborhood parks make up the majority of park space in Bondurant - as the community grows this trend should continue. Typical service area of a neighborhood park is between 1/4 to 1/2 mile - the Future Service Area Map in this chapter provides insight into the distribution of parks based on the Future Land Use Plan.



# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 19

### Maintain a high-quality and efficient parks and recreation system in Bondurant

Bondurant provides a high level of park service today, which should be continued into the future as the community grows. The community needs to ensure its parks remain fully improved and programmed with a continued emphasis of neighborhood parks. It should be the aim of the park system to provide efficient park services by taking advantage of opportunities to share facilities and integrate functional landscapes into the parks themselves. Every opportunity to improve the system should be explored.

#### Policy 19D

**Strive to have most Bondurant residents live within a reasonable 5 to 10-minute walk to a park**

Approximately 96% of Bondurant residential parcels fall within a 5-to-15-minute walk time of a park currently. As Bondurant grows, this same high level of service for walk times should be maintained as the community grows.

#### Policy 19E

**Continue to evaluate options to partner with school district on shared facilities**

To maintain efficiency in the system, Bondurant should continue to seek opportunities to partner with the school district on shared facility space in the future. This can help reduce redundancy in services and benefit both entities. This partnership could include a tennis court and pickle ball area.

#### Policy 19F

**Integrate low-maintenance landscapes such as native prairie land to add variety to the user experience and reduce mowing and maintenance needs in the community**

To reduce cost of maintenance and irrigation, low-maintenance or no-mow areas should be identified within Bondurant parks. These areas may also be able to serve as educational opportunities for residents in the case of native plants.

# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 19

### Maintain a high-quality and efficient parks and recreation system in Bondurant

Bondurant provides a high level of park service today, which should be continued into the future as the community grows. The community needs to ensure its parks remain fully improved and programmed with a continued emphasis of neighborhood parks. It should be the aim of the park system to provide efficient park services by taking advantage of opportunities to share facilities and integrate functional landscapes into the parks themselves. Every opportunity to improve the system should be explored.

#### Policy 19G

**Incorporate green infrastructure into Bondurant parks as a way to combat extreme weather, reduce irrigation and maintenance costs, and as an educational tool for Bondurant residents and children**

Changing and more extreme weather patterns have made droughts and flooding more frequent. Green infrastructure provides a natural way to deal with stormwater and flooding issues within the park. They can also be attractive and educational amenities for residents and visitors.

#### Policy 19H

**Incorporate natural features such as trees, topography, wetlands, or streams into the open space**

Whenever possible, parks should incorporate the natural topography and terrain of the area whether that be trees, hills, wetlands or streams. All present opportunities for interesting and varied landscapes that can make the park system richer.

#### Policy 19I

**Continue to be proactive in planning and budgeting for parks and recreation maintenance needs**

The City should actively set aside funding for capital improvements for its parks and recreation system to ensure its facilities and programming keep up with projected growth demands in the community.

# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 19

### Maintain a high-quality and efficient parks and recreation system in Bondurant

Bondurant provides a high level of park service today, which should be continued into the future as the community grows. The community needs to ensure its parks remain fully improved and programmed with a continued emphasis of neighborhood parks. It should be the aim of the park system to provide efficient park services by taking advantage of opportunities to share facilities and integrate functional landscapes into the parks themselves. Every opportunity to improve the system should be explored.

#### Action Item 19A

#### Continue to activate and expand access to Lake Petocka for recreation and educational uses

Many residents in the public input process mentioned the need to build upon the amenities of Lake Petocka. Planned additions of a dog park and fishing pier are prime examples of positive activation of the park. A new Parks, Trail and Greenway Master Plan should create a detailed plan for Lake Petocka as well as the surrounding area to take the most advantage of this park space such as completing the trail connection to Park Side Park and connections to neighborhoods north of Santiago Creek.

#### Action Item 19B

#### Continue forward with adoption of the Central Park Master Plan and the Skate Park Plan and implement their projects to serve as community assets that will activate the Regional Commercial growth near I-80

The Central Park project and Skate Park Plan represent a unique opportunity to provide a signature community park space for the community while activating the potential of the Regional Commercial Master Plan area. These park plans should continue to be actively supported.

# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 20

Bondurant should not let its park system remain static. Over time, improvements and changes will be needed to better reflect changing public input and park and recreation trends, all of which can be accomplished through continued monitoring and surveying of residents and trends. It is important for the community to update its Parks, Trail + Open Space Master Plan in the near-term. This update should address issues such as park programming, recreation field / court demand, a review of the feasibility of indoor recreation space or community center space, among other topics.

### Ensure Bondurant's parks and recreation system remains responsive to residents and trends

#### Policy 20A

**Seek input from local neighbors when programming and designing a neighborhood park**

When designing features or selecting amenities for new neighborhood parks, local residents should be actively involved in the selection of any theme or special amenities. This can help the park better reflect the neighborhood it serves.

#### Policy 20B

**Continue to regularly evaluate parks and recreation trends when facility planning**

New park trends should be considered when evaluating existing and planning for future park facilities. This process can be aided through routine surveying and monitoring of resident preferences.

#### Policy 20C

**Continue to monitor the need for additional recreational fields and courts in Bondurant based on projected demand and trends in sports and activities**

Recreational field and court demand is constantly in flux and should be carefully monitored. A detailed plan for recreation facility planning should be involved in the next Parks, Trails and Greenway Master Plan based on updated projected population growth and recreation trends.



# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 20

Bondurant should not let its park system remain static. Over time, improvements and changes will be needed to better reflect changing public input and park and recreation trends, all of which can be accomplished through continued monitoring and surveying of residents and trends. It is important for the community to update its Parks, Trail + Open Space Master Plan in the near-term. This update should address issues such as park programming, recreation field / court demand, a review of the feasibility of indoor recreation space or community center space, among other topics.

### Ensure Bondurant's parks and recreation system remains responsive to residents and trends

#### Policy 20D

**Routinely monitor the lifecycle of programs and facilities to ensure they continue to meet the needs of the community**

Park programs and facilities should be routinely reviewed to assess how well each program or facility is currently serving the community based on usage, polling, and trends. Low ranking facilities or programs should be phased out over time. New programs should be added, and existing programs enhanced as needed based on community interest levels.

#### Action Item 20A

**Continue to implement the recommendations included within the 2013 Parks, Trail and Greenway Master Plan and updated goals identified by the Parks & Recreation Board in the Parks & Recreation Annual Report.**

Bondurant should continue to implement remaining projects, policies or action items included in the parks master plan along with the updated goals identified by the Parks & Recreation Board from the current Parks & Recreation Annual Report.

#### Action Item 20B

**Adopt a new parks, trails and greenway master plan within the next 2-years**

Given community progress as well as recent and projected growth rates, a new updated parks, trails and greenspace master plan will be needed in the short-term (maximum 5 years).

#### Action Item 20B

**Reuse the Emergency Services Building for recreation programming**

Once vacant, the Emergency Services Building should be repurposed as a facility for enhanced recreational programming space.

# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 20

### Ensure Bondurant's parks and recreation system remains responsive to residents and trends

Bondurant should not let its park system remain static. Over time, improvements and changes will be needed to better reflect changing public input and park and recreation trends, all of which can be accomplished through continued monitoring and surveying of residents and trends. It is important for the community to update its Parks, Trail + Open Space Master Plan in the near-term. This update should address issues such as park programming, recreation field / court demand, a review of the feasibility of indoor recreation space or community center space, among other topics.

#### Action Item 20C

**Review and update as needed the City's parkland dedication ordinance to ensure adequate space for new neighborhood parks, greenbelts, and trails**

As part of the zoning code review, the parkland dedication should be carefully reviewed and updated as needed to ensure proper dedication of land for parks and trails. Measures to consider include setting a minimum neighborhood park size requirement, requiring a certain SF of park based on number and types of dwelling units, or allowing park improvements to an existing park if a suitable location is not found nearby. Another option would be to place parks on the edge of subdivisions so other projects can contribute. The City should also consider increasing the minimum parkland street frontage requirements.

#### Action Item 20D

**Identify a long-term strategy to construct an indoor recreation complex or community center with multifunction meeting space**

Public input revealed a desire for community gathering space and facilities to help provide activities for youth aged 10+. The updated parks, trails and greenway master plan should include a detailed analysis and plan for indoor recreation or community center space.

#### Action Item 20E

**Explore the creation of an inclusive park in Bondurant that can serve all ages and ability levels**

As inclusive parks become more of an expected amenity, Bondurant should consider creating an inclusive park that is ADA accessible to serve all ages and ability levels.

# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 21

### Promote Bondurant's identity as a trail and recreation community

Bondurant greatly benefits from the presence of the Chichaqua Valley Trail. Efforts should continue to help build upon the trail and recreation centric nature of the community. This includes trail expansion as well as the addition of more trail-centric retail and services near the trailhead. Overall walkability of the community should be emphasized by expanding trail and sidewalk access - giving residents and visitors a safe way to explore Bondurant.

#### Policy 21A

#### **Expand trails in Bondurant in accordance with the Future Trails Plan**

A high-level trails plan has been identified in the Future Trails Plan. This should be used to inform trail planning. A more detailed trails master plan should be included in the update to the parks, trails and greenway master plan.

#### Policy 21B

#### **Continue to attract and support trail-centric retail such as bike shops, cafes, brew pubs and restaurants near the Chichaqua Valley Trail near Downtown Bondurant**

Bondurant is fortunate to have the CVT running through the heart of its community. Given the large bike population the regional trail system brings, Bondurant should continue to use this trail corridor as an opportunity to attract retail and services that contribute to Bondurant being a trail-centric activity hub.

#### Policy 21C

#### **Connect new and older parks with trail or sidewalk connections**

As the community grows, all new and older parks should be connected via sidewalk or trail to ensure safe passage for residents and visitors, especially children.

#### Policy 21D

#### **Continue to expand Bondurant's trail system by relying on major roadway streetscapes, stream corridors, and utility ROW areas**

Trail expansion should include new major roadways, stream corridors, and utility ROWs because of the unique opportunity each brings to enhance connectivity and dual benefits.

# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 21

### Promote Bondurant's identity as a trail and recreation community

Bondurant greatly benefits from the presence of the Chichaqua Valley Trail. Efforts should continue to help build upon the trail and recreation centric nature of the community. This includes trail expansion as well as the addition of more trail-centric retail and services near the trailhead. Overall walkability of the community should be emphasized by expanding trail and sidewalk access - giving residents and visitors a safe way to explore Bondurant.

#### Policy 21E

**Add trails to stream buffers, where appropriate, to take advantage of the greenway space**

Whenever possible or feasible, trails should be added to stream buffers acquired as part of the city's stream buffer ordinance to provide dual benefits to this policy.

#### Policy 21F

**Preserve areas with significant tree cover around the Chichaqua Valley Trail to protect these valuable resources**

Areas around the CVT have significant tree cover that should be preserved as much as possible to serve as an amenity and enhance the trail experience.

#### Policy 21G

**Encourage art and other recreational placemaking efforts along trails and within parks in Bondurant**

Public art along trails and within parks can enhance the user experience and attract even more users to the facility.

#### Policy 21H

**Ensure bicycle and trail networks in Bondurant include amenities that enhance rider safety, comfort, and usability.**

Safety and user experience can be enhanced through the addition of amenities such as adequate wayfinding signage, bike fix-it stations, appropriate lighting, and safe street crossings, among others.



# Parks + Recreation

## Implementation

### Goal 21

### Promote Bondurant's identity as a trail and recreation community

Bondurant greatly benefits from the presence of the Chichaqua Valley Trail. Efforts should continue to help build upon the trail and recreation centric nature of the community. This includes trail expansion as well as the addition of more trail-centric retail and services near the trailhead. Overall walkability of the community should be emphasized by expanding trail and sidewalk access - giving residents and visitors a safe way to explore Bondurant.

#### Action Item 21A

**Adopt a wayfinding signage plan to encourage consistent branding and help celebrate and encourage the use of Bondurant's parks, trails, and other amenities.**

Current signage within Bondurant parks is not consistent with the adopted branding of the City. A wayfinding plan can help to make the signage most consistent and can be used as a way to encourage use of the parks and trails in Bondurant from residents and visitors.

#### Action Item 21B

**Collaborate with other cities within proximity to Bondurant's city limits including Altoona, Ankeny, and Mitchellville to establish trail link(s) between communities.**

Bondurant should actively work with Altoona for a trail connection under Interstate 80 and at Grant Street South / 1st Avenue South. Additionally, the City should work with Ankeny to establish trail links in coordination with any NE Beltway planning efforts. Coordination with Mitchellville can help to establish a connection south to the Red Rock Prairie Trail system.

#### Action Item 21C

**Create additional spurs from and to the Chichaqua Valley Trail**

New development occurring along the path of the Chichaqua Valley Trail should work with Polk County Conservation to coordinate a reasonable number of spurs directly into the trail to increase usage of the trail and serve as an amenity of the new development.