

APPENDIX VI

Classification of Parks, Open Space and Greenways and Trail Types

The following are classifications of parks, open space and greenways that may be used as guidelines for Franklin County's parks, open spaces and greenways.

Diagrams of some of the classifications are included following the charts.

The various types of trails are explained in the last section of this appendix.

The following table* briefly summarizes the classification of parks, open space and greenways

Parks, Open Space, and Pathways Classifications Table			
Parks and Open Space Classifications			
Classification	General Description	Location Criteria	Size Criteria
Mini-Park	Used to address limited, isolated or unique recreational needs.	Less than a 1/4 mile distance in residential setting.	Between 2500 sq. Ft. and one acre in size.
Neighborhood Park	Neighborhood park remains the basic unit of the park system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Focus is on informal active and passive recreation.	1/4 to 1/2 mile distance and uninterrupted by non-residential roads and other physical barriers.	5 acres is considered minimum size. 5 to 10 acres is optimal.
School-Park	Depending on circumstances, combining parks with school sites can fulfill the space requirements for other classes of parks, such as neighborhood, community, sports complex, and special use.	Determined by location of school district property.	Variable—depends on function.
Community Park	Serves broader purpose than neighborhood park. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves two or more neighborhoods and 1/2 to 1/3 mile distance.	As needed to accommodate desired users. Usually between 30 and 50 acres.
Large Urban Park	Large urban parks serve a broader purpose than community parks and are used when community and neighborhood parks are not adequate to serve the needs of the community. Focus is on meeting community-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	Determined by the quality and suitability of the site. Usually serves the entire community.	As needed to accommodate desired uses. Usually a minimum of 50 acres, with 75 or more acres being optimal.
Natural Resource Areas	Lands set aside for preservation of significant natural resources, remnant landscapes, open space, and visual aesthetics/buffering.	Resource availability and opportunity.	Variable.
Greenways	Effectively tie park system components together to form a continuous park environment.	Resource availability and opportunity.	Variable.
Sports Complex	Consolidates heavily programmed athletic fields and associated facilities to larger and fewer sites strategically located throughout the community.	Strategically located community-wide facilities.	Determined by projected demand. Usually a minimum of 25 acres, with 40 to 80 acres being optimal.
Special Use	Covers a broad range of parks and	Variable—dependent on	Variable.

Parks, Open Space, and Pathways Classifications Table			
Parks and Open Space Classifications			
Classification	General Description	Location Criteria	Size Criteria
	recreation facilities oriented toward single-purpose use.	specific use.	
Private Park / Recreation Facility	Parks and recreation facilities that are privately owned yet contribute to the public park and recreation system.	Variable-dependent on specific use.	Variable

Pathways Classifications		
Classification	General Description	Description of Each Type
Park Trail	Multipurpose trails located within greenways, parks, and natural resource areas. Focus is on recreational value and harmony with natural environment.	Type I: Separate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters. Type II: Multipurpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians and bicyclists/in-line skaters. Type III: Nature trails for pedestrians. May be hard-or soft-surfaced.
Connector Trails	Multipurpose trails that emphasize safe travel for pedestrians to and from parks and around the community. Focus is as much on transportation as it is on recreation.	Type I: Separate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skates located in independent r.o.w. (E.g., old railroad r.o.w.) Type II: Separate/single-purpose hard-surfaced trails for pedestrians or bicyclists/in-line skaters. Typically located within road r.o.w.
On-Street Bikeways	Paved segments of roadways that serve as a means to safely separate bicyclists from vehicular traffic.	Bike Route: Designated portions of the roadway for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclist.
All-Terrain Bike Trail	Off-road trail for all-terrain (mountain) bikes.	Single-purpose loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas.
Cross-Country Ski Trail	Trails developed for traditional and skate-style cross-country skiing.	Loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas.
Equestrian Trail	Trails developed for horseback riding.	Loop trails usually located in larger parks and natural resource areas. Sometimes developed as multipurpose with hiking and all-terrain biking where conflicts can be controlled.

* Table provided by NRPA

OUTDOOR FACILITY SPACE STANDARDS

The following table* summarizes Outdoor Facility Space Standards.

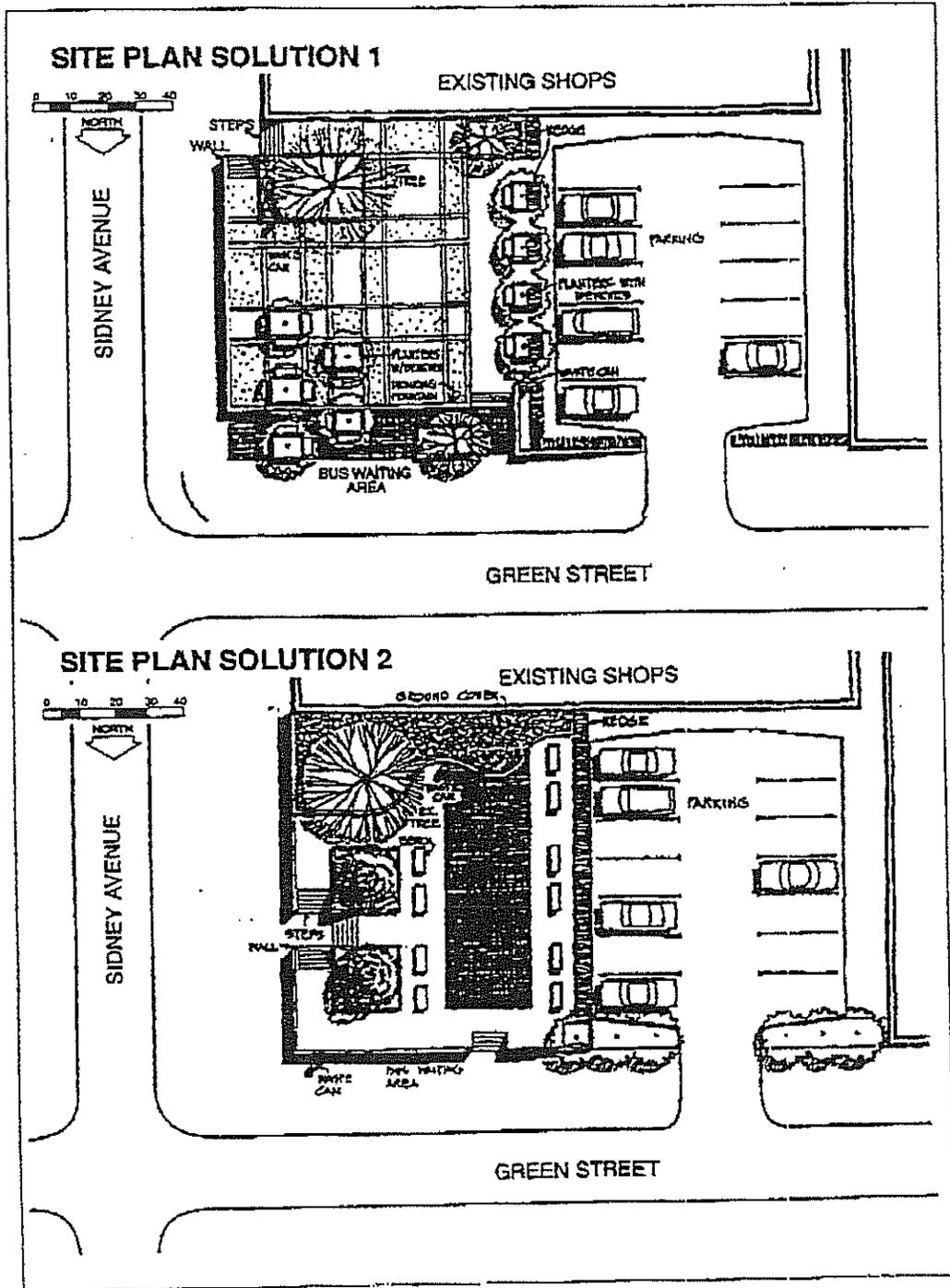
Activity Format	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Orientation	Service Radius and Location Notes
Badminton	Singles-17' x 44' Doubles-20' x 44' with 5' unobstructed area on both sides.	1622 sq. ft.	Long axis north-south	1/4 - 1/2 mile. Usually in school recreation center or church facility. Safe walking or biking or biking access.
Basketball 1. Youth 2. High School 3. Collegiate	46' - 50' x 84' 50' x 84' 50' x 94' with 5' unobstructed space all sides.	2400-3036 sq. ft. 5040-7280 sq. ft. 5600-7980 sq. ft.	Long axis is north-south. Front wall at north end.	15 - 30 min. travel time, 4-wall usually indoor as part of multi-purpose building. 3-2 wall usually in park or school setting.
Ice hockey	Rinks 85' x 200' (Min. 85' x 185') Additional 5000 22,000 sq. ft. including support area.	22,000 sq. ft. including support area.	Long axis is north-south if outdoors.	1/2 - 1-hour travel time. Climate important consideration affecting no. of units. Best as part of multi-purpose facility.
Tennis	36' x 78'. 12 ft. clearance on both ends.	Min. of 7,200 sq. ft. single court area (2 acres per complex)	Long axis north-south	1/4-1/2 mile, best in batteries of 2-4. Located in neighborhood/community park or near school site.
Volleyball	30' x 60'. Minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 4,000 sq. ft.	Long axis north-south.	1/2 - 1 mile.
Baseball 1. Official 2. Little League	Baselines-90' Pitching dist.-60.5' Foul lines-min. 320' Center field-200'-250' 1.2 A min.	3.0-3.85 A min.	Locate home plate so pitcher is not throwing across sun, and batter not facing it. Line from home plate through pitchers mound to run east-northeast.	1/4-1/2 mile. Part of neighborhood complex. Lighted fields part of community complex.
Field Hockey	180' x 300' with a minimum of 10' clearance on all sides	Minimum 1.5 A	Fall season- Long axis northwest or southeast. For longer periods, north/south.	15-30 minute travel time. Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school.

Activity Format	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Orientation	Service Radius and Location Notes
Football	160' x 360' with a minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 1.5 A	Same as field hockey	15-30 min. travel time. Same as field hockey.
Soccer	195' to 225' x 330' to 360' with 10' minimum clearance on all sides.	1.7 - 2.1 A.	Same as field hockey	1-2 miles
Golf-driving range	900' x 690' wide. Add 12' width each additional tee.	13.5 A for min. of 25 tees.	Long axis is southwest-northeast with golfer driving northeast.	30 minute travel time. Park off golf course complex. As separate unit may be privately operated.
1/4 mile running track	Overall width - 276' length-600'. Track width for 8-4 lanes is 32'.	4.3 A	Long axis in sector from north to south to northwest-southeast, with finish line at north end.	15-30 minute travel time. Usually part of a high school or community park complex in combination with football, soccer, etc.
Softball	Baselines - 60' pitching dist. - 45' men. 40' women Fast pitch field radius from plate - 225' Slow pitch - 275' (men) 250' (women)	1.5-2.0 A	Same as baseball. indimensions for 16'.	1/4 - 1/2 mile. Slight difference May also be used for youth baseball.
Multiple use court (basketball, tennis, etc.)	120' x 80'	9,840 sq. ft.	Long axis of court with primary use north and south.	1-2 miles, in neighborhood or community parks.
Archery range	300' length x minimum 10' between targets. Roped, clear area on side of range minimum 30', clear space behind targets minimum of 90' x 45' with bunker.	Minimum 0.65 A	Archer facing north + or - 45 degrees.	30 minutes travel time. Part of a regional/metro complex.
Golf 1. Par 3 (18 hole) 2. 9-hole Standard	Average length varies 600-2700 yards. Average length 2250 yards.	50-60 A Minimum of 50 A	Majority of holes on north/south axis	1/2 - 1 hour travel time 9-hole course can accommodate 350 people/day.

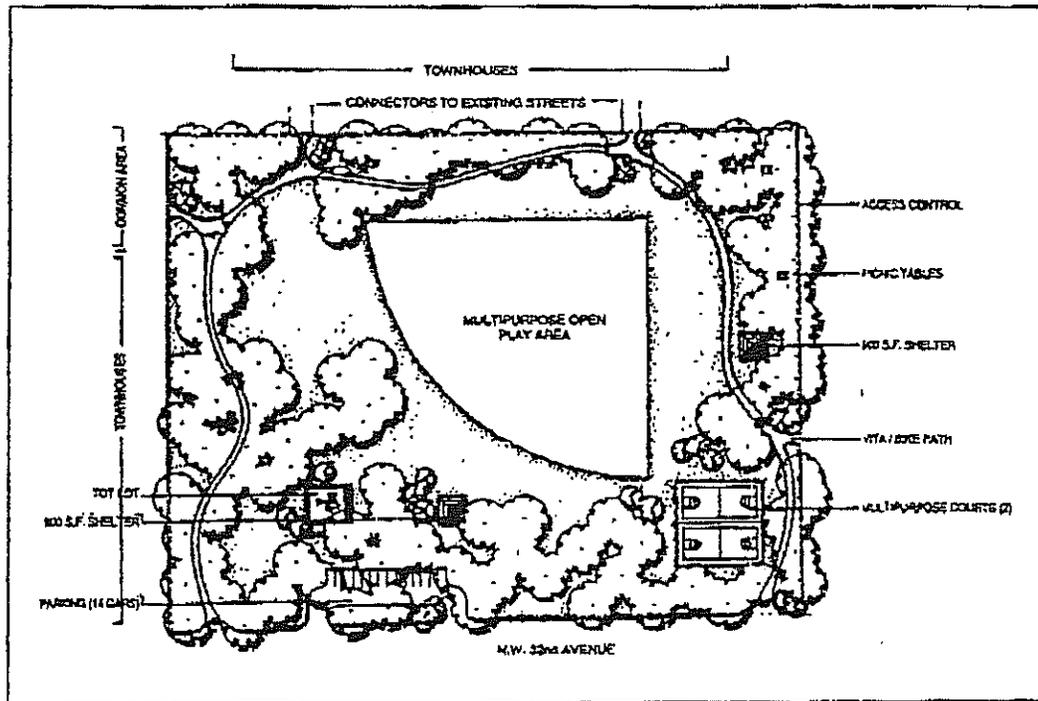
Activity Format	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Orientation	Service Radius and Location Notes
3. 18-hole standard	Average length 6500 yards.	Minimum 110 yds		500 - 550 people/day Course may be located in community, district or regional/metro park.
Swimming pools	Teaching - min. 25 yds x 45'; even depth of 3-4 ft. Competitive-min. 25 m x 16 m. Min. of 25 sq. ft. water surface per swimmer. Ration of 2 to 1 deck to water.	Varies on size of pool and amenities. Usually 1-2 A sites.	None, but care must be taken in siting life stations in relation to afternoon sun.	15 to 30 minute travel time. Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching competitive and recreational purposes with enough to accommodate 1 m and 3 m diving boards. Located in community park or school site.
Beach areas	Beach area should have 50 sq. ft. of land and 50 sq. ft. of water per user. Turnover rate is 3. There should be 3-4 A supporting area per A of beach.	N/A	N/A	1/2 to 1 hour travel time. Should have a sand bottom with a maximum slope of 5%. Boating areas completely segregated from swimming areas. In regional/metro parks.

* Table provided by NRPA

Example Of A Mini-Park
(example from NRPA Park and Recreation Open Space and Greenway Guidelines publication)

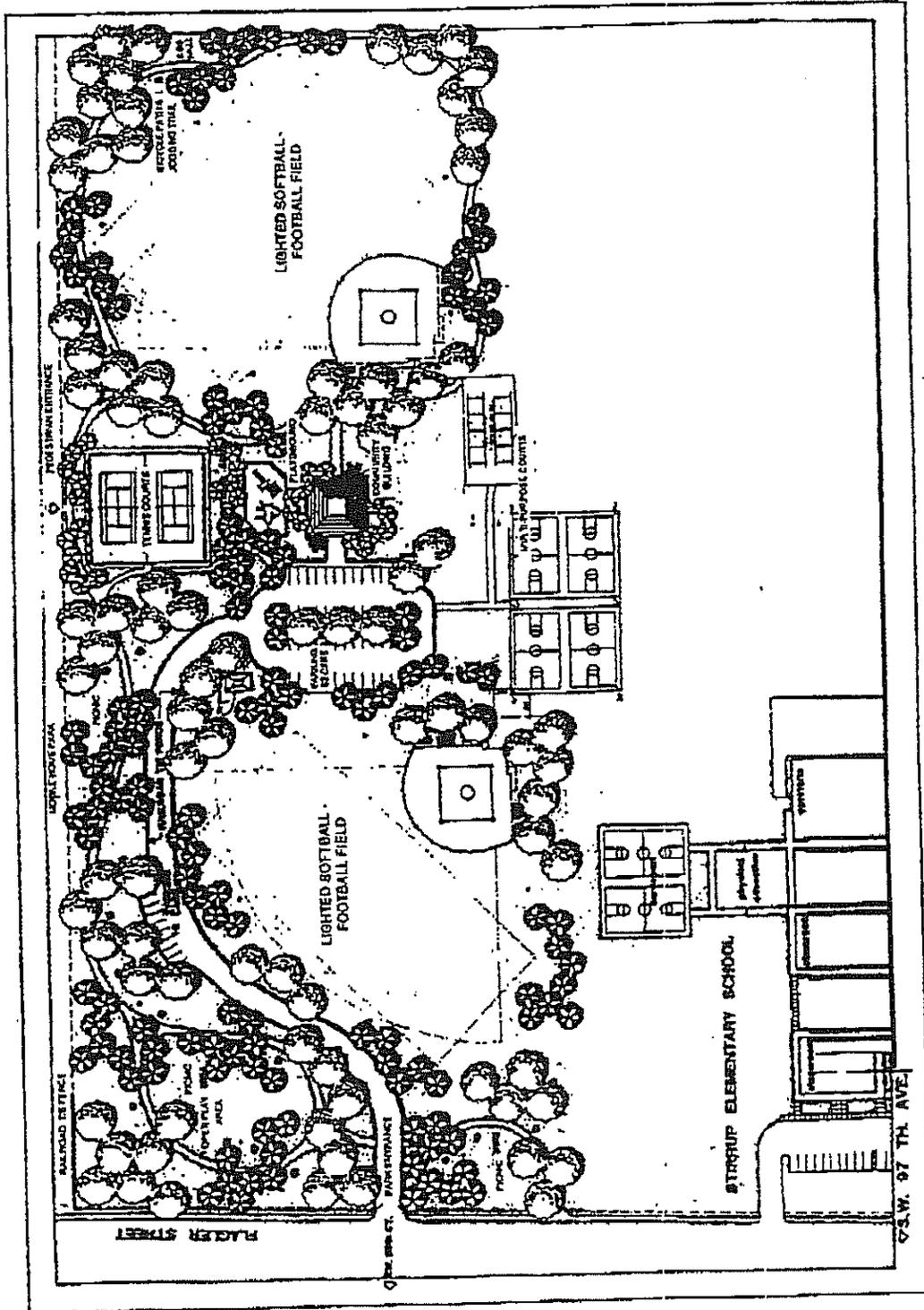


Example Of A Neighborhood Park
(example from NRPA Park and Recreation Open Space and Greenway Guidelines publication)

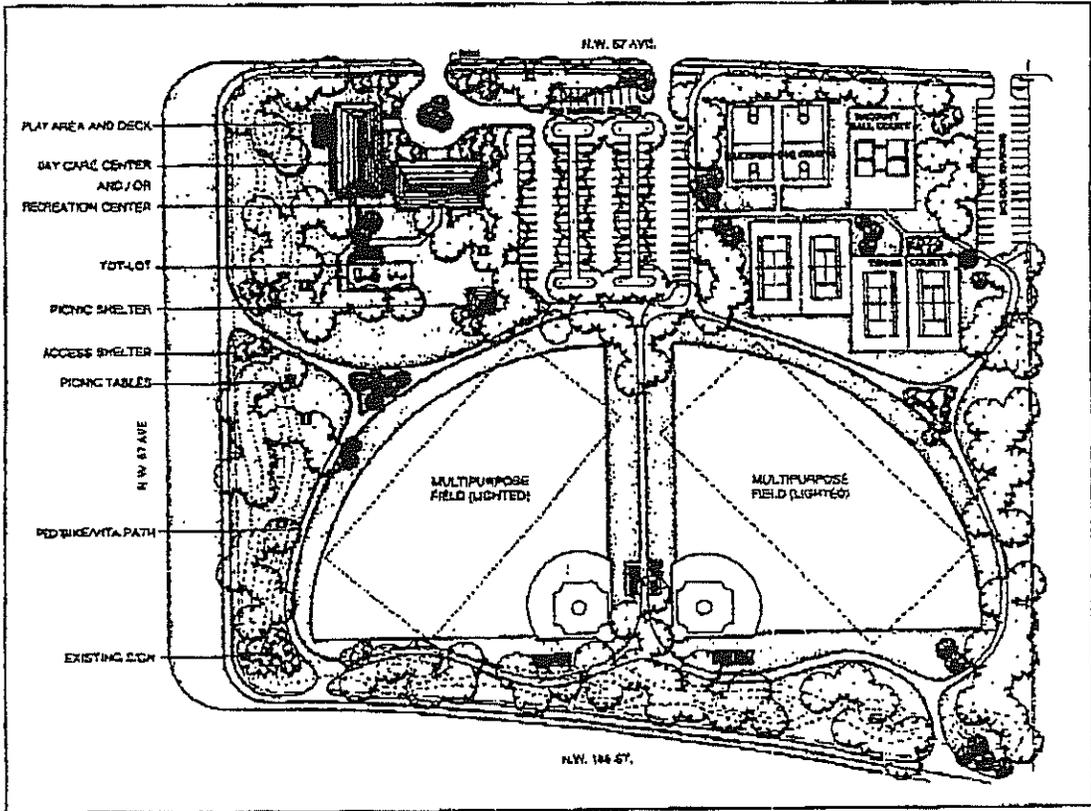


Example Of A School Park

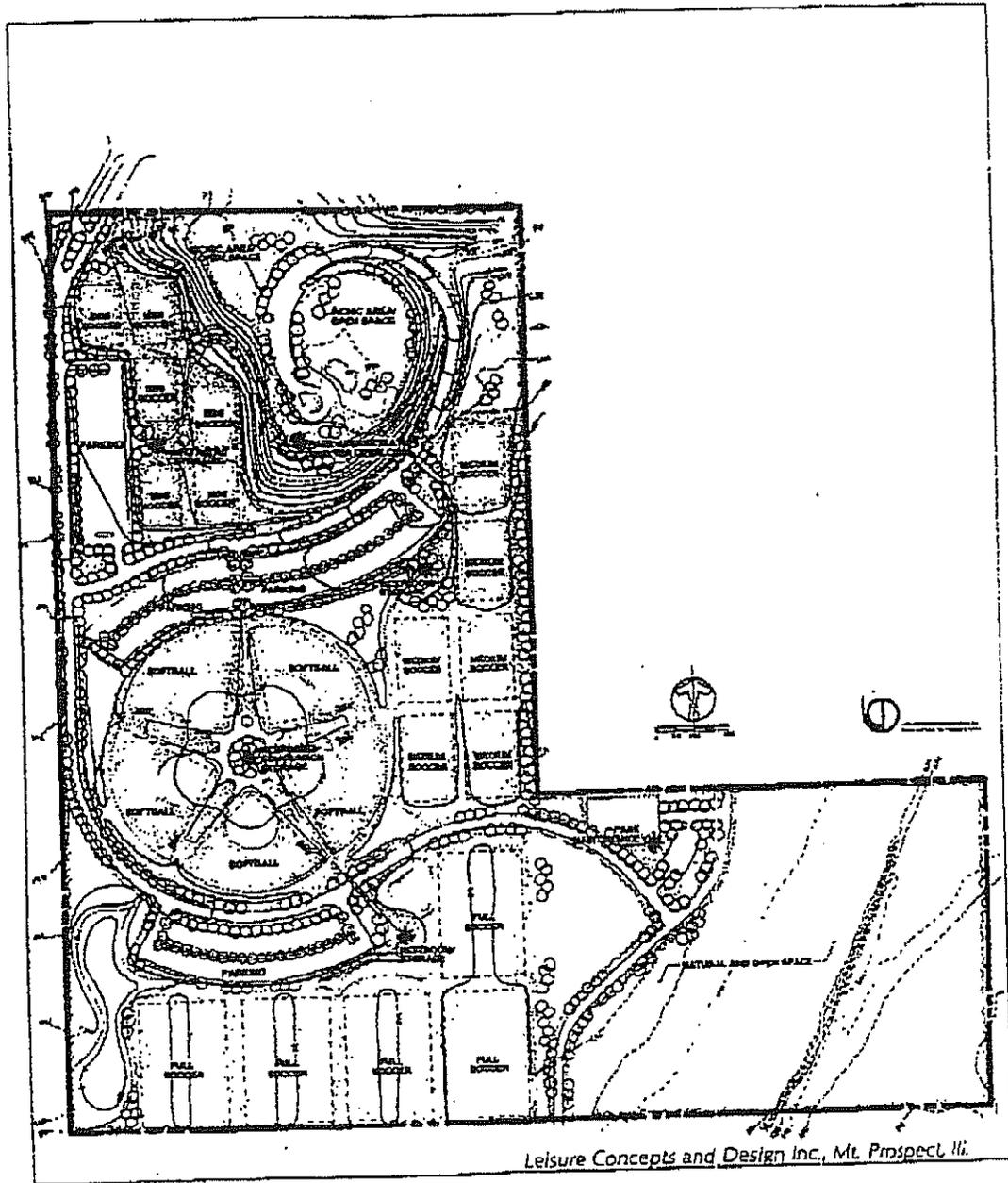
(example from NRPA Park and Recreation Open Space and Greenway Guidelines publication)



Example Of A Community Park
(example from NRPA Park and Recreation Open Space and Greenway Guidelines publication)

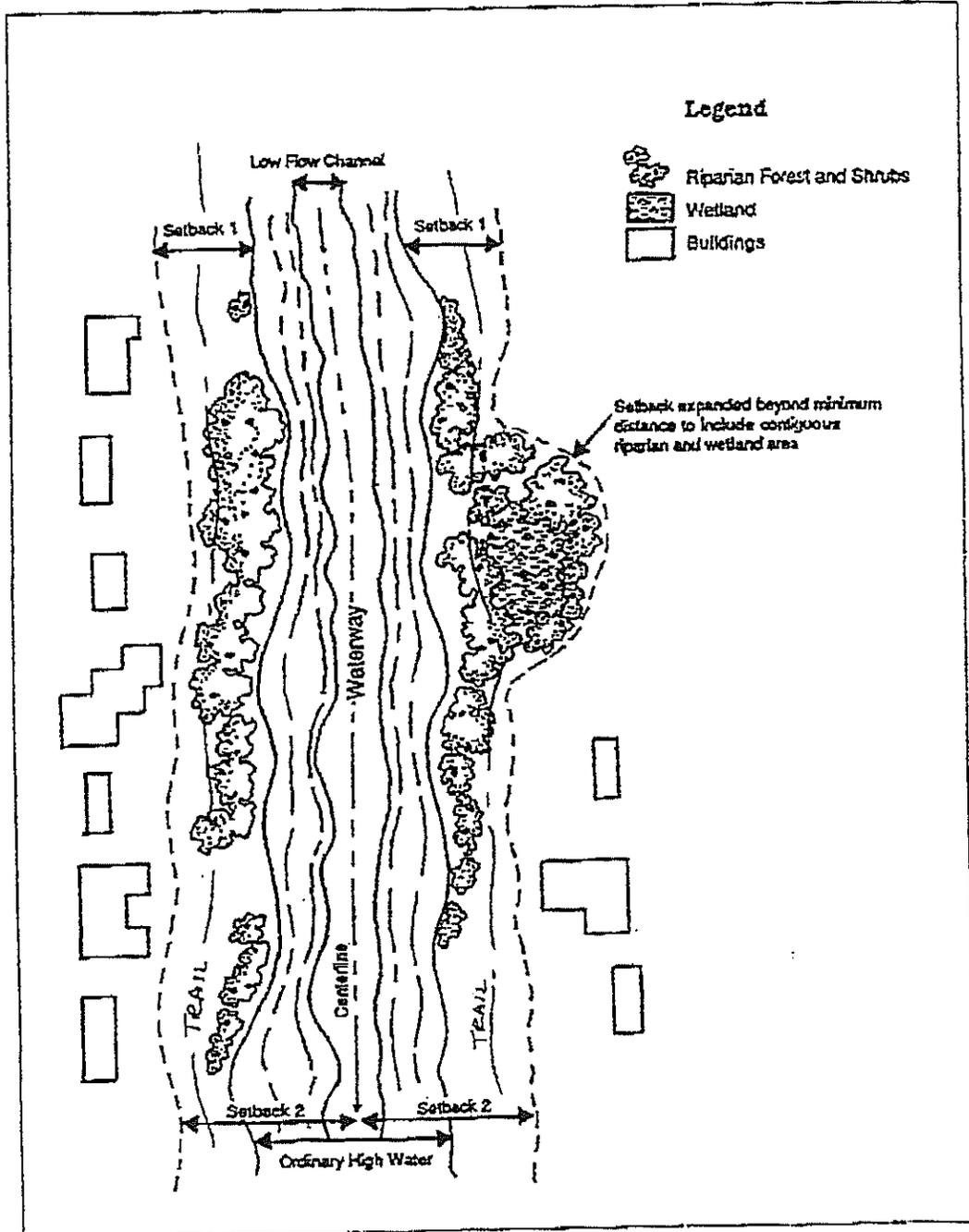


Example Of A Sports Complex
(example from NRPA Park and Recreation Open Space and Greenway Guidelines publication)



Example Of A Greenway

(example from NRPA Park and Recreation Open Space and Greenway Guidelines publication)



The multi-use trail would consist of a paved trail that fits into the environment in which it is placed. This would include minimal earthwork and minimal removal of plant material. Many site factors may affect the trail location, width and grade. They include topography, property lines, easements, utilities, drainage patterns, plant material and historical structures to name a few.

The width of the trail may vary depending of its intended type and level of use such as: bicycling, walking, jogging, roller-blading and equestrian. A 10' - 12' width with a 2' - 5' shoulder on both sides is common. Topography will affect the trail slope. It is preferable to keep the trail under a 8.33% slope to accommodate handicapped trail users. If the trail exceeds this slope the use of handrails and ramps with landings must be used for compliance with ADA codes.

Topography also affects drainage. Positive drainage off the trail is a must. Depending on existing drainage patterns, a drainage swale or storm drain inlet and piping system on one or both sides of the trail may be required. Safety fencing may be needed to protect trail users from steep slopes on either side of the trail. Minimum standards for vertical and horizontal clearances will need to be met to provide a safe travel way.

For safety purposes, signage at trail intersections with public streets and sidewalks is necessary. Additional safety or directional signage may be needed where the trail users awareness needs to be heightened. Should the trail intersect with a historically or environmentally significant area, interpretive and/or informational signage should be added to enhance the experience of the trail user. Access to the trail by emergency and maintenance vehicles must be provided while deterring non-emergency and non-maintenance vehicles and allowing trail users full access. This is typically accomplished by strategically placing bollards or access control gates at intersections with public streets.

Erosion control measures may be necessary when locating the trail in proximity of steep slopes (3:1 or steeper), in drainage swales and along creek/stream/river embankments.

Plant material may be added along the trail to enhance views to and from the trail. Plant material must be strategically placed so as not to create a safety hazard or create a place for someone to hide.

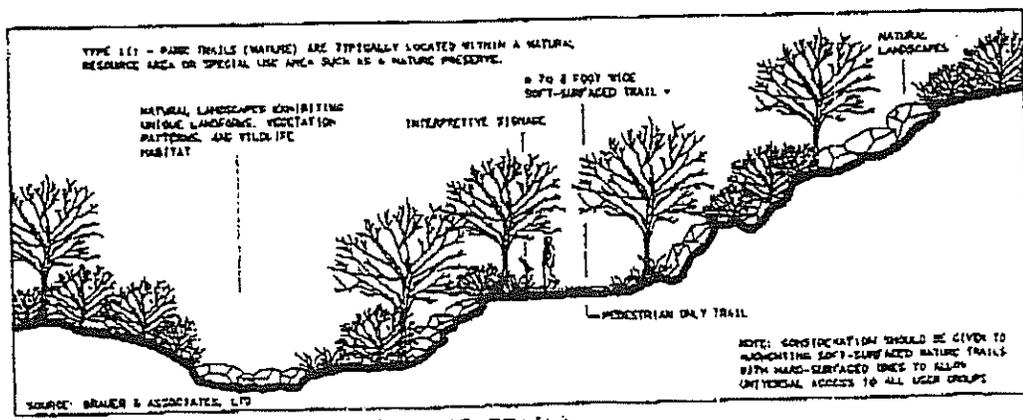
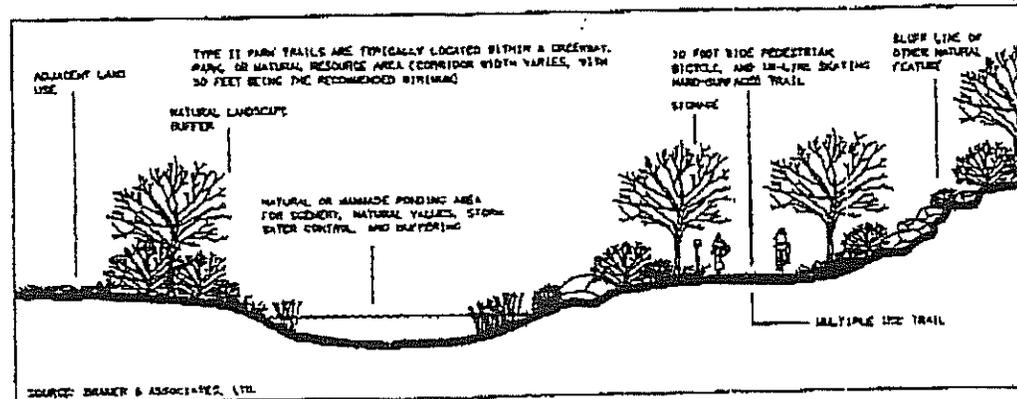
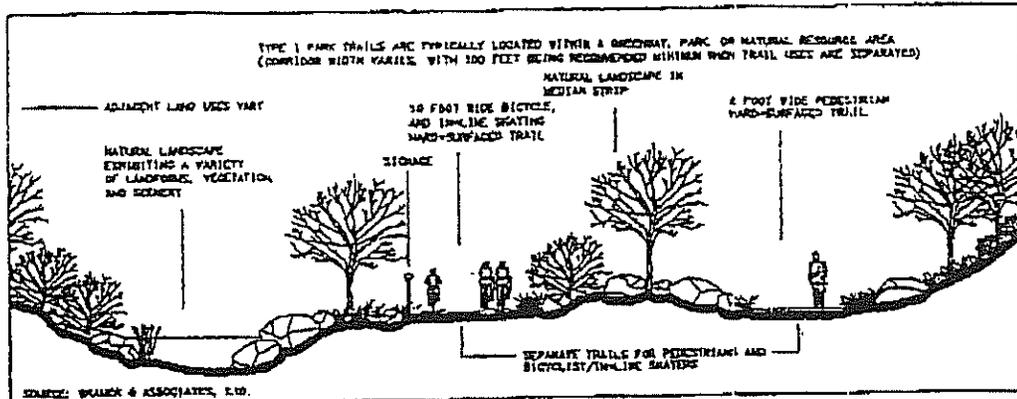
Mulch Trail

Secondary or connector trails can be used to provide links between certain activity areas, such as parks, a community center or a main trail. These trails can also be used in less developed or natural areas where building a 10-12' wide asphalt trail would not be desirable. This trail type could be easily developed with the help of volunteers. Once developed, it could serve as an educational exhibit for students and neighborhood residents as well as a recreational resource. Other amenities that can be added to the trail include signage, interpretive sites and boardwalks. The main difference between this trail and the multi-use trail is the trail material and trail width. Trails like this may consist of a 5' wide mulch trail that is located to minimize its impact on the site.



Example Of Park Trails I, II, III

(example from NRPA Park and Recreation Open Space and Greenway Guidelines publication)



Trail Types

Multi-Use Trail

The typical trail cross-section below indicates a 10' wide asphalt paved trail with a 2" asphalt lift placed on a 6" aggregate base and compacted subgrade. Topsoil, roots, rocks and stumps shall be removed from the trail prior to asphalt and stone placement (95% compaction).

