



CITY OF APPLETON

MEMORANDUM

Date: December 10, 2025
To: Plan Commission
From: Lindsey Smith, Principal Planner
Subject: City's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) – Adoption

BACKGROUND

The Parks & Recreation Department began an update to the City's CORP in October 2024 with Rettler Corporation. Over the past year, the Parks & Recreation Department hosted a community input session, online survey, and other stakeholder meetings to gather feedback from various users and staff members to guide the plan.

In late November, the draft plan was presented to the Parks & Recreation Committee for review. The final plan will be before the Parks & Recreation Committee on December 8, 2025 for consideration for adoption.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The CORP serves as the City's long-range plan for park development, outlining specific improvement projects, cost estimates, and maintenance needs that are primarily carried out by the Parks & Recreation Department. The plan also identifies future park needs based on anticipated development and growth that aligns with Plan Appleton, the City's Comprehensive Plan. Page 86 includes the proposed park acquisition map that will guide the Parks & Recreation Department and Community Development Department in future land acquisition as development occurs within the City. Section 17-29 of the City's Subdivision Ordinance requires a subdivision plat to conform to recommendations related to parkland as adopted in the CORP by Common Council, which serves as the City's most common mechanism for securing new parkland.

Plan Appleton: Community Development staff has reviewed this plan and determined it is compatible with goals and actions found in Plan Appleton.

Goal R | Agricultural, Natural, and Community Resources

Appleton will create a quality space for community members to thrive by protecting its environmental quality, preserving its important natural resources, and supporting its cultural spaces.

R1. Continue park land and trail dedication or fee-in-lieu-of land dedication requirements for all new residential development through the Subdivision Ordinance.

FUTURE ACTION

December 17th, 2025 – Consideration for adoption of the CORP at Common Council.