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2018-2023 Park and Open Space Plan Strategies	Examples of recent efforts aligned with strategies
STRATEGY: IMPROVE PUBLIC ACCESS TO LAKES.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect the community to water by designing areas for increased water access on public lands, including access for low income populations. 	Constructed a new beach shelter with accessible facilities and a clean water treatment system at Warner Park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide opportunities for water recreation. 	Bernie’s Beach roll out mat for those who otherwise would not be able to access beach amenities Rope lines at Bernie’s Beach were expanded this past summer 2021 to allow for a larger swimming area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support efforts to improve water quality in Madison’s lakes and waterways. 	Partnered with Friends of Lake Wingra for installation of “water softener art” and stormwater inlet mural painting public information campaign at Vilas Park
STRATEGY: DESIGN PARK FACILITIES TO ACCOMMODATE DIVERSE ACTIVITIES AND POPULATIONS.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide flexible spaces that can respond to changing recreational trends. 	Pop-up park installation including gaga ball pit, grills and wheel spot at SE Warner Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate spaces and facilities appropriate for different cultures, age groups, and abilities. 	Aldo Leopold Pump Track; Cricket improvements Haen Fam Park; Nature Nook at Brittingham Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide sufficient fields and courts to accommodate tournaments and other multiple field or court competitions. 	Burr Jones improvements;
STRATEGY: PROTECT AND ENHANCE NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage invasive species in high quality natural areas. 	Goats at various parks; on-going Native Restoration Contracts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to acquire conservation parkland to preserve unique habitats. 	Woods Road acquisition;
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop native plant habitats and ecosystems within parks, increasing biodiversity. 	Repair of Tenney shoreline plantings; removal/replanting of Yahara Pkwy trees; enhancement of managed meadows
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to recognize, preserve, and enhance historic parks. 	Stair repair at Owen Overlook; repair of Tenney shoreline plantings; removal/replanting of Yahara Pkwy trees; hiking trail adjustment at Hoyt
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve landmark vistas from public access areas. 	Incorporate “Wingra Overlook” seating/gathering area as part of Vilas Park Master Plan – with Ho-Chunk and Greenbush NA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect and protect tribal sacred sites. 	New policy on burial mound management; re-routed hiking trails farther away from mounds
STRATEGY: ACQUIRE PARKLAND TO REDUCE PARKLAND DEFICIENCIES AND ADDRESS INCREASING RESIDENTIAL DENSITY.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and revise parkland dedication and park impact fees every ten years to maintain funding to support future population and density demands. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In areas of high residential density, preserve undeveloped land for open space or acquire new parkland on existing developed property, where feasible. 	Sands property acquisition, Expansion at Olin Park and OB Sherry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that Neighborhood Development Plans identify adequate parkland for proposed residential density. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where there is no walkable access to mini, neighborhood, conservation, or community parkland, but there are other public recreation spaces that provide outdoor recreation amenities, partner with these groups to enhance outdoor recreation for the surrounding community. 	
STRATEGY: ENSURE THAT NEW PARK DEVELOPMENT OCCURS IN A FISCALLY SUSTAINABLE MANNER.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize the number of mini parks along the City’s periphery by requiring dedication of larger, minimum five-acre parks for new residential developments. 	Jannah Village Final Plat resulted in a 5 acre park site
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate opportunities to expand existing parkland. 	McPike and Olin Park, OB Sherry expansions;
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure adequate funding is available to provide necessary infrastructure improvements for parks acquired by the City through intergovernmental agreements. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek out and utilize innovative sources of support to enhance parkland and amenities. 	
STRATEGY: ENSURE THAT EXISTING LEVELS OF SERVICE ARE MAINTAINED AND SUPPORTED THROUGH THE PARK SYSTEM AND ARE INCREASED AS NEW PARKS AND FACILITIES ARE DEVELOPED.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek adequate funding for the Parks Division through the budget process. 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pursue grant opportunities and other funding sources to support programs and park maintenance. 	IMBA and Dane County grants;
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate operational resources including staffing and location of operational facilities to optimize resources for new city facilities. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate operational resources for park and street use events to ensure sustainable and equitable opportunities for building and promoting community. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical and administrative support to volunteers whose work supplements park maintenance and improvements to foster and encourage volunteer efforts in parks. 	Supported volunteers who have established a new Friends group at Owen
STRATEGY: CREATE EQUITABLE ACCESS AND FUNDING FOR PARKS.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove barriers to engagement. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and develop parkland and amenities that create inclusive park experiences. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate public engagement methods and partnerships during the park planning process to help ensure all members of the Madison community are represented. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure funding is allocated equitably for development of new facilities, upgrading of existing infrastructure, and acquisition of new parkland. 	
STRATEGY: IMPROVE THE PARK SYSTEM'S CAPACITY TO WITHSTAND FUTURE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the Parks Division's capacity to analyze and plan for the impacts of climate change and other environmental pressures. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure best management practices for stormwater runoff and infiltration to reduce impacts of increasing storm severity. 	Installed rain garden at Zook Park and bio-retention basin at Galaxy Park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure park design and amenities are flexible to accommodate dynamic climate patterns. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and support opportunities for winter activities that are less impacted by climate change. 	Increased number of Nice Rinks.
STRATEGY: INCREASE CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN PARKS TO ENHANCE ACCESS.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with other city agencies as well as Dane County and neighboring communities to create a comprehensive system of greenspace connections by means of pedestrian, biking, and water trails through parks. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect parks with other city amenities through trails and public transportation. 	
STRATEGY: DEVELOP A HEALTHY AND DIVERSE URBAN TREE CANOPY WITHIN PARKS.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the City's resiliency through increasing tree canopy diversity. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize environmental and public health benefits of trees by promoting and expanding the urban tree canopy. 	Preservation of the urban tree canopy advanced via the purchase of the Wheeler Woods property with over 7,000 trees.
STRATEGY: INCREASE ENGAGEMENT WITH GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS AND DEVELOP NEW ONES.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen opportunities and partnerships dedicated to engaging diverse communities in parks. 	Offered 40 outdoor movies summer 2021 at local Parks, and in NRT neighborhoods, Community Center's, churches, and in coordination with Neighborhood Associations. Collaborated with the Madison Public Library to offer Story time before movies on the screen. Carts in Parks....
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve existing partnerships to ensure efforts are equitably distributed across geographic regions of the City and that efforts are aligned with identified land management strategies and master plans. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage engagement within parks through Friends Groups and other volunteer groups, support the efforts of such groups, and recognize their contributions to the park system in development and maintenance of park facilities. 	Continuing and on-going Friends Groups performing valuable work in Parks. Nina at Friends of Monona Bay and her monthly trash pickup's along shorelines in Parks, Tim and Friends at Hoyt Park always holding workdays in the Park, Jan and Friends at Cherokee Marsh North Unit tackling invasive removals at the conservation park.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop joint-use agreements with organizations that provide recreational amenities that can fill recreation demands. 	Offered Trucks & Treasures event 9/2021 and worked across City Departments (Parks, Water Utility, Streets) to bring in different City Vehicles and equipment to hold a quality community event. 1,775 people attended.

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STRATEGY: PURSUE REGIONAL SOLUTIONS TO REGIONAL ISSUES.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where possible, enhance or develop regional recreation facilities identified by the Wisconsin SCORP for the Southern Gateways Region to address supply shortages.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue joint planning efforts with Dane County to implement recommendations of the Dane County Park and Open Space Plan on property within the City of Madison.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborate with park advocacy organizations to meet park and recreation demands.	Offered two Learn to Fish events in a partnership with Department of Natural Resources to bring out free classes to learn how to fish with all the gear available from the new Fish Mobile from the DNR.

Things we do that are not covered here:

- Public art efforts, like the mural at Elver Park with the youth group, and the on-going work with KW and the public art collection, like the Beld Street Sculpture work, the new piece at Marshall and Elver and the Annie Stewart preservation work.
- This is a running list and will be added to as things occur to Ann.