

**PARKS AND RECREATION
CITY OF PORTAGE
OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN
2017-2022**

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GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

MISSION

The Portage Parks and Recreation Department pledges to serve the people of the greater Portage community through:

- Providing quality recreation programming for people of all ages and abilities
- Inspiring participation in meaningful lifelong leisure activities
- Acting as stewards of the park land through operation and maintenance
- Offering events to develop a sense of belonging to the community
- Partnering with local organizations for the betterment of the community

GOALS OF THE PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- Offer a superior level of service appropriate to the size and growth of the community
- Provide new opportunities for exercise, fitness and wellness, and entertainment for the community at large
- Act as a central part of daily life in the community, providing a City identity and a focus for the citizens of Portage
- Cultivate public input for park and programming needs
- Pursue alternative funding for capital projects
- Improve current park facilities as needed and increase safety and security at neighborhood parks

GOALS OF THE MASTER PLAN

The Portage Park Department staff and the Park Board have agreed on the following objectives for the 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan:

- Gather feedback and input from as diverse a group of Portage residents, partners and stakeholders; report it in an accurate manner.
- Use national recreation standards, combined with a needs analysis to create priorities for parks and recreation in the City.
- Create a plan that is dynamic, and provides pertinent, useful information and guidance for the next five years in Portage.
- Present the plan and gain its acceptance within the City of Portage
- Use the plan as a springboard for all applicable grants and funding sources

PARK BOARD MEMBERS

The City of Portage developed the Parks and Recreation Board on July 14, 1966 (via Ordinance 2-67) as a result of property acquisition by the (then) Town of Portage. The creating ordinance, and subsequent amendments, utilized the optional inclusion of a member of the Portage Township School Board (or their appointee) to serve as a voting member of the Parks Board.

The Parks Board continues to be organized under IC 36-10-3: "General Park & Recreation Law". The Park Board continues to consist of five (5) voting members and one advisory member. Four (4) members are appointed by the Mayor which serve for (4) year terms, while one is appointed by the Portage Township School Board. The advisory member maintains a current seat on the Portage Common Council and serves as a liaison between the Board and the Council. Park Board Meetings are open to the public and are held the third Monday of each month at 6:30pm at the Woodland Park Community Center.

Richie Piazza, President: Term Expires 12/31/17
5807 Houston Ave. Portage, IN 46368; richiepiazza@gmail.com

Paul Ciesielski, Vice-President: Term Expires 12/31/17
2397 Niagara St. Portage, IN 46368; pciesielski@comcast.net

Carla Warchus, Board Secretary: Term Expires 12/31/20
6083 Sunrise Ave. Portage, IN 46368; carlawarchus@yahoo.com

Ken Lorenz, Member: Term Expires 12/31/20
2065 Samuelson Rd. Portage, IN 46368; ken@samuelsonagency.com

Andrew Maletta, Member: Portage Township School Board Annual Appointment: Term Expires 12/31/17
amaletta@portage-in.com

Marco Molina, Board Attorney
Ph: 219-384-4711; mmolinalaw@gmail.com

John Cannon
Common Council Advisory Member;
jcannon@portage-in.com

MAILING ADDRESS AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE PARKS DEPARTMENT

Portage Parks and Recreation Department:
2100 Willowcreek Road, Portage, IN 46368 - Ph: 219-762-1675
www.inportageparks.com

NAME OF PLAN AUTHORS

Jenny Orsburn, City of Portage Parks and Recreation Department, Superintendent
Joe Eberts, City of Portage, Department of Community Development, GIS Specialist
Colin Highlands, City of Portage Department of Community Development, Long Range Planner
J.P. Pritchard, City of Portage Parks and Recreation Department, Intern

DRAFT PLAN SUBMITTED: February, 2017
FINAL PLAN SUBMITTED: November, 2017

PORTAGE CITY HALL:
6070 Central Avenue, Portage, IN 46368 - Ph: 219-762-5425
Mayor: James E. Snyder
Clerk-Treasurer: Christopher D. Stidham

Common Council:
Sue I. Lynch, At-Large
Mark Oprisko, At-Large
Elizabeth Modesto, District 1
Patrick Clem, District 2
Scott Williams, District 3
John Cannon, District 4
Collin Czilli, District 5

CITY OF PORTAGE, PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF

The Park Board initially hired the City's first Superintendent of Parks in January of 1967 on a part-time basis due to the limited amount of park land and facilities under the Board. In March of 1969, after the acquisition of Woodland Park (59.4 acres), the Board hired the first full time Superintendent. The position of Superintendent of Parks continues to be governed by the Board and IC: 36-10-3-14. As of October 2016, 16 full time employees work for the Department (as well as up to 40 part-time and seasonal employees), each performing a variety of duties ranging from clerical services, to recreational organization and maintenance. The following are key personnel currently serving the Department.

SUPERINTENDENT

- Appointed by the park board and responsible for the administration of the department

The following duties of the Superintendent are outlined by IC: 36-10-3-14

- Propose, prepare and present annual plan for the operation of the department
- Administer the plan as approved by the board
- Supervise the general administration of the department
- Keep records and preserve all documents of the department
- Recommend persons for appointment as assistants if the board determines there is a need
- Appoint employees of the department, subject to the approval of the board according to the standards and qualifications fixed by the board, and without regard to political affiliation;
- Perform duties that the board directs

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT/MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

- Responsible for the overall administration, management, and supervision of the recreation programming functions of the department. The Assistant Superintendent is appointed by the park board upon recommendation of the Superintendent.
- Supervision and prioritization of outdoor maintenance throughout the department service area
- Supervision and prioritization of maintenance of the facilities included within the park system
- Plan, direct, coordinate, and supervise a year round program of recreational opportunities and services designed to meet the recreational needs of the citizenry
- Establish the annual written goals and objectives of the recreation services division
- Propose and implement new programs and prepare annual attendance figures, accomplishment of program objectives, cost-effectiveness, participant comments, and programs according to their effectiveness in meeting stated goals and objectives

SPORTS DIRECTOR

- Plan, implement and evaluate athletic programs and coordinate sports and recreational facilities for city residents and other interested parties

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/RESERVATION COORDINATOR

- Coordinate rental contracts including facility rentals with outside groups and regular customers
- Provide office support for the department and assist in the implementation of special events and rentals

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- Maintain detailed accounting and personnel records as well as, accounts payable and the preparation of financial reports
- Provide office support including keeping records on all office equipment and ordering supplies

The hierarchies of the above positions as well as, the remaining positions within the department are outlined in the departmental structure chart shown on the following page.

PORTAGE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Jenny Orsburn, Superintendent

Lori Wilkie, Assistant Superintendent/Marketing and Development Director

Sports Director, TBD

Stacy Govea, Accounting Clerk

Marianne Hensley, Administrative Assistant/Reservations Coordinator

Terry Ellis, Maintenance Lead

James Govea, Laborer

Bob Zurcher, Laborer

Larry Jones, Laborer

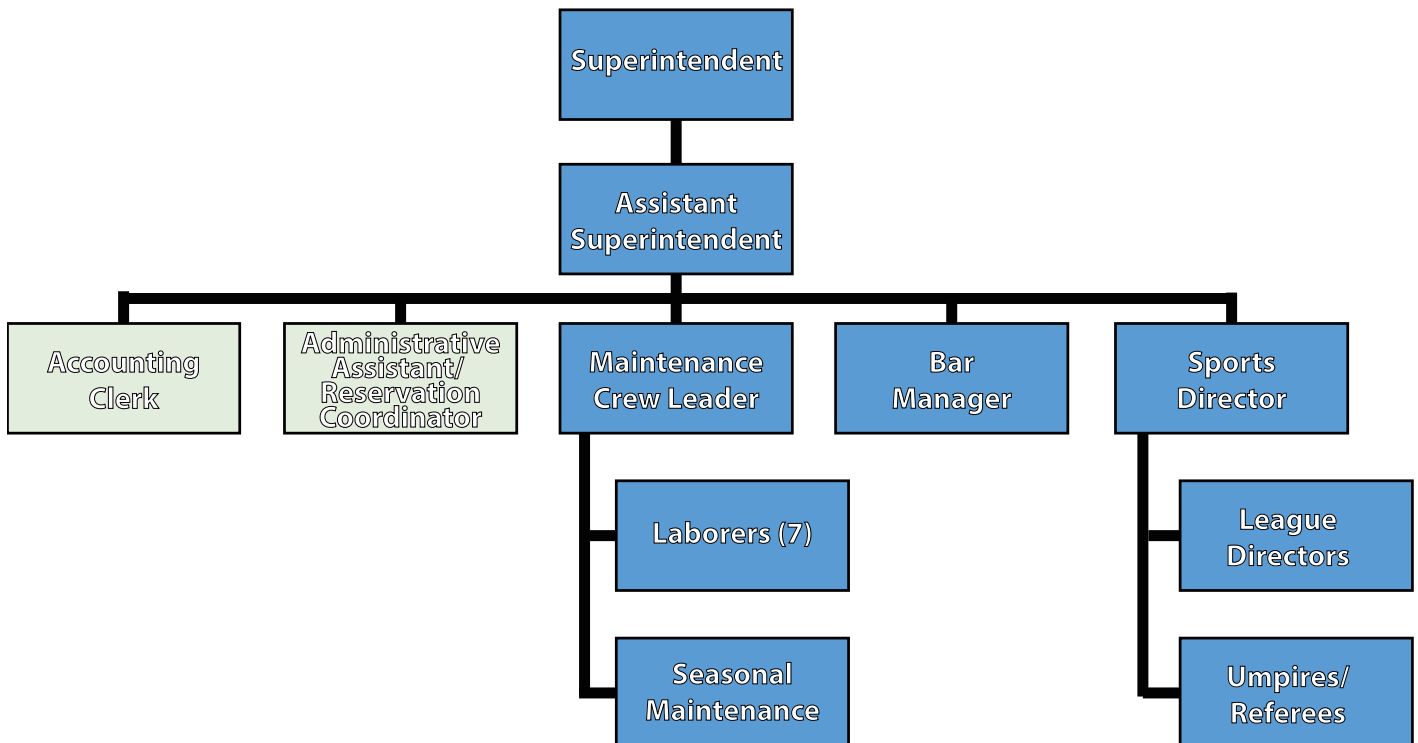
Michelle Lagenour, Laborer

Ryan Wilson, Laborer

Ken Clark, Laborer

Edward Blastick, Laborer

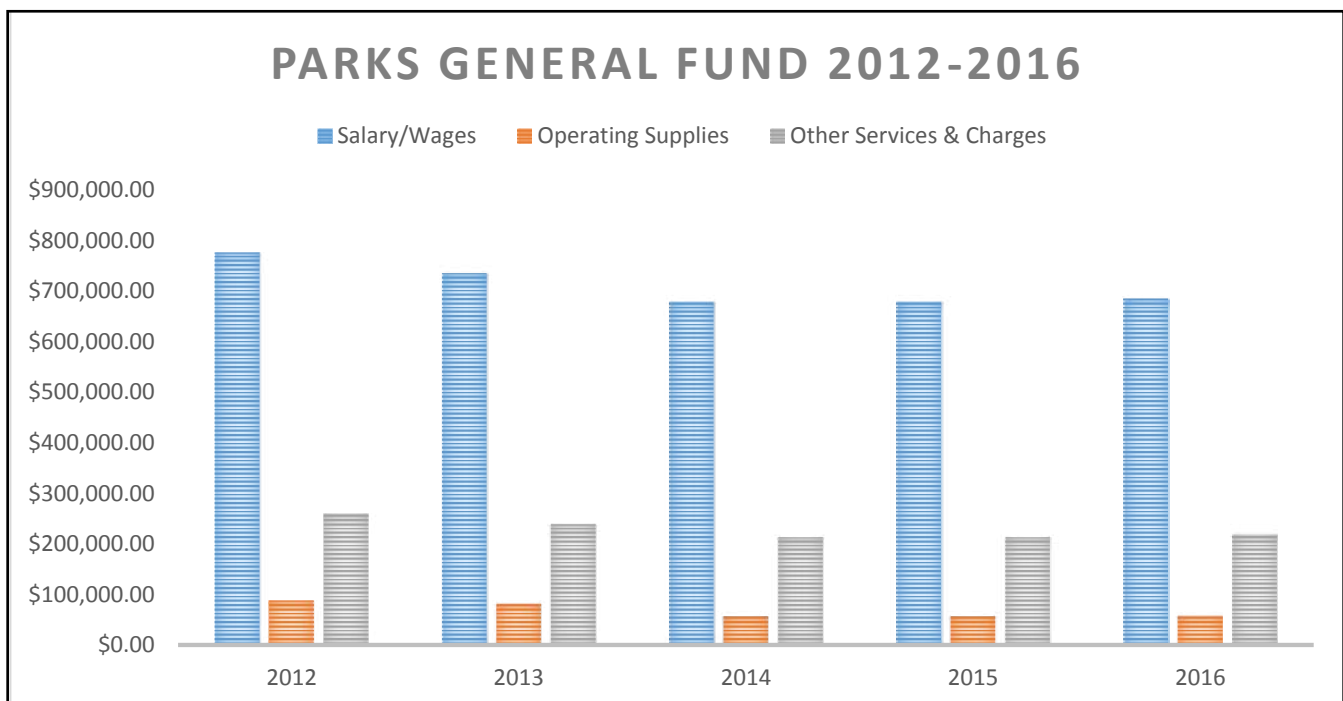
PORTAGE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



PARKS GENERAL FUND BUDGET

The Parks Department continues to see a decrease in the General Fund. In 2014 and 2015, the budget remained the same with a slight uptick in 2016 with an additional appropriation to cover pay increases primarily for bargaining unit employees (Maintenance). The ability for the Parks Department to encumber funds ceased in 2013. The majority of the funds received are expended on personnel. In 2013, the Parks Department received a bond totalling over \$3.5 M. Those funds were spent in their entirety on capital improvements throughout the park system.

CATEGORY	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Salary/Wages	\$776,138.00	\$735,650.00	\$679,771.00	\$679,771.00	\$685,426.00
Operating Supplies	\$88,000.00	\$83,000.00	\$57,000.00	\$57,000.00	\$59,100.00
Other Services & Charges	\$259,627.00	\$238,761.00	\$212,500.00	\$212,500.00	\$218,650.00
Totals	\$1,123,765.00	\$1,057,411.00	\$949,271.00	\$949,271.00	\$963,176.00



PARK BOND ISSUANCE:

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 36-10-3, as amended (the “Act”), the Park and Recreation Board (the “Park Board”) of the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City of Portage, Porter County, Indiana (the “Park District”), has determined to issue special taxing district bonds of the District, in one (1) or more series, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,500,000) (the “Bonds”) to finance the construction, acquisition, renovation, installation and equipping in the Park District of any or all or any portion of the following: (1) improvements at the Woodland Park Community Center; (2) improvements at Countryside Park; (3) improvements at Imagination Glen; (4) improvements at Frank Gilbert, Jr., Memorial Park; (5) improvements at Olson Park; (6) improvements at Wolfe Park; (7) improvements at Perry Park; (8) improvements at Roberts Park; (9) equipment, including a utility vehicle and mower, for use

at the District's parks; (10) any other related improvements thereto; and (11) expenses incurred in connection with or on account of the issuance of the Bonds (collectively, the "Project").

The total bond issuance was \$3,537,991.60. To see more click on the blue hyperlink below.

[Park Bond Summary Report 2016](#)

PARKS NONREVERTING FUND

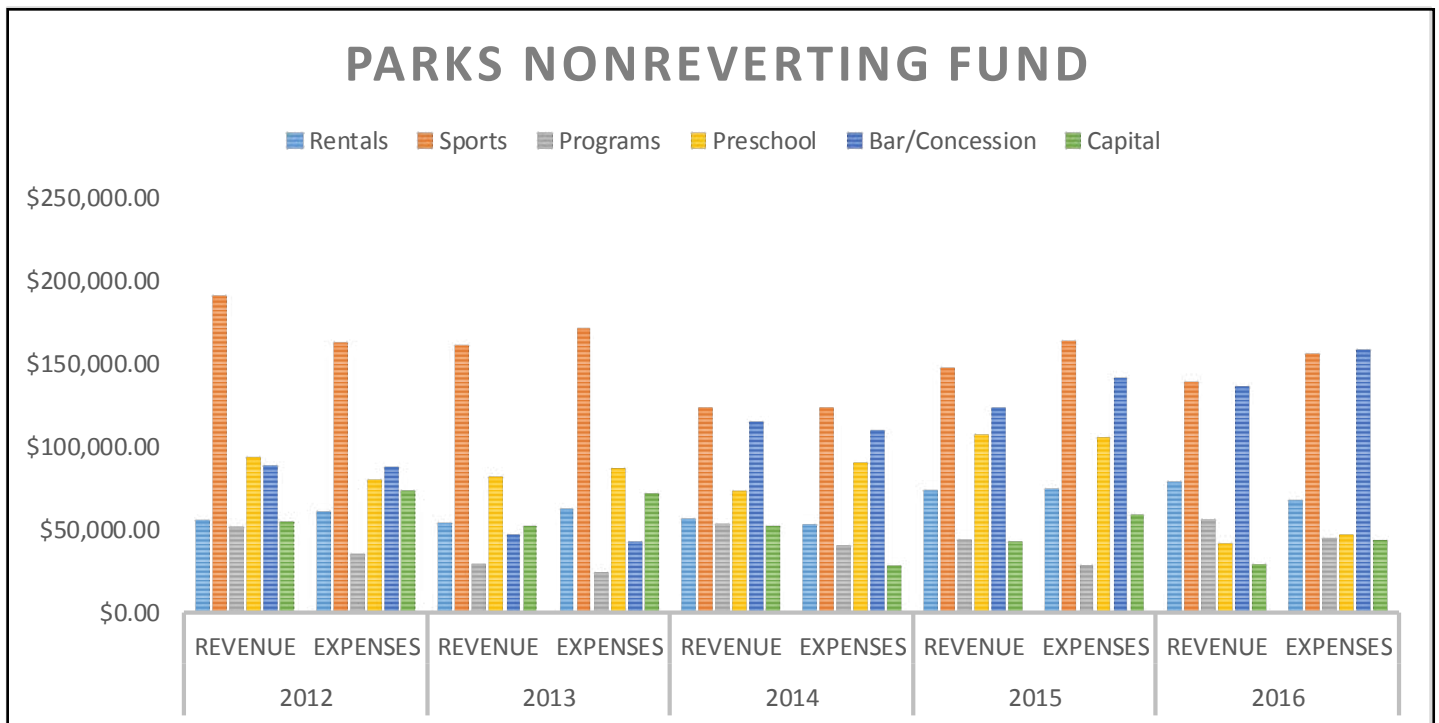
A nonreverting fund is comprised of funds received for programs, rentals, and bar/concession services. Funds were deposited into Operations and Capital accounts in a 50/50 split until 2015, when the park board requested that the city council modify the nonreverting fund ordinance to reflect a 75/25 split. 75% of the deposit went into Operations. At that time, the budget for part-time employees be paid out of the nonreverting fund. Should the department increase the General Fund, the board may seek a 50/50 split.

PARKS NONREVERTING BUDGET			
2012			
CATEGORY	REVENUE	EXPENSES	BALANCE FORWARD
Rentals	\$55,291.38	\$60,259.13	\$45,628.06
Sports	\$190,736.85	\$162,763.78	\$80,340.38
Programs	\$51,019.00	\$34,785.11	\$38,721.32
Preschool	\$93,849.75	\$80,170.24	\$25,796.09
Bar/Concession	\$88,379.40	\$87,464.07	\$20,651.01
Capital	\$54,666.44	\$73,315.13	\$109,144.55
Totals	\$533,942.82	\$498,757.46	\$320,281.41
2013			
CATEGORY	REVENUE	EXPENSES	BALANCE FORWARD
Rentals	\$53,723.20	\$62,015.86	\$37,335.40
Sports	\$160,807.16	\$170,843.02	\$70,304.52
Programs	\$29,029.69	\$23,901.32	\$43,849.69
Preschool	\$82,043.60	\$87,008.96	\$20,830.73
Bar/Concession	\$47,291.54	\$42,632.58	\$25,309.97
Capital	\$51,975.20	\$71,939.63	\$89,180.12
Totals	\$424,870.39	\$458,341.37	\$286,810.43
2014			
CATEGORY	REVENUE	EXPENSES	BALANCE FORWARD
Rentals	\$56,638.16	\$52,959.23	\$41,014.33
Sports	\$123,503.00	\$123,769.88	\$70,037.64
Programs	\$53,267.02	\$40,119.38	\$56,997.33
Preschool	\$73,440.88	\$90,561.25	\$3,710.36
Bar/Concession	\$114,811.51	\$110,301.48	\$29,820.00
Capital	\$51,974.40	\$28,486.02	\$112,668.50
Totals	\$473,634.97	\$446,197.24	\$314,248.16

PARKS NONREVERTING FUND chart cont.-

2015			
CATEGORY	REVENUE	EXPENSES	BALANCE FORWARD
Rentals	\$73,100.45	\$73,989.31	\$40,125.47
Sports	\$146,938.25	\$163,619.98	\$53,355.91
Programs	\$43,482.65	\$28,182.90	\$72,297.08
Preschool	\$107,621.01	\$105,530.34	\$5,801.03
Bar/Concession	\$123,622.79	\$141,413.58	\$12,029.21
Capital	\$43,200.00	\$59,113.00	\$96,755.50
Totals	\$537,965.15	\$571,849.11	\$280,364.20

2016			
CATEGORY	REVENUE	EXPENSES	BALANCE FORWARD
Rentals	\$78,819.86	\$67,303.47	\$51,641.86
Sports	\$138,586.75	\$155,414.77	\$36,527.89
Programs	\$55,149.35	\$44,921.70	\$82,524.73
Preschool	\$41,979.76	\$46,841.42	\$939.37
Bar/Concession	\$135,841.17	\$158,579.48	\$13,089.07
Capital	\$29,466.27	\$43,764.92	\$82,744.858
Totals	\$479,843.16	\$516,825.76	\$254,378.7



-----FEATURES OF COMMUNITY AND MAPS SECTION-----

NATURAL FEATURES AND LANDSCAPE

Portage is located at 41° 34'55"N, 87°11'12"W. According to the United States Census Bureau, the city has a total of 27.4 square miles of which 25.5 square miles (98.82%) of it is land and 2.0 square miles (7.18%) of it is water. The topography and surface soil of the area was established millions of years ago with glaciers. In the glacial era, the climate in the area was as cold as Greenland is today. Great glaciers that formed in Canada extended south that covered the Portage area. The land was covered with a coat of snow and ice 300 to 1,000 feet thick. As the glaciers receded, lakes were formed leaving terminal moraine and soils.

Unique diversity is visible in all the dunes offer. Their wide variety of plants and ecosystems are not seen in other parts of Indiana. In just a short distance, observers can find plants of the desert, deep woodlands, swamps, oak woods, and prairies. Even today, coyotes and small animals such as woodchucks, red & grey squirrels, gophers, opossum, skunks, mink, rabbits, raccoon and the occasional flying squirrel and pileated woodpecker can be seen. The dunes, woodlands, and wetlands provide habitat for numerous birds including several migratory species. It is the parks charge to continue to preserve and protect these wonderful areas for future generations.

Acquisitions are the first step to saving high quality habitat. Removing invasives from existing habitat is often the second step. For example, Woodland Park continues to maintain remnant oak savanna, which presents a unique set of challenges for management. While efforts are being made to reduce the non-natives within the understory, we face the challenge of continually introducing young oaks to succeed the older mature canopy. These native saplings have been choked out by invasives. In addition, the majority of the existing oaks are the same age, death from old age could leave substantial gaps in the canopy, and reduce the quality of the savanna understory. Grants are being pursued and trees are being planted to make sure future generations can benefit from the beautiful habitat.

Another example of a invasives effect on habitat can be seen in the Salt Creek corridor, nearing its 5 year mark of EAB (Emerald Ash Borer) impact. We have seen a significant loss of canopy cover from these insects native to China, Mongolia, North and South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan. Imagination Glen has been the most impacted park from EAB tree decline/death. Grant funding is being pursued to replace the Ash trees.

Imagination Glen is also home to a rare wetland known locally as, Samuelson Fen and the critical habitat riparian corridor of Salt Creek. Preservation of the salmonid stream corridor is a goal of the parks. The Parks Foundation is assisting efforts with the acquisition of natural areas such as, a 13 acre wetland along Salt Creek (listed by the USFW NWI as a freshwater, emergent, forested/shrub wetlands). . Many acquisitions have already been successful with partnerships and grant funding. Maintaining the health of Deep River and the Little Calumet River (East Branch) watersheds are an important step towards producing a quality fish habitat, diverse recreational opportunities, and a clean water supply from Lake Michigan.

Two other significant waterways that flow through Portage are the Little Calumet River West Branch and Willow Creek. A watershed master plan has been completed for the Little Calumet/Deep River Watershed. Both Salt Creek and the Little Calumet River drain to Lake Michigan via Burns Waterway. The waterway was a site for a significant restoration project completed in 2016. Restoration occurred along the Little Calumet River West Branch in the Ameriplex complex utilizing federal Great Lakes funding. The man-made "ditch" was widened, the cottonwoods removed, and natural meanders were reintroduced. A significant portion of the waterway was widened and the bank was cut, adding the spoils to a dune restoration near the mouth to Lake Michigan. Please click on the hyperlink text in blue below to learn more about putting these planning efforts into action for our local waterways.

[Deep River-Portage Burns Waterway Watershed](#) - produced by NIRPC (Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission)

[Salt Creek Watershed Management Plan](#) - produced by IN Lake Michigan Coastal Program

In addition to watershed plans, Portage is included in the [Indiana DNR State Wildlife Action Plan](#) (SWAP), defined within its Great Lakes Region. This area consists of Lake Michigan, dune, swales, wetlands, rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, prairies and woodlands. It is rich in diverse vegetation and animals, as noted by the variety of fish and wildlife species identified in Table 6.1 of the SWAP. The SWAP offers a habitat analysis as well as, steps for improving the ecosystems' overall health. The park department is an active partner in wildlife protection, continuing to preserve important wildlife areas and corridors. We work with education partners and host an annual Environmental Education event for middle school students concentrating on water quality and habitat protection.

As an example of the protection in action, Countryside Park consists of former farmland converted to woodlands and stormwater detention. A pond is stocked with a variety of fish species and "no mow zones" aid in the stormwater treatment, reducing the impacts of an overabundance of geese. A variety of native tree species have been planted to diversify the tree population. In fact, a tree inventory has been taken of the parks system to determine the their quality and quantity. Click on the hyperlink in blue below for the full tree inventory report.

[Tree Survey of 16 Portage Parks](#) - produced by the Portage Parks and Recreation Department

MAN-MADE, HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

The prehistoric people known as “Mound Builders” were the first to inhabit Porter County. Their peculiar habit of tossing earth gave them their unique name. Although, prevalent in the region, the only “mound” found in near present day Portage was located in the former village of McCool. The mound was excavated by the owner in the early 1900’s and the soils hauled away. American Indians inhabited the area throughout the 1700’s. The Potawatomie tribe established a village near the spot that is now the intersection of US Hwy 12 and Crisman Road. By 1834, the natives were removed or assimilated as settlers expanded into the area which was then territory.

In the year 1822, Joseph Bailly, an educated French fur-trader, was the first historically mention white settler in the area. He operated a very successful trading post located near two important American Indian routes – the Sauk and Potawatomi Trails. Many natives and whites alike, utilized these trails and Bailly’s trading post became an important stop in the region.

During the month of March, 1836, the county was established, and within a month, was divided into ten townships. It was also during the 1800’s, that modern transportation routes were developed. The first stagecoach route was established in 1833 pushing the improvement of other local roads. In 1852, the Michigan Central Railroad was constructed connecting Chicago and New York. By 1874, two additional railroads had also started construction in area. Modern roads began with construction of the main east-west highways: US 6, US 12 and US 20, providing excellent supporting facilities. Transportation opportunities continued to expand with an interchange between the interstates: I-94, I-80, and I-90, connecting Chicago to Michigan.

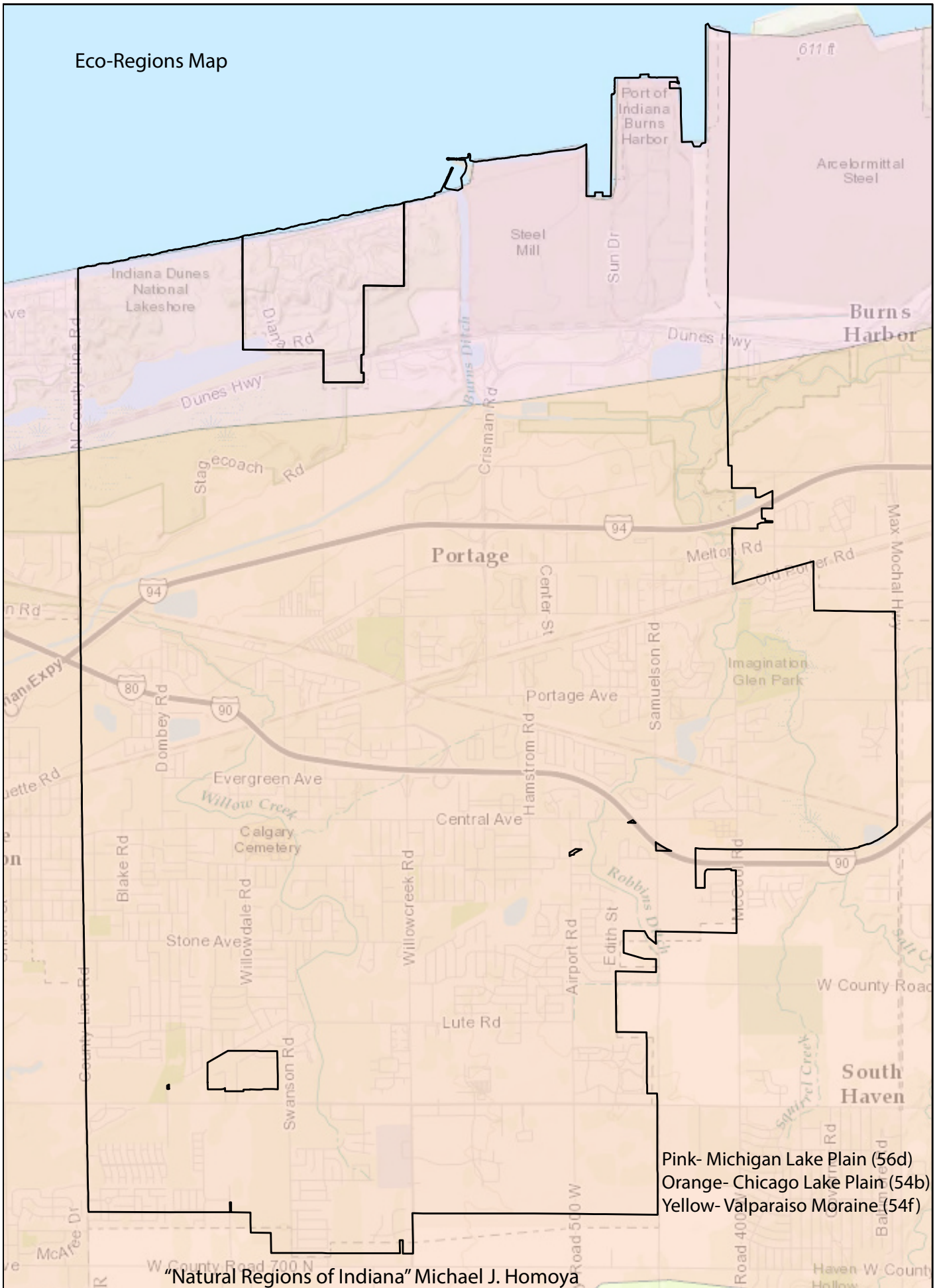
The historical and cultural background of Portage can be traced to the tale of four early settlements – Crisman, McCool, Garyton and Dunes Park. These villages formed in the early 1830’s, merging into the town of Portage in 1959, and eventually incorporating as the City of Portage in 1967. Each of these villages is still identified as a distinct neighborhood within the city, except of Dunes Park, once existing near the shores of Lake Michigan. The founding families of these villages such as Wolf, Robbins, McCool, James, Blake, Summer, Lenburg, Crisman, Krieger, Nicholson, Samuelson, and Hamstrom, formed the community. An early family, the Traegers, farmed an area which is now part of Countryside Park. The original Traeger homestead, located in the park, recently went through a complete renovation and restoration and is a main component of the historical homestead and museum.

As historical and man-made facilities become available, the Portage Parks and Recreation Department reviews each opportunity to determine its fit with the Park Department and community. An excellent example is the acquisition and development of railroad corridors for trails. The Prairie-Duneland Trail, developed in 1996, is one of the finest trails in northwest Indiana. A second trail in the city, the Iron Horse Heritage Trail was completed in 2007, spanning State Road 149 to Hamstrom Road. Phase II is in the development process and will take trail users from Hamstrom Road to Woodland Park. Phase III will take the trail along the south-side of Woodland Park to the “Flowerland” neighborhood.

Lastly, in an effort to honor those individuals that founded the City, the City of Portage is focused on developing Founders Square. This public space located in the heart of the downtown consists of parkland, a splash pad, and an amphitheater (Indiana American Water Amphitheatre). In the future Hannah’s Playground at Founders Square will be constructed and all future city events will occur at Founders, including parades and festivals.

Click on the blue hyperlink [Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory of Porter County](#) to jump to the report identifying of the historical significance of stuctures within Portage and the surrounding county.

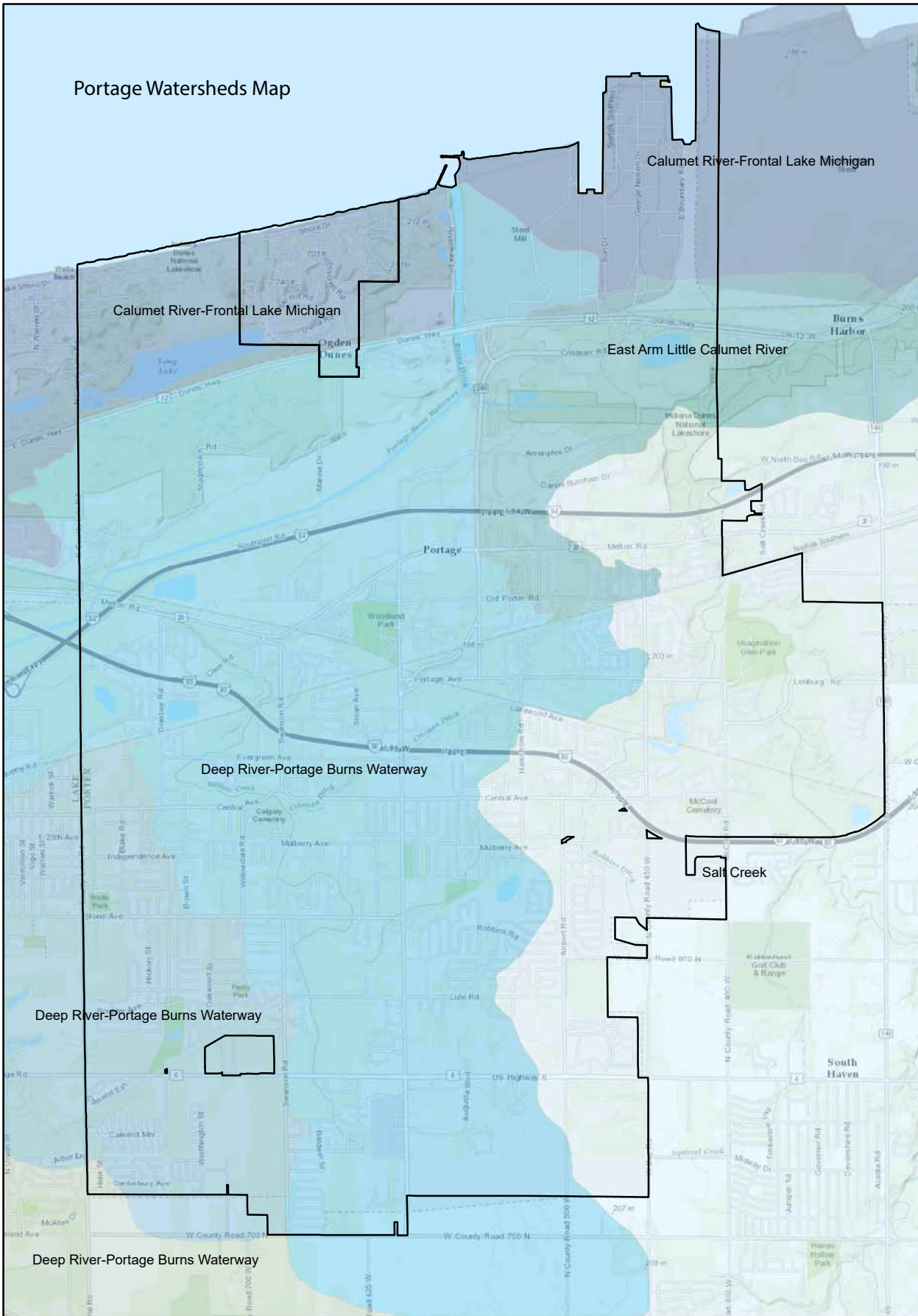
Eco-Regions Map



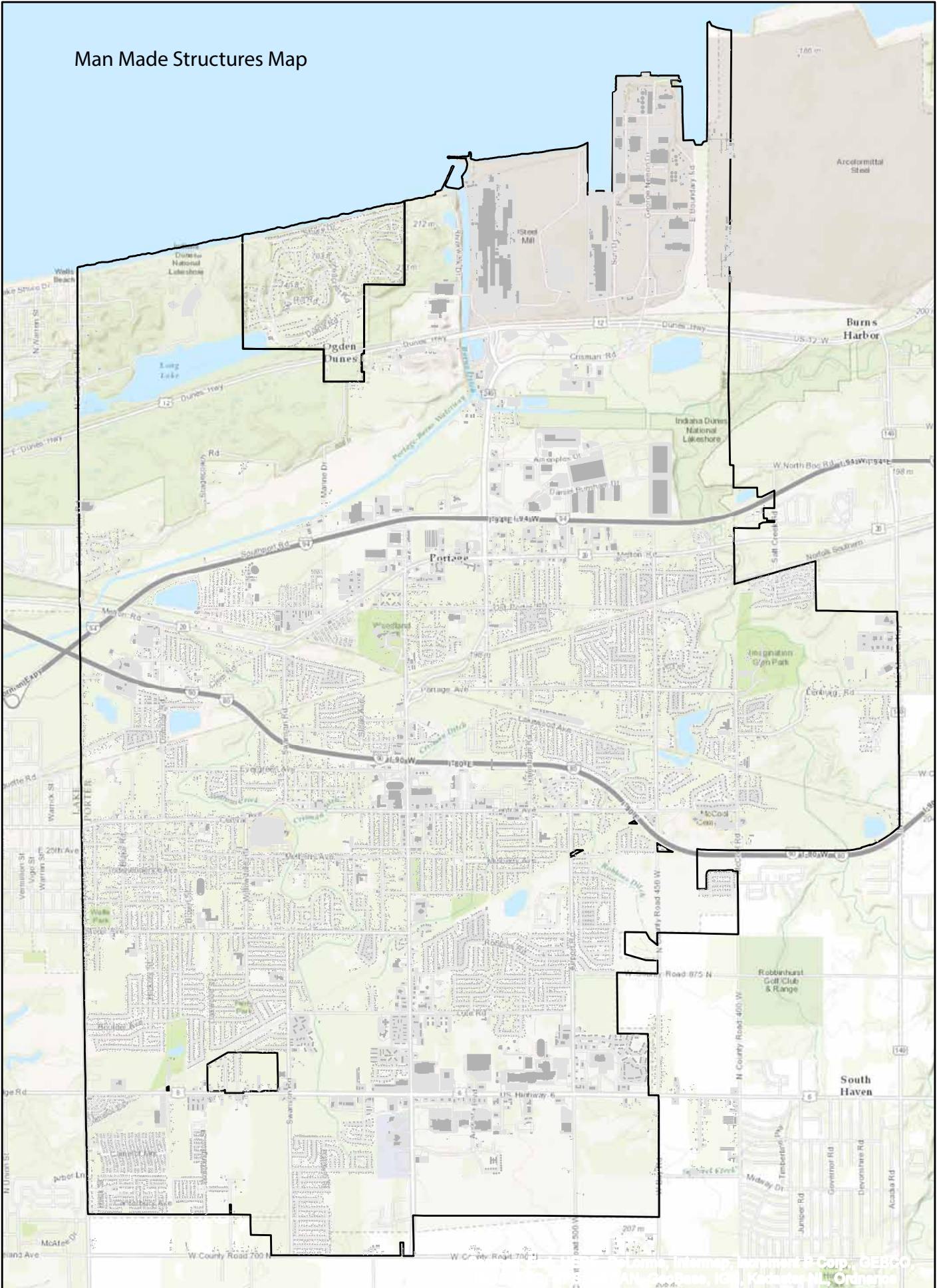
Pink- Michigan Lake Plain (56d)
Orange- Chicago Lake Plain (54b)
Yellow- Valparaiso Moraine (54f)

"Natural Regions of Indiana" Michael J. Homoya

Portage Watersheds Map



Man Made Structures Map



SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS (POPULATION ANALYSIS)

POPULATION

The population of Portage had seen steady growth since its incorporation as a city in 1968 until the economic downturn of the mid- 2000's. The first recorded population in 1960 from the census was 11,822 residents. It is the largest city in Porter County and the third largest in the tri-county region with an estimated population of 36,505 (U.S. Census Bureau -7/1/2016). According to the Recreational Impact Fee Study (RIF) commissioned by the city for release in 2013, Portage should have expected to see an increase up to 4,500 persons by 2022. That estimation was based on development of vacant parcels and lots identified in planned residential developments.

In reality, the study overestimated the actual residential growth (see table below). There has been only a slight increase in single family home building permits requested in 2016. Environmental Systems Research Institute; (ESRI), offers a more conservative population estimate of 37,817 by 2022. This is little more than 3% increase in 12 years from the census count of 36,818 in 2010 and more in line with current population trends. For that reason, we have elected to use ESRI's population forecasts. The future population will not change enough to warrant any addition to the levels of service as stated in the RIF. Therefore, we have continued to use the RIF assessment to determine current levels of service for this document.

Portage – Population Forecast Summary					6/22/12			
Development / Subdivision Name	Acres	No. Of Lots Units	Undeveloped Lots	Population	Percentage of Development over next 10 Yrs.	Potential 10 Yr. Forecast of Residential Units	Potential 10 Yr. Forecast of Population	
Dres Subdivision	17	52	51	129	50%	26	64	
Cedar Creek	33	98	30	76	50%	15	38	
The Trails	14	82	5	13	80%	4	10	
Four Seasons on the Lake	14	40	0	0	0%	0	0	
Sterling Creek (PUD)	R4 Section	25	375	300	756	50%	150	378
	R3 Section	56	440	430	1,084	100%	430	1,084
Sandalwood	73	245	10	25	80%	8	20	
Austin Hills (Phase IV & V)	61	30	20	50	75%	15	38	
Shadow Wood	100	245	200	504	85%	130	328	
Crisman Cove	36	89	5	13	50%	3	6	
Southfield Estates (Phase V)	14	46	5	13	50%	3	6	
Sundance Apartments	8	140	0	0	0%	0	0	
Trailcreek Cottages	9	27	10	25	65%	7	18	
Cornerstone	12	43	0	0	0%	0	0	
Samuelson Estates (Unit #3)	37	140	0	0	0%	0	0	
Brookview	30	188	0	0	0%	0	0	
Iron Horse Cove	12	35	2	5	100%	2	5	
Squirrel Creek Estates	72	220	150	378	50%	75	189	
Swanson Trails	80	204	204	514	40%	82	206	
Marina Shores at Dune Harbor (PUD)	SF Section	16	62	55	139	50%	28	69
	Condo Section	36	368	355	895	50%	178	447
Hidden Waters	33	83	70	176	60%	42	106	
Dunewood Trails	50	155	145	365	50%	73	183	
Countryside Passage	3	9	0	0	0%	0	0	
Boardwalk	20	47	30	76	100%	30	76	
TOTALS	861	3,463	2,077	5,234		1,287	3,269	

Land Parcels Forecast Summary		Potential Residential Units	Potential Residential Population	Potential 10 Yr. Forecast of Residential Units	Potential 10 Yr. Forecast of Population
NPD = North of Prairie Duneland Trail		3,127	7,680	49	124
SPD = South of Prairie Duneland Trail		5,909	14,892	410	1,034
ESCL = Southeast City Limits (outside)		2,777	6,999	16	41
SCL = South City Limits (outside)		5,565	14,024	12	31
TOTALS		17,378	43,794	487	1,230

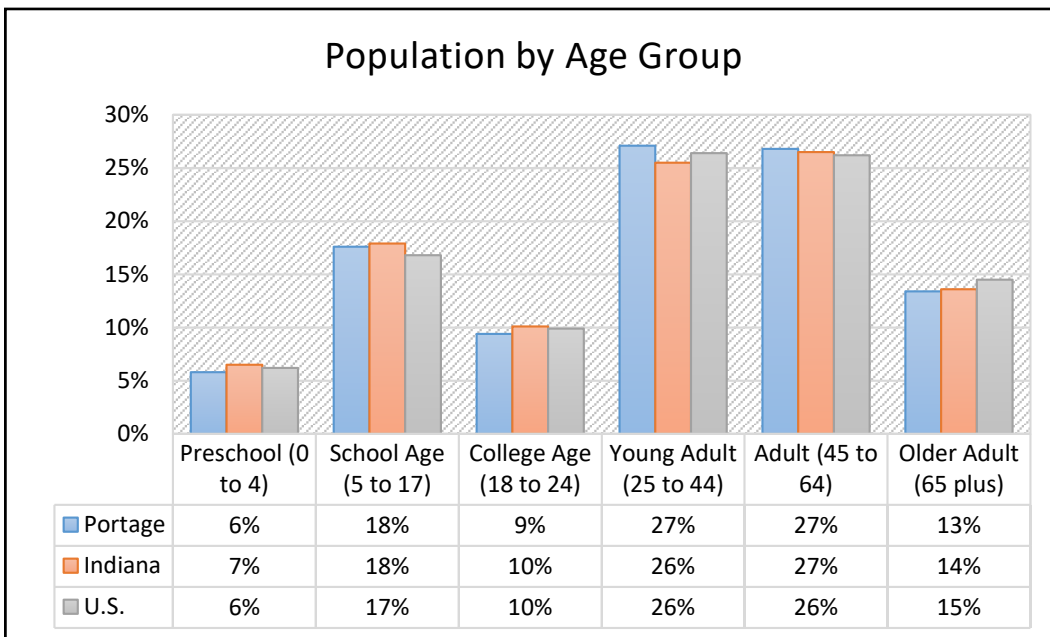
Projected Total Growth over next 10 Years up to 2021	1,785	4,499
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AGE

According to the U.S. Census (2016), the majority of the city's population is 25 to 64 years of age, with the second most populated age category being school-age children. These statistics are consistent with the State of Indiana and national trends. Statistics show that residents are primarily of working age and have families. However a portion of the 45 to 64 group will soon be shifting into retirement age group (Older Adult), and we will see a noticeable increase in non-working individuals.

Population By Age Group	Portage	Indiana	U.S.
Preschool (0 to 4)	6%	7%	6%
School Age (5 to 17)	18%	18%	17%
College Age (18 to 24)	9%	10%	10%
Young Adult (25 to 44)	27%	26%	26%
Adult (45 to 64)	27%	27%	26%
Older Adult (65 plus)	13%	14%	15%
Total Population	37,008	6,542,411	318,900,000
Median Age	37.9	37.2	37.5
Disabled	7.8%	6.8%	6.0%

(DATA SOURCES: US CENSUS)



Over the past ten years the median age has increased by two years, therefore indicating an increase in the aging population.

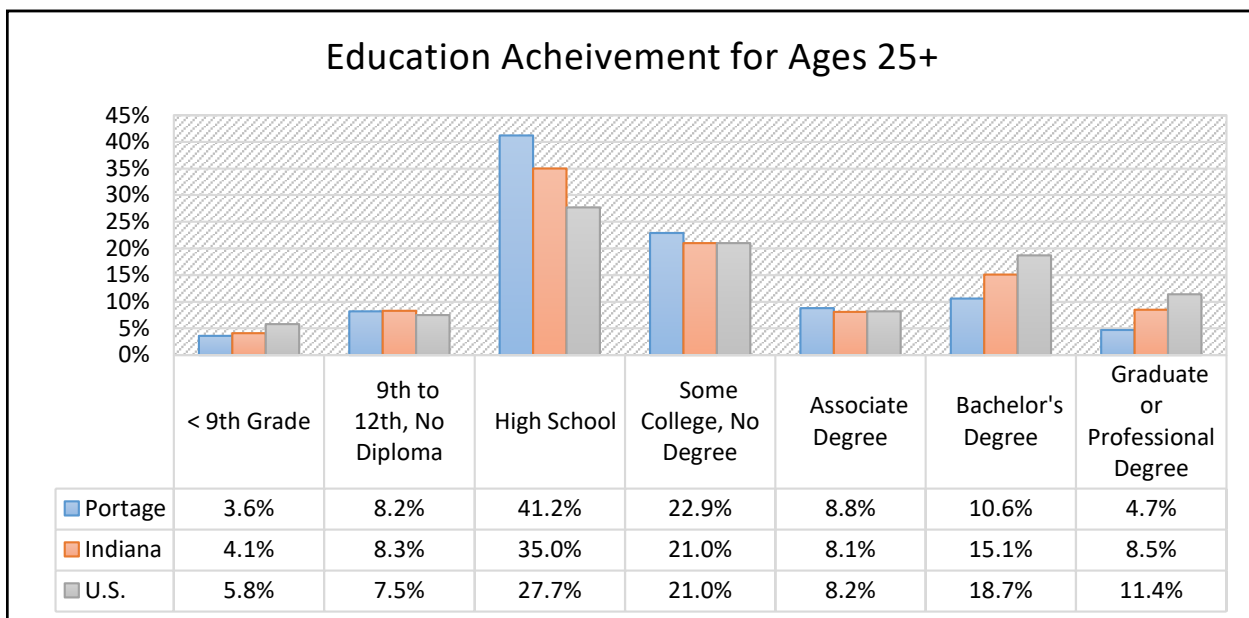
Year	Median Age
2000	35.4
2010	36.4
2014	37.9

EDUCATION

The educational attainment of residents over the age of 25 in Portage is above the state and national trends in relation to the percentage have received a high school diploma. The plan acknowledges that 47% of residents have attended college with half those attending receiving a degree. The city's University Center, once touted for its ability to bring higher education closer to local residents, did not survive the changes in higher education's increased online courses. Regional universities and colleges are no longer investing in brick and mortar classroom instruction. After the last university left, the city remodeled the building into a police station.

The city and and Portage Economic Development Corporation have developed career training opportunities with manufacturing companies and health care leaders in an effort to prepare students for careers. The park department closed Woodland Park Preschool after 20 years, due to lack of enrollment. The building will most likely be used for maintenance operations or a rental space.

Education: Age 25+	Portage	Indiana	U.S.
< 9th Grade	3.6%	4.1%	5.8%
9th to 12th, No Diploma	8.2%	8.3%	7.5%
High School	41.2%	35.0%	27.7%
Some College, No Degree	22.9%	21.0%	21.0%
Associate Degree	8.8%	8.1%	8.2%
Bachelor's Degree	10.6%	15.1%	18.7%
Graduate or Professional Degree	4.7%	8.5%	11.4%



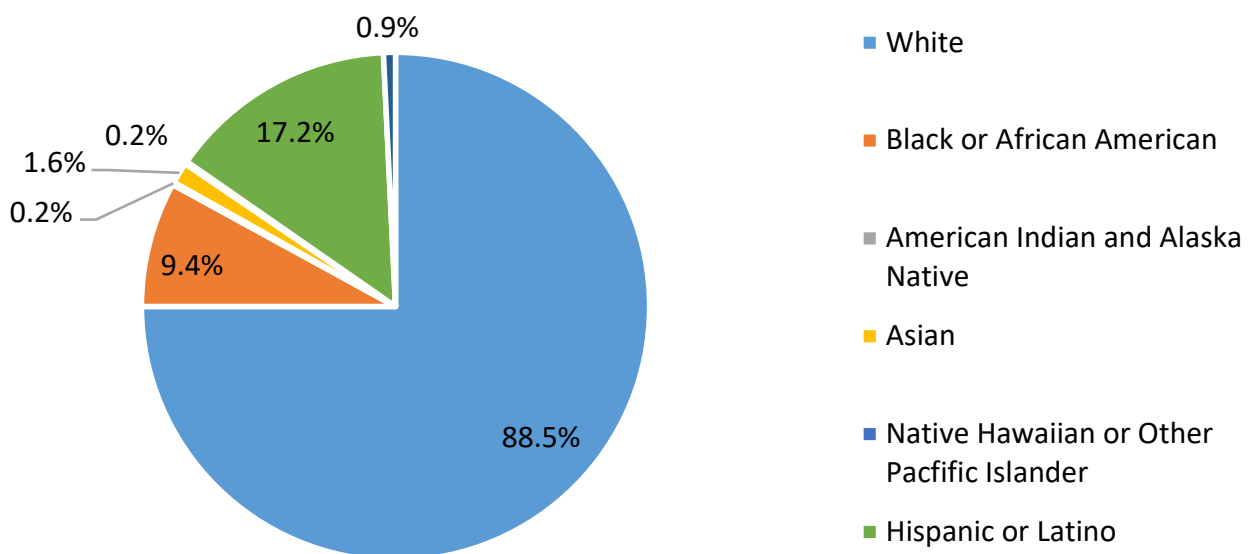
RACE

Our population continues to diversify as it grows, seeing an increase in “Hispanic/Latino Alone”. In 2010, this segment was only 9.74% of the total population. Now this segment has risen to 17.2%, in 2014. Portage continues to be predominately “White Caucasian” at 88.5%, which is slightly higher than state or national averages. “African American Alone” population has increased from 7.32% in 2010 to 9.4% in 2014.

2014 Race: American Community Survey

Race	Portage	Indiana	United States
White (Caucasian)	88.5%	86.1%	77.4%
Black or African American	9.4%	9.6%	13.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%	0.4%	1.2%
Asian	1.6%	2.0%	5.4%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
Hispanic or Latino	17.2%	6.6%	17.4%
Two or more races	0.9%	1.9%	2.5%

Race Distribution - 2014



HOUSING

The majority of the housing stock in Portage is owner-occupied with a mortgage. Future growth indicators suggest only slight increases in housing stock and additional residents, although several subdivision developments started/finished construction in 2016, after many years of dormancy. The Redevelopment Commission recently sold property in “downtown” to develop the “Promenade at Founders Square”, a new \$37 million mixed-use development. It is the largest single investment in Holladay Construction’ Group’s nearly 65 year history. The initial construction phase of five buildings broke ground in August, 2016. Buildings will frame Founders Square, offering both residential and ground floor commercial space with large sidewalk pedestrian access.

The goal of this significant development is to create a true downtown that attracts young professionals and those retirees looking to downsize and be within walking distance of parks and other commercial amenities like restaurants and shops. This master plan acknowledges the opportunities for park improvements in these growth areas of the city as well as, the potential increase in parkland demands created by them, especially for families.

Housing	Portage
Total Housing Units	15,365
Owner Occupied	67%
Renter Occupied	24%
Vacant	9%
Median Value	\$135,300
With a Mortgage	68%

Household Type	Portage	Indiana
Family Households	69%	66.5%
Married with Children	19%	19.4%
Married without Children	29%	30.1%
Single Parents	11%	9.9%
Other	10%	7.1%
Non-family Households	31%	33.5%
Living Alone	26%	27.8%
Average Household Size	2.6	2.5
Average Family Household Size	3.2	3.2

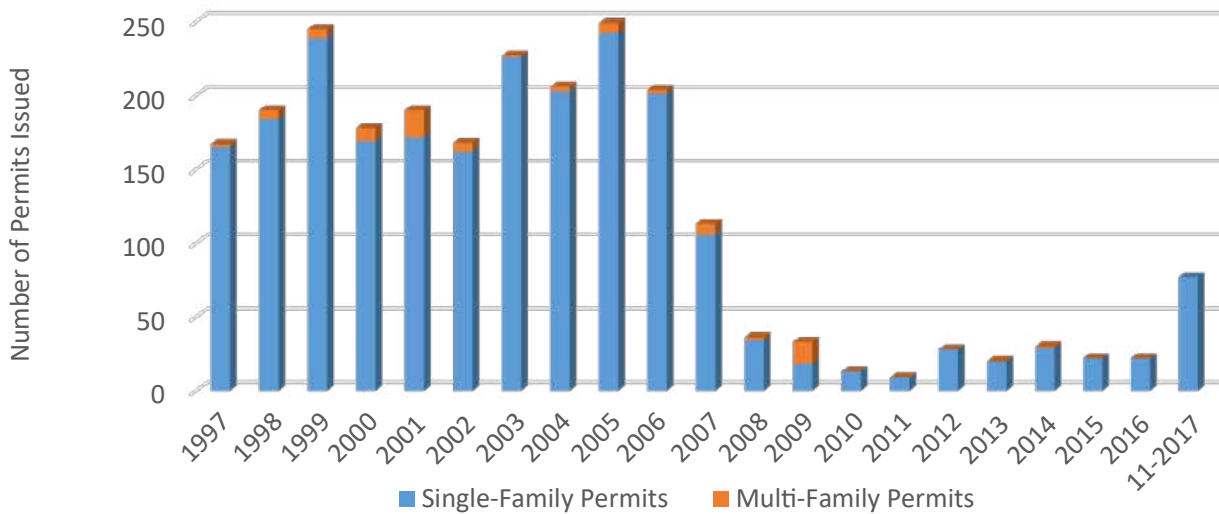
2010-'15 Portage Housing Estimates



taken from: American Communities Survey 2010-2015; U.S. Census Bureau

Judging from the chart above and below, it is safe to assume that residential growth will not be significant for the next five years based on the recent trends of housing and permit applications. Most demand for parkland/levels of service will remain the same as those presented in the last master plan.

Residential Building Permits - 1997-2017



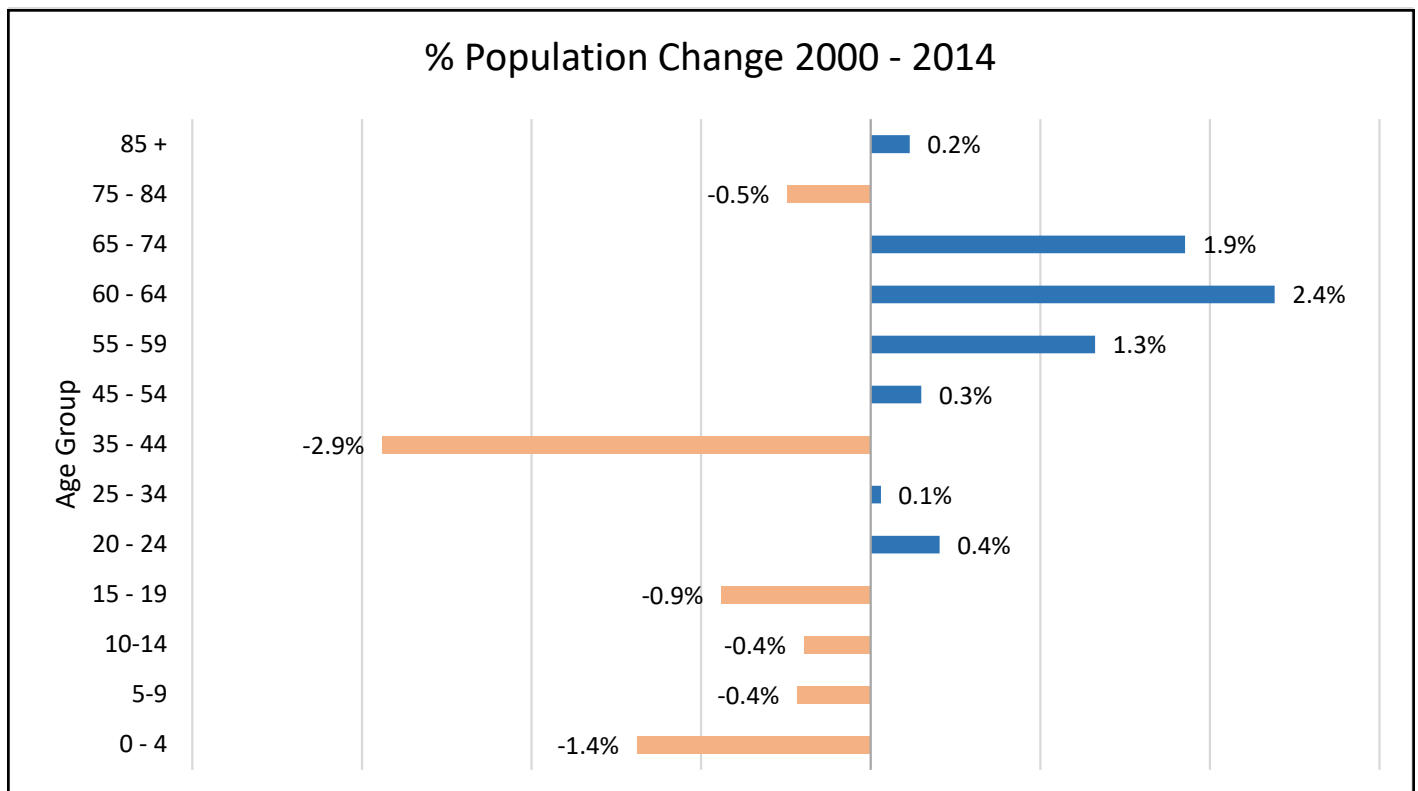
taken from: City of Portage: Building Department -11/2017

POPULATION CHANGE

This section is an acknowledgment of the slight changes in population in relation to age since 2010. While the population is increasing for older adults aged (45–74) and decreasing for (35-44) and (<19), the majority of the population has increased at the working age range between (20-64). There was a significant shift in the retirement age brackets, increasing steadily between '00 -'14. These changes reflect the other indicators of housing and family make up. This plan acknowledges the increase in retirees and families with children that make up most of the city's population.

2000 -2014

Age	2000 Pop.	2000 Percent	2014 Pop.	2014 Percent	Pop. Change	% Pop. Change
0 - 4	2,404	7.18%	2143	5.80%	-10.86%	-1.4%
5-9	2,389	7.13%	2478	6.70%	3.73%	-0.4%
10-14	2,443	7.29%	2540	6.90%	3.97%	-0.4%
15 - 19	2,472	7.38%	2401	6.50%	-2.87%	-0.9%
20 - 24	2,175	6.49%	2543	6.90%	16.92%	0.4%
25 - 34	4,636	13.84%	5144	13.90%	10.96%	0.1%
35 - 44	5,386	16.08%	4891	13.20%	-9.19%	-2.9%
45 - 54	4,757	14.20%	5364	14.50%	12.76%	0.3%
55 - 59	1,667	4.98%	2315	6.30%	38.87%	1.3%
60 - 64	1,212	3.62%	2237	6.00%	84.57%	2.4%
65 - 74	2,025	6.05%	2924	7.90%	44.40%	1.9%
75 - 84	1,471	4.39%	1431	3.90%	-2.72%	-0.5%
85 +	459	1.37%	597	1.60%	30.07%	0.2%



ECONOMICS OF THE AREA

The unemployment rate in the City of Portage fell to 6.0% (2015) and is slightly higher than Indiana (5.4%). The employment dynamic continues to change from a manufacturing/industrial base to a management and professional workforce. Sales/office and service related positions are predominant as well. Construction jobs have increased from 7% in 2010 to 10.5% in 2014. Many companies have either moved into or have expanded in Portage such as Meijer, Monosol, Fronius, Ratner Steel, Superior Construction, hotels, restaurants, educational institutions such as NEO Adult Education. The median household income (2011-2015) in Portage is slightly above Indiana's reported median income. Their poverty rates are nearly identical, except that the city's poverty has increased over the last 5 years. For more information click on the blue hyperlinks:

[Portage Economic Development Corporation](#)
[Portage Chamber of Commerce](#)

Labor Force	Portage	Indiana
Total Labor Force	18,266	3,285,205
Employed	16,264	2,994,736
Unemployed	2,002	290,469
Unemployment Rate	6.0%	5.4%

Resident Occupations: Ages 16+	Portage	Indiana
Management, professional, and related	24.1%	29.4%
Service	18.2%	15.6%
Sales and office	21.4%	21.5%
Farming, fishing, and forestry	0.0%	0.4%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance	10.5%	7.6%
Production, transportation, and material moving	14.8%	16.7%

Resident Income	Portage	Indiana
Median Household Income	\$53,730	\$49,225
Median Family Income	\$64,933	\$60,780
Poverty Rate	16.3%	14.5%

-----SUPPLY ANALYSIS SECTION-----
(PARK DEPARTMENT INFORMATION AND INVENTORY)

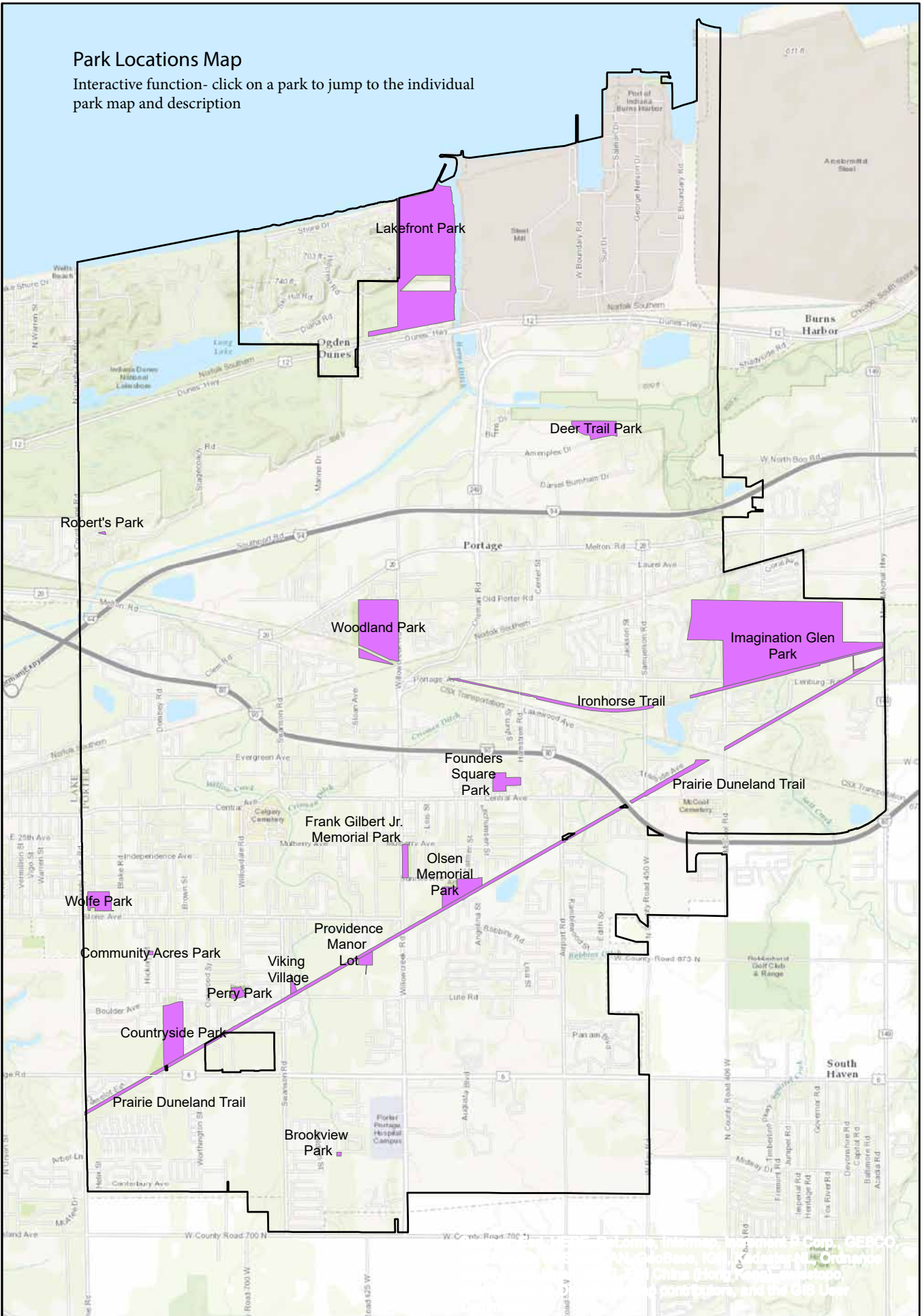
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF SUPPLY ANALYSIS

The Portage Parks and Recreation Department maintains 15 parks, ranging in size from 0.5 acre to 256 acres (approximately 615 acres of total park land, including trail space). The Parks Department also maintains over 10 miles of paved trails. In the last 5 years the city has partnered with the Redevelopment Commission to develop additional park and trail space including the construction of an amphitheater, splash pad, playground, and restroom facility at Founders Square and a 1 mile multi-surface trail in Ameriplex West. The Northside Trail will continue across Highway 249 into the Ameriplex East area including Deer Trail Park. The Redevelopment Commission also assisted in paying for the demolition of an aging banquet hall, the Portage Yacht Club. The property was owned by the RDC and maintained by the parks department. As the old park was being demolished, a new park was being added to the system. Brookview Park was a neighborhood lot that was always intended to become a park, but up until 2016 was just a green field. Now there is a playground, shelter, and 1/2 youth basketball court on the <1/2 acre lot, perfect size for a block park.

The following page includes an interactive map. Click on the Brookview or any other park shown to take you to the detailed page discussing that park in this document.

Park Locations Map

Interactive function- click on a park to jump to the individual park map and description



Some information provided by Esri, GEBCO, NOAA, GeoBase, IGN, Intermap, iNORDEM, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, the State Plane, and the GIS User Community

OTHER PARK AGENCIES OPERATING IN THE PORTAGE AREA

INDIANA DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

“This park is comprised of over 15,000 acres of dunes, oak savannas, swamps, bogs, marshes, prairies, rivers, and forests. It contains 15 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline spanning the distance from Gary to Michigan City. Lake Michigan is part of the largest complex of freshwater lakes in the world. The national lakeshore’s beaches are the park’s most significant recreational resource.

Immediately inland from the beaches, sand dunes rise to almost 200 feet in a series of ridges, blowouts, and valleys. Extensive wetlands fill many depressions between the dune ridges. The national lakeshore preserves an important remnant of a once vast and unique environment, resulting from the retreat of the last great continental glacier some 14,000 years ago. The park landscape represents at least four major successive stages of historic Lake Michigan shorelines, making it one of the most extensive geologic records of one of the world’s largest, fresh water bodies.”

(source: National Park Service: Indiana Dunes website: <https://www.nps.gov/indu/learn/nature/index.htm>)

INDIANA DUNES STATE PARK: INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

“The park consists of 2,182 acres of primitive, beautiful, historical, and unique Hoosier landscape. It lies in Porter County and includes more than three miles of Lake Michigan’s south shore. Diversified flora and fauna of the Midwest can be found in its 1,800 wooded acres. Other areas made up of drifting sand hills, peculiar to the dunes region.”

(source: Indiana DNR, Indiana Dunes State Park website: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2980.htm>)

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICES OFFICE | 1000 W Oak Hill Rd, Porter, IN 46304

PORTER COUNTY PARKS

“Sunset Hill Farm County Park is a hub of activity in Porter County. We offer a variety of events and festivals, hiking trails, camps, field trips and fitness programs year round. Whether you are a hiker or a bird-watcher, a runner or a gardener, a parent with active kids or an enthusiast of antique farm equipment, we have something for you at Sunset Hill Farm County Park.

The park began as a fully functional farm and private residence, purchased by Colonel Robert Heffron Murray and his wife, Sue, in 1934. The original property consisted of 80 acres. Within a year of living there, the Murrays had 1,000 chickens and sold eggs and broilers to local residents. During its most productive period, the farm also produced 400 gallons of milk a day.

The property continued to grow, until it reached its current size of 238 acres. After Colonel Murray passed away in 1972, his estate donated the land to Porter County. Now, thousands of people enjoy Sunset Hill Farm County Park every year thanks to his generous legacy.”

(source: Porter County Parks website: <http://www.porterco.org/Facilities/Facility/Details/Sunset-Hill-Farm-County-Park-10>)

PORTAGE PUBLIC MARINA

Located on Lake Michigan, the Portage Public Marina is located on the Burns Portage Waterway in Porter County. The Marina facilitates boat launching onto Lake Michigan and fishing from the pier. It is a

central feature of the north side development plan for Portage.

OTHER RECREATION PROVIDERS

Portage Township YMCA – Aquatic programs through Portage High School pool, recreation center with workout equipment, a gymnasium, racquetball courts, youth and adult sports and wellness programs.

Porter County Boys & Girls Club – Gymnasium and recreation center for children. Youth programs offered such as soccer and basketball.

Portage Township Schools – playgrounds and athletic facilities (field house, sports fields, tennis courts) available to public while school not in session; some youth programs offered through athletic teams, in conjunction with Portage Parks & Recreation programs.

Portage Little League – public youth baseball

Portage Junior Miss – public youth softball

Portage Youth Basketball – public youth basketball

Portage Pop Warner – public youth football

Portage Porpoise Swim Club – youth competitive swimming

Robbinhurst Golf Club and Driving Range – Golf leagues and programs

Portage Township Parks Department - 3484 Airport Road | Portage

Portage Township Trustees office includes a Park Department that manages three parks, a Senior Center, cemetery and a baseball complex. The City of Portage is located within Portage Township. The following are the three parks in the area:

-Field of Dreams - 402 West 700 North | South Haven

A favorite neighborhood park, Field of Dreams is 24 acres of developed, wooded and open land. Park amenities include new playground equipment, 1/2 court basketball, ice rink in the winter, three softball fields built to accommodate players of all ages, and lots of open green space.

-Haven Hollow -330 West 700 North | South Haven

Beautiful 40+ acres of natural and developed park land, Haven Hollow Park is host to active and passive recreation, with a new large playground area, pond, two NSA sanctioned softball fields, three shelters, 1/3 mile walking loop around the ball fields, and open green space.

-Jim H. Lynch Park - 367 Shrine Court | South Haven

Jim H. Lynch Park, developed in 2014, for Coventry Subdivision homeowner's who requested a family-friendly area for neighborhood residents. Park amenities include a picnic area and playground for children 10 years and younger. Dedicated in memory of Jim H. Lynch, a lifelong public servant and humanitarian.

Town of Ogden Dunes

The town of Ogden Dunes is a small lakeside residential community located in Porter County, Indiana. This beach community is known for its coastal Lake Michigan ambiance nestled within the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Ogden Dunes is named for Francis A. Ogden, who owned the land before his death in 1914. The town was incorporated in 1925 and now accommodates approximately 600 homes and has a population of 1,200 residents. During the 1920's Ogden Dunes was the home of a large ski jump which was used for training Olympic ski jumpers. The hilly landscape continues to be used for training local athletes today. Ogden Dunes is the birthplace of the "Save the Dunes Council." This group of distinguished individuals dedicated their efforts to preserving the environment of Northwest Indiana. A variety of park properties exist: Sand Track Walking Trail, Kratz Memorial Field, Long Lake Park, Nelson Reck Park.

Portage Park Foundation

The Portage Park Foundation is a registered 501(c)3 Not for Profit Organization which is charged with supporting and assisting the property acquisition arms of the Portage Department of Parks and Recreation. It is the mission of the Portage Parks and Recreation Foundation to assist the Portage Parks and Recreation Department in accomplishing their goals to acquire new park lands and the betterment of all city parks. Foundation accomplishments include: acquisition of land, development of a scholarship fund, the purchase and installation of new playground equipment and park signage.

Additionally, the Park Foundation assists in the procurement of State and Federal Grant monies by leveraging the properties that are owned by the foundation to provide matching funds for these grants.

The Park Foundation solicits donations and assistance thru the following methods:

- Annual Monetary Donations: Annual, tax-deductible donations from individuals, families, businesses, organizations, and other foundations provide a means for everyone to invest in the future.
- Gifts of Real Estate: Gifts of real estate, either for investment purposes, or for future use by the Parks and Recreation Department, help make sure enough land is available to meet Portage's needs into the future.
- Foundation Named as a Beneficiary: Naming the Parks and Recreation Foundation as the beneficiary or contingent beneficiary on your life insurance policies and annuities will provide future funding for programs and facilities.
- Gifts in a Will or Trust: By remembering the foundation in a will or trust citizens provide additional opportunities for facilities and programs.
- Gift of Securities & Annuities: Provide additional funding for parks expansion.
- Gifts, Memorials or Tributes: Name the Foundation to receive Memorials and Tributes to recognize and honor deceased friends and loved ones, especially those who have taken great pleasure in the parks and recreation programs. These gifts can be given as presents to individuals or for the special days and events in their lives.

Portage Park Foundation Board Members:

Randy Wilkening
Karen Tallian
John Ryan
Katrina Spence
Shannon Burhans
Lori Monahan
Paul Ciesielski
Pat Bryan
Mark Miller
Don Glenn
Jenny Orsburn (Park Department Superintendent)
Lori Wilkie (Park Department Assistant Superintendent)

Current Portage Parks Programs

Portage Parks & Recreation Department offers a diverse array of programs that attract many different kinds of users. The following is a snapshot of some of the recreation classes and activities that we offer

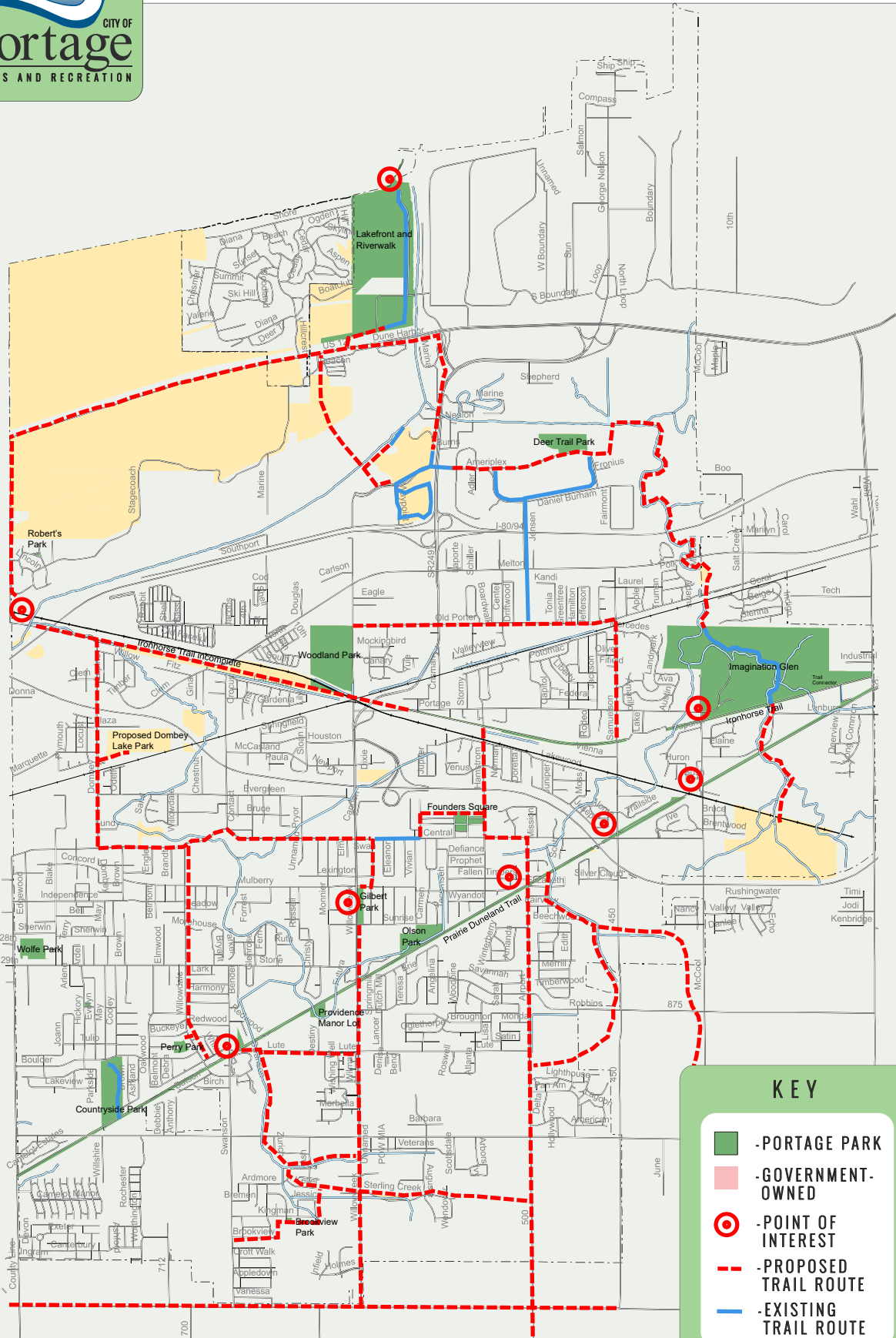
- Youth Outdoor Soccer Leagues (ages 3-14)
- Youth Indoor Soccer Leagues (ages 3-6)
- Youth Dodgeball (ages 6-14)
- Adult Softball Leagues (Men's, Women's, Co-ed)
- Adult Indoor Volleyball Leagues and Tournaments (Co-ed & Women's)
- Adult Sand Volleyball Leagues and Tournaments (Co-ed & Women's)
- Christmas Craft Show
- Spring Craft Show
- Haunted Hayride
- Daddy / Daughter Dance
- Mother / Son Movie Night
- Cooking Camp (ages 5-11)

OTHER MAPS

The following three map pages represent an inventory of current parks areas and related additional parkland areas of other agencies providing open space within the planning area. Next, there is a trails map for the planning area, showing existing and future connections between parklands within the planning area. Finally, an inventory matrix identifies existing Portage Parks assets for future planning consideration with the Levels of Service section of this document.



Portage Trail System



KEY

- PORTAGE PARK
- GOVERNMENT-OWNED
- POINT OF INTEREST
- PROPOSED TRAIL ROUTE
- EXISTING TRAIL ROUTE

SCALE: 1-100



Parks Inventory Matrix

Park Name	Inventory Item																									
	Sledding Hill	Disc Course	Golf Walking Trail	Shelter	Bathrooms	Dog Park	Hiking Trail	Fishing Spots	BMX Track	Concession Stand	Soccer Field	Rugby Field	Basketball Court	Basketball Half-Court	Indoor Fieldhouse	Room Rental	BMX Trails	Playground	Horseshoe Pits	Future Canoe Launch	Beachfront Pad	Splash Pad	Local History Museum	Local Period Farmstead	Historical Sand Volleyball Court	
Olson Memorial	Existing		Existing	Existing														Existing								
Frank Gilbert Jr. Memorial			Existing																							
Perry																		Existing								
Imagination Glen			Existing	Existing			Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing						Existing	Existing							Existing	
Woodland	Existing		Existing	Existing	Existing					Existing				Existing	Existing	Existing		Existing	Existing							
Robert's																		Existing								
Wolfe				Existing							Existing			Existing				Existing								
Community Acres				Existing										Existing				Existing								
Lakefront and Riverwalk			Existing	Existing	Existing		Existing	Existing		Existing									Existing	Existing						
Countryside	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing	Existing			Existing										Existing					Existing	Existing		
Founders Square			Existing		Existing																					
Deer Trail							Existing	Existing																		
Brookview				Existing										Existing				Existing								
Trails																										
Prairie Duneland			Existing		Existing																					
Ironhorse Heritage			Existing																							

KEY

- EXISTING AMENITY
- PROPOSED FUTURE AMENITY

* This matrix shows the relationship between parks and their respective amenities

-----PRIORITIES AND ACTION SCHEDULE SECTION-----

ACTION PLAN				
ACTION ITEMS	Estimated Cost	Est. Year of Completion	Department Budget	Other Funding Sources
BROOKVIEW PARK				
Install benches and more picnic tables	\$5,000.00	2018-2019		
Install updated playground	\$25,000.00	2019		
Stain benches	\$100.00	2018		
Stain shelter	\$200.00	2018		
Restripe basketball court, adjust backboard	\$500.00	2018		GEN SERVICES
COUNTRYSIDE PARK				
Restroom facility	\$50,000.00	2021		OTHER
Repair foot bridge to Prairie Duneland Trail	\$10,000.00	2019		
Fishing pier	\$20,000.00	2018		PARKS/OTHER
Fire pit and seating area	\$20,000.00	2020		PARKS/OTHER
Additional security cameras and lighting	\$4,000.00	2019		
Benches and seating	\$1,000.00	2019		
Add parking to northside on Boulder Ave.	\$15,000.00	2020		OTHER
Improve ballfield, infield, backstop and benches	\$5,000.00	2020		
Install shelter on south side of park	\$9,000.00	2019		
Install drinking fountain on northside near ballfield	\$2,500.00	2020		
DEER TRAIL PARK				
Install parking	\$12,000.00	2019-20		FEDERAL
Develop trail connection	\$250,000.00	2019-20		FEDERAL
Install lighting and cameras	\$15,000.00	2020		
New signage	\$5,000.00	2020		
FOUNDERS SQUARE AND AMPHITHEATER				
Install seating around playground	\$45,000.00	2019		OTHER
Install playground signage	\$12,000.00	2018		
Seasonal Ice skating facility	\$250,000.00	2018-2020		OTHER
GILBERT PARK				
Add Flower gardens	\$8,000.00	2019-2021		
Add Ornamental plantings	\$10,000.00	2019-2021		
Install additional parking	\$20,000.00	2021		OTHER
IMAGINATION GLEN				
New concession stand	\$85,000.00	2018-2020		PARKS FDN/PARKS
New restroom facility	\$25,000.00	2021		PARKS FDN
Construct new storage facility	\$75,000.00	2021		
Add new shelter	\$10,000.00	2020		
Seating and benches at soccer	\$2,000.00	2018-2019		
Replace perimeter fencing-softball	\$18,000.00	2018-2020		
Install safety nets on fields	\$10,000.00	2018-2019		
Install electric at shelter	\$2,000.00	2018-2019		
Install entrance gate or security cameras	\$1,200.00	2019		
New entrance into Soccer Complex	\$50,000.00	2019-2021		OTHER
Fix asphalt breaking away from north side of East entrance road	\$40,000.00	2018-2019		OTHER
ARTHUR H. OLSON MEMORIAL PARK				
New playground	\$25,000.00	2020-21		PARKS FDN
Complete remodel of restroom facility	\$35,000.00	2018-2019		
Repair security camera system	\$2,000.00	2017-2018		
Repair/replace foot bridge	\$5,000.00	2018-2020		OTHER
PERRY PARK				
Connector path	\$10,000.00	2017-2018		GEN SERVICES
New playground in new location	\$25,000.00	2020-21		PARKS FDN/PARKS
Benches and picnic tables	\$2,000.00	2018		
PROVIDENCE MANOR				
Install concrete path and bridge to PDT	\$18,000.00	2018-2020		GEN SERVICES
ROBERT'S PARK				
New sign	\$2,500.00	2018		
New playground	\$18,000.00	2020-21		PARKS FDN/PARKS

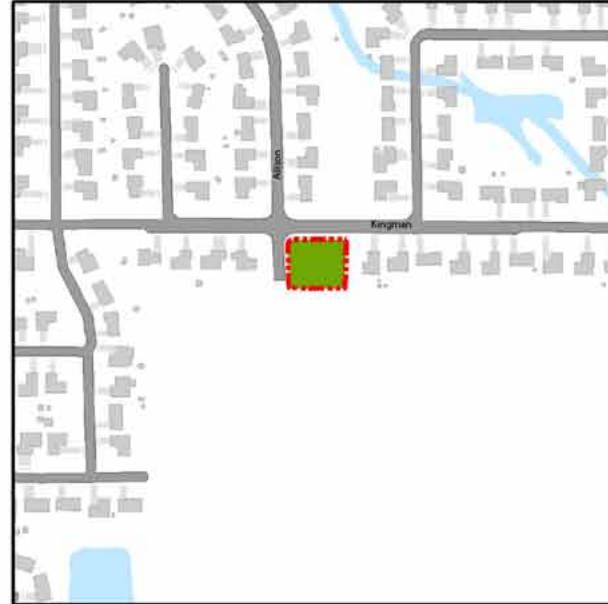
Install gazebo	\$6,000.00	2019		OTHER
New benches	\$1,000.00	2018		
VIKING VILLAGE				
Create park plan	\$500.00	2018-2019		PLAN DEPT.
WOLFE PARK				
Perimeter walking path	\$36,000.00	2018-2019		GEN SERVICES
Improve Ballfield	\$5,000.00	2018		GEN SERVICES
New playground	\$25,000.00	2018-2021		PARKS FDN/PARKS
Improve soccer field or remove goals	\$2,000.00	2018-2019		
Install new signage	\$5,000.00	2019		
Create tree maintenance program	\$5,000.00	2018		PLAN DEPT.
Create neighborhood access plan	\$5,000.00	2018-2019		PLAN DEPT./Portage Township Schools
Install new basketball backboards	\$1,200.00	2018		
WOODLAND PARK				
Updated playground	\$15,000.00	2018-2019		PARKS FDN
New northside restroom	\$25,000.00	2018-2021		
Dog Park shelter	\$6,000.00	2018-2019		
Repair fireplace	\$4,000.00	2020		
Add ADA restrooms to Preschool building	\$18,000.00	2018-2021		
Update Sycamore Hall-carpet, bar screening,etc	\$20,000.00	2018-2021		
Install drinking fountain on northside	\$3,600.00	2020-2021		
Prairie Duneland Trail/Iron Horse Trail/Northside Trail				
repair/add water fountains	\$6,000.00	2017-2021		
create amenity plan	\$2,000.00	2018-2021		PLAN DEPT.
benches	\$4,000.00	2018-2019		
wayfinding signage consistent with NIRPC plan	\$18,000.00	2018-2021		
GENERAL FACILITY				
Review and update of the RIF	\$0.00	2018		PLAN DEPT.
Complete online room reservation system	\$0.00	2018		
Land preservation along Salt Creek	\$50,000.00	2018		PARKS FDN/OTHER

-----CITY PARK MAPS SECTION-----

City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo



Brookview Park (2001)

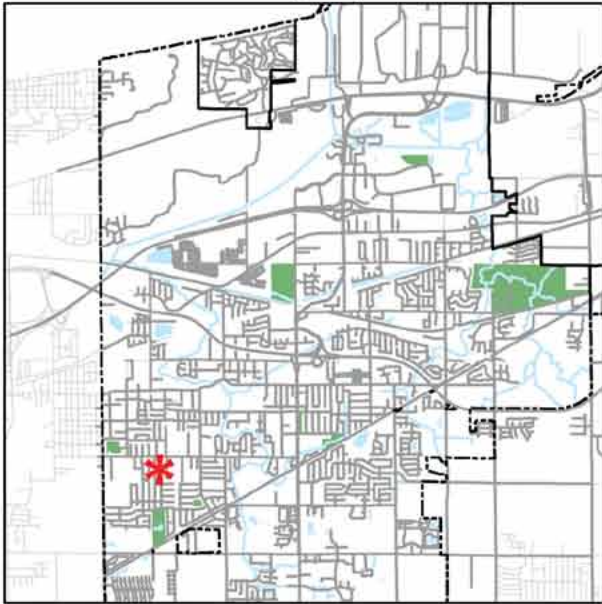
5791 Kingman Avenue

A .43 acre lot in the Brookview Subdivision, located on the southeast corner of Kingman Avenue and Allison Street. Brookview is the newest developed park. In 2016, a playground, 1/2 basketball court, and shelter were installed.

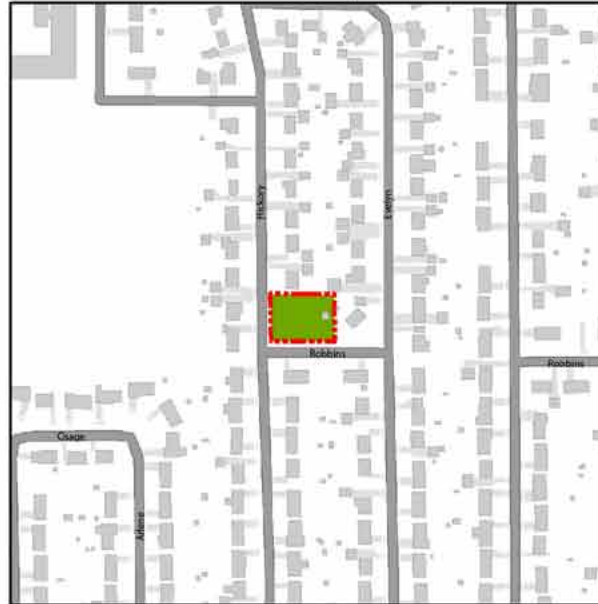
[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)



City Map



Area Map

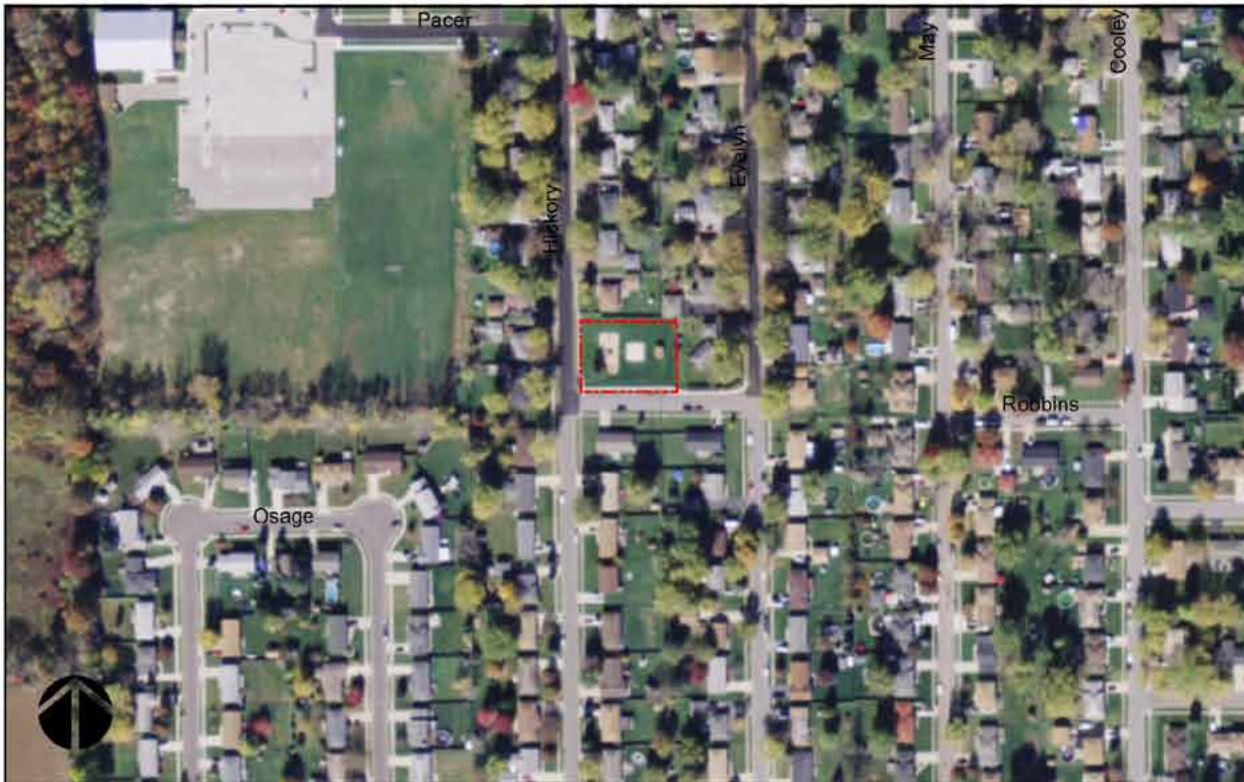


Community Acres Park (1970) Hickory Street

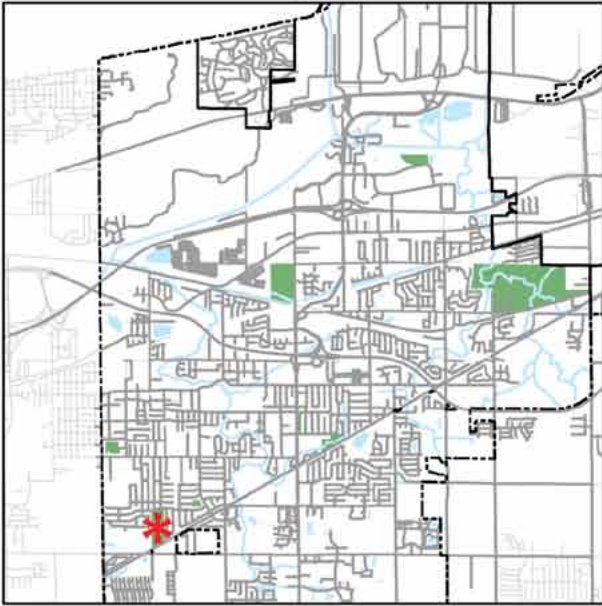
This 1 acre park is located about one block east of County Line Road. This park contains a playground, picnic shelter, and a 1/2 basketball court.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

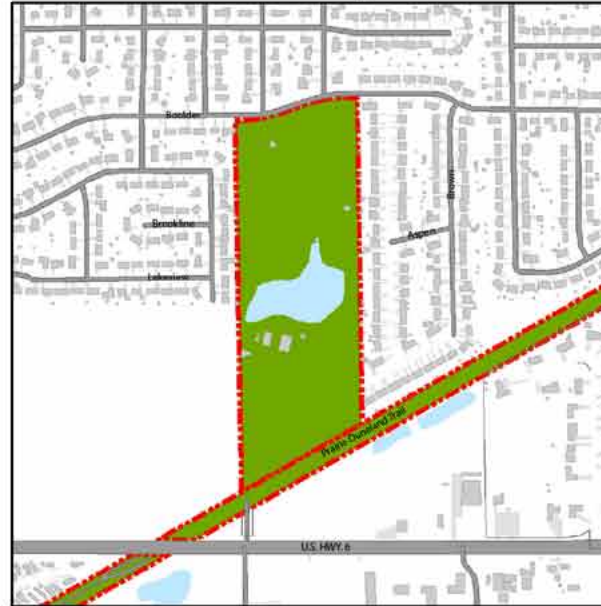
Aerial Photo



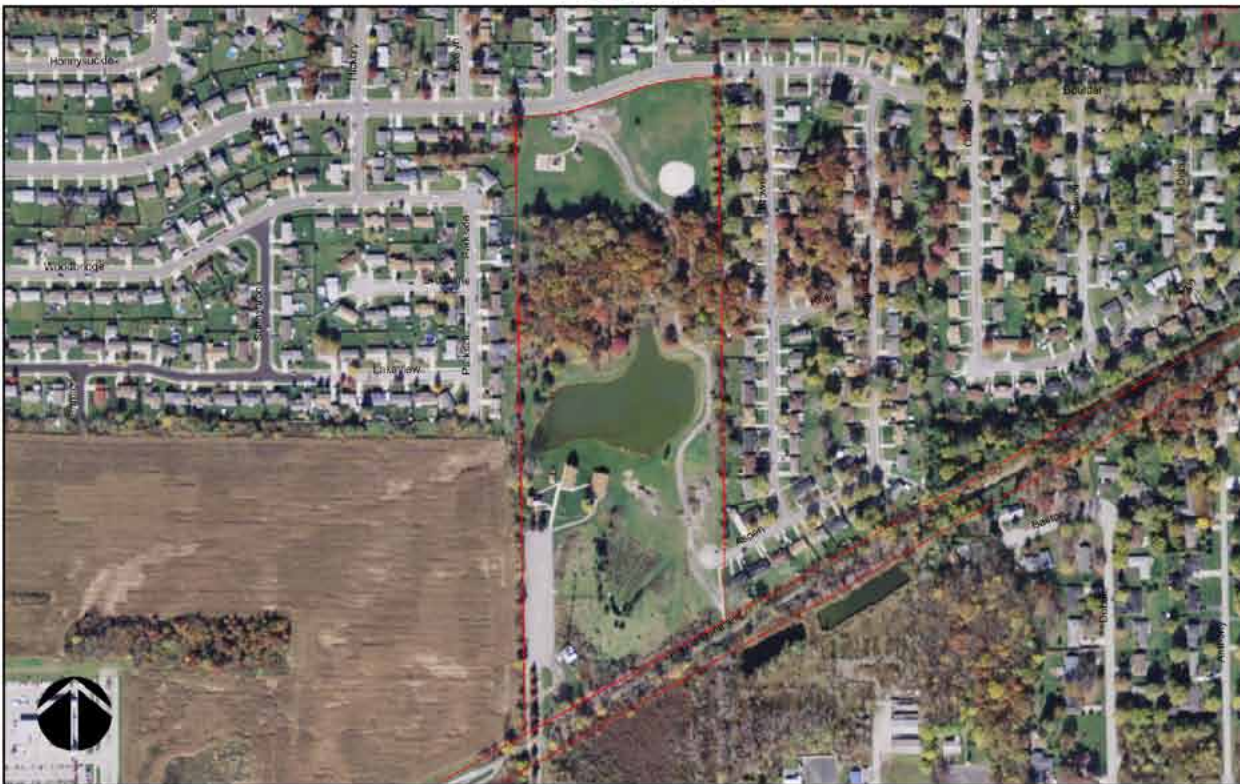
City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo



Countryside Park (1984)

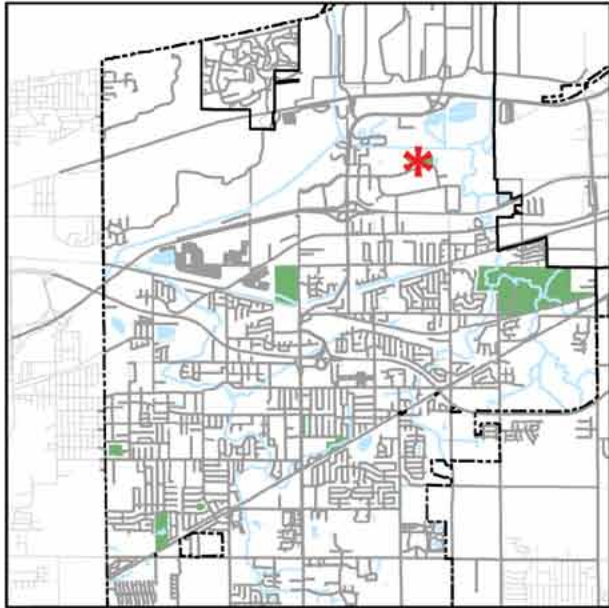
5250 U.S. Hwy 6

This 33-acre park site is located in the southwestern part of the city, along U.S. 6, just east of County Line Road. The Prairie Duneland Trail passes along the southern boundary of the park. Countryside Park is most recognized as the home of the Portage Historical Society and the Alton Goin Historical Museum. The museum, along with the restored structures of the Trager Homestead, create a farm-like setting for visitors to enjoy. Aside from exploring the historical roots of the Portage Community, park visitors may fish in the large pond, play disc golf, walk or bike the newly paved trails, or take the challenge of Portage's largest sledding hill in the winter. As visitors make their way to the north side of the park, which borders Boulder Avenue, they can enjoy picnic grounds, a playground, and a ball field. The Alton Goin Historical Museum is a wonderful community resource that captures the history of Portage. The Museum now located in the newly renovated Barn (2016), features numerous displays and artifacts that transport visitors from the early days of settlement to Portage's arrival as the largest city in Porter County. The museum is a part of the overall historical theme of Countryside Park and is accompanied by buildings of the 1900 Trager Homestead. These historical assets are managed by the Portage Community Historical Society. The former museum building is currently being renovated into rental space.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)



City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo



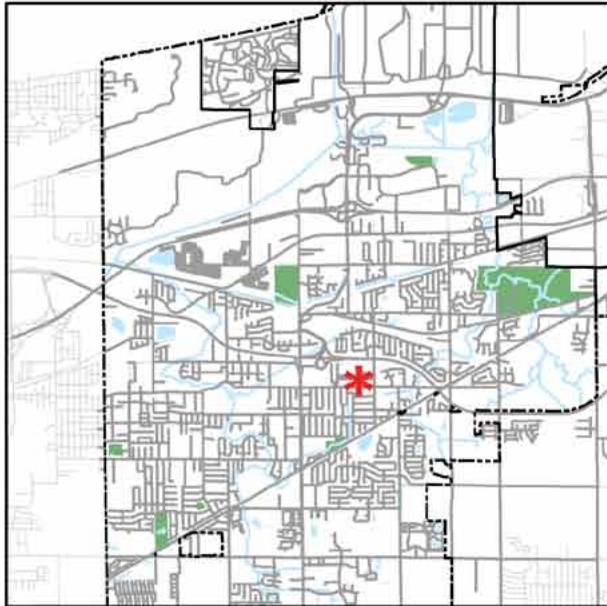
Deer Trail Park (2007)

Ameriplex Drive

A rustic 15 acre park along the Little Calumet River in the Ameriplex development. The property was once where the historic oxbows of the Little Calumet River meandered. The park also contains access to the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Mulched trails, educational signage, and a shelter with a picnic table are available. The park is used primarily for fishing, hiking and wildlife viewing.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

City Map



Area Map



Founders Square (2015)
 6300 Founders Square

A recent 2 acre addition to the park system, Founders Square is located in Portage's downtown. Owned by the Portage Redevelopment Commission and maintained by the Parks Department, this park has a restrooms, splash pad, picnic tables, and electric vendor stations for events. In 2016, an Amphitheater was added with a grass seating area for community events and movies in the park.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

Aerial Photo



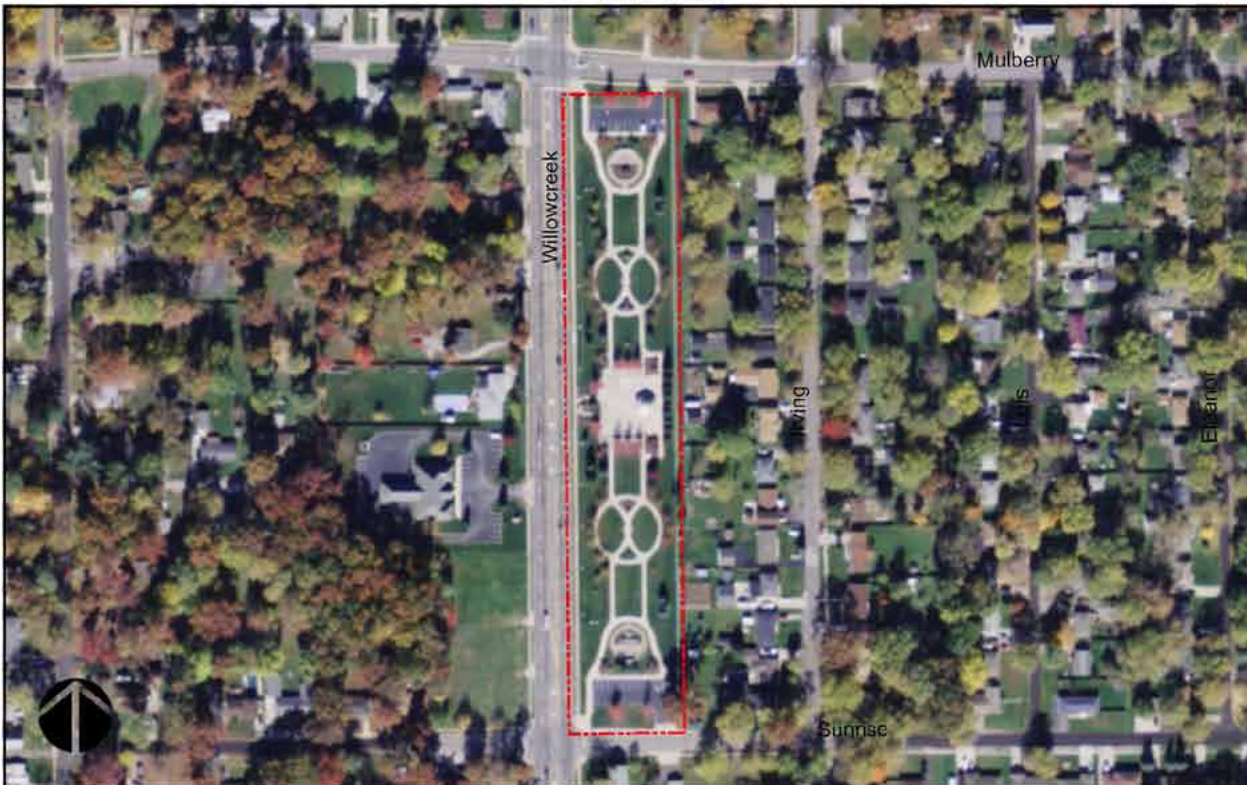
City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo



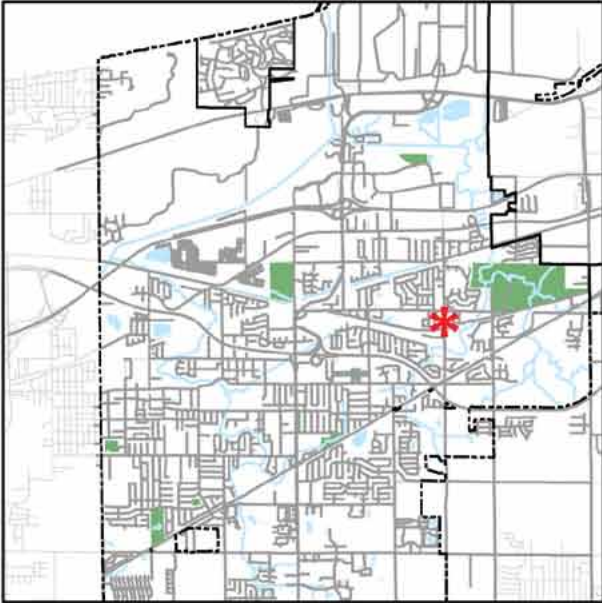
Frank Gilbert Jr. Memorial Park (1992)
 2775 Willowcreek Road

This 5 acre park site, situated along Willowcreek Road, just south of Central Avenue, is a plaza-type gathering place commemorating those individuals who have dedicated their lives to serving the Portage Community as Fire Fighters and Police Officers. The beautifully landscaped park features a centrally located ornamental gazebo and plaza area, the Police and Fire Fighter's Memorial at the north end, and the Portage Exchange Club's Freedom Shrine at the south end. The park is divided into small garden plots separated by wide walking paths traversing the site. A beautiful gazebo is available for weddings, musical performances, and community functions.

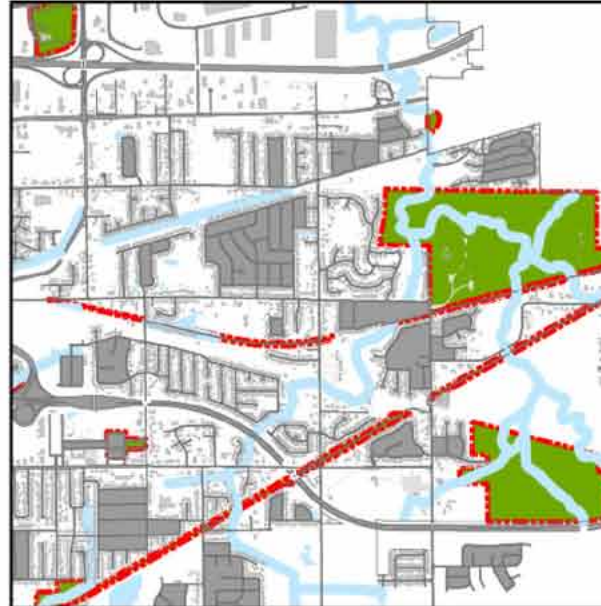
[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)



City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo



Ironhorse Heritage Trail (1993)

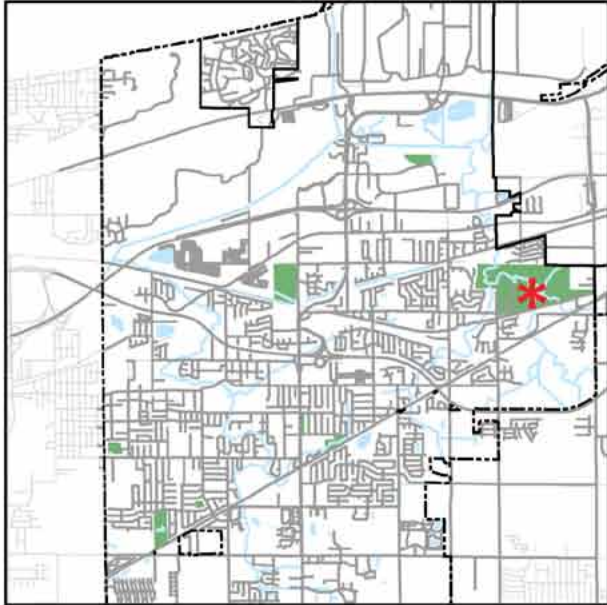
With 62 acres of total land, the IHHT is the second greenway corridor running east-west through the city of Portage and will soon connect two major parks; Woodland and Imagination Glen. Like the PDT, this trail is a paved recreational trail.

While the IHHT corridor spans the width of the city, current development efforts are being focused on the segment of the corridor that begins at Hamstrom Road and traverses west to Woodland Park. This is considered Phase II of the project and will take the trail south down Hamstrom Road, through the Lakewood subdivision, north up Willowcreek Road to Woodland Park. Phase I, which was completed in 2007, starts the trail on the east side of Imagination Glen at the Soccer Complex and BMX track with a connector trail to the PDT. It extends east to Hamstrom Road.

Phase II will continue the trail from Hamstrom to Woodland Park, along the abandoned Iron Horse rail line, through a neighborhood development and large wooded area along Willowcreek Rd. Phase II has received funding for design and construction, with expected completed by 2018.

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City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo

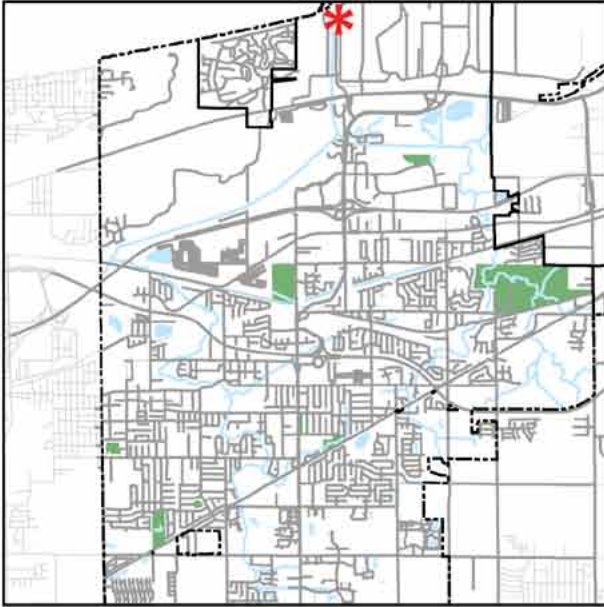


Imagination Glen Park (1976) 2275 McCool Road

At 276 acres, Imagination Glen is the largest park in Portage with facilities designed to serve regional recreation needs. Located along the eastern boundary of the city, between State Road 149 and McCool Road, Imagination Glen is home to the department's softball and soccer complexes, two sand volleyball courts, a lighted BMX race track, a 10 mile Outback Mountain Bike Trail, and large tracts of heavily wooded forests with Salt Creek meandering through the center. The Iron Horse Heritage Trail borders the southern boundary of the park. With so many recreational opportunities available, Imagination Glen is a vital component of the park system.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

City Map



Area Map



Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk 1000 Riverwalk Drive

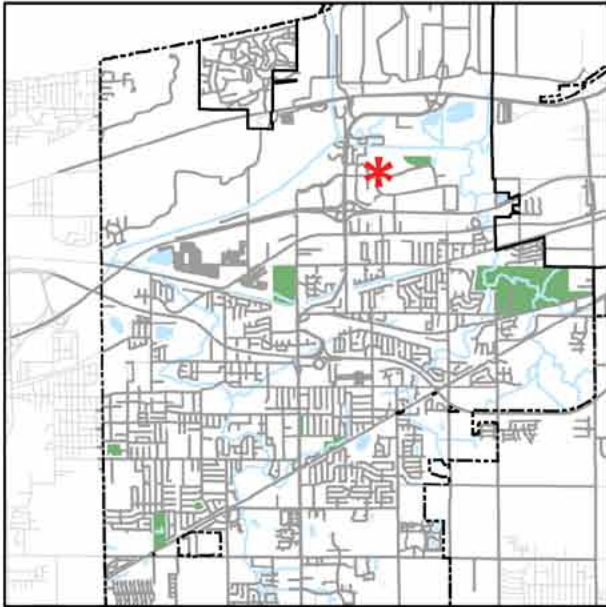
This 60 acre park site was developed on the former National Steel property and provides access to Lake Michigan and Burns Waterway, also serving as a gateway to the Portage Marina. The park's development was a collaborative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. National Park Service / Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, City of Portage, and Portage Parks and Recreation. The park land is owned by the U.S. National Park Service and managed by the Portage Parks and Recreation Department.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

Aerial Photo



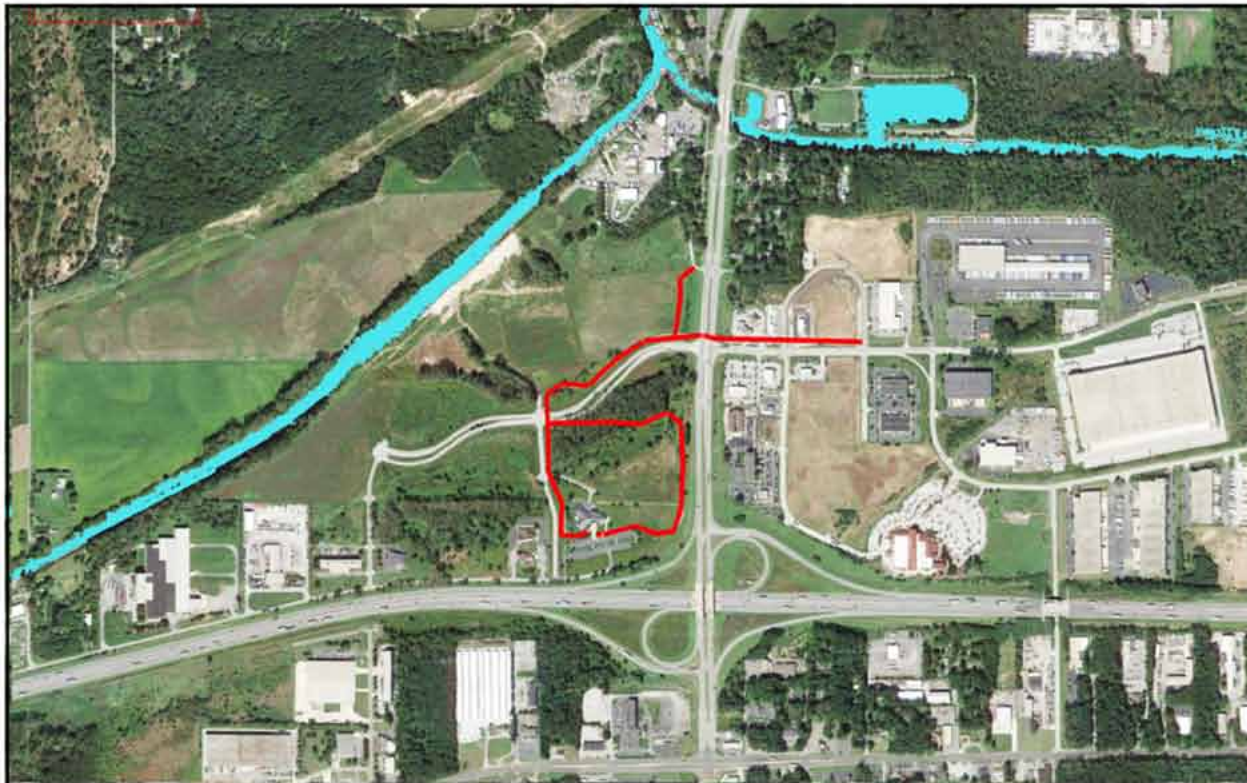
City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo

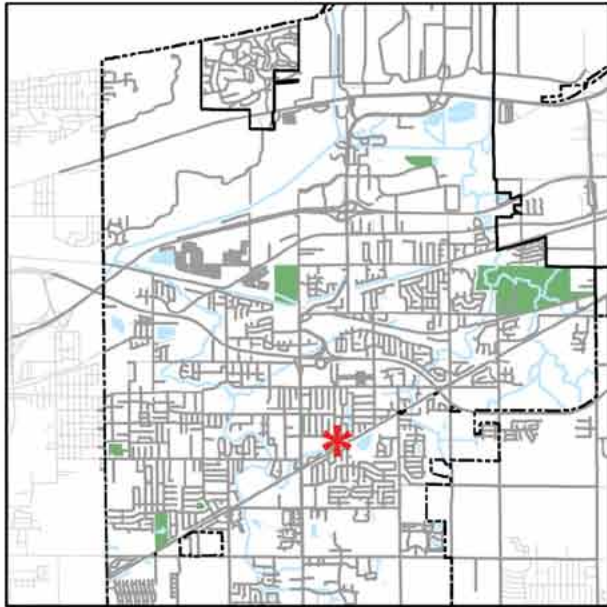


Marquette Greenway

Trail connections from the greenway start on the west side of Portage along US Hwy 12. A small portion and a spur exist, shown in red on the aerial photo. Marquette greenway continues east along Ameriplex Drive, passing by Deer Trail Park and crossing Salt Creek north of Fronius USA property. Most of the greenway will be built as funding and property becomes available

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo



Arthur Olson Memorial Park (1984) 6199 Sunrise Avenue

This park at 15 acres contains picnic grounds with shelter, natural area, playground, open play space; sledding hill, access to Prairie Duneland trail. The Park is named in recognition of the City's first Mayor, Arthur H. Olson.

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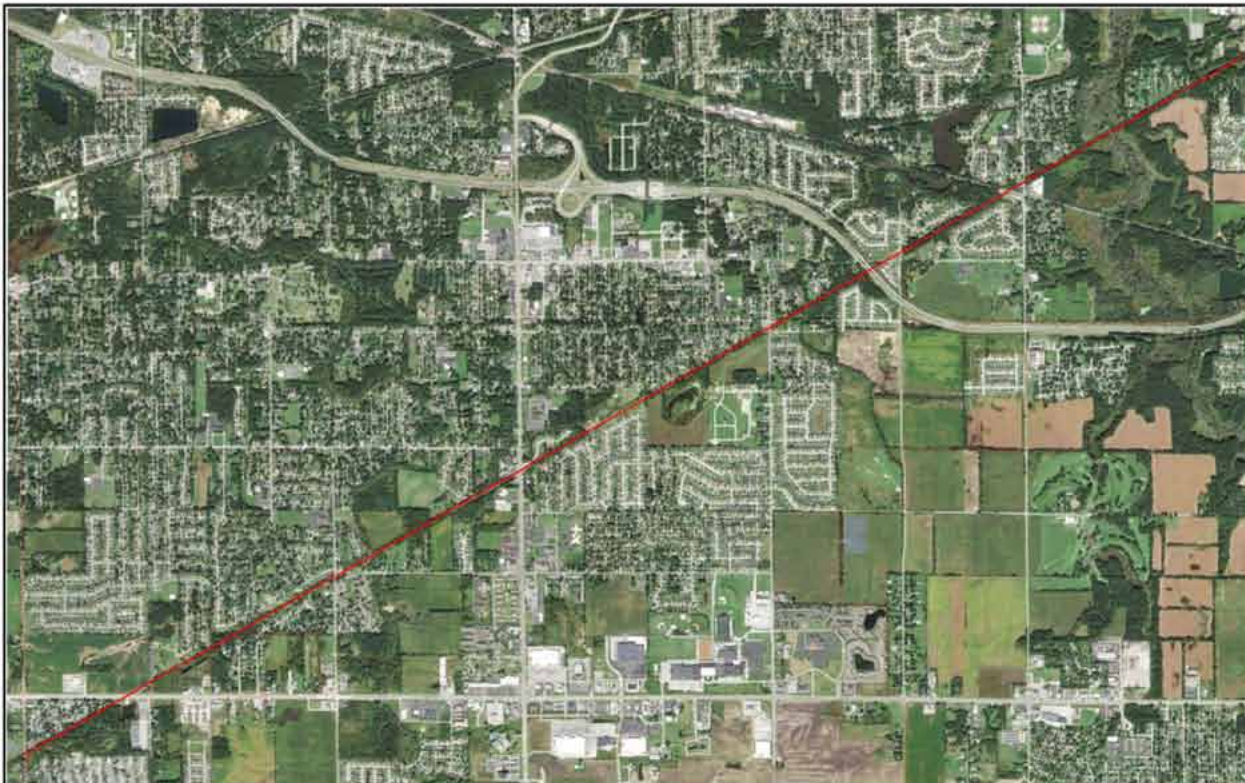
City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo



The Prairie Duneland Trail (1992)

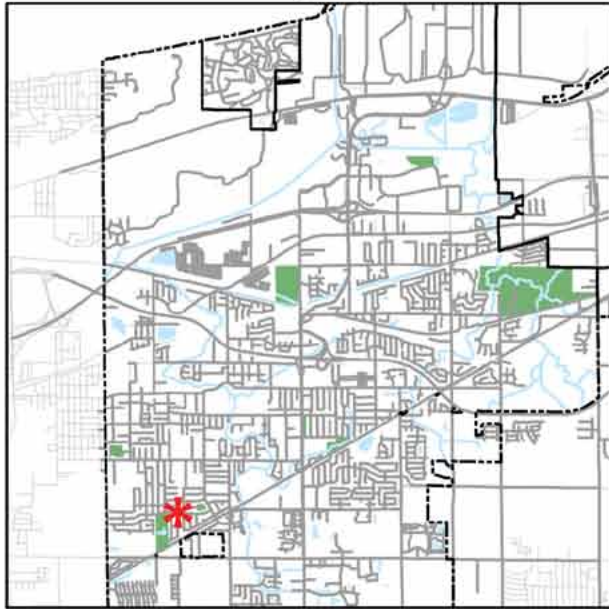
At 76 acres of land, the Prairie Duneland Trail was the first trail developed in Portage and is a recreational resource that attracts users from all over the region. Completed in 1996, the PDT is part of the Northwest Indiana Regional Bikeways Plan. The trail joins communities to the east and west across forty (40) miles, connecting Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties from Hammond to Michigan City, Indiana.

The Portage section of the PDT begins at County Line Road (on the west end) just south of Route 6 and stretches east for approximately 6 miles through the City of Portage to State Road 149. This paved pedestrian trail is great for all non-motorized recreational activities including walking, running, bicycling, rollerblading, sight-seeing, and bird watching.

Trail users can access the trail at various points throughout the city. Many visitors drive in from surrounding areas, to bike, skate, and walk along the path. Parking areas are located where the trail intersects with Willowcreek, Hamstrom, Samuelson, and McCool Roads. Additionally, visitors may park at any of the parks along the trail including Imagination Glen, Olson Park, and Countryside Park.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

City Map



Area Map



Perry Park (1970)
5499 Tulip Avenue

Located in southwest Portage, this 4 acre park provides residents with a picnic shelter, playground, an open ball field and play space. The park is approximately ¼ mile from Countryside Park and the Prairie Duneland Trail.

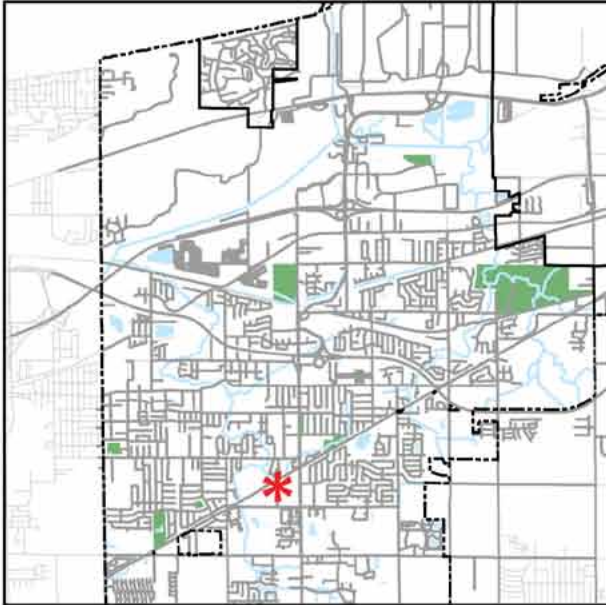
Aerial Photo



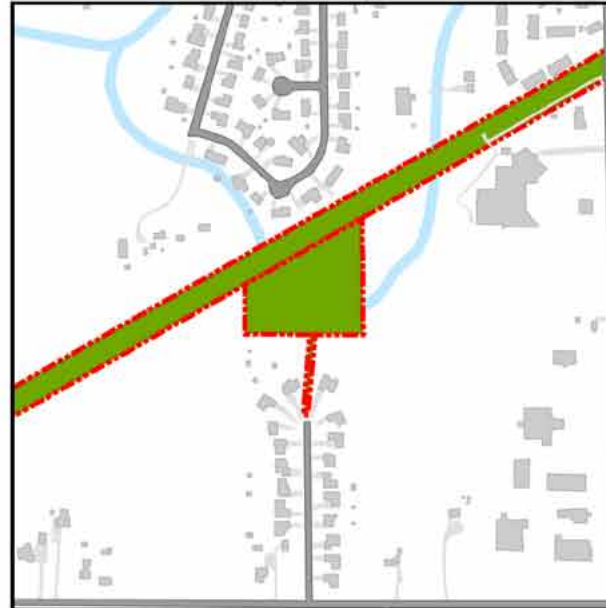
[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)



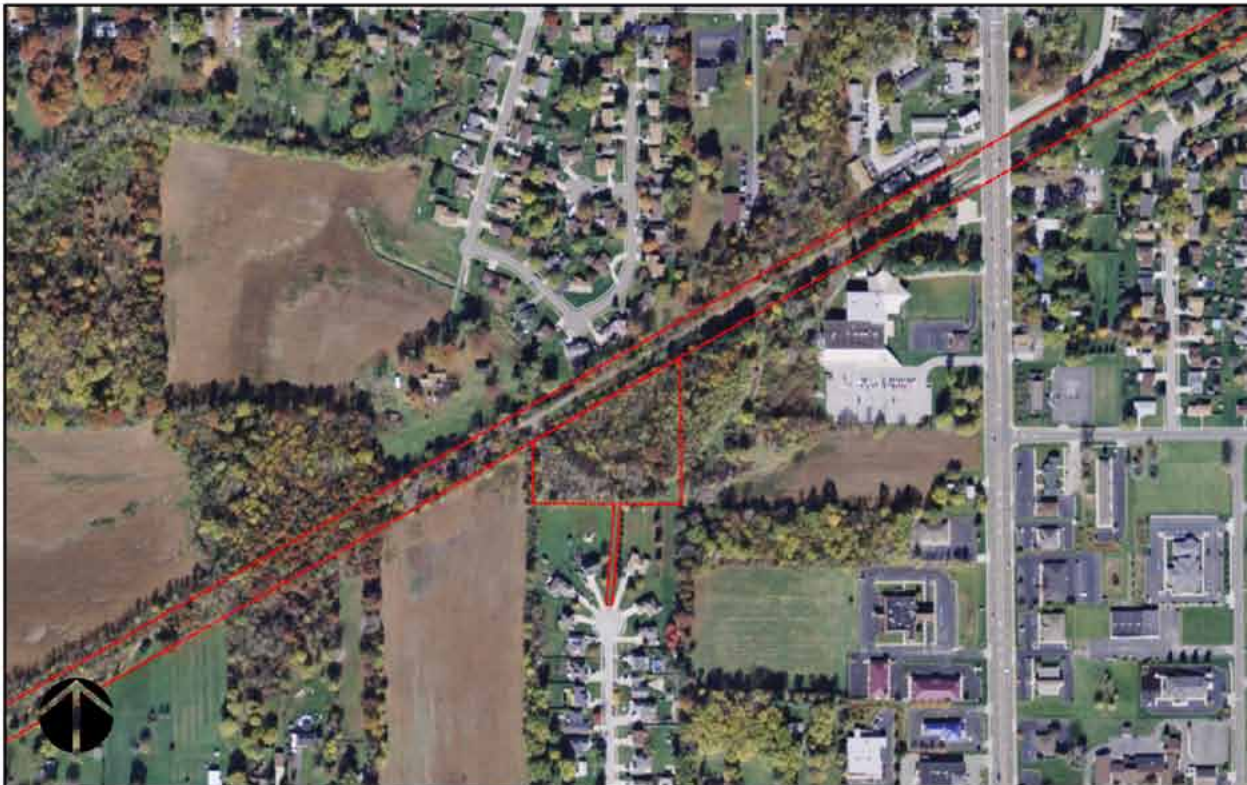
City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo

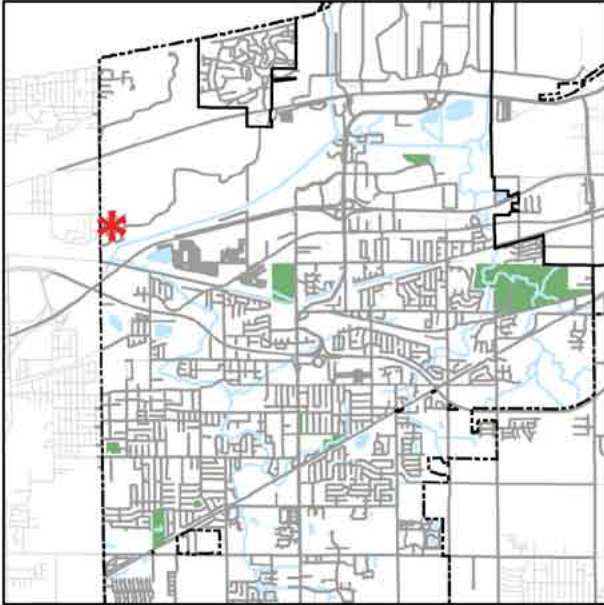


Providence Manor Park (1998)

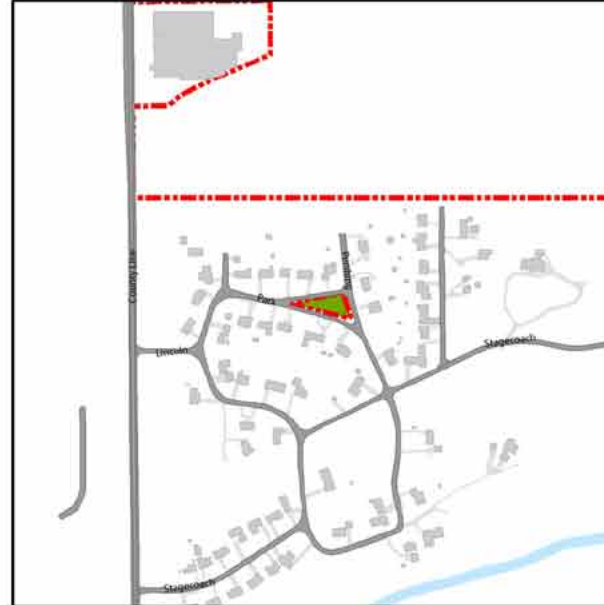
An undeveloped 5 acre park site that is accessible from the Prairie Duneland Trail. The park is about ¼ mile west of Willowcreek Road.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

City Map



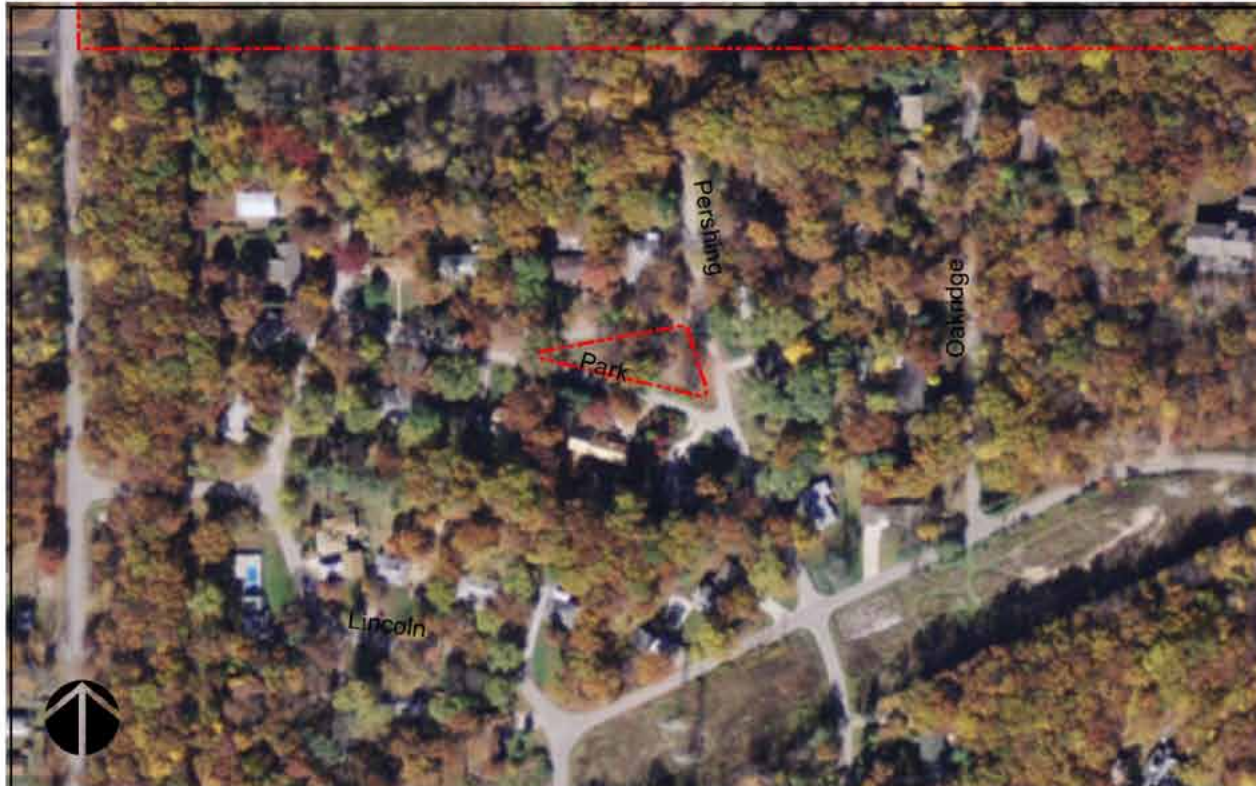
Area Map



Robert's Park (formerly Harbor Oaks Park)
(1970)
Park Avenue

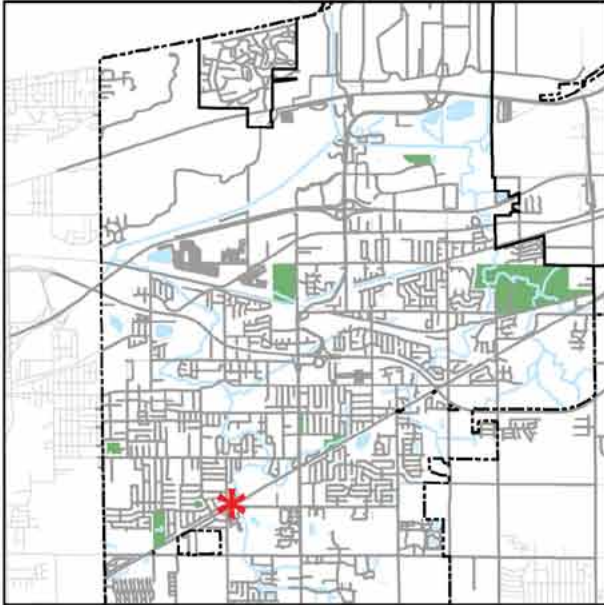
This 1 acre park serves northwest Portage and contains a playground and open play space.

Aerial Photo

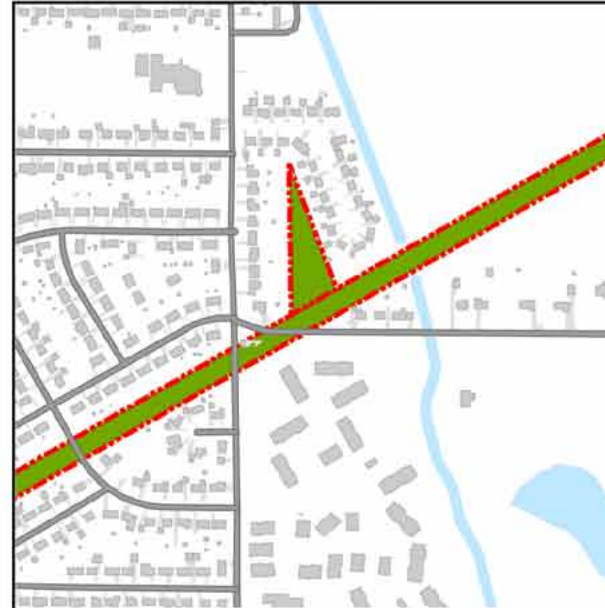


[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

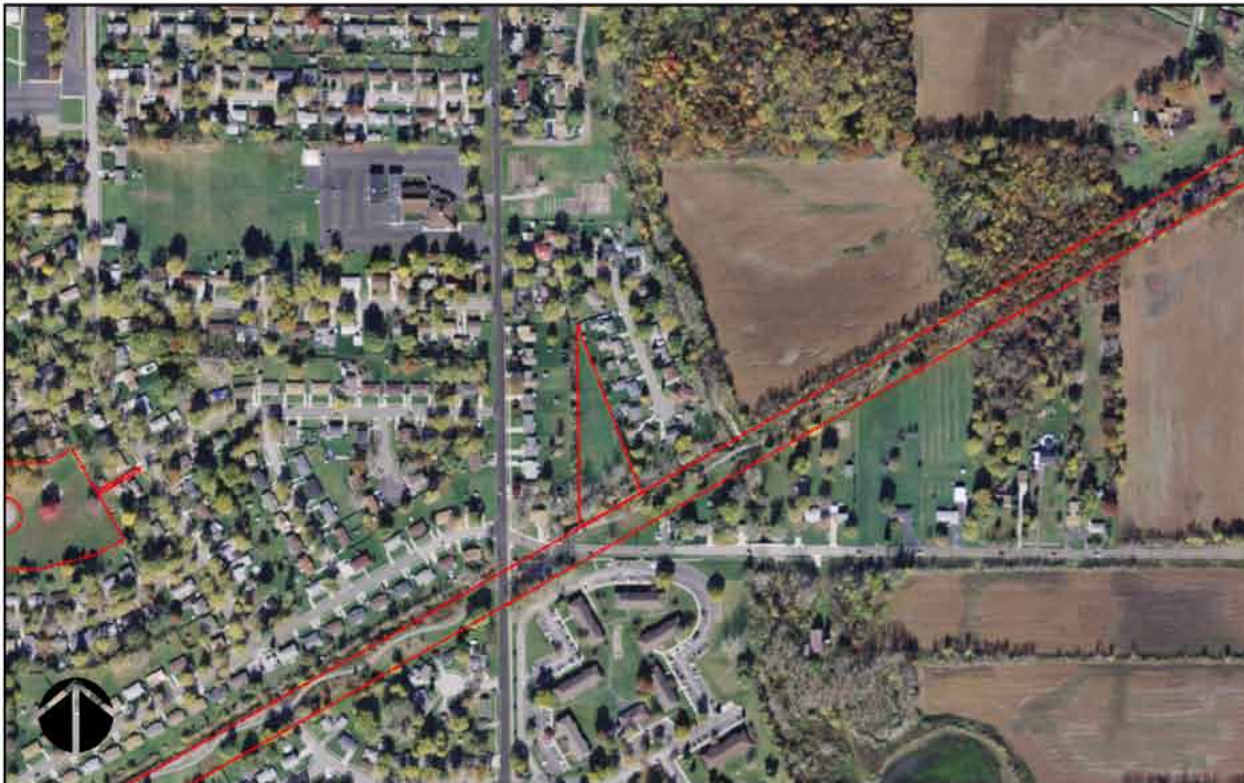
City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo

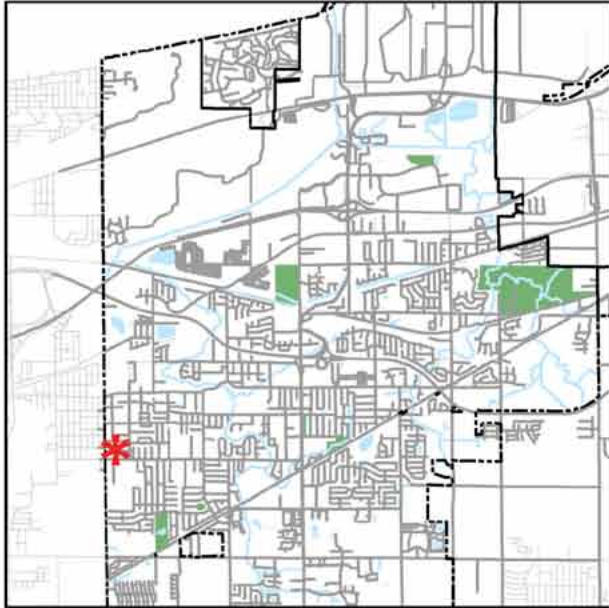


VIKING VILLAGE PARK (1999)

An undeveloped 2 acre park site adjacent to the Prairie Duneland Trail where it intersects with Lute Road.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)

City Map



Area Map



Wolfe Park (1988)
5100 Danube Avenue

This 10 acre park is located off of County Line Road in west central Portage. The park features picnic shelters, a playground, open ball field and open play space.

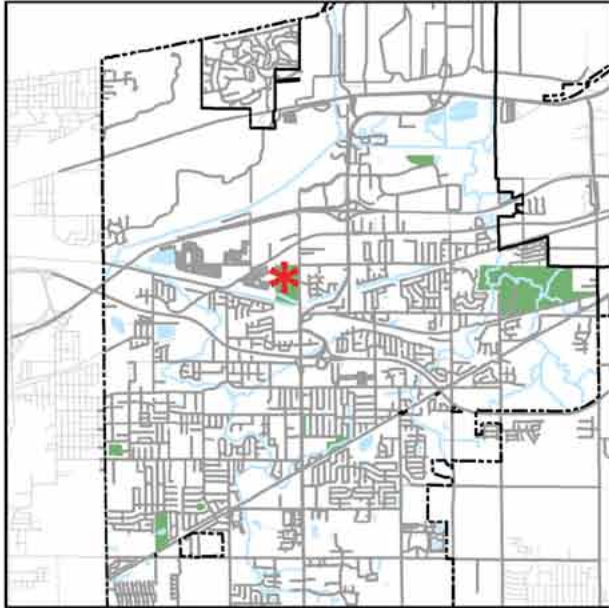
Aerial Photo



[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)



City Map



Area Map



Aerial Photo



Woodland Park (1968) 2100 Willowcreek Road

This 64 acre park is the center of the Portage Park System is located along Willowcreek Road and the Iron Horse Heritage Trail. The park has a community center featuring banquet halls, park administrative offices, a multi-purpose gymnasium, and a variety of meeting rooms as well as an abundance of resources for leisure and recreation participation. This picturesque wooded park is also home to the Portage Skatepark, two playgrounds, a central gazebo, picnic shelters, a paved walking trail amongst an Oakwood Savanna habitat, a boulder play area, and one of the department's newest and most popular additions, a leash free dog park.

[click here to go back to the interactive map](#)



-----ADA COMPLIANCE SECTION-----

City of Portage
ADA Compliance Transition Plan
Revised April 12, 2010
Updated October 13, 2016

Prepared by:
Sandra McDaniel; ADA Coordinator, City of Portage
City Hall
6070 Central Avenue
Portage, Indiana 46368
Office:219-762-4204
Email: smcdaniel@portage-in.com

INTRODUCTION

It is the policy of the City of Portage to not exclude individuals with disabilities from participation in or benefiting from the services, programs or activities of the City, the Utility Service Board or the Redevelopment Commission. The following Transition Plan has been developed and shall be implemented to outline structural and non-structural modifications that must be made to produce public facilities that are accessible to all people. This Transition Plan is to be used in conjunction with the Summary of Self Evaluation (Evaluation) dated October 13, 2016.

PORTAGE PARK DEPARTMENT FACILITIES

Woodland Park

Woodland Park is comprised of many different buildings and shelters. Sycamore and Oakwood Halls host many public and private events. Park offices and Oakwood Hall are located on the main level. Sycamore Hall is located on the upper level. These locations remain accessible to individuals with special needs from outside the building and a new elevator, installed in 2013, now connect the spaces from the inside of the building too. The Blue Spruce Room is now accessible from both the north and south entrances because of new sidewalks and ramps that have been installed. The Preschool building, the only remaining non-accessible building, is now closed to the public due to lack of enrollment in the program. Accessible parking stall striping and signage issues have been found throughout the site. Parking stall striping and signage will be addressed by the Park Department using department funds. Items to be completed by July 2017.

Front Parking Lot



Front Parking Lot



Sycamore Hall Parking



Rear Parking Lot



Blue Spruce North Parking Lot



Shelter Parking



Shelter Parking



Dog Park Parking



Playground Parking



Park Athletic Complexes

Many of the Parks sports programs are conducted at these facilities. Items to be addressed include parking stall striping and signage. Items to be completed by the Park Department using department funds. Items to be completed by July 2017.

Imagination Glen Soccer Complex



Imagination Glen BMX Complex



Imagination Glen Softball Complex



Other Park Facilities

The Portage Park System comprises of numerous neighborhood parks with historic monuments, playground facilities and/or access to hike/bike trails. All parking facilities are ADA compliant but acquire much needed maintenance. Areas of maintenance include accessible parking stall striping and signage. Items to be addressed by Park Department staff using department funds. Items to be completed by July 2017.

Countryside Park North



Countryside Park South



Founders Square



Frank Gilbert Park



Lakefront Park and Riverwalk



Trail Heads



Yacht Club

This building was demolished in the summer of 2013.

ADA SUMMARY OF SELF-EVALUATION

Revised April 12, 2010

Updated October 13, 2016

PORTAGE PARK DEPARTMENT FACILITIES

Woodland Park

Front Parking Lot

- Install van accessible parking space signage for appropriate stalls per City of Portage standard detail. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.
- Install accessible parking space signage per City of Portage standard detail where signs are currently missing. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.

Rear Parking Lot

- Install accessible parking space signage per City of Portage standard detail where signs are currently missing. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.

Blue Spruce Room North Parking Lot

- Install accessible parking space signage. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.

Sycamore Hall North Parking Stalls

- Restripe the faded parking stall striping or remove stalls. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Funds.
- Install accessible parking space signage if stalls are to remain. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Funds.

Shelter Parking

- Install accessible parking space signage per City of Portage standard detail where signs are currently missing. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.

Playground

- Restripe the faded parking stall striping. Repaved and striped summer 2015.
- Remove the accessible parking space signage from the parking space that is not painted as accessible. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Funds.

Dog Park

- Replace accessible parking space striping to match City of Portage standard detail. Work to be completed by Fall 2017 with Park Funds.

Imagination Glen

Soccer Complex

- Install accessible parking space signage per City of Portage standard detail where signs are currently missing. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.
- Install van accessible parking space signage per City of Portage standard detail. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.
- Restripe the faded parking stall striping. Work to be completed by Fall 2017 with Park Funds.

Frank Gilbert Jr. Memorial Park

- Install accessible parking space signage per City of Portage standard detail where signs are currently missing. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.

Countryside Park

Northside (Boulder Avenue)

- Install accessible parking space signage per City of Portage standard detail where signs are currently missing. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.

Southside (U.S. Route 6)

- Install accessible parking space signage per City of Portage standard detail where signs are currently missing. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.

Founders Square Park

- Remove Van Accessible parking space signage from those stalls that are not van accessible. Work to take place Spring 2017, no funds needed.

Prairie Duneland Trail Parking Lots

Airport Road

- Remove Van Accessible parking space signage from those stalls that are not van accessible. Work to take place Spring 2017, no funds needed.

McCool Road

- Stripe access isle for van accessible parking space north of existing accessible parking space. Work to take place by Fall 2017 with Park Funds.

Swanson Road

- Install accessible parking space signage per City of Portage standard detail where signs are currently missing. Work to take place Spring 2017 with Park Department Funds.



James E. Snyder

Mayor

Efficiency & Excellence

**NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION UNDER
THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AND
SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973**

Pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 (as amended) (42 U.S.C. §§12101 et seq.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Section 504) (29 U.S.C. §794) and implementing regulations found in 28 CFR 35 and 49 CFR 27, the City of Portage (Portage) does not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities in its policies or in the admission of, access to, treatment of or employment in its program, services or activities.

Upon request, Portage will use its best efforts to provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services to facilitate effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so that they have an equal opportunity to obtain the same result, to gain the same benefit or to reach the same level of achievement as provided to others. These efforts may include providing qualified sign language interpreters, brailled documents, and other products and services to make communications accessible to individuals with speech, hearing and vision impairments.

Upon request, Portage will make reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that qualified individuals with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy its programs and activities. Portage is not required to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Portage will not place a surcharge on qualified individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids, services or reasonable modifications of policies.

Inquires or complaints regarding Section 504 or the ADA should be directed to:

Sandra McDaniel
ADA Coordinator
6070 Central Avenue
Portage, IN 46368
(219)762-4204

Portage will investigate all complaints in accordance with the Portage's Title VI complaint process, which is also used for ADA complaints, and promptly take any remedial action deemed

COMPLIANCE NOTICE

POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the City of Portage to not exclude qualified individuals with disabilities from participation in or benefiting from the services, programs or activities of the City. Further, it is the policy of the City of Portage not to discriminate against a qualified individual with a disability in its job application procedures; the hiring, advancement or discharge of employees; employee compensation; job training and other terms, conditions and privileges of employment. It is the intention of the City of Portage to comply with all applicable requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Members of the public, including individuals with disabilities and groups representing individuals with disabilities, are encouraged to submit suggestions to City officials on how the City might better meet the needs of individuals with disabilities pursuant to its stated policy.

RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS THE ADA AFFORDS DISABLED PERSONS

Any individual who believes he or she has received treatment inconsistent with the policies set forth above or any other requirement of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) may take any of the following steps:

1. Call the City ADA Coordinator, Sandra McDaniel at (219) 762-4204, or stop by his office at 6070 Central Avenue, Portage, Indiana, to find out more about the municipal program, service, activity or employment practice that is the basis for concern. The ADA Coordinator can also provide information on how the City is attempting to comply with the ADA.
2. File a grievance with the ADA Coordinator. The ADA Coordinator will provide information on the City's procedure for handling grievances based on ADA rights.
3. Appeals of decisions of the ADA Coordinator are permitted under the grievance procedures. If the ADA Coordinator does not adequately respond to the grievance, to the individual's satisfaction, the grievance will be forwarded to the City's Board of Public Works and Safety for review and appropriate action.
4. Individuals have the right to initiate private lawsuits against the City as a means of compelling municipal compliance with the requirements of the ADA.
5. An individual may file a complaint with the U.S. Attorney General alleging discrimination in violation of the ADA, or after July 26, 1992, an individual may file a complaint alleging a violation of the ADA employment provisions with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The City of Portage has adopted an internal grievance procedure for prompt and equitable resolutions of complaints alleging any action prohibited by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any individual who feels he or she has received treatment inconsistent with the policies and provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may file a grievance with the City of Portage by following these steps:

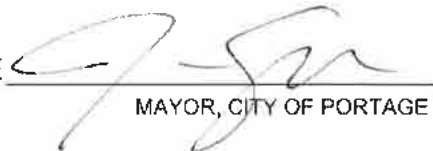
Complaints should be addressed to: Sandra McDaniel, ADA Coordinator, 6070 Central Avenue, Portage, Indiana, who has been designated to coordinate ADA compliance efforts.

1. A complaint should be filed in writing, contain the name and address of the person filing the complaint (the "complainant"), and describe in particularity the alleged violation of the American with Disabilities Act. Upon request, the Coordinator will provide to any individual a Grievance Form to facilitate filing of such a grievance.
2. A complaint should be filed within 30 days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged violation.
3. An investigation, as may be appropriate, shall follow a filing of a complaint. These rules contemplate informal but thorough investigations, affording all interested parties and their representatives, if any, an opportunity to submit evidence relevant to a complaint.
4. A written determination as to the validity of the complaint shall be issued by the ADA Coordinator and a copy forwarded to the complainant no later than 30 days after its filing. If the Coordinator determines that a violation exists, he or she shall also determine the manner in which the City will abate the violation.
5. The ADA Coordinator will maintain the files and records of the City of Portage relating to the complaints filed.
6. The complainant can request a reconsideration of the case where he or she is unsatisfied with the resolution of the grievance. The request for reconsideration should be made within 30 days after the written determination of the ADA Coordinator is issued.
7. The request for reconsideration should be made to the Board of Public Works and Safety by filing a written request for reconsideration with the Office of the Clerk Treasurer. The request for reconsideration should include the complainant's name and address, date the ADA Coordinator's determination was issued, and any additional information relevant to the complaint. To facilitate the individual's request for reconsideration, the complainant may obtain from the Office of the Clerk Treasurer a form suitable for this purpose.
8. A review of the ADA Coordinator's determination shall follow the filing of a request for reconsideration. Upon review, the Board of Public Works and Safety shall affirm, modify or overturn the decision of the ADA Coordinator.
9. A written decision as to the validity of the ADA Coordinator's determination shall be issued by the Board of Public Works and Safety and a copy forwarded to the complainant no later than 30 days after its filing.
10. The right of a person to a prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filed hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies.

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

The CITY OF PORTAGE, INDIANA (Applicant) has read the guidelines for compliance with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (As Amended); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (As Amended); with Disabilities Act of 1990 (As Amended) will comply with the applicable requirements of these Acts.

SIGNATURE



MAYOR, CITY OF PORTAGE

JAMES SNYDER

(PRINTED NAME)

DATE 5/9/17

-----FUTURE DEVELOPMENT/SPECIAL PROJECTS SECTION-----

Open Air South Pavilion- Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk

Portage Parks and Recreation and the City of Portage propose the conversion of a 50,000 sq. ft. Redevelopment Commission-owned building. The design includes an open air shelter portion with a capacity of several hundred, a kitchenette and public bathroom facilities for rent to the general public. The other portion of the building will be enclosed and may be used for a host of other parks related activities including storage and offices. The address of the building is 6090 U.S. Hwy 12, Portage, Indiana.



Skatepark

The skatepark is currently located at Woodland Park, 2100 Willowcreek Road. A new facility has been proposed to replace the popular yet aging structure. Several locations have been named for the new park including Imagination Glen and Countryside Park.



Dombey Lake Park

Dombey Lake is a site that Portage Parks and the city are looking at acquiring for the purposes of conversion into a park. The several acre sandmining pit/lake would be ideal for community resident swimming and small watersports activities. The small dune landscape and forested area has been proposed as a regional destination for ATV and small engine motorsports. Proposed shelters and restroom facilities offer a chance to take in the serene and pretty setting.





-----LEVELS OF SERVICE SECTION-----

LEVELS OF SERVICE

The well being of the people in a community is dependent upon educational, recreational, and social opportunities. To ensure that residents needs for most of their outdoor activities are met, the parks strive to analyze current needs and compare them to nationally agreed standards of use and park access. Hopefully, everyone who wants to enjoy access to good city parks and recreation will have the opportunity.

The intent of this section is to evaluate Portage's existing parks and recreational facilities and define a plan that will guide the city as it grows, ensuring quality parks and recreation become an integral part of that growth. The adequacy of park facilities in Portage is evaluated in three ways:

-in relation to population: Portage Parks facilities compared by national standards

-by classification: Parks are classified into different categories using National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) (a national trade organization) standards to determine Portage park sizes and the areas they serve for comparison to other parks systems in the country.

In relation to Population: Open Space

Traditional park area standards set by the NRPA recommend 10 acres of park land per 1,000 residents. With a current population of about 37,284 and approximately 560 acres of parks and recreational land, Portage has about 15 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents as of 2017, which is above the national standard. If we look forward to the projected 2022 population of 37,817, and to meet the Portage Recreation Impact Board's ideal of 14.9 acres/1000 residents, (outlined in the 2013 RIP assessment study) in 2022, the Parks would have to add just over 3 acres to the total parkland! The multi-use trail recommended amount per 1,600 residents is 1 mile. As of 2017 population figures, Portage had approximately 25 miles or 1.1 miles of trail/1600 residents. This is a surplus!

But, before we can assume that Portage meets or exceeds national standards for levels of service, we should also consider that only a part of the preserved open space in Portage serve as parks. The rest of the conservation areas are undeveloped or inaccessible wooded areas. Some considerations should be made to ensure that the useable/developed park space can serve all resident needs. Ensuring the master plan properly accounts for future growth, we can utilize the existing R.I.P. assessment study population projection of 37,086. Although, this projection was the assumed population of 2022 in the study, it accurately represents the more recent population projection offered by ESRI of 37,817. Therefore, we can expect that the levels of service haven't changed much since 2013, and service requirements will only increase slightly, considering the slight population increase of 500 residents by 2022... if current projections are correct.

We will continue to use the R.I.P. assessment figures as a gauge for present and future Levels of Service until the population dramatically changes or the national standard recommendations change.

In relation to Population: Buildings and Use, Facilities

The R.I.P. assessment from 2013 has already inventoried all the parks buildings and facilities, determined the amount of each, and whether there are enough of the facility type or whether there is a deficiency compared to other park systems around the country. We can continue to use this evaluation through 2022 because census figures anticipate slow- nill growth.

By Classification

Block Parks (Brookview, Community Acres, Robert's Park)

Block parks generally address specific recreation or open space needs. Typically these parks cover less than one acre and have a service radius of less than ¼ mile. Brookview Park, Community Acres, and Robert's Park all meet these criteria. These parks all have a small play structure, only Robert's Park lacks a shelter, and basketball court. All of these parks require on-street parking, there are no designated parking lots.

Neighborhood Parks (Frank Gilbert Memorial, Olson, Wolfe, Founders Square, and Perry Park)

Neighborhood parks are considered the basic unit of a community's park system and provide a recreational and social focus for residential areas. These parks provide space for informal active and passive recreational activities. The typical service radius for neighborhood parks is between ¼ and ½ mile. Neighborhood parks are between 5 and 10 acres. Of the total acreage, two to three acres should be relatively flat open space for informal play or sports.

Frank Gilbert Memorial, Olson, Wolfe, and Perry Park, all have relatively flat grassy expanses for play and multiple access points with dedicated parking lots, except Perry. Olson, Wolfe and Perry have playgrounds.

School Parks

School facilities can help to meet neighborhood park needs, particularly when located in areas not served by a city park. The playgrounds, open space, play fields and basketball courts at the schools often function as a neighborhood park and attract residents from the area.

Community Parks (Woodland, Countryside, Imagination Glen)

These types of parks typically include areas of diverse use and environmental quality. Such parks meet community-based recreation needs, may preserve significant natural areas and often include areas suited for intense recreational facilities. Typical criteria for community parks include enough space to accommodate activities associated with neighborhood parks, but with additional activity space. A special attraction that draws people from a larger area, such as a pond, sledding hill, and disc golf course as in Countryside Park. Trails such as those at Imagination Glen, or specialized sports complexes also at Imagination Glen. Community parks generally contain between 20 and 50 acres and serve a variety of needs. The typical service radius of a community park is approximately ½ mile to 3 mile.

Special Use Parks (Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk, Deer Trail Park)

These cover a broad range of facilities oriented toward a single use, including cultural or social sites and specialized facilities. Portage's lakefront is mainly a special use park, but additionally has walking/biking trails and education classroom.

Park Acres Inventory & Analysis

- ◆ This table analyzes the current level of service which is 15.09 acres/ 1000 persons.
- ◆ The RIF Advisory Committee desired the community level of service be adjusted to 14.90 acres / 1000 persons could be considered in order to maintain the current impact fee amount.
- ◆ Results: current deficiency of 0.00 acres and future need of an additional 57.41 acres.

LAND INVENTORY – CURRENT LEVEL OF SERVICE							
City Wide Analysis						Estimated 2012 and Projected Populations =	
						37,086	41,419
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Park Type	Typical Park Size (Acres)	Total Existing Acreage	Acres Standards / 1,000	Current Acreage Stds./1,000	Current Acreage Needs	2013 Surplus or Deficiency	2022 Needed if current deficiency IS met
Block Park	1 to 5	15.00	0.50	0.40	18.54	(3.54)	(5.71)
Neighborhood Park	4 to 15	84.00	3.50	2.53	129.80	(35.80)	(50.97)
Community Park	10 to 70	377.00	8.00	10.17	296.69	80.31	45.65
Special Park	0.5+	73.73	3.00	1.99	111.26	(37.53)	(50.53)
Total Surplus or Deficiency		559.73	15.00	15.09	556.29	3.43	(61.55)
<i>Data updated from the Park and Recreation Master Plan.</i>							
Using the Current Land Inventory as the Standard for Park Land and Open Space						the Acres Standard per 1,000 persons would be (includes current population) =	
						15.09	
LAND INVENTORY – COMMUNITY LEVEL OF SERVICE							
Portage Acres Standard					Populations =		2022 Pop.
					37,086	41,419	
I	J	K	L	M	N		
Park Type	Total Existing Acreage	Community Level of Service - Acres Standards / 1,000	2013 Acreage Needs	2013 Surplus or Deficiency	2022 Needed if current deficiency IS met		
Total Surplus or Deficiency		549.73	14.90	552.58	7.14	(57.41)	
Adjusted Master Plan's standard acres / 1,000 persons -----^							

Facility Level of Service

- This table analyzes the community level of service for all Recreation Components
- The identified Primary Top Priority components were Trails and Land.
- The Community Level of Service for these priorities were adjusted as follows:
 - Trails = 1 mile / 1600 persons
 - Acres = 14.90 acres / 1000 persons
- Results: There is no current deficiency of either component but a future need of 0.39 miles of trails and future need of an additional 57.41 acres.

FACILITY INVENTORY • LEVEL OF SERVICE • NEEDS													
City Wide Analysis (All Facilities)													
37,284 = Estimated Population 2017													
37,817 = Projected 2022 Pop.													
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
Facility	Portage Community Level of Service	Community Level of Service / 1,000 Pop.	Current Level of Service / 1,000 Pop.	Current Facilities in the Park Dept.*	Current Facilities within the Comm.*	Total Inventory of Facilities	Community Level of Service 2017 Population	2017 Surplus or Deficiency within Parks	Current Deficiencies (Community Level of Service)	2017 Surplus or deficiency (CLS) Factor All Facilities	Community Level of Service 2022 Population	2022 Needs if current deficiency IS met	2022 Needs (Community Level of Service)
Baseball Diamonds	1/3,000	0.33	0.00	0	9	9	12.36	(12.36)	12.36	(3.36)	13.81	(1.44)	1.44
Softball Diamonds	1/3,000	0.33	0.19	7	6	13	12.36	(5.36)	5.36	0.64	13.81	(1.44)	1.44
Football/Multi Purpose Fields	1/10,000	0.10	0.19	7	3	10	3.71	3.29	0.00	6.29	4.14	2.86	0.00
Soccer Fields	1/3,000	0.33	0.13	5	3	8	12.36	(7.36)	7.36	(4.36)	13.81	(1.44)	1.44
Tennis Courts	1/4,000	0.25	0.00	0	12	12	9.27	(9.27)	9.27	2.73	10.35	(1.08)	1.08
Running / Walking Track	1/20,000	0.05	0.00	0	1	1	1.85	(1.85)	1.85	(0.85)	2.07	(0.22)	0.22
Basketball Goals (outdoors)	1/1,500	0.67	0.16	6	25	31	24.72	(18.72)	18.72	6.28	27.61	(2.89)	2.89
Basketball Goals (indoors)	1/2,000	0.50	0.05	2	20	22	18.54	(16.54)	16.54	3.46	20.71	(2.17)	2.17
Volleyball Courts (outdoors)	1/10,000	0.10	0.03	1	0	1	3.71	(2.71)	2.71	(2.71)	4.14	(0.43)	0.43
Volleball Courts (indoors)	1/10,000	0.10	0.08	3	8	11	3.71	(0.71)	0.71	7.29	4.14	(0.43)	0.43
Skate/Bike Park (Neighborhood)	1/30,000	0.03	0.03	1	0	1	1.24	(0.24)	0.24	(0.24)	1.38	(0.14)	0.14
BMX Course (outdoors)	1/40,000	0.03	0.03	1	0	1	0.93	0.07	0.00	0.07	1.04	(0.04)	0.04
BMX Course (indoors)	1/100,000	0.01	0.00	0	0	0	0.37	(0.37)	0.37	(0.37)	0.41	(0.04)	0.04
Climbing / Challenge Elements	1/50,000	0.02	0.03	1	0	1	0.74	0.26	0.00	0.26	0.83	0.17	0.00
Park Shelters / Gazebos	1/1,800	0.56	0.51	19	1	20	20.60	(1.60)	1.60	(0.60)	23.01	(2.41)	2.41
Community Pavilions	1/40,000	0.03	0.00	0	0	0	0.93	(0.93)	0.93	(0.93)	1.04	(0.11)	0.11
Park Restrooms	1/3,000	0.33	0.16	6	0	6	12.36	(6.36)	6.36	(6.36)	13.81	(1.44)	1.44
Interpretive Center	1/50,000	0.02	0.00	0	0	0	0.74	(0.74)	0.74	(0.74)	0.83	(0.09)	0.09
Environmental Center	1/50,000	0.02	0.00	0	0	0	0.74	(0.74)	0.74	(0.74)	0.83	(0.09)	0.09
Outdoor Entertainment Amphitheatre	1/50,000	0.02	0.03	1	0	1	0.74	0.26	0.00	0.26	0.83	0.17	0.00
Recreation Centers (Neighborhood)	1/15,000	0.07	0.03	1	3	4	2.47	(1.47)	1.47	1.53	2.76	(0.29)	0.29
Playgrounds (Comm./Destination)	1/30,000	0.03	0.00	0	10	10	1.24	(1.24)	1.24	8.76	1.38	(0.14)	0.14
Playgrounds (Neighborhood)	1/4,000	0.25	0.30	11	0	11	9.27	1.73	0.00	1.73	10.35	0.65	0.00
Skating Rinks (hockey)	1/100,000	0.01	0.00	0	0	0	0.37	(0.37)	0.37	(0.37)	0.41	(0.04)	0.04
Skating Area (non-hockey)	1/30,000	0.03	0.00	0	0	0	1.24	(1.24)	1.24	(1.24)	1.38	(0.14)	0.14
Swim. Pool/ Aquatics Facilities	1/35,000	0.03	0.00	0	2	2	1.06	(1.06)	1.06	0.94	1.18	(0.12)	0.12
Sprayground / SplashPad	1/30,000	0.03	0.00	0	0	0	1.24	(1.24)	1.24	(1.24)	1.38	(0.14)	0.14
Golf Course 18-hole	1/50,000	0.02	0.00	0	1	1	0.74	(0.74)	0.74	0.26	0.83	(0.09)	0.09
Driving Range	1/50,000	0.02	0.00	0	2	2	0.74	(0.74)	0.74	1.26	0.83	(0.09)	0.09
Dog Park Area	1/30,000	0.03	0.03	1	0	1	1.24	(0.24)	0.24	(0.24)	1.38	(0.14)	0.14
Maintenance Facilities (Hub)	1/40,000	0.03	0.03	1	1	2	0.93	0.07	0.00	1.07	1.04	(0.04)	0.04
Maintenance Facilities (Satellite)	1/18,000	0.06	0.03	1	1	2	2.06	(1.06)	1.06	(0.06)	2.30	(0.24)	0.24
Multi-use Trails (miles)	1 mile /1,600	0.63	0.69	25.5	0	25.5	23.18	2.32	0.00	2.32	25.89	(0.39)	0.39
Park / Open Space Acres	see standards	14.90	15.09	549.727	0	549.73	552.58	7.14	0.00	7.14	617.14	(57.41)	57.41

* Current Facilities Data updated by the Park and Recreation Department.

** Current Facilities Inventory found within the community provided by schools, churches and other providers.

DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY:

Primary Top Priority A

Facility Needs - Costs

- ◆ This table analyzes the costs for current deficiencies and future needs of all of the recreation components.
- ◆ The total current deficiency costs = \$15,691,189
- ◆ The total future needs costs = \$3,475,460
- ◆ “A” Priorities Results: For Trails and Land. There is no current deficiency of either component but a future need of 0.39 miles of trails at a cost of \$96,661 and future need of an additional 57.41 acres at a cost of \$1,148,206.

Facility Needs – Costs							4/5/13
Town Wide Analysis		2013 Pop. = 37,086		2022 Pop. = 41,419			
Recreation Components	Current Park Facilities	Facility Costs (assuming on existing land)	Components to Remove Current Deficiencies	Costs to Remove Current Deficiencies	Components for 2022 Needs	Costs for 2022 Needs	
Baseball Diamonds	0	\$ 80,000	12.36	\$ 988,966	1.44	\$ 115,531	
Softball Diamonds	7	\$ 60,000	5.36	\$ 321,724	1.44	\$ 86,648	
Football/Multi Purpose Fields	7	\$ 45,000	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	
Soccer Fields	5	\$ 45,000	7.36	\$ 331,293	1.44	\$ 64,986	
Tennis Courts	0	\$ 45,000	9.27	\$ 417,220	1.08	\$ 48,740	
Running / Walking Track	0	\$ 100,000	1.85	\$ 185,431	0.22	\$ 21,662	
Basketball Goals (outdoors)	6	\$ 7,500	18.72	\$ 140,431	2.89	\$ 21,662	
Basketball Goals (indoors)	2	\$ 30,000	16.54	\$ 496,293	2.17	\$ 64,986	
Volleyball Courts (outdoors)	1	\$ 5,000	2.71	\$ 13,543	0.43	\$ 2,166	
Volleball Courts (indoors)	3	\$ 30,000	0.71	\$ 21,259	0.43	\$ 12,997	
Skate/Bike Park (Neighborhood)	1	\$ 100,000	0.24	\$ 23,621	0.14	\$ 14,441	
BMX Course (outdoors)	1	\$ 100,000	0.00	\$ -	0.04	\$ 3,547	
BMX Course (indoors)	0	\$ 400,000	0.37	\$ 148,345	0.04	\$ 17,330	
Climbing / Challenge Elements	1	\$ 30,000	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	
Park Shelters / Gazebos	19	\$ 30,000	1.60	\$ 48,104	2.41	\$ 72,207	
Community Pavilions	0	\$ 175,000	0.93	\$ 162,252	0.11	\$ 18,954	
Park Restrooms	6	\$ 85,000	6.36	\$ 540,776	1.44	\$ 122,752	
Interpretive Center	0	\$ 400,000	0.74	\$ 296,690	0.09	\$ 34,659	
Environmental Center	0	\$ 750,000	0.74	\$ 556,293	0.09	\$ 64,986	
Outdoor Entertainment Amphitheatre	1	\$ 50,000	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	
Recreation Centers (Neighborhood)	1	\$ 750,000	1.47	\$ 1,104,311	0.29	\$ 216,621	
Playgrounds (Comm./Destination)	0	\$ 100,000	1.24	\$ 123,621	0.14	\$ 14,441	
Playgrounds (Neighborhood)	11	\$ 45,000	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	
Skating Rinks (hockey)	0	\$ 2,500,000	0.37	\$ 927,155	0.04	\$ 108,310	
Skating Area (non-hockey)	0	\$ 300,000	1.24	\$ 370,862	0.14	\$ 43,324	
Swim. Pool/ Aquatics Facilities	0	\$ 3,500,000	1.06	\$ 3,708,621	0.12	\$ 433,242	
Sprayground / SplashPad	0	\$ 100,000	1.24	\$ 123,621	0.14	\$ 14,441	
Golf Course 18-hole	0	\$ 5,000,000	0.74	\$ 3,708,621	0.09	\$ 433,242	
Driving Range	0	\$ 750,000	0.74	\$ 556,293	0.09	\$ 64,986	
Dog Park Area	1	\$ 20,000	0.24	\$ 4,724	0.14	\$ 2,888	
Maintenance Facilities (Hub)	1	\$ 750,000	0.00	\$ -	0.04	\$ 26,599	
Maintenance Facilities (Satellite)	1	\$ 350,000	1.06	\$ 371,121	0.24	\$ 84,241	
Multi-use Trails (miles)	25.5	\$ 250,000	0.00	\$ -	0.39	\$ 96,661	
Park / Open Space Acres	559.7273	\$ 20,000	0.00	\$ -	57.41	\$ 1,148,206	
TOTALS				\$ 15,691,189		\$ 3,475,460	
Recreation Components coded by priority in considering which to apply to Recreation Impact Fees		Cost of Facilities Needed to Remove Current Deficiency (2013):		\$ 15,691,189			
		Cost of Facilities Needed to Accommodate Future Development (2022):		\$ 3,475,460			
				Total Facility Costs: \$ 19,166,649			
Applied Summary:				Current		2022 Pop.	
<i>Breakdown Applying the Recreation Components under each Priority</i>				Costs Needed to Remove Current Deficiencies		Costs Needed to Cover Future Needs	
"A" Priority Components:				\$ -		\$ 1,244,867	
"B" Priority Components:							
"C" Priority Components:							
TOTALS:				\$ -		\$ 1,244,867	

Levels of Service table : Suggested Organization of Park Sizes

based on 2017 Population estimate of 37,284 ESRI Recreation Expenditures Report (see addendum)

BLOCK PARKS

- Generally less than 1 acre
- Addresses limited, isolated or unique recreational or open space needs
- Service area of less than 1/4 mile
- Due to maintenance costs, most cities discourage miniparks.

Facility	Approximate size (Acres)	Playground Areas	Playing Equipments	Courts	Special Facilities
Brookview Park	0.43	small flat open space	all have swings, play structures	Brookview and Community Acres have basketball	all have shelters, except Robert's, benches
Community Acres Park	1.00				
Robert's Park	1.00				
Total Mini Park Area	2.43				
Acres per 1000 residents	0.07				

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- Basic unit of a park system, providing a recreational and social focus for residential areas.
- Offer informal active and passive recreation activities.
- Typical service radius of 0.5 mile if uninterrupted by barriers.
- Optimal size of 5 to 10 acres.
- 1 to 2 acres of neighborhood parks per 1,000 people.

Facility	Approximate size (Acres)	Playground Areas	Playing Equipments	Courts	Special Facilities
Frank Gilbert Memorial Park	5	limited flat open play areas	all have play structures except Gilbert	Wolfe and Perry have softball backstops	shelters, benches, bathrooms and pedestrian bridge at Olson, local heroes memorials at Gilbert. Founders has a splash pad, amphitheater, and coming soon ADA playground
Olson Memorial Park	15				
Wolfe Park	10				
Perry Park	4				
Founders Square	5				
Total Neighborhood Park	39				
Acres per 1000 residents	1.05				

COMMUNITY PARKS

- Generally 10 to 50 acres, typically 30 to 50 acres
- Typical service area of 0.5 to 3.0 miles
- Traditionally community park areas call for 5 to 8 acres per 1,000 residents
- Includes neighborhood park menu of facilities, but serves a larger purpose
- Meets community wide recreational needs, and includes special facilities
- May include special natural environments
- Often act as a major community image feature

Facility	Approximate size (Acres)	Playground Areas	Playing Equipments	Courts	Special Facilities
Imagination Glen	276	all have large playground areas	swings, play structures	2 basketball, 4 ball fields 12 soccer fields, 1 rugby field, 1 sand volleyball	shelters, community building and garden, Veteran's Memorial, museum, gazebo, dog park, benches, grills
Countryside	33				
Woodland	64				
Total Community Park	373				
Acres per 1000 residents	10.00				

SPECIAL PARKS

- Generally a specific use application

Facility	Approximate size (Acres)	Playground Areas	Playing Equipments	Courts	Special Facilities
Lakefront and Riverwalk	0.0	none	none	2 basketball, 4 ball fields 12 soccer fields, 1 rugby field, 1 sand volleyball	shelters, community building and garden, Veteran's Memorial, museum, gazebo, dog park, benches, grills
Deer Trail Park	0.0				
Total Community Park	0.0				
Acres per 1000 residents	0.0				

-----PARTNERSHIPS SECTION-----

Portage Parks Partner Programs

Music in the Park-

Trunk or Treat at Founders Scare

Senior Leaf Raking Day

Fourth of July Parade and Celebration

Christmas Holiday Parade and Celebration

Other Recreation Providers

The following is a partial list of other recreation providers in the City of Portage:

Portage Township YMCA - Aquatic programs through Portage High School pool, recreation center with workout equipment, a gymnasium, racquetball courts, youth and adult sports and wellness programs.

Porter County Boys & Girls Club - Gymnasium and recreation center for children. Youth programs offered such as soccer and basketball.

Portage Township Schools - playgrounds and athletic facilities (field house, sports fields, tennis courts) available to public while school not in session; some youth programs offered through athletic teams, in conjunction with Portage Parks & Recreation programs.

Portage Little League - youth baseball program

Portage Junior Miss - youth softball program

Portage Youth Basketball

Portage Soccer Club - youth travel soccer league

Portage Pop Warner - youth football program

Robbinhurst Golf Club and Driving Range - golf leagues and programs offered

Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk- A partnership between the City of Portage, Parks and Recreation Department and National Lakefront/National Parks Service

Other Park Agencies

Northwest Indiana is home to incredible recreational opportunities provided from the National Park Service as well as the State, local, county and township governments. Local organizations are also considered recreation providers within the City of Portage:

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

(Source: US Department of the Interior, National Park Service)

This Park is comprised of over 15,000 acres of dunes, oak savannas, swamps, bogs, marshes, prairies, rivers, and forests. It contains 15 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline spanning the distance from Gary to Michigan 85

City. Lake Michigan is part of the largest complex of freshwater lakes in the world. The national lakeshore's beaches are the park's most significant recreational resource.

Immediately inland from the beaches, sand dunes rise to almost 200 feet in a series of ridges, blowouts, and valleys. Extensive wetlands fill many depressions between the dune ridges. The national lakeshore preserves an important remnant of a once vast and unique environment, resulting from the retreat of the last great continental glacier some 14,000 years ago. The park landscape represents at least four major successive stages of historic Lake Michigan shorelines, making it one of the most extensive geologic records of one of the world's largest, fresh water bodies.

Indiana DNR - Indiana Dunes State Park

(Source: Indiana DNR)

The park consists of 2,182 acres of primitive, beautiful, historical, and unique Hoosier landscape. It lies in Porter County and includes more than three miles of Lake Michigan's south shore. Diversified flora and fauna of the Midwest can be found in its 1,800 wooded acres. Other areas made up of drifting sand hills, peculiar to the dunes region. The park is owned and managed by the State of Indiana, Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Indiana DNR – Fish and Wildlife

Salt Creek Fish and Wildlife Area located on HWY 6, east of HWY149

Porter County Parks: Sunset Hill Farm County Park

(Source: Porter County Parks & Recreation Department)

Sunset Hill Farm County Park is a beautiful 238-acre park complete with prairie lands, ponds and wooded hiking trails. The front of the park is utilized for festivals and events while the back is left for nature to take its course. Many students throughout Porter County have participated in our education programs, which help to promote a respect and understanding for earth's natural resources.

Portage Public Marina

Located on Lake Michigan, the Portage Public Marina is located on the Burns Portage Waterway in Porter County. The Marina facilitates boat launching onto Lake Michigan and fishing from the pier. It is a central feature of the north side development plan for Portage.

Other Recreation Providers

Portage Township YMCA – Aquatic programs through Portage High School pool, recreation center with workout equipment, a gymnasium, racquetball courts, youth and adult sports and wellness programs.

Porter County Boys & Girls Club – Gymnasium and recreation center for children. Youth programs offered such as soccer and basketball.

Portage Township Schools – playgrounds and athletic facilities (field house, sports fields, tennis courts) available to public while school not in session; some youth programs offered through athletic teams, in conjunction with Portage Parks & Recreation programs.

Portage Little League – Youth baseball program open to the public

Portage Junior Miss – Youth softball program open to the public

Portage Youth Basketball – Youth basketball program open to the public

Portage Pop Warner – Youth football program open to the public

Portage Porpoise Swim Club – Youth competitive swim program

Robbinhurst Golf Club and Driving Range – Golf leagues and programs offered.

Portage Township Parks Department

Portage Township Trustees office includes a Park Department that manages three parks, a Senior Center, cemetery and a baseball complex. The City of Portage is located within Portage Township.

Field of Dreams

402 West 700 North | South Haven

A favorite neighborhood park, Field of Dreams is 24 acres of developed, wooded and open land. Park amenities include new playground equipment, 1/2 court basketball, ice rink in the winter, three softball fields built to accommodate players of all ages, and lots of open green space.

Haven Hollow

330 West 700 North | South Haven

Beautiful 40+ acres of natural and developed park land, Haven Hollow Park is host to active and passive recreation, with a new large playground area, pond, two NSA sanctioned softball fields, three shelters, 1/3 mile walking loop around the ball fields, and open green space.

Jim H. Lynch Park

367 Shrine Court | South Haven

Jim H. Lynch Park, developed in 2014, for Coventry Subdivision homeowner's who requested a family-friendly area for neighborhood residents. Park amenities include a picnic area and playground for children 10 years and younger. Dedicated in memory of Jim H. Lynch, a lifelong public servant and humanitarian.

Evergreen Baseball Fields

Two baseball fields located near Willowcreek Middle School and Willowcreek Rd. were recently acquired from Portage Little League to be improved for use.

Town of Ogden Dunes

The town of Ogden Dunes is a small lakeside residential community located in Porter County, Indiana. This beach community is known for its coastal Lake Michigan ambiance nestled within the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Ogden Dunes is named for Francis A. Ogden, who owned the land before his death in 1914. The town was incorporated in 1925 and now accommodates approximately 600 homes and has a population of 1,200 residents. During the 1920's Ogden Dunes was the home of a large ski jump which was used for training Olympic ski jumpers. The hilly landscape continues to be used for training local athletes today. Ogden Dunes is the birthplace of the "Save the Dunes Council." This group of distinguished individuals dedicated their efforts to preserving the environment of Northwest Indiana. A variety of park properties exist: Sand Track Walking Trail, Kratz Memorial Field, Long Lake Park, Nelson Reck Park.

Portage Park Foundation

The Portage Park Foundation is a registered 501(c)3 Not for Profit Organization which is charged with supporting and assisting the property acquisition arms of the Portage Department of Parks and Recreation. It is the mission of the Portage Parks and Recreation Foundation to assist the Portage Parks and Recreation Department in accomplishing their goals to acquire new park lands and the betterment of all city parks. Foundation accomplishments include: acquisition of land, development of a scholarship fund, the purchase and installation of new playground equipment and park signage.

Additionally, the Park Foundation assists in the procurement of State and Federal Grant monies by leveraging the properties that are owned by the foundation to provide matching funds for these grants.

The Park Foundation solicits donations and assistance thru the following methods:

- Annual Monetary Donations: Annual, tax-deductible donations from individuals, families, businesses, organizations, and other foundations provide a means for everyone to invest in the future.
- Gifts of Real Estate: Gifts of real estate, either for investment purposes, or for future use by the Parks and Recreation Department, help make sure enough land is available to meet Portage's needs into the future.
- Foundation Named as a Beneficiary: Naming the Parks and Recreation Foundation as the beneficiary or contingent beneficiary on your life insurance policies and annuities will provide future funding for programs and facilities.
- Gifts in a Will or Trust: By remembering the foundation in a will or trust citizens provide additional opportunities for facilities and programs.
- Gift of Securities & Annuities: Provide additional funding for parks expansion.
- Gifts, Memorials or Tributes: Name the Foundation to receive Memorials and Tributes to recognize and honor deceased friends and loved ones, especially those who have taken great pleasure in the parks and recreation programs. These gifts can be given as presents to individuals or for the special days and events in their lives.

Portage Park Foundation Board Members:

Randy Wilkening
Karen Tallian
John Ryan
Katrina Spence
Shannon Burhans
Lori Monahan
Paul Ciesielski
Pat Bryan
Mark Miller
Don Glenn
Jenny Orsburn (Park Department Superintendent)
Lori Wilkie (Park Department Assistant Superintendent)

-----ADDENDUM SECTION-----

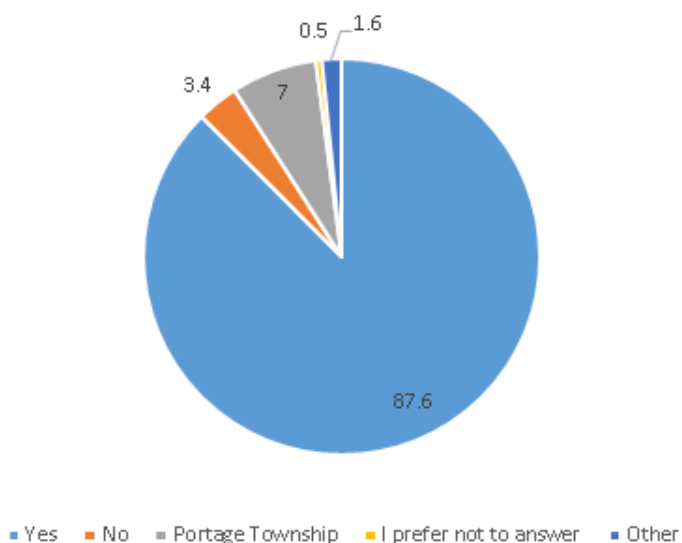
-----PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SECTION-----

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SURVEY

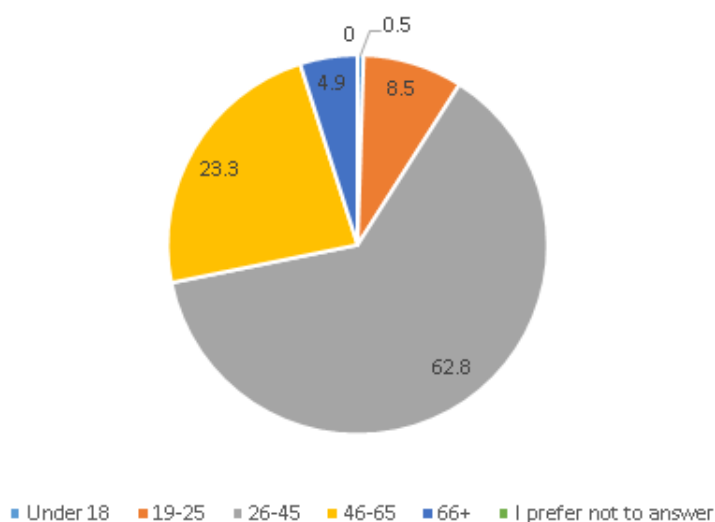
Public and stakeholder input was collected via monthly Park Board meetings (minutes), a public Open House, interviews with third grade students, a random community online survey and a stakeholder survey. We hired student interns to develop the survey questions and interview questions for the Open House. The Park Board meetings held every month included dedicated time on the agenda to discuss the Master Plan. We held a Public Open House on July 18th, 2016. The online survey (posted on our website) was open from June to September, announced at City Council meetings, Park Board meetings, on social media and in newspaper interviews for both the NW IN Times and Post Tribune. We received over 400 responses online and compiled all of the data to create the Action Plan.

We utilized GoogleDocs as the survey program. Public Survey questions and results are included below:

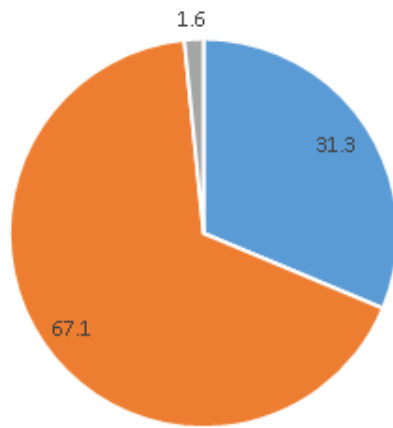
Are you a Portage resident?



What is your age?

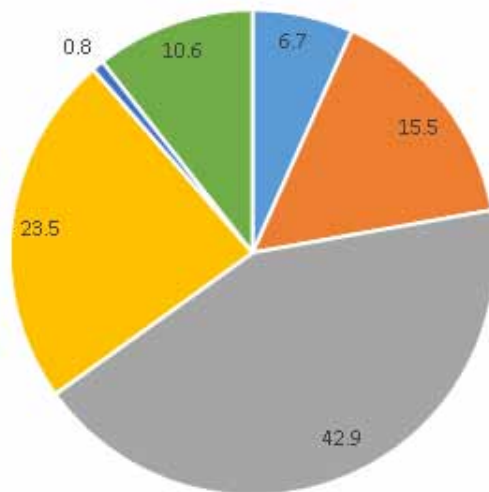


What is your gender?



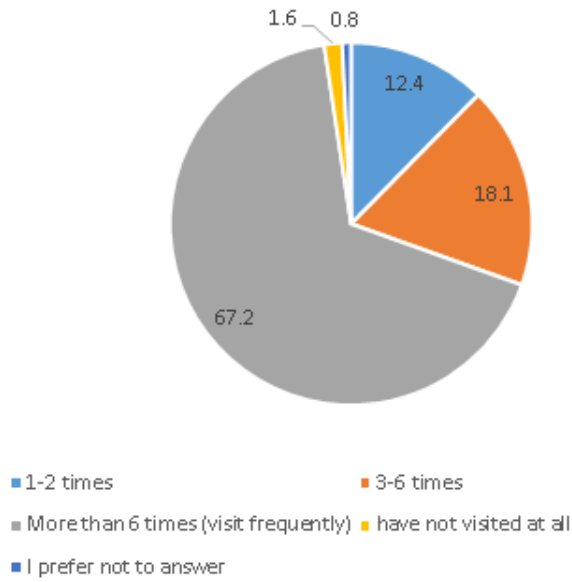
■ Male ■ Female ■ I prefer not to answer

Which category describes your household income?

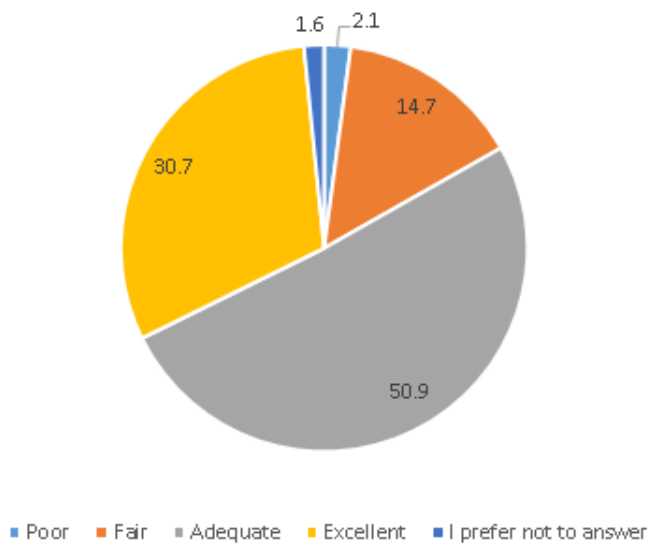


■ Less than 30,000 ■ 30,000-49,999 ■ 50,000-99,999
■ 100,000-249,000 ■ 250,000 or more ■ I prefer not to answer

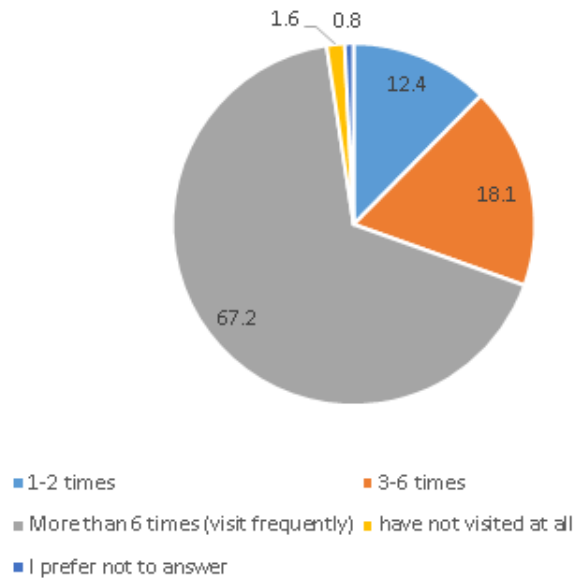
Within the past year, how often have you visited parks or park facilities in Portage?



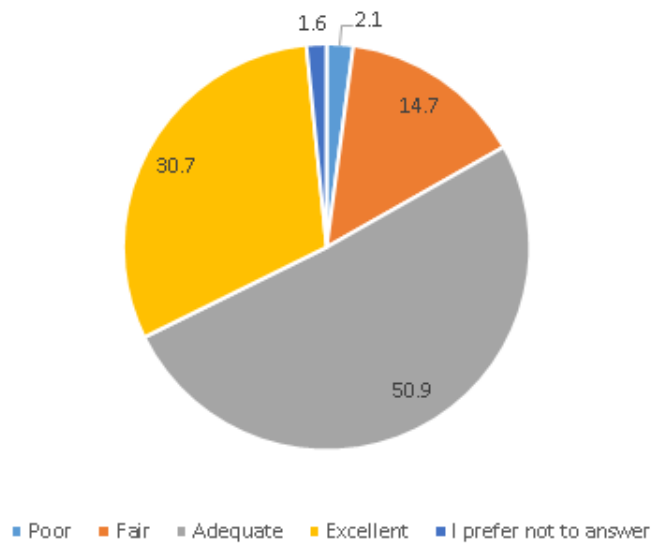
How would rate operation and maintenance of the parks and facilities you visited?



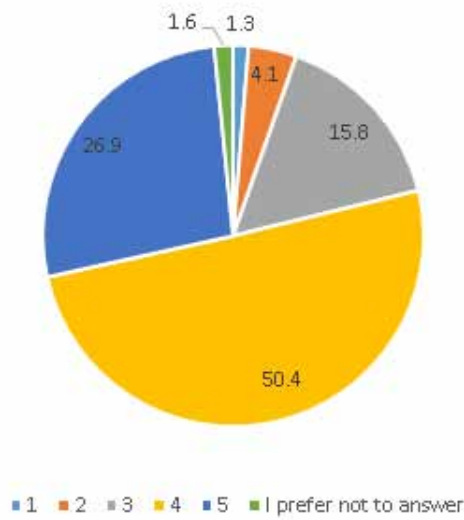
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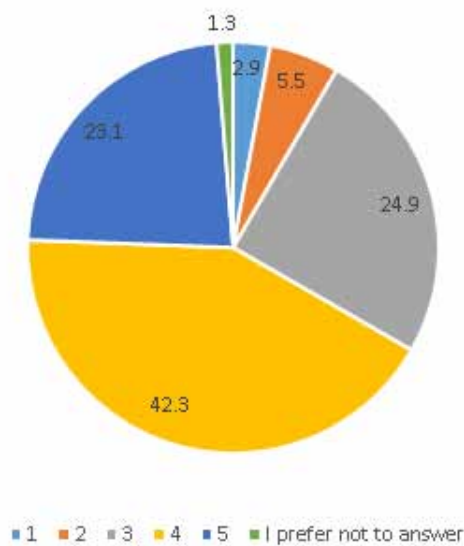
How would rate operation and maintenance of the parks and facilities you visited?



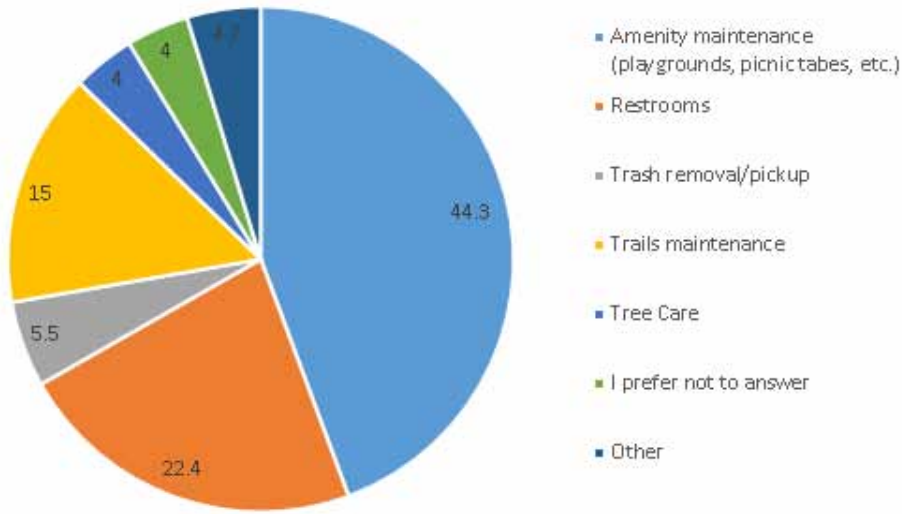
On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rank the cleanliness of the last Portage parks facility you visited?



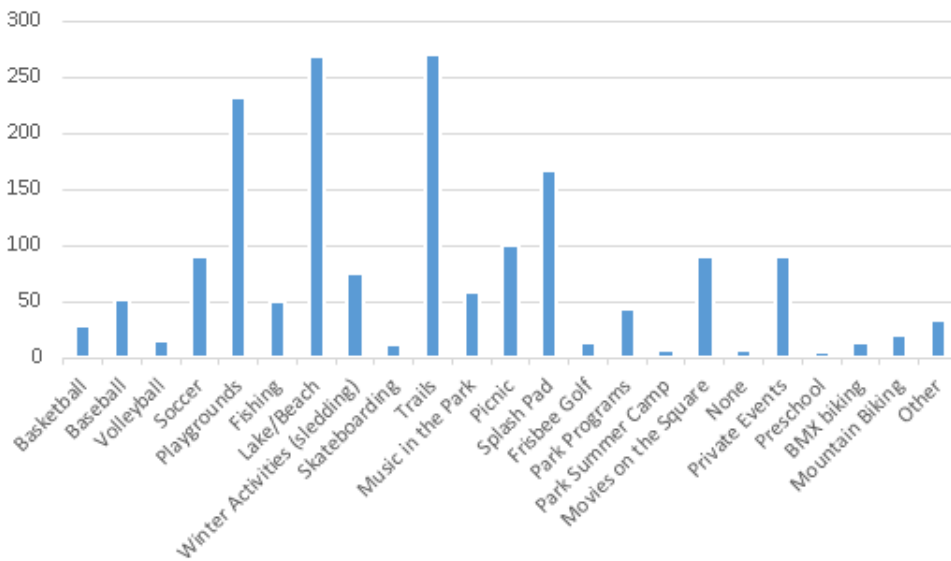
On a scale of 1 to 5, how aesthetically pleasing was the last Portage parks facility you visited?

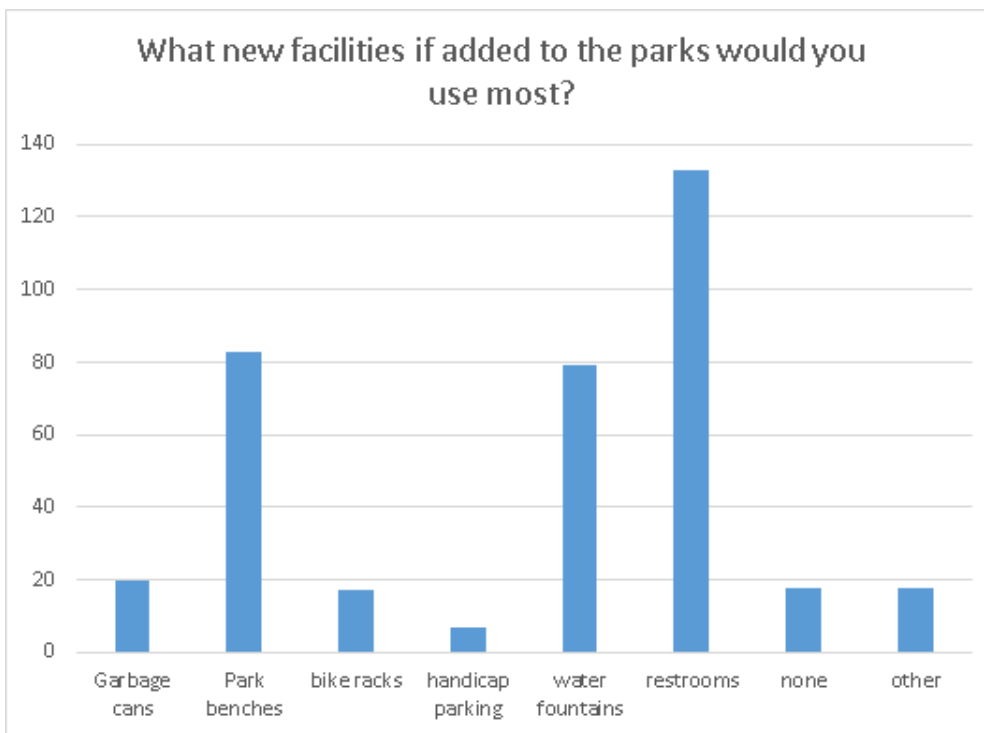


What category of maintenance would be most useful for all of the parks?



Choose all of the activities you participated in within the last 6 months





Stakeholders invited to take Survey:

Stakeholder Survey Questions:

- What organization do you represent?
- What are the reasons your organization would visit Portage's parks? (Check all that apply)
- Which parks does your organization visit most? (Check all that apply)
- What park amenities are needed in the park system to better serve your organization?
- What programs would you like to see offered by the Parks Department? (Check all that apply)
- What does your organization believe the Parks Department should focus on in the next 5 years?
- What other suggestions do you have to improve the conditions of the parks for your organization?

Open House Interview Questions:

2017 - 2021 Park Master Plan Interview Questions

- Which park do you enjoy the most? Please elaborate.
- What is your favorite part of the park system? Parks, programs, etc. Please elaborate.
- What are the reasons you visit Portage parks most often?
- How can we encourage more athletes/sports to use the parks system?
- What services or equipment do you think the Portage Parks Department needs to improve their functionality?
- What activities do you think are needed at the parks?
- Are the current services (bathrooms, fountains, ect.) working well at the parks? If not, please elaborate.
- How can the parks attract more visitors?
- How can the parks look more appealing?
- Do you believe the parks feel safe? Please elaborate.
- What other suggestions do you have to improve the conditions and enjoyability of the parks?

ESRI table showing estimated spending on recreation in the Portage area



Recreation Expenditures

Portage City, IN
 Portage City, IN (1861092)
 Geography: Place

Prepared by Esri

Demographic Summary		2017	2022
Population		37,284	37,817
Households		14,052	14,200
Families		9,724	9,770
Median Age		38.1	38.6
Median Household Income		\$54,091	\$60,594
	Spending Potential Index	Average Amount Spent	Total
Tv/Video/Audio	84	\$1,079.61	\$15,170,704
Cable & Satellite Television Services	85	\$804.78	\$11,308,811
Televisions & Video	84	\$199.41	\$2,802,072
Audio	81	\$72.18	\$1,014,341
Rental of TV/VCR/Radio/Sound Equipment	86	\$1.17	\$16,501
Repair of TV/Radio/Sound Equipment	78	\$2.06	\$28,979
Entertainment/Recreation Fees and Admissions	79	\$505.62	\$7,104,923
Tickets to Theatre/Operas/Concerts	78	\$46.22	\$649,544
Tickets to Movies/Museums/Parks	80	\$61.73	\$867,419
Admission to Sporting Events, excl.Trips	83	\$46.25	\$649,879
Fees for Participant Sports, excl.Trips	84	\$82.98	\$1,166,030
Fees for Recreational Lessons	76	\$101.72	\$1,429,332
Membership Fees for Social/Recreation/Civic Clubs	79	\$166.03	\$2,332,996
Dating Services	85	\$0.69	\$9,723
Toys/Games/Crafts/Hobbies	85	\$103.00	\$1,447,425
Toys/Games/Arts/Crafts/Tricycles	85	\$89.65	\$1,259,820
Playground Equipment	84	\$3.85	\$54,049
Play Arcade Pinball/Video Games	87	\$2.18	\$30,622
Online Entertainment and Games	82	\$3.63	\$50,951
Stamp & Coin Collecting	92	\$3.70	\$51,983
Recreational Vehicles and Fees	85	\$86.98	\$1,222,221
Docking and Landing Fees for Boats and Planes	83	\$8.86	\$124,513
Camp Fees	82	\$26.59	\$373,693
Payments on Boats/Trailers/Campers/RVs	90	\$37.44	\$526,056
Rental of RVs or Boats	80	\$14.09	\$197,959
Sports, Recreation and Exercise Equipment	83	\$141.83	\$1,993,004
Exercise Equipment and Gear, Game Tables	83	\$49.67	\$697,973
Bicycles	79	\$22.23	\$312,408
Camping Equipment	86	\$14.13	\$198,601
Hunting and Fishing Equipment	86	\$36.39	\$511,394
Winter Sports Equipment	72	\$4.28	\$60,210
Water Sports Equipment	78	\$4.41	\$61,988
Other Sports Equipment	86	\$9.04	\$127,038
Rental/Repair of Sports/Recreation/Exercise Equipment	76	\$1.66	\$23,392
Photographic Equipment and Supplies	83	\$46.05	\$647,142
Film	88	\$0.85	\$11,995
Film Processing	80	\$6.23	\$87,476
Photographic Equipment	81	\$18.98	\$266,728
Photographer Fees/Other Supplies & Equip Rental/Repair	85	\$19.99	\$280,943
Reading	83	\$103.82	\$1,458,827
Magazine/Newspaper Subscriptions	83	\$34.72	\$487,829
Magazine/Newspaper Single Copies	81	\$7.55	\$106,079
Books	81	\$32.48	\$456,349
Digital Book Readers	86	\$29.08	\$408,570

Data Note: The Spending Potential Index (SPI) is household-based, and represents the amount spent for a product or service relative to a national average of 100. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: Esri forecasts for 2017 and 2022; Consumer Spending data are derived from the 2014 and 2015 Consumer Expenditure Surveys, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

July 10, 2017

Portage Parks Department

Park Bond Project Summary



December 6, 2016

Authored by: Jenny Orsburn, Superintendent

Portage Parks Department

Park Bond Project Summary

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 36-10-3, as amended (the “Act”), the Park and Recreation Board (the “Park Board”) of the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City of Portage, Porter County, Indiana (the “Park District”), has determined to issue special taxing district bonds of the District, in one (1) or more series, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,500,000) (the “Bonds”) to finance the construction, acquisition, renovation, installation and equipping in the Park District of any or all or any portion of the following: (1) improvements at the Woodland Park Community Center; (2) improvements at Countryside Park; (3) improvements at Imagination Glen; (4) improvements at Frank Gilbert, Jr., Memorial Park; (5) improvements at Olson Park; (6) improvements at Wolfe Park; (7) improvements at Perry Park; (8) improvements at Roberts Park; (9) equipment, including a utility vehicle and mower, for use at the District’s parks; (10) any other related improvements thereto; and (11) expenses incurred in connection with or on account of the issuance of the Bonds (collectively, the “Project”).

Total Bond Issuance: \$3,537,991.60

Bond Issuance Expenses: \$146,744.09

PROJECTS

Woodland Park Community Center.....Cost: \$2,134,563.42

- Replacement of windows and entryway doors
- Replace interior lighting with energy efficient LED lights
- Repair the roof on the Sycamore Hall section
- Reconstruct the plaza, concrete removal, soft scape landscaping, and lighting
- The Sycamore Hall entrance on the north side of the facility
 - Changed to Oakwood lobby entrance
- Sycamore kitchen update – cabinets, freezer, lighting, doors, entrance
- Screening of the service area and generator units, create a dedicated service area drive and modify the vehicular driveway to the parking area on the north
 - Changed to Oakwood Hall lobby entrance
- Park wide exterior lighting – consistent elements
- Park wide signage – consistent elements
- Security camera system – outdoor

Woodland Park Community Center cont'd

- Improve drainage and add gutters where needed on Community Center building and Preschool
- Replace the north concrete deck on Blue Spruce Building and add ADA ramp to Blue Spruce Parking lot
- Add common area furniture to Sycamore Hall
 - Changed to new seating for halls
 - Furniture for fireplace sitting room
- Replace Oakwood Hall ceiling
- Replace Oakwood Hall flooring
- Remodel Oakwood Hall bathrooms
- Replace Oakwood Hall lighting fixtures
- Construction Management
- Paving
- Dog Park Improvements

Countryside Park – Barn and former Museum.....Cost: \$782,772.39

- Water and sewer connections
- Restrooms
- Heating and air conditioning
- Electrical and lighting upgrades
- Gazebo or shelter
 - Shelter remodeled
- Exterior lighting
- Wooded area understory vegetation removal for creation of new trail system
- Elevator/stair addition provides for upstairs access
- Walking trail – paved and soft surface
- Remodel former museum
 - Kitchen, lighting, paint, doors, windows, garage door
- Construction Management
- Flooring
- Interior wall finishes
- Security camera system
- New west side entrance door

Planned for 2017-2020

- ✓ New north access to deck overlook connected to fishing platform
- ✓ Landscaping with lighting and walkways

Imagination Glen.....Cost: \$280,781.22

Imagination Glen West

- Reconfiguring the entrance to meet with Portage Ave.
- Facility signage
- Pave the back parking lot add fencing, connector to shelter, lighting
- Update lighting fixtures
- Add trail connection to Iron Horse Heritage Trail

Imagination Glen East

- Pave access road

Planned for 2017-2020

- ✓ Repair access road

Frank Gilbert Jr. Memorial Park.....Cost: \$86,400

- Replace wrought iron fence
- Repair sign

Olson Park.....Cost: \$11,616

- Paint and lighting upgrades at Trail shelter
- Installation of fencing
- New signs (Park Foundation funded)

Planned for 2017-2020

- ✓ Remodel restrooms on Trail

Prairie Duneland Trail.....Cost: \$8,850

- Trailhead shelters remodel

Other Park projects to be completed 2017 – 2020

Wolfe Park

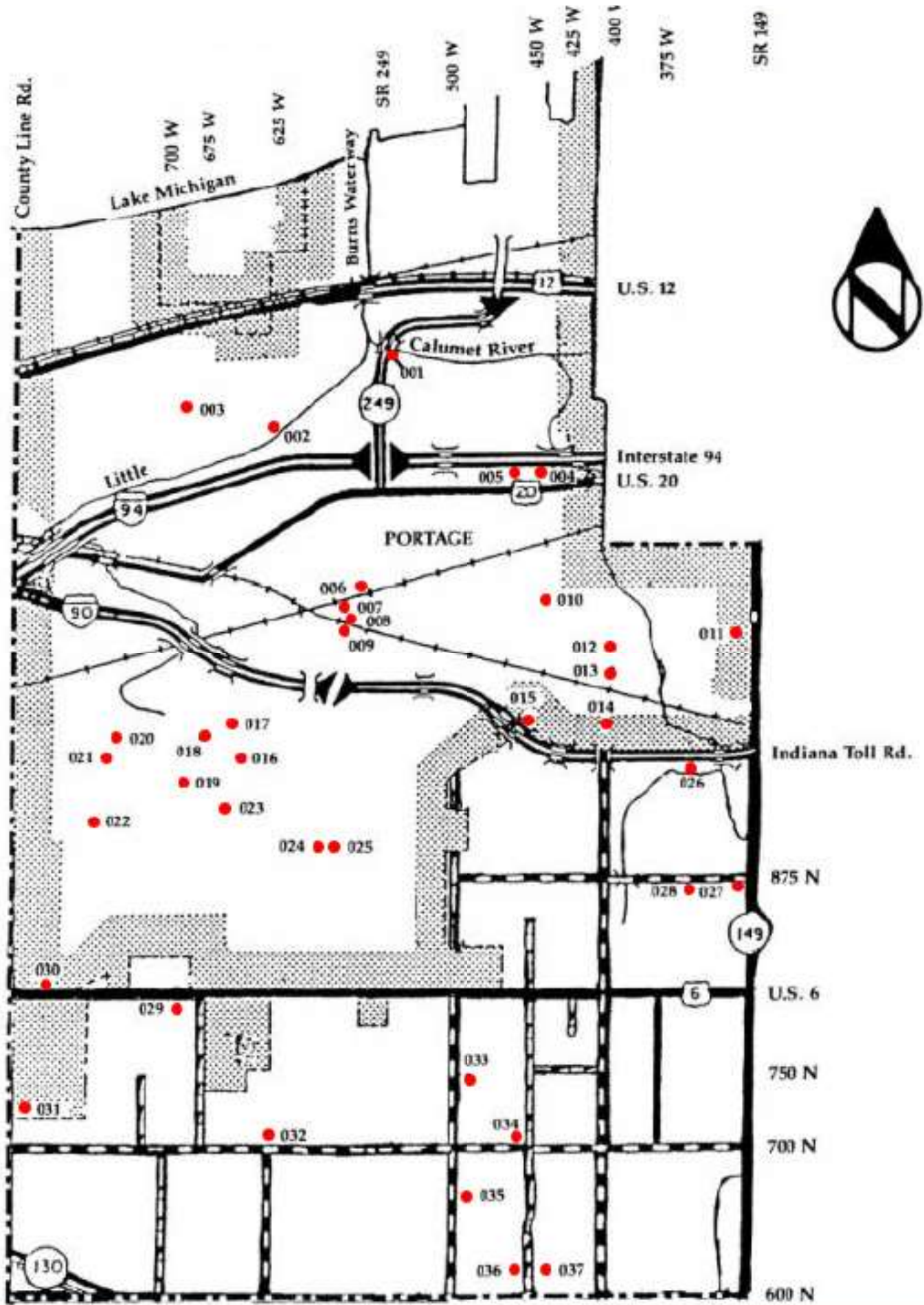
- Rehab softball field
- Site furnishings

Perry Park

- Install concrete sidewalk/path through park connecting Tulip Ave. to Willowdale Rd.

Robert’s Park

- Replace playground equipment and add gazebo



farmsteads on Samuelson Road (10010) and U. S. 6 (20030).

No. Rtg. Description

- 001 O **Crisman Road Bridge (County Bridge No. 1013)**, Crisman Road; Parker Through Truss, c.1920; Engineering, Transportation (520)



001

- 002 C **Farm**, Stagecoach Road; House: American four-square, c.1920; Outbuildings: English barn, smokestack; Agriculture, Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 003 C **House**, Stagecoach Road; Gable Front, c.1915; Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 004 C **House**, Samuelson Road; Bungalow, c.1915; Architecture (520)
- 005 C **House**, Samuelson Road; Bungalow, c.1925; Architecture (520)
- 006 C **House**, Crisman Road; Bungalow, c.1935; Architecture (520)
- 007 C **House**, Crisman Road, Crisman; Craftsman Bungalow, c.1910; Architecture (520)
- 008 N **Crisman High School**, Crisman Road, Crisman; Neoclassical, c.1890/1922 (C. F. Lembke, architect; McClay and Brady, builders); Architecture, Education (520)



008

- 009 O **Portage Township High School**, Crisman Road, Crisman; Neoclassical, 1928; Architecture, Education (520)



009

- 010 N **Farm**, Samuelson Road; House: Queen Anne, c.1880; Outbuildings: English barns, milk house, tool shed, smokehouse, chicken house, windmill, privy, drive-in corncrib; Agriculture, Architecture, Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 011 C **Farm**, Lenburg Road; House: T-plan, 1896; Outbuildings: stable, hog house, corncribs, privies, tool shed, chicken house, silo; Agriculture, Vernacular/Construction (520)

- 012 N **McCool School**, McCool Road; Nineteenth Century Functional, 1896; Architecture, Education (520)
- 013 C **Wyant House**, McCool Road, McCool; Bungalow, c.1910; Architecture (520)
- 014 N **McCool Church and Cemetery**, McCool Road, McCool; Church: Gothic Revival, c.1915; Cemetery: c.1855-present; Architecture, Exploration/Settlement, Religion (520)



014

- 015 C **House**, Central Avenue; Gabled-ell, c.1900; Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 016 N **Calvary Cemetery**, Office: Craftsman, c.1916; Cemetery, c.1910-present; Architecture, Religion (520)



016

- 017 C **House**, 5630 Central Avenue, Portage; Bungalow, c.1905; Architecture (520)
- 018 C **Isbey House**, 5588 Central Avenue, Portage; House: gabled-ell, c.1885; Outbuildings: granary, privy, garage; Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 019 N **Temple Bethel Cemetery of Gary**, Willowdale Road, Portage; Service Building: Twentieth Century Functional, c.1916; Cemetery: c.1916-present; Architecture, Ethnic Heritage, Religion (520)



019

- 020 C **Portage Township District School**, Dombey Road, Portage; T-plan/Italianate, c.1885; Architecture, Education, Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 021 C **Blake Cemetery**, Blake Road, Portage; c.1850-present; Exploration/Settlement, Religion (520)
- 022 C **Koeppen House**, 5099 Stone Avenue, Portage; House: central-passage/Italianate, c.1886; Outbuildings: pump house, windmill; Architecture, Vernacular/Construction (520)

- 023 C **House**, 5616 Stone Avenue, Portage; Colonial Revival, c.1905; Architecture (520)
- 024 C **Anderson House**, 5779 Stone Avenue, Portage; Bungalow, 1927 (Walter Anderson, builder); Architecture (520)
- 025 C **House**, 5801 K. Stone Avenue, Portage; English Cottage, 1935 (Lawrence Anderson, builder); Architecture (520)
- 026 C **James Cemetery**, McCool Road; c.1850-c.1940; Exploration/Settlement, Religion (520)
- 027 N **Jentzen Farm**, 875 N; House: I-house, c.1860; Outbuildings: drive-in corncrib, milk house, granary, privy, brooder house; Agriculture, Commerce, Vernacular/Construction (N)
- 028 C **Robbings Cemetery**, 875 N; c.1836-present; Exploration/Settlement, Religion (520)
- 029 C **House**, U.S. 6; Colonial Revival Cottage, c.1940 (Mike Sterlich, builder); Architecture (520)
- 030 C **Farm**, U.S. 6; House: gabled-ell, c.1880; Outbuildings: livestock barn, drive-in corncrib, equipment shed, chicken house, privy, smokehouse; Agriculture, Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 031 N **Farm**, County Line Road; House: cruciform-plan/Queen Anne, 1901; Outbuildings: English barn, milk house, chicken houses; Agriculture, Architecture, Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 032 C **House**, 700 N; Bungalow, c.1920; Architecture (520)
- 033 C **House**, 500 W; Gable-front, c.1900; Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 034 O **Josephus Wolf House**, 450 W; Italianate, c.1875; Architecture (520)



031



Josephus Wolf House (10034) Wolf, one of Portage Township's early settlers, at one time owned over 4,500 acres in Porter County. He had this elegant Italianate-style house built in 1875.

- 035 C **Farm**, 500 W; Houses: hall-and-parlor, c.1870; gabled-ell, c.1900; Outbuildings: livestock barn, drive-in corncrib, granary, chicken house, pumphouse, hog barn; Agriculture, Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 036 C **Barn**, 450 W; English, c.1860; Agriculture, Vernacular/Construction (520)
- 037 N **Elmer E. Wolf House**, 450 W; House: gable-front/Queen Anne, 1890; Outbuilding: summer kitchen; Architecture, Vernacular/Construction (520)



Elmer Wolf House (10037) This 33-room house was built in 1890 for Elmer Wolf. Wolf's father, Josephus Wolf, was a prominent township resident. His house is located nearby.



Josephus Wolf House (10034), Portage Township. Courtesy: George E. Neeley.

American
Community
Survey
Estimates
2010-2015:
Portage
Housing



DP04

SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Supporting documentation on code lists, subject definitions, data accuracy, and statistical testing can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Data and Documentation section.

Sample size and data quality measures (including coverage rates, allocation rates, and response rates) can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Methodology section.

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

Subject	Portage city, Indiana			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
HOUSING OCCUPANCY				
Total housing units	15,047	+/-405	15,047	(X)
Occupied housing units	14,132	+/-410	93.9%	+/-1.4
Vacant housing units	915	+/-217	6.1%	+/-1.4
Homeowner vacancy rate	2.7	+/-1.7	(X)	(X)
Rental vacancy rate	4.4	+/-2.6	(X)	(X)
UNITS IN STRUCTURE				
Total housing units	15,047	+/-405	15,047	(X)
1-unit, detached	9,617	+/-396	63.9%	+/-2.2
1-unit, attached	472	+/-148	3.1%	+/-1.0
2 units	749	+/-216	5.0%	+/-1.4
3 or 4 units	602	+/-212	4.0%	+/-1.4
5 to 9 units	591	+/-175	3.9%	+/-1.1
10 to 19 units	647	+/-187	4.3%	+/-1.2
20 or more units	324	+/-112	2.2%	+/-0.7
Mobile home	2,045	+/-219	13.6%	+/-1.4
Boat, RV, van, etc.	0	+/-89	0.0%	+/-0.2
YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT				
Total housing units	15,047	+/-405	15,047	(X)
Built 2005 or later	703	+/-186	4.7%	+/-1.2
Built 2000 to 2004	1,429	+/-241	9.5%	+/-1.5
Built 1990 to 1999	2,352	+/-321	15.6%	+/-2.0
Built 1980 to 1989	2,319	+/-333	15.4%	+/-2.2
Built 1970 to 1979	3,486	+/-380	23.2%	+/-2.4
Built 1960 to 1969	2,626	+/-348	17.5%	+/-2.3
Built 1950 to 1959	1,216	+/-201	8.1%	+/-1.3
Built 1940 to 1949	376	+/-118	2.5%	+/-0.8
Built 1939 or earlier	540	+/-186	3.6%	+/-1.3
ROOMS				
Total housing units	15,047	+/-405	15,047	(X)



DP04

SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Supporting documentation on code lists, subject definitions, data accuracy, and statistical testing can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Data and Documentation section.

Sample size and data quality measures (including coverage rates, allocation rates, and response rates) can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Methodology section.

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

Subject	Portage city, Indiana			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
HOUSING OCCUPANCY				
Total housing units	15,339	+/-468	15,339	(X)
Occupied housing units	14,226	+/-442	92.7%	+/-1.6
Vacant housing units	1,113	+/-260	7.3%	+/-1.6
Homeowner vacancy rate	2.0	+/-1.4	(X)	(X)
Rental vacancy rate	8.0	+/-3.4	(X)	(X)
UNITS IN STRUCTURE				
Total housing units	15,339	+/-468	15,339	(X)
1-unit, detached	9,865	+/-381	64.3%	+/-2.3
1-unit, attached	352	+/-130	2.3%	+/-0.8
2 units	760	+/-193	5.0%	+/-1.2
3 or 4 units	658	+/-213	4.3%	+/-1.4
5 to 9 units	670	+/-138	4.4%	+/-0.9
10 to 19 units	786	+/-188	5.1%	+/-1.2
20 or more units	314	+/-138	2.0%	+/-0.9
Mobile home	1,934	+/-221	12.6%	+/-1.3
Boat, RV, van, etc.	0	+/-24	0.0%	+/-0.2
YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT				
Total housing units	15,339	+/-468	15,339	(X)
Built 2010 or later	12	+/-21	0.1%	+/-0.1
Built 2000 to 2009	2,057	+/-276	13.4%	+/-1.9
Built 1990 to 1999	2,499	+/-303	16.3%	+/-1.9
Built 1980 to 1989	2,435	+/-345	15.9%	+/-2.2
Built 1970 to 1979	3,753	+/-400	24.5%	+/-2.4
Built 1960 to 1969	2,530	+/-327	16.5%	+/-2.1
Built 1950 to 1959	1,209	+/-196	7.9%	+/-1.3
Built 1940 to 1949	388	+/-135	2.5%	+/-0.9
Built 1939 or earlier	456	+/-163	3.0%	+/-1.1
ROOMS				
Total housing units	15,339	+/-468	15,339	(X)



DP04

SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Supporting documentation on code lists, subject definitions, data accuracy, and statistical testing can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Data and Documentation section.

Sample size and data quality measures (including coverage rates, allocation rates, and response rates) can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Methodology section.

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

Subject	Portage city, Indiana			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
HOUSING OCCUPANCY				
Total housing units	15,049	+/-404	15,049	(X)
Occupied housing units	13,848	+/-383	92.0%	+/-1.7
Vacant housing units	1,201	+/-264	8.0%	+/-1.7
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.8	+/-1.3	(X)	(X)
Rental vacancy rate	7.8	+/-3.9	(X)	(X)
UNITS IN STRUCTURE				
Total housing units	15,049	+/-404	15,049	(X)
1-unit, detached	10,076	+/-409	67.0%	+/-2.1
1-unit, attached	355	+/-119	2.4%	+/-0.8
2 units	663	+/-224	4.4%	+/-1.5
3 or 4 units	786	+/-226	5.2%	+/-1.5
5 to 9 units	629	+/-157	4.2%	+/-1.0
10 to 19 units	776	+/-177	5.2%	+/-1.2
20 or more units	244	+/-134	1.6%	+/-0.9
Mobile home	1,520	+/-179	10.1%	+/-1.1
Boat, RV, van, etc.	0	+/-24	0.0%	+/-0.2
YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT				
Total housing units	15,049	+/-404	15,049	(X)
Built 2010 or later	44	+/-39	0.3%	+/-0.3
Built 2000 to 2009	2,063	+/-226	13.7%	+/-1.5
Built 1990 to 1999	2,441	+/-280	16.2%	+/-1.9
Built 1980 to 1989	2,305	+/-323	15.3%	+/-2.1
Built 1970 to 1979	3,738	+/-357	24.8%	+/-2.4
Built 1960 to 1969	2,244	+/-269	14.9%	+/-1.7
Built 1950 to 1959	1,303	+/-259	8.7%	+/-1.6
Built 1940 to 1949	459	+/-135	3.1%	+/-0.9
Built 1939 or earlier	452	+/-148	3.0%	+/-1.0
ROOMS				
Total housing units	15,049	+/-404	15,049	(X)



DP04

SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Supporting documentation on code lists, subject definitions, data accuracy, and statistical testing can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Data and Documentation section.

Sample size and data quality measures (including coverage rates, allocation rates, and response rates) can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Methodology section.

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

Subject	Portage city, Indiana			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
HOUSING OCCUPANCY				
Total housing units	15,365	+/-418	15,365	(X)
Occupied housing units	13,992	+/-374	91.1%	+/-2.1
Vacant housing units	1,373	+/-334	8.9%	+/-2.1
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.3	+/-1.2	(X)	(X)
Rental vacancy rate	7.8	+/-4.3	(X)	(X)
UNITS IN STRUCTURE				
Total housing units	15,365	+/-418	15,365	(X)
1-unit, detached	10,157	+/-380	66.1%	+/-2.1
1-unit, attached	409	+/-143	2.7%	+/-0.9
2 units	597	+/-168	3.9%	+/-1.1
3 or 4 units	713	+/-207	4.6%	+/-1.4
5 to 9 units	678	+/-164	4.4%	+/-1.1
10 to 19 units	781	+/-203	5.1%	+/-1.3
20 or more units	320	+/-121	2.1%	+/-0.8
Mobile home	1,710	+/-200	11.1%	+/-1.2
Boat, RV, van, etc.	0	+/-24	0.0%	+/-0.2
YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT				
Total housing units	15,365	+/-418	15,365	(X)
Built 2010 or later	76	+/-61	0.5%	+/-0.4
Built 2000 to 2009	2,126	+/-229	13.8%	+/-1.5
Built 1990 to 1999	2,668	+/-303	17.4%	+/-1.8
Built 1980 to 1989	2,220	+/-370	14.4%	+/-2.4
Built 1970 to 1979	3,749	+/-407	24.4%	+/-2.5
Built 1960 to 1969	2,165	+/-321	14.1%	+/-2.1
Built 1950 to 1959	1,552	+/-304	10.1%	+/-2.0
Built 1940 to 1949	459	+/-165	3.0%	+/-1.1
Built 1939 or earlier	350	+/-168	2.3%	+/-1.1
ROOMS				
Total housing units	15,365	+/-418	15,365	(X)



DP04

SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Supporting documentation on code lists, subject definitions, data accuracy, and statistical testing can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Data and Documentation section.

Sample size and data quality measures (including coverage rates, allocation rates, and response rates) can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Methodology section.

Tell us what you think. Provide feedback to help make American Community Survey data more useful for you.

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

A processing error was found in the Year Structure Built estimates since data year 2008. For more information, please see the errata note #110.

Subject	Portage city, Indiana			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
HOUSING OCCUPANCY				
Total housing units	15,162	+/-435	15,162	(X)
Occupied housing units	13,959	+/-384	92.1%	+/-1.9
Vacant housing units	1,203	+/-297	7.9%	+/-1.9
Homeowner vacancy rate	2.0	+/-1.2	(X)	(X)
Rental vacancy rate	5.7	+/-2.9	(X)	(X)
UNITS IN STRUCTURE				
Total housing units	15,162	+/-435	15,162	(X)
1-unit, detached	9,983	+/-433	65.8%	+/-2.5
1-unit, attached	516	+/-176	3.4%	+/-1.2
2 units	596	+/-182	3.9%	+/-1.2
3 or 4 units	678	+/-256	4.5%	+/-1.7
5 to 9 units	636	+/-158	4.2%	+/-1.0
10 to 19 units	808	+/-192	5.3%	+/-1.2
20 or more units	280	+/-126	1.8%	+/-0.8
Mobile home	1,665	+/-181	11.0%	+/-1.1
Boat, RV, van, etc.	0	+/-24	0.0%	+/-0.2
YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT				
Total housing units	15,162	+/-435	15,162	(X)
Built 2014 or later	11	+/-16	0.1%	+/-0.1
Built 2010 to 2013	67	+/-58	0.4%	+/-0.4
Built 2000 to 2009	1,930	+/-290	12.7%	+/-1.9
Built 1990 to 1999	2,851	+/-325	18.8%	+/-2.1
Built 1980 to 1989	2,173	+/-353	14.3%	+/-2.3
Built 1970 to 1979	3,610	+/-424	23.8%	+/-2.6
Built 1960 to 1969	2,343	+/-303	15.5%	+/-2.1



DP04

SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Supporting documentation on code lists, subject definitions, data accuracy, and statistical testing can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Data and Documentation section.

Sample size and data quality measures (including coverage rates, allocation rates, and response rates) can be found on the American Community Survey website in the Methodology section.

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, for 2010, the 2010 Census provides the official counts of the population and housing units for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns. For 2006 to 2009, the Population Estimates Program provides intercensal estimates of the population for the nation, states, and counties.

Subject	Portage city, Indiana			
	Estimate	Estimate Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
HOUSING OCCUPANCY				
Total housing units	14,911	+/-446	14,911	(X)
Occupied housing units	14,073	+/-347	94.4%	+/-1.7
Vacant housing units	838	+/-263	5.6%	+/-1.7
Homeowner vacancy rate	1.9	+/-1.3	(X)	(X)
Rental vacancy rate	5.8	+/-2.8	(X)	(X)
UNITS IN STRUCTURE				
Total housing units	14,911	+/-446	14,911	(X)
1-unit, detached	9,682	+/-415	64.9%	+/-2.1
1-unit, attached	444	+/-147	3.0%	+/-1.0
2 units	680	+/-201	4.6%	+/-1.4
3 or 4 units	557	+/-175	3.7%	+/-1.2
5 to 9 units	609	+/-164	4.1%	+/-1.1
10 to 19 units	595	+/-142	4.0%	+/-0.9
20 or more units	327	+/-128	2.2%	+/-0.9
Mobile home	2,008	+/-278	13.5%	+/-1.7
Boat, RV, van, etc.	9	+/-15	0.1%	+/-0.1
YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT				
Total housing units	14,911	+/-446	14,911	(X)
Built 2005 or later	548	+/-146	3.7%	+/-1.0
Built 2000 to 2004	1,541	+/-273	10.3%	+/-1.8
Built 1990 to 1999	2,159	+/-283	14.5%	+/-1.8
Built 1980 to 1989	1,937	+/-286	13.0%	+/-1.9
Built 1970 to 1979	3,698	+/-299	24.8%	+/-2.0
Built 1960 to 1969	2,692	+/-321	18.1%	+/-2.1
Built 1950 to 1959	1,424	+/-195	9.5%	+/-1.3
Built 1940 to 1949	298	+/-117	2.0%	+/-0.8
Built 1939 or earlier	614	+/-182	4.1%	+/-1.2
ROOMS				
Total housing units	14,911	+/-446	14,911	(X)