



URBANA PARK DISTRICT TRAILS MASTER PLAN

EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT

March 18, 2014





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PLAN PREPARED BY

Champaign-Urbana Urbanized Area Transportation Study
(CUUATS)



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(CCRPC)



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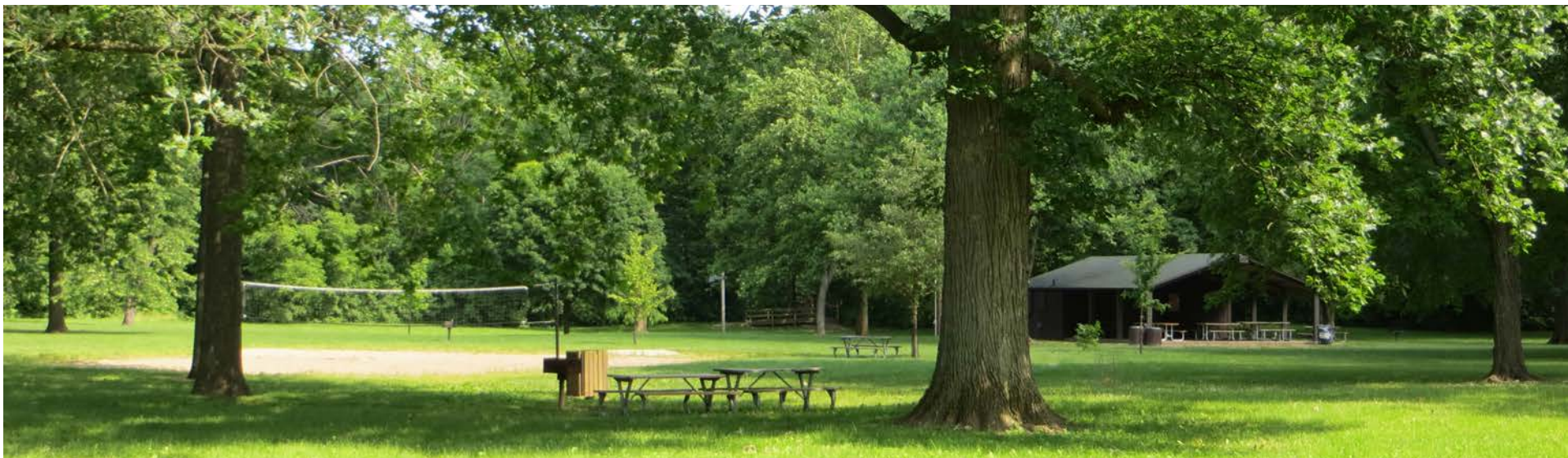
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Various recreational facilities in Crystal Lake Park, Urbana.

01. INTRODUCTION

The Urbana Park District offers the residents of Urbana a park system with 23 parks distributed over 565 acres and hundreds of programs available at the parks. However, there is not a system of trails that connects all the parks to make them accessible to all residents of the community. With the number of existing parks and flat topography in Urbana, it is important to enable walking and bicycling access for residents of the community to the parks. Walking and bicycling contribute to the improved public health and well-being of Urbana's citizens, good air quality, and reduce congestion.

The Urbana Park District Strategic Plan defines the Urbana Park District mission as being "to improve the quality of life of Urbana's citizens through a responsive, efficient and creative park and recreation system." The mission has several associated strategic objectives, one of them being to "meet the community's priorities for value and environmental ethic by acquiring, providing, maintaining and improving safe, high-quality, accessible parks, recreation facilities and programs." The same document also focuses on six "big moves" needed to meet

the needs of the community and maintain the existing assets of the District, one of them being to "continue with the collaborative development of a trail system including strong connections between present and future Urbana Park District parks, loop trails within parks and linkages with the regional trail system."

The three elements (mission, strategic objectives and moves) mentioned above define the framework for the development of a Trails Master Plan for the Urbana Park District that will help guide the creation of linkages for existing, proposed, and future trail facilities for walking and bicycling within the community and establish connectivity for walking and biking throughout the Urbana Park District facilities and adjacent attractions and destinations.

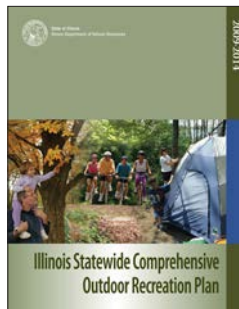
The Urbana Park District Trails Master Plan will guide Park District decisions on trails within its jurisdiction and will strive to coordinate their efforts with those of surrounding park districts and municipalities to obtain a more integrated, better connected trail system on a regional scale. The plan will establish goals and objectives as well as performance measures that would guide the implementation of proposed recommendations that will further enhance the connectivity of area trails for the enjoyment of area residents and visitors.

02. EXISTING PLANS AND POLICIES

STATE LEVEL

Illinois Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (IDNR, 2009 and 2014):

This plan is prepared every five years to assess existing facilities, user statistics, future projects and actions, and a five-year implementation schedule citing agency responsibility for projects. The document identifies prevalent issues such as accessibility for disabled persons, linking transportation modes with recreation areas, and interagency coordination. The document also helps maintain Illinois' eligibility to participate in the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program and establish funding goals for the use of State Open Space Land Acquisition and Development grants.



Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

According to the 2008 Illinois Outdoor Recreation Survey, approximately 85 percent of total statewide respondents agree that more trails should be developed (pg. 11). This sentiment was also found to be slightly higher among urban county respondents at 87 percent. Walking, hiking and biking on trails were cited as some of the most important outdoor activities, and bicycle riding on roads and trails was the second most popular outdoor activity cited by respondents with regard to growth potential. The plan lists trails protection, development, and connection (especially linked to natural systems and greenways) as a top priority of LWCF funds through various grant programs.

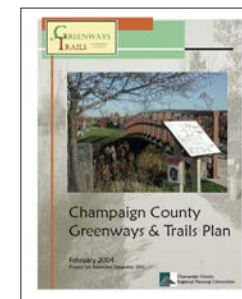
COUNTY LEVEL

Champaign County Greenways and Trails (GT) Plan (CCRPC, 2004; amended 2011):

This plan is a guiding document for the development of a countywide greenways and trails system for Champaign County residents and visitors. The purpose of this plan is to facilitate interagency cooperation for the development of a regional system of greenways and trails in the County by establishing potential projects, funding mechanisms, and an implementation schedule.

Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

This document outlines existing trail infrastructure, including bicycle and shared use facilities, on municipal and regional levels. Many future trail facilities are also proposed. Consideration of these proposed features within the Urbana Trails Master Plan will strengthen regional planning efforts by matching relevant strategies for trail development.

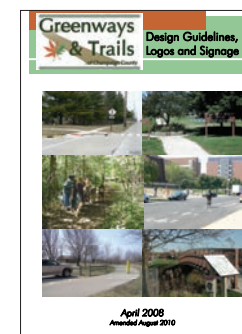


Champaign County Greenways and Trails Design Guidelines, Logos & Signage (CCRPC, 2008; amended 2010):

This document is meant to facilitate the development of all non-motorized paths throughout Champaign County. The standardized design guidelines, logos and signage within this document will help create a recognizable, consistent, safe and convenient system of greenways and trails in the County.

Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

This document is beneficial in creating a unified system of greenways and trails within Champaign County. Signage installed using these design guidelines will help users identify Urbana's municipal trails and links across jurisdictions.



Champaign County Greenways and Trails Funding Sources List (CCRPC, 2008):

This document outlines potential sources of funding to support the implementation of a regional system of trails. The list includes federal, state, private and non-profit development sources with the agency names, websites, funding descriptions, deadlines, and maximum award amounts.

Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

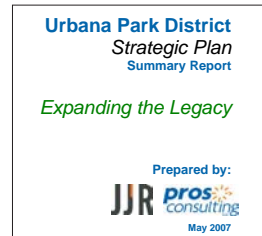
This document is important for identifying funding sources for the Urbana Park District and City of Urbana to help facilitate the development of trails within their jurisdictions.

The table lists various funding sources categorized by type (Federal, State, Private, Non-Profit) and includes columns for agency name, website, funding description, deadline, and maximum award amount.

LOCAL LEVEL

Urbana Park District Strategic Plan: Expanding the Legacy (JJR, Pros Consulting, 2007):

This plan establishes a strategic vision, mission, priorities, goals, policies, and work plans to guide the next ten years of decision making for the Urbana Park District. The development of the plan was supported by significant stakeholder and public input, a demographic analysis, an operational review, a needs analysis, a facilities development plan and a strategic action plan.



Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

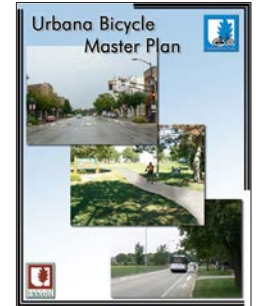
The plan advocates for the continued and collaborative development of a trail system in Urbana, connections between trails within current and future parks, and linkages to the regional trail system. In this regard, the plan establishes a baseline service level of 3 acres of greenways and trails (corridor parks) per 1,000 people. Another objective is the continued acquisition of open space to support unique facility guidelines. The plan also demonstrates that walking and biking trail facilities are one of the highest needs for residents in Urbana. According to the household survey in the plan, people would generally fund the development of walking, biking, and open space facilities with their tax dollars.

Urbana Bicycle Master Plan (CCRPC, 2008; UPDATE 2014):

This plan is a guide for bicycle infrastructure development in the City of Urbana. The plan defines the bicycle network and strategies to improve it over time. The plan includes a comprehensive summary of public input, a system inventory, Bicycle Level of Service analysis, facility recommendations, cost estimates, and implementation strategies.

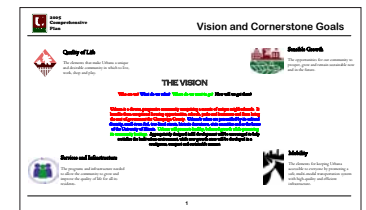
Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

The Urbana Bicycle Master Plan leverages efforts from the 2004 Champaign County Greenways and Trails Plan by addressing the potential for implementing recommended bicycle facility improvements. The document presents existing and proposed (future) bicycle and shared use facilities at the municipal level in Urbana while identifying opportunities for regional connectivity. Consideration of these facilities within the Urbana Trails Master Plan will strengthen local and regional planning efforts by matching relevant strategies for trail development between Urbana Park District facilities.



Urbana Comprehensive Plan and Update (City of Urbana, 2005; updated 2006):

This plan summarizes historic information, community profiles, growth, development, goals, objectives, and an implementation program for the City of Urbana. The plan captures the community's vision for preserving and enhancing Urbana's unique "small town" character, cultural diversity, economic competitiveness and natural resources.



Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

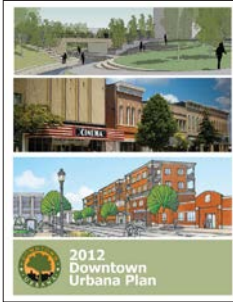
This plan supports the development of trails in the region and promotes links to new development through existing trails capable of connecting Urbana's park system in the process.

2012 Downtown Urbana Plan (City of Urbana, 2012):

This plan expands on downtown Urbana's strengths and guides future growth to match the needs of the community. The plan outlines seven key goals for downtown: strengthen economic activity; promote urban-style infill development; increase vitality by attracting more residents and visitors; develop engaging public spaces and streetscapes; improve mobility; protect and enhance character; and reduce environmental impacts.

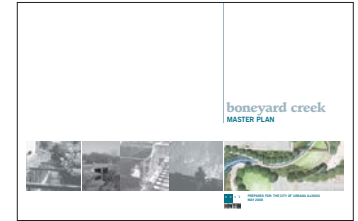
Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

The plan advocates goals of developing public open spaces and streetscapes and improving mobility in downtown. Specifically, the plan references the Boneyard Creek Improvement Project as a way to create an attractive green space connected to pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to enhance multimodal transportation capabilities. Furthermore, the rail line to the north of downtown is seen as a way to enhance local and regional transportation. Wayfinding signage is also planned for downtown to direct pedestrians and bicyclists to various destinations. Urbana Park District facilities that will benefit from enhanced trail connectivity as an indirect result of these developments include: Phillips Recreation Center, Patterson Parklet, Leal Park, Hickory Street Site, Judge Webber Park, Victory Park, and Crystal Lake Park.



Boneyard Creek Master Plan (HNTB, 2008):

This plan outlines recommendations to improve recreational opportunities near the Boneyard Creek in the City of Urbana. The plan recommends several strategies for improving pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between downtown and the surrounding neighborhoods through the greening of the Creek.



Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

The plan focuses primarily on the stretch of the Boneyard Creek that runs from Main Street to Maple Street and directly intersects with Patterson Parklet while presenting connection opportunities within less than a quarter mile of Phillips Recreation Center, Leal Park, Crystal Lake Park, Chief Shemauger Park, and the Hickory Street Site. The Plan also suggests future greenway extensions connecting the University of Illinois to the west and Saline Branch to the east.

University Avenue Corridor Study (CCRPC, 2010):

This study examines current and future land use, zoning, redevelopment, and transportation conditions along the University Avenue corridor between Downtown Champaign and Downtown Urbana. The study establishes baseline goals for the corridor to promote orderly, attractive redevelopment, develop higher density multi-modal nodes, maximize the safety and efficiency of the transportation system, and enhance bicycle and pedestrian facilities.



Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

This plan outlines specific opportunities and challenges presented by the University Avenue corridor. Relevant topics to Urbana Park District parks include the Boneyard Creek Master Plan, the Penn Central Railroad, Carle medical campus, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and Level of Service (LOS) at the University Avenue intersections of Cunningham Avenue, Broadway Avenue, and Race Street. General pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure recommendations include signed bike routes, shared-use paths, on-street bike lanes and a Rails-to-Trails pathway in areas parallel to and intersecting University Avenue.

CONTIGUOUS PLANNING AREAS

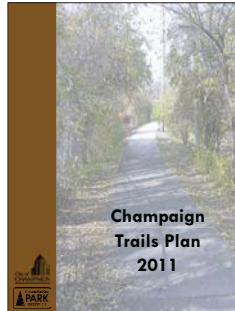
Champaign Trails Plan

(City of Champaign, Champaign Park District, 2011):

This plan was created in response to residents' expressed desire for more trails throughout the City of Champaign during recent surveys. The document provides a vision for a well-connected trail system in Champaign with recommendations for locations, design standards, and funding.

Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

This plan identifies opportunities for regional trail connectivity between Champaign and Urbana. Relevant trail links outlined in the plan include the Boneyard Greenway, Wabash Rail Trail, and Olympian Drive Multi-Use Trail. These recommendations include extending trails from Champaign to trail infrastructure and destinations within the Urbana Park District.



Champaign Park District Comprehensive Park and Open Space Plan

(Pros Consulting, 2008):

This plan is a guiding document for the future development of parks and open space in the Champaign Park District. It includes a park and facility inventory, a financial analysis of facilities and programs, community collaboration opportunities, capital improvement plans, and future development plans.



Connection to the Urbana Trails Master Plan:

A top priority in the plan is the expansion of the Champaign trail system by 2.6 miles each year for ten years for pedestrian and bicycle use. For this purpose, the plan recommends developing connections between existing trails (including linkages with Urbana specified within the Champaign Trails Plan) and greenway corridors to enhance accessibility, convenience and public health.

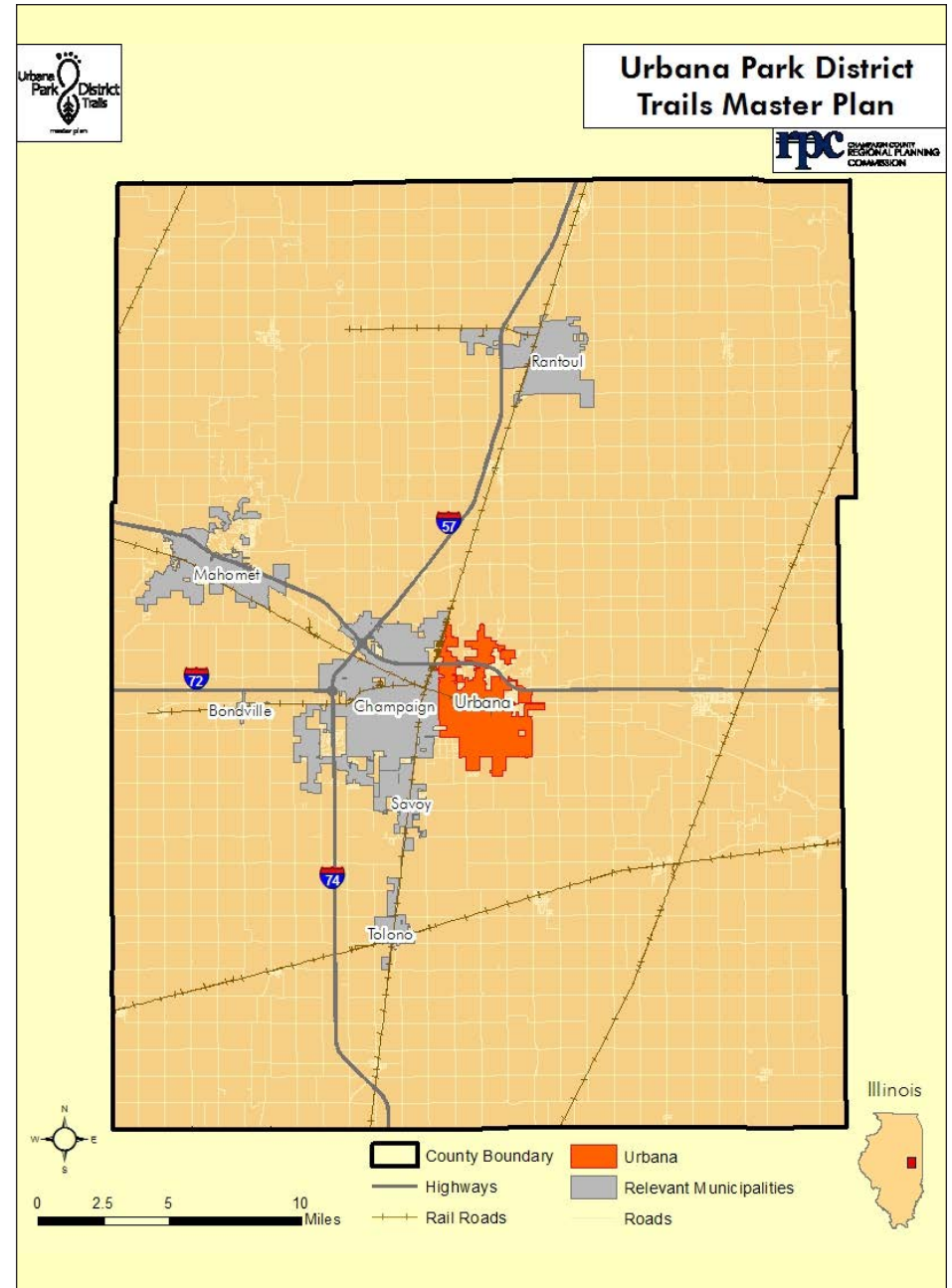
03. EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS

POPULATION AND SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

REGIONAL CONTEXT AND OVERVIEW

The City of Urbana, located in east-central Illinois, is the second most populous and second largest municipality in Champaign County. As of 2010, Urbana contained a population of 41,250 and currently covers nearly 12 square miles. The city is located nearly 135 miles south of Chicago, Illinois, 120 miles west of Indianapolis, Indiana, and 180 miles northeast of Saint Louis, Missouri ([see Figure 1](#)).

Figure 1 City of Urbana and the surrounding region. Relevant municipalities include those located within the Champaign-Urbana Metropolitan Planning Area (Urbana, Champaign, Bondville, Tolono, and Mahomet) and Rantoul (population 12,941 - 2010 U.S. Census)



GENERAL POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

According to the U.S. Decennial Census, Champaign County, Illinois had a population of 201,081 people in 2010. 41,250 of these residents reside within Urbana, consisting of 16,961 households and an average household size of just over 2 persons.

AGE

The 2010 Census shows that the largest group of Urbana residents is between 20 and 29 years of age (see Figure 2). This category includes students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. There are more males in the age groups from 0 to 9 and 20 to 39 years of age and more females in the age groups from 10 to 19 and over 40 years of age.

This demographic emphasizes the importance of planning for Urbana's large student population when considering future development of park facilities.

RACE AND ETHNICITY

The City of Urbana maintains a diverse population. While the majority (63 percent) of the city's population is white, Asians and African Americans account for the second and third largest racial groups, each representing 17 percent of the overall population respectively (see Figure 3). Residents identifying as Native American, Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, "other," or two or more races collectively accounted for 3 percent of Urbana's inhabitants. Both Champaign County and Urbana show similar trends in Hispanic versus Non-Hispanic populations, which are 6 and 94 percent, respectively.

In conjunction with park systems, diverse communities have been found to participate in larger group sizes, have greater representation of nuclear and extended families, and place greater emphasis on the social benefits of outdoor recreation.¹ Urbana's cultural and ethnic diversity represents an opportunity to develop an appreciation for the variety of recreational preferences and styles associated with different racial and ethnic groups, build new alliances within varied communities, and incorporate themes that reflect the diversity of the cultures represented in the population.

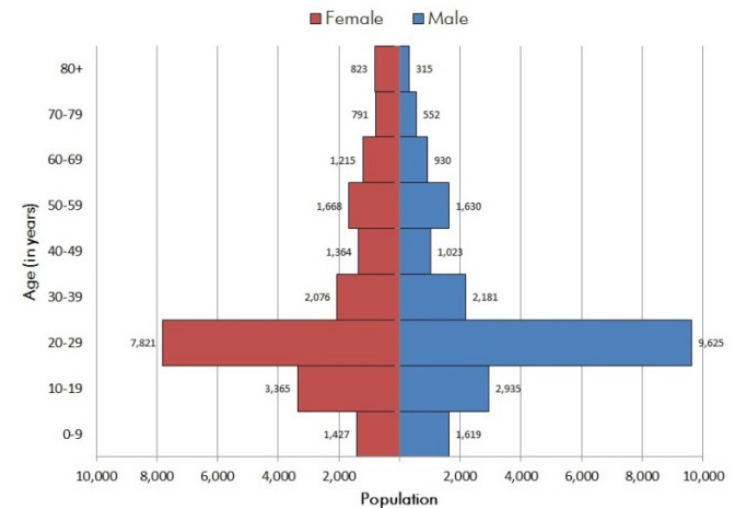


Figure 2 Urbana population by age, 2010 Decennial Census

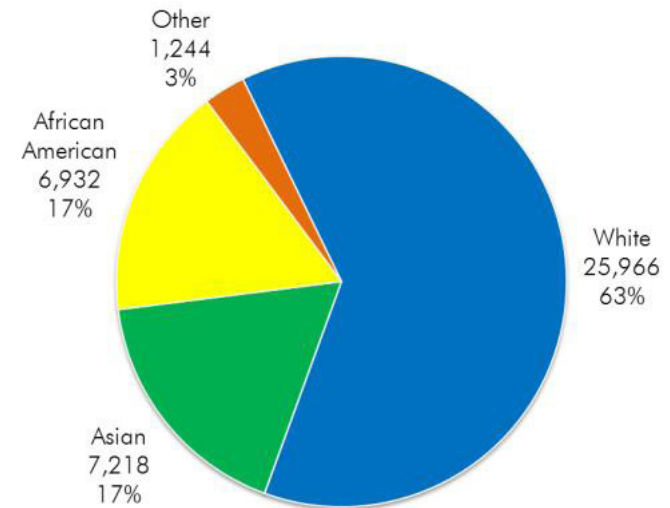


Figure 3 Urbana population by race, 2010 Decennial Census

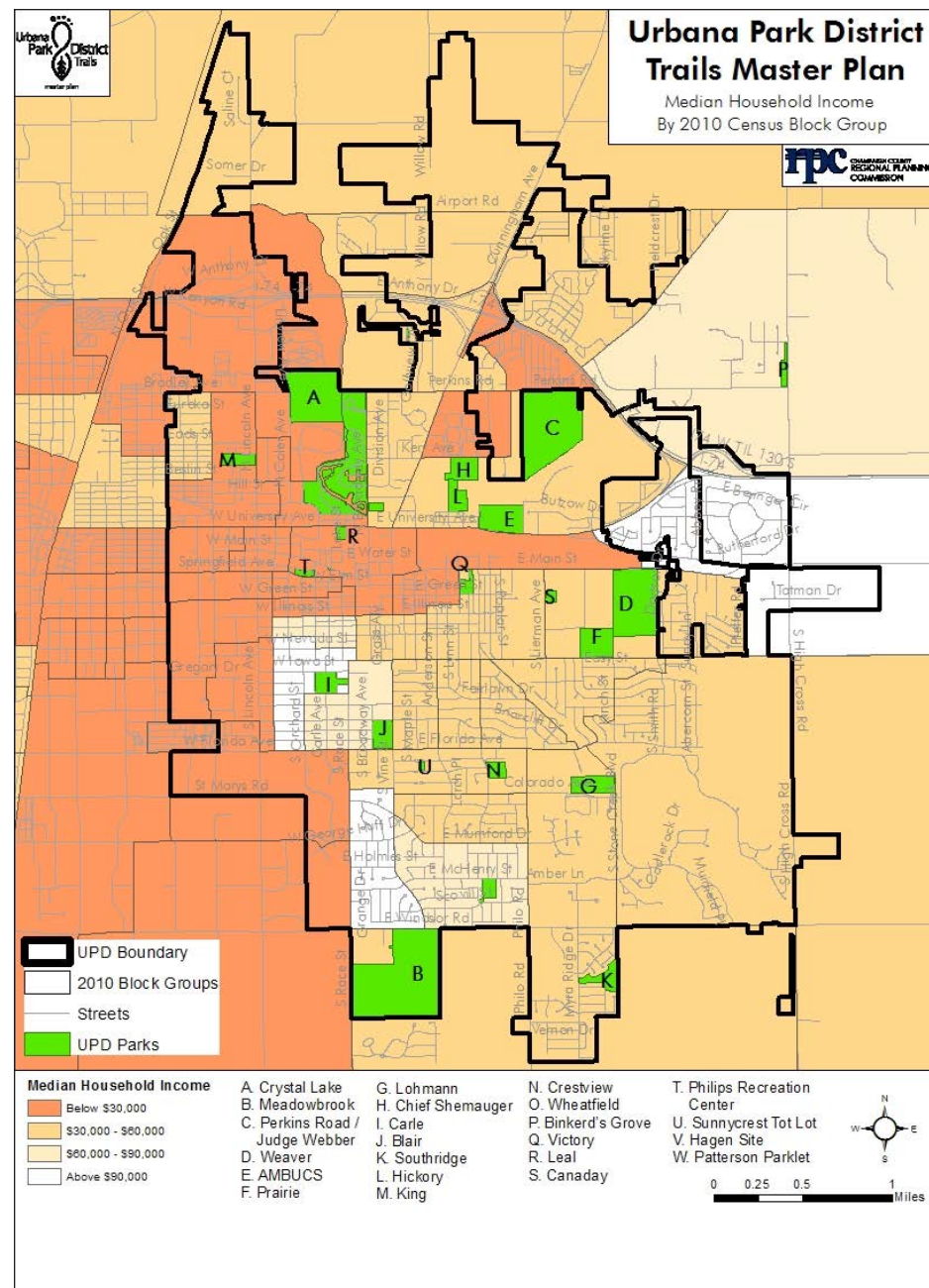
¹ Floyd, Myron. 1999. Race, Ethnicity and Use of the National Park System. Social Science Research Review. Volume 1, Number 2. Spring/Summer. Texas A&M University.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

2010 decennial census data was used to identify median household income by block groups within the Urbana municipal area. Household income is one factor used to identify trail development and services to residents based upon traditional representation and propensity to utilize facilities. For instance, neighborhoods with lower income levels are traditionally underrepresented by access to trail systems but also hold abundant potential for usage due to high demands for a variety of transportation options and increased connectivity to surrounding areas.²

As shown in **Figure 4**, the majority of low income block groups are found within the western portion of the Urbana Park District and are served primarily by King Park, Crystal Lake Park, Leal Park, and Phillips Recreation Center. Other low income pockets are located to the north and center of the Park District and are situated contiguously to Judge Webber Park, Chief Shemauger Park, Victory Park, and Weaver Park.

Figure 4 Median Household Income - Urbana, Illinois (2010 U.S. Decennial Census). Low income block groups are found within the western portion of the Urbana Park District with additional pockets to the north and center.



² Lindsey, Greg, et al. 2004. Access, Equity, and Urban Greenways: An Exploratory Investigation. Professional Geographer. Volume 53, Issue 3, pages 332-346.

EXISTING PARK AND TRAIL FACILITIES

URBANA PARKS CLASSIFICATION

The Urbana Park District maintains an array of 23 unique parks that have been classified according to their respective uses within surrounding neighborhoods and communities. These classifications, initially developed within the Urbana Park District Strategic Plan, serve to provide guidelines for design, development, maintenance and operations of parks. Relevant to promoting a unified trail system, park classifications determine how individual parks are generally intended to serve and interact with the surrounding area. The following relevant categories are described below: Neighborhood, Community and Signature.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Neighborhood parks serve a variety of age groups within a limited area or “neighborhood.” Suitable sizes for future park development range from 10 or more acres, depending on available land, with a service area of a half-mile radius, a 15 minute walk, and approximately 5,000 persons. Length of stay is one hour or less. The neighborhood park is an area for active recreation such as practice field games, court games, playgrounds and passive recreation such as walking, picnicking, viewing, etc. Facilities are unlighted (except for security lighting), and there is limited or no parking or restrooms.

Neighborhood parks (Table 1) include:

Neighborhood Parks		
Carle	Wheatfield	Blair
Chief Shemauger	Lohmann	Leal
South Ridge	Crestview	King
Victory	Sunnycrest Tot Lot	Patterson Parklet

COMMUNITY PARKS

Community parks are larger than neighborhood parks and serve several neighborhoods. Suitable sizes range from 20 to 50 acres and have a service area up to 2 miles in radius. Length of stay is two to three hours. The community park may include areas for intense recreation activity such as competitive sports, swimming, tennis, playgrounds, volleyball, etc. There may also be passive recreation opportunities such as walking, viewing, sitting and picnicking with small to medium sized shelters, water fountains, benches, etc. Locations for indoor recreation facilities and special use facilities are also included in community parks. Lighting, parking and restrooms are provided. Community parks can also serve a secondary function as a neighborhood park for the surrounding community.

Community parks (Table 2) include:

Community Parks		
AMBUCS	Canaday	Prairie
Philips Recreation Center	Brookens Sports Complex	

SIGNATURE PARKS

Signature parks are large park facilities that serve Urbana’s entire population and beyond. Suitable sizes range from 50 acres and larger, and they are designed for four or more hour’s length of stay. Signature parks will include a defined natural area and a variety of park features with which trails interact such as sports fields and complexes, playgrounds, water activities, swimming, camping, picnicking, and indoor recreation and special use facilities.

Signature parks (Table 3) include:

Signature Parks		
Crystal Lake	Meadowbrook	Perkins Road / Judge Webber
Weaver		

See Figure 5 for parks’ spatial distribution within the Urbana Park District’s jurisdiction.

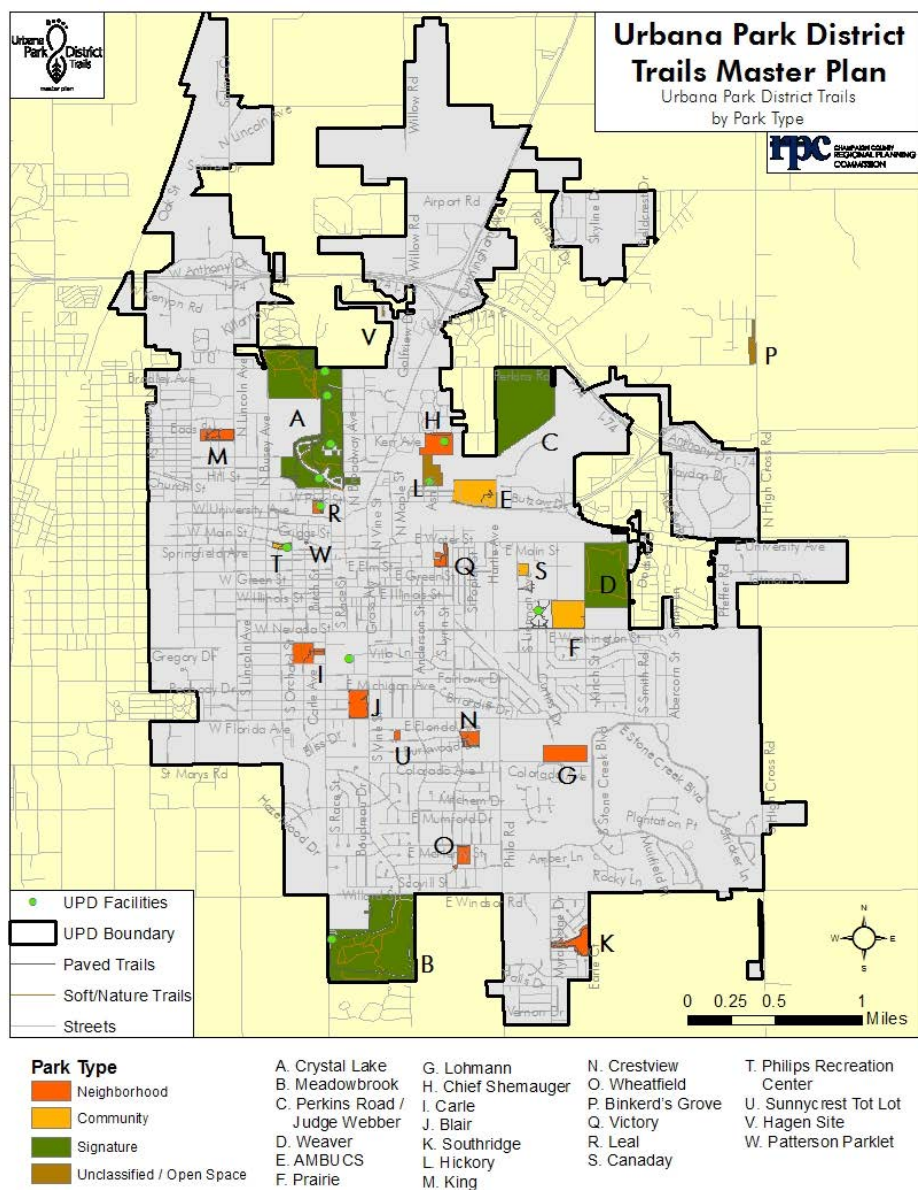


Figure 5 Neighborhood parks are Urbana's most ubiquitous park type, while most Community parks are located to the east and Signature parks to the north and south. Additionally, Crystal Lake Park contains the most UPD facilities of any single park with (4), with all others containing either 1 or 0.



Neighborhood parks, such as Carle Park (shown above), are the most common park type in the Urbana Park District.

TRAILS INVENTORY

The Urbana Park District manages a total of approximately 16 miles of trails split between roughly 11 miles of paved trails and 5 miles of soft trails, distributed among 15 parks and the Brookens Sports Complex. Paved trails are found within all of these areas with the exception of Weaver Park, while soft trails are found within four parks: Crystal Lake Park, Meadowbrook Park, Weaver Park, and Carle Park. Furthermore, Crystal Lake Park and Meadowbrook Park collectively contain more than half of both trail types (see Table 4).

BICYCLE COUNTS

24-hour bike counts were recorded at 18 UPD park locations and 26 shared use and bicycle trail facilities located outside of UPD parks but within the Urbana Park District (see Figure 6 & 7). Counts occurred through the summer and fall seasons of 2013 to obtain data regarding bicycle traffic volumes along specific locations and corridors throughout Urbana.

Meadowbrook Park recorded the highest counts of any UPD park with 96 cyclists counted at a western location and 75 in the northern portion of the park over a 24-hour period. Crystal Lake Park, King Park, and Crestview Park comprised the second most-frequented parks group with 20 to 30 counts at any given count location. Non-park trail corridors that recorded high volumes of bicycle travel included Race Street, University Avenue, Goodwin Avenue, Florida Avenue, and Philo Road with counts of 50 to 80 cyclists per day.

Park Name	Trail Type (miles)		
	Paved	Soft / Nature	Total
Crystal Lake	3.1	2.1	5.2
Meadowbrook	2.2	1.7	4.0
Brookens Sports Complex	1.2	0.0	1.2
Weaver	0.0	1.0	1.0
Southridge	0.7	0.0	0.7
King	0.6	0.0	0.6
Victory	0.4	0.0	0.5
Carle	0.3	0.1	0.4
Blair	0.4	0.0	0.4
Crestview	0.4	0.0	0.4
Phillips Recreation Center	0.4	0.0	0.4
Leal	0.3	0.0	0.3
Prairie	0.3	0.0	0.3
Chief Shemauger	0.3	0.0	0.3
AMBUCS	0.2	0.0	0.2
Wheatfield	0.1	0.0	0.1
Patterson Parklet	0.0	0.0	0.0
Canaday	0.0	0.0	0.0
Perkins Road / Judge Webber	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lohmann	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hickory Street	0.0	0.0	0.0
Binkerd's Grove	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hagen Site	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sunnycrest Tot Lot	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	10.9	5.0	15.9

Table 4 Total Urbana Park District trail miles per park- sorted highest to lowest.

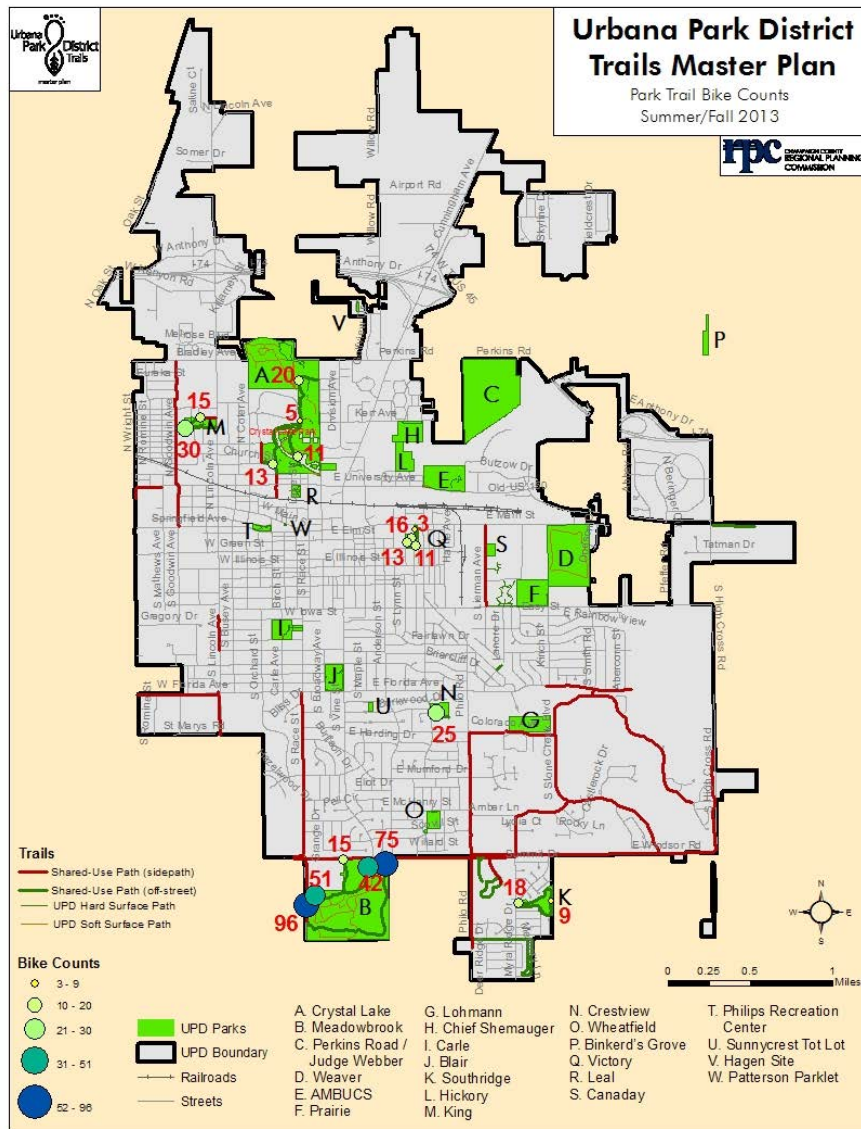


Figure 6 24-hour bicycle counts conducted along paved trails within Urbana Park District parks.

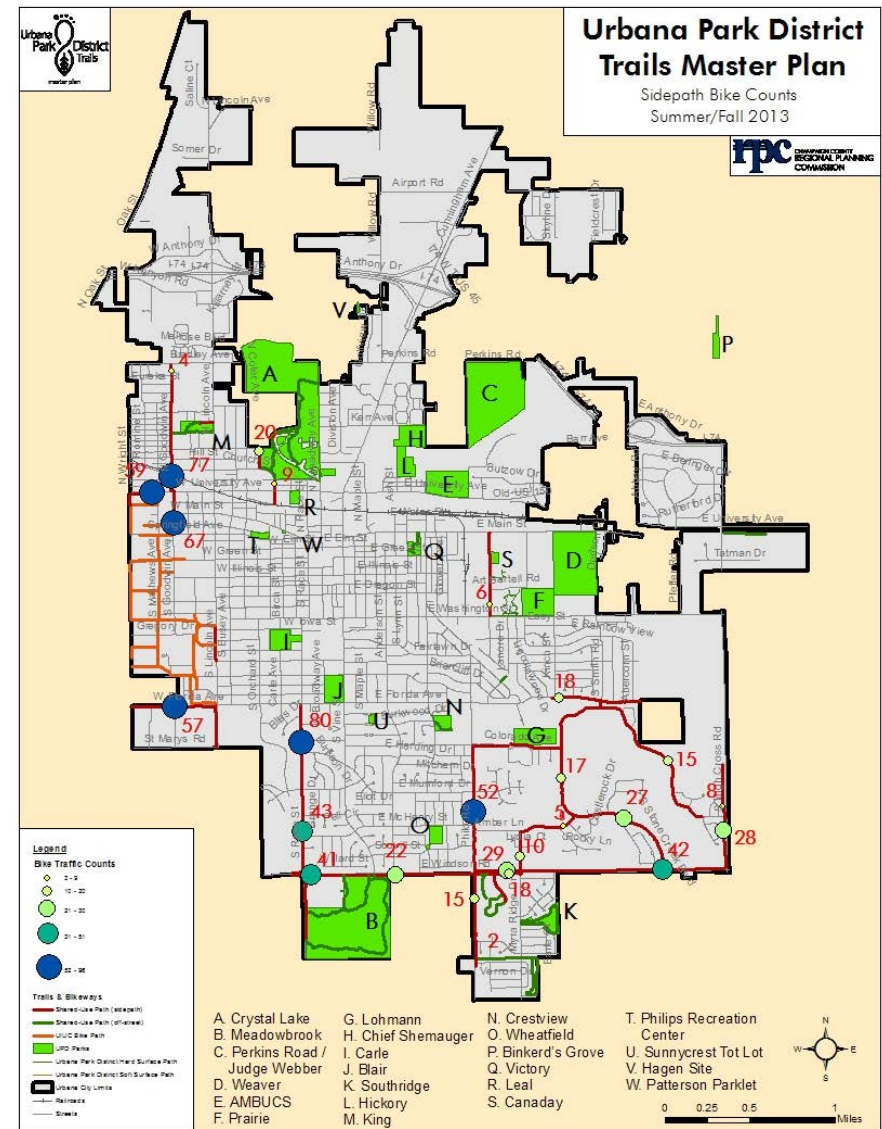


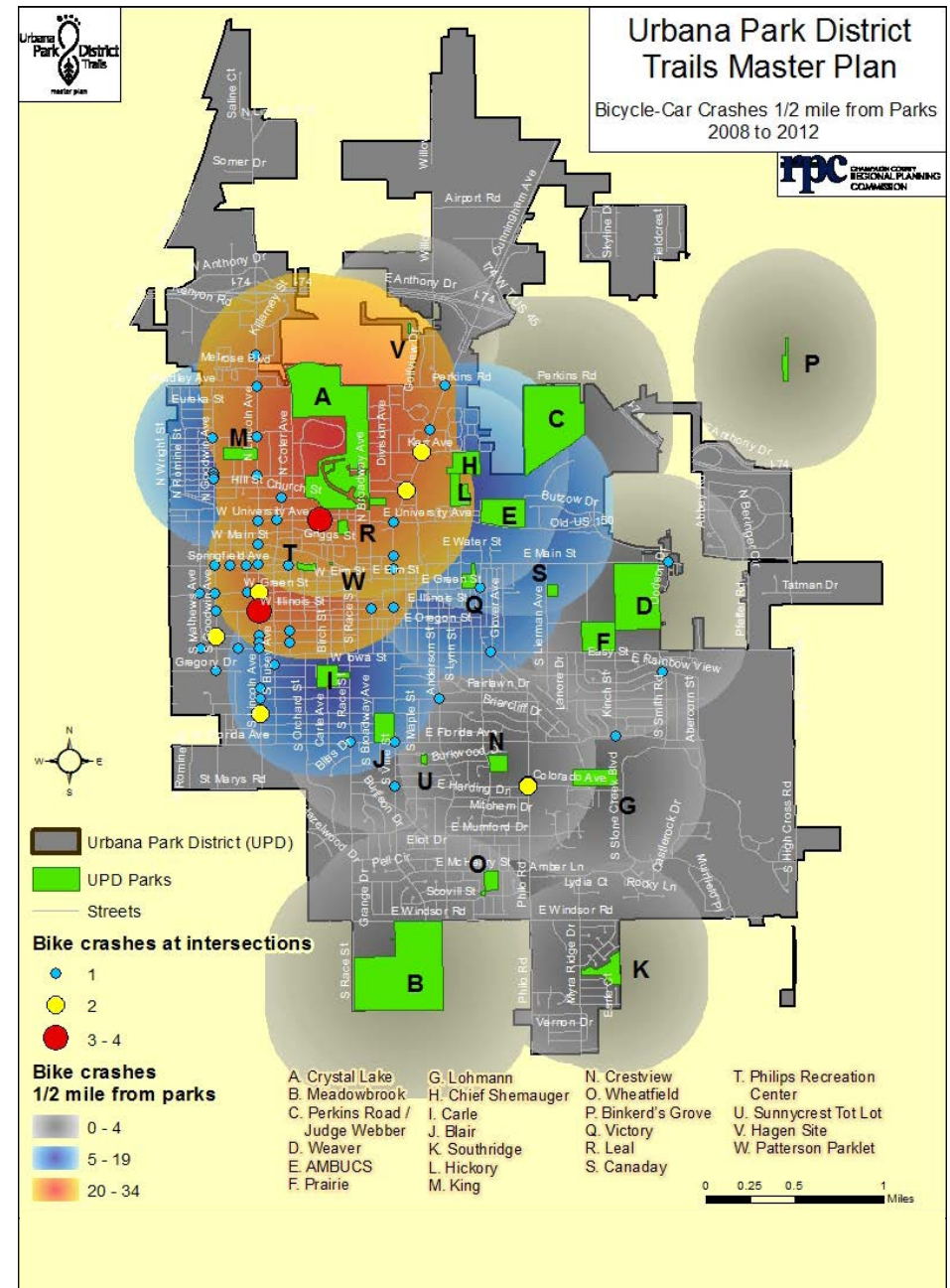
Figure 7 24-hour bicycle counts along shared use paths in Urbana.

SAFETY: PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE CRASHES NEAR PARK FACILITIES

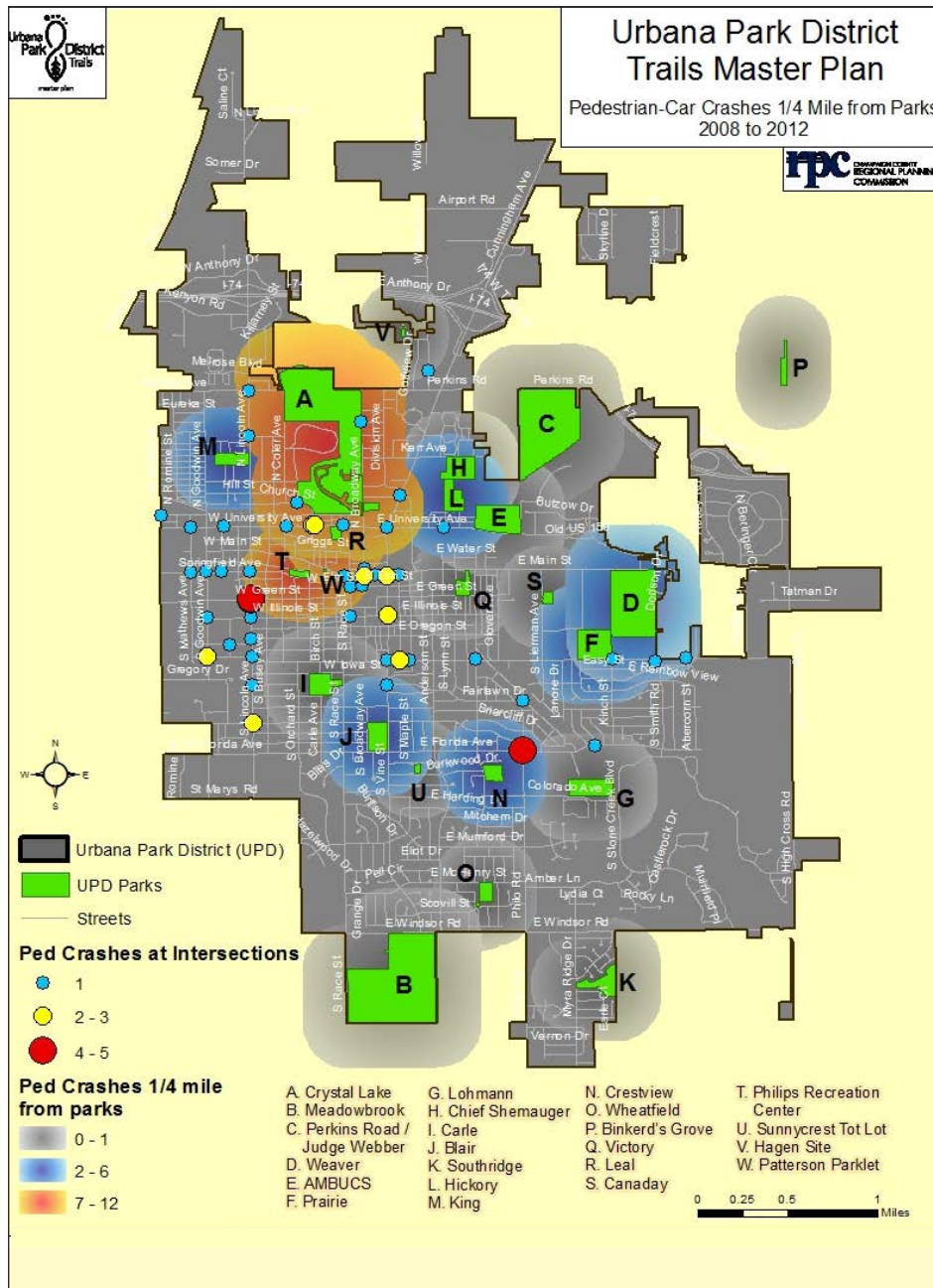
Bicycle and pedestrian crashes were assessed over a six year period from 2007 to 2012, with a total of 85 bicycle crashes and 101 pedestrian crashes occurring in Urbana. Bicycle and pedestrian crashes were calculated within a buffered biking and walking distance from each park (assumed to be a half and quarter of a mile respectively).³ High crash volumes for nearby cyclists and pedestrians were considered to be 21 to 34 and 10 to 14 respectively. **Figures 8 and 9** display bicycle and pedestrian crash zones by frequency over the observed six year time frame.

In general, crash points tended to cluster around the University of Illinois and downtown Urbana between 2007 and 2012. More specifically, the corridors of Lincoln Avenue, Cunningham Avenue, and University Avenue experienced a higher amount of crashes. While these locations may generally represent areas containing more difficult crossings, they also reveal areas of relatively high trail usage by bicyclists and pedestrians as a result of crash frequencies.

Figure 8 Urbana bicycle crash locations (85 total) within a 6 year period from 2007 to 2012. Buffers indicate a half-mile cycling distance from each park and are tiled from highest crash category (21 to 34) to lowest (0 to 10) over the 6 year time frame.



3 Champaign-Urbana Urbanized Transportation Study (CUUATS). 2012. Active Choices: Champaign County Greenways & Trails Plan Needs Assessment. Page 14.



Relatively more pedestrian crashes occur at key intersections, such as Lincoln Avenue & Green Street (see top) and Wright Street & Green Street (see above).

Figure 9 Urbana pedestrian crash locations (101 total) within a 6 year period from 2007 to 2012. Buffers indicate a quarter-mile walking distance from each park and are tiled from highest crash category (10 to 14) to lowest (0 to 4) over the 6 year time frame.

ACCESS TO TRANSIT

Existing bus routes as of Fall 2013 for the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (CUMTD) were inventoried, and designated bus stops within a quarter-mile walking distance from each park were counted (see Table 5 & 6). Table 2 shows park ranking by number of designated stops. Figure 8 displays each park relative to its overall connectivity to the transit network.

The Crystal Lake Park area contained the most designated bus stops with 72. In comparison, Crestview Park had the second most stops with 52 (20 less) followed by Victory Park, Blair Park, Prairie Park, and King Park, containing between 40 and 50. With regard to bus routes, the Patterson Parklet and Leal Park areas were in closest proximity to the most bus routes within a quarter-mile walking distance with 8 and 7 respectively. Crystal Lake Park, Blair Park, and Phillips Recreation Center followed with 4 to 5 routes.

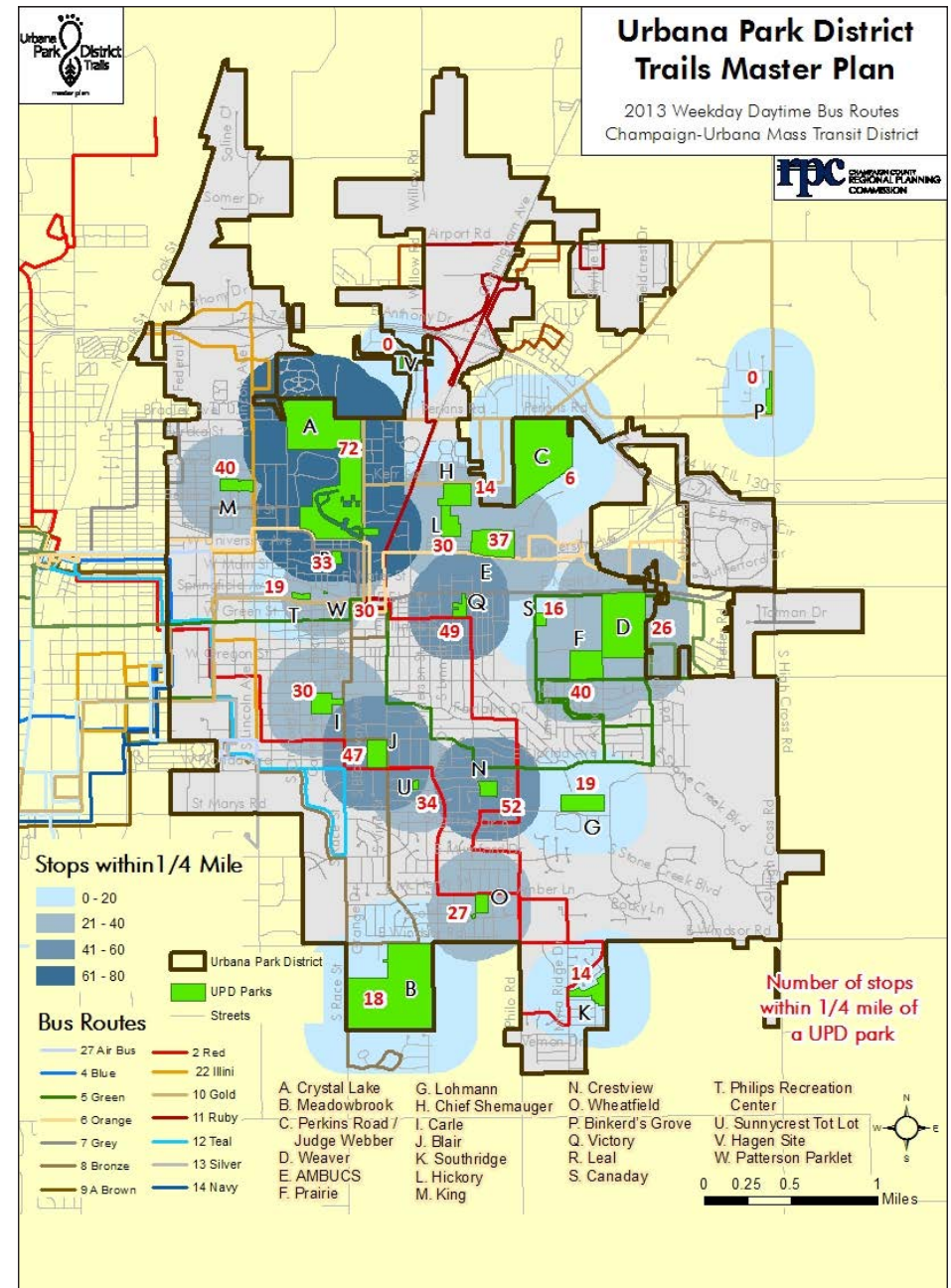
Park Name	Number of Stops within 1/4 Mile
Crystal Lake	72
Crestview	52
Victory	49
Blair	47
Prairie	40
King	40
AMBUCS	37
Sunny Crest Tot Lot	34
Leal	33
Carle	30
Patterson Parklet	30
Hickory Street	30
Wheatfield	27
Weaver	26
Phillips Recreation Center	19
Lohmann	19
Meadowbrook	18
Canaday	16
Chief Shemauger	14
Southridge	14
Perkins Road / Judge Webber	6
Binkerd's Grove	0
Hagen Site	0

Table 5 CUMTD bus stops within a quarter-mile walking distance from UPD parks.

Park Name	Number of Routes within 1/4 Mile
Patterson Parklet	8
Leal	7
Crystal Lake	5
Blair	4
Phillips Recreation Center	4
Victory	3
King	3
AMBUCS	3
Sunny Crest Tot Lot	3
Carle	3
Hickory Street	3
Weaver	3
Crestview	2
Lohmann	2
Meadowbrook	2
Canaday	2
Chief Shemauger	2
Perkins Road / Judge Webber	2
Prairie	1
Wheatfield	1
Southridge	1
Binkerd's Grove	1
Hagen Site	1

Table 6 CUMTD bus routes within a quarter-mile walking distance from UPD parks.

Figure 10 Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (CUMTD) routes. Total number of stops per park in red.



04. PARK INVENTORY AND TRAIL “GAP” ANALYSIS

In producing a comprehensive existing condition analysis, existing park and trail facilities were inventoried in all Urbana Park District parks (see [Table 7](#)). These included:

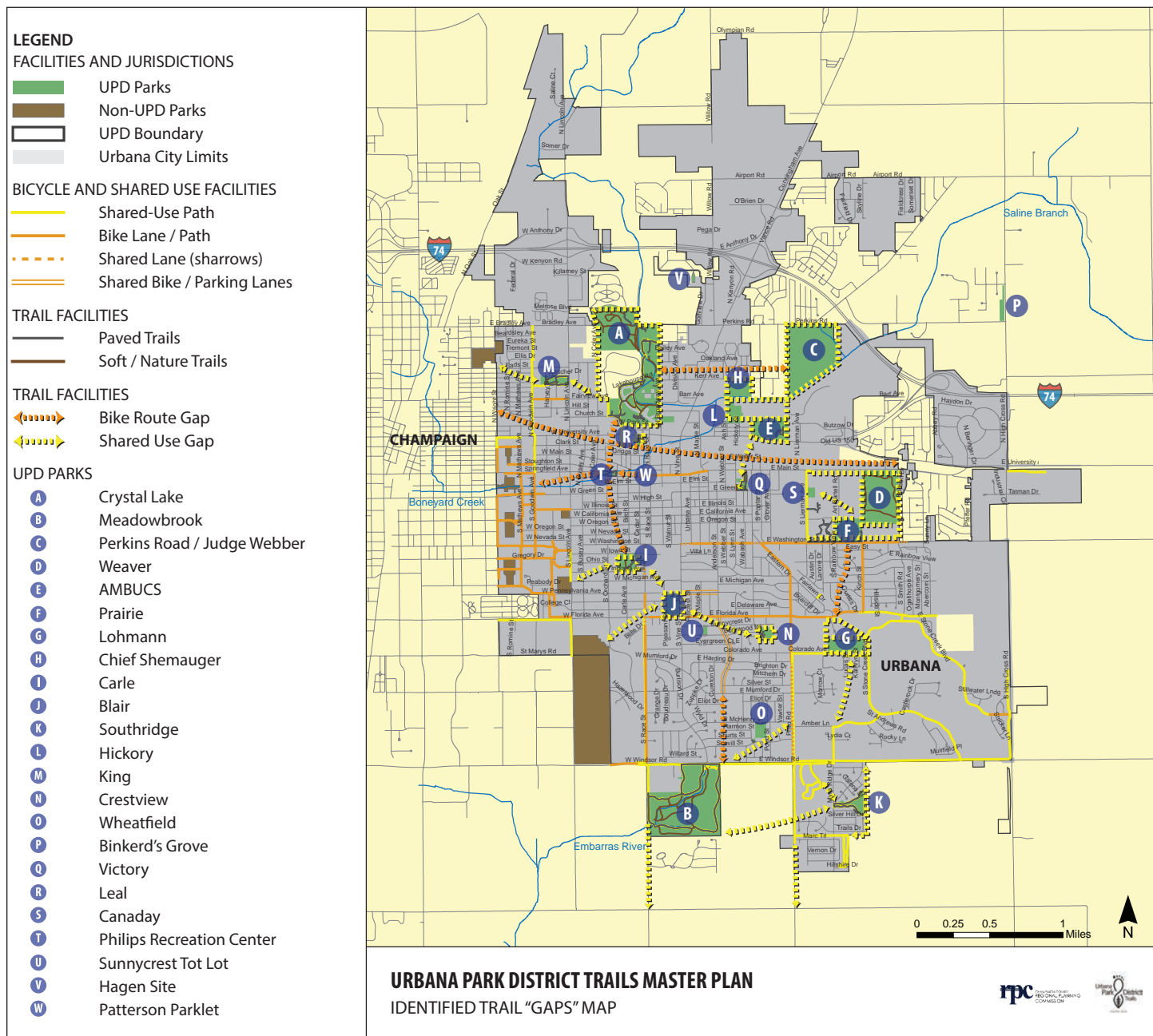
- Benches
- Bike Parking
- Lightning
- Wase Receptacles
- Maps
- Mile Markers
- Trail Signs
- Water Fountains

Waste receptacles and benches were the most common park facilities, found at 18 and 17 park locations respectively. Additionally, lighting (263) and benches (125) were the most abundant per individual unit.

To accompany these facilities, park acreage, location, type, and unique amenities were also inventoried and listed.

Park Name	Benches	Bike Parking	Lighting	Map	Mile Marker	Trail Sign	Waste Receptacles	Water Fountain
Crystal Lake	18	4	95	1	0	15	32	3
Meadowbrook	24	3	28	5	18	19	5	2
Perkins Road / Judge Webber	8	0	0	0	0	4	3	1
Weaver	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0
AMBUCS	1	0	9	0	0	3	9	3
Prairie	3	0	22	0	0	0	7	1
Lohmann	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
Chief Shemauger	2	2	6	0	0	1	2	0
Blair	9	2	22	0	0	0	8	2
Carle	9	1	32	2	0	2	2	1
Southridge	6	0	0	0	0	5	2	0
Hickory Street	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
King	8	0	12	0	0	2	2	1
Crestview	6	0	3	0	0	3	2	1
Wheatfield	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Binkerd's Grove	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Victory	8	1	4	0	0	1	5	1
Canaday	0	0	8	0	0	0	4	0
Leal	3	0	7	0	0	0	1	0
Phillips Recreation Center	8	2	15	0	0	0	2	1
Hagen Site	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sunny Crest Tot Lot	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Patterson Parklet	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL UNITS	125	16	263	8	18	59	91	17
Total Park Locations	17	8	13	3	1	12	18	11

Table 7: Urbana Park District trail facilities by park. Inventoried summer, 2013.



Gaps in the trail network were assessed at the individual park level based upon both walking and biking distance (assumed to be a quarter- and half-mile respectively) to other UPD facilities (see Figure 11).⁴ From there, opportunities and constraints for each mode were identified and elaborated upon relative to potential for future enhancement of local and regional trail networks.

Figure 11 A map depicting identified trail gaps in the Urbana Park District.

4 Active Choices: Champaign County Greenways & Trails Plan Needs Assessment. December, 2012. Page 14. Champaign County Regional Planning Commission.

4.1 CRYSTAL LAKE PARK

Area	Location	Type
139 acres	Park Street and Broadway Avenue	Signature

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (18)
- Bike Parking (4)
- Lighting (95)
- Map (1)
- Trail Signs (15)
- Trash Cans (32)
- Water Fountains (3)
- Paved Trails (3.12 miles)
- Soft Trails (2.11 miles)

AMENITIES

- Crystal Lake
- Busey Woods (59 acres)
- Anita Purves Nature Center
- Crystal Lake Family Aquatic Center
- Recreational Facilities
- Open Space
- Parking
- Restrooms
- Playgrounds
- Pavilion





OPPORTUNITIES

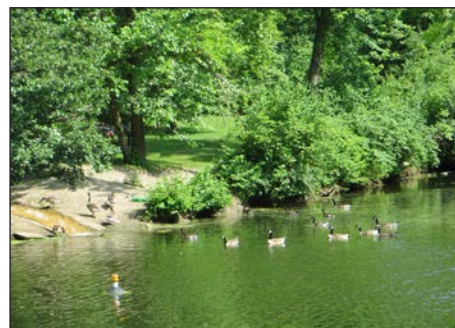
Proximity to Neighborhoods, Parks, and Destinations: Crystal Lake Park is accessible to many nearby residential neighborhoods with King Park located within walking distance from the park's western edge. Likewise, bicycle path opportunities to the south and east can benefit cyclists traveling from slightly further distances such as downtown Urbana and eastern neighborhoods.

Greenway Opportunities: Trail development along the Saline Branch will connect Crystal Lake Park with Chief Shemauger Park and the Hickory Street Site and ultimately Perkins Road / Judge Webber Park. This will provide a paved, off-road path leading from a river walk at Crystal Lake to other parks and areas of northeastern Urbana. This path also poses a connection with greenway development and adjacent areas along the Boneyard Creek.

Rail Trail Opportunity: The Wabash rail line has the potential to be both a local and regional amenity, bringing visitors from further away to Crystal Lake Park while offering a connection to Leal Park as well as other Urbana Park District areas situated along the Boneyard Creek including Phillips Recreation Center, Patterson Parklet, and Chief Shemauger Park.

CONSTRAINTS

Crossing University Avenue and Cunningham Avenue: Crystal Lake Park is bordered to the east by Cunningham Avenue and very closely to the South by University Avenue, presenting a difficult crossing for visitors. All options for a safe crossing should be considered to ensure an adequate connection for pedestrians and cyclists to this area.



Wildlife and habitat near Crystal Lake.



Pedestrian bridge crossing Crystal Lake.

4.2 MEADOWBROOK PARK

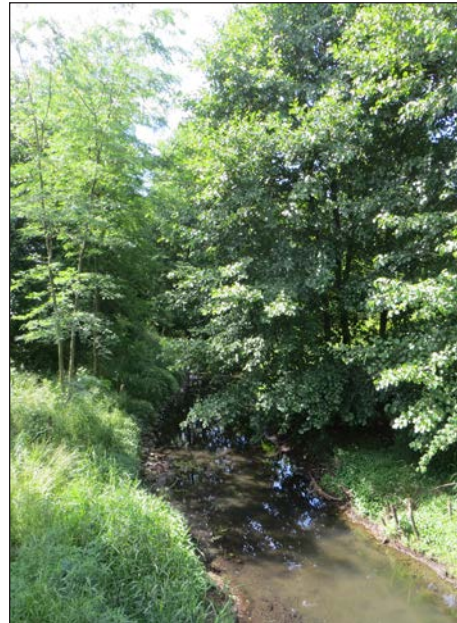
Area	Location	Type
130 acres	Windsor Road and Race Street	Signature

KEY ELEMENTS		
• Benches (24)	• Trail Signs (19)	• Paved Trails (2.22 miles)
• Bike Parking (3)	• Trash Cans (5)	• Soft Trails (1.74 miles)
• Lighting (28)	• Water Fountains (2)	
• Map (5)		
• Mile Markers (18)		

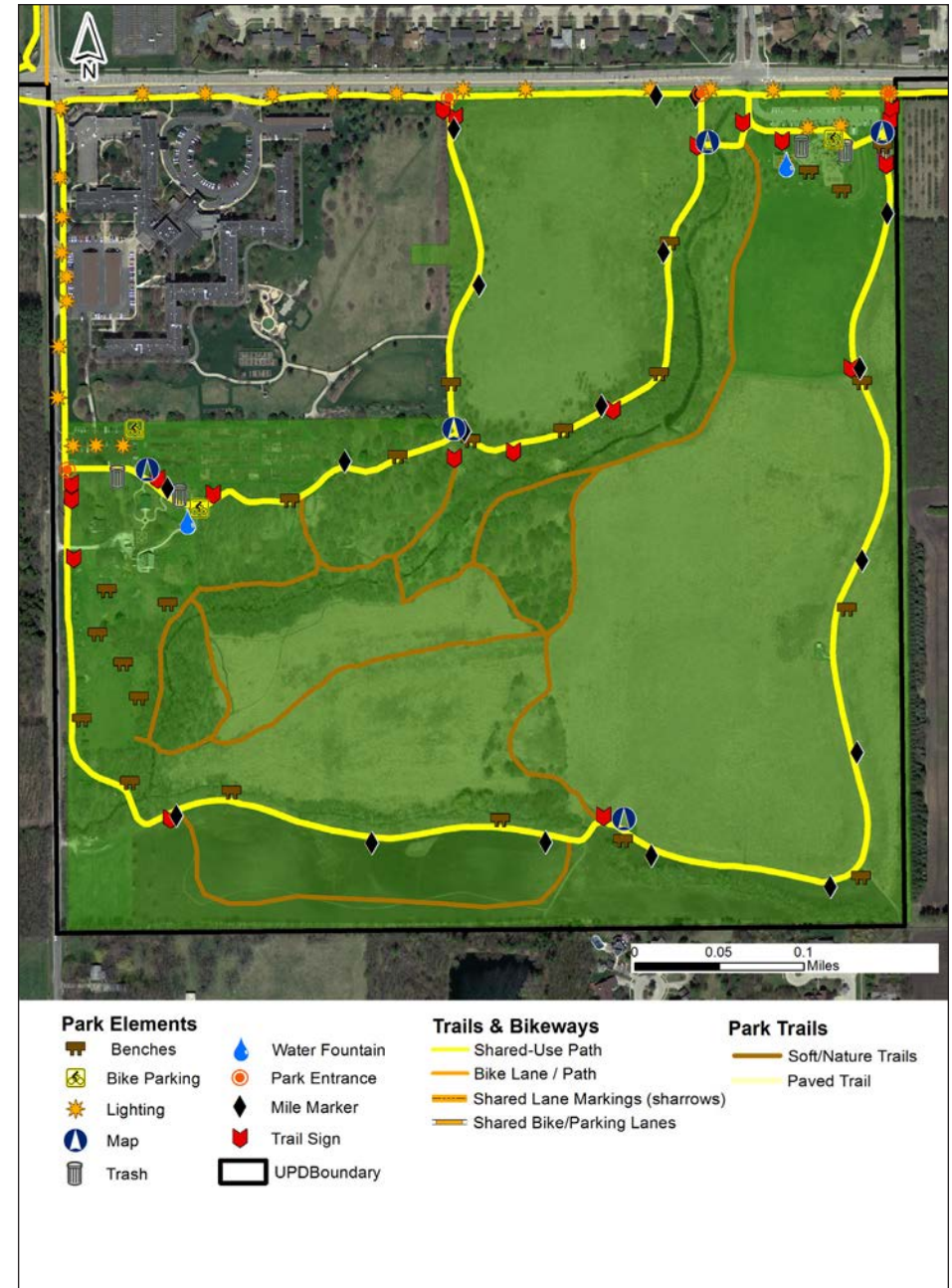
AMENITIES		
• Gardens	• Parking	• Restrooms
• Open Space	• Pavilions	• Sculptures / Art
• Natural Areas	• Playgrounds	

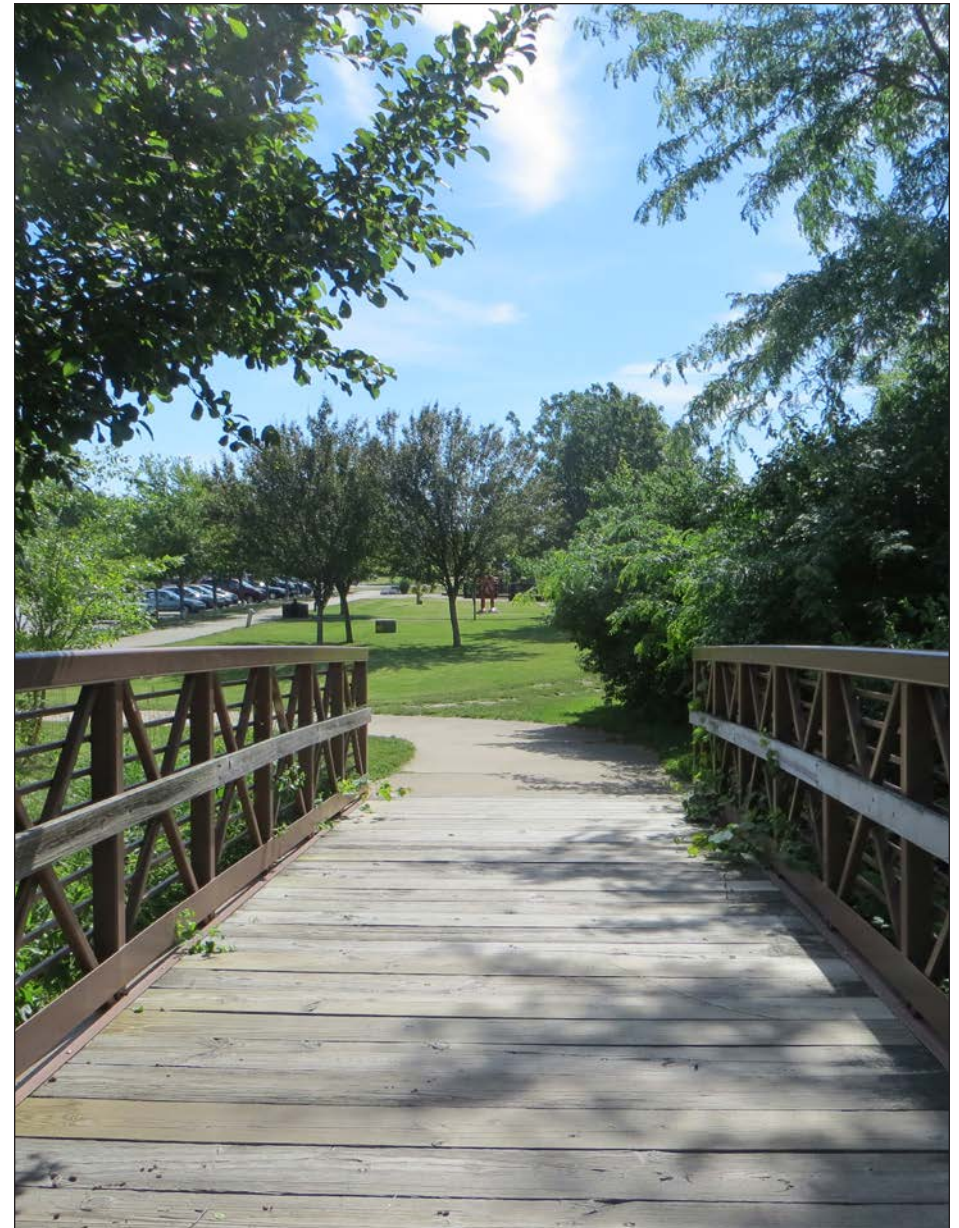
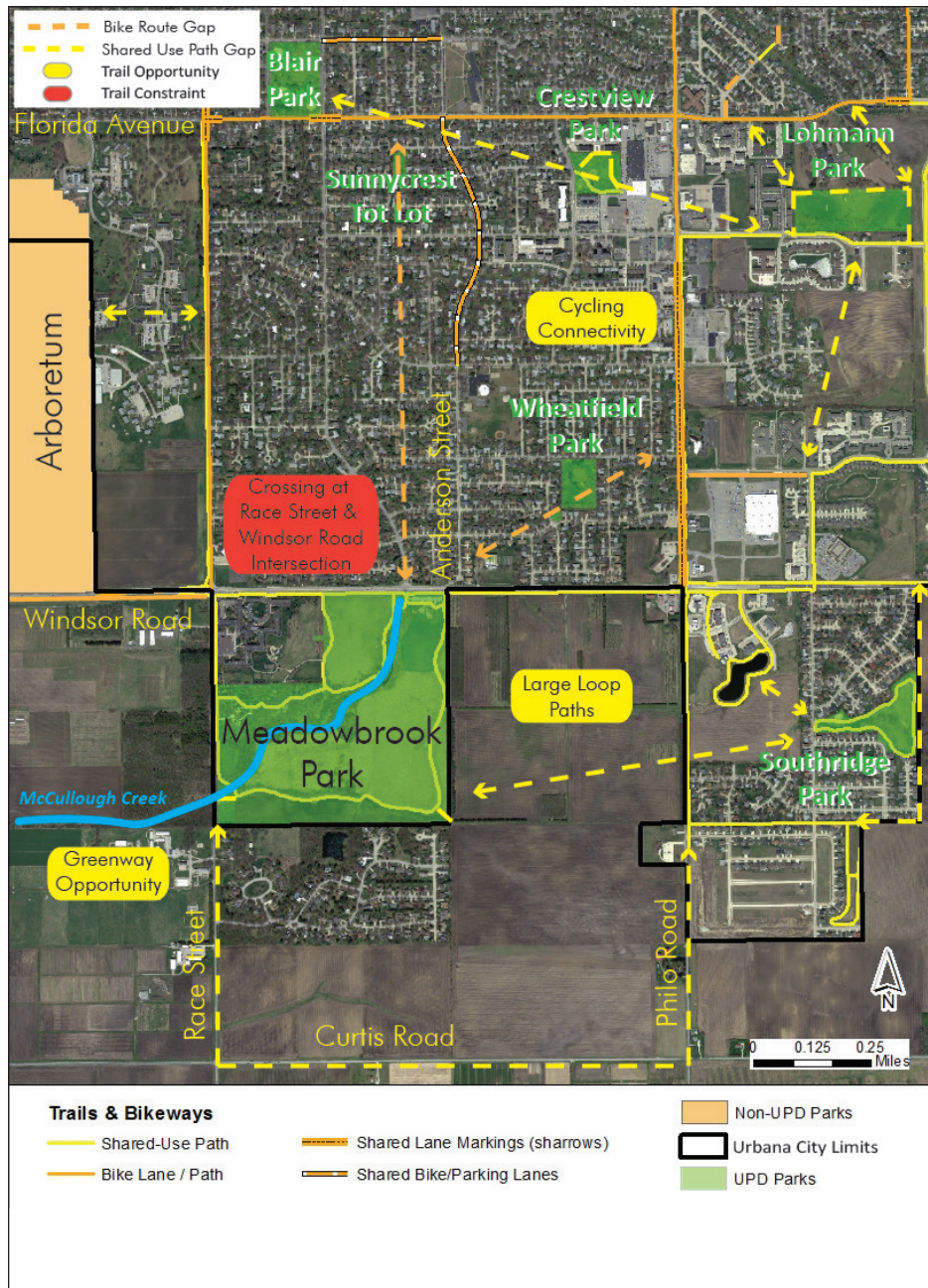


Paved trail with bicycle parking near Meadowbrook Park's western entrance.



McCullough Creek on the north side of Meadowbrook Park.





A trail system within Meadowbrook Park.

4.3 PERKING ROAD / JUDGE WEBBER PARK

Area	Location	Type
84 acres	Perkins Road and Eastern Avenue	Signature

KEY ELEMENTS

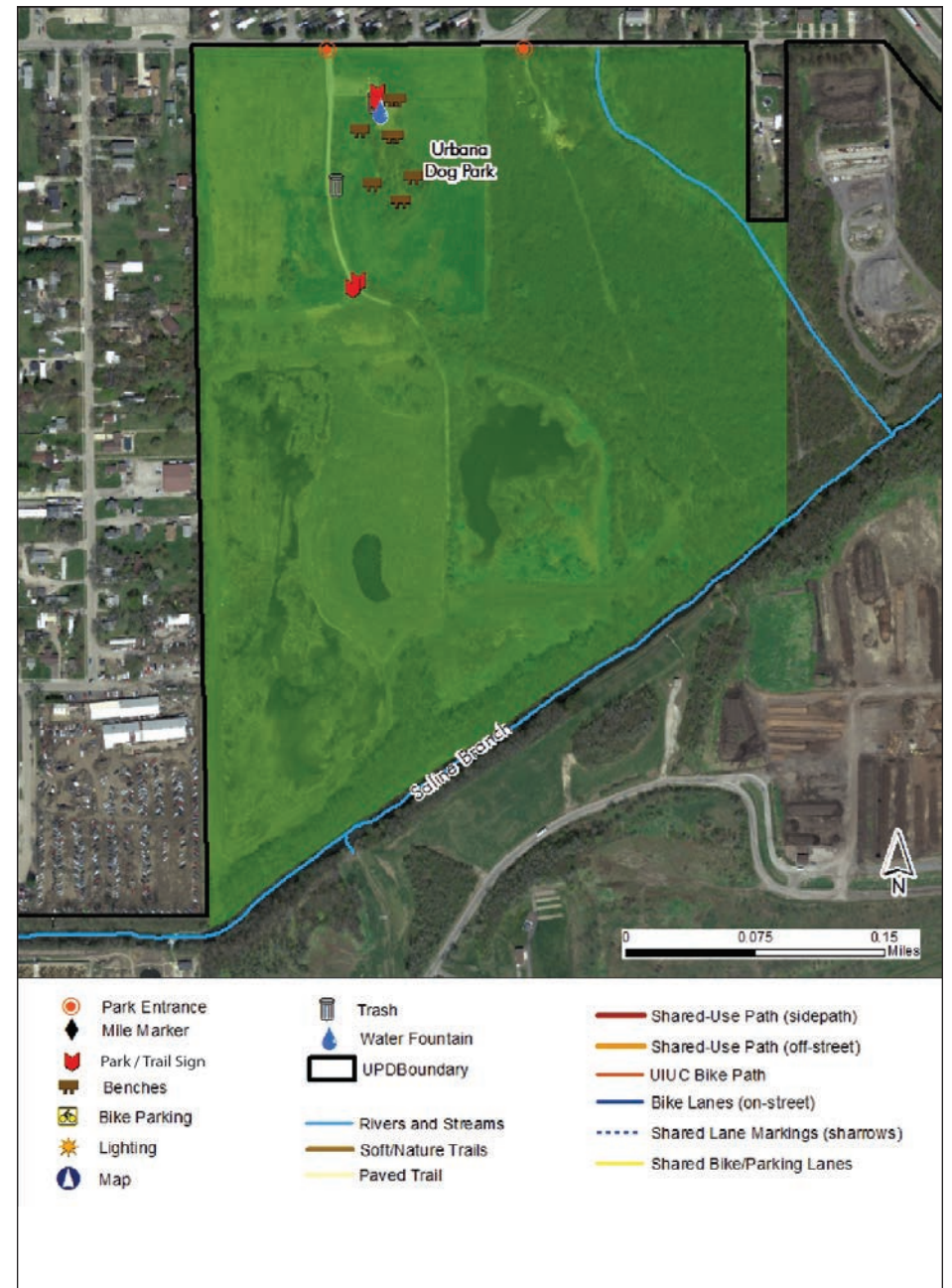
- Benches (8)
- Trail Signs (4)
- Trash Cans (3)
- Water Fountain (1)

AMENITIES

- Urbana Dog Park
- Parking
- Archery (private)



Prairie habitat, Judge Webber Park





OPPORTUNITIES

Crystal Lake Bike Connection: Judge Webber Park is located within cycling distance from Crystal Lake Park. Both Kerr Avenue and the Saline Branch offer potential links to connect these two signature parks.

Greenway Opportunity: Trail and natural area development along the Saline Branch will connect Judge Webber Park several UPD facilities including Crystal Lake Park, Chief Shemauger Park, and the Hickory Street Site as well as producing a regional connection to the northwest.

Loop Trail Between Parks: Walking and biking juxtaposition and proximity to Chief Shemauger Park, AMBUCS Park, and the Hickory Street Site provide an opportunity for the creation of a shared use loop trail between these areas.

Loop Trail Within Park: Developing loop trails within Judge Webber Park will allow visitors to experience an array of natural areas including the Saline Branch, restored prairie, and woodlands while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks.

CONSTRAINTS

Lack of Nearby Trail Infrastructure: The Judge Webber Park area does not currently contain any designated bicycle or shared use trails. Connecting to the park by walking and biking using Perkins Road is a particular problem due to the lack of pedestrian and bike facilities on this roadway.

Crossing University Avenue, Cunningham Avenue, and I-74: Judge Webber Park is bordered on nearly all sides by roads or open space that present a difficult crossing for visitors. All options to create safe and accessible crossing locations should be considered to ensure an adequate connection for pedestrians and cyclists to this area.

4.4 WEAVER PARK

Area 60 acres	Location Main Street and Smith Road	Type Signature
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KEY ELEMENTS

- Bike Parking (1)
- Trail Signs (3)
- Soft Trails (0.95 miles)

AMENITIES

- Natural Areas
- Open Space



Weaver Park entrance.



Weaver Park - open space.





OPPORTUNITIES

Bike Connectivity: Victory Park is located within cycling distance from Weaver Park. Both Main Street and a future trail along the Penn Central rail line offer potential links to connect these two parks. Furthermore, Weaver Park is connected to existing bicycle infrastructure to the south via Washington Street and Kinch Street (connecting to Lohmann Park).

Kickapoo Rail Trail Connection: The Kickapoo Rail Trail is proposed to begin just north of Weaver Park. This potential trailhead would serve a 24.5 mile regional connection between east Urbana and Kickapoo State Park near Danville, Illinois with several other destinations along the way.

Loop Trail Between Parks: Walking and biking juxtaposition and proximity between Weaver Park, Prairie Park, and Canaday Park provide an opportunity for the creation of an accessible, shared use loop trail between these areas.

Loop Trail Within Park: Developing loop trails within Weaver Park will allow visitors to experience open space and natural areas while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks and neighborhoods.

CONSTRAINTS

Crossing University Avenue: University Avenue is located close to Weaver Park to the northwest, presenting a difficult crossing for some visitors. This constraint will increase if residential development rises in this area. All options to create safe and accessible crossing locations should be considered to ensure an adequate connection for pedestrians and cyclists in this area.

4.5 AMBUCS

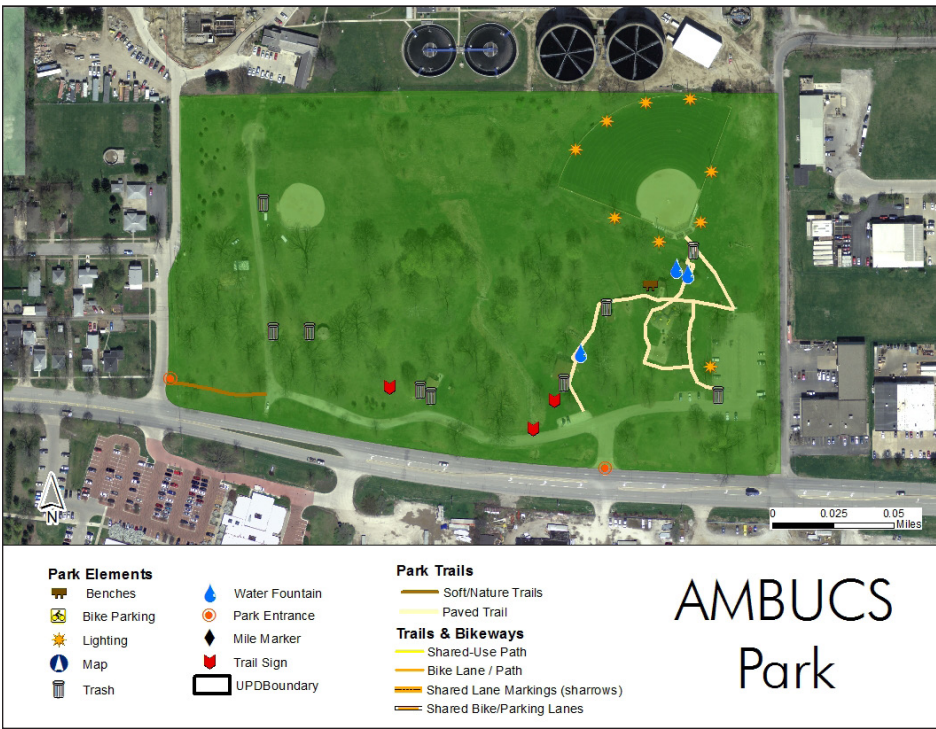
Area	Location	Type
24 acres	East University Avenue, 1100 Block	Community

KEY ELEMENTS

- Bench (1)
 - Lighting (9)
 - Trail Signs (3)
 - Trash Cans (9)
 - Water Fountains (3)
 - Paved Trails (0.18 miles)
 - Soft Trails (0.04 miles)

AMENITIES

- Accessible Areas
 - Recreational Areas
 - Open Space
 - Parking
 - Pavilions
 - Playgrounds
 - Restrooms



Accessbile playground ensures all types of users can utilize this facility.



Park pavilion at AMBUCS Park.



OPPORTUNITIES

Greenway Opportunity: Trail and natural area development along the Saline Branch will increase connectivity between AMBUCS Park and several other UPD facilities including Crystal Lake Park, Chief Shemauger Park, Judge Webber Park, and the Hickory Street Site as well as producing a regional connection to the northwest.

Loop Trail Between Parks: Walking and biking juxtaposition and proximity between AMBUCS Park, Chief Shemauger Park, and the Hickory Street Site provide an opportunity for the creation of a shared use loop trail between these areas.

Loop Trail Within Park: Developing a loop trail within AMBUCS Park will allow visitors to experience the park's many amenities while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks.

CONSTRAINTS

Contiguous Neighborhoods: AMBUCS Park is bordered on only one small side (west) by residential development. Most other contiguous areas present a difficult crossing or barrier for visitors. This arrangement underscores the need for adequate trail facilities in this area.

Crossing University Avenue: University Avenue presents a difficult crossing for neighborhoods south of AMBUCS Park. Creating a safe and accessible crossing location to ensure adequate connections for pedestrians and cyclists to this area would improve connectivity to Victory Park, local

4.6 PRAIRIE PARK

Area 20 acres	Location 1202 East Washington Street	Type Community
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KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (3)
- Lightning (22)
- Trash Cans (7)
- Water Fountain (1)
- Paved Trails (0.29 miles)

AMENITIES

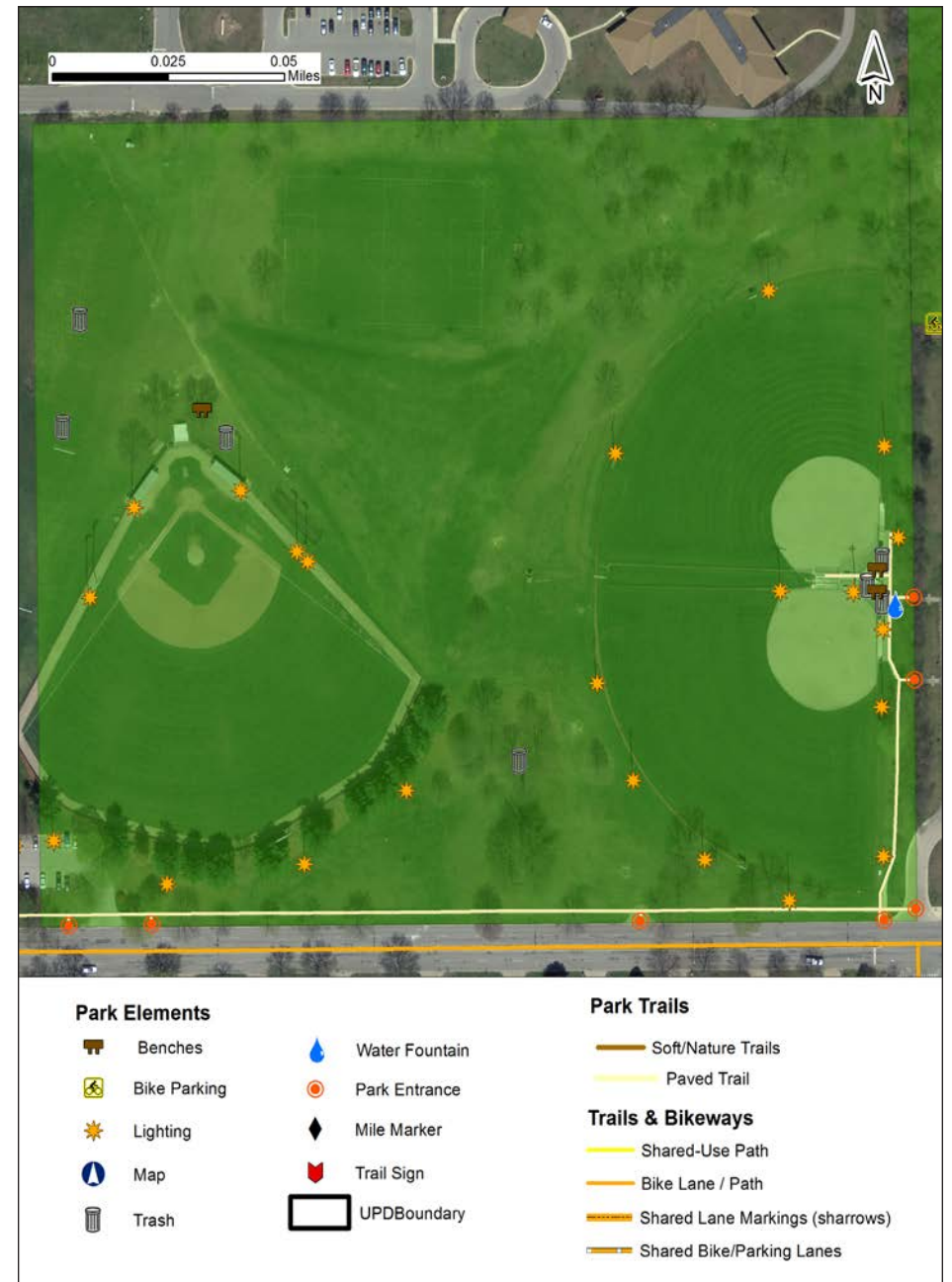
- Recreational Facilities
- Open Space
- Parking

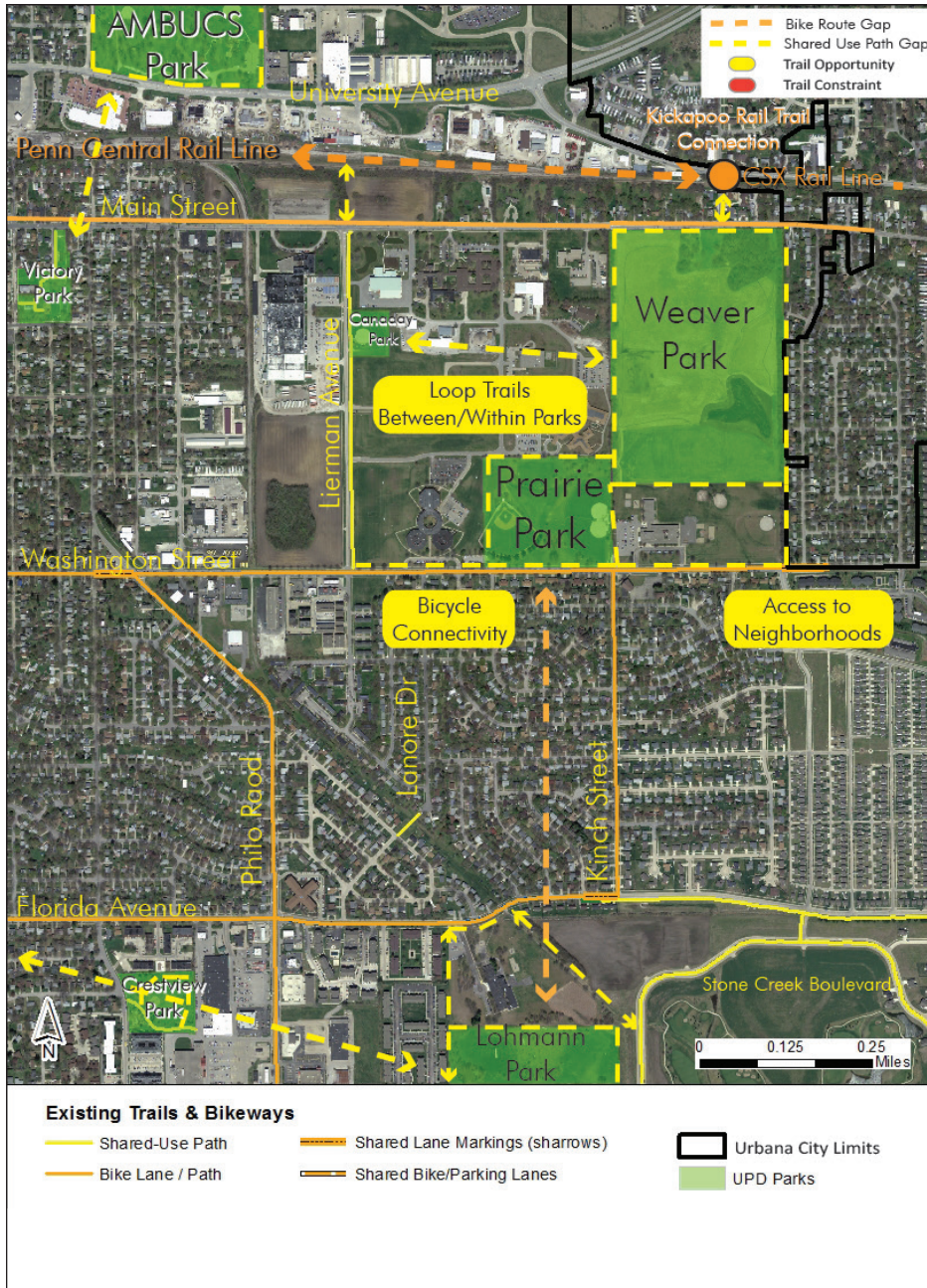


Signage near Prairie Park entrance.



Picnic tables to allow people to gather and hold activities.





OPPORTUNITIES

Bicycle Connectivity: Victory Park is located within cycling distance from Prairie Park via Lierman Avenue and Main Street. Furthermore, Prairie Park is connected to existing bicycle infrastructure to the south via Washington Street and Kinch Street (linking to Lohmann Park).

Access to Neighborhoods: Prairie Park is accessible to many nearby residential neighborhoods. Likewise, existing and future bicycle paths will connect cyclists traveling from slightly further distances such as Lohmann Park and southern, western, and northern neighborhoods.

Loop Trail Between and Within Parks: Walking and biking juxtaposition and proximity between Prairie Park, Weaver Park, and Canaday Park provide an opportunity for the creation of an accessible, shared use loop trail between these areas. Furthermore, developing a loop trail within Prairie Park will improve visitor interaction with recreational facilities and open space while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks and neighborhoods



Softball field, Prairie Park.

4.7 CANADAY PARK

Area	Location	Type
3 acres	South Lierman Avenue, 300 Block	Community

KEY ELEMENTS

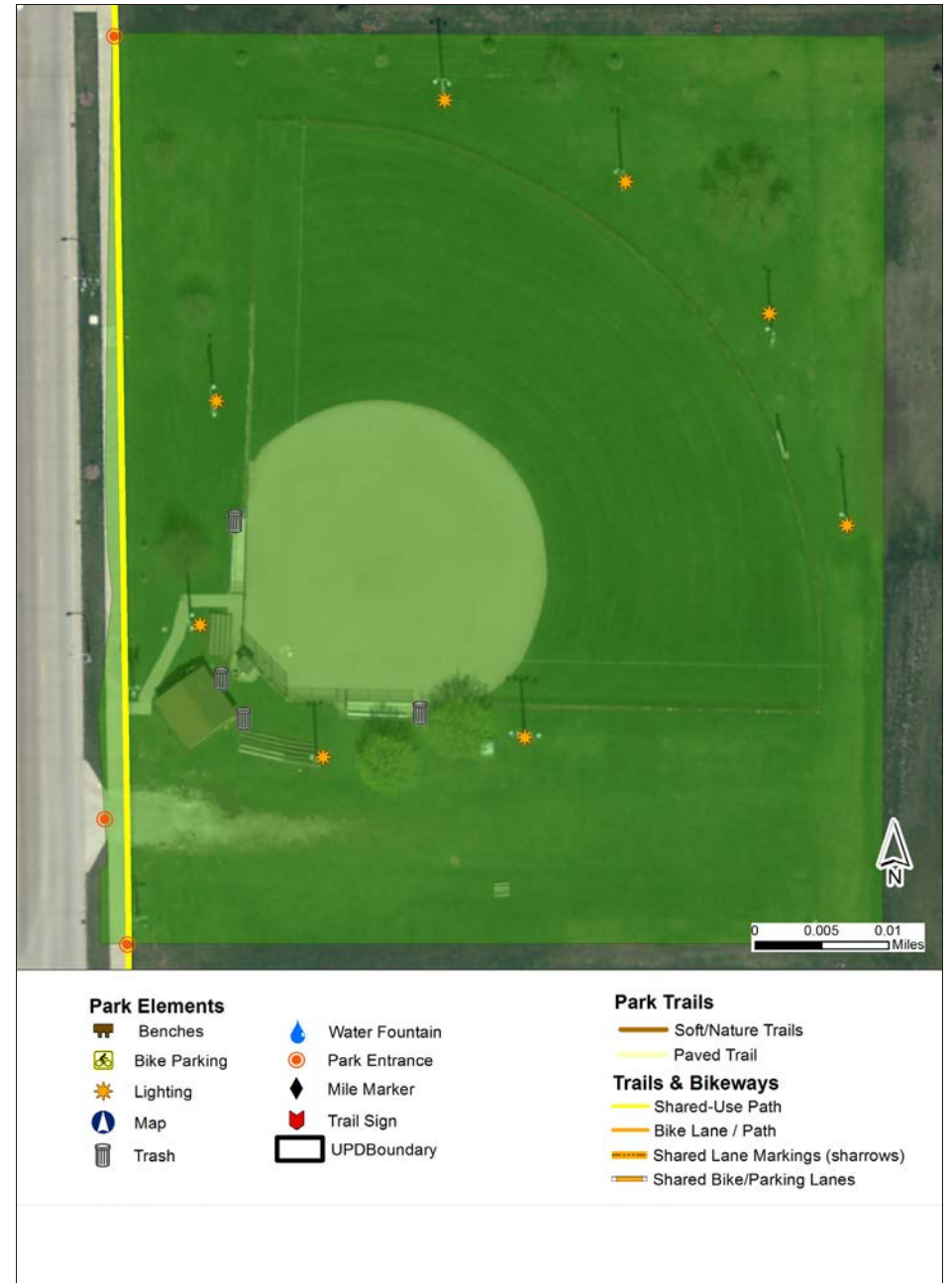
- Lightning (3)
- Trash Cans (4)
- Paved Trails (0.01 miles)

AMENITIES

- Recreational Facilities (baseball / softball)
- Parking



Softball diamond, Canaday Park.





OPPORTUNITIES

Bicycle Connectivity: There are many parks located within cycling distance from Canaday Park including Prairie Park, Victory Park, AMBUCS Park, Weaver Park, and Lohmann Park. Furthermore, existing bicycle infrastructure along Lierman Avenue, Washington Street, Main Street, Philo Road, and Kinch Street provides a good starting point for closing bicycle network gaps between these parks.

Loop Trails Between Parks: Walking and biking juxtaposition and proximity between Prairie Park, Weaver Park, and Canaday Park provide an opportunity for the creation of a shared use loop trail between these three areas.

CONSTRAINTS

Access to Neighborhoods: Canaday Park does not have direct access to neighborhoods from the west or the east. The park is bordered by Champaign County facilities to the east side, a manufacturing industry to the west, and sparse developments to the north.

Area between Main Street and University Avenue: There is currently no direct northsouth connection from Canaday Park to AMBUCS Park where Lierman Avenue ends (right before Main Street and University Avenue). Primary issues include the current state of the Penn Central rail line and existing land uses along University Avenue with no cut-throughs or sidewalks. All options for a safe crossing should be considered to ensure an adequate connection for pedestrians and cyclists between these areas.

4.8 PHILLIPS RECREATION CENTER

Area	Location	Type
24 acres	East University Avenue, 1100 Block	Community

KEY ELEMENTS

- Bench (1)
- Lighting (9)
- Trail Signs (3)
- Trash Cans (9)
- Water Fountains (3)
- Paved Trails (0.18 miles)
- Soft Trails (0.04 miles)

AMENITIES

- Accessible Areas
- Recreational Areas
- Open Space
- Parking
- Pavilions
- Playgrounds
- Restrooms



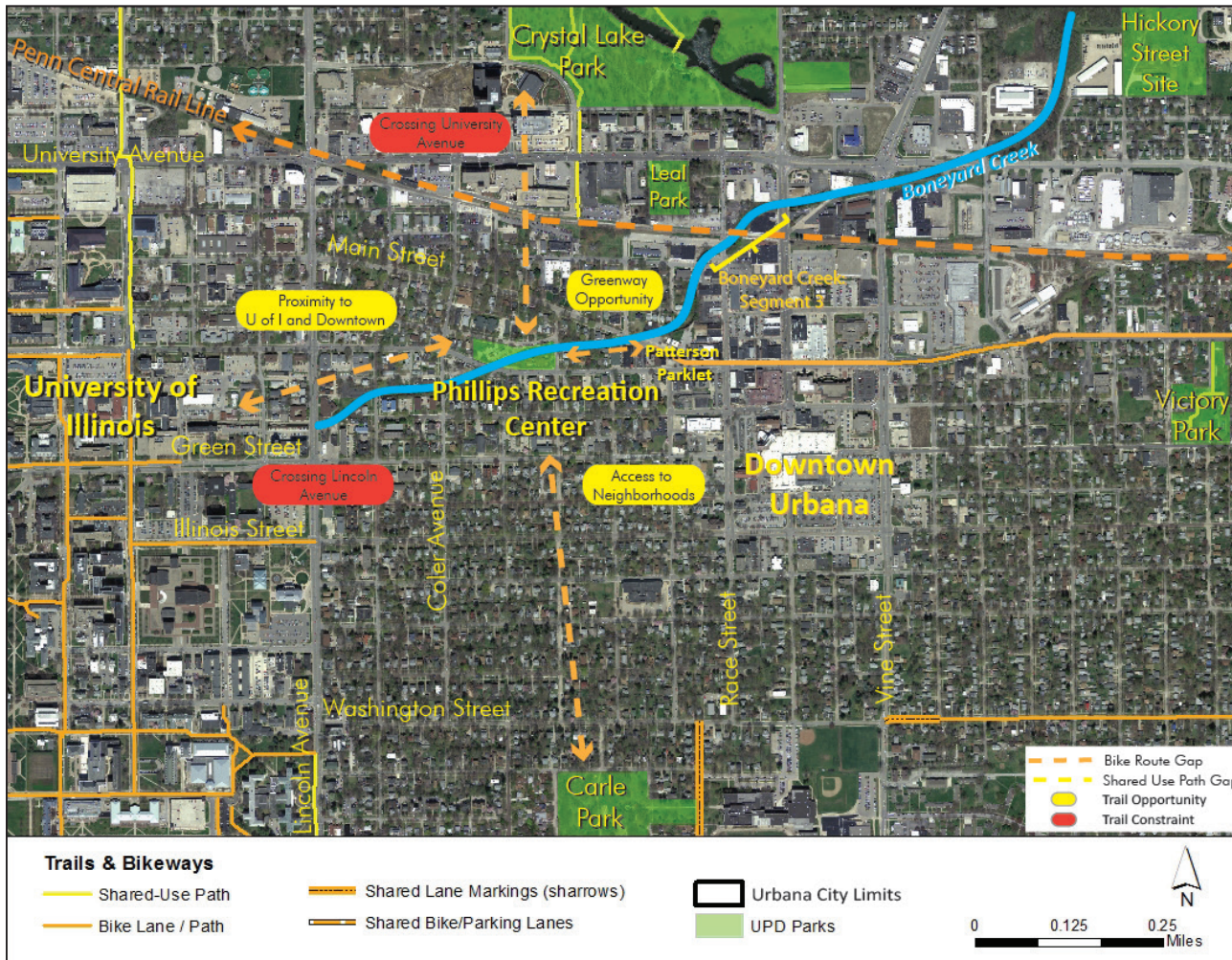
An overall view of Phillips Recreation Center



Bicycle parking near Stoughton Street, Phillips Recreation Center.



A view of Phillips Recreation Center (north side).



OPPORTUNITIES

Greenway Opportunity: Park, trail and natural area development along the Boneyard Creek would connect Phillips Recreation Center to the University of Illinois and several UPD facilities including Patterson Parklet, Chief Shemauger Park, Leal Park, Judge Webber Park, and the Hickory Street Site as well as producing a regional connection to the northwest. Segment 3 from the Boneyard Creek Master Plan is currently under construction and will provide trail facilities running toward Phillips Recreation Center along the creek from Griggs Street and Broadway Avenue.

Access to Neighborhoods: Phillips Recreation Center is accessible to residential neighborhoods from all directions. Likewise, future bicycle paths will offer cycling connections to the University of Illinois, Downtown Urbana, and nearby UPD parks including Carle Park, King Park, Crystal Lake Park, Leal Park, and Victory Park.

CONSTRAINTS

Crossing Lincoln and University: Crossing Lincoln Avenue and University Avenue may present increased difficulty for some pedestrians and cyclists. All options for a safe crossing should be continually evaluated to ensure an adequate connection between these areas and Phillips Recreation Center.

4.9 LOHMANN PARK

Area	Location	Type
15 acres	Between Colorado Avenue and Florida Avenue (South of Thomas Paine School)	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (3)
- Trail Sign (1)
- Trash Cans (2)

AMENITIES

- Recreational Areas
- Open Space



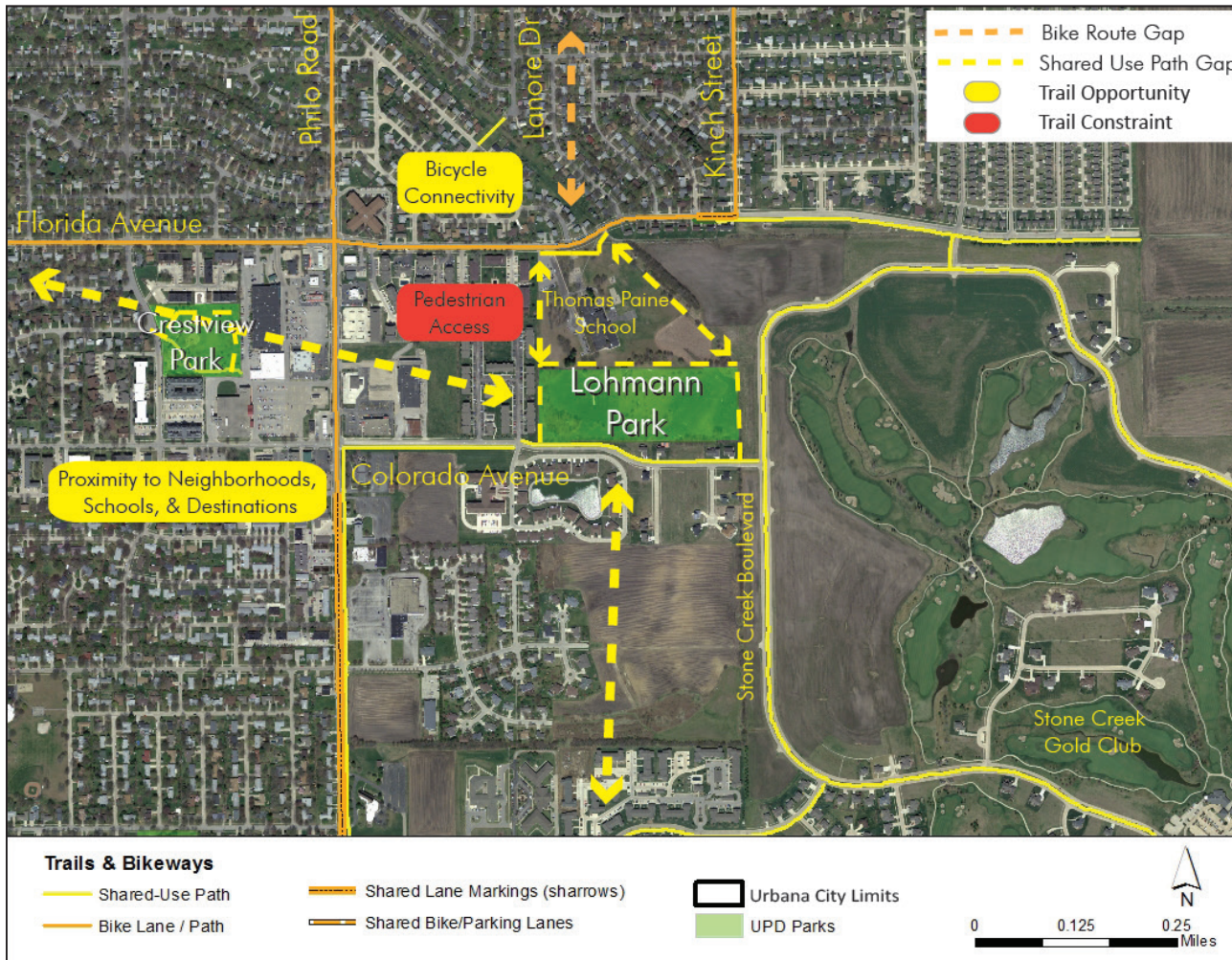
Disc golf course, Lohmann Park.



Sitting area and open space, Lohmann Park.



Message board, Lohmann Park.



OPPORTUNITIES

Bicycle Connectivity: Crestview Park is located within a half-mile cycling (and quarter-mile walking) distance from Lohmann Park. Furthermore, existing bicycle infrastructure along Florida Avenue, Philo Road, Kinch Street, and Colorado Avenue present connection opportunities to slightly further UPD facilities including Prairie Park, Weaver, Park, and Wheatfield Park.

Proximity to Neighborhoods, Schools, & Destinations: Lohmann Park is accessible to nearby residential neighborhoods, with Crestview Park located within a quarter-mile walking distance from the park's western edge. Likewise, commercial areas along Philo Road are within walking and cycling distance and are relatively well connected by existing trail facilities.

CONSTRAINTS

Pedestrian Access: Lohmann Park is not currently accessible via sidewalks or shared use paths from the north near Florida Avenue and Thomas Paine School. Coupled by only sparse residential developments to the south and the east, enhanced northern accessibility will serve to better connect the park to local neighborhoods.

4.10 CHIEF SHEMAUGER PARK

Area	Location	Type
13 acres	Kerr Avenue, 100 Block	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (2)
- Bike Parking (2)
- Lighting (6)
- Trail Sign (1)
- Trash (2)
- Paved Trails (0.29 miles)

AMENITIES

- Recreational Facilities
- Open Space
- Parking



Urbana Park District Planning and Operations facility, Chief Shemauger Park



Open space and recreational facilities, Chief Shemauger Park.



OPPORTUNITIES

Greenway Opportunities: Trail and natural area development along the Saline Branch and Boneyard Creek will increase connectivity between Chief Shemauger Park and several other UPD facilities including Crystal Lake Park, AMBUCS Park, Judge Webber Park, Leal Park, Patterson Parklet, Phillips Recreation Center, and the Hickory Street Site as well as producing a regional connection to the University of Illinois.

Loop Trail Between Parks: Walking and biking juxtaposition and proximity between Chief Shemauger Park, AMBUCS Park, and the Hickory Street Site provide an opportunity for the creation of a shared use loop trail between these areas.

Loop Trail Within Park: Developing a loop trail within Chief Shemauger Park will allow visitors exposure to all of the park's amenities while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks.

CONSTRAINTS

Crossing University and Cunningham: Both University Avenue and Cunningham Avenue present difficult crossing areas for neighborhoods south and west of Chief Shemauger Park. Creating safe and accessible crossing locations to ensure adequate connections for pedestrians and cyclists to this area assists in connecting this park to local neighborhoods as well as developing potential regional trail networks along the Penn Central rail line.

4.11 BLAIR PARK

Area	Location	Type
11 acres	Vine Street and Florida Avenue	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (9)
- Bike Parking (2)
- Lighting (22)
- Trash Cans (8)
- Water Fountain (2)
- Paved Trails (0.38 miles)

AMENITIES

- Recreational Facilities
- Gardens
- Open Space
- Playgrounds
- Restrooms



A distinct entrance into Blair Park.





OPPORTUNITIES

Loop Trail Within Park: Developing a loop trail within Blair Park will allow visitors exposure to the park's many amenities while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks: Sunnycrest Tot Lot, Crestview Park, Carle Park, and the [University of Illinois] Arboretum.

Proximity to Neighborhoods, Parks, and Schools: Blair Park is accessible to many nearby residential neighborhoods with Carle Park, Sunnycrest Tot Lot, Crestview Park, and the [University of Illinois] Arboretum located within walking distance. Likewise, bicycle path opportunities to the south west will benefit cyclists traveling from slightly further distances and Meadowbrook Park.

4.12 CARLE PARK

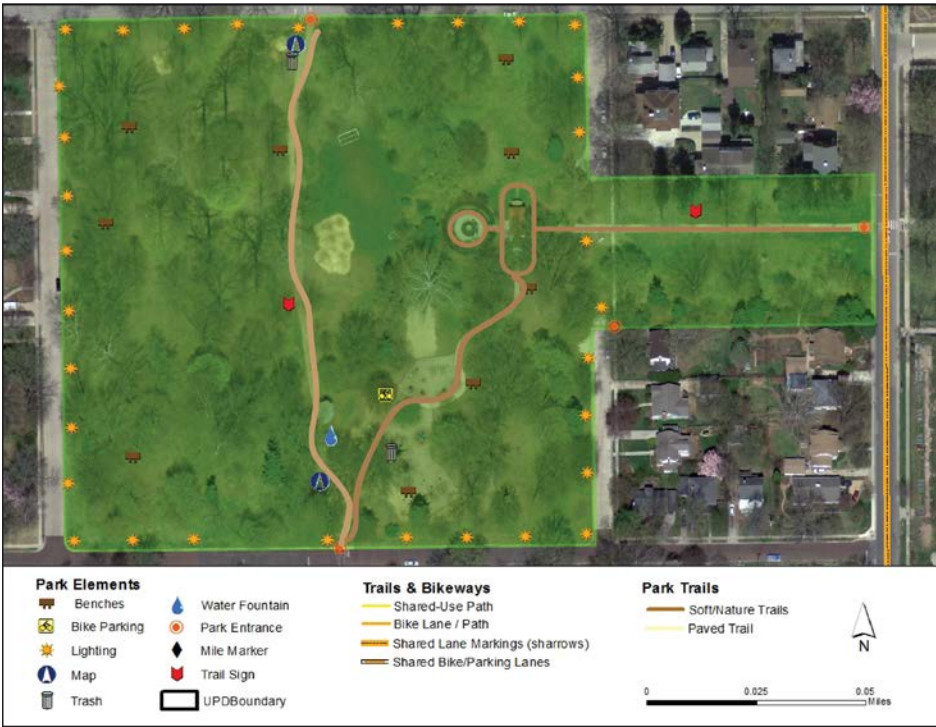
Area	Location	Type
11 acres	Indiana Avenue and Garfield Avenue	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (9)
- Bike Parking (1)
- Lighting (32)
- Maps (2)
- Trail Signs (2)
- Trash Cans (2)
- Water Fountain (1)
- Paved Trails (0.31 miles)
- Soft Trails (0.12 miles)

AMENITIES

- Hickman Tree Walk
- Gardens
- Open Space
- Pavilions
- Playground
- Sculptures



Hickman Tree Walk, Carle Park.



Drinking fountain along nature trail and open space, Carle Park.



OPPORTUNITIES

Loop Trail Within Park: Developing a loop trail within Carle Park will allow visitors exposure to the park's many amenities while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks: Blair Park, Sunnycrest Tot Lot, [University of Illinois'] Illini Grove, and the [University of Illinois] Arboretum.

Proximity to Neighborhoods, Parks, and Schools: Carle Park is accessible to many nearby residential neighborhoods, Urbana High School, and Leal School. Blair Park, Sunnycrest Tot Lot, Crestview Park, [University of Illinois'] Illini Grove, and the [University of Illinois] Arboretum are also located within walking distance. Likewise, nearby bicycle path opportunities will benefit cyclists traveling from slightly further distances such as Phillips Recreation Center to the north and Meadowbrook Park to the south.

4.13 SOUTHRIDGE PARK

Area	Location	Type
11 acres	Myra Ridge Subdivision	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (6)
 - Trail Signs (5)
 - Trash Cans (2)
 - Paved Trails (0.73 miles)

AMENITIES

- Playground
- Trails
- Open Space



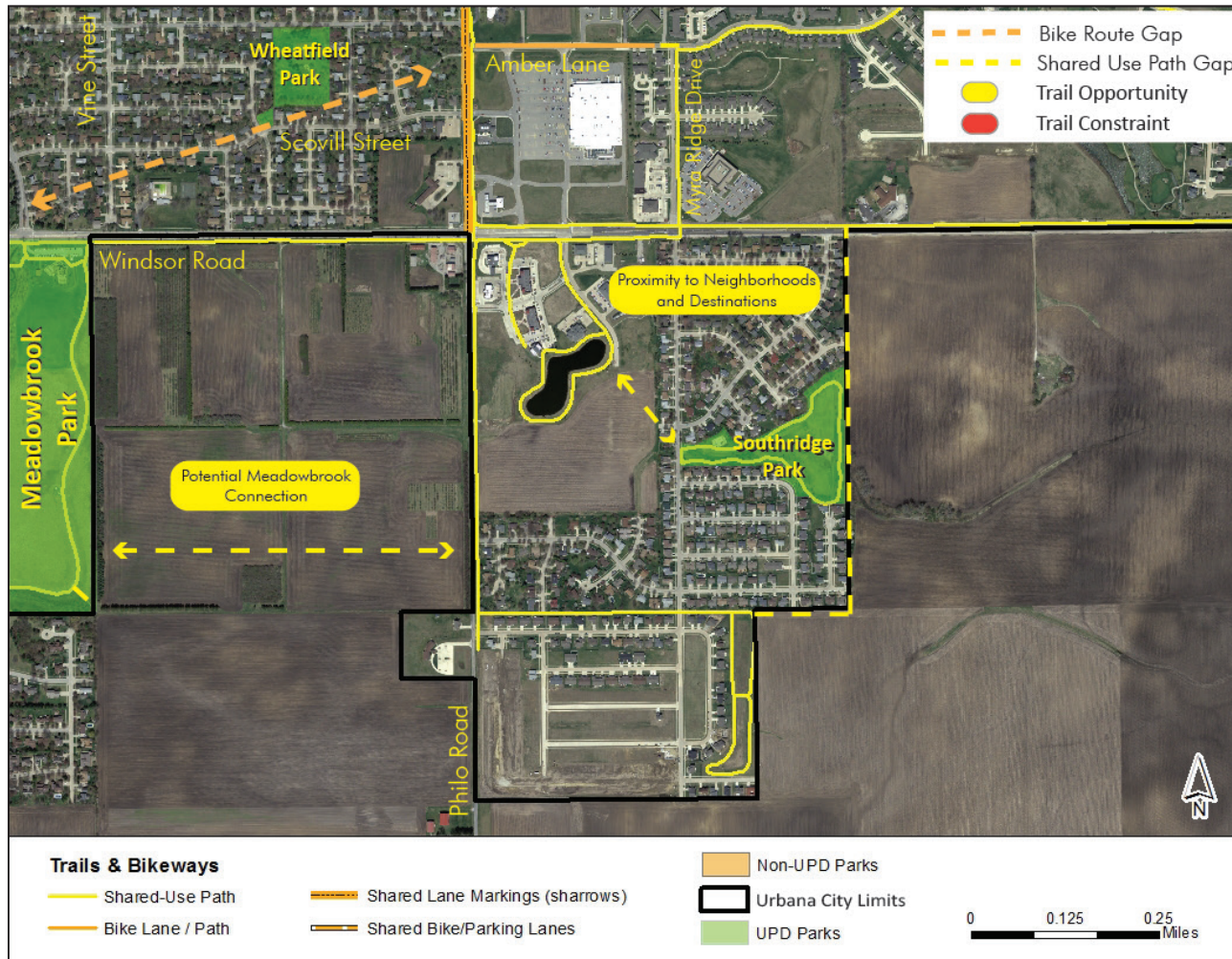
Southridge Park entrance.



Paved trail along seating areas and open space, Southridge Park.



Southridge Park playground.



OPPORTUNITIES

Loop Trail Within Park: Developing a loop trail within Blair Park will allow visitors exposure to the park's many amenities while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks: Sunnycrest Tot Lot, Crestview Park, Carle Park, and the [University of Illinois] Arboretum.

Proximity to Neighborhoods, Parks, and Schools: Blair Park is accessible to many nearby residential neighborhoods with Carle Park, Sunnycrest Tot Lot, Crestview Park, and the [University of Illinois] Arboretum located within walking distance. Likewise, bicycle path opportunities to the south west will benefit cyclists traveling from slightly further distances and Meadowbrook Park.

4.14 CRESTVIEW PARK

Area	Location	Type
6 acres	Cottage Grove and Sunnycrest Drive	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (6)
- Lighting (3)
- Trail Signs (3)
- Trash Cans (2)
- Water Fountain (1)
- Paved Trails (0.36 miles)

AMENITIES

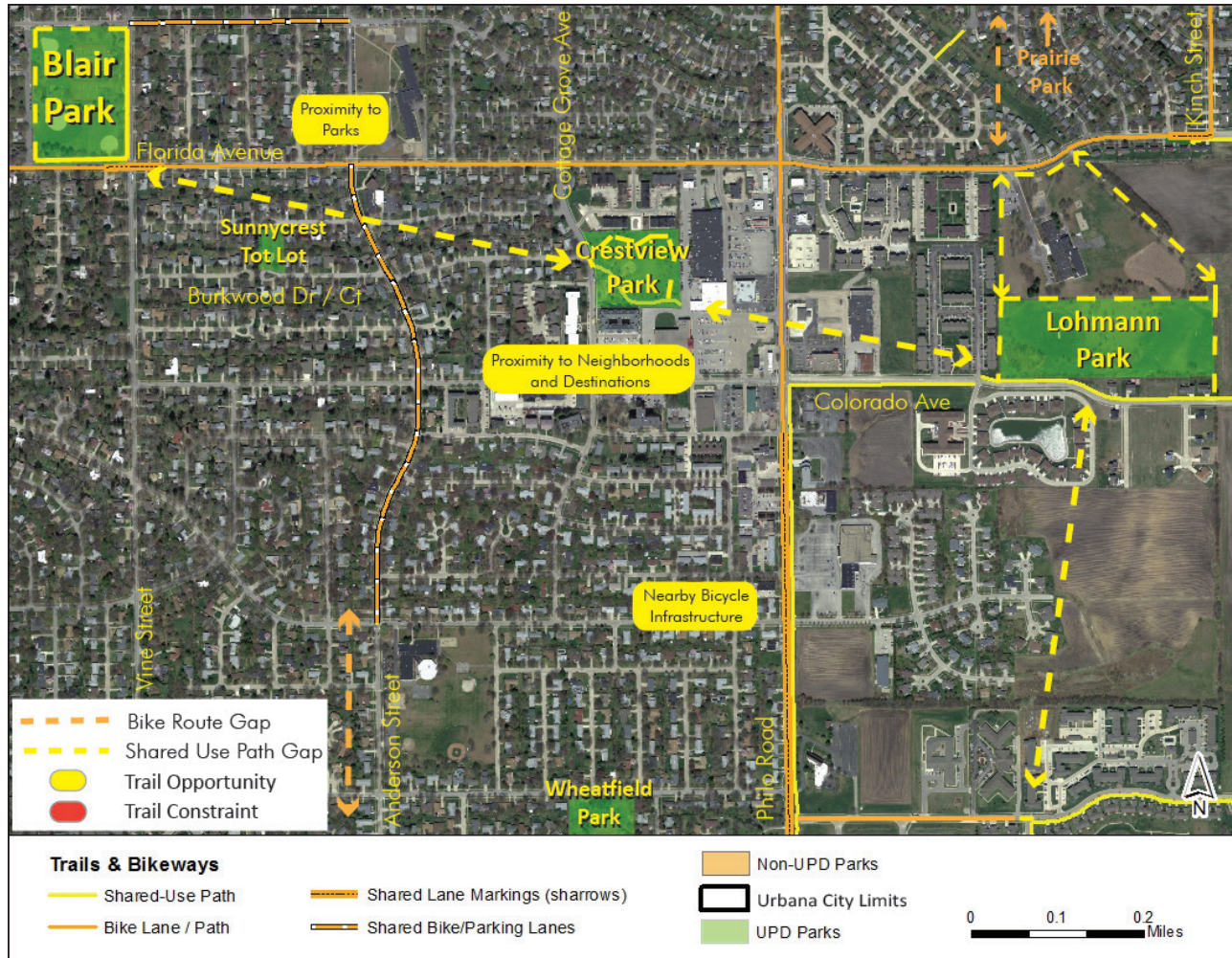
- Gardens
- Open Space
- Paths
- Pavilion
- Playground
- Recreational Facilities



Drinking fountain, pavilion, and waste facilities, Crestview Park.



Paved trail passing by a playground and open space, Crestview Park.



OPPORTUNITIES

Loop Trail Within Park: Developing a loop trail within Crestview Park will allow visitors exposure to the park's many amenities while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks: Sunnycrest Tot Lot, Blair Park, and Lohmann Park.

Proximity to Neighborhoods and Destinations: Crestview Park is accessible to Carle Park, Sunnycrest Tot Lot and Lohmann Park (located within a quarter-mile walking distance) as well as many nearby residential neighborhoods. Likewise, Crestview Park is situated directly to the west of the Philo Road Business District. Furthermore, bicycle path opportunities to the north, east, and west will connect cyclists traveling from slightly further distances.

CONSTRAINTS

Philo Road Business District: Philo Road underwent a road diet in 2008, reducing the number of lanes (and thus the crossing distance). Additionally, a mid-block crosswalk was added, Florida Avenue contains a stoplight with bike lanes, and there is a 4-way stop at Colorado Avenue. However, all of these favorable features have not yet been connected to an official trail or bikeway connection leading east and west through the Philo Road Business District toward Crestview Park. This is a constraint, because cooperation is needed from the landowners to implement such a trail.

4.15 KING PARK

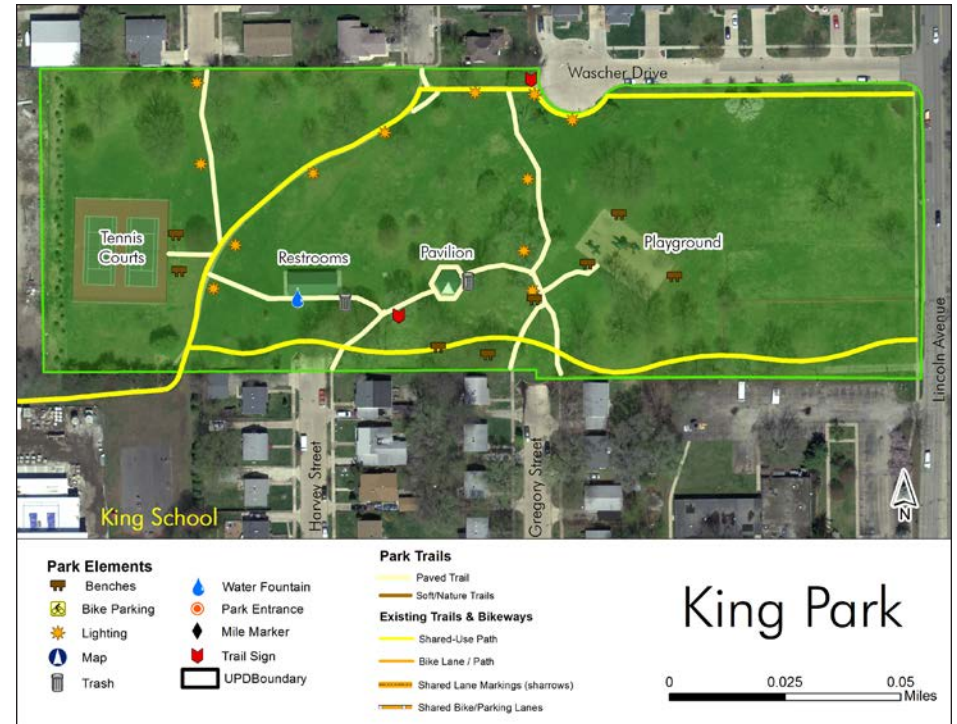
Area	Location	Type
6 acres	Near Fairview Avenue and Lincoln Avenue	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (8)
- Lighting (12)
- Trail Signs (2)
- Trash Cans (2)
- Water Fountain (1)
- Paved Trails (0.23 miles)

AMENITIES

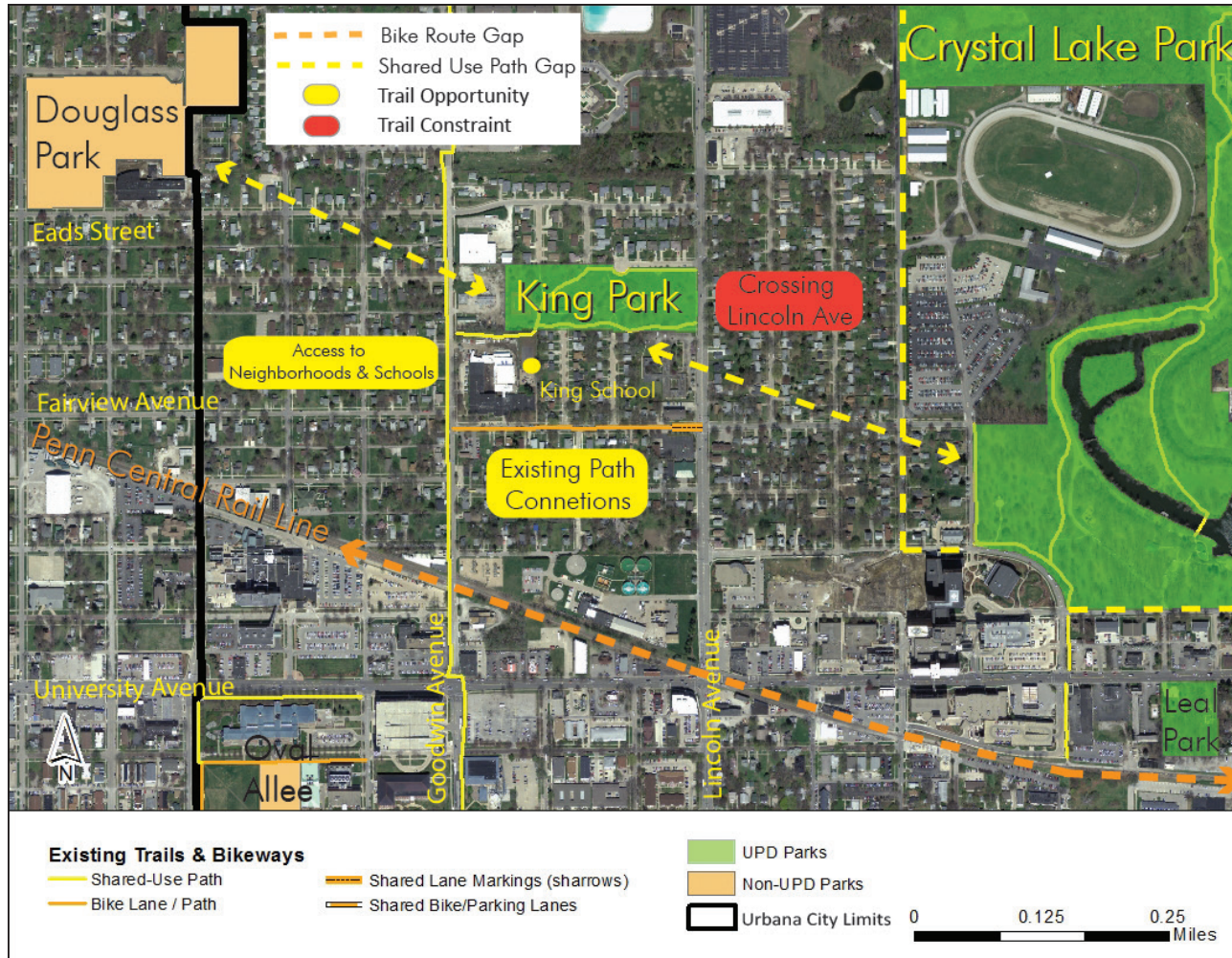
- Pavilion
- Restrooms
- Tennis Courts
- Playground
- Parking



Paved paths connecting King Park and nearby residential units, King Park.



Paved path and playground (top center), King Park.



OPPORTUNITIES

Walking & Biking: Crystal Lake Park, a signature park that attracts both regional and neighborhood visitors, and Douglass Park (Champaign) are within both walking and biking distance from King Park. This proximity is an opportunity to link both locations. Oval Allee, maintained by the University of Illinois, is also located within biking distance.

Access to Neighborhoods & Schools: King School is located adjacent to King Park with direct access points for pedestrians and cyclists. The park also offers recreational amenities to a large number of residences within the surrounding neighborhood.

Access to Shared-Use Paths: Shared-use paths along Goodwin Avenue and Fairview Avenue are important links for neighborhood residents to access the park while offering the opportunity for building further connections between Crystal Lake Park.

CONSTRAINTS

Crossing Lincoln Avenue: Park goers accessing King Park on foot or by bicycle from the east must cross Lincoln Avenue at undesignated locations.

Connectivity to Crystal Lake: Although King Park and Crystal Lake Park are located within walkable and bikable distances from one another, there are currently no shared-use paths connecting the two locations.

4.16 WHEATFIELD PARK

Area	Location	Type
5 acres	McHenry Street and Combes Street	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (6)
- Trash Cans (2)
- Paved Trails (0.12 miles)

AMENITIES

- Open Space
- Playgrounds
- Recreational Facilities

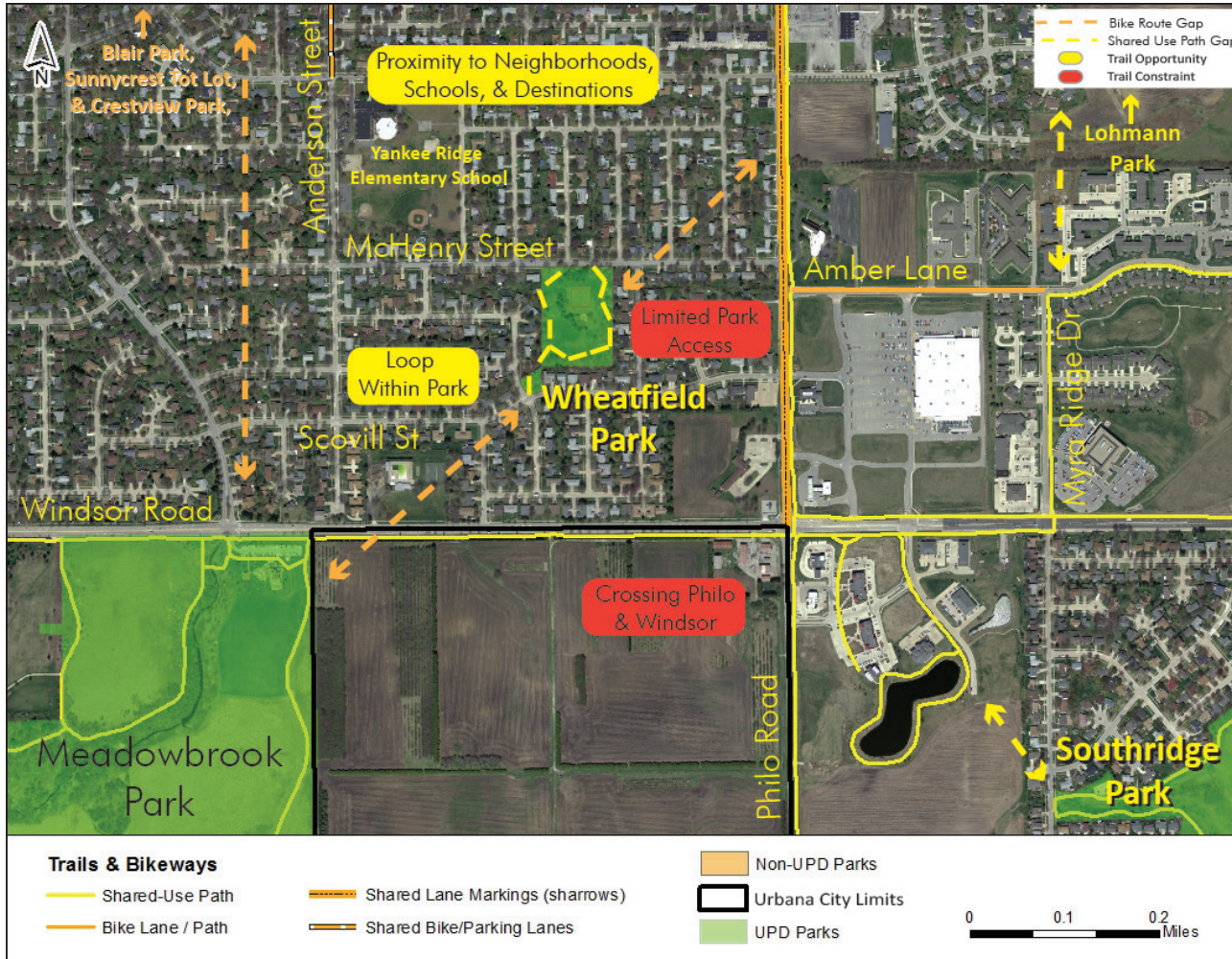


Entrance to Wheatfield Park from Scovill Street.



Tennis courts and sitting areas, Wheatfield Park.





OPPORTUNITIES

Loop Within Park: Developing a loop trail within Wheatfield Park will allow visitors adequate walking space and exposure to the park’s amenities while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby parks: Southridge Park and Meadowbrook Park.

Proximity to Neighborhoods, Schools, & Destinations: Wheatfield Park is located within a quarter-mile walking distance from Meadowbrook Park as well as nearby residential neighborhoods, Yankee Ridge Elementary School, and businesses along Philo Road and Windsor Road. Furthermore, bicycle path opportunities to the north and south will connect cyclists traveling from slightly further distances and connecting to Meadowbrook Park.

CONSTRAINTS

Crossing Philo & Windsor: Both Philo Road and Windsor Road present a potentially difficult crossing for visitors. Ensuring safe and accessible crossing locations will promote adequate connections between Wheatfield Park and other UPD facilities as well as surrounding destinations.

4.17 VICTORY PARK

Area	Location	Type
4 acres	Green Street and Lynn Street	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (8)
- Bike Parking (1)
- Lightning (4)
- Trail Sign (1)
- Trash Can (5)
- Water Fountain (1)
- Paved Trails (0.42 miles)
- Soft Trails (0.04 miles)

AMENITIES

- Recreational Facilities
- Gardens
- Open Space
- Paths
- Pavilions
- Playground

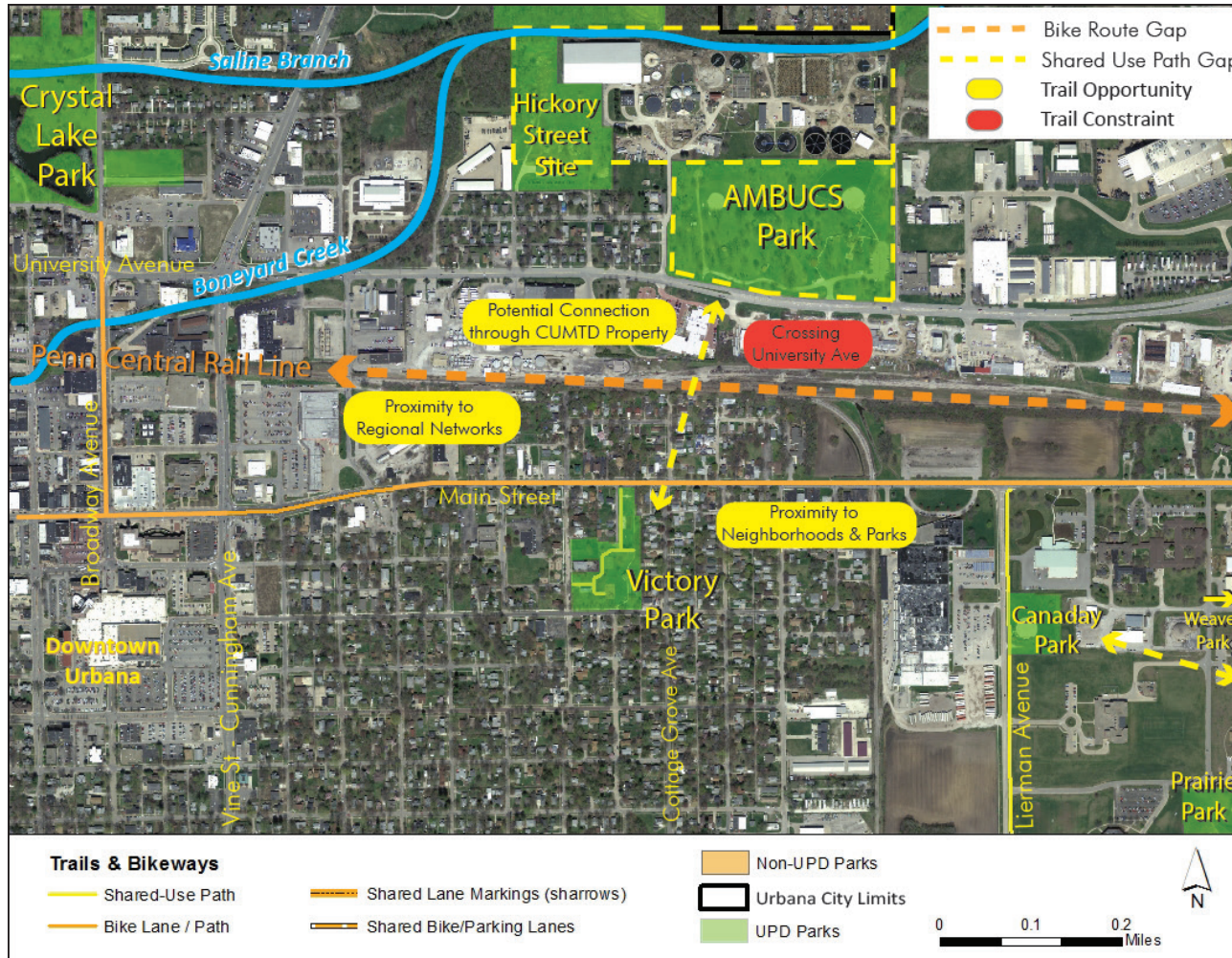


Bike parking and trail near a pavilion, Victory Park.



Sitting area along a paved park trail, Victory Park.





OPPORTUNITIES

Proximity to Regional Networks: Victory Park is located one block from the Penn Central rail line – a potential future Rail-Trail connection to Leal Park as well as regional destinations.

Proximity to Neighborhoods & Parks: Victory Park is located within a quarter-mile walking distance of AMBUCS Park while being immediately accessible from nearby residential neighborhoods. Furthermore, bicycle facilities to the west (Main Street) and shared use paths to the east (Liernan Avenue) provide very good connections for cyclists and pedestrians traveling from slightly further distances such as Patterson Parklet and Weaver Park respectively.

Potential Connection through CUMTD

Property: The Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District (CUMTD) is headquartered just south of University Avenue and north of the Penn Central rail line within a critical area for linking Victory and AMBUCS parks. This location presents an opportunity to work with CUMTD to investigate the feasibility of providing access along east side of their property.

CONSTRAINTS

Crossing University Avenue: University Avenue presents a difficult crossing for visitors coming from the northern park areas: AMBUCS Park, Chief Shemauger Park, Judge Webber Park, and the Hickory Street Site. In particular, the difficulty of traversing the area between Main Street and University Avenue (especially the Penn Central railroad tracks) to get from Victory Park to AMBUCS Park is high. Ensuring a safe and accessible crossing location will promote adequate connections between Victory Park and these northern UPD facilities as well as to surrounding destinations.

4.18 LEAL PARK

Area	Location	Type
3 acres	303 West University Avenue	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (3)
- Lighting (7)
- Trash Cans (1)
- Paved Trails (0.3 miles)
- Soft Trails (0.004 miles)

AMENITIES

- Paths
- Open Space

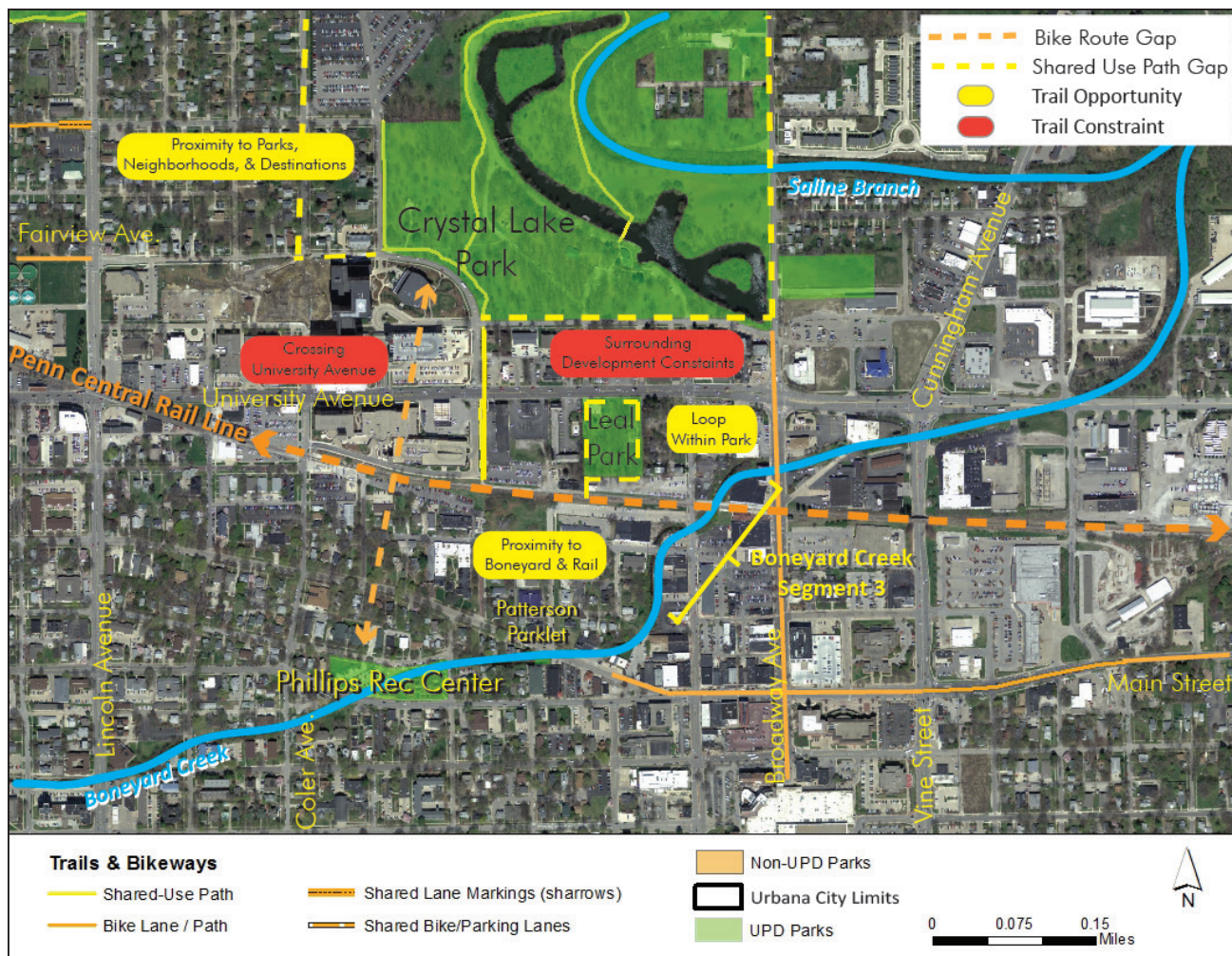


Lighted trail leading to a gazebo, Leal Park.



University Avenue bordering Leal Park to the north.





OPPORTUNITIES

Proximity to Parks, Neighborhoods, & Destinations: Leal Park is located within a quarter-mile walking distance from many nearby residential neighborhoods, downtown Urbana, and UPD facilities including Crystal Lake Park, King Park, Phillips Recreation Center, and Patterson Parklet.

Proximity to Boneyard & Rail: Trail development along the Penn Central rail line and Boneyard Creek has the potential to be both a local and regional amenity, bringing visitors from further away to Leal Park while offering a connection to other Urbana Park District facilities situated along these areas including Phillips Recreation Center,

Patterson Parklet, Chief Shemauger Park, the Hickory Street Site, Judge Webber Park, and Weaver Park. Segment 3 from the Boneyard Creek Master Plan is currently under construction and will provide trail facilities running near Leal Park along the creek from Griggs Street and Broadway Avenue.

Loop Within Park: Developing a loop trail within Leal Park will allow visitors adequate walking space and exposure to the park's amenities while increasing opportunities for trail linkages to nearby trail facilities – particularly future trail development along the Penn Central rail line.

CONSTRAINTS

Crossing University Avenue: Leal Park is bordered to the north by University Avenue, a five lane arterial, presenting a potentially difficult crossing for visitors. All options for a safe crossing should be considered to ensure an adequate connection for pedestrians and cyclists to this area.

Surrounding Development Constraints: Leal Park does not share any contiguous boundary with residential neighborhoods with the exception of sparse residential development to the south across the rail line. Most other contiguous areas present a difficult crossing or barrier for visitors. This arrangement underscores the need for adequate trail facilities leading to this area – specifically along the Penn Central rail line and Boneyard Creek.

4.19 SUNNYCREST TOT LOT

Area	Location	Type
1 acres	Sunnycrest Court	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Trash Can (1)

AMENITIES

- Playground
- Open Space



North entrance, Sunnycrest Tot Lot.



Sitting areas, open space, and playground (far center), Sunnycrest Tot Lot.





OPPORTUNITIES

Proximity to Parks, Neighborhoods: Sunnycrest Tot Lot is bordered by residential neighborhoods and is located within a quarter-mile walking distance from UPD facilities including Blair Park and Crestview Park.

4.20 PATTERSON PARKLET

Area	Location	Type
<0.5 acres	West Main Street, 300 Block	Neighborhood

KEY ELEMENTS

- Benches (3)
- Paved Trails (0.02 miles)

AMENITIES

- Sitting Area

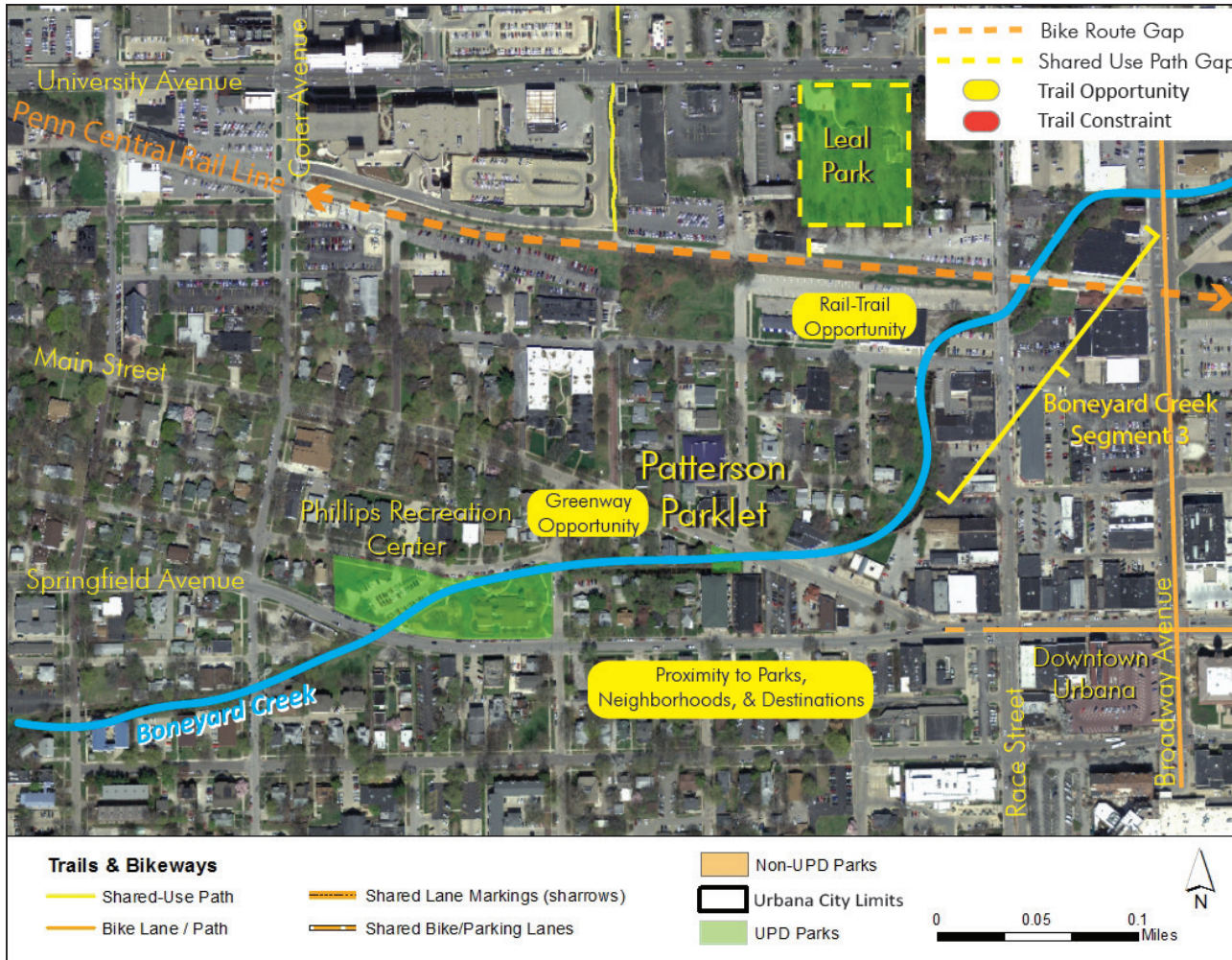


North entrance, Sunnycrest Tot Lot.



Sitting areas, open space, and playground (far center), Sunnycrest Tot Lot.





OPPORTUNITIES

Proximity to Parks, Neighborhoods, & Destinations: Patterson Parklet is bordered by nearby residential neighborhoods, Downtown Urbana, and Phillips Recreation Center.

Greenway Opportunity: The Boneyard Creek intersects with several UPD facilities including Patterson Parklet, Judge Webber Park, Chief Shemauger Park, the Hickory Street Site, and Phillips Recreation Center. Trail development along this area will connect all of these facilities.

Rail-Trail Opportunity: Trail development along the Penn Central rail line stands to be both a local and regional amenity, bringing visitors within a block and a half of Leal Park, while offering a connection to other Urbana Park District facilities situated along these areas including Chief Shemauger Park, the Hickory Street Site, Judge Webber Park, Leal Park and Weaver Park.

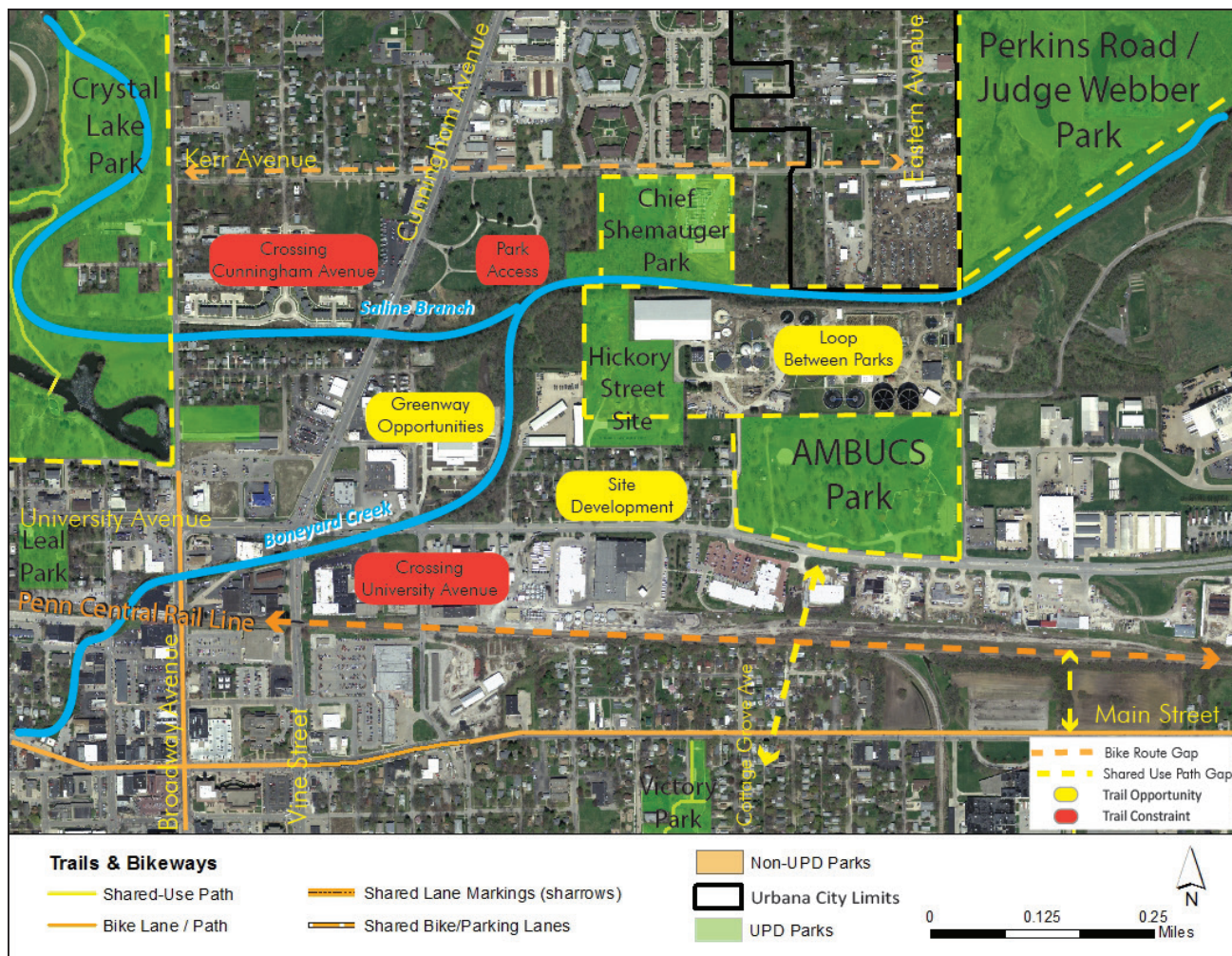
4.21 HICKORY STREET SITE

Area	Location	Type
10 acres	Sycannore Street and Hickory Street	Unclassified / Open Space

KEY ELEMENTS

- None / Undeveloped





OPPORTUNITIES

Greenway Opportunities: Trail and natural area development along the Saline Branch and Boneyard Creek will increase connectivity between the Hickory Street Site and several other UPD facilities including Crystal Lake Park, AMBUCS Park, Judge Webber Park, Patterson Parklet, Phillips Recreation Center, and Chief Shemauger Park as well as producing a regional connection to the University of Illinois.

Loop Trail Between Parks: Walking and biking juxtaposition and proximity between Chief Shemauger Park, AMBUCS Park, and the Hickory Street Site provide an opportunity for the creation of a shared use loop trail between these areas.

Site Development: The Hickory Street Site is largely undeveloped at the moment. However, its location near several other UPD facilities (Chief Shemauger Park, AMBUCS Park, Judge Webber Park, Victory Park, and Crystal Lake Park) as well as the Saline Branch, Boneyard Creek, and Penn Central present a wide array of development opportunities for the site. Trail linkages to nearby parks as well as regional trail and greenway networks should be a principal component of future site enhancements.

CONSTRAINTS

Park Access: The Hickory Street Site does not have direct access to neighborhoods from the north, west, or the east. The park is bordered by Harvey and East Lawn cemeteries to the north, the Boneyard Creek and a storage facility to the west, a treatment plant operated by the Champaign-Urbana Sanitary District to the east, and a small neighborhood development to the south.

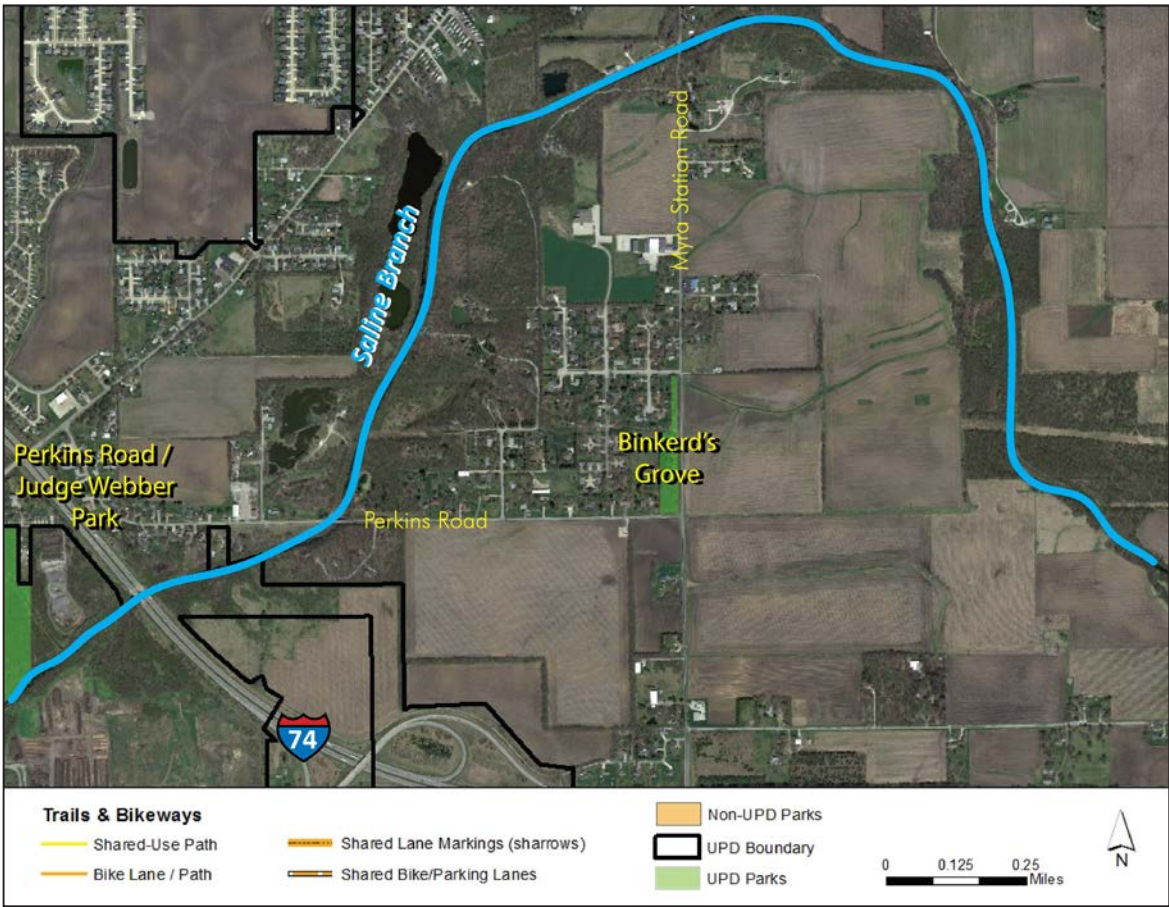
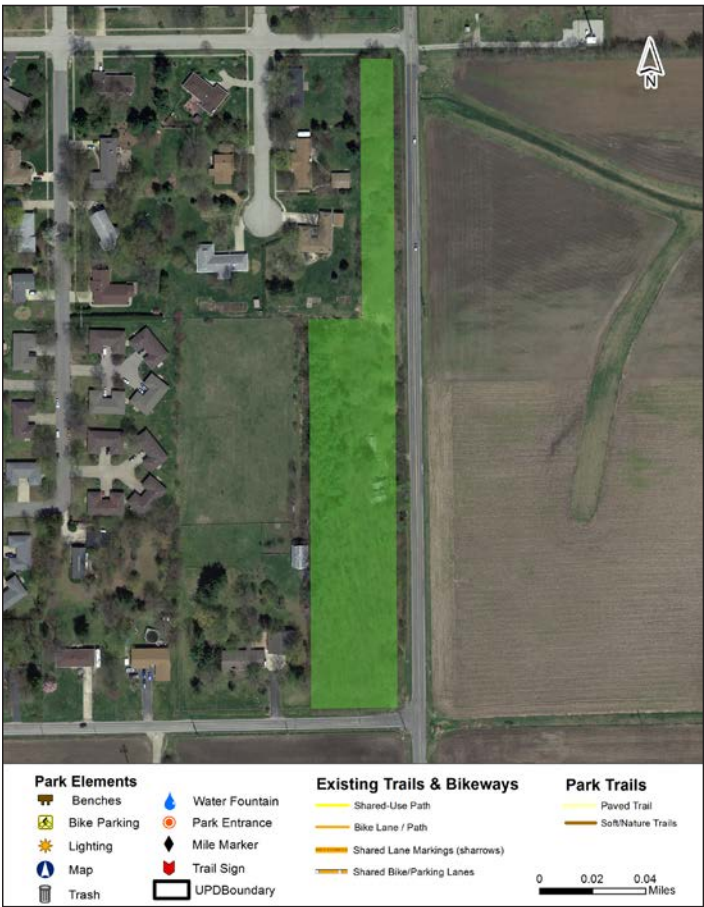
Crossing University and Cunningham: Both University Avenue and Cunningham Avenue present difficult crossing areas for neighborhoods south and west of the Hickory Street Site. Creating safe and accessible crossing locations to ensure adequate connections for pedestrians and cyclists to this area assists in connecting this park to local neighborhoods as well as developing potential regional trail networks along the Penn Central rail line.

4.22 BINKERD'S GROVE

Area	Location	Type
4 acres	Perkins Road and County Road1600 East	Unclassified / Open Space

KEY ELEMENTS

- None / Undeveloped



4.23 HAGEN SITE

Area	Location	Type
1 acres	Hagen Boulevard and Baker Drive	Unclassified / Open Space

KEY ELEMENTS

- None / Undeveloped

