

CHAPTER 9

PARKS, TRAILS & OPEN SPACE



PARKS, TRAILS, & OPEN SPACE

The City of Dundas Park, Trail, and Open Space Plan is intended to set forth a vision of a comprehensive park, trail, and open space system. It is based on the goals to provide efficient service provision, honor the City's rich heritage, preserve the City's sense of place, connect key features of the City, emphasize access to natural amenities, and to establish high-quality residential neighborhoods. It is also intended to provide the City's projected recreational needs for the future. The objective is to establish park, trail, and open space priorities that will work with existing recreational investments and infrastructure, to efficiently serves the City of Dundas well into the future.

As areas are developed, the City needs to keep in mind future park and recreation needs as identified. Through the proactive implementation of these planning tools, the City of Dundas shall establish a high-quality, comprehensive network of recreational spaces that will contribute to the quality of life within the community and preserve the community's overall identity.

PARK SYSTEM GUIDING PRINCIPLES

This vision serves as the statement of purpose for the Dundas Park, Trail, and Open Space Plan. The vision statement summarizes the purpose behind the overall City Park, Open Space, and Trail Plan and represents the City's desires and intentions. The guiding principles provide further direction and clarification of the vision. The following principles are intended to:

- Provide a shared understanding of community goals
- Establish a focus towards the future
- Maintain a commitment to the comprehensive system
- Create guidance for reviewing projects and proposals

The City of Dundas establishes the following as its guiding principles:

- Providing continuity and connectivity between public parks, open spaces, residences, and businesses. The City is expecting that the entirety of the community be interconnected through the park system and trail plan.
- Allowing reasonable flexibility on final trail routes, park locations, and plan implementation strategies. Nothing in the plan is intended to be set in stone. If a better option to meet the same goal is available, the City may give it consideration.
- Providing a range of choices for system users. The Park, Open Space, and Trail Plan is not just for certain system users or interest groups. The City will strive to provide reasonable recreational opportunities for all residents.
- Utilizing the system to assist in preserving the natural and historic nature of the community. When creating the system, a priority will be placed on including areas that are found to be of significance to the community.

PARK AND TRAIL CLASSIFICATION

Prior to cataloging existing amenities and identifying future needs, it is important for the City to establish and define the expectations for parks and trails. Historically, Dundas has already established a variety of different types of parks. In order to assess existing parks and future park and open space needs, a uniform classification system has been established. The following is a brief description of each classification category.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are the fundamental unit of the park and open space system and serve as the recreational focus of neighborhoods. They are intended to serve residents in an area within a $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile radius of the park with development density equal to about 3.0 dwelling units per acre. Access to neighborhood parks should be uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers. Neighborhood parks should be between 3 and 10 acres in size and emphasize informal active and passive recreation.

In certain instances smaller than standard facilities may serve special neighborhoods due to geographic limitations. These areas are typically highly individual facilities based upon the nature of the site and the needs of the immediate population. For example, a neighborhood mini-park may be considered for a small area isolated from other neighborhoods by major roadways.

Park and Trail Classification: Neighborhood Parks



Community Parks

These parks serve a broader purpose than neighborhood parks. They feature facilities that appeal to a broad spectrum of users and provide community-wide access. These facilities often preserve open space and are sized to handle large community gatherings and festivals. Facilities are often related to the park's natural resource base. The park size is based on function and natural resources available and usually range between 30 and 50 acres.

These playfield parks are targeted towards organized adult and youth play on a city or region-wide basis. Most users will come from beyond a walking or biking range and thus require adequate parking facilities. Such parks may contain baseball and softball fields, soccer/football fields, tennis courts, skating rinks, and swimming pools. These facilities are intensely used and often require irrigation and lighting to extend their use and meet public demands. These facilities should be located near major roads. Joint use with school facilities is encouraged to share cost and maintenance needs.

Park and Trail Classification: Community Parks



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Greenways and Trails

These are a linear interconnected system used to connect system components together in order to form a continuous park environment. Greenways also serve to preserve sensitive natural areas that are often linear in nature, and may be used to connect patches of remnant natural areas. Greenways may incorporate waterways, wetland systems, shorelines, and drainage patterns, as well as habitat movement corridors and other natural features such as bluff lines. Greenways serve multiple functions. They can contain trails and can also be used to buffer incompatible uses such as major roads from residential areas. Greenways may be located on private land yet serve a public function through the use of easements or other forms of management.

Special Use Areas/Open Space

This “catch-all” category is in response to the unique and varying needs of each community. It could include areas for a single-purpose recreational need such as a bicycle trail head, a golf course, or a ski hill. It could also serve the needs of preserving significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, or special view sheds. Nature centers, arboretums, and gardens are additional examples. The location and sizes of these areas depends on resource availability and opportunity. Another example could be a small park to house a historic structure or artifact that has some local significance.

Park and Trail Classification: Special Use Parks



Central Park

EXISTING SYSTEM INVENTORY

Dundas currently has six parks and several acres of open space. Memorial Park, home of the Dundas Dukes baseball team, and containing playground equipment, a play space, and a new pavilion, is the largest developed park and the main gathering spot for community events. Other parks include the smaller neighborhood parks and the Mill Towns Trail Head. Dundas residents' recreational needs are also met with facilities operated by the City of Northfield and ISD 656. The table below lists the recreational facilities and features of each park.

Neighborhood Parks

Dundas has five neighborhood parks: Millstone Park, Schilling Park, Mill Park, Bridgewater Heights Community Park, and Pinnacle Park. Three are located in the older central area and two are located in the developing Bridgewater Heights development. The three parks in the central area are located to provide non-overlapping $\frac{1}{4}$ mile service areas.



Mill Park - photo (John McCarthy, 2007)



Pinnacle Park

Special Use Parks

The Mill Towns State Trail Dundas Trail Head site is located downtown on the Cannon River and is developed as a bicycle trail head with parking and site amenities. Snowmobile trailer parking is available on site. Additional landscaping elements are planned.



Memorial Park Pavilion (Glenn Switzer, 2006)

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Community Park

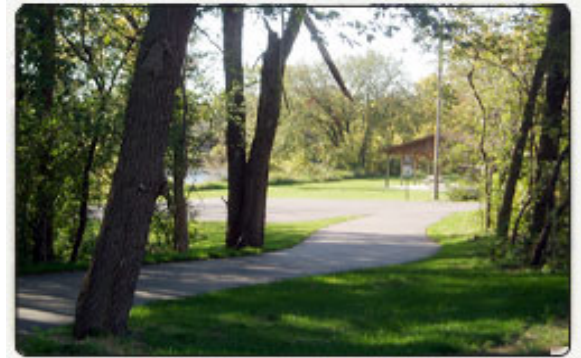
The 8.7 acre Memorial Park is home to the Dundas Dukes and a new pavilion. It serves as the main gathering spot for community events. It contains a regulation size ballfield with bleachers, lighting, and concession facilities. The park also contains one softball field and playground equipment.

Open Space/Greenways

A significant amount of land (over 29 acres) is currently undefined green open space. This area includes a 9 acre area with significant stands of trees in the Stoneridge Development, over 16 acres of land north of downtown along the river owned by the State of Minnesota, and 4 acres on the river islands. Two of the islands are owned by the city and part of one is privately owned. This plan will recommend uses for these areas.

Trails

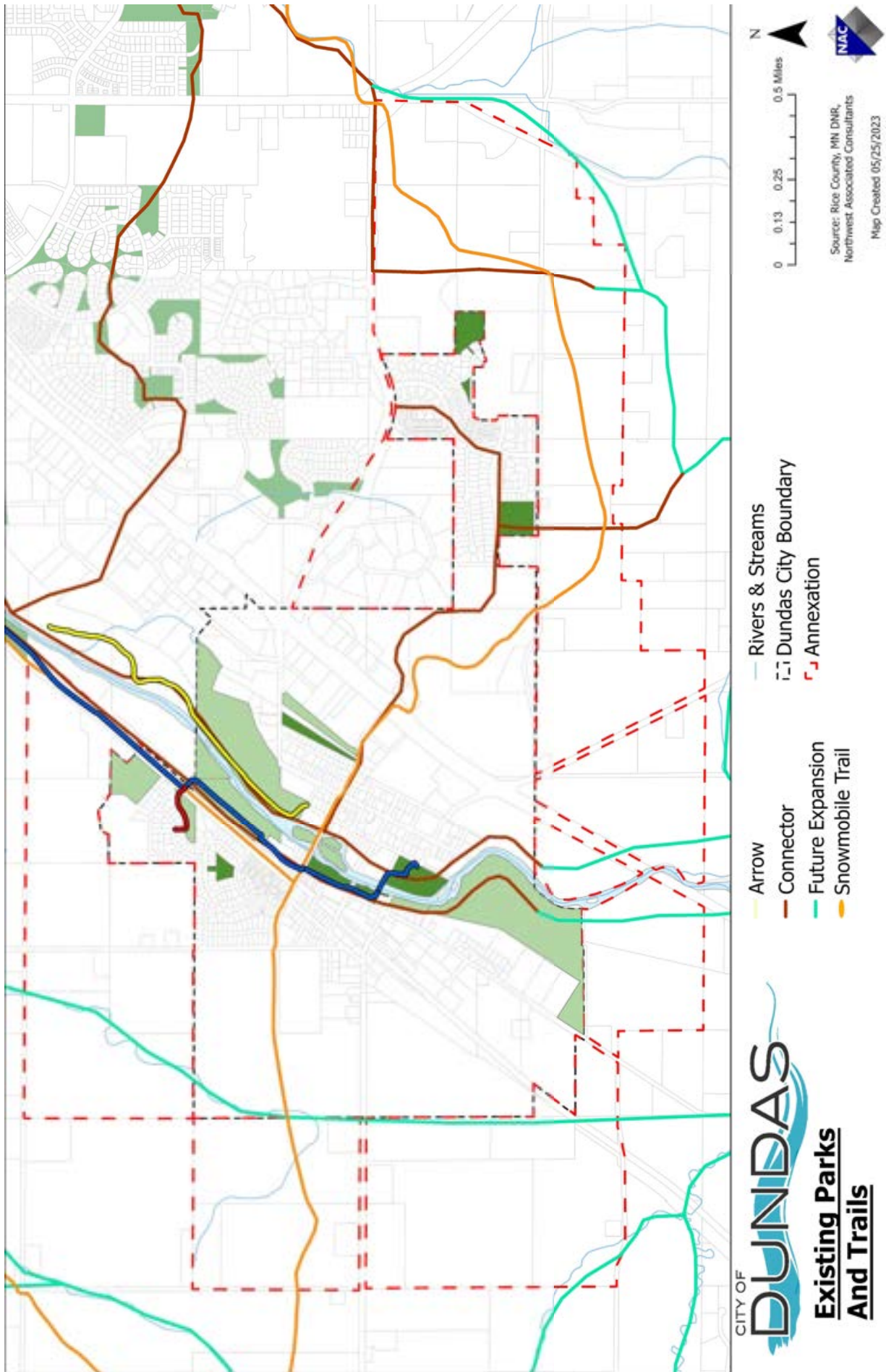
Trail development is currently limited to a 2.5 mile segment of the Mill Towns Trail linking the Dundas trail head site with Northfield. A short trail segment has been built to connect the trail head site to Mill and Memorial Parks. There is also a snowmobile trail route maintained through the City.



Trail going through Mill Park (John McCarthy, 2007)

Existing Facilities

Park Name	Playground	Pavillion	Trail Access	Baseball Diamond	Softball Diamond	Dog Park	Parking Lot	Natural Features*	Acreage
Mill Park		X	X					X	1.7
Schilling Park						X		X	9.2
Millstone Park	X								2.0
Bridgewater Heights Community Park									6.6
Pinnacle Park	X								0.6
Milltowns Trail Head			X				X	X	1.0
Memorial Park	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	8.7
* Wetlands, bluffs, river, ponds, etc.									



COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The demand for parks and recreation in a community is closely linked to population. A review of the City's existing and projected population is an important factor in determining current and future park needs.

Population and Demographics

Dundas will see significant growth by the year 2030. The 2000 population was 547 but by 2010 there was an increase to 1,367. Despite regional demographic trends, the City of Dundas actually had an increase in household size from 2.57 to 2.66. However, it is anticipated that the long term demographic trend will be for household sizes of about 2.5.

Population & Households					
	Census Year			Estimate	
	1990	2000	2010	2017	2033
Population	473	547	1367	1522	3253
Household Size	2.73	2.57	2.66	2.65	2.5
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Rice County Housing Study (2018)					

Age of residents is an indicator of what types of facilities will be needed. Youth tend to participate in organized activities and require active recreation facilities such as play equipment and ball fields. Adults are generally more interested in trail oriented activities such as biking, in-line skating, jogging, and walking.

In recent years, Dundas saw increases in a broad spectrum of ages with varying needs for park and recreation facilities. With recent growth in single family homes, Dundas can also expect more young families with children and a need for neighborhood parks within the city's new subdivisions. Dundas can reasonably assume continued growth in most age groups. Playgrounds and sports facilities will be needed by young children and teens, while trails and multi-purpose sport fields will be required for older age groups.

When planning park facilities, it is important to keep in mind that neighborhoods go through life cycles. A new neighborhood with young families will demand playground facilities, but as those children age, sports fields, courts, and trails for bicycling may become more important to that same neighborhood. Therefore, the park system should have flexible open areas with enough space for a range of uses so parks can be adapted as the neighborhood ages and recreation trends shift.

Park System Assessment of Need

A common method for evaluating the need for active park space is to apply the population ratio standard for active park space. This standard, expressed as 10 acres of active park land per 1,000 people, provides a general guideline for determining current and future needs. The standards shown in the tables below are based on general standards established by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA).

Generally speaking, the City of Dundas has adequate community facilities with Memorial Park. Therefore, the rate of acquisition will be kept similar for such facilities with the balance being provided for neighborhood parks. This rate comes out to 6 acres per 1,000 people for community facilities and 4 acres per 1,000 for neighborhood parks.

The population ratio standard is not applied to other park types as the demand or need for other park types (greenways/trails, mini-parks, and special use areas) is related to community values and policy goals of the City rather than absolute population. The natural resource and cultural resource base of the city will have a large affect on the types of resources available for a park and open space system.

Dundas currently has five neighborhood parks (Schilling, Mill, Millstone, Pinnacle, and Bridgewater Heights). In total, these five parks total about 20 acres in size and when developed will support a population of approximately 3,000 people. The parks range in size from under 1 acre (Pinnacle Park) to 9 acres (Schilling Park).

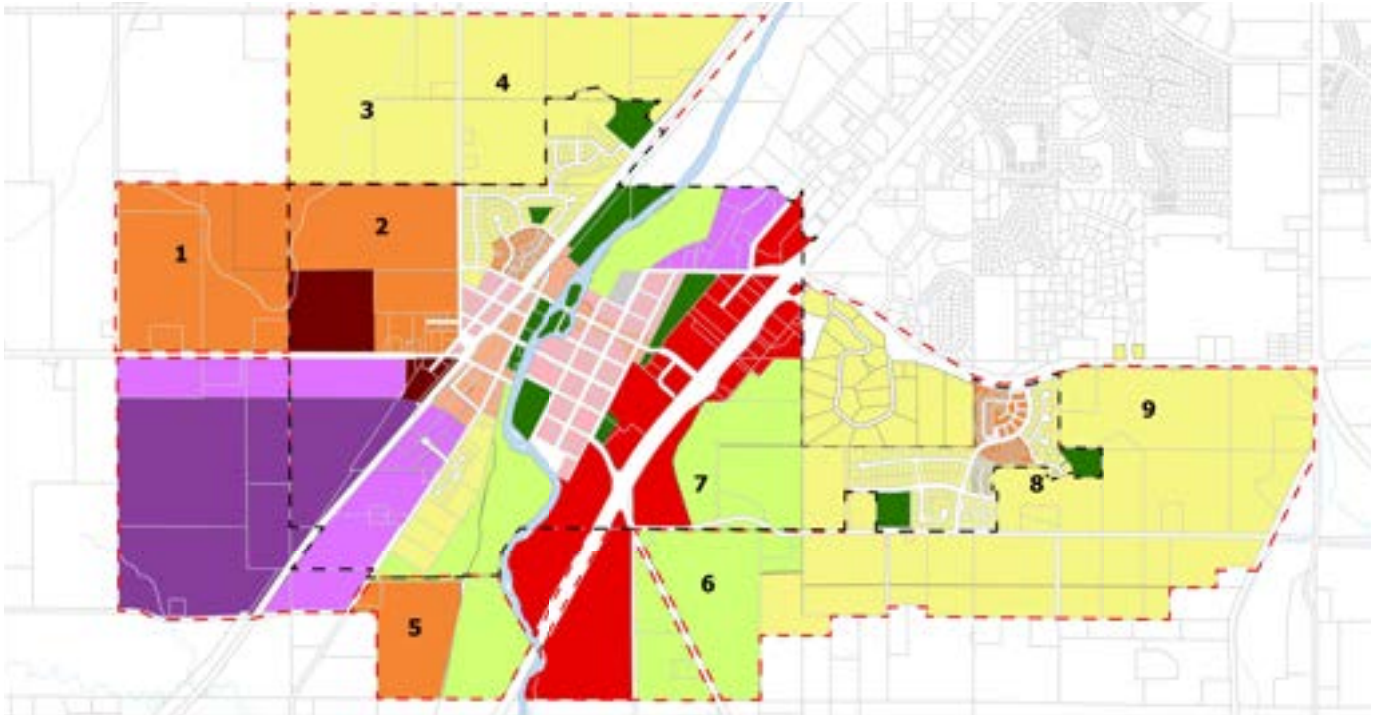
Currently, Memorial Park is the only community park in Dundas. At about 9 acres in size, it generally supports the population level of the City today. As the City continues to grow more community level facilities will need to be provided. Based on population projections one additional facility should be planned for between the years 2020 and 2030. Population and development trends should continue to be monitored for this purpose.

Based on 2010 census data, there are currently 1,367 residents in the City with an average household size of 2.66. Based on this information, the City is currently slightly oversupplied with land for neighborhood parks and is at the current appropriate level for community parks. The oversupply could be explained by the dual purpose of many neighborhood parks providing both active and passive uses.

Assessment of Existing Need - 2010 Census Population (1,367)				
Park Type	Existing Acreage in Park System	Target Acreage per 1000 people	Total Acreage Needed to meet Standard	Net (+/- needed to meet standard)
Park System	29 acres	10 acres/1000 population	13.7	+15
Neighborhood Park	20	4 acres/1000 population	5.5	+15.61
Community Park	9	6 acres/1000 population	8.2	-0.09

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In the Comprehensive Plan, there are areas within the City that are awaiting development as well as identified future growth areas. These areas when fully developed will provide the City with population levels beyond what is projected for the year 2030. In planning for the future location of parks it is important to keep this in consideration. For establishing the full development of the park system, the City must also consider the full development of the City itself and ensure the proper amount of land is reserved.



To define the full development scenario, the future growth areas need to be analyzed for the amount of net developable acreage. In order to establish this, the future growth areas are divided into districts and the undevelopable areas are removed. The table below establishes the population capacity for each future development area within the OAA based on the mid-range of each land use designation.

Population Capacity					
District	Total Acres	Net Acres	Land Use Classifications (Acres)	Units	Population Capacity
1	154	153	Medium Density Residential (MDR) at 6 units per acre	918	2,295
2	153	153	MDR 115 acres/High Density Residential (HDR) 38 acres (16.5 units per acre)	1,317	3,293
3	154	153	Low Density Residential (LDR) at 2.5 units per acre	383	956
4	152	152	LDR	380	950
5	176	150	MDR (52), Critical Residential (CR) (1 unit per 2.5 acres) (42)	329	823
6	133	64	LDR (17), CR (47)	430	1,075
7	132	105	CR (86)/LDR (19)	62	155
8	183	183	LDR	458	1,145
9	268	265	LDR	662	1,655
Total	1,562	1,469		4,939	12,348

This table shows there is the capacity for about 4,939 new residential units in the City of Dundas and the City's orderly annexation area. Based on 2.5 residents per unit, this comes out to 12,348 future residents within this planning areas shown. Based on this population capacity analysis and the City's existing population (1,579), the full build out scenario of this immediate planning area can be estimated at 13,927.



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The following table represents the total parkland needed in the City prior to the full build-out of the future growth area combined with the existing residents. This allows for the City to acquire the necessary parkland as the City grows. Reserving land in key areas now is essential to avoid placing parks in inadequate areas or having to purchase land later.

Assessment of Future Need - OAA Buildout Scenerio (13,927)				
Park Type	Existing Acreage in Park System	Target Acreage per 1000 people	Acreage Needed to meet Standard (based on 13,927 population)	Future Acquisition Needed (acres)
Park System	29 acres	10 acres/1000 population	139	110
Neighborhood Park	20	4 acres/1000 population	56	36
Community Park	9	6 acres/1000 population	83	74

If the City were to develop property outside of the orderly annexation area, this evaluation would need to be revisited to include the additional area.



FUTURE PARK, TRAIL, & OPEN SPACE PLANNING

This section is intended to provide guidance to City Officials, developers, and residents for continued development of the City's park and trail system. Existing facilities are identified in greater detail with plans for full development. In addition, search areas for future park facilities have been identified based upon the growth areas outlined by the City's Comprehensive Plan. The Plan projects park and trail development needs through the City's future growth area. It must be emphasized that the future park search areas identified do not target specific properties. Instead, the search areas identify general areas of acquisition toward the goal of providing the City with the ability to reserve land from development as it becomes available.

Trail development is addressed somewhat differently, in that generalized future trail corridors have been identified. The Proposed Trails Map identifies important natural corridors and trail segments that the City believes should be constructed in order to link community facilities to regional facilities, open space systems, and trails that exist or are being planned in adjacent communities and townships. The basic concept of the Proposed Trails Map is to provide for a pedestrian and bicycle transportation network that connects to important recreational and social centers in the community. The trail element of the plan also seeks to provide intra-community connections with regional trail corridors provided by other agencies and jurisdictions. In addition to the primary trail corridors that follow street rights-of-way, a number of overland trail segments are proposed which serve two purposes. First, these segments provide more direct access to neighborhoods or destinations and secondly, overland trails may serve a dual purpose as linear parks through areas of high natural amenities and/or as a transportation function. Precise trail locations may shift based on site conditions or available alternatives.

Future Park Classification

The park classification system is intended to serve as a guide to planning, not a specific blueprint. The City of Dundas recognizes the importance of establishing and using park and recreation standards to:

1. Define minimum acceptable facilities for citizens of the community;
2. Establish guidelines to determine land requirements for various kinds of park and recreation areas and facilities;
3. Establish a basis for relating recreational needs to spatial analysis within a community-wide recreation system; and
4. Utilize the Park and Trail Plan as a means to justify the need for parks and open space within the overall land use pattern of the City.

The standards are to be coupled with conventional wisdom and judgment relating to the particular situation to which they are applied and specific local needs. Occasionally, more than one component may occur within the same site, particularly with regard to a specialized use within a larger park. The following table identifies the characteristics of the future community and neighborhood parks.

Future Park Characteristics	
Future Community Parks	
Use	Designated area of diverse environmental quality which may include areas suited to intense recreational facilities such as athletic complexes as well as passive type areas, depends largely upon the site location, suitability and community need
Service Area	1 to 1½ mile radius City wide
Population Served	All ages, toddler to retiree, entire community for cities up to 25,000
Desirable Size	25 - 40 acres
Acres/1,000 Population	6 acres
Site Characteristics	Provides for a combination of intensive and non-intensive development ranging from play equipment to trails, may include natural features, such as water bodies or forested land, and must include support elements such as rest rooms, drinking water, parking and lighting. Community playfields including organized sports facilities, athletic complex including lighting, court and field games, community center or indoor recreation facility, swimming pool, ice rink, capacity for special events, must include support elements such as restrooms, drinking water, parking and lighting.
Future Neighborhood Parks	
Use	Designated active and passive recreation areas
Service Area	Large neighborhood sizes of up to 5,000 persons within ¼ to ½ mile radius
Population Served	Focus upon ages 5 through 39 with emphasis upon ages 5 through 18
Desirable Size	3 - 10 acres
Acres/1,000 Population	4 acres
Site Characteristics	Suited for multi-use recreation development, easily accessible to neighborhood population, geographically centered with safe walking and bike access, may include school facilities open space for spontaneous play, play areas for both pre-school and school-age children, multiple use paved areas, limited field games, small court games, ice rinks, playground equipment, within easy walking/biking distance

Park Search Areas

The Park Search Area Map indicates the location of existing parks with ¼ mile service areas. Also, depicted are future park search areas within the City's designated growth areas, also with ¼ mile spacing. The dashed circles represent areas that will need neighborhood parks as the areas develop into urban neighborhoods. The circle identifies an area that based on future development capacity will provide for an efficient service location.

In the population growth analysis (Assessment of Future Need - Intermediate Development Scenario), it was found that the City will need to accommodate approximately 36 more acres of neighborhood parks and 74 acres of community parks. This entails approximately 5 neighborhood parks and 2 community parks. The neighborhood parks are based on about 7 acres in size and the community parks on 40 acres.

While implementing the plan, if opportunities arise to gain more or less parkland or if collaborative efforts with other jurisdictions fulfill park needs, these assumptions could be amended.

Based on the park classification definitions, the future park classification goals, and the population projections, the following future park search areas have been identified. These future parks are specific to serve a future population area and to work with other parks to create a network of accessible parks. The goal is to have available parkland within a ½ mile to a ¼ mile from most residences in the City, when feasible and efficient. The proposed park search areas seek to accommodate this goal.

Neighborhood Park search areas #1 and #2 are identified in the western portion of the future growth area of the City. They are intended to serve populations that will be more removed from the established park system and these park locations are intended to capitalize on natural resource opportunities found in these areas.

Community Park search area #1 is intended to act as a buffer between the future residential and industrial land uses on the current County Highway 1. The draft land use plan already depicts this green area on the map in this location. This is an appropriate location for a larger park due to its access to a higher classification roadway. It is also intended to serve the neighborhood park needs for the area north and immediately adjacent to County Highway 1. The City will also need to monitor the future of Schilling Park, as a portion of it may be reduced in order to accommodate storm ponds. If this is the case, this park location and use may need to be adjusted.

Neighborhood Park search area #3 is intended to serve the southern portion of the City's future growth area. As lands develop in the southern area, it should be determined if this park is better located east or west of the river based on whichever opportunity is greater and based on the development of Community Park #2.

Community Park search area #2 is intended to be supplemental to the existing Memorial Park as the park of this classification on the east side of the river. If there is the availability of land adjacent to Memorial Park, this park could be reduced in projected size. It is also intended to serve as the neighborhood park between the park in Bridgewater Heights and Memorial Park.

Neighborhood Park search area #4 is intended to serve the growth area east of the Bridgewater Heights development. The area is guided for lower density residential land uses and will have a lesser demand for more parkland but is greater than a ½ mile distance from the parkland in Bridgewater Heights. The need for this park may be reduced if Pinnacle Park is expanded, however, the distance may be too great for it to be eliminated entirely.

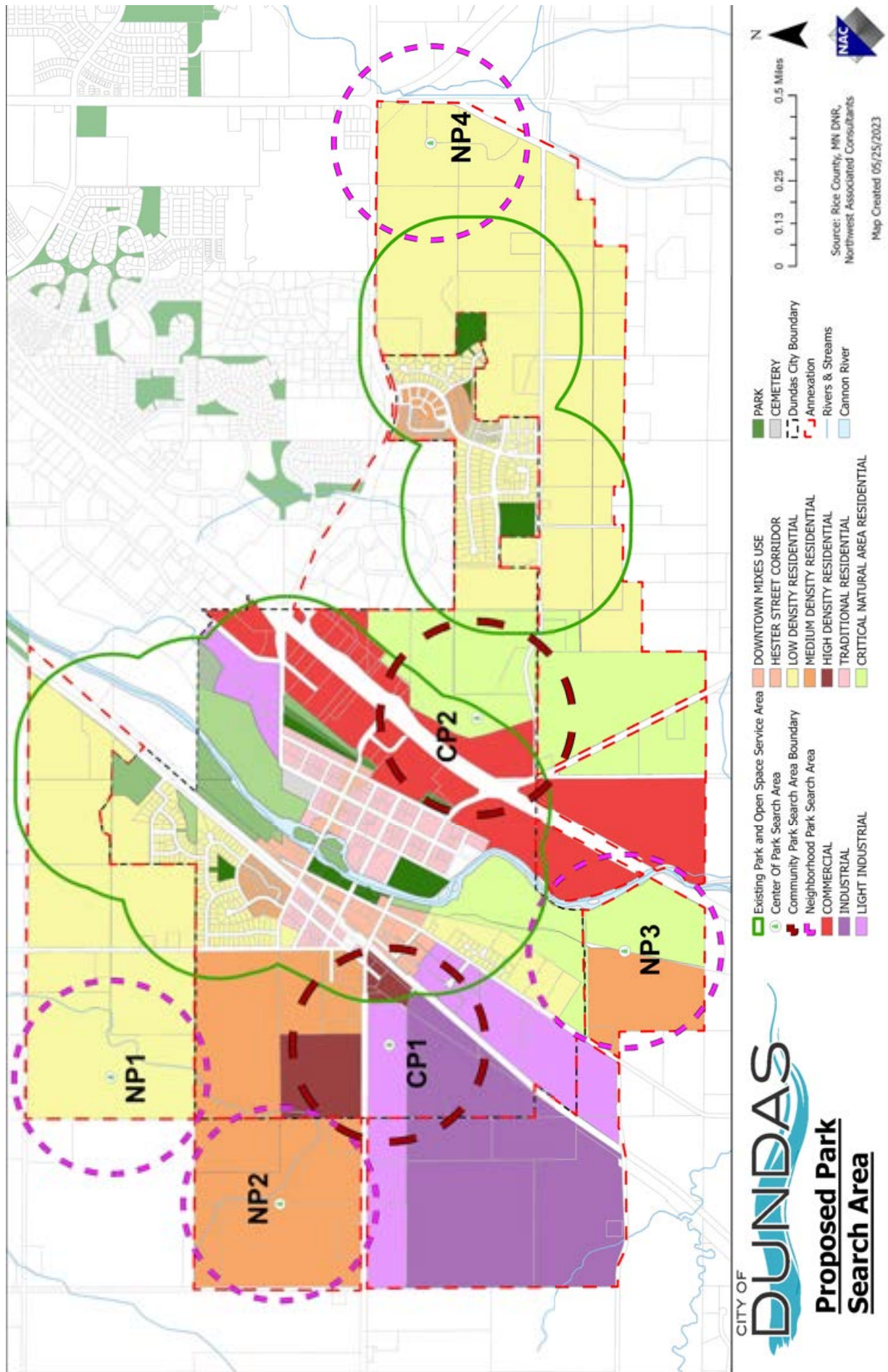
There is a need for additional neighborhood park land beyond what is depicted on this map. Additional Neighborhood Park search areas are not identified due to the fact that there are opportunities for expanding existing parks to maximize system efficiency. Notably, Pinnacle Park could be expanded when there is additional development within its service area.

Park Site Selection Criteria

It is important for the City to establish selection criteria for the location of future park land. Since the City of Dundas seeks to provide park and recreational opportunities in an efficient and comprehensive manner, future park sites should adhere to the following location criteria:



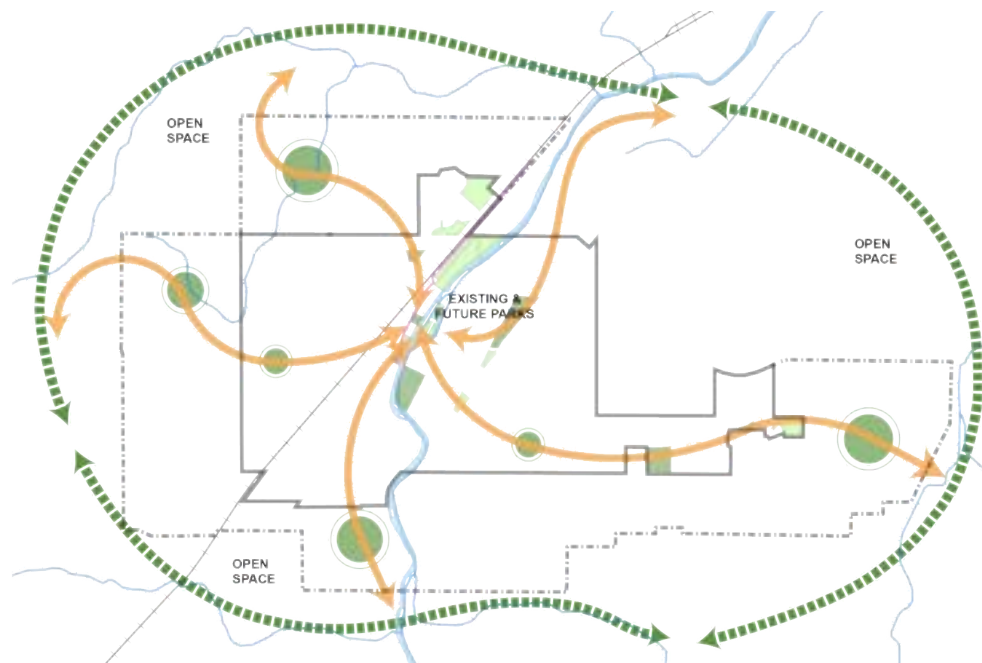
- Active & Passive. The City has established that the park system is for a full range of users. Therefore, parkland land that can be utilized by both passive and active users should be placed at a premium.
- Accessibility & Visibility. Parks are more heavily utilized and safer when they are easily visible and accessed.
- Natural Aesthetics. The system will more efficiently meet open space preservation goals when doubled with park system expansion. Park sites will increase the number of users if combined with unique natural aesthetics.
- Street Frontage. Parkland should have public street frontage greater than a typical residential parcel. This will allow for greater numbers of access points and help improve visibility. The street should be of a classification sufficient to allow for easy and safe access. Parks with adequate street frontage are more inviting to the general public.
- Connectivity. Park locations should be picked in conjunction with trail locations. This will improve access and limit the need for extra amenities in the trail system (benches, restrooms) that can serve a dual purpose via parkland.



TRAILS, GREENWAYS AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING

Providing connectivity between components of the Park, Trail, and Open Space system both for transportation and nature are the key goals of the Trails, Greenways, and Open Space planning efforts.

The goal of the trail plan is to create a network of interconnected corridors. These corridors are intended to connect parks with the Mill Towns Trail, to open spaces identified for preservation. This interconnectivity will assist in ensuring the park and recreational system will maximize use in an efficient manner.



The trail plan is intended to be used to help define route and connection goals of trails so that the land and easements can be acquired along with the development of the adjacent land. Along with trail and greenways, site amenities such as benches, signage, lighting, rest rooms, water fountains, bridges, and parking lots may be appropriate in certain situations requiring a greater amount of land acquisition.

Trails

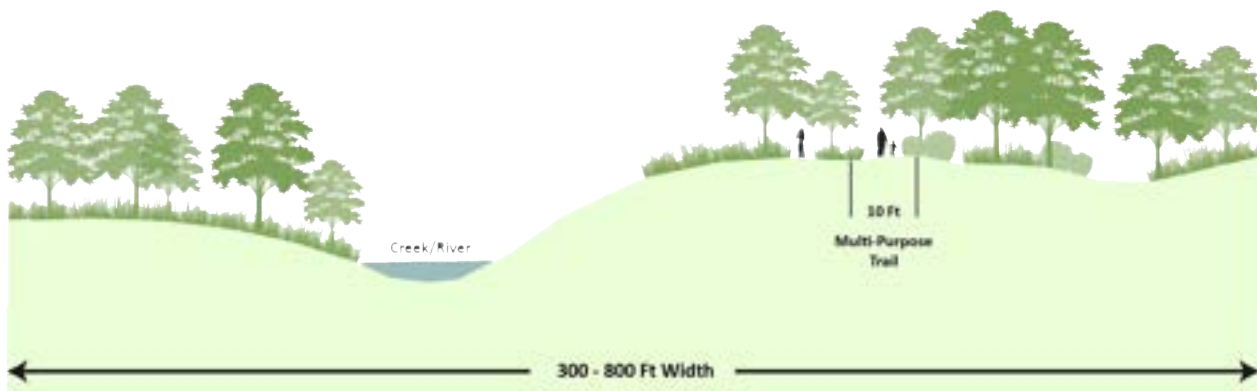
The trail plan is designed to be part of a community wide system providing greater access to community assets and provide recreational opportunities. The plan is intended to show conceptual trail alignments and may be revised as opportunities arise or are further defined. The City may elect to utilize existing roadways for trail construction or when feasible have independent trail corridors. As parkland is developed, the City fully intends to connect parks to an overall system of trails to ensure there is adequate access to each park. Design standards are utilized to insure accountability and safety, while also minimizing roadway crossings and other potentially dangerous situations.

As mentioned, trail locations are conceptual. In cases where trail locations are dependent upon co-locating with a current higher classification roadway and that roadway designation or location is shifted, it shall be assumed that the trail location is to be shifted, as well. In cases where the conceptual trail location is determined to be infeasible, a more realistic route may be chosen as long as it provides connections to the intended sites.

Trail, Greenway, and Open Space Classification

The Trail System Map depicts five types of trails. The trail classifications are intended to work with the City's Transportation Plan street cross sections.

- **Natural Resource Corridor.** These corridors are intended to be 300 to 600 feet wide, allowing for the inclusion of a multi-purpose trail and alternative use trail that may be appropriate for horses. These corridors would be located close to key natural resource preservation areas, and would not incorporate roads. In instances where accessibility is limited, the natural resource corridor designation may serve as open space until time safe access can be provided.
- **Greenbelt Corridor.** This corridor is also intended to be for preserving key natural resources, as well as allowing for multiple types of transportation. These may be roads as well as multi-purpose trails in a greenway environment located within a wider than standard right-of-way.
- **Parkway with Multi-purpose Trail.** This trail type is to be located within wider than normal rights-of-way for the purpose of integrating a linear park and trail into the standard transportation system. The multi-purpose trail will be designed to support its determined users at the time of development.
- **Multi-purpose Trail.** In some instances a multi-purpose trail may be planned for use independently of a Parkway, in its own corridor, or within a more standard right-of-way. As mentioned above, the trail will be designed to support its determined users at the time of development.
- **Snowmobile Trail.** The snowmobile trail classification is used to denote an identified snowmobile corridor.



Trail Location and Development Criteria

Selecting the actual location of a trail corridor shall be done in a case by case manner and based on providing feasible and efficient locations that are practical. The following location and development criteria shall be considered when reviewing potential trail location and development:

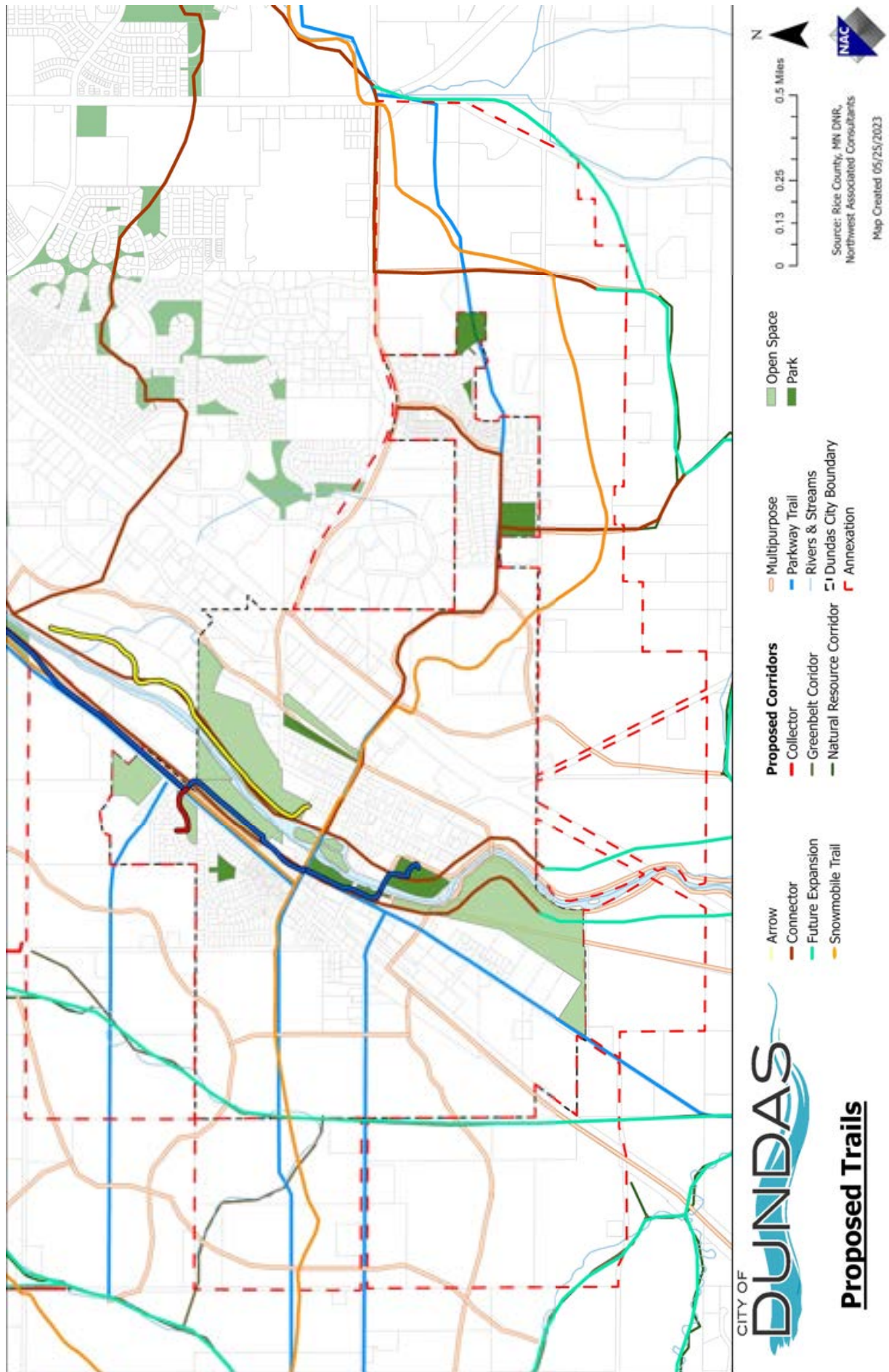
- **Dedication.** Right-of-way dedication shall be wide enough to include trails, when necessitated by the Trail Plan. Trails outside of right-of-ways shall be platted in outlots or placed in easements at the discretion of the City Engineer in terms of size to allow for easy maintenance and access.
- **Safety.** When placing trails in a right-of-way, the trail shall be constructed off-street with grade separation to maximize safe use. Other trail segments shall be planned for adequate access and visibility.
- **Minimize Costs.** In an effort to minimize construction costs, trails, where designated, may be constructed in conjunction with state, county, and city street improvements. Developers may be expected to install trails at the time of street construction.
- **Connectivity.** Trails shall be placed in subdivisions to serve the City's intent of connecting amenities and resources. This connection shall be done in an efficient manner providing as direct of a connection as feasible. The City expects the trail system to connect residences to parks, open spaces, and businesses. Businesses should develop site amenities to encourage trail use.
- **Coordination.** The City will coordinate with other governmental units to provide trail resources when opportunities arise.

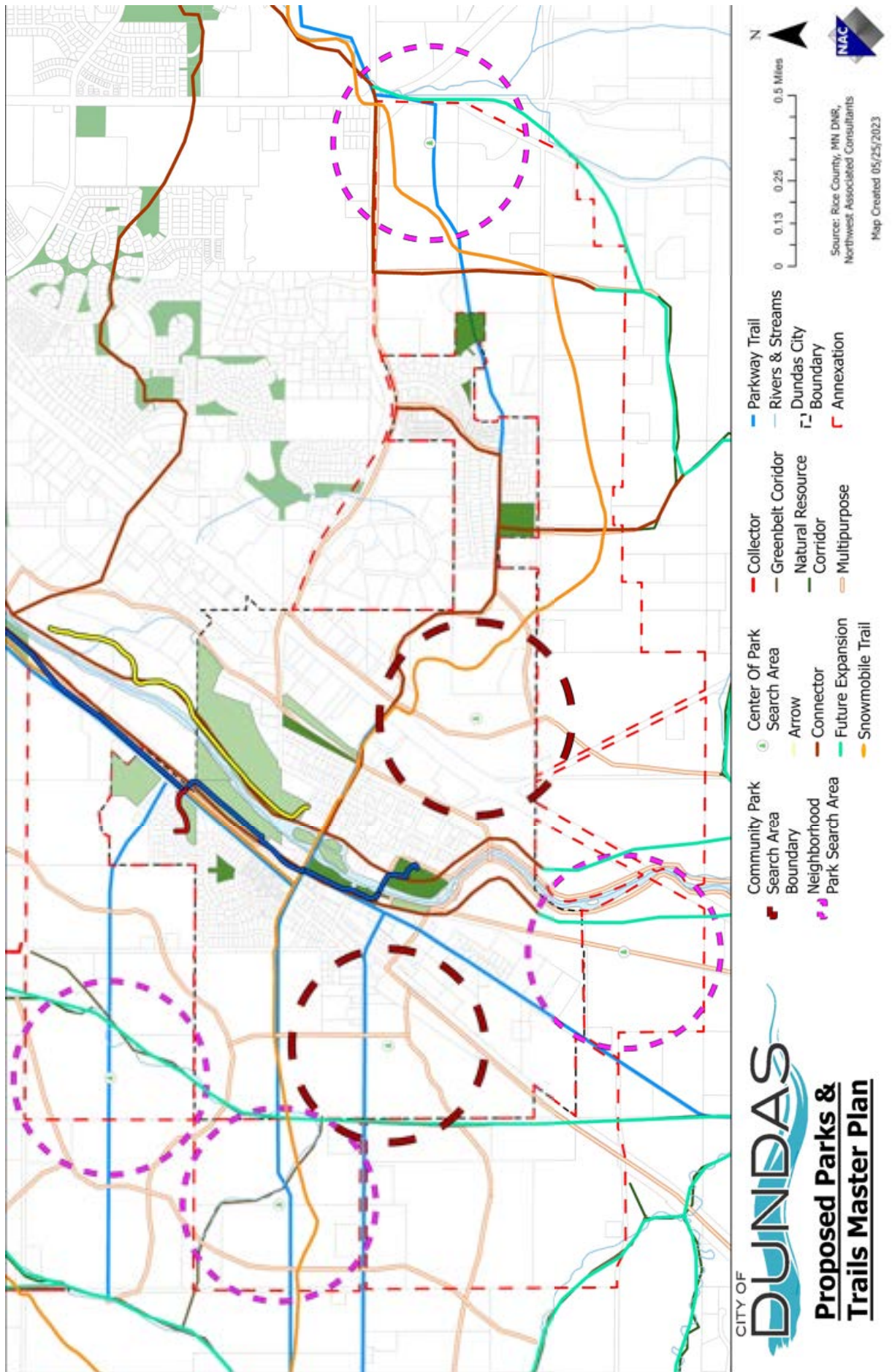
Open Space and Natural Resource Preservation

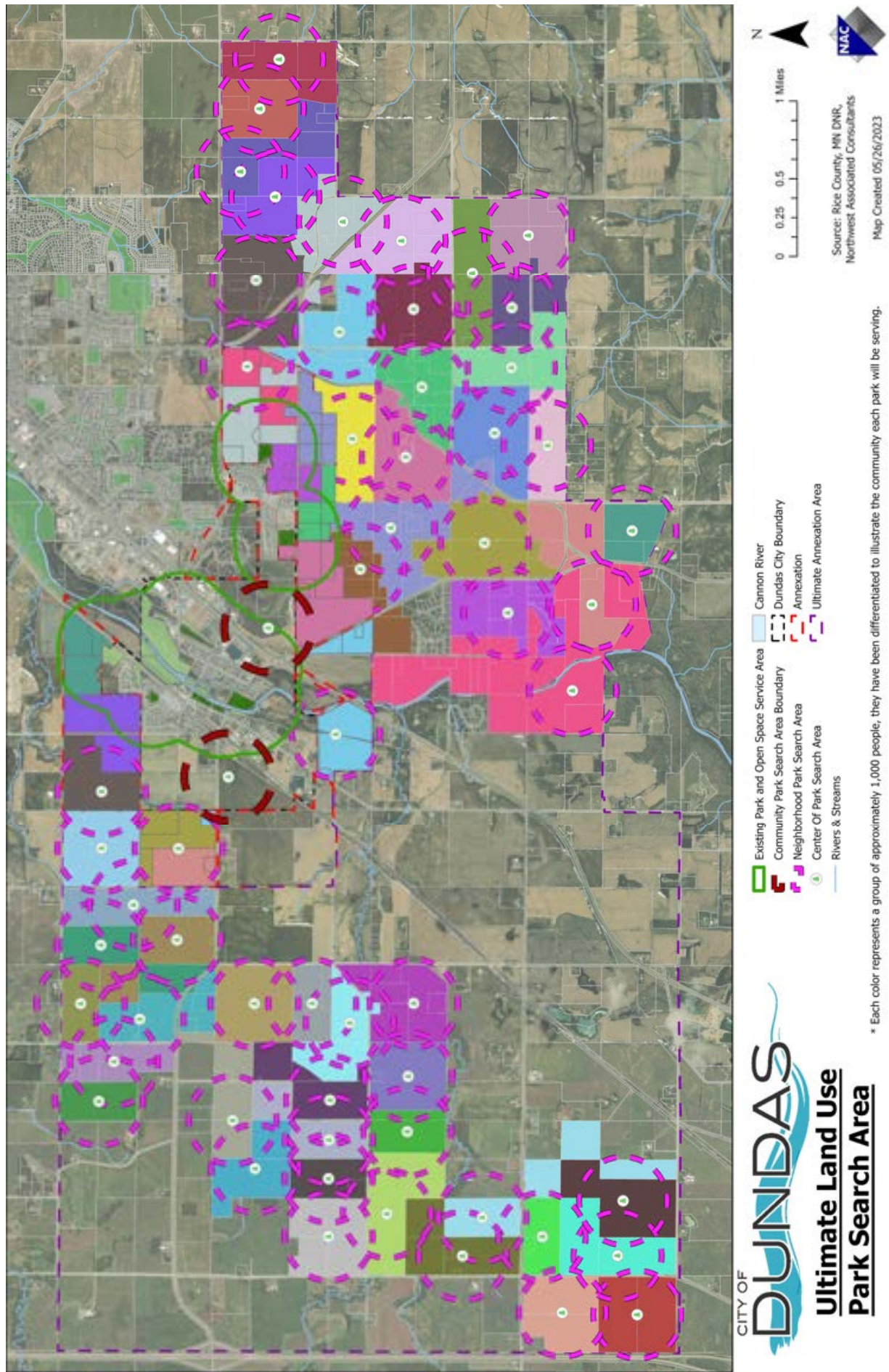
There may be areas where the City chooses to preserve key open spaces without designated trail access. Significant stands of trees, river banks, wetlands, unique native vegetation, or other such key natural resources may be present on site and be preserved by dedication of land. In such instances the area should be adjacent to a significant stream, noted on the natural resource inventory, identified through a planning process to be a significant natural resource, or identified as a key historic or cultural amenity.

Ultimate Land Use Park & Trail Planning

Upon areas being developed in the Ultimate Land Use Area, parks and recreational facilities will need to be provided. The following maps depict the projection of the City's park planning policies into this area at the appropriate levels. Trail and greenway corridors will follow logical extensions, as further depicted. These networks of trails and parks may require further refinement but will generally follow these established guidelines.







TRANSPORTATION GOALS

Goal: Establish an efficient and effective Park, Trail, and Open Space system for the community to provide recreation, access to key natural resource areas, and general connectivity throughout the community.

- Review and update neighborhood park needs and service areas as development occurs so that new barriers and changing recreational needs are acknowledged and accomplished.
- Evaluate each new development project to ensure it provides the appropriate park land dedication.
- Review and prioritize trail needs and establish a schedule and funding framework for implementation.
- Investigate the use of grants, donations, partnerships, and opportunities for joint powers agreements for the development of system facilities.
- Regularly review the park dedication fee to ensure it is effective and appropriate.
- Establish proper right-of-way widths and design standards to be included in roadways.
- Incorporate park infrastructure replacement into budgeting programs.
- Establish a plan for natural resource corridors and trail expansion in areas beyond the current planning boundaries.