Parks and Recreation Commission

Wednesday, June 11, 2025
6:30 PM
Elk River City Hall

Regular Meeting
&
Work Session
Agenda

- Regular meeting in Council Chambers
- Work Session meeting in Upper Town Conference Room immediately following regular meeting

---

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. CONSIDER AGENDA

4. CONSIDER MINUTES

   4.1 05-14-2025 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

5. OPEN FORUM

   An opportunity to provide comments and feedback regarding items not on the agenda. Information provided in Open Forum will not be discussed at this meeting; rather, the information will be referred to staff and/or scheduled for discussion at a future meeting.

6. ACTION ITEMS

   6.1 Elk River Trails Master Plan - Name Change

   6.2 Kingdom Estates Fourth Addition - Park Dedication

   6.3 Meadow Hills Simple Plat - Park Dedication

   6.4 Oakwater Ridge - Park Dedication

7. RECREATION MANAGER UPDATE

   7.1 Recreaton Manager Update

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

9. MOTION TO ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

10. WORK SESSION

    Work Sessions are less formal meetings to encourage dialog. Official action or votes are not typically taken. At the conclusion of a discussion, a simple consensus provides staff direction for execution of the item. This portion of the agenda is audio recorded but not video recorded or broadcast. Work Sessions are open to the public; however, visitors who wish to provide input must be invited by the presiding officer, assume a seat at the discussion table and provide their full name and address for the official record.

    10.1 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

    10.2 Playground Plan

11. MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Elk River Vision

A welcoming community with revolutionary and spirited resourcefulness, exceptional service, and community engagement that encourages and inspires prosperity

Meeting of the Elk River
Parks and Recreation Commission
Held at the Elk River City Hall
May 14, 2025

Members Present:	Chair Dave Anderson, Commissioners Mike Niziolek, Joy Goodwin, Greg Loidolt, Hal Stewart, Jill Varty
Members Absent:	Melissa Fermoyle
Council Liaison:	Councilmember Cory Grupa
Staff Present:	Assistant City Administrator/Business Services Director Joe Stremcha, Parks and Recreation Manager Jeff Shelby, Senior Administrative Assistant Dawn Larson

1. Call Meeting to Order

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the meeting of the Elk River Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Anderson.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Consider Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Loidolt and seconded by Commissioner Varty to approve the May 14, 2025, agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

4. Consider Minutes

4.1 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes 4-9-2025

Moved by Commissioner Stewart and seconded by Commissioner Goodwin to approve April 9, 2025, Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes. Motion carried 6-0.

5. Open Forum

6. Presentations, Awards, and Recognition

6.1 Archery Deer Hunt Steward

Mr. Shelby presented his report. Mr. Becklin introduced himself and read the report that he provided to Chair Anderson and Mr. Shelby. He shared that first-time hunters have gotten to participate in the hunt. Chair Anderson explained that every time a hunter enters or exits the park, they send a text message to Mr. Becklin and that Mr. Becklin assists with any issues that arise during the hunt.

Commissioner Goodwin asked how they chose the threshold of 24 hunters. Mr. Becklin explained that they rotate in alternates if the first hunters get a deer or decide to stop hunting early. Chair

DRAFT

Anderson explained that the current number of hunters is based on spacing them out within the parks to encourage a successful hunt.
Chair Anderson and Mr. Becklin explained that they changed the Archery Hunt Program to just include Elk River residents. Hunters are allowed to use cross bows, and deer stands during the season. Commissioner Niziolek asked how the deer herd is being controlled. Mr. Becklin shared that for the first time a deer was shot in each park during the hunt.

7. Action Items

7.1 Villas at Fillmore 3rd Addition-Park Dedication

Mr. Shelby presented his report.

Moved by Commissioner Niziolek and seconded by Commissioner Loidolt to approve park dedication for The Villas at Fillmore Third Addition to be paid in cash, at the applicable rate at the time of recording, for six single-family parcels. Motion carried 6-0.

8. Discussion Items

8.1 Disc Golf Course-Burr Oak Park

Mr. Shelby presented his report.

Tim Schreder, an Otsego resident, was in attendance to check on the status of Burr Oak Park as a disc golf course option. Last week, Mr. Schreder and another disc golfer walked the property, and, in his opinion, Burr Oak Park is still a viable option.

Mr. Schreder asked for clarification if he could park on the road and disc golf out at the park without an official course or parking lot. Commissioner Niziolek asked what the status of the housing development going in next to the park was. Mr. Shelby and Mr. Stremcha shared that they were not sure at this time.

Mr. Schreder said that many disc golfers in the area are traveling further away because there is not anything currently in the Elk River and Rogers area. Commissioner Goodwin said she thinks it would be a good litmus test for them to try to run a course there. Commissioner Loidolt said he is all for this because he thinks it would be a great amenity for Elk River.

Mr. Schreder mentioned that he has experience with developing disc golf courses as well as having worked with Tim Mackey who is a local course developer. Mr. Schreder said there are portable tees that disc golfers can use if they do not have a real course yet. Chair Anderson asked if Mr. Schreder would be willing to try this for a season. Mr. Schreder agreed that he would like to try several times and see how it goes, reporting back to the commission on his experience later in the summer. He would ideally like to create an Elk River disc golf club even if there is not an official disc course in the city.

Mr. Shelby said that he has had park maintenance out at the park this week and they believe it would be a possibility to have disc golf at the park. Commissioner Loidolt confirmed that the park right now is just sitting there not being used and this would give it a purpose. Chair Anderson said that putting

DRAFT

in an official disc golf course at Burr Oak Park would have to be an approved budgeted expense out of the park improvement fund.

Mr. Shelby agreed. Chair Anderson said that Burr Oak Park is a hostile environment, and he suggested that Mr. Schreder experience an entire season disc golfing out there to see how the terrain changes into late August. Chair Anderson said that it would be important for the group to hear Mr. Schreder's report at the end of the summer.

Commissioner Goodwin said if the user group really enjoys the experience, then the commission could look at moving forward with the development of disc golf at the park. Mr. Stremcha said the budget preparation for 2026 starts in the summer. Parks Maintenance staff can provide cost estimates for installing a disc golf course and Mr. Schreder's evaluation from the summer usage experience will provide feedback for budget discussion on what it would take for course development.

Mr. Schreder explained where the fairway would be. Chair Anderson asked if there would be an expectation that the trails would be mowed. Mr. Schreder said only in the prairie areas. He also shared that more courses now tend to be temporary, and they use turf around the tee's so they can move them. He said that most parks have concrete tees. He sees a trend of a lot of natural tees so that it is less invasive and permanent and always change.

Chair Anderson asked if a report in August would be too early or late. Mr. Stremcha said that August would be perfect if the testing happened in June and July and then Mr. Schreder came back in August with a report. Commissioner Niziolek asked what staff is planning to do with management of that property as far as buckthorn. Mr. Shelby said that would be a park maintenance piece that would be considered based on what happens out there. He said there is nothing in place now since the park is not being used. Commissioner Niziolek said he thinks a landscape management plan should be in place now before a disc golf course. Chair Anderson said it could be done simultaneously.

9. Parks and Recreation Manager Update

9.1 Parks and Recreation Manager Update

Mr. Shelby presented his report.

10. Announcements.

Commissioner Loidolt requested to add an action item on the June agenda to change the Trails Master plan to the Trails Framework plan to stay in the same line of wording as the Facilities Framework plan.

11. Adjourn Meeting

Moved by Commissioner Goodwin and seconded by Commissioner Loidolt to adjourn the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission at 7:00pm. Motion carried 6-0.

DRAFT

Minutes prepared by Dawn Larson.

_____
Dave Anderson, Chair

_____
Tina Allard, City Clerk

DRAFT

Request for Action

To
Parks and Recreation Commission

Item Number
6.1

Meeting Date
June 11, 2025

Prepared By
Jeff Shelby, Recreation Manager

Item Description
Elk River Trails Master Plan - Name Change

Reviewed by
Jeff Shelby
Joe Stremcha

Action Requested
Recommend, by motion, changing the name of the Elk River Trails Master Plan to Elk River Trails Framework Plan.

Background/Discussion
In 2024, the Athletic Fields Master Plan was formally changed to the Athletic Fields Framework Plan. The commission believed that title better reflected the nature and spirit of the document. Commissioner Loidolt has requested that the commission consider changing the name of the Elk River Trails Master Plan to the Elk River Trails Framework Plan. He suggests that it will provide similar flexibility within the plan and be consistent across other Parks and Recreation planning materials.

Financial Impact
None

Mission/Policy/Goal
Meet changing needs - agile.

Attachments
None

Request for Action

To
Parks and Recreation Commission

Item Number
6.2

Meeting Date
June 11, 2025

Prepared By
Jeff Shelby, Recreation Manager

Item Description
Kingdom Estates Fourth Addition - Park Dedication

Reviewed by
Jeff Shelby
Joe Stremcha

Action Requested
Recommend, by motion, park dedication for Kingdom Estates Fourth Addition be paid in cash for one single family parcel, at the applicable rate at the time of recording and a trail easement be placed on the property along the entire Olson Street side of the parcel.

Background/Discussion
The subject property is a 2.51-acre parcel located north of County Road 33 on Olson Street and is zoned Single Family Residential (R1a), which establishes a minimum lot size requirement of 2.5 acres. The applicant is proposing a simple plat to convert Outlot A of Kingdom Estates Third Addition into a buildable lot.

The Outlot was not subject to park dedication when originally platted and now that it is being platted, it is subject to park dedication requirements for a single parcel.

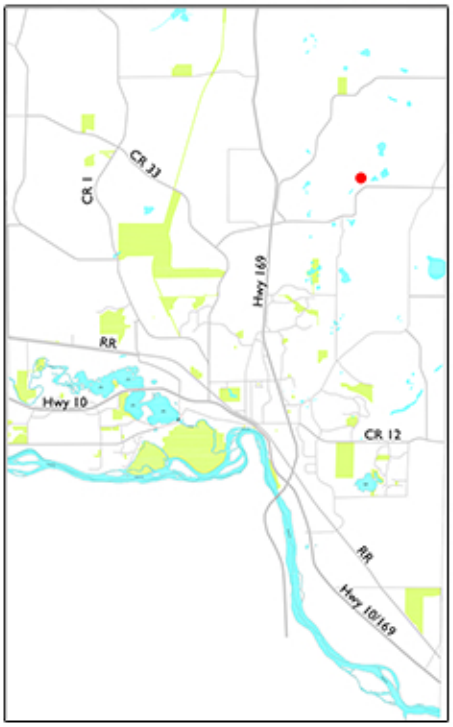
A review of the Parks and Recreation Trail Master Plan indicates that there is a desire for a trail connection within the subject property. Staff recommends the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend to City Council that a trail easement be placed on the property along the entire Olson Street side of the parcel. The final easement width will be determined by the City Council and staff.

Financial Impact
Cash to be paid into the Park Dedication Fund.

Mission/Policy/Goal
Opportunity to live, work, and play.

Attachments
1. P 25-13 Location Map
2. P 25-13 Plat
3. Trails





Project Location Map

Stephanie Zaczkowski

Final Plat

Case No: P 25-13

Property Description (Last Recording Plat Check Doc. No. 637469):
OUTLOT A, KINGDOM ESTATES THIRD ADDITION, Sherburne County, Minnesota.

Survey Notes:
1. This survey was performed without the benefit of a title report. Limited search for restrictions or easements was made by the surveyor
2. Reference 2022 survey for Stephanie Zackowski by Bogart, Pederson and Associates, Inc.; File No. 22-0281.00
3. Contours were created using MNDNR MN/Topo Lidar (NAVD 88) and are for references purposes only.
4. Wetland Delineation completed by Sierra Cotter, BWSR #1456.
5. Additional Drainage and Utility Easements will be needed to encompass the current delineated wetland and 45 foot wetland buffer.

Certificate of Survey
for
Stephanie Zaczkowski
OUTLOT A, KINGDOM ESTATES THIRD ADDITION
City of Elk River, Sherburne County, Minnesota

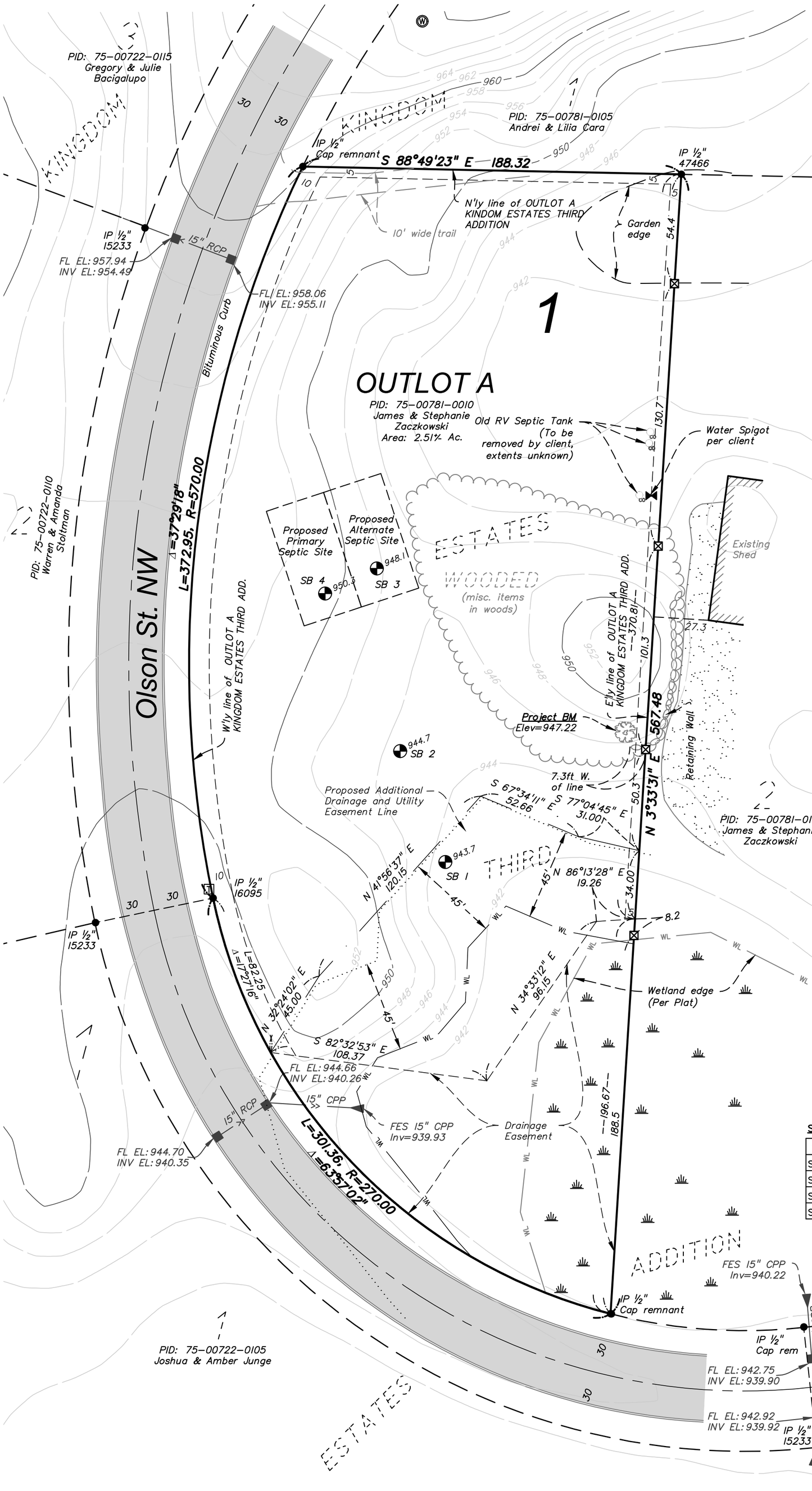
REFERENCE and PROJECT BENCHMARK
A double spike in the south face of a 12" oak tree, located 291 feet north of 294 feet west of the SE corner of Lot 2, Block 11, KINGDOM ESTATES THIRD ADDITION
Elevation = 947.22 feet (Plat Datum)

SETBACKS
35' Front
30' Rear
20' Side

ZONING ORDINANCES
Min. Lot: 2.5 Acres

ZONING CLASSIFICATIONS
R-1A Single Family/ Rural Residential

OWNER/DEVELOPER
Stephanie & James Zaczkowski



N

0 40

SCALE: 1" = 40'

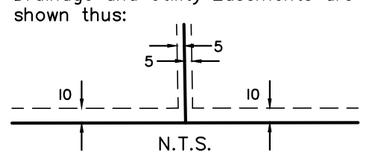
LEGEND:

- Denotes found iron monument
- Denotes set lath
- Denotes catch basin
- Denotes telephone pedestal
- Denotes flared end section
- Denotes wetland per plat
- Denotes septic cleanout
- Denotes valve
- Denotes well
- LS 47466 Denotes Craig Wensmann, LS
- LS 16095 Denotes Dennis Pederson, LS
- LS 15233 Denotes Dennis Taylor, LS
- Denotes bituminous surface
- Denotes gravel surface
- Denotes tree line
- Denotes proposed easement
- Denotes easement
- Denotes existing adjoiners
- Denotes field edge
- Denotes wetland per plat
- Denotes major contour
- Denotes minor contour
- Denotes current delineated wetland edge
- Denotes retaining wall

SOIL BORING LOG Dan Bogart, Lic. No. 4094

Soil Boring #	Elevation	Mottling	Elev. of Mottled Soil
Soil Boring 1	943.7	None to 12"	942.7
Soil Boring 2	944.7	None to 13"	943.7
Soil Boring 3	948.1	None to 26"	945.9
Soil Boring 4	950.3	None to 20"	948.6

Drainage and Utility Easements are shown thus:



Being 10 feet in width and adjoining right-of-way lines, also being 5 feet in width and adjoining lot lines, unless otherwise indicated, as shown on plat.

REV NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION

DATE: 4/15/25
DESIGN BY:
DRAWN BY: CK
CHECKED BY: RT
DWG FILE: 24-0554COS
FILE NO.: 24-0554.00

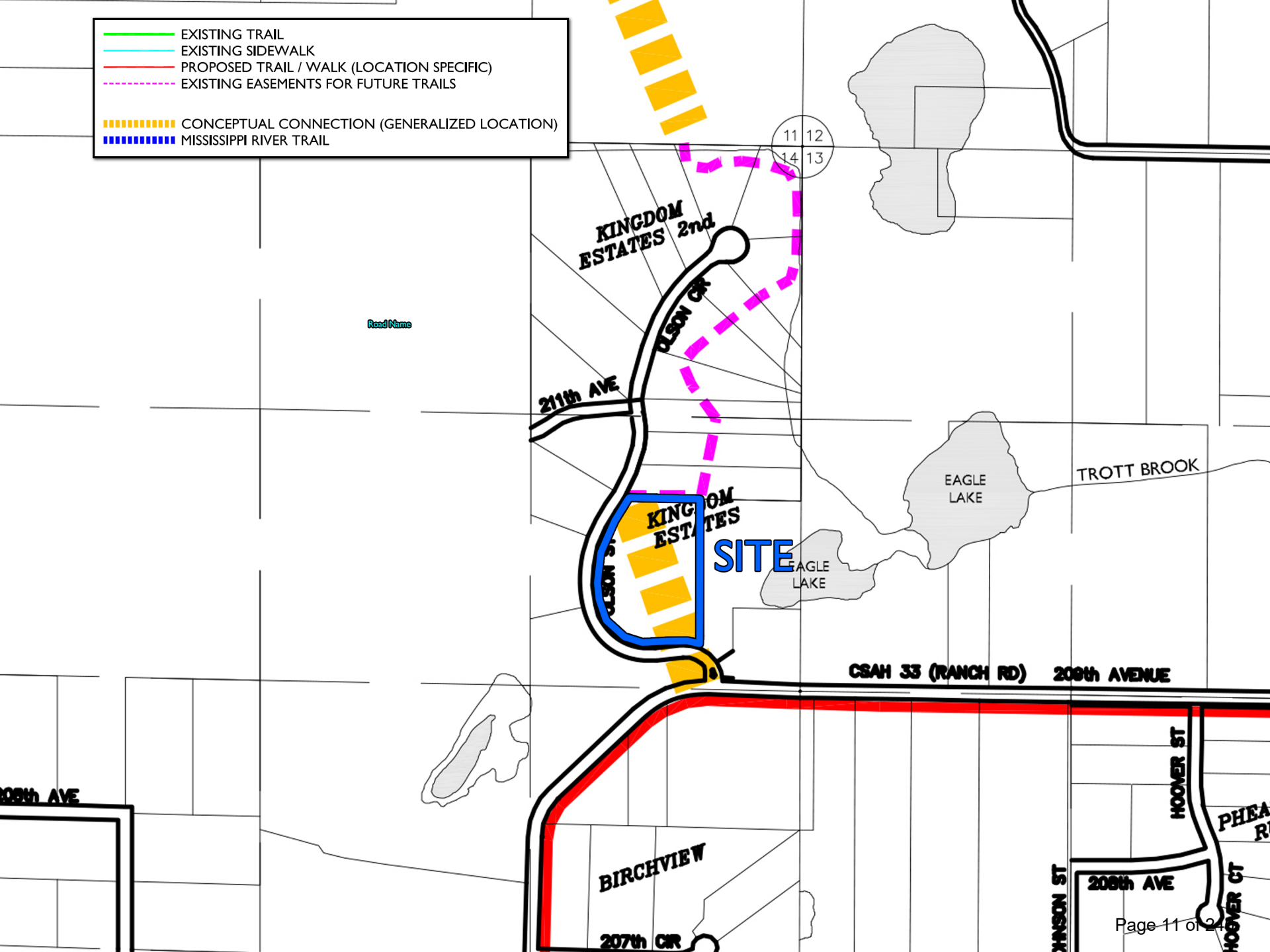
I hereby certify that this survey, plan, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision, and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Signed: Richard M. Thompson
Date: 5/21/25 Lic. No. 62953

BOGART, PEDERSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.
LAND SURVEYING
CIVIL ENGINEERING
MAPPING
13076 FIRST STREET, BECKER, MN 55308-9322
TEL: 763-262-8822 FAX: 763-262-8844

Stephanie Zaczkowski
OUTLOT A, KINGDOM ESTATES THIRD ADDITION
City of Elk River, Sherburne County, Minnesota
Certificate of Survey

SHEET NO. 1 OF SHEETS 1


EXISTING TRAIL
EXISTING SIDEWALK
PROPOSED TRAIL / WALK (LOCATION SPECIFIC)
EXISTING EASEMENTS FOR FUTURE TRAILS
CONCEPTUAL CONNECTION (GENERALIZED LOCATION)
MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRAIL
11 12
14 13
KINGDOM ESTATES 2nd
OLSON CIR
211th AVE
Road Name
KINGDOM ESTATES
SITE
EAGLE LAKE
EAGLE LAKE
TROTT BROOK
CSAH 33 (RANCH RD) 209th AVENUE
HOOVER ST
BIRCHVIEW
207th CIR
209th AVE
HOOVER CT

Request for Action

To
Parks and Recreation Commission

Item Number
6.3

Meeting Date
June 11, 2025

Prepared By
Jeff Shelby, Recreation Manager

Item Description
Meadow Hills Simple Plat - Park Dedication

Reviewed by
Jeff Shelby
Joe Stremcha

Action Requested
Recommend, by motion, park dedication for Meadow Hills be paid in cash for two single family parcels, at the applicable rate at the time of recording.

Background/Discussion
The subject property is zoned Single Family Residential (R1a), which establishes a minimum lot size requirement of 2.5 acres. The applicant is proposing a simple plat to subdivide the approximately 10-acre parcel into three lots of comparable size. Vehicular access to each of the proposed parcels will be provided via Meadowvale Road.

Based on current land use regulations, two of the proposed parcels are subject to park dedication requirements. A review of the Parks and Recreation Trail Master Plan indicates that there are no planned trails or trail connections within the subject property. Therefore, no trail dedication is required as part of this subdivision.

Financial Impact
Cash to be paid into the Park Dedication Fund.

Mission/Policy/Goal
Opportunity to live, work, and play.

Attachments
1. P 25-16 Location Map
2. P 25-16 Plat
3. Trails





Project Location Map

Held

Simple Plat

Case No: P 25-16

MEADOW HILLS

CITY OF ELK RIVER
SHERBURNE COUNTY, MN

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS: That Kathleen A. Held and David M. Held, trustees, for the Kathleen A. Held living trust, dated July 27th, 2016, fee owners of the following described property situated in the County of Sherburne, State of Minnesota, to wit:

Tract A, Registered Land Survey No._____, Sherburne County, Minnesota.

Have caused the same to be surveyed and platted as MEADOW HILLS and do hereby dedicate to the public for public use forever the easements as shown on this plat for drainage and utility purposes only, and also dedicating to the public for public use forever the County Highway as shown on this plat.

In witness whereof said Kathleen A. Held and David M. Held, trustees, have hereunto set their hands this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

_____ Kathleen A. Held

_____ David M. Held

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF _____

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____, by Kathleen A. Held and David M. Held, trustees, for the Kathleen A. Held living trust, dated July 27th, 2016.

_____ (Signature)

Notary Public, _____ County, Minnesota

_____ (Printed Name)

My Commission Expires _____

I hereby certify that this plat was prepared by me or under my direct supervision; that I am duly Licensed Land Surveyor in the State of Minnesota; that this plat is a correct representation of the boundary survey; that all mathematical data and labels are correctly designated on the plat; that monuments depicted on the plat have been correctly set; that all water boundaries and wet lands, as defined in Minnesota Statutes 505.01, Subd. 3, as of the date of this certificate are shown and labeled on this plat; and all public ways are shown and labeled on this plat.

_____
Craig Wensmann, Land Surveyor
Minnesota License No. 47466

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF _____

The foregoing surveyor's certificate was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____, by Craig Wensmann, Land Surveyor, Minnesota License Number 47466.

_____ (Signature)

Notary Public, _____ County, Minnesota

_____ (Printed Name)

My Commission Expires _____

Approved and accepted by the City Council of the City of Elk River, Sherburne County, Minnesota at a meeting held the _____ day of_____, 20_____.

_____ Mayor

Attest:_____ City Clerk

I hereby certify that proper evidence of title has been presented to and examined by me, and I hereby approve this survey as to form and execution this _____ day of _____,20_____,

_____
Elk River City Attorney

Pursuant to Sherburne County Ordinance Number 006, I hereby certify that this plat has been checked and approved as to compliance with Chapter 505, Minnesota Statutes this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

_____
Sherburne County Surveyor

I hereby certify that this plat has been reviewed by the office of the County Highway Engineer. Dated this_____ day of _____, 20____,

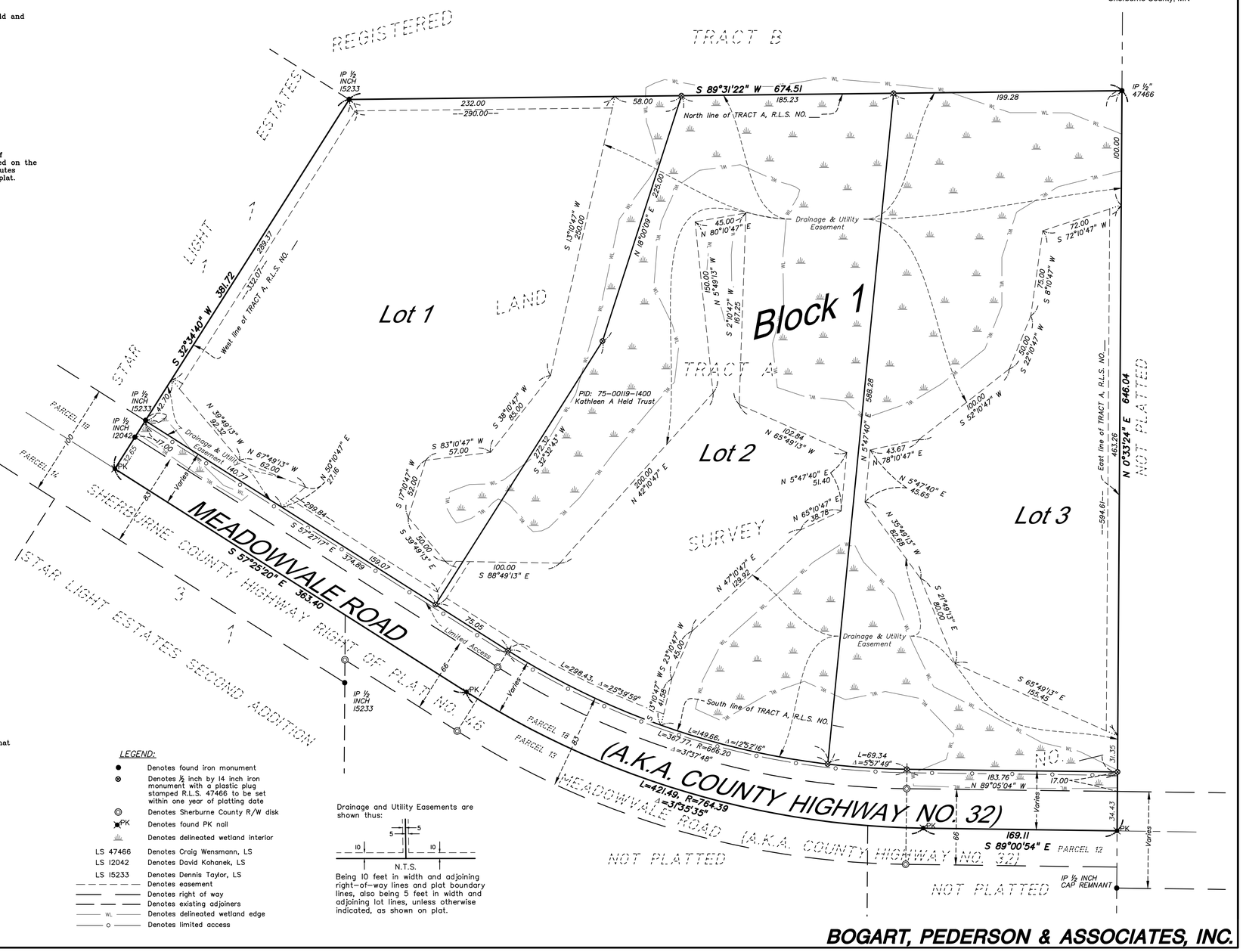
_____
Sherburne County Highway Engineer

I hereby certify taxes payable in the year _____ on lands herein described are paid in full, and there are no delinquent taxes, and that transfer was entered this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

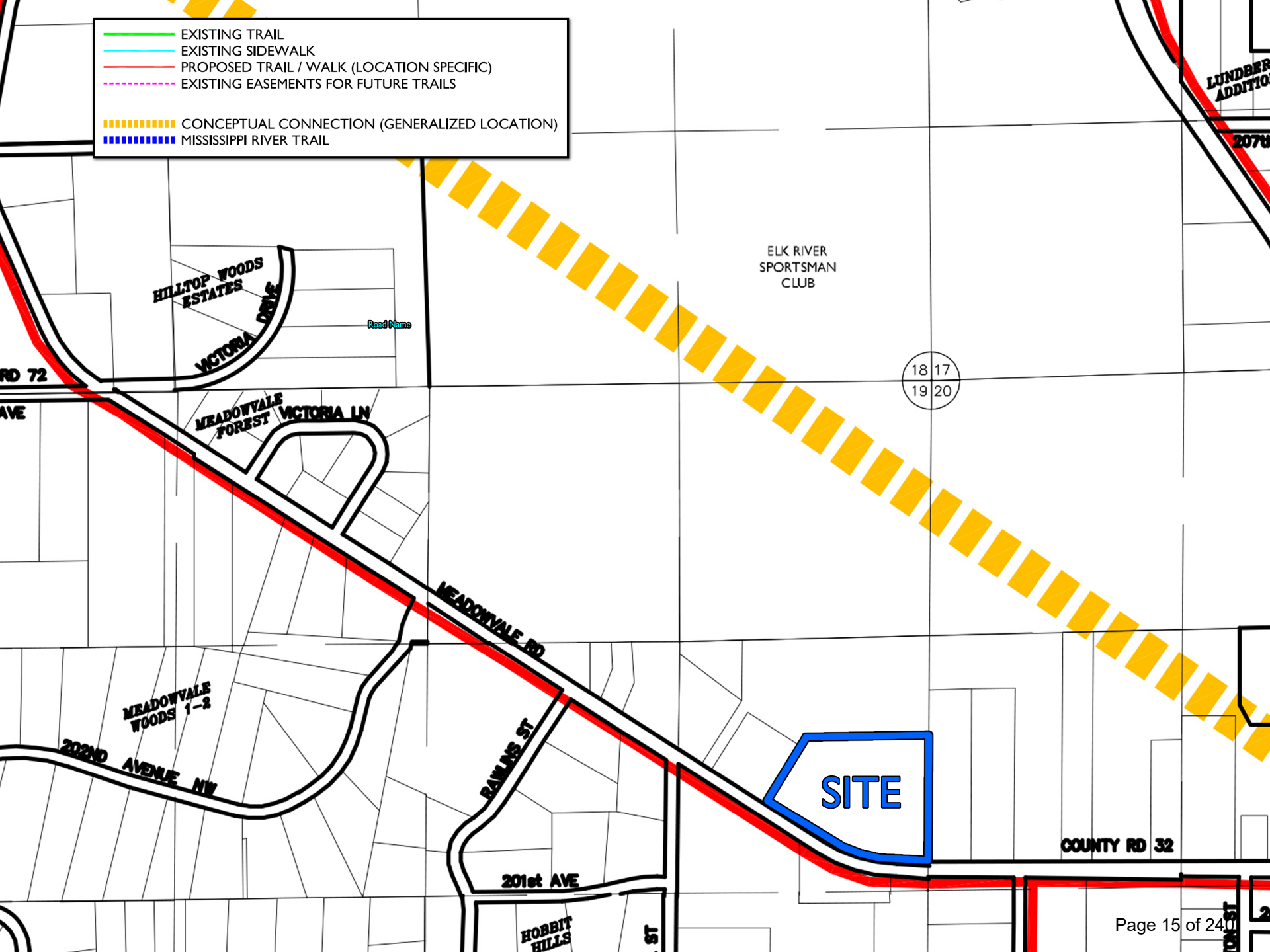
_____
Sherburne County Auditor/Treasurer

I hereby certify that this instrument was filed in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles for record on this _____ day of _____, 20_____ at _____ o'clock __M. and was duly recorded as Document No. _____.

_____
Sherburne County Registrar of Titles



BOGART, PEDERSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.


EXISTING TRAIL
EXISTING SIDEWALK
PROPOSED TRAIL / WALK (LOCATION SPECIFIC)
EXISTING EASEMENTS FOR FUTURE TRAILS
CONCEPTUAL CONNECTION (GENERALIZED LOCATION)
MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRAIL
ELK RIVER SPORTSMAN CLUB
HILLTOP WOODS ESTATES
VICTORIA DRIVE
Road Name
RD 72
AVE
MEADOWVALE FOREST VICTORIA LN
MEADOWVALE RD
MEADOWVALE WOODS 1-2
202ND AVENUE NW
RAWLINS ST
201st AVE
HOBBIT HILLS
SITE
COUNTY RD 32
18 17
19 20

Request for Action

To
Parks and Recreation Commission

Item Number
6.4

Meeting Date
June 11, 2025

Prepared By
Jeff Shelby, Recreation Manager

Item Description
Oakwater Ridge - Park Dedication

Reviewed by
Jeff Shelby
Joe Stremcha

Action Requested
Recommend, by motion, park dedication for Oakwater Ridge, consistent with the following conditions, and consistent with the City Council action on April 7, 2025:
1. The developer shall complete the design and installation of all 10-foot-wide trails above the bluff.
2. The developer will design and engineer a 10-foot-wide trail, beginning with the termination of the upland trail. They shall be provided to the city to support a future construction project.
3. The developer will provide a 2+ acre bluff top park, and must provide documentation that there is at least 1-acre of buildable, upland area, within the park.
4. The developer shall dedicate the floodway land, below the bluff, to the city for park purposes. An outlot will be reserved for future use by the HOA.
5. The remainder of the park dedication requirements will be satisfied with a cash dedication of $536,000. This will be pro-rated on a per lot basis and payable with the final plat.
6. Civil plans must identify parallel, off-street, parking areas near the bluff top park.

Background/Discussion
Earlier this year, the Park and Recreation Commission and the City Council reviewed a residential Planned Unit Development (PUD) for the Specht Farm. The project was reviewed by Park and Rec Commission on three separate meetings and the City Council also held multiple work sessions where the park and trail system included in the PUD plan was discussed in detail.

Capstone Homes has submitted a preliminary plat application for the first phase of the subdivision, to be known as Oakwater Ridge. The preliminary plat is consistent with the council-approved PUD plans and includes the trails and land dedication approved by Council. Construction of the trails will take place in phases, as the property is platted.

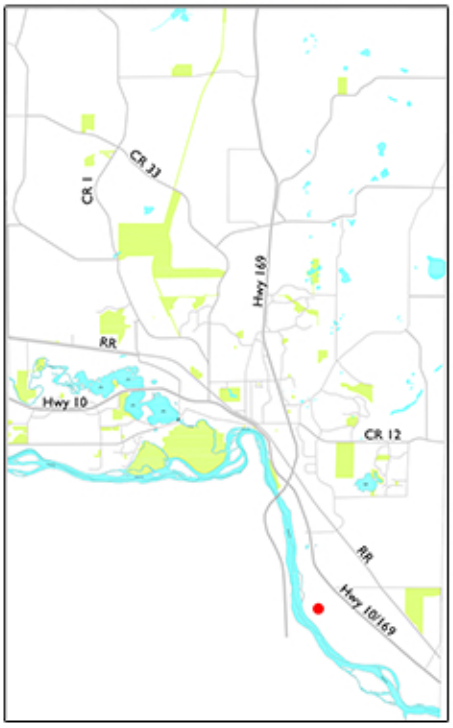
Financial Impact
Cash to be paid into the Park Dedication Fund.

Mission/Policy/Goal
Opportunity to live, work, and play. Support the growth and development of the community.

Attachments

1. P 25-14 Location Map
2. P 25-14 Oakwater Ridge Preliminary Plat and Plans





Project Location Map

Capstone Homes

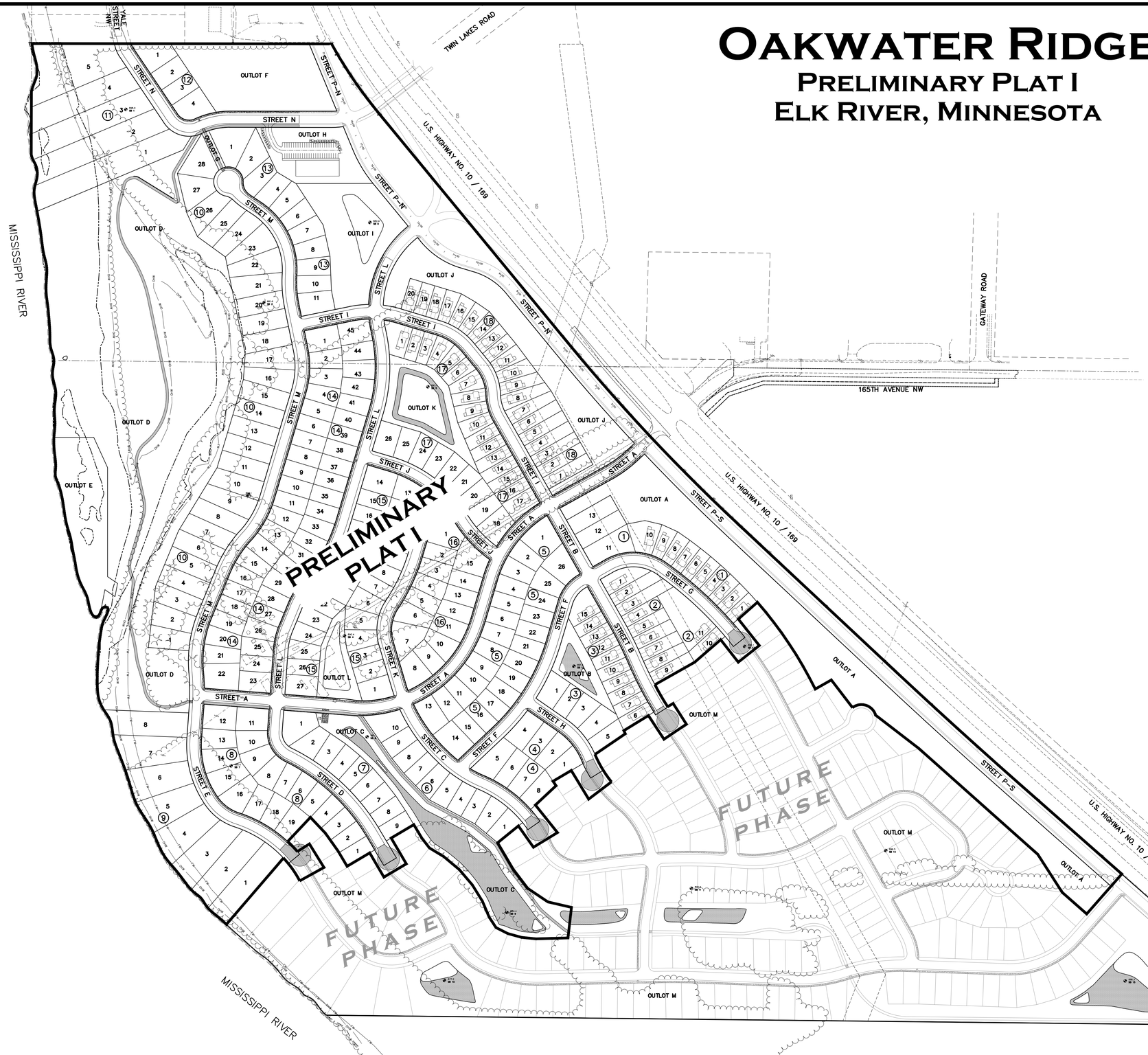
Preliminary Plat

Case No: P 25-14

OAKWATER RIDGE

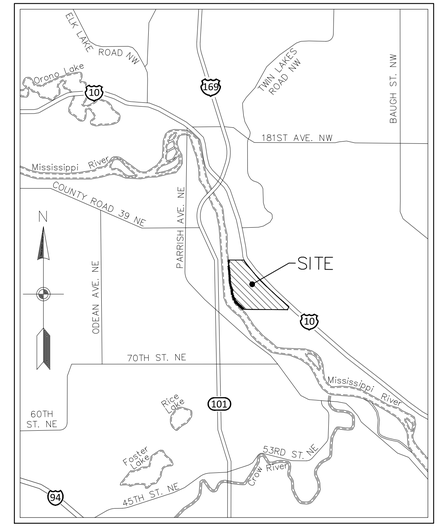
PRELIMINARY PLAT I

ELK RIVER, MINNESOTA



VICINITY MAP

NOT TO SCALE



SHEET INDEX

1.	COVER
2–3.	EXISTING CONDITIONS
4.	PRELIMINARY PLAT INDEX
5–15.	PRELIMINARY PLAT
16–17.	REMOVALS PLAN
18.	SITE & UTILITY INDEX
19–21.	PRELIMINARY SITE & UTILITY PLAN
22.	GRADING INDEX
23–33.	PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN
34–37.	DETAILS
L1–L7.	LANDSCAPE PLAN

N

0 100 200 400

(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

811 Know what's below. Call before you dig.

The subsurface utility information shown on this plan is utility Quality Level D. This quality level was determined according to the guidelines of CI/ASCE 38-02, entitled "Standard Guideline for the Collection and Depiction of Existing Subsurface Utility Data."

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

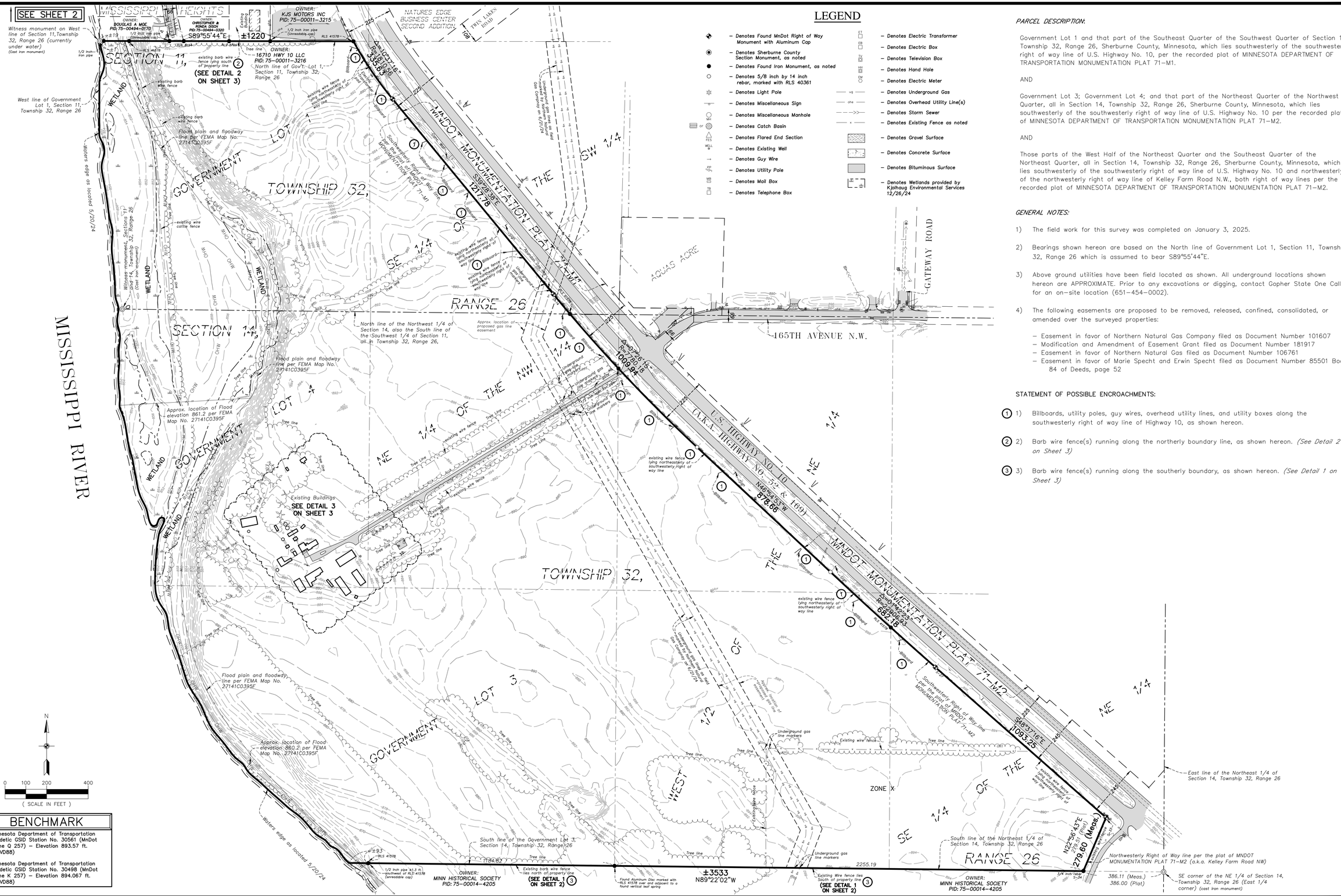
OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

COVER

1 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_cover.dwg

#9556



BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Government Lot 1 and that part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 11, Township 32, Range 26, Sherburne County, Minnesota, which lies southwesterly of the southwesterly right of way line of U.S. Highway No. 10, per the recorded plat of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MONUMENTATION PLAT 71–M1.

AND

Government Lot 3; Government Lot 4; and that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, all in Section 14, Township 32, Range 26, Sherburne County, Minnesota, which lies southwesterly of the southwesterly right of way line of U.S. Highway No. 10 per the recorded plat of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MONUMENTATION PLAT 71–M2.

AND

Those parts of the West Half of the Northeast Quarter and the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, all in Section 14, Township 32, Range 26, Sherburne County, Minnesota, which lies southwesterly of the southwesterly right of way line of U.S. Highway No. 10 and northwesterly of the northwesterly right of way line of Kelley Farm Road N.W., both right of way lines per the recorded plat of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MONUMENTATION PLAT 71–M2.

GENERAL NOTES:

1) The field work for this survey was completed on January 3, 2025.

2) Bearings shown hereon are based on the North line of Government Lot 1, Section 11, Township 32, Range 26 which is assumed to bear S89°55'44"E.

3) Above ground utilities have been field located as shown. All underground locations shown hereon are APPROXIMATE. Prior to any excavations or digging, contact Gopher State One Call for an on–site location (651–454–0002).

4) The following easements are proposed to be removed, released, confined, consolidated, or amended over the surveyed properties:

- Easement in favor of Northern Natural Gas Company filed as Document Number 101607
- Modification and Amendment of Easement Grant filed as Document Number 181917
- Easement in favor of Northern Natural Gas filed as Document Number 106761
- Easement in favor of Marie Specht and Erwin Specht filed as Document Number 85501 Book 84 of Deeds, page 52

STATEMENT OF POSSIBLE ENCROACHMENTS:

(1) 1) Billboards, utility poles, guy wires, overhead utility lines, and utility boxes along the southwesterly right of way line of Highway 10, as shown hereon.

(2) 2) Barb wire fence(s) running along the northerly boundary line, as shown hereon. *(See Detail 2 on Sheet 3)*

(3) 3) Barb wire fence(s) running along the southerly boundary, as shown hereon. *(See Detail 1 on Sheet 3)*

CARLSON ENGINEERING ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S.
Signature:
Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361

DRAWN BY: bjs
ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25
FILE NO: 2755

Revisions:

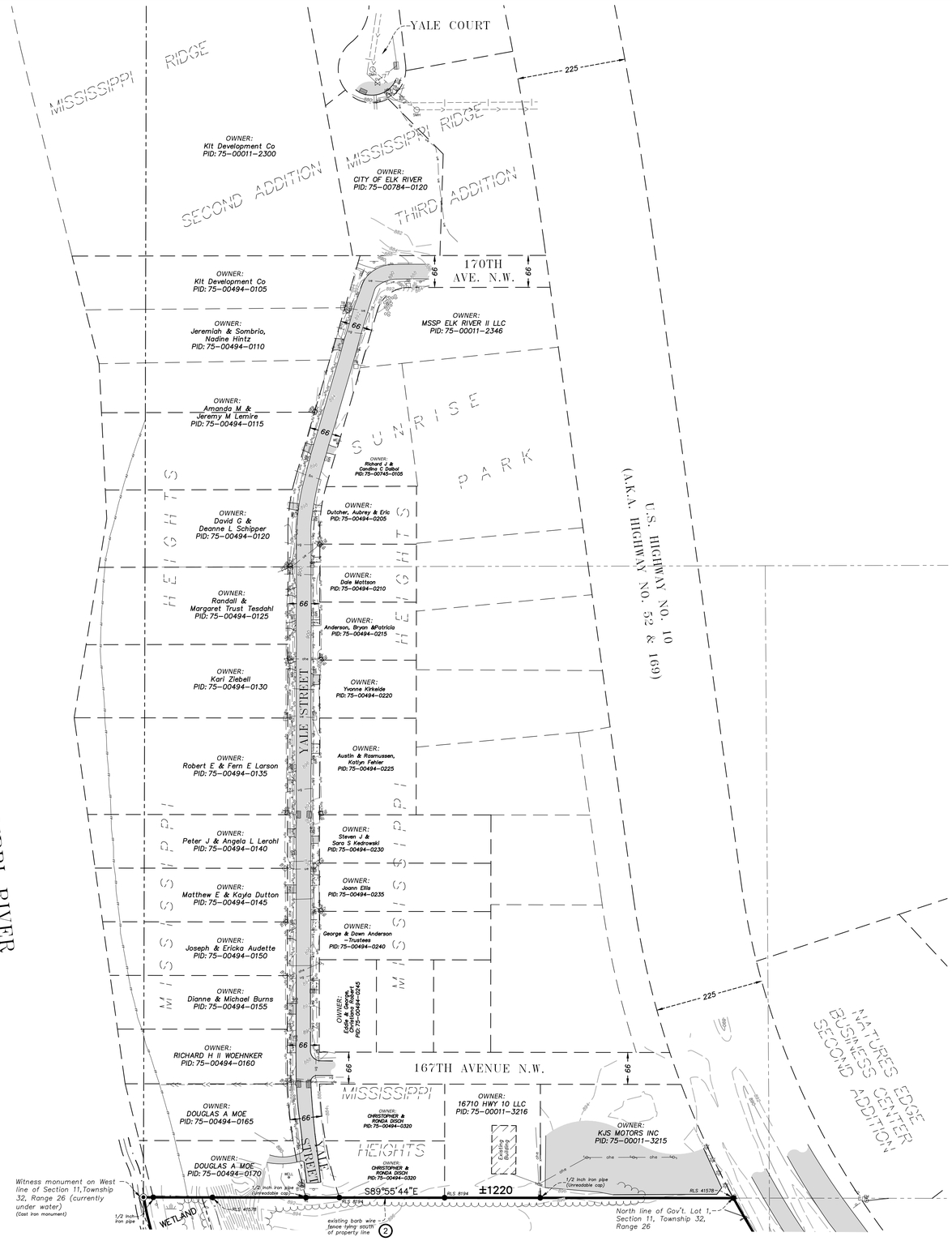
ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

EXISTING CONDITIONS

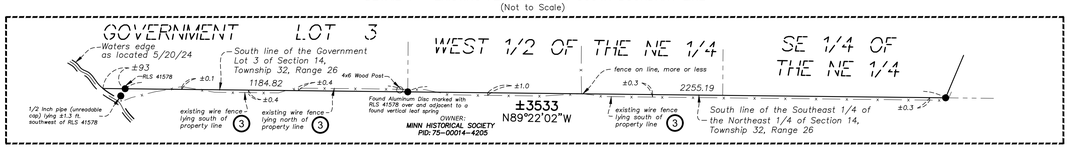
2 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\9556_excon.dwg



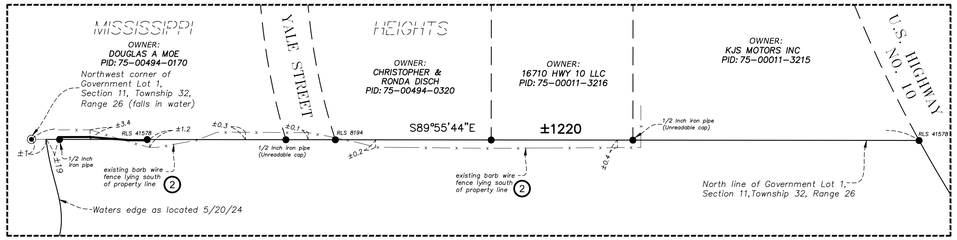
DETAIL 1 – EXISTING FENCES ALONG SOUTH BOUNDARY LINE

(Not to Scale)



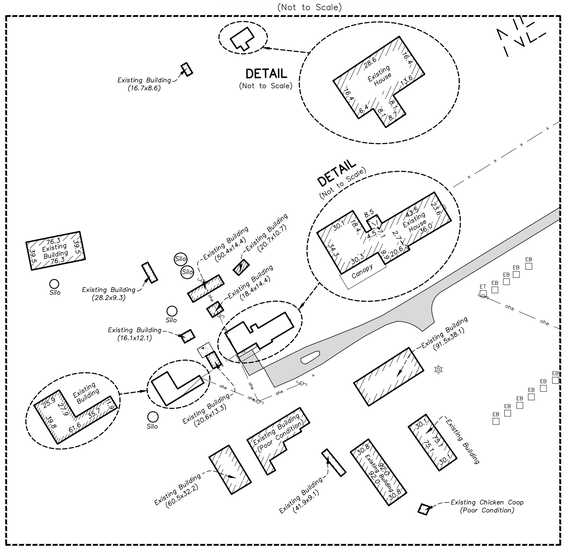
DETAIL 2 – EXISTING FENCES ALONG NORTH BOUNDARY LINE

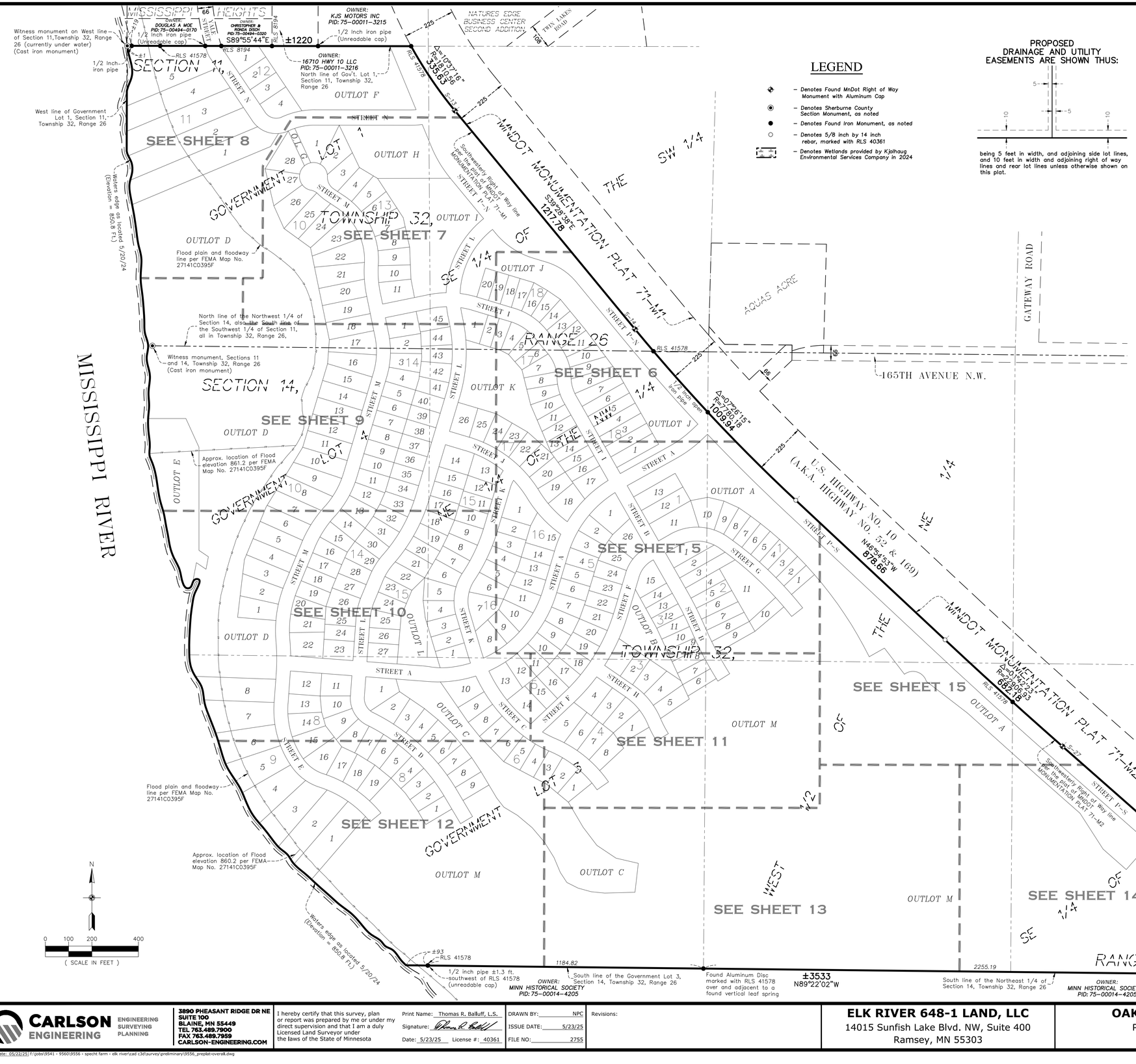
(Not to Scale)



DETAIL 3 – EXISTING BUILDINGS

(Not to Scale)


DETAIL
(Not to Scale)
Existing Building (16.7x8.6)
Existing House
Canopy
Silo
Existing Building (28.2x9.3)
Existing Building (16.1x12.1)
Existing Building (60.4x4.4)
Existing Building (20.6x10.7)
Existing Building (18.4x14.4)
Existing Building (20.6x14.3)
Existing Building (41.9x38.1)
Existing Building (60.4x32.2)
Existing Building (41.9x9.1)
Existing Building (Poor Condition)
Existing Chicken Coop (Poor Condition)
Existing Building (16.7x8.6)
Existing Building (61.6x16.7)
Existing Building (16.7x8.6)
Existing Building (16.7x8.6)
Existing Building (16.7x8.6



LEGEND

- Denotes Found MnDot Right of Way Monument with Aluminum Cap
- Denotes Sherburne County Section Monument, as noted
- Denotes Found Iron Monument, as noted
- Denotes 5/8 inch by 14 inch rebar, marked with RLS 40361
- Denotes Wetlands provided by Kjolhaug Environmental Services Company in 2024

PROPOSED DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENTS ARE SHOWN THUS:

being 5 feet in width, and adjoining side lot lines, and 10 feet in width and adjoining right of way lines and rear lot lines unless otherwise shown on this plat.

PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Government Lot 1 and that part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 11, Township 32, Range 26, Sherburne County, Minnesota, which lies southwesterly of the southwesterly right of way line of U.S. Highway No. 10, per the recorded plat of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MONUMENTATION PLAT 71–M1.

AND

Government Lot 3; Government Lot 4; and that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, all in Section 14, Township 32, Range 26, Sherburne County, Minnesota, which lies southwesterly of the southwesterly right of way line of U.S. Highway No. 10 per the recorded plat of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MONUMENTATION PLAT 71–M2.

AND

Those parts of the West Half of the Northeast Quarter and the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, all in Section 14, Township 32, Range 26, Sherburne County, Minnesota, which lies southwesterly of the southwesterly right of way line of U.S. Highway No. 10 and northwesterly of the northwesterly right of way line of Kelley Farm Road N.W., both right of way lines per the recorded plat of MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MONUMENTATION PLAT 71–M2.

GENERAL NOTES:

1) Bearings shown hereon are based on the North line of Government Lot 1, Section 11, Township 32, Range 26 which is assumed to bear S89°55'44"E.

SITE DATA

TOTAL SITE AREA	±247.6 AC.
TOTAL ROW AREA	±31.95 AC.
TOTAL OUTLOT AREA	±136.0 AC.
OUTLOT A	±8.10 AC.
OUTLOT B	±0.82 AC.
OUTLOT C	±4.38 AC.
OUTLOT D	±25.3 AC.
OUTLOT E	±2.6 AC.
OUTLOT F	±3.33 AC.
OUTLOT G	±0.11 AC.
OUTLOT H	±1.84 AC.
OUTLOT I	±2.87 AC.
OUTLOT J	±3.88 AC.
OUTLOT K	±1.88 AC.
OUTLOT L	±0.92 AC.
OUTLOT M	±80.0 AC.
TOTAL LOT AREA	±79.7 AC.
SMALLEST LOT	±6,500 S.F.
LARGEST LOT	±64,778 S.F.
AVERAGE LOT	±11,571 S.F.
TOTAL NUMBER OF LOTS	300
GROSS DENSITY (less OUTLOT M)	1.79 LOTS/AC.
PROPOSED ZONING	PUD/COMMERCIAL
UTILITIES	AVAILABLE

SETBACK DATA:

50 FT AND 65 FT WIDE LOTS	
FRONT	25 FT.
SIDE (GARAGE)	7.5 FT.
SIDE (HOUSE)	7.5 FT.
SIDE CORNER	25 FT.
REAR SETBACK	30 FT.
75 FT WIDE LOTS	
FRONT	30 FT.
SIDE (GARAGE)	7.5 FT.
SIDE (HOUSE)	7.5 FT.
SIDE CORNER	30 FT.
REAR SETBACK	30 FT.
100 FT WIDE LOTS	
FRONT	30 FT.
SIDE (GARAGE)	10 FT.
SIDE (HOUSE)	10 FT.
SIDE CORNER	30 FT.
REAR SETBACK	30 FT.

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7939
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S.
Signature:
Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361

DRAWN BY: NPC
ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25
FILE NO: 2755

Revisions:

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY PLAT INDEX

4 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\09556_preplat-overall.dwg

SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 32, RANGE 26

SEE SHEET 6

SEE SHEET 9

SEE SHEET 10

SEE SHEET 11

SEE SHEET 15

NE 1/4

NW 1/4

NW 1/4

NE 1/4

STREET I

STREET J

STREET K

STREET A

STREET H

STREET B

STREET F

STREET G

STREET P-S

OUTLOT A
Drainage and Utility Easement
(over all of OUTLOT A)
±353,012 sq.ft.

OUTLOT A
Drainage and Utility Easement
(over all of OUTLOT A)
±353,012 sq.ft.

OUTLOT B
Drainage and Utility Easement
(over all of OUTLOT B)
±35,636 sq.ft.

OUTLOT M
±3,482,614 sq.ft.

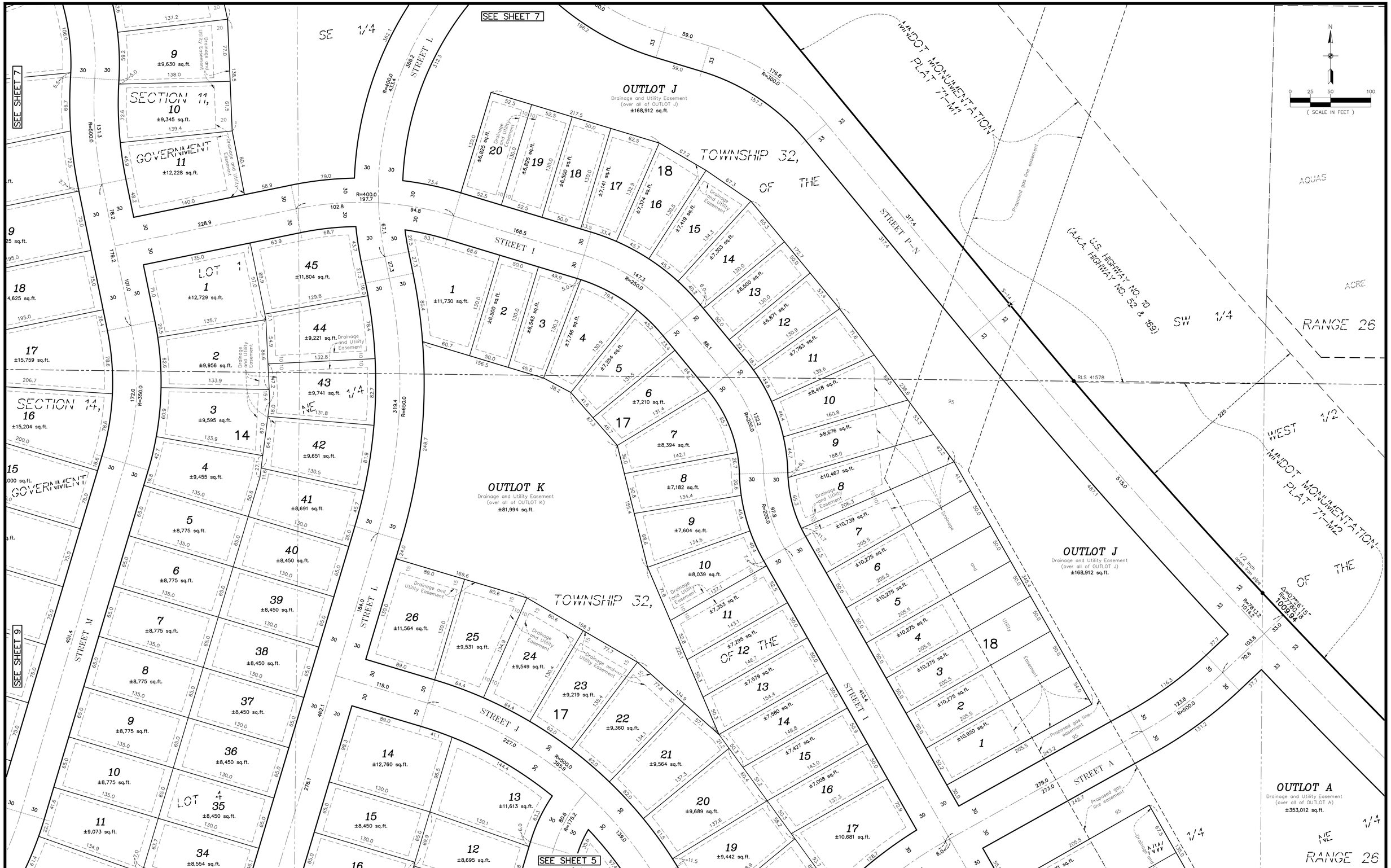
Proposed gas line easement

Utility Easement

Drainage and Utility Easement

Drainage and Utility Easement

Drainage and



CARLSON ENGINEERING ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S.
Signature: Thomas R. Balluff
Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361

DRAWN BY: NPC
ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25
FILE NO: 2755

Revisions:

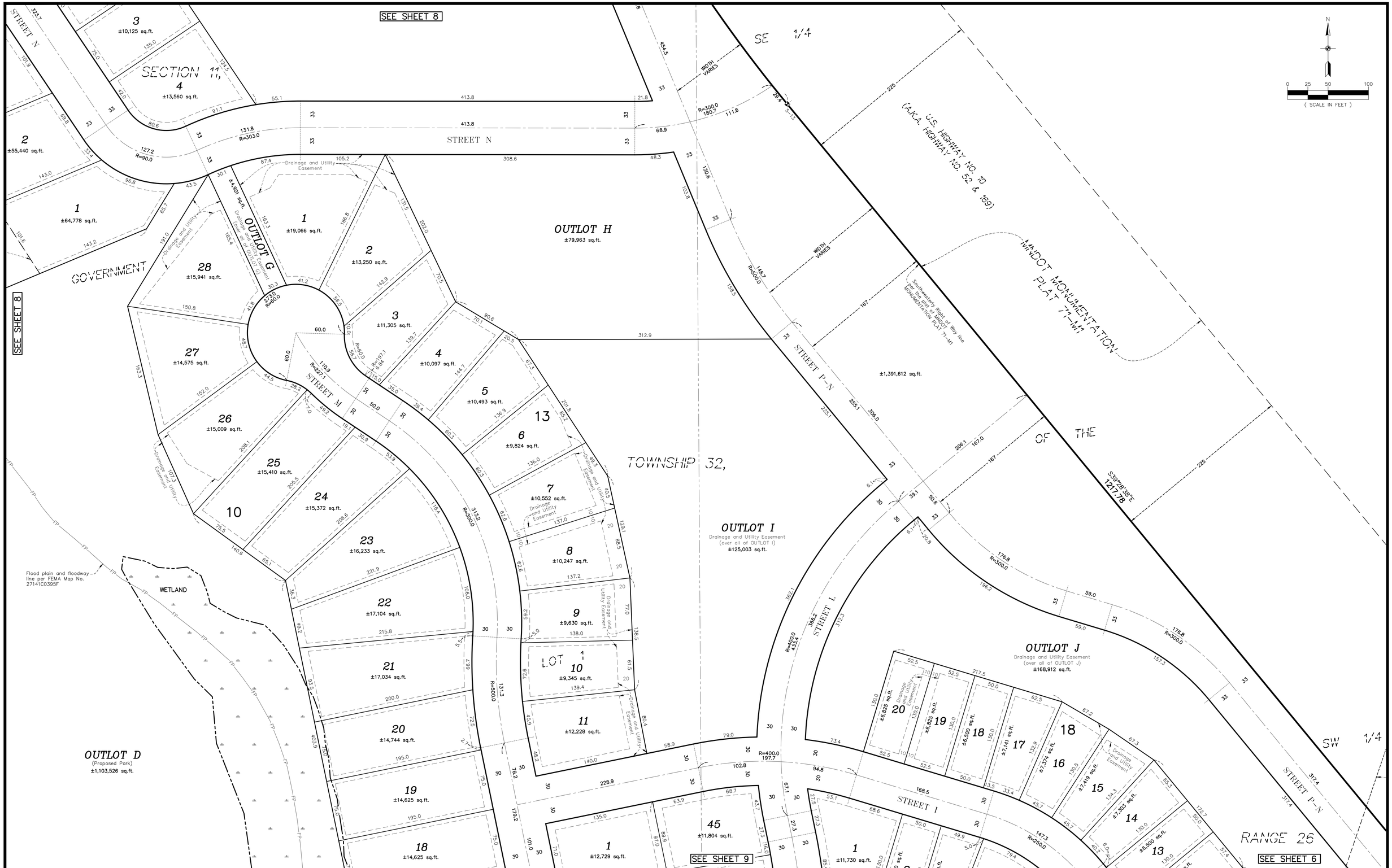
ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY PLAT

6 of 37

Save Date: 05/22/25 F:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\9556_preplat-insets.dwg



CARLSON ENGINEERING ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S.
Signature: Thomas R. Balluff
Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361

DRAWN BY: NPC
ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25
FILE NO: 2755

Revisions:

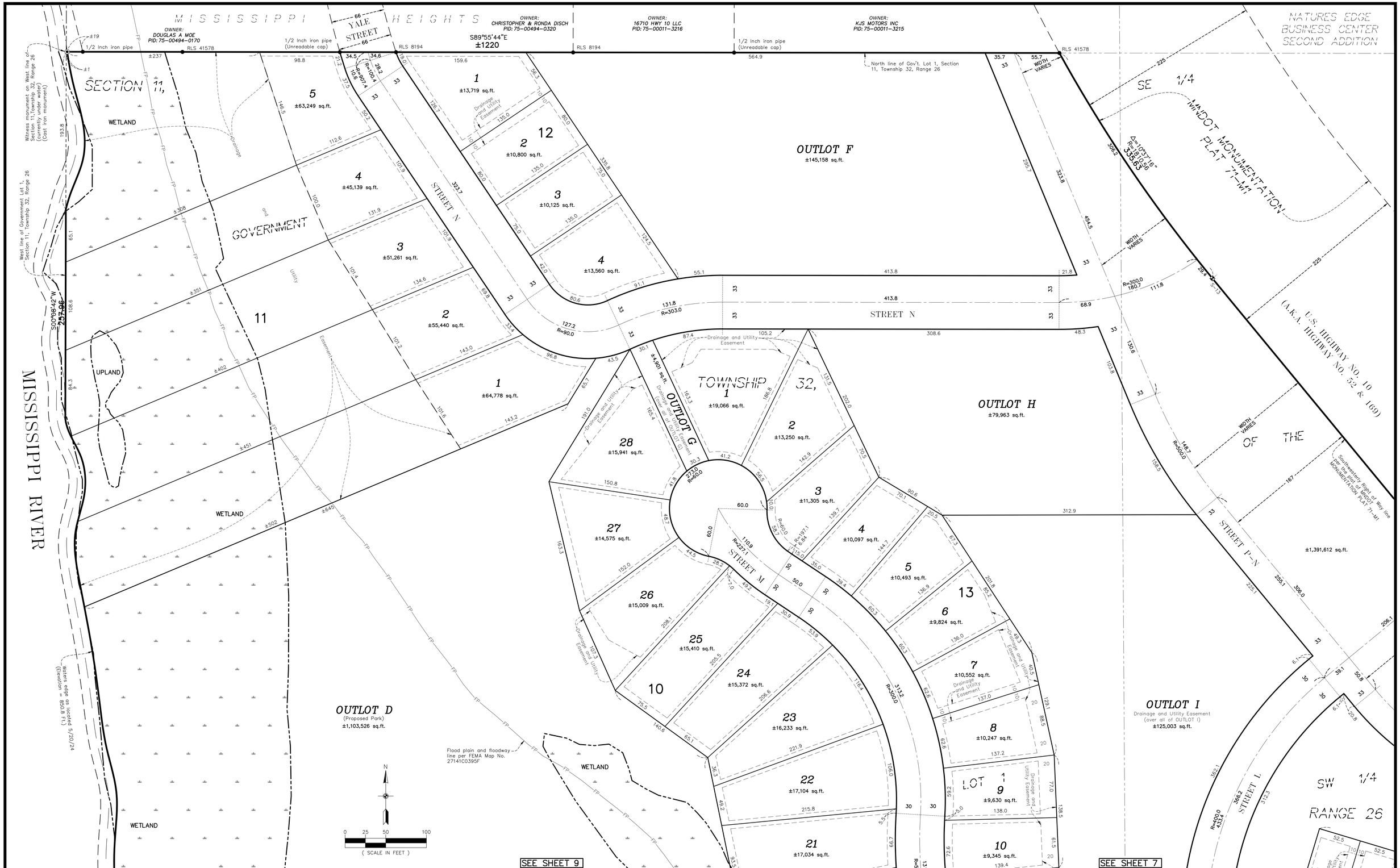
ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY PLAT

7 of 37

Save Date: 05/22/25 f:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\9556_preplat-insets.dwg



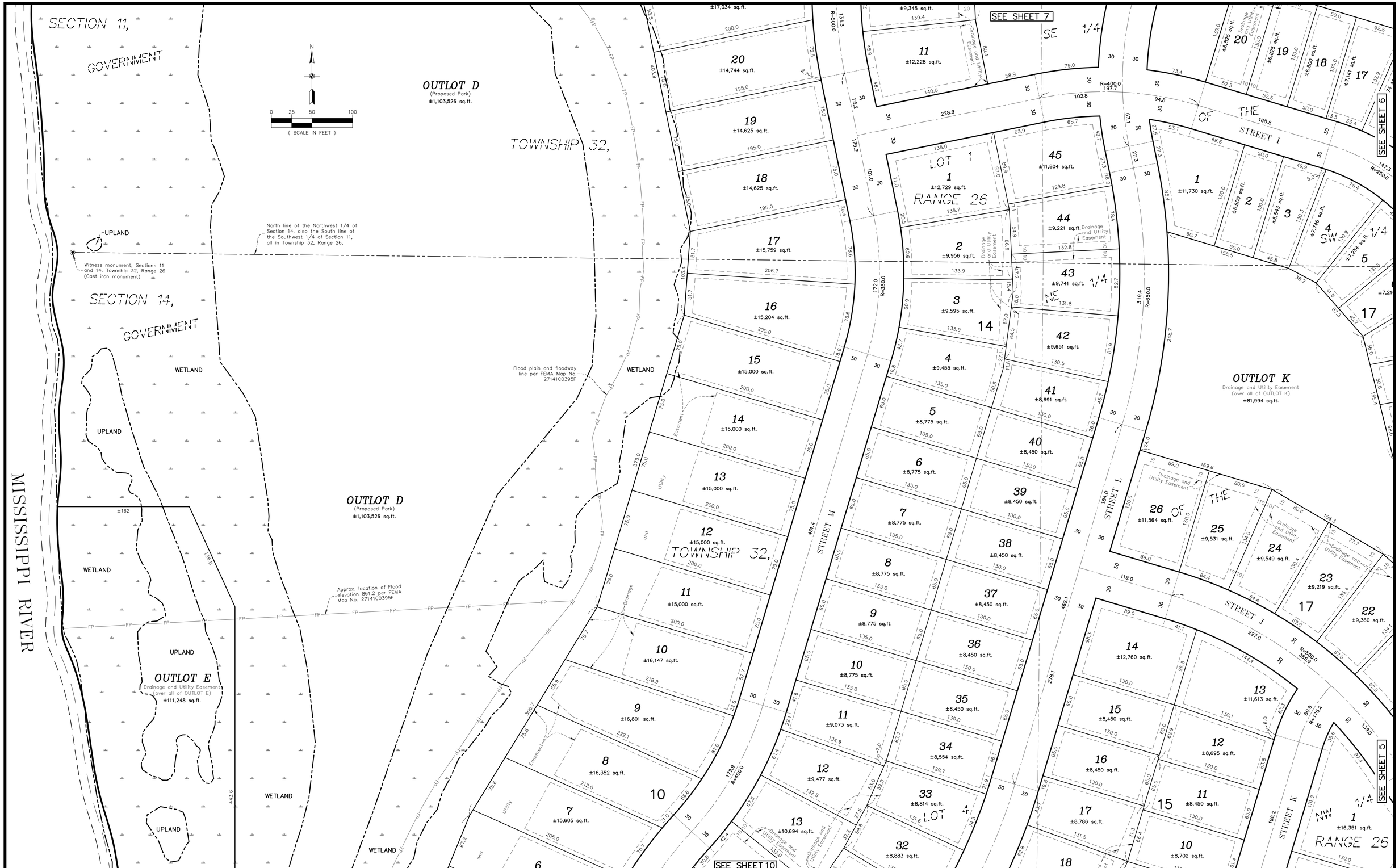
CARLSON ENGINEERING — ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING	3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE SUITE 100 BLAINE, MN 55449 TEL 763.489.7900 FAX 763.489.7959 CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM	I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota	Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S. Signature: Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361	DRAWN BY: NPC ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25 FILE NO: 2755	Revisions:	ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC 14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400 Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY PLAT

8 of 37

Save Date: 05/22/25 f:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\9556_preplat-insets.dwg



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S.
Signature: Thomas R. Balluff
Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361

DRAWN BY: NPC
ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25
FILE NO: 2755

Revisions:

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY PLAT

9 of 37

Save Date: 05/22/25 F:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\9556_preplat-insets.dwg

SECTION 14,

UPLAND

OUTLOT E
Drainage and Utility Easement
(over all of OUTLOT E)
±111,248 sq.ft.

GOVERNMENT

WETLAND

WETLAND

WETLAND ±89

WETLAND

OUTLOT D
(Proposed Park)
±1,103,526 sq.ft.

GOVERNMENT

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

SEE SHEET 9

SEE SHEET 5

SEE SHEET 11

SEE SHEET 12

TOWNSHIP 32,

RANGE 22

STREET M

STREET L

STREET E

STREET A

STREET K

STREET C

OUTLOT L
Drainage and Utility Easement
(over all of OUTLOT L)
±40,042 sq.ft.

OUTLOT C
Drainage and Utility Easement
(over all of OUTLOT C)
±190,822 sq.ft.

LOT 4

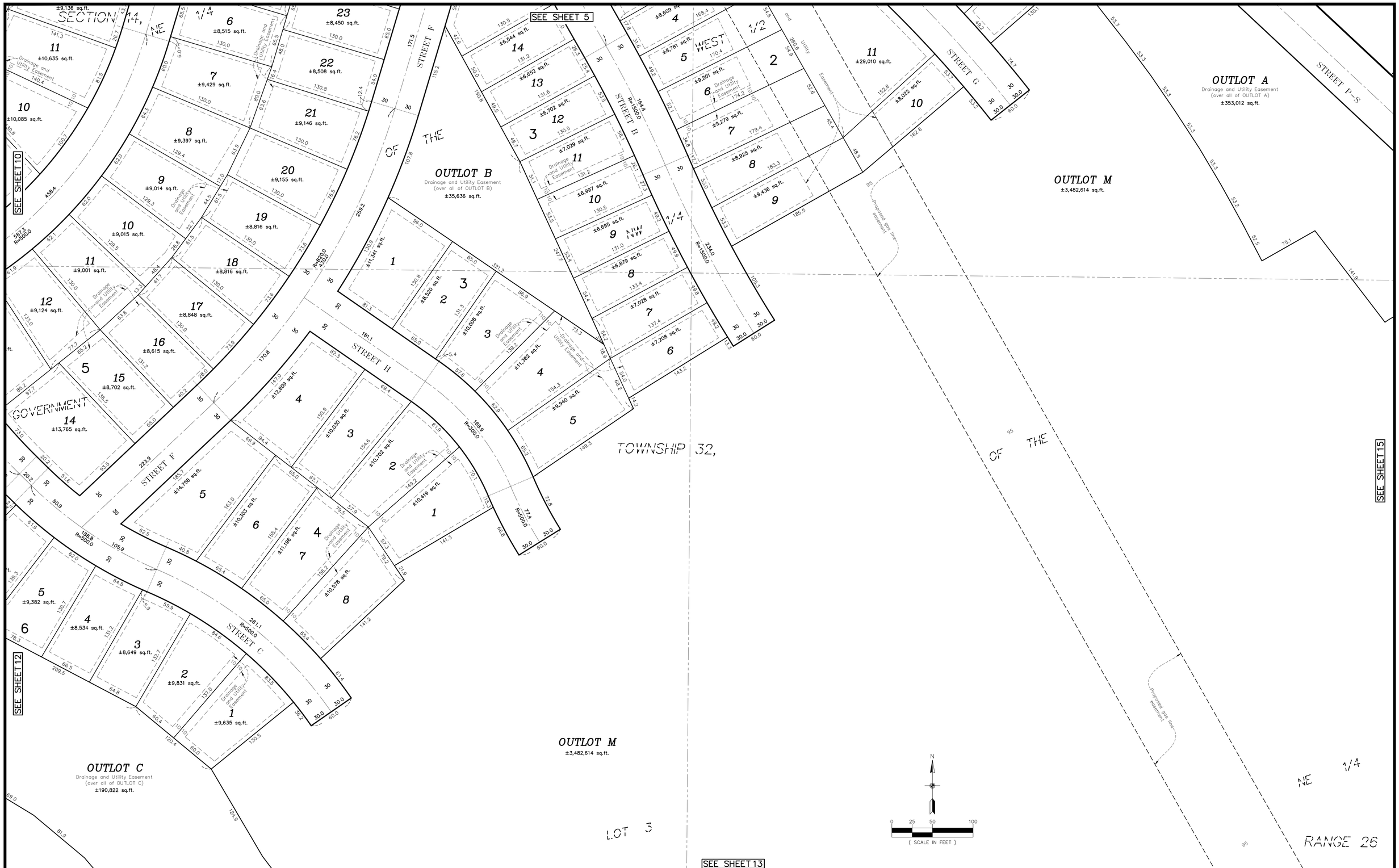
LOT 3

1 ±13,619 sq.ft.
2 ±14,504 sq.ft.
3 ±15,085 sq.ft.
4 ±15,000 sq.ft.
5 ±15,425 sq.ft.
6 ±15,208 sq.ft.
7 ±15,605 sq.ft.
8 ±31,762 sq.ft.
9 ±10,428 sq.ft.
10 ±9,900 sq.ft.
11 ±12,025 sq.ft.
12 ±13,211 sq.ft.
13 ±10,982 sq.ft.
14 ±12,075 sq.ft.
15 ±13,117 sq.ft.
16 ±9,064 sq.ft.
17 ±8,775 sq.ft.
18 ±8,792 sq.ft.
19 ±9,121 sq.ft.
20 ±9,867 sq.ft.
21 ±10,174 sq.ft.
22 ±15,280 sq.ft.
23 ±10,749 sq.ft.
24 ±8,541 sq.ft.
25 ±9,173 sq.ft.
26 ±9,501 sq.ft.
27 ±8,628 sq.ft.
28 ±8,812 sq.ft.
29 ±9,360 sq.ft.
30 ±9,068 sq.ft.
31 ±9,266 sq.ft.
32 ±8,883 sq.ft.
33 ±8,814 sq.ft.
1 ±7,786 sq.ft.
2 ±8,450 sq.ft.
3 ±8,622 sq.ft.
4 ±9,862 sq.ft.
5 ±10,620 sq.ft.
6 ±10,292 sq.ft.
7 ±8,547 sq.ft.
8 ±9,005 sq.ft.
9 ±8,944 sq.ft.
10 ±8,702 sq.ft.
11 ±8,450 sq.ft.
12 ±9,136 sq.ft.
13 ±8,484 sq.ft.
14 ±8,450 sq.ft.
15 ±13,910 s
16 ±14,667 sq.ft.
17 ±8,786 sq.ft.
18 ±8,928 sq.ft.
19 ±8,946 sq.ft.
20 ±8,621 sq.ft.
21 ±9,437 sq.ft.
22 ±10,371 sq.ft.
23 ±8,762 sq.ft.
24 ±8,995 sq.ft.
25 ±9,064 sq.ft.
26 ±8,545 sq.ft.
27 ±10,792 sq.ft.
28 ±8,812 sq.ft.
29 ±9,360 sq.ft.
30 ±9,068 sq.ft.
31 ±9,266 sq.ft.
32 ±8,883 sq.ft.
33 ±8,814 sq.ft.
1 ±16,351 sq.ft.
2 ±8,450 sq.ft.
3 ±9,147 sq.ft.
4 ±9,327 sq.ft.
5 ±9,328 sq.ft.
6 ±10,903 sq.ft.
7 ±14,667 sq.ft.
8 ±12,040 sq.ft.
9 ±9,077 sq.ft.
10 ±10,085 sq.ft.
11 ±10,635 sq.ft.
12 ±9,124 sq.ft.
13 ±12,015 sq.ft.
14 ±13,765 sq.ft.
15 ±8,702 sq.ft.
1 ±15,119 sq.ft.
2 ±11,153 sq.ft.
3 ±9,198 sq.ft.
4 ±9,237 sq.ft.
5 ±8,898 sq.ft.
6 ±9,527 sq.ft.
7 ±8,754 sq.ft.
8 ±10,362 sq.ft.
9 ±9,283 sq.ft.
10 ±13,731 sq.ft.
11 ±9,001 sq.ft.
12 ±9,124 sq.ft.
13 ±12,015 sq.ft.
14 ±13,765 sq.ft.
15 ±8,702 sq.ft.

Drainage and Utility Easement

Drainage and Utility Easement

Drainage and Utility Easement



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S.
Signature: Thomas R. Balluff
Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361

DRAWN BY: NPC
ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25
FILE NO: 2755

Revisions:

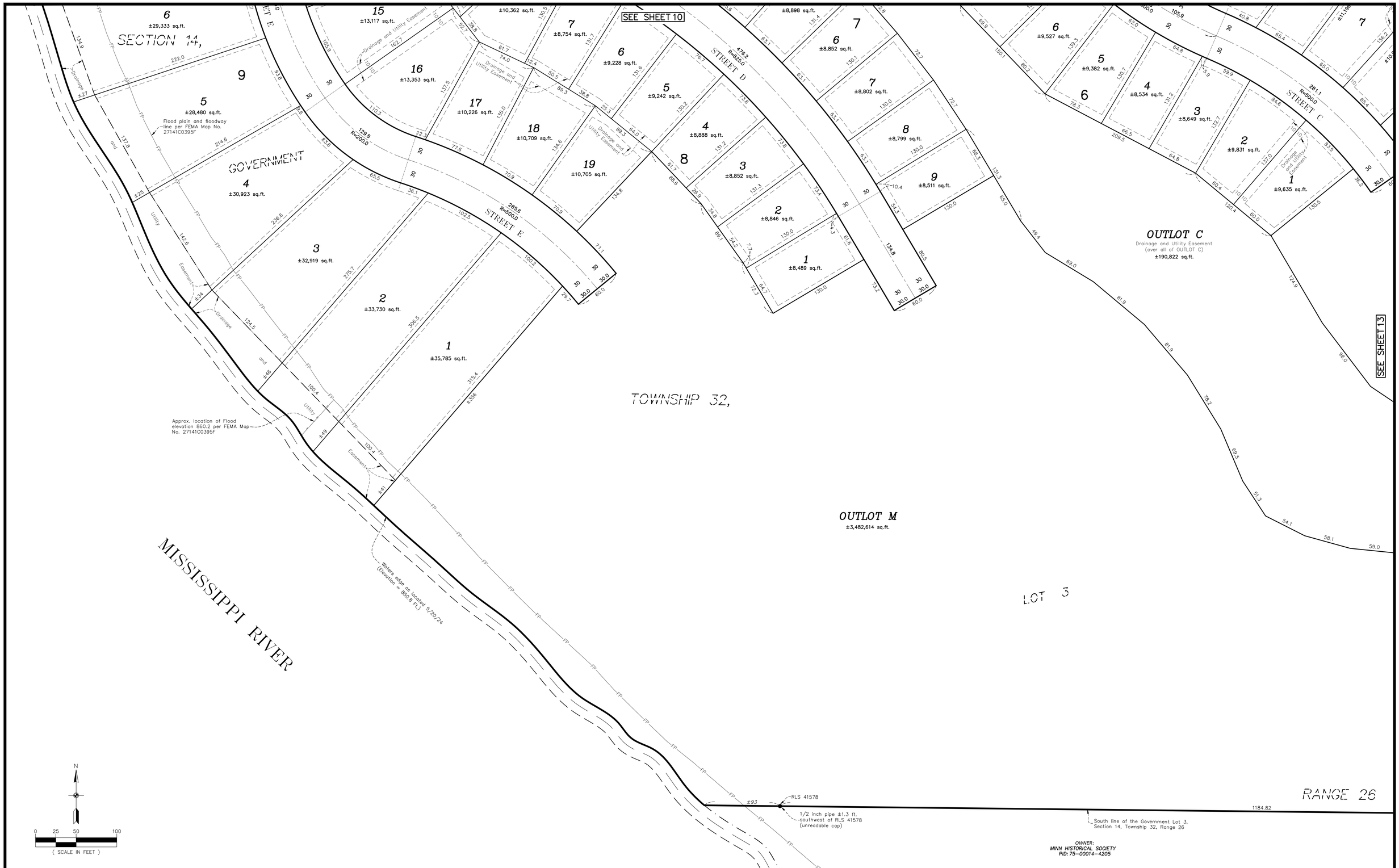
ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY PLAT

11 of 37

Save Date: 05/22/25 f:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\9556_preplat-insets.dwg



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S.
Signature: Thomas R. Balluff
Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361

DRAWN BY: NPC
ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25
FILE NO: 2755

Revisions:

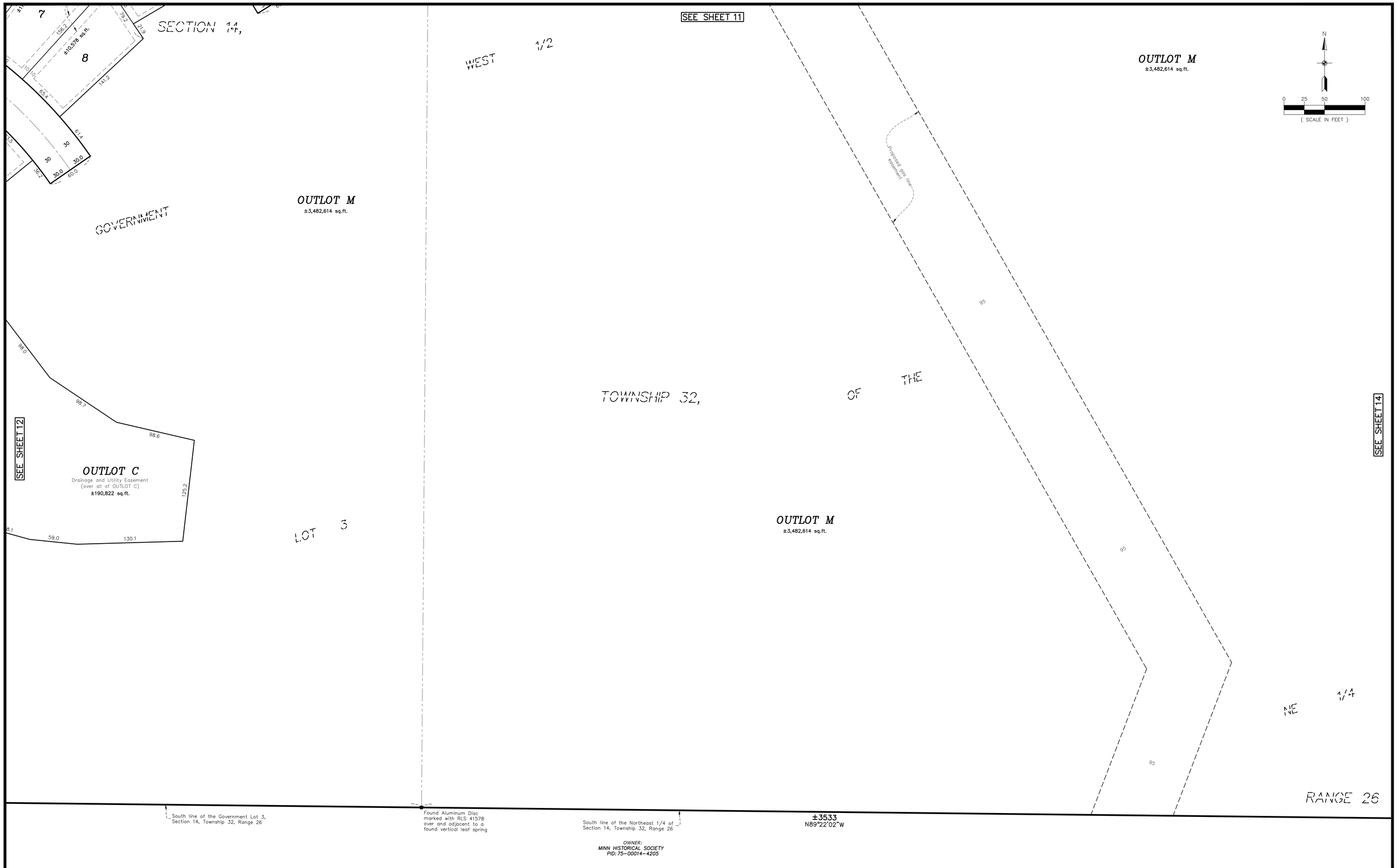
ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY PLAT

12 of 37

Save Date: 05/22/25 f:\jobs\9541 + 9560\9556 + specht farm + elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\9556_preplat-insets.dwg



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S.
Signature:
Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361

DRAWN BY: NPC
ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25
FILE NO: 2755

Revisions:

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY PLAT

13 of 37

Save Date: 05/22/25 f:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\9556_preplat-insets.dwg

SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 32, RANGE 26

SEE SHEET 15

SEE SHEET 13

WEST 1/2 OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4

NE 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4

397.1

Site plat 71-M2

S-27

33

33

STREET P-S

555.2

555.2

555.2

250.6

183.3

132.7

150.3

216.3

225

245

245

245

538.0

S-33

N

0 25 50 100

(SCALE IN FEET)

U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 10
(A.K.A. HIGHWAY NO. 52 & 169)

MNDOT MONUMENTATION PLAT 71-M2

OUTLOT M
±3,482,614 sq.ft.

OUTLOT A
Drainage and Utility Easement
(over all of OUTLOT A)
±353,012 sq.ft.

S48°37'16"E
1093.25

33

33.0

33

33.0

OUTLOT M
±3,482,614 sq.ft.

N22°56'43"E
279.80 (Meas.)
279.57 (Plat)

Northwesterly Right of Way line per site plat of MNDOT MONUMENTATION PLAT 71-M2 (AKA Kelly Farm Road)

East line of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 14, Township 32, Range 26

2255.19

South line of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 14, Township 32, Range 26

3/4 inch rebar
S-34

386.11 (Meas.)
386.00 (Plat)

SE corner of the SE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 14, Township 32, Range 26
(East 1/4 corner) (cast iron monument)

RANGE 26

OWNER:
MINN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PID: 75-00014-4205

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this survey, plan or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Thomas R. Balluff, L.S.
Signature:
Date: 5/23/25 License #: 40361

DRAWN BY: NPC
ISSUE DATE: 5/23/25
FILE NO: 2755

Revisions:

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY PLAT

14 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\jobs\9541 + 9560\9556 + specht farm + elk river\cad c3d\survey\preliminary\09556_preplat-insets.dwg

SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 32, RANGE 26

OF THE

1/2 OF THE SE 1/4

OF THE NE 1/4

OF THE NE 1/4

N46°54'53"W 878.66

878.7

878.7

235

STREET P-S

U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 10
(AKA. HIGHWAY NO. 52 & 169)

MNDOT MONUMENTATION PLAT 71-M2

Southeasterly Right of Way line per the plat of MNDOT MONUMENTATION PLAT 71-M2

RLS 41578

Δ=01°42'23"
R=22939.93
682.18

683.2
R=22939.9

684.1

397.1

223.4

141.9

R=60.0
116.1

75.1

52.5

53.3

53.4

53.2

53.1

53.3

53.3

53.3

PLEASE REFER TO SHEET 19 FOR REMOVALS PERTAINING TO YALE STREET IMPROVEMENTS

YALE STREET NW

TWIN LAKES ROAD

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

COORDINATE W/OWNER ON REMOVAL/RELOCATION OF EXISTING BILLBOARD (FUTURE)

COORDINATE W/UTILITY COMPANY ON REMOVAL/RELOCATION OF EXISTING POWER POLES (FUTURE)

REMOVE & SALVAGE EXISTING SIGN (FUTURE)

U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 10

COORDINATE W/OWNER ON REMOVAL/RELOCATION OF EXISTING BILLBOARD (FUTURE)

COORDINATE W/UTILITY COMPANY ON REMOVAL/RELOCATION OF EXISTING POWER POLES (FUTURE)

SAWCUT & MILL EXISTING BITUMINOUS

GATEWAY ROAD

PLEASE REFER TO SHEET 20 FOR REMOVALS PERTAINING TO 165TH AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS

165TH AVENUE NW

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING BITUMINOUS

COORDINATE W/OWNER ON REMOVAL/RELOCATION OF EXISTING BILLBOARD (FUTURE)

COORDINATE W/UTILITY COMPANY ON REMOVAL/RELOCATION OF EXISTING POWER POLES (FUTURE)

PROTECT EX. POWER POLES, SMALL UTILITIES & SIGNS

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

COORDINATE W/OWNER ON REMOVAL/RELOCATION OF EXISTING BILLBOARD (FUTURE)

U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 10

PROTECT EX. POWER POLES & SIGNS

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

SEE INSET A ON SHEET 17

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

PROTECT EX. POWER & SMALL UTILITIES

PROTECT EXISTING FENCE

REMOVALS PLAN LEGEND

	EXISTING	REMOVALS
PROPERTY LINE		
WETLAND LINE		
CURB LINE		
CONCRETE		
BITUMINOUS		
SAWCUT		
STORM SEWER		
UNDERGROUND GAS LINE		
OVERHEAD ELECTRIC LINE		
FENCE LINE		
FLARED END SECTION		
CATCH BASIN		
HYDRANT		
GATE VALVE		
LIGHT POLE		
POWER POLE		
GUY WIRE		
ELECTRIC BOX		
ELECTRIC METER		
ELECTRIC TRANSFORMER		
TELEPHONE BOX		
TELEVISION BOX		
HAND HOLE		
MAILBOX		
SIGN		
BILLBOARD		
WELL		
TREE	SEE TREE PRESERVATION PLAN FOR REMOVALS	
TREELINE		

N

0 50 100 200

(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

REMOVALS PLAN

16 of 37

[Save Date: 05/21/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_removals.dwg

#9556

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING STRUCTURE

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING BITUMINOUS DRIVEWAY

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING STRUCTURE

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING SPTICE SYSTEM(S). VERIFY LOCATIONS IN FIELD.

COORDINATE W/SMALL UTILITY COMPANY ON REMOVAL OF SMALL UTILITIES

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING STRUCTURES

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

COORDINATE WITH UTILITY COMPANY ON THE REMOVAL OF EXISTING OVERHEAD ELECTRIC LINE AND POWER POLES

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING SILOS

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING CONCRETE

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING STRUCTURES

COORDINATE WITH UTILITY COMPANY ON THE REMOVAL OF EXISTING OVERHEAD ELECTRIC LINE AND POWER POLES

SEAL & CAP EXISTING WELL PER MDH STANDARDS

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING SILO

COORDINATE W/SMALL UTILITY COMPANY ON REMOVAL OF SMALL UTILITIES

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING STRUCTURE

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING STRUCTURE

COORDINATE WITH UTILITY COMPANY ON THE REMOVAL OF EXISTING OVERHEAD ELECTRIC LINE AND POWER POLES

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING SIGN

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING FENCE (TYP.)

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

890.4 SB 4

885.1 SB 8

880.0 SB 7

REMOVALS PLAN LEGEND

	EXISTING	REMOVALS
PROPERTY LINE		
WETLAND LINE		
CURB LINE		
CONCRETE		
BITUMINOUS		
SAWCUT		
STORM SEWER		
UNDERGROUND GAS LINE	ug	
OVERHEAD ELECTRIC LINE	ohe	
FENCE LINE	x	
FLARED END SECTION	FES	
CATCH BASIN	OR	
HYDRANT	HYD	
GATE VALVE	GV	
LIGHT POLE	LP	
POWER POLE		
GUY WIRE		
ELECTRIC BOX	EB	
ELECTRIC METER	EM	
ELECTRIC TRANSFORMER	ET	
TELEPHONE BOX	TB	
TELEVISION BOX	TV	
HAND HOLE	HH	
MAILBOX	MB	
SIGN		
BILLBOARD		
WELL	WELL	
TREE		
TREELINE		

SEE GRADING PLAN FOR CLEARING LIMITS

N

0 25 50 100

(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSD Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSD Station No. 30488 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

REMOVALS PLAN

17 of 37

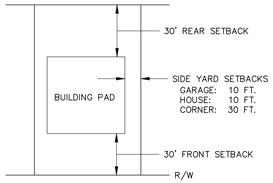
[Save Date: 05/21/25] F:\Jobs\0541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_removals.dwg

#9556

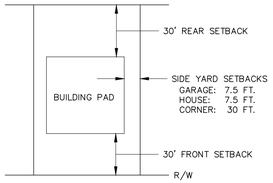
SITE PLAN LEGEND

	EXISTING	PROPOSED
LIGHT POLE	☼	
SANITARY MANHOLE	SAN	●
MISCELLANEOUS SIGN		
EXISTING SPOT ELEVATION	x0000.0	
EXISTING TREE		
TELEVISION BOX	TV	
FIRE HYDRANT		
GATE VALVE		
CLEANOUT		●
ELECTRIC BOX		
GAS METER		
CATCH BASIN	or	or
RAIN GUARDIAN		RG
ELECTRIC METER	EM	
TELEPHONE BOX	TM	
UTILITY POLE		
FLARED END SECTION	FES	
STORM MANHOLE	STMH	●
SERVICE	SW	
SOIL BORING/TEST HOLE	TH	
RETAINING WALL		
WATERMAIN		
SANITARY SEWER		
STORM SEWER		
PROPERTY LINE		
SETBACK LINE		
CURB		
WETLAND		
DITCH		
UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE		
UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC		
UNDERGROUND GAS		
UNDERGROUND FIBEROPTIC		
FENCE		
OVERHEAD ELECTRIC		
CONCRETE SURFACE		
BITUMINOUS SURFACE		

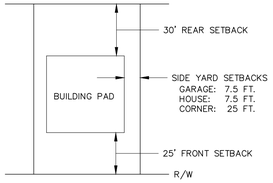
100' RIPARIAN LOT DATA



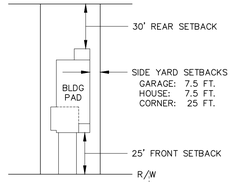
75' LOT DATA



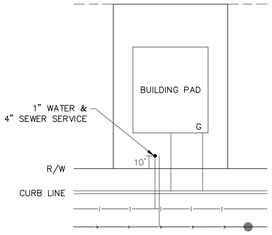
65' LOT DATA



50' LIBERTY HOME LOT DATA



TYPICAL SERVICE LAYOUT



TYPICAL SERVICES SHALL BE:
WATER: 1" I.D. ENDOPURE HDPE W/ TRACER WIRE OR TYPE "K" COPPER
SEWER: 4" SDR 26 W/TRACER WIRE
CURB STOP TO BE PLACED 10' BEYOND R/W
SANITARY SEWER SERVICE TO BE PLACED 10 FEET BEYOND R/W AND PLUGGED

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSD Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSD Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

CARLSON ENGINEERING ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY SITE & UTILITY PLAN INDEX

18 of 37

[Save Date: 05/21/25] I:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_site.dwg

#9556



0 50 100 200
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY SITE & UTILITY PLAN

19 of 37

[Save Date: 05/21/25] I:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_site.dwg

#9556

SEE SHEET 19

SEE SHEET 21

SEE BELOW

SEE ABOVE

STREET N

STREET P-N

STREET M

STREET L

STREET I

STREET J

STREET K

STREET A

STREET B

STREET P-S

US HIGHWAY 10 / 169

TWIN LAKES ROAD

GATEWAY ROAD

165TH AVENUE NW

OUTLOT D

OUTLOT E

OUTLOT F

OUTLOT H

OUTLOT I

OUTLOT J

OUTLOT K

OUTLOT A

POND

WETLAND

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

FEMA FLOODWAY LINE

FUTURE INTERCHANGE (BY OTHERS)

FUTURE FRONTAGE ROAD (BY OTHERS)

RETAINING WALL #1

INFILTRATION BENCH

OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE

RE 891.95
IE 880.95

RE 894.20
IE 880.41
IE 880.31

8" PLUG
IE 882.76

RE 897.15
IE 879.55
IE 879.45

RE 895.54
IE 879.07–E
IE 879.07–W
IE 878.97–SE

RE 898.95
IE 882.26–N&S
IE 882.16–W

RE 890.42
IE 878.05
IE 877.95

RE 889.20
IE 877.42
IE 877.32

RE 888.16
IE 876.72
IE 876.62

RE 888.15
IE 876.12
IE 876.02

RE 887.56
IE 873.40
IE 873.30

RE 889.95
IE 875.00–S
IE 874.82–N
IE 874.72–E

RE 886.56
IE 875.56

RE 885.35
IE 874.96
IE 874.86

RE 893.55
IE 882.10
IE 882.00

RE 885.25
IE 874.26
IE 874.16

RE 899.70
IE 888.70

RE 887.52
IE 873.42–E
IE 873.26–N
IE 873.16–S

RE 888.50
IE 877.50

RE 888.95
IE 877.95

RE 888.86
IE 877.86

RE 897.75
IE 886.10
IE 886.00

RE 898.05
IE 885.40
IE 885.30

RE 885.65
IE 871.86
IE 871.76

RE 890.00
IE 872.04
IE 871.94

RE 889.70
IE 871.15
IE 871.05

RE 888.65
IE 870.36
IE 870.26

RE 889.25
IE 869.46
IE 869.36

RE 889.25
IE 877.35
IE 877.25

RE 886.05
IE 875.00
IE 874.90

RE 888.80
IE 867.63
IE 867.53

RE 887.39
IE 874.15–NW

RE 891.03
IE 875.69–SE
IE 868.36–NW
IE 868.26–SW

RE 893.35
IE 882.32
IE 882.22

RE 896.50
IE 883.30
IE 883.20

RE 894.50
IE 884.64

RE 894.25
IE 884.04
IE 883.94

RE 892.50
IE 882.97
IE 882.87

RE 889.50
IE 881.47
IE 881.37

RE 890.50
IE 879.97
IE 879.87

EX. RE 890.40
EX. IE 879.25–W
(FIELD VERIFY)
EX. IE 879.35–E
(FIELD VERIFY)
PRP. IE 879.50–S

JACK/BORE 16" STEEL CASING FOR 8" WATER MAIN CROSSING

JACK/BORE 12" STEEL CASING FOR 6" FORCE MAIN CROSSING

TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT

PROPOSED DRAINAGE & UTILITY EASEMENT

SAWCUT, REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EXISTING BITUMINOUS FOR UTILITY CONNECTION. REPLACE IN KIND.

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EX. CONCRETE PEDESTRIAN RAMP. REPLACE IN KIND

REMOVE & DISPOSE OF EX. CONCRETE CURB & GUTTER. REPLACE IN KIND

CONNECT TO EX. 12" DIP WM W/12"x8" WET TAP & 8" G.V. & BOX

CORE DRILL & CONNECT 8" PVC SAN SWR TO EX. SANITARY MANHOLE. REFORM INVERT AS REQUIRED

SAWCUT, MILL & MATCH EX. BITUMINOUS EDGE

XX" PLUG

0 50 100 200
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)

2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

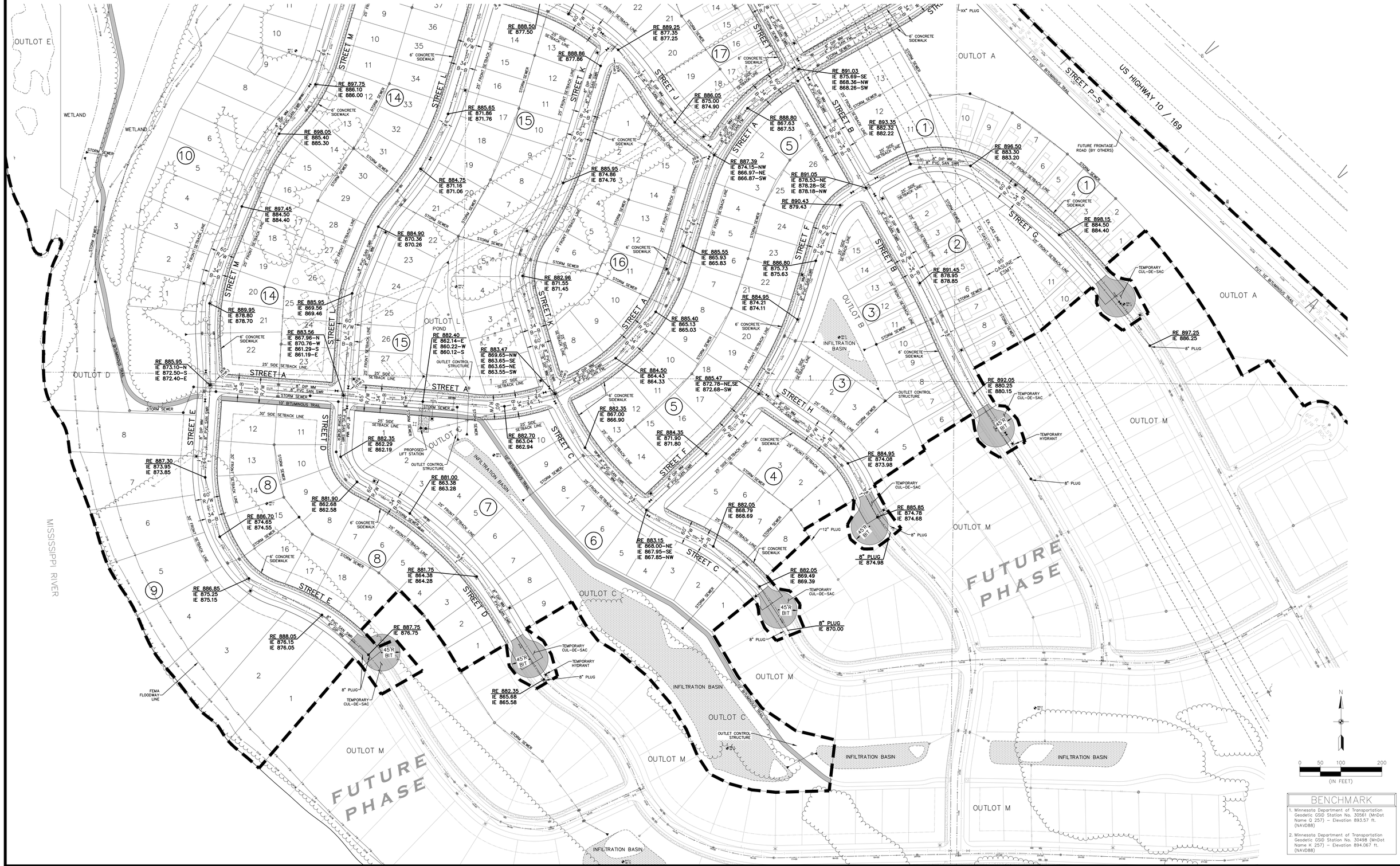
PRELIMINARY SITE & UTILITY PLAN

20 of 37

[Save Date: 05/21/25] F:\Jobs\0541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_site.dwg

#9556

SEE SHEET 20



BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)

2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

CARLSON ENGINEERING ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

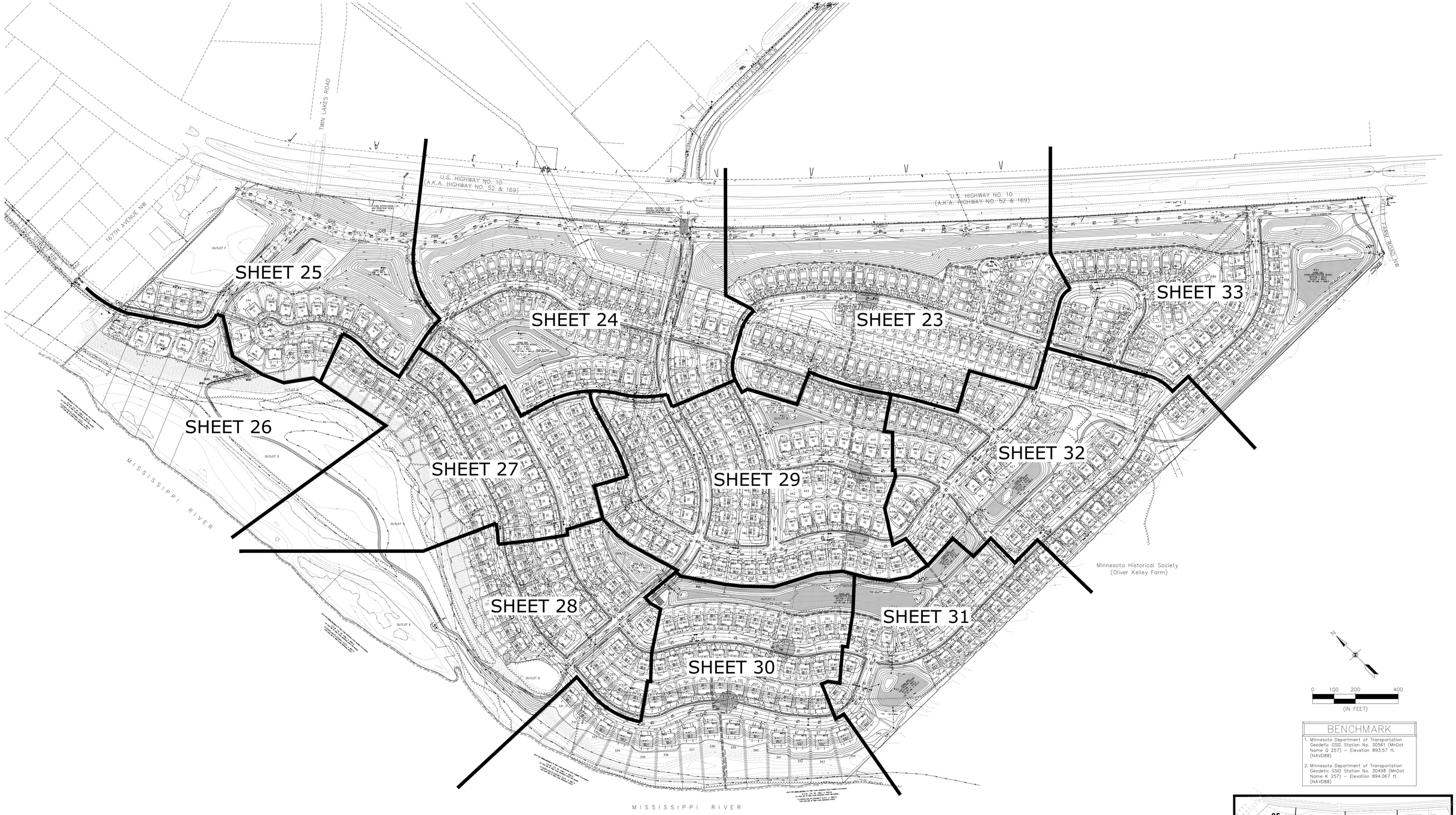
OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY SITE & UTILITY PLAN

21 of 37

[Save Date: 05/21/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_site.dwg

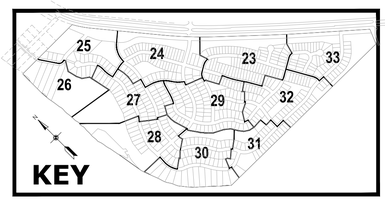
#9556



0 100 200 400
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

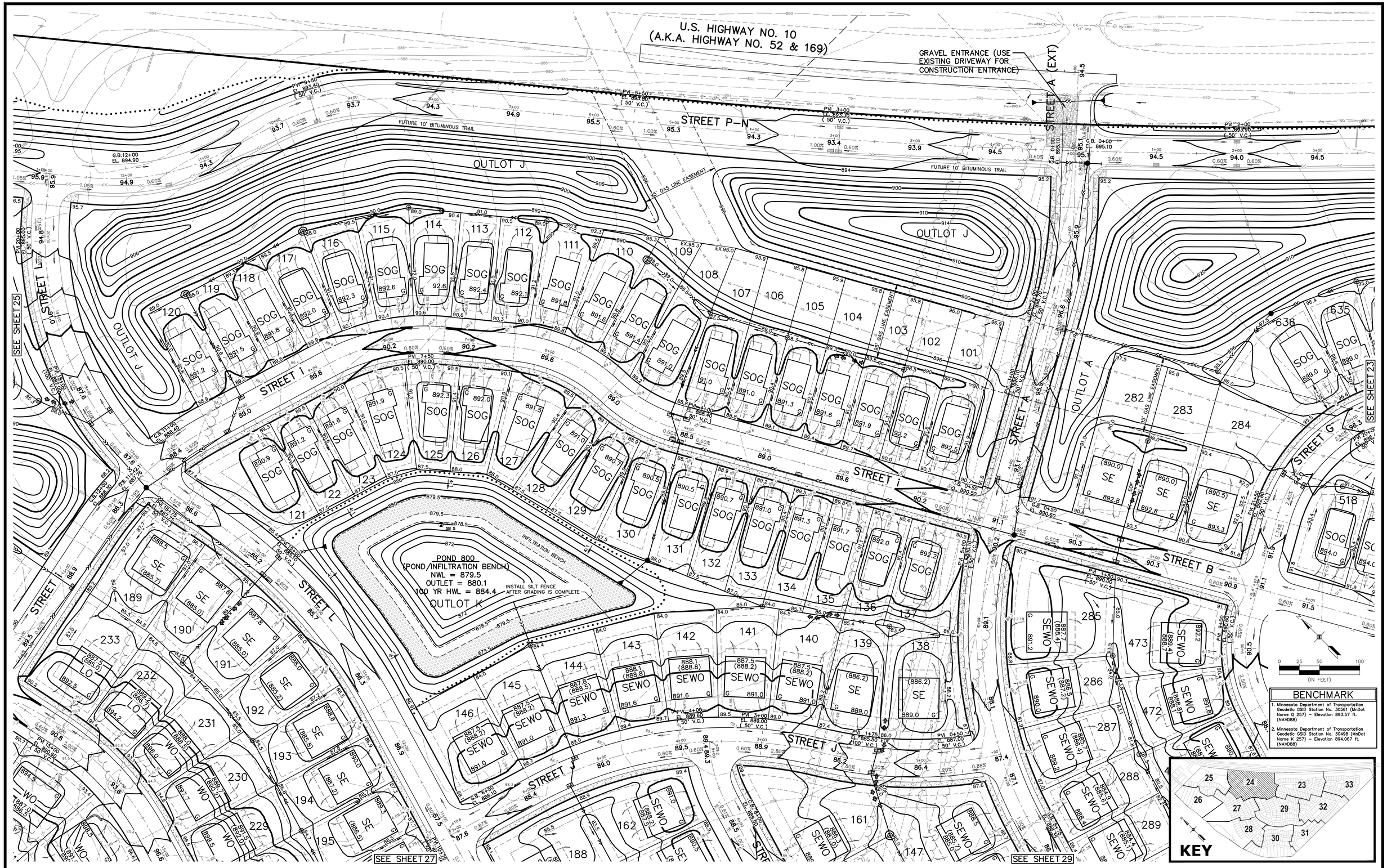
OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

GRADING INDEX

22 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] f:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

#9556



BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature: Brian J. Krystofiak
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

24 of 37

#9556

Save Date: 05/22/25 f:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 10
(A.K.A. HIGHWAY NO. 52 & 169)

167TH AVENUE NW

FUTURE INTERCHANGE AND FRONTAGE ROAD (BY OTHERS)

OUTLOT F

OUTLOT H

OUTLOT G

OUTLOT D

OUTLOT I

OUTLOT J

STREET N

STREET M

STREET L

STREET R-N

FUTURE 10' BITUMINOUS TRAIL

10' BITUMINOUS TRAIL

RETAINING WALL

POND 900
NWL = 881.0
100 YR HWL = 885.3

SEE SHEET 24

SEE SHEET 26

0 25 50 100
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSD Station No. 30561 (NnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)

2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSD Station No. 30488 (NnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

KEY

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

25 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] I:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

#9556



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

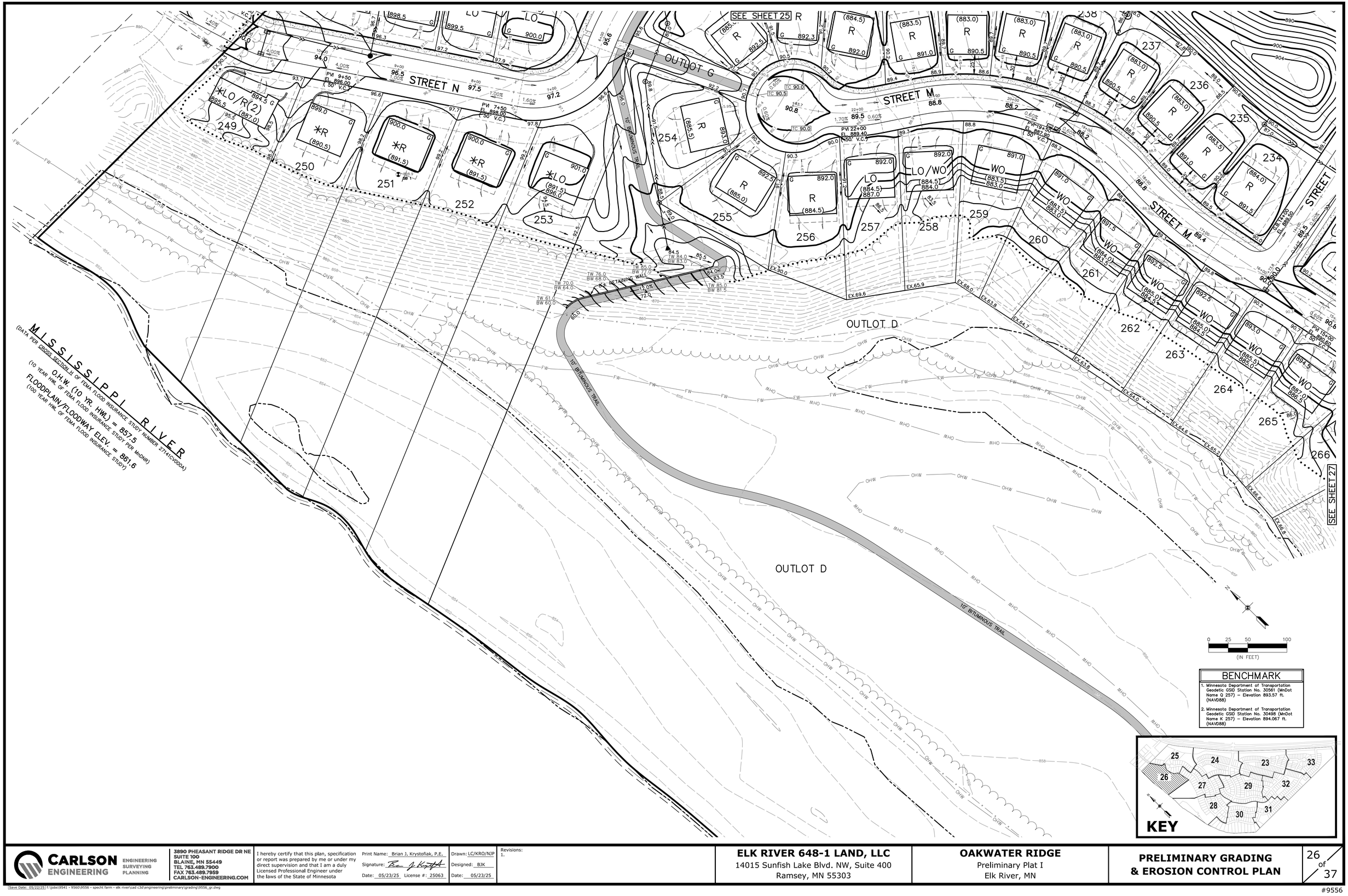
OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

27 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] I:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

#9556



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

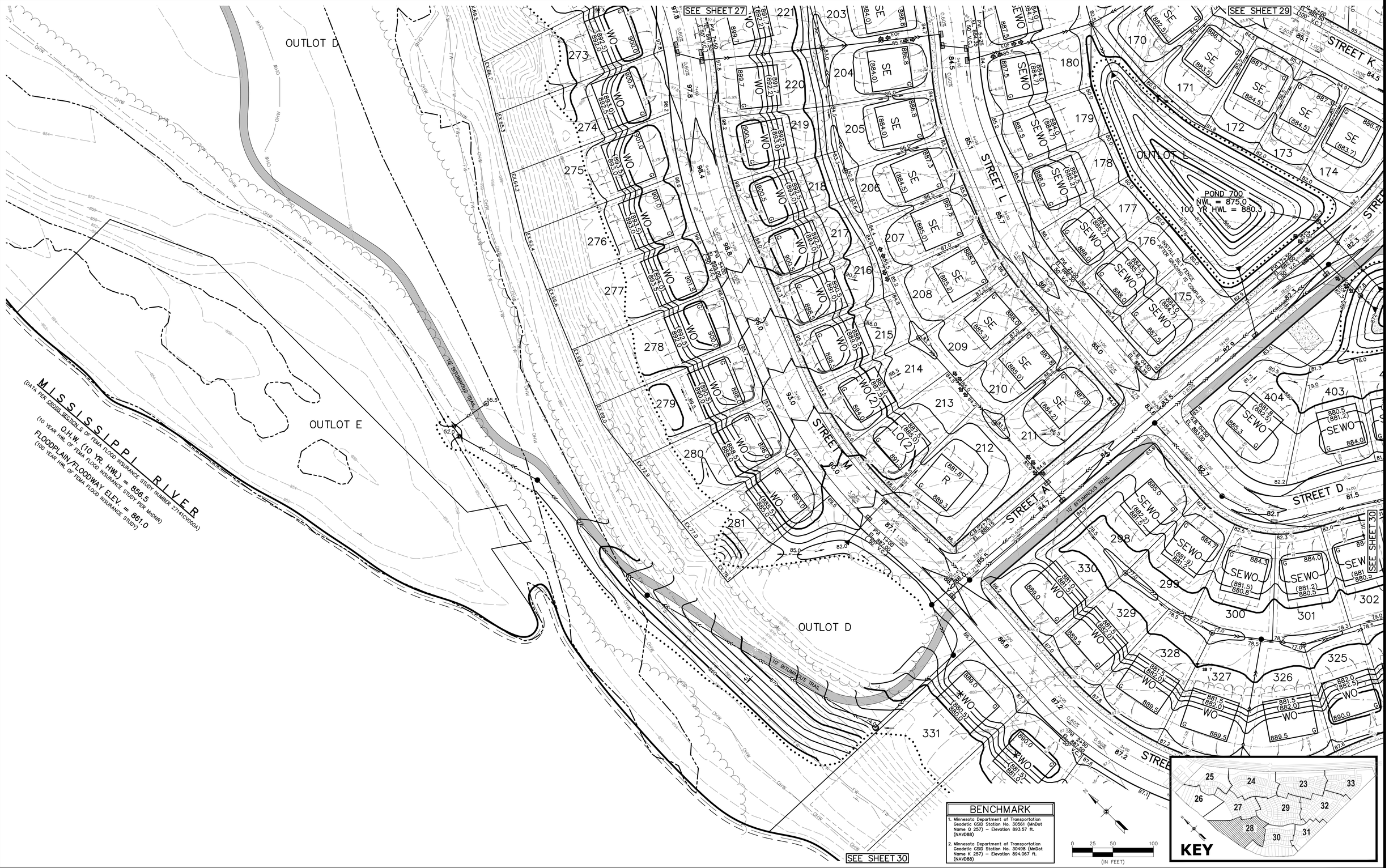
OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

26 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

#9556



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

28 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] f:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

#9556

SEE SHEET 24

SEE SHEET 23

SEE SHEET 27

SEE SHEET 32

SEE SHEET 28

SEE SHEET 30

SEE SHEET 31

STREET J

STREET K

STREET A

STREET F

STREET B

STREET H

STREET C

POND 400
(INFILTRATION BASIN)
BOTTOM = 878.5
OUTLET = 880.0
100 YR HWL = 882.2

POND 700
NWL = 875.0
100 YR HWL = 880.3

OUTLOT B

OUTLOT L

OUTLOT M

OUTLOT C

PRELIMINARY PLAT
(FUTURE PRELIMINARY PLAT)

10' BITUMINOUS TRAIL

INSTALL SILT FENCE AFTER GRADING IS COMPLETE

0 25 50 100
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

KEY

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

29 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

#9556

SEE SHEET 29

SEE SHEET 28

SEE SHEET 31

OUTLOT C

OUTLOT D

OUTLOT M

POND 300
(INFILTRATION BASIN)
BOTTOM = 872.0
OUTLET = 873.5
100 YR HWL = 877.8

10' BITUMINOUS TRAIL

INSTALL SILT FENCE AFTER GRADING IS COMPLETE

STREET A

STREET D

STREET E

STREET L

PRELIMINARY PLAT I
(FUTURE PRELIMINARY PLAT)

MISSISSIPPI RIVER
(DATA PER CROSS SECTION G OF FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY NUMBER 27141CV000A)
O.H.W. (10 YR. HWL) = 856.5
(10 YEAR HWL OF FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY PER MnDNR)
FLOODPLAIN/FLOODWAY ELEV. = 861.0
(100 YEAR HWL OF FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY)

0 25 50 100
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)

2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

KEY

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

30 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

#9556

SEE SHEET 29

SEE SHEET 32

SEE SHEET 30

OUTLOT C

OUTLOT M

STREET D

STREET E

STREET F

PRELIMINARY PLAT (FUTURE PRELIMINARY PLAT)

10' BITUMINOUS TRAIL

INSTALL SILT FENCE AFTER GRADING IS COMPLETE

POND 300
(INFILTRATION BASIN)
BOTTOM = 872.0
OUTLET = 873.5
100 YR HWL = 877.8

POND 500
(INFILTRATION BASIN)
BOTTOM = 876.0
OUTLET = 877.0
100 YR HWL = 878.9

POND 200
(INFILTRATION BASIN)
BOTTOM = 868.7
OUTLET = 870.0
100 YR HWL = 872.3

TOP OF BERM

Minnesota Historical Society
(Oliver Kelley Farm)

MISSISSIPPI RIVER
(DATA PER CROSS SECTION F OF FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY NUMBER 27141CV000A)
O.H.W. (10 YR. HWL) = 855.8
(10 YEAR HWL OF FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY PER MnDNR)
FLOODPLAIN/FLOODWAY ELEV. = 860.0
(100 YEAR HWL OF FEMA FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY)

0 25 50 100
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)

2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

KEY

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

31 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

#9556

SEE SHEET 23

SEE SHEET 33

SEE SHEET 29

SEE SHEET 31

OUTLOT M

STREET B

STREET C

STREET G

STREET H

STREET D

10' BITUMINOUS TRAIL

95' GAS LINE EASEMENT

INSTALL SILT FENCE AFTER GRADING IS COMPLETE

POND 600
(INFILTRATION BASIN)
BOTTOM = 878.0
OUTLET = 879.0
100 YR HWL = 882.2

POND 500
(INFILTRATION BASIN)
BOTTOM = 876.0
OUTLET = 877.0
100 YR HWL = 878.9

Minnesota Historical Society
(Oliver Kelley Farm)

0 25 50 100
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

KEY

25 24 23 33
26 27 29 32
28 30 31

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

32 of 37

#9556

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 10
(A.K.A. HIGHWAY NO. 52 & 169)

STREET P-S

FUTURE 10' BITUMINOUS TRAIL

OUTLOT A

PRELIMINARY PLAT I
(FUTURE PRELIMINARY PLAT)

OUTLOT M

COURT G

LOOP C

STREET G

STREET B

STREET C

STREET F

POND 400
(INFILTRATION BASIN)
BOTTOM = 878.5
OUTLET = 880.0
100 YR HWL = 882.2

OUTLOT B

SEE SHEET 24

SEE SHEET 29

SEE SHEET 32

SEE SHEET 33

0 25 50 100
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSD Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)
2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSD Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

KEY

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

23 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] I:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

#9556

U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 10
(A.K.A. HIGHWAY NO. 52 & 169)

KELLY FARM ROAD NW

STREET P-S

FUTURE 10' BITUMINOUS TRAIL

OUTLOT A

OUTLOT M

PRELIMINARY PLAT I
(FUTURE PRELIMINARY PLAT)

LOOP C

COURT C

STREET D

STREET G

POND 100
(POND/INFILTRATION BASIN)
BOTTOM = 884.0
OUTLET = 884.9
100 YR HWL = 888.0

INSTALL SILT FENCE AFTER GRADING IS COMPLETE

10' BITUMINOUS TRAIL

COORDINATE OFFSITE GRADING WITH ADJACENT LANDOWNER

Minnesota Historical Society
(Oliver Kelley Farm)

SEE SHEET 23

SEE SHEET 32

0 25 50 100
(IN FEET)

BENCHMARK

1. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30561 (MnDot Name Q 257) – Elevation 893.57 ft. (NAVD88)

2. Minnesota Department of Transportation Geodetic GSID Station No. 30498 (MnDot Name K 257) – Elevation 894.067 ft. (NAVD88)

KEY

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY GRADING & EROSION CONTROL PLAN

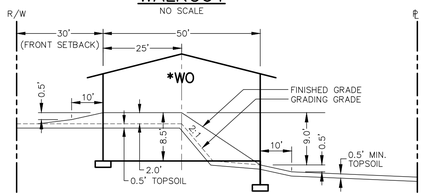
33 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] I:\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\grading\9556_gr.dwg

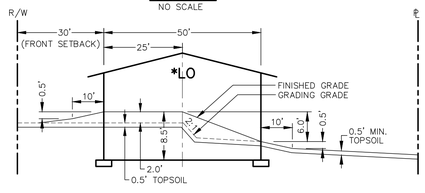
#9556

100' LOTS
249–253, & 331–345

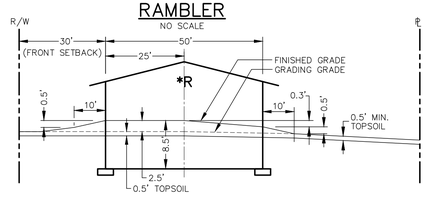
WALKOUT
NO SCALE



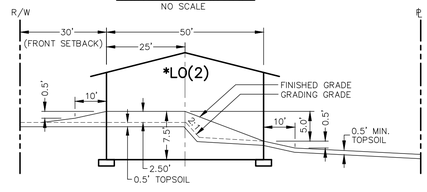
LOOKOUT
NO SCALE



RAMBLER
NO SCALE

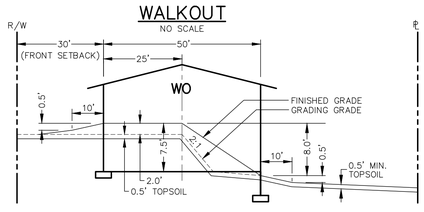


MODIFIED LOOKOUT
NO SCALE

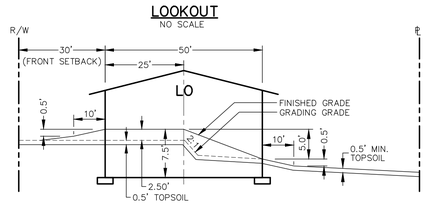


75' LOTS
245–248, 254–281, & 315–330

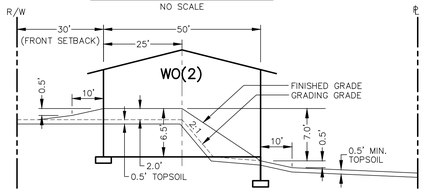
WALKOUT
NO SCALE



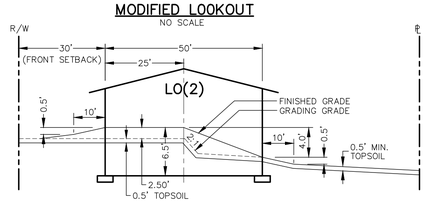
LOOKOUT
NO SCALE



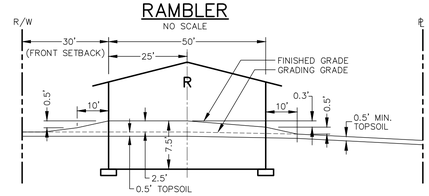
MODIFIED WALKOUT
NO SCALE



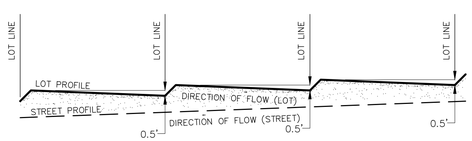
MODIFIED LOOKOUT
NO SCALE



RAMBLER
NO SCALE

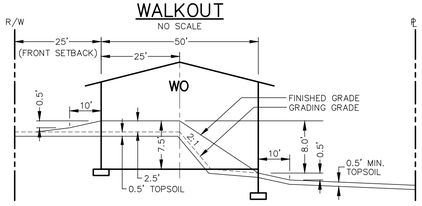


LOT BENCHING DETAIL

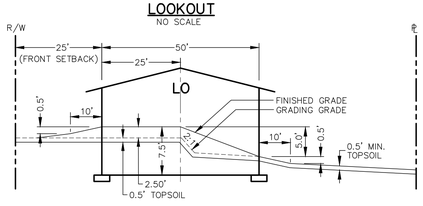


65' LOTS
138–244, 282–314, 346–473, & 547–571

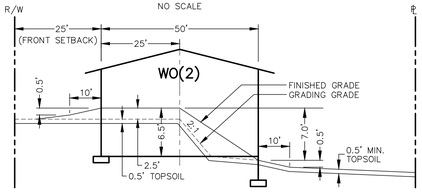
WALKOUT
NO SCALE



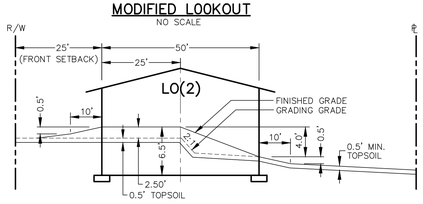
LOOKOUT
NO SCALE



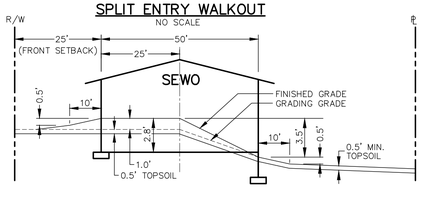
MODIFIED WALKOUT
NO SCALE



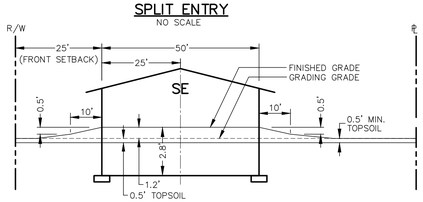
MODIFIED LOOKOUT
NO SCALE



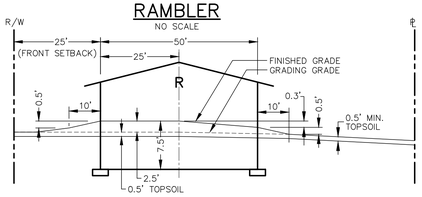
SPLIT ENTRY WALKOUT
NO SCALE



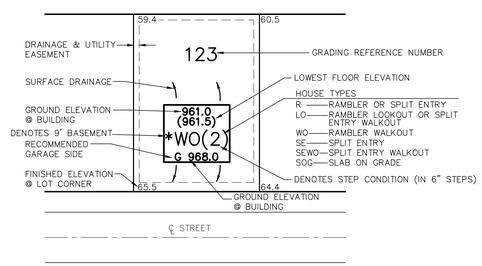
SPLIT ENTRY
NO SCALE



RAMBLER
NO SCALE

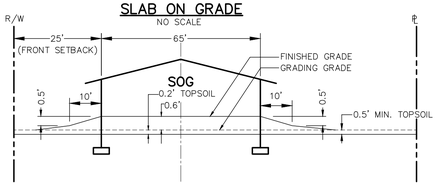


GRADING PLAN LOT KEY

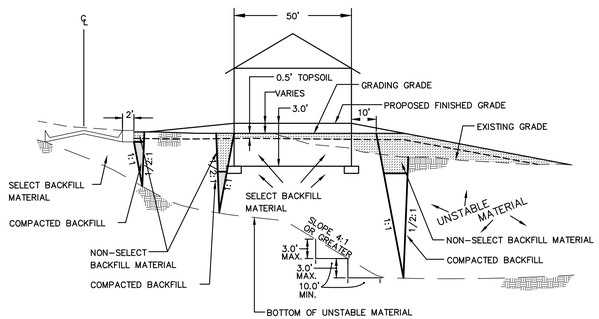


50' DETACHED TOWNHOME LOTS
101–137, 474–546, & 572–636

SLAB ON GRADE
NO SCALE



SUBGRADE CORRECTION



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

DETAILS

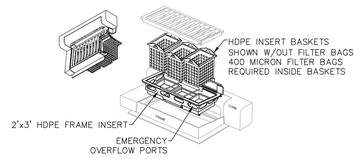
35 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_detail.dwg

#9556

INFRASAFE – 2'x3' DEBRIS COLLECTION DEVICE

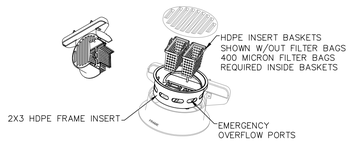
AS MANUFACTURED BY ROYAL ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS



- MEETS MN/DOT SPECIFICATION 3891.F "STORM DRAIN INLET PROTECTION – FILTER BAG INSERT"
- DESIGNED FOR NEENAH R–3067 OR R–3290 SERIES

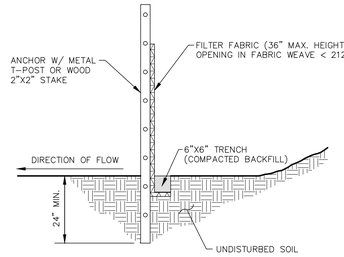
INFRASAFE – 27" DEBRIS COLLECTION DEVICE

AS MANUFACTURED BY ROYAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



- MEETS MN/DOT SPECIFICATION 3891.F "STORM DRAIN INLET PROTECTION – FILTER BAG INSERT"
- DESIGNED FOR NEENAH R–3250–A OR R–3250–1 (MNDOT 801) FRAME CASTING

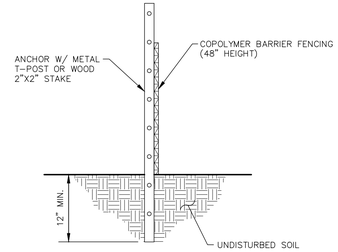
SILT FENCE



NOTES:

1. DIG A 6"X6" TRENCH ALONG THE INTENDED SILT FENCE LINE.
2. DRIVE ALL ANCHOR POSTS INTO THE GROUND AT THE DOWNHILL SIDE OF THE TRENCH.
3. POSTS SHALL BE SPACED A MAXIMUM OF 6 FEET APART.
4. LAY OUT SILT FENCE ALONG THE UPHILL SIDE OF THE ANCHOR POSTS AND BACK FILL 6"X6" TRENCH.
5. SECURELY ATTACH SILT FENCE TO ANCHOR POSTS W/ MINIMUM OF THREE ATTACHMENTS PER POST.
6. SEE MNDOT SPECIFICATIONS 2573 & 3886.

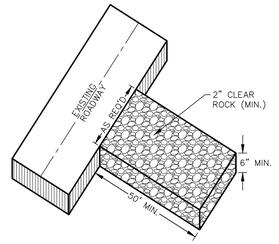
TREE FENCE



NOTES:

1. TREE FENCING SHALL BE PLACED A MINIMUM OF 1 FOOT PER CALIPER INCH OF TREE DIAMETER FROM TREE(S) THAT IS/ARE TO BE SAVED.
2. ANCHOR POST MAY BE SPACED UP TO 10 FEET APART.
3. SECURELY ATTACH TREE FENCE TO ANCHOR POSTS W/ MINIMUM OF TWO ATTACHMENTS PER POST.
4. SEE MNDOT SPECIFICATION 2572.

ROCK CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE



TURF ESTABLISHMENT

TURF ESTABLISHMENT SHALL APPLY TO ALL DISTURBED AREAS AND SHALL BE ACCORDING TO MnDOT STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION (LATEST EDITION) EXCEPT AS MODIFIED BELOW.

TURF ESTABLISHMENT SHALL OCCUR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT IN NO CASE MORE THAN 7 DAYS.

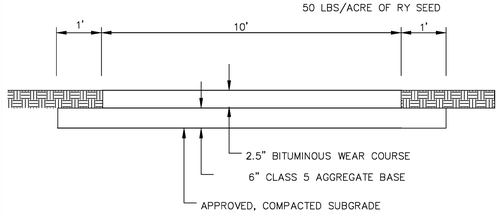
SEED: MnDOT MIXTURE 25–141 AT 60 POUNDS PER ACRE.

DORMANT SEED: SHALL BE APPLIED AT TWICE THE NORMAL RATE AFTER NOVEMBER 1ST.

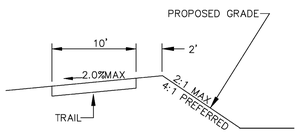
MULCH: TYPE 1 AT 2 TONS PER ACRE (DISK ANCHORED).

FERTILIZER: TYPE 1 10–10–10 AT 200 POUNDS PER ACRE.

RESTORE DISTURBED AREA WITH 4" TOPSOIL (MINIMUM). SEEDING, FERTILIZING, AND PLACEMENT OF EROSION CONTROL BLANKET. SEED MIX TO BE TYPE 50A WITH APPLICATION RATE OF 50 LBS/ACRE OF RY SEED



TRAIL
TYPICAL CROSS SECTION



TRAIL
TYPICAL SECTION

0.6% TO 5.0% ALLOWABLE LONGITUDINAL GRADE IF WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE. 8% ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE LONGITUDINAL GRADE.

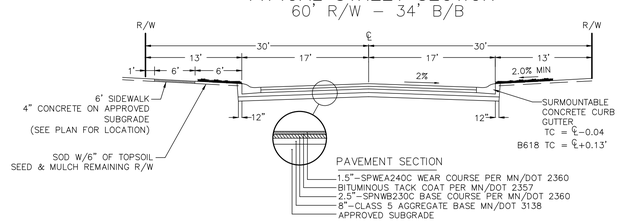
REV: 4/2021

City of Elk River

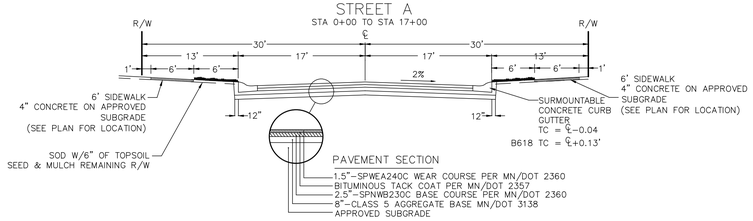
BITUMINOUS TRAIL TYPICAL SECTION

STANDARD PLATE NO. 2012

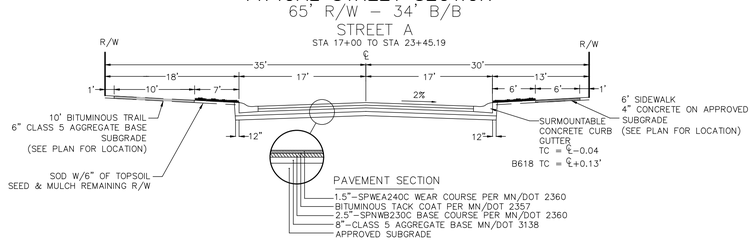
TYPICAL STREET SECTION
60' R/W – 34' B/B



TYPICAL STREET SECTION
60' R/W – 34' B/B
STREET A
STA 0+00 TO STA 17+00



TYPICAL STREET SECTION
65' R/W – 34' B/B
STREET A
STA 17+00 TO STA 23+45.19



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

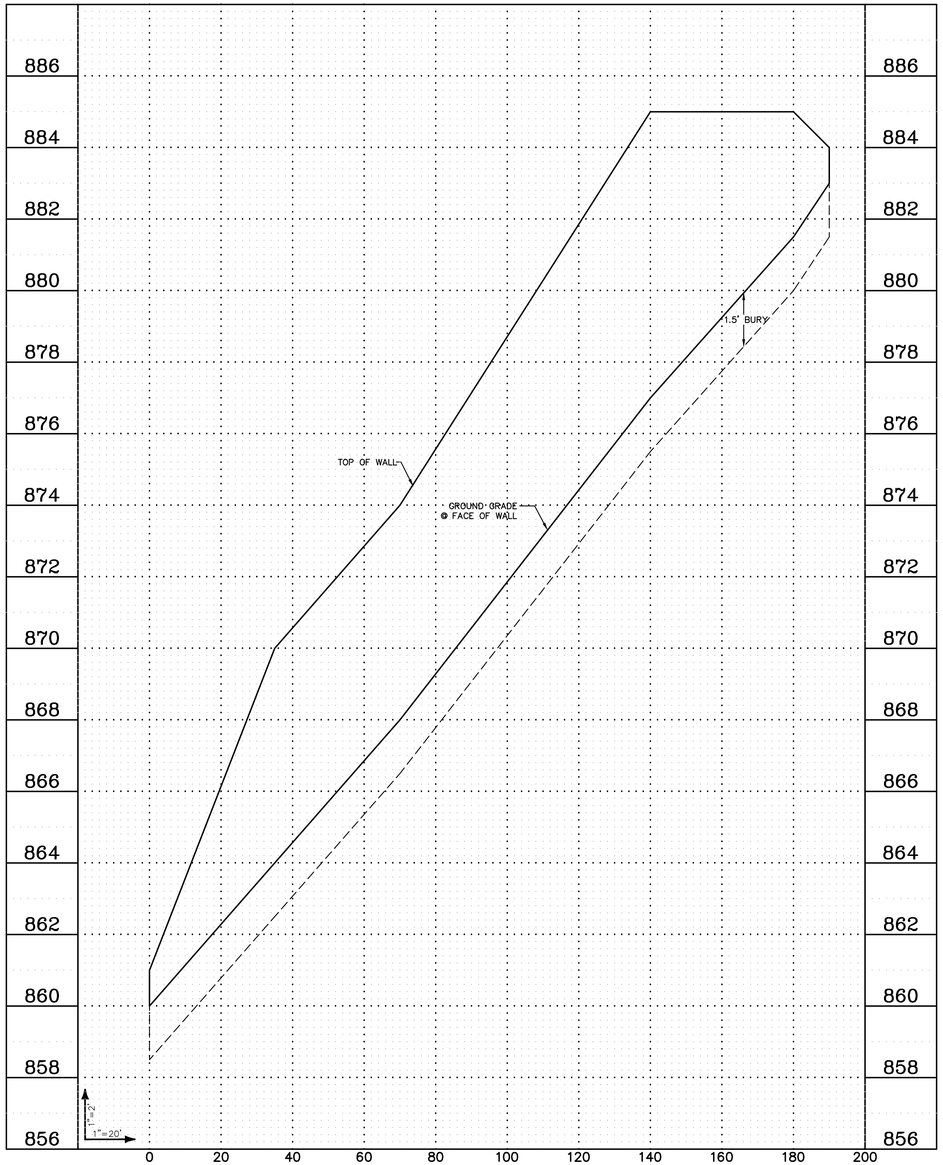
DETAILS

36 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_detail.dwg

#9556

MODULAR RETAINING WALL #1
(1,360 SF)



CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

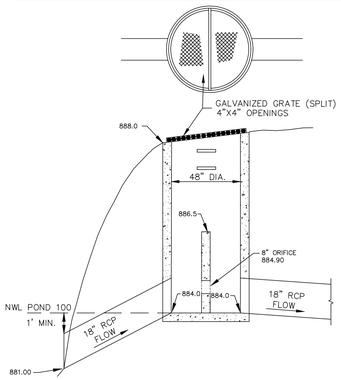
DETAILS

37 of 37

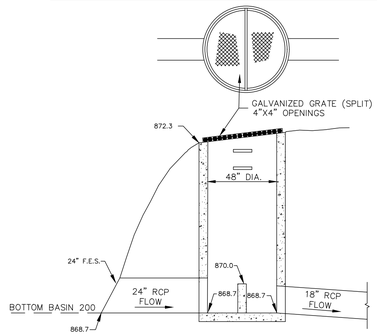
[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_detail.dwg

#9556

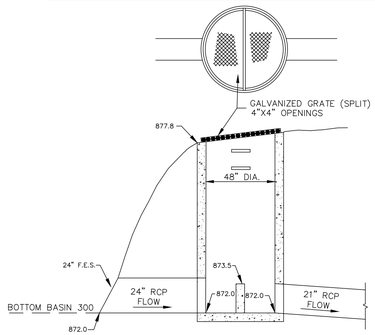
OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE POND 100



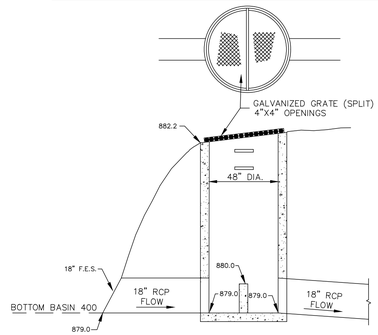
OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE POND 200



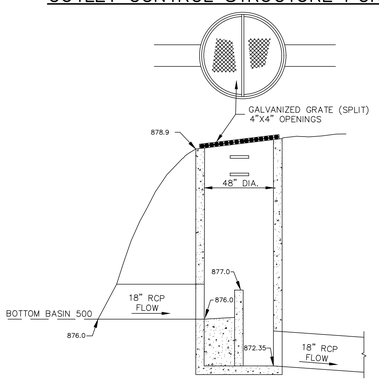
OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE POND 300



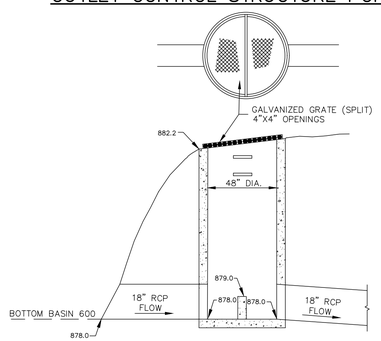
OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE POND 400



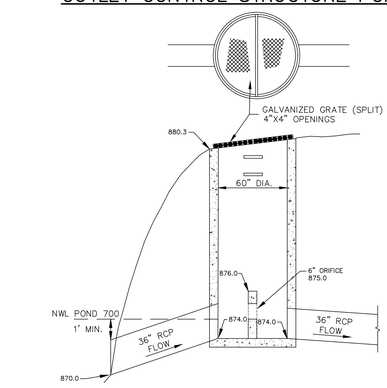
OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE POND 500



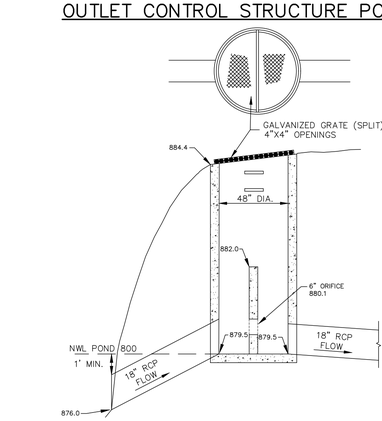
OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE POND 600



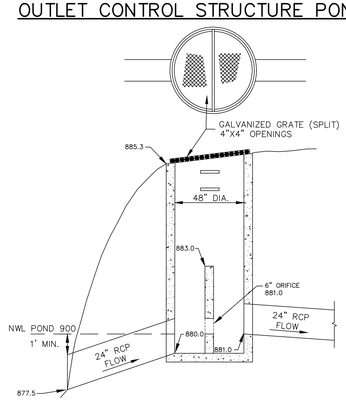
OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE POND 700



OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE POND 800

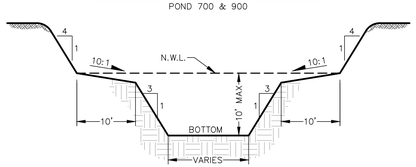


OUTLET CONTROL STRUCTURE POND 900



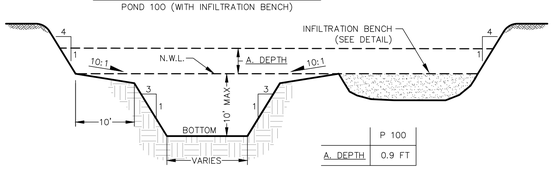
TYPICAL POND SECTION

POND 700 & 900



TYPICAL POND SECTION

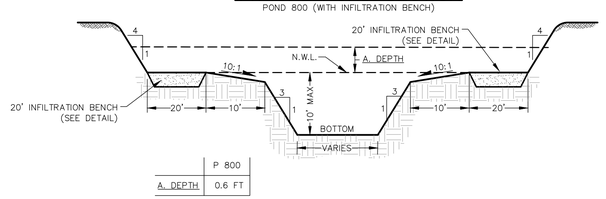
POND 100 (WITH INFILTRATION BENCH)



	P 100
A. DEPTH	0.9 FT

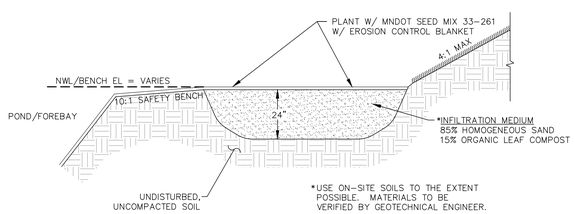
TYPICAL POND SECTION

POND 800 (WITH INFILTRATION BENCH)



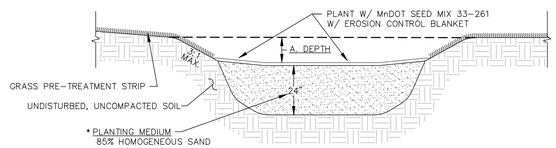
	P 800
A. DEPTH	0.6 FT

INFILTRATION BENCH



INFILTRATION BASIN

BASIN 200, 300, 400, 500 & 600



	I.B. 200	I.B. 300	I.B. 400	I.B. 500	I.B. 600
A. DEPTH	1.3 FT	1.5 FT	1.5 FT	1.0 FT	1.0 FT

*USE ON-SITE SOILS TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE. MATERIALS TO BE VERIFIED BY GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER.

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7929
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Brian J. Krystofiak, P.E.
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 25063

Drawn: LC/KRO/NJP
Designed: BJK
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

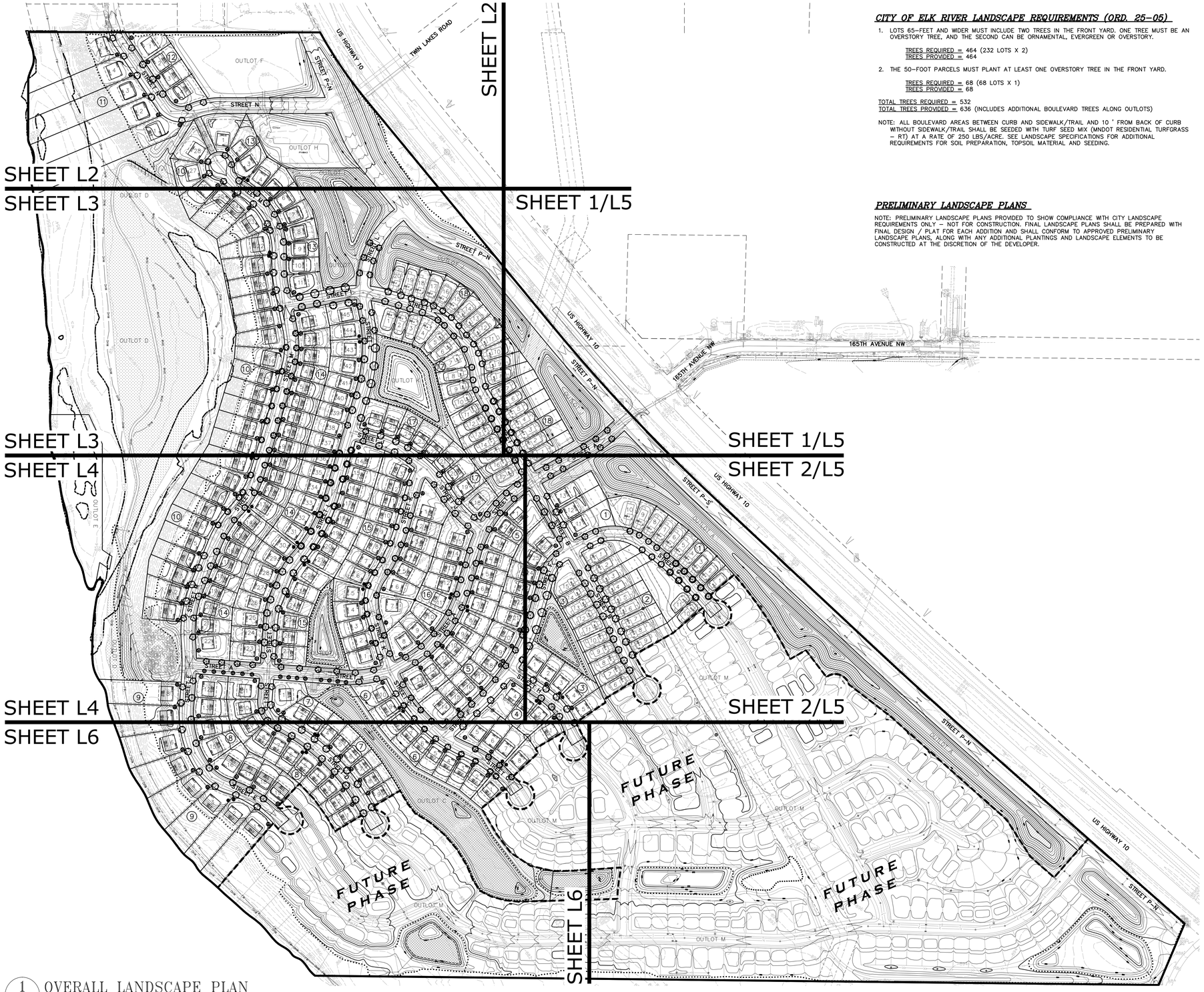
OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

DETAILS

34 of 37

[Save Date: 05/22/25] F:\Jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\engineering\preliminary\phase I\9556_detail.dwg

#9556



1 L1 OVERALL LANDSCAPE PLAN

CITY OF ELK RIVER LANDSCAPE REQUIREMENTS (ORD. 25-05)

1. LOTS 65-FEET AND WIDER MUST INCLUDE TWO TREES IN THE FRONT YARD. ONE TREE MUST BE AN OVERSTORY TREE, AND THE SECOND CAN BE ORNAMENTAL, EVERGREEN OR OVERSTORY.

   TREES REQUIRED = 464 (232 LOTS X 2)
   TREES PROVIDED = 464

2. THE 50-FOOT PARCELS MUST PLANT AT LEAST ONE OVERSTORY TREE IN THE FRONT YARD.

   TREES REQUIRED = 68 (68 LOTS X 1)
   TREES PROVIDED = 68

TOTAL TREES REQUIRED = 532
TOTAL TREES PROVIDED = 636 (INCLUDES ADDITIONAL BOULEVARD TREES ALONG OUTLOTS)

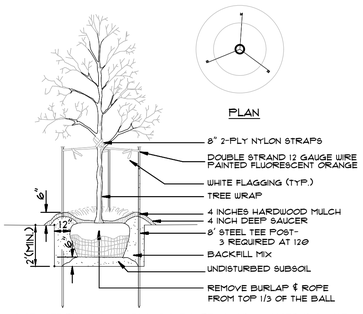
NOTE: ALL BOULEVARD AREAS BETWEEN CURB AND SIDEWALK/TRAIL AND 10 ' FROM BACK OF CURB WITHOUT SIDEWALK/TRAIL SHALL BE SEEDED WITH TURF SEED MIX (MNDOT RESIDENTIAL TURFGRASS - RT) AT A RATE OF 250 LBS/ACRE. SEE LANDSCAPE SPECIFICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SOIL PREPARATION, TOPSOIL MATERIAL AND SEEDING.

PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLANS

NOTE: PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLANS PROVIDED TO SHOW COMPLIANCE WITH CITY LANDSCAPE REQUIREMENTS ONLY - NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION. FINAL LANDSCAPE PLANS SHALL BE PREPARED WITH FINAL DESIGN / PLAT FOR EACH ADDITION AND SHALL CONFORM TO APPROVED PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLANS, ALONG WITH ANY ADDITIONAL PLANTINGS AND LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS TO BE CONSTRUCTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE DEVELOPER.

LANDSCAPE PLAN NOTES

1. EXISTING CONDITIONS. CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY EXISTING CONDITIONS PRIOR TO BIDDING AND CONSTRUCTION START. ANY DISCREPANCIES FOUND THAT AFFECT THE WORK SHALL BE REPORTED TO THE OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT FOR CLARIFICATION PRIOR TO BIDDING OR APPROVING ANY ADDITIONAL WORK REQUIRED.
2. UTILITY LOCATES. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOCATING AND VERIFYING ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UTILITIES, INCLUDING IRRIGATION LINES, AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE EXCAVATING OR IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW. IN MINNESOTA, CALL GOPHER STATE ONE-CALL AT 651-454-0002 FOR FIELD LOCATION OF PUBLIC UNDERGROUND UTILITY LINES. ALL LOCATES AND ITEMS NOTED AS 'FIELD VERIFY' ON THE PLANS SHALL BE VERIFIED BY THE CONTRACTOR AT THEIR EXPENSE.
3. PERMITS. CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY WITH THE OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT THAT THE REQUIRED PERMITS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION START. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLYING WITH ALL APPLICABLE CODES, REGULATIONS, AND PERMITS GOVERNING THE WORK.
4. EXISTING ITEMS TO REMAIN. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROTECTING ALL EXISTING PAVEMENT, STRUCTURES, UTILITIES, TREES, SITE AMENITIES, ETC. THAT ARE TO REMAIN FROM DAMAGE DURING CONSTRUCTION. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CORRECTING ANY DAMAGE (AT CONTRACTOR'S EXPENSE) TO EXISTING ITEMS TO REMAIN.
5. CONSTRUCTION STAGING AND ACCESS. CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY THE LOCATION FOR CONSTRUCTION STAGING AND SITE ACCESS WITH THE OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION START. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICLE ACCESS WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO THE SITE THROUGHOUT THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. LONG-TERM STORAGE OF MATERIALS OR SUPPLIES ON-SITE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. ALL WASTE AND/OR UNUSED MATERIAL SHALL BE PROMPTLY REMOVED FROM THE SITE.
6. SITE REMOVALS. REFER TO CIVIL PLANS FOR GENERAL SITE REMOVALS. ALL ITEMS NOTED TO BE REMOVED SHALL BE COMPLETED BY THE CONTRACTOR AND IMMEDIATELY DISPOSED OF OFF-SITE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL REGULATIONS, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. COORDINATE WITH OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT FOR ANY ITEMS NOTED AS 'REMOVED BY OTHERS' OR 'REMOVE AND SALVAGE.'
7. UTILITY COORDINATION. REFER TO CIVIL PLAN SHEETS FOR INFORMATION RELATED TO PROPOSED UTILITIES. COORDINATE WITH ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS FOR SITE ELECTRICAL WORK AND SITE LIGHTING.
8. CONSTRUCTION STAKING. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTABLISHING CONTROL POINTS AND ALL CONSTRUCTION FIELD STAKING DURING THE COURSE OF THE PROJECT.
9. DIMENSIONS. DIMENSIONS TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER SCALE. DIMENSIONS ARE TO FACE OF CURB, EDGE OF PAVEMENT/WALKWAY, OR OUTSIDE FACE OF BUILDING UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
10. PLAN QUANTITIES. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING ALL MATERIAL QUANTITIES PER PLAN. MATERIAL SCHEDULES ARE PROVIDED SOLELY FOR CONTRACTOR'S CONVENIENCE.
11. REFERENCE SPECIFICATIONS. THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATIONS SHALL GOVERN THIS PROJECT ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING ORDER:
    1. ADDENDA, WITH THOSE OF A LATER DATE HAVING PRECEDENCE OVER THOSE OF AN EARLIER DATE.
    2. LANDSCAPE SPECIFICATIONS.
    3. PLAN DRAWINGS.
    4. PLANT / MATERIAL SCHEDULES.
    5. CITY STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS AND DETAILS.
    6. MnDOT STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION, LATEST EDITION.



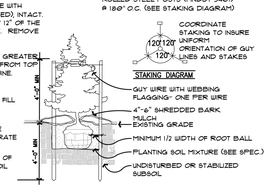
NOTE: SEE PLANTING NOTES FOR THE TYPE OF MULCH MATERIAL TO USE.

A DECIDUOUS TREE PLANTING DETAIL
NOT TO SCALE

1. SCARIFY BOTTOM AND SIDES OF HOLE PRIOR TO PLANTING.
2. TRIM OUT DEAD WOOD AND WEAK AND/OR DEFORMED TWIGS. DO NOT CUT A LEADER. DO NOT PAINT CUTS.
3. SET PLANT ON UNDISTURBED NATIVE SOIL OR THOROUGHLY COMPACTED BACKFILL SOIL. INSTALL PLANT SO THE ROOT FLARE IS AT OR UP TO 3" ABOVE THE FINISHED GRADE
4. PLACE PLANT IN PLANTING HOLE WITH BURLAP AND WIRE BASKET, (IF USED), INTACT. BACKFILL WITHIN APPROXIMATELY 12" OF THE TOP OF ROOTBALL WATER PLANT. REMOVE TOP 1/3 OF THE BASKET OR THE TOP TWO HORIZONTAL RINGS, WHICHEVER IS GREATER. REMOVE ALL BURLAP AND NAILS FROM TOP 1/3 OF THE BALL. REMOVE ALL TWINE.
5. PLUMB AND BACKFILL WITH BACKFILL SOIL.
6. WATER TO SETTLE PLANTS AND FILL VOIDS.
7. WATER WITHIN TWO HOURS OF INSTALLATION. WATERING MUST BE SUFFICIENT TO THOROUGHLY SATURATE ROOT BALL AND PLANTING HOLE.
8. PLACE MULCH WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THE SECOND WATERING UNLESS SOIL MOISTURE IS EXCESSIVE.

NOTE: GUY ASSEMBLY OPTIONAL BUT CONTRACTOR ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING TREE IN A PLUMB POSITION FOR THE DURATION OF THE GUARANTEE PERIOD

GUY ASSEMBLY-16" POLYPROPYLENE OR POLYETHYLENE (40 MIL) 1½" WIDE STRAP (TYP.) DOUBLE STRAND 10 GA. WIRE, 3'-1" ROLLED STEEL POSTS (MNDOT 3401) @ 180° O.C. (SEE STAKING DIAGRAM)



B CONIFEROUS TREE PLANTING DETAIL
NOT TO SCALE

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

811 Know what's below. Call before you dig.

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Ryan J. Ruttger, RLA
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 56346

Drawn: LC/KRR/NJP
Designed: RJR
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

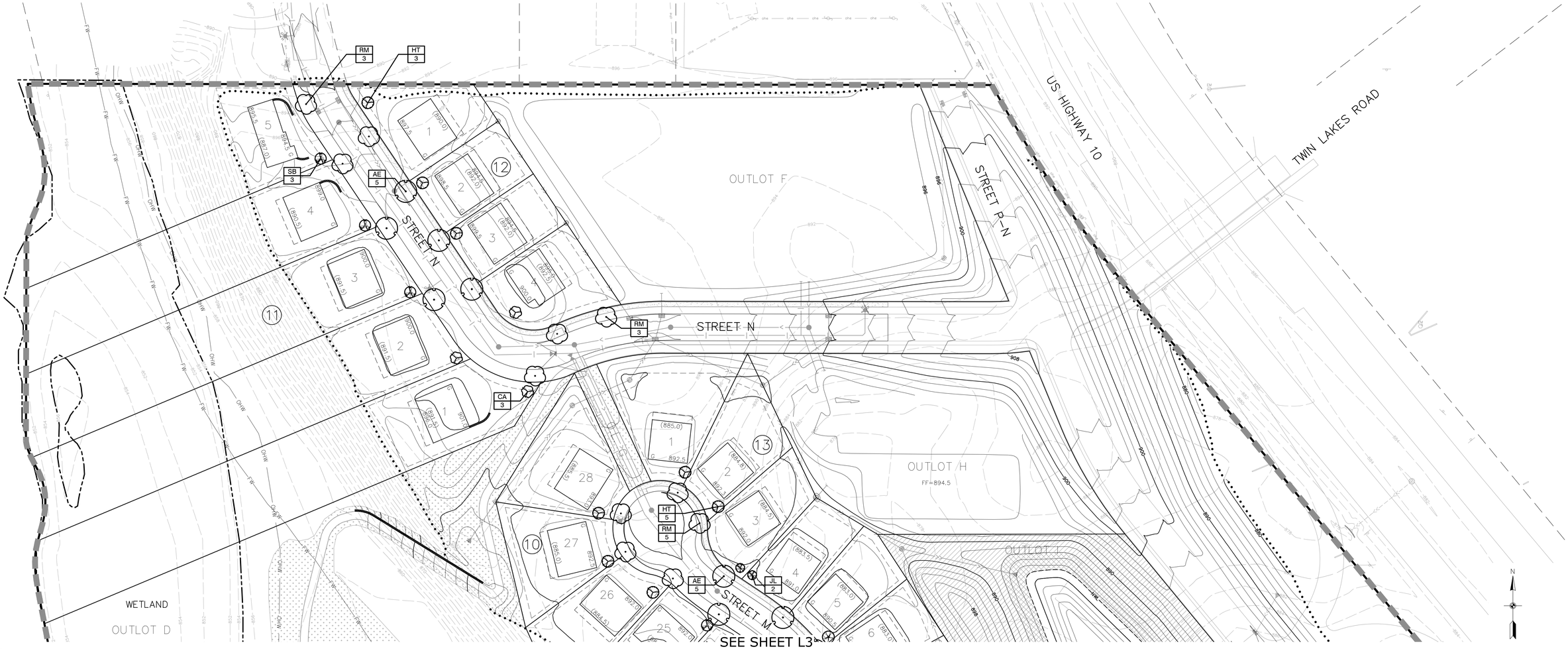
OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLAN

L1 of 7

#9556

[Save Date: 05/22/25] \\cmlhqfs01\public\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\landscape\9556_prelim l landscape.dwg



1 L2 LANDSCAPE PLAN ENLARGEMENT

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Ryan J. Ruttger, RLA
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 56346

Drawn: LC/KRR/NJP
Designed: RJR
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLAN

L2 of 7

[Save Date: 05/22/25] \\cmihqfs01\public\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\landscape\9556_prelim l landscape.dwg

#9556

SEE SHEET L2



1 / L3 LANDSCAPE PLAN ENLARGEMENT

SHEET 1/L5

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
SURVEYING
PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Ryan J. Ruttger, RLA
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 56346

Drawn: LC/HRR/NJP
Designed: RJR
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLAN

L3 of 7

[Save Date: 05/22/25] \\cmlhqfs01\public\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\landscape\9556_prelim l landscape.dwg

#9556



1 L4 LANDSCAPE PLAN ENLARGEMENT

CARLSON ENGINEERING ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING

3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Ryan J. Ruttger, RLA
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 56346

Drawn: LC/KRR/NJP
Designed: RJR
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

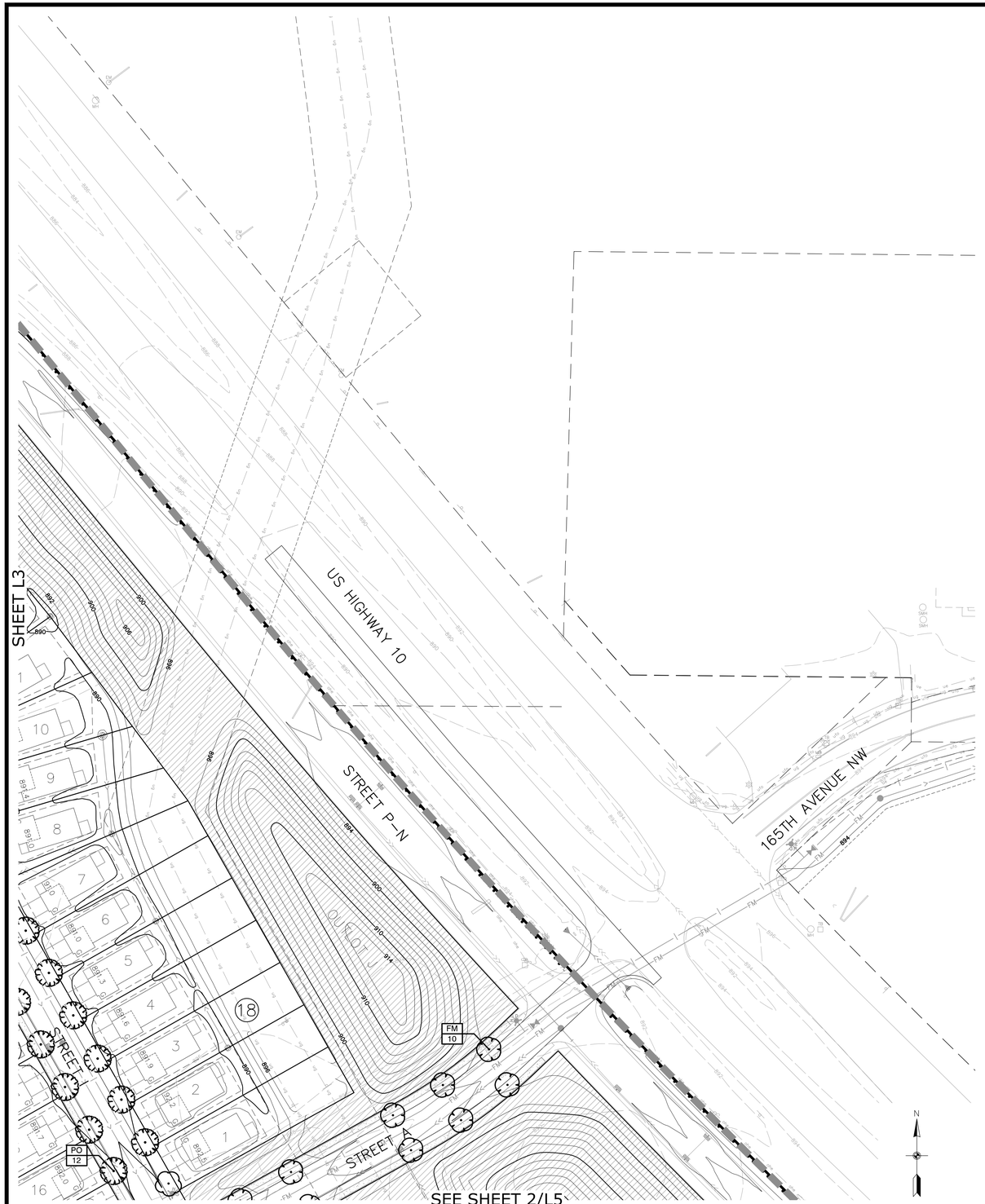
OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLAN

L4 of 7

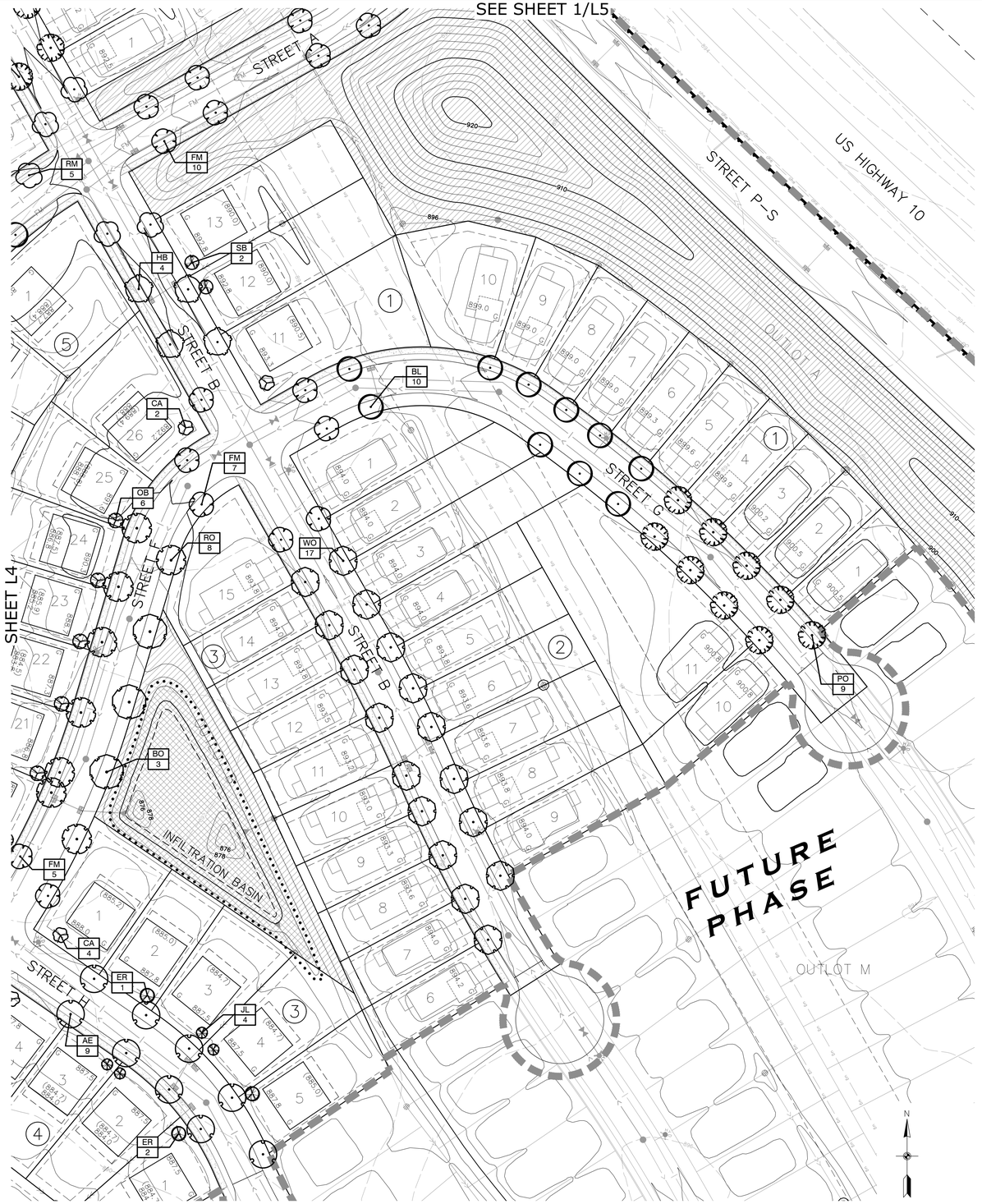
[Save Date: 05/22/25] \\cmihqfs01\public\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\landscape\9556_prelim l landscape.dwg

#9556



1 L5 LANDSCAPE PLAN ENLARGEMENT

0 30 60 120 (IN FEET)



2 L5 LANDSCAPE PLAN ENLARGEMENT

0 30 60 120 (IN FEET)

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Ryan J. Ruttger, RLA
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 56346

Drawn: LC/HRDB/NJP
Designed: RJR
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

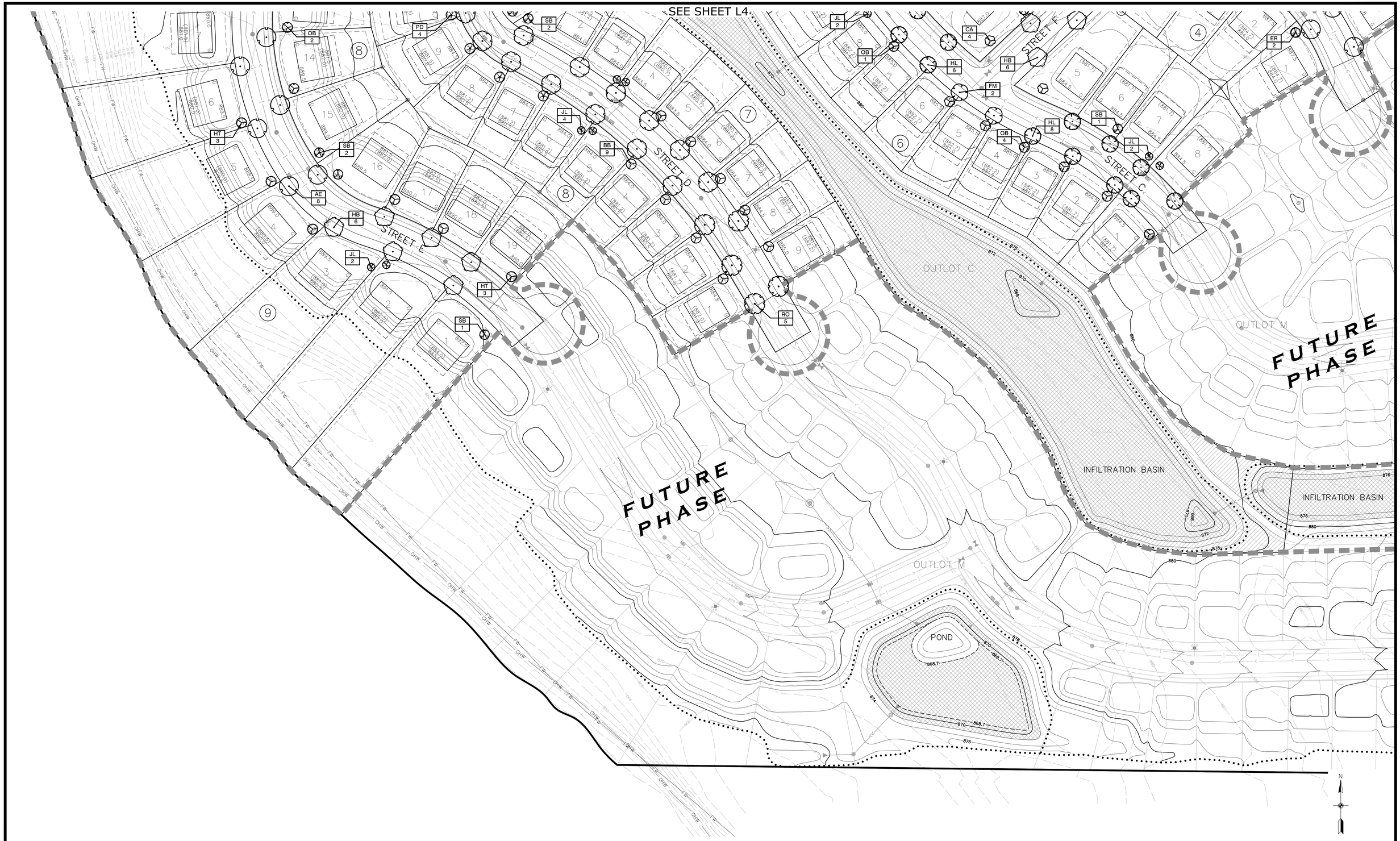
OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLAN

L5 of 7

[Save Date: 05/22/25] \\cmlhqfs01\public\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\landscape\9556_prelim l landscape.dwg

#9556



1 L6 LANDSCAPE PLAN ENLARGEMENT

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Ryan J. Ruttger, RLA
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 56346

Drawn: LC/KRD/NJP
Designed: RJR
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLAN

L6 of 7

[Save Date: 05/22/25] \\cmlhqfs01\public\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\landscape\9556_prelim l landscape.dwg

#9556

PLANT SCHEDULE

SYMBOL	CODE	QTY	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE	CONTAINER
TREES						
	RM	49	Acer rubrum `Northwood`	Northwood Red Maple	2" Cal.	B&B
	FM	58	Acer x freemanii `Sienna`	Sienna Glen Maple	2" Cal.	B&B
	HB	25	Celtis occidentalis	Common Hackberry	2" Cal.	B&B
	HL	36	Gleditsia triacanthos inermis `Harve`	Northern Acclaim Thornless Honey Locust	2" Cal.	B&B
	KC	24	Gymnocladus dioica `Espresso`	Kentucky Coffeetree	2" Cal.	B&B
	WO	44	Quercus bicolor	Swamp White Oak	2" Cal.	B&B
	PO	35	Quercus ellipsoidalis	Northern Pin Oak	2" Cal.	B&B
	BO	9	Quercus macrocarpa	Bur Oak	2" Cal.	B&B
	RO	24	Quercus rubra	Red Oak	2" Cal.	B&B
	BL	36	Tilia americana `Boulevard`	Boulevard Linden	2" Cal.	B&B
	AE	50	Ulmus americana `Princeton`	American Elm	2" Cal.	B&B
		390	SUBTOTAL:			
ORNAMENTAL TREES						
	OB	35	Aesculus glabra 'JN Select' TM	Early Glow Ohio Buckeye	1.5" Cal.	B&B
	SB	24	Amelanchier x grandiflora `Autumn Brilliance` Clump Form, 1.5" Cal Equivalent	Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry	7` Ht.	B&B
	BB	27	Carpinus caroliniana	Blue Beech	1.5" Cal.	B&B
	ER	22	Cercis canadensis (MN Strain)	Eastern Redbud	1.5" Cal.	B&B
	PD	29	Cornus alternifolia `Wstackman`	Golden Shadows Pagoda Dogwood	1.5" Cal.	B&B
	HT	37	Crataegus crus-galli `Inermis`	Thornless Hawthorn	1.5" Cal.	B&B
	CA	38	Malus x `Prairifire`	Prairifire Crabapple	1.5" Cal.	B&B
	JL	34	Syringa reticulata `Ivory Silk`	Ivory Silk Japanese Tree Lilac	1.5" Cal.	B&B
		246	SUBTOTAL:			
GROUND COVERS						
	TI	459,185 sf	Type I - Turf Seed Mix Refer to notes for acceptable seeding methods Seeding Rate 250 lb/ac	MnDOT Residential Turfgrass (RT)	seed	
	TII	242,052 sf	Type II - Stormwater Seed Mix Refer to notes for acceptable seeding methods Seeding Rate 25 lb/ac	MnDOT Wet Ditch (WD)	seed	
	TIII	716,503 sf	Type III - Native Seed Mix Refer to notes for acceptable seeding methods Seeding Rate 35 lb/ac	MnDOT Southern Shortgrass Roadside (SSR)	seed	
	TIV	41,775 sf	Type IV - Wetland Seed Mix Refer to notes for acceptable seeding methods Seeding Rate 35 lb/ac	MnDOT Southern Tallgrass Roadside (STR)	seed	
		1,459,515 sf	SUBTOTAL:			

LANDSCAPE SPECIFICATIONS

1. TREE PROTECTION. ALL TREES NOT SPECIFICALLY NOTED OR MARKED ON SITE FOR REMOVAL SHALL REMAIN PROTECTED AND UNDISTURBED DURING CONSTRUCTION. TREE PROTECTION SHALL EXTEND TO THE DRIP LINE, WITHIN WHICH NO CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY, MATERIAL STORAGE, OR VEHICLE PARKING SHALL BE PERMITTED. TREE PROTECTION FENCING SHALL BE ERECTED PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION START PER PLANS OR AS DIRECTED BY OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT AND SHALL CONSIST OF 4' TALL HEAVY DUTY ORANGE CONSTRUCTION FENCING WITH 6' STEEL FENCE POSTS SPACED 6' O.C. MAX.

2. EROSION CONTROL. REFER TO CIVIL PLAN SHEETS FOR STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN (SWPPP), AND TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT STORMWATER BMPS, INCLUDING SILT FENCE, BIO-ROLLS, INLET PROTECTION, EROSION CONTROL BLANKETING, DUST CONTROL, SWEEPING AND ROCK CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE. ALL DISTURBED AREAS SHALL RECEIVE PERMANENT STABILIZATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LANDSCAPE PLAN WITHIN 7 DAYS AFTER CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IN THE DISTURBED AREA HAS CEASED. IN THE EVENT PERMANENT STABILIZATION CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED WITHIN 7 DAYS, TEMPORARY STABILIZATION BMPS MUST BE IMPLEMENTED WITHIN 7 DAYS USING RAPID STABILIZATION METHOD 3.

3. CLEARING AND GRUBBING. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEARING AND GRUBBING ALL AREAS INDICATED AS BEING DISTURBED OR OTHERWISE SHOWN ON PLANS. CLEARING AND GRUBBING SHALL INCLUDE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF ALL TREES, STUMPS, BRUSH, GRASS, ROOTS AND OTHER ORGANIC MATERIAL AT AN APPROVED OFF-SITE DISPOSAL LOCATION.

4. SOIL PREPARATION. REFER TO GEOTECHNICAL REPORT FOR ANY REQUIRED SOIL CORRECTIONS, AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE). EXISTING TOPSOIL SHALL BE STRIPPED FROM ALL DISTURBED AREAS AND STOCKPILED IN AN APPROVED LOCATION FOR RE-SPREAD. ALL AREAS WHERE SOIL HAS BEEN COMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AND THAT ARE INDICATED TO BE SODDED, SEEDED OR PLANTING BED SHALL BE DE-COMPACTED TO A MINIMUM DEPTH OF 12 INCHES BY SOIL RIPPING, TILLING OR OTHER APPROVED SOIL LOOSENING METHOD PRIOR TO INSTALLATION OF ANY IRRIGATION, SEEDING, PLANTING, SODDING, ETC.

5. TOPSOIL MATERIAL. ALL EXISTING, AMENDED OR IMPORTED TOPSOIL SHALL MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF MNDOT TOPSOIL TYPE A. A MINIMUM 4 INCH DEPTH OF TOPSOIL SHALL BE PLACED ON ALL AREAS TO BE SODDED OR SEEDED. A MINIMUM 12 INCH DEPTH OF TOPSOIL SHALL BE PLACED WITHIN ALL PLANTING BED AREAS. ALL TOPSOIL SHALL BE FINE GRADED, RAKED AND DRAGGED TO PROVIDE A SMOOTH, UNIFORM SURFACE. TOPSOIL GRADES SHALL BE WITHIN .1 FEET OF INDICATED FINISHED GRADE AND SHALL BE TRUE TO GRADIENTS SHOWN ON PLANS. REFER TO CIVIL PLAN SHEETS FOR INFILTRATION BASIN SOIL REQUIREMENTS.

6. SEEDING AND TURF ESTABLISHMENT. CONTRACTOR SHALL OBTAIN OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT'S APPROVAL OF FINAL GRADES AND TOPSOIL PREP PRIOR TO SEEDING. APPLY 10-10-10 TYPE I STARTER FERTILIZER AT A RATE OF 200 LBS PER ACRE PRIOR TO SEEDING. SEEDS SHALL BE SOWED AT THE INDICATED RATE, VIA BROADCAST SPREADER, DROP SEEDER OR DRILL SEEDER. FOLLOWING SEED APPLICATION, INSTALL CATEGORY 20 – STRAW EROSION CONTROL BLANKET WITH NATURAL NETTING ON ALL SLOPES GREATER THAN 4:1. IN ALL OTHER AREAS, APPLY DISC-ANCHORED TYPE 3 MULCH (MCIA CERTIFIED WEED FREE GRAIN STRAW) AT A RATE OF 2 TONS PER ACRE. SOIL SHALL BE KEPT MOIST DURING ESTABLISHMENT WITH ADDITIONAL RE-SEEDING AS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE A HEALTHY, UNIFORM STAND OF GRASS, FREE OF WEEDS AND WITH COVERAGE EXCEEDING 75% IN ANY 10'x10' AREA PRIOR TO FINAL ACCEPTANCE.

7. SODDING. CONTRACTOR SHALL OBTAIN OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT'S APPROVAL OF FINAL GRADES AND TOPSOIL PREP PRIOR TO SODDING. APPLY 10-10-10 TYPE I STARTER FERTILIZER AT A RATE OF 200 LBS PER ACRE PRIOR TO SODDING AND ROLL TOPSOIL TO CREATE A UNIFORM SURFACE FOR LAYING SOD. SOD SHALL NOT BE CUT MORE THAN 24-HOURS IN ADVANCE OF INSTALLATION. CONTRACTOR SHALL KEEP SOD MOIST FOR A MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THE SOD UNTIL FINAL ACCEPTANCE.

8. PLANT MATERIAL. ALL PLANTING STOCK SHALL CONFORM TO THE "AMERICAN STANDARD FOR NURSERY STOCK," ANSI-Z60, LATEST EDITION, OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSERYMEN, INC. AND SHALL CONSTITUTE MINIMUM QUALITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANT MATERIALS. OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY PLANTS WHICH ARE DEEMED UNSATISFACTORY BEFORE, DURING, OR AFTER INSTALLATION. NO SUBSTITUTION OF PLANT MATERIAL SHALL BE ACCEPTED UNLESS APPROVED IN WRITING BY THE OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT PRIOR TO INSTALLATION.

9. PLANT MATERIAL SUBSTITUTIONS. ALL REQUESTS FOR PLANT SUBSTITUTIONS SHALL BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT AND MUST BE APPROVED BY THE CITY.

10. PLANT INSTALLATION AND ESTABLISHMENT. REFER TO STANDARD PLANTING DETAILS. CONTRACTOR SHALL STAKE TREE LOCATIONS FOR APPROVAL BY OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT PRIOR TO PLANTING. ANY PLANT MATERIAL WHICH DIES, TURNS BROWN, OR DEFOLIATES (PRIOR TO TOTAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE WORK) SHALL BE PROMPTLY REMOVED FROM THE SITE AND REPLACED WITH MATERIAL OF THE SAME SPECIES, QUANTITY, AND SIZE.

11. MULCH MATERIAL. DOUBLE SHREDDED HARDWOOD MULCH OR ROCK MULCH AS INDICATED ON PLANS. ALL MULCH SHALL BE CLEAN AND FREE OF NOXIOUS WEEDS, SOIL, OR OTHER DELETERIOUS MATERIAL, AND SHALL BE INSTALLED OVER A NON-WOVEN GEOTEXTILE FABRIC (INCIDENTAL) OR OTHER APPROVED WEED BARRIER TO A MINIMUM SETTLED DEPTH OF 4". MULCH SHALL BE HELD BACK FROM PLANT STEMS/TRUNKS A MINIMUM OF 3". WOOD MULCH SHALL BE PLACED AROUND INDIVIDUAL TREES TO A 4' MINIMUM DIAMETER. MULCH SHALL BE INSTALLED WITHIN 48-HOURS OF PLANT INSTALLATION.

12. LANDSCAPE EDGING. INSTALL LANDSCAPE EDGING BETWEEN ALL MULCH AREAS AND TURF. EDGING SHALL BE COMMERCIAL GRADE BLACK POLYETHYLENE OR VINYL EDGING, 0.1 INCH THICK BY 5 INCHES DEEP, V-LIPPED BOTTOM, HORIZONTALLY GROOVED, 1-INCH ROUND TOP, EXTRUDED IN STANDARD LENGTHS, WITH 9-INCH STEEL ANGLE STAKES.

13. MAINTENANCE. MAINTENANCE SHALL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY AFTER EACH PORTION OF THE WORK IS IN PLACE. PLANT MATERIAL SHALL BE PROTECTED AND MAINTAINED UNTIL THE INSTALLATION OF THE PLANTS IS COMPLETE, INSPECTION HAS BEEN MADE, AND PLANTINGS ARE ACCEPTED EXCLUSIVE OF THE GUARANTEE. MAINTENANCE SHALL INCLUDE MOWING, TRIMMING, WATERING, FERTILIZING, WEED AND PESTICIDE CONTROL, MULCHING, REMOVAL OF DEAD MATERIALS, RE-SETTING PLANTS TO PROPER GRADE AND KEEPING PLANTS IN A PLUMB POSITION. AFTER ACCEPTANCE, THE OWNER SHALL ASSUME MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES, HOWEVER, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL RETAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL PLANT MATERIAL THROUGH THE COMPLETION OF THE WARRANTY PERIOD.

14. WATERING. UPON ESTABLISHMENT OF SEED AND INSTALLATION OF PLANTS, CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN A WATERING SCHEDULE WHICH WILL THOROUGHLY WATER ALL PLANTS AND TURF AREAS A MINIMUM OF ONCE A WEEK. MORE FREQUENT WATERING MAY BE REQUIRED DURING PERIODS OF HOT, DRY WEATHER. CONTRACTOR SHALL MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR WATER. IN THE ABSENCE OF PERMANENT IRRIGATION, TEMPORARY IRRIGATION, TREE WATERING BAGS, OR HAND-WATERING ARE ACCEPTABLE.

15. NATIVE PLANT ESTABLISHMENT. THIS PROJECT INCLUDES ONE OR MORE NATIVE PLANT SEED MIXES CONSISTING OF A VARIETY OF GRASSES, SEDGES AND FLOWERING FORBS. BECAUSE THESE PLANTS TYPICALLY HAVE A LONGER GERMINATION PERIOD, A COVER CROP SPECIES IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY COVER AND STABILIZATION. MAINTENANCE OF THESE SEEDED AREAS IS CRITICAL DURING THE FIRST SEVERAL YEARS TO ESTABLISH A SUCCESSFUL NATIVE PLANT COMMUNITY. SEEDED AREAS SHALL BE MOWED / WEED-WHIPPED TO A HEIGHT OF 6-10 INCHES IN MID-JULY AND EARLY SEPTEMBER DURING THE FIRST 2-3 YEARS OF ESTABLISHMENT. IN ADDITION, ALL NON-NATIVE SPECIES / WEEDS SHALL BE SPOT SPRAYED NO LESS THAN 3 TIMES A YEAR WITH HERBICIDE BY A LICENSED APPLICATOR. RE-SEEDING AS NECESSARY SHALL OCCUR IN MAY. A NATIVE PLANT COMMUNITY SHALL BE CONSIDERED SUCCESSFULLY ESTABLISHED NO SOONER THAT 3 YEARS AFTER INITIAL SEEDING – ONCE THE COVER CROP HAS BEEN SUFFICIENTLY REPLACED BY NATIVE PLANTS AND THE AREA IS FREE OF ALL NON-NATIVE AND INVASIVE SPECIES. AT THIS TIME, MAINTENANCE CAN BE REDUCED TO MOWING / WEED-WHIPPING TO A HEIGHT OF 6-10 INCHES ONCE A YEAR IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AND SPOT SPRAYING OF HERBACIDE ONLY AS NEEDED.

16. FINAL ACCEPTANCE. UPON SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION OF THE WORK, CONTRACTOR SHALL REQUEST FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE WORK IN WRITING BY THE OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT. IF ANY WORK IS FOUND TO BE INCOMPLETE OR UNSATISFACTORY IN THE OPINION OF THE OWNER/LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, A WRITTEN PUNCH LIST WILL BE PREPARED LISTING ALL ITEMS THAT REQUIRE COMPLETING OR CORRECTING BEFORE FINAL ACCEPTANCE.

17. WARRANTY. ALL PLANTS, MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP SHALL BE GUARANTEED FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF FINAL ACCEPTANCE, UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. THE GUARANTEE SHALL COVER THE FULL COST OF REPLACEMENT INCLUDING LABOR AND MATERIAL.

CARLSON ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING SURVEYING PLANNING
3890 PHEASANT RIDGE DR NE
SUITE 100
BLAINE, MN 55449
TEL 763.489.7900
FAX 763.489.7959
CARLSON-ENGINEERING.COM

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Minnesota

Print Name: Ryan J. Ruttger, RLA
Signature:
Date: 05/23/25 License #: 56346

Drawn: LC/~~KRDR~~/NJP
Designed: RJR
Date: 05/23/25

Revisions:
1.

ELK RIVER 648-1 LAND, LLC
14015 Sunfish Lake Blvd. NW, Suite 400
Ramsey, MN 55303

OAKWATER RIDGE
Preliminary Plat I
Elk River, MN

PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPE PLAN

L7 of 7

[Save Date: 05/22/25] \\cmlhqfs01\public\jobs\9541 - 9560\9556 - specht farm - elk river\cad c3d\landscape\9556_prelim i landscape.dwg

#9556

Memorandum

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Jeff Shelby, Parks and Recreation Manager

Date: June 11, 2025

Subject: Parks and Recreation Staff Report

Safety Camp

Safety camp was held earlier today at Fire Station #2. The camp teaches youth how to stay safe and keep their cool in all types of situations and environments. The camp is a collaboration between Parks and Recreation, Elk River Police Department, Elk River Fire Department, and District 728 Community Education.

Senior Activity Center

We currently have 529 members and had an average of 72 daily check-ins for May, which is an increase over last May's attendance. Our day trips continue to be very popular; our two August trips filled within days of registration opening. We are now offering 1:1 training sessions for members who want to learn how to use our online registration system.

We plan to have a new Community Event Center Greeter volunteer position beginning later this month. Two Senior Activities Center (SAC) member volunteers will be supporting front desk staff on Mondays and Wednesdays as a trial run this summer. Mary Murphy already serves as a volunteer with the Book Club and Social Club. While Larry Collins serves as a volunteer for the Walking Group and is a Fitness Leader. Both have been active members since 2021 and some of their support will be focused on the following:

- Welcoming patrons as they enter the facility.
- Assisting SAC members with checking in.
- Answering general questions about the facility.
- Directing inquiries to appropriate staff.

Rivers Edge Commons Construction and Events

The Rivers Edge Commons Park renovation was completed in time for the Memorial Day program. A few minor items were completed during the week following. The summer concert series kicks off Thursday June 12 with Free and Easy Band and we are excited for the public to experience the updated space. Once again, The Bank of Elk River is serving as the signature sponsor for the entire series, and the city is grateful for the bank's support.

Disc Golf at Burr Oak Park

After last month's discussion exploring a potential disc golf course at Burr Oak, community member Tim Schreder has visited the park several times and begun the process of staking out a layout. He plans to bring other players out to the site soon to provide feedback on the park and the layout. Staff appreciate Mr. Schreder's continued efforts and communication on this project.

Vandalism at Lion John Weicht Park
We were recently made aware of several acts of vandalism at Lions. The two portable toilets were tipped over, a play drum was broken in the playground, and some graffiti was discovered inside one of the play structures. Staff is working with ERPD to provide them with all details available and ERPD has indicated they will increase patrols in the park.

Mississippi Road Trail Construction
As updated in April, the city worked to acquire the necessary easements to complete the trail along Mississippi Road. The trail will begin at Concord and run all the way to Waco. Trail easements were not able to be procured from Orono Parkway to Concord, so the trail will not span those two blocks.

Farmers Market
The outdoor Farmers Market opens Thursday June 12. Staff is once again excited about the variety of vendors and offerings this summer and looking forward to a great outdoor season.

Sports/Programs
Our summer staff training was Monday June 9 with all summer programs and camps starting yesterday. We have a very busy, but fun and exciting summer ahead. Our intern, Taylor, will have a presentation at the end of summer highlighting the fun!

The backstops on fields 1-4 at PT Complex have been replaced. The material for 5-6 will arrive soon and be installed right away. This was a much-needed safety upgrade.

The Emergency Action Plan (EAP) was sent to all of our associations/field users. There are now laminated copies of this at each complex, in several different locations for easy access should this document be needed. All our users are grateful for this document as a guiding tool.

July 4 Firework Show
RES Pyro sent a letter to all clients about tariff costs associated with their products. Our contract is valid for 2025, but it raises concerns about the sustainability of future events. CEO/President Will Wallus explained his company is on the wrong end of the tariffs stating:

"As you may have seen in the news, tariffs on Chinese imports have become a growing concern across many industries, including fireworks. These measures, while aimed at broader economic objectives, are having an unintended but significant impact on the American fireworks industry—and, by extension, the patriotic community events that rely on them each year. Currently, tariffs on fireworks imported from China—which make up approximately 99% of the U.S. market—are ranging from 30% to as high as 147%, depending on the timing of entry into the country. Firework companies like RES Pyro typically schedule container deliveries in the spring to align with the summer demand, and our incoming shipments for 2025 are directly impacted by these increased duties."

Request for Action

To
Parks and Recreation Commission

Item Number
10.1

Meeting Date
June 11, 2025

Prepared By
Jeff Shelby, Recreation Manager

Item Description
Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Reviewed by
Jeff Shelby
Joe Stremcha

Action Requested
Discuss developing the next Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2026-2035).

Background/Discussion
Our current Parks and Recreation Master Plan was adopted in 2015 and created to span 10 years. The city is due to adopt a new and updated Master Plan to guide parks and recreation development and management for the next decade. The commission is tasked with the review the current plan to help guide what the next plan may be comprised of going forward. staff will provide commissioners with links to comparable Parks and Recreation Master Plans for review. Commissioners will need to review these plans and provide feedback prior to our July commission meeting. The commission could consider revising the label of this as a Framework Plan as well.

Financial Impact
None.

Mission/Policy/Goal
Work with citizens to achieve goals.

Attachments
1. 201506 Elk River Parks and Recreation Master Plan_LR
2. Master Plan Category Options

Powered by Nature

City of Elk River

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Adopted June 2015













Powered by Nature

City of Elk River

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Acknowledgements

City Council

Mayor - John J. Dietz
Ward 1 - Jerry Olsen
Ward 2 - Matt Westgaard
Ward 3 - Barbara Burandt
Ward 4 - Jennifer Wagner
2014 City Council members Stewart Wilson and Paul Motin

Staff

Cal Portner, City Administrator
Michael Hecker, Parks and Recreation Director
Chris Leeseberg, Park Planner/Planner
Steve Benoit, Recreation Manager
Rodney Schreifels, Park Maintenance Supervisor

Parks & Recreation Commission

Dave Anderson - Chair
Dave Kallemeyn- Vice Chair
Mark Ahlness
Guenther Sagan
Ryan Holmgren
James Nystrom
Mike Niziolek

Consultant

Hoisington Kogeler Group Inc.

We would especially like to thank the many members of the Elk River Community who provided input on this plan.















Table of Contents

Chapter 1	Introduction	1
Chapter 2	Trends	9
Chapter 3	Needs Assessment	17
Chapter 4	Framework	35
Chapter 5	Plan	39
Chapter 6	Implementation	69
Public Arts Plan	Arts Plan	89
Appendix A	Peer Community Survey	99
Appendix B	2014 Parks and Recreation Survey	105



Chapter 1
Introduction
Plan Context and Purpose

Elk River is "Powered by Nature". Residents live here because of it, visitors expect it, and the city is defined by it. A vibrant historic downtown, strong neighborhoods, and thriving industry are complemented by a landscape rich in natural resources, which includes expansive forests, wetlands, oak savanna, prairie, agricultural lands, and the essential presence of the Elk and Mississippi Rivers. Parks and Recreation are the vital connection points between these incredible natural assets and the residents of Elk River.

With 44 parks and recreation facilities and over 1,000 acres of parkland, the city is in great position to strengthen the connections to nature for residents and visitors alike. The Great Northern Trail passes from north to south through the city, and the Mississippi River Trail, which connects Lake Itasca to the Gulf Coast, runs through Elk River. Residents also have access to some of the best cross country skiing and mountain biking trails in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area.

Because the parks are essential to the city's identity and to the quality of life for residents, a strategic approach to protecting and cultivating these assets for the future is vital. The Elk River Parks and Recreation Master Plan provides the city with a roadmap for protecting, developing, and improving the park system into the future. The master plan identifies important projects and recommends priorities for the City Council to allocate financial and staff resources in order to achieve its vision for the parks system. The master plan will also be an important tool for evaluating future land use proposals throughout the city. The master plan will provide context and direction for those evaluations, and will specifically help address the proper role of parks and trails in development and redevelopment proposals presented to the city.

The plan is organized into five chapters. Chapter 1 introduces and provides the context for the plan. Chapter 2 identifies national and local trends that impact current and future development and use of park systems. Chapter 3 provides an overview of Elk River's current park system. Chapter 4 provides the framework for the future of the park and recreation system. Chapter 5 identifies the goals and policy directions necessary to achieve the vision for the Elk River Parks and Recreation System. Chapter 6 focuses on implementation, providing the "nuts and bolts" of how to build the park system the city envisions by identifying resources, processes, and tools needed to achieve the vision.

POWERED BY NATURE
INSPIRE • PLAY • GROW

Plan Purpose

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is intended to provide direction for the City Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and city staff to guide them in the big picture decision making that will impact the Parks and Recreation system. Whether allocating resources for maintenance, building a trail, installing a playground, protecting riverfront land, or developing the next season's recreation program offerings, this plan offers guidance. This direction is based on the community's expressed needs and desires as well as analyses of demographic changes, future trends, and Elk River's current system.

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan addresses park needs at a system-wide level. While some projects are identified and prioritized, new projects and needs will inevitably arise. The initiatives, recommendations, and strategies outlined in this plan can also provide guidance for these types of new projects.

Benefits of Parks and Recreation

Health

Parks and trails encourage a healthy, active lifestyle by providing a venue for physical activity. Whether walking or biking on the city's trails, playing a baseball or softball pickup game, participating in an organized soccer league, or snowshoeing through the woods, parks provide essential places for people to exercise.

When people have access to park facilities and programming, they are more likely to be active, which improves their physical health. The ability to make connections with nature, which parks provide, is also linked to improved mental health.



Property Values

As studies have shown, proximity to parks has a positive impact on property values. For instance, researchers found that in Washington County, Minnesota, property owners realized a $16,750 "open space premium" for single family houses located near parks and open space (Moscowitz, 2007).

Beauty

Parks are the "front yard" of a community. Visitors remember a place by its natural areas, parks, parkways, beaches, public art, and athletic fields. These elements also result in a high quality of life and a beautiful place to live for residents.

A Place for People

In a time when social media defines the interactions of many people, parks and recreation are a place to meet face-to-face, catch up with family members and friends, and feel like part of the larger community. As the focal point of neighborhoods, parks help residents develop connections to each other while also providing venues for other community-building gatherings like farmers markets, school trips, and festivals.

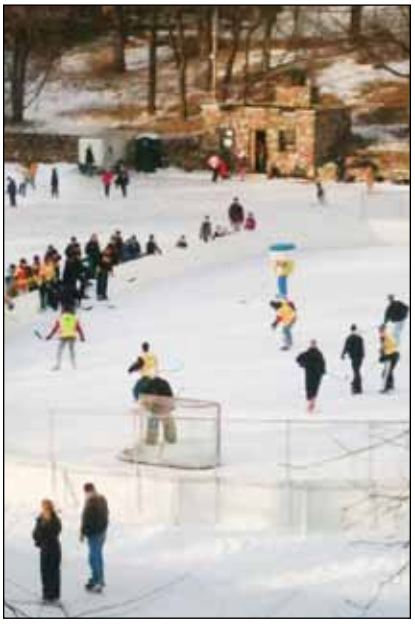


Natural Value/Environmental Benefits

Savannas, prairies, forests, and wetlands all improve air and water quality while providing habitat for diverse species of plants and animals. Sound management of natural areas can reduce the prevalence of invasive species and improve environmental outcomes for neighboring properties.

Community Health

Recreation programs offer lifelong learning opportunities. These programs provide enjoyable learning activities for youth and help keep seniors active and connected. Recreation programs also provide youth with positive role models and offer after-school and out-of-school activities for children of working parents.



Family Development

One of the main reasons people go to parks is to spend time with family and friends, and trail users have also stated that they enjoy the opportunity trails provide to spend active time with their families. Throughout the master plan process parents spoke of the value and importance of spending afternoons with their children at playgrounds, skating rinks, and the beach. Parks and recreation are a great venue for families to spend time with one another and grow together.

Related Planning Efforts

The following planning efforts influenced the development of the Elk River Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Comprehensive Plan

The City of Elk River's Comprehensive Plan was updated in 2013-2014. The Comprehensive Plan brings together land use, transportation, housing, environmental resources, parks, trails, open space, community facilities, community development, and community image into a comprehensive long range plan. This Parks and Recreation Master Plan has been informed by and coordinated with the overall plan for the city so that parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open space are located where they have the most benefit to residents and preservation of environmental resources.

The Parks, Trails, and Open Space chapter outlines priorities and guiding principles for parks, trails, recreation, and open space. It emphasizes the importance of balancing resources, taking care of the existing system, taking care of youth, and providing for long-term growth in the northern part of Elk River. This Parks and Recreation Master Plan supports and adds detail to the Comprehensive Plan. As stated in the Parks, Trails, and Open Space Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan, it is intended that chapter will be updated based on the recommendations of this plan.

Facilities Research/Plan

The city is currently undergoing a facilities study, which will be completed in 2015. This study examines the future role and location of buildings in the park and recreation system, including the Arena, the Lions Park Center, and the Activity Center (55+). The findings of this study will have potential impacts on the park system, especially if the study recommends reconstructed and relocated facilities. The study will also affect and improve long-term recreation programming outcomes.

Elk River Wayfinding Plan

Parks are included in the 2015 Elk River Wayfinding Plan, a city-wide effort to provide better signage and directional information to and within the community. A goal of the wayfinding plan is to connect residents and visitors to parks, facilities, and places of interest and commerce.

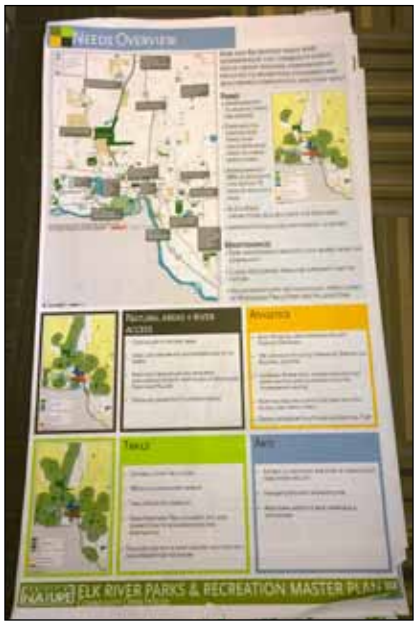
Natural Resources Inventory/Greenways

In 2004, the city completed the Elk River Natural Resources Inventory (NRI), which identified areas of high environmental quality and importance. This inventory should be used to identify the potential for the greenway and habitat connections and corridors outlined in this master plan.

In addition to habitat corridor, the NRI should be used for the preservation of properties through activities of the city or encouraging private owners to utilize easements to preserve landscape.







Planning Process

This master plan is based on input gathered in 2014 from the community, stakeholders, city staff, and city officials. The plan reflects their collective wisdom as expressed through surveys, online questionnaires, meetings, focus groups, hands-on exercises, park and community tours, and group brainstorming. The plan also incorporates the expertise of the consultant team, an analysis of benchmarking data, a system-wide evaluation by city staff and the consultants, information about National Recreation and Parks Association standards, and best practices collected from other communities.

The Elk River Parks and Recreation Commission provided guidance and input for the plan's content. The Commission and the consultant met during each phase of the planning process with meetings conducted on January 8, May 12, June 11, July 9, September 10, November 12 of 2014, and March of 2015.

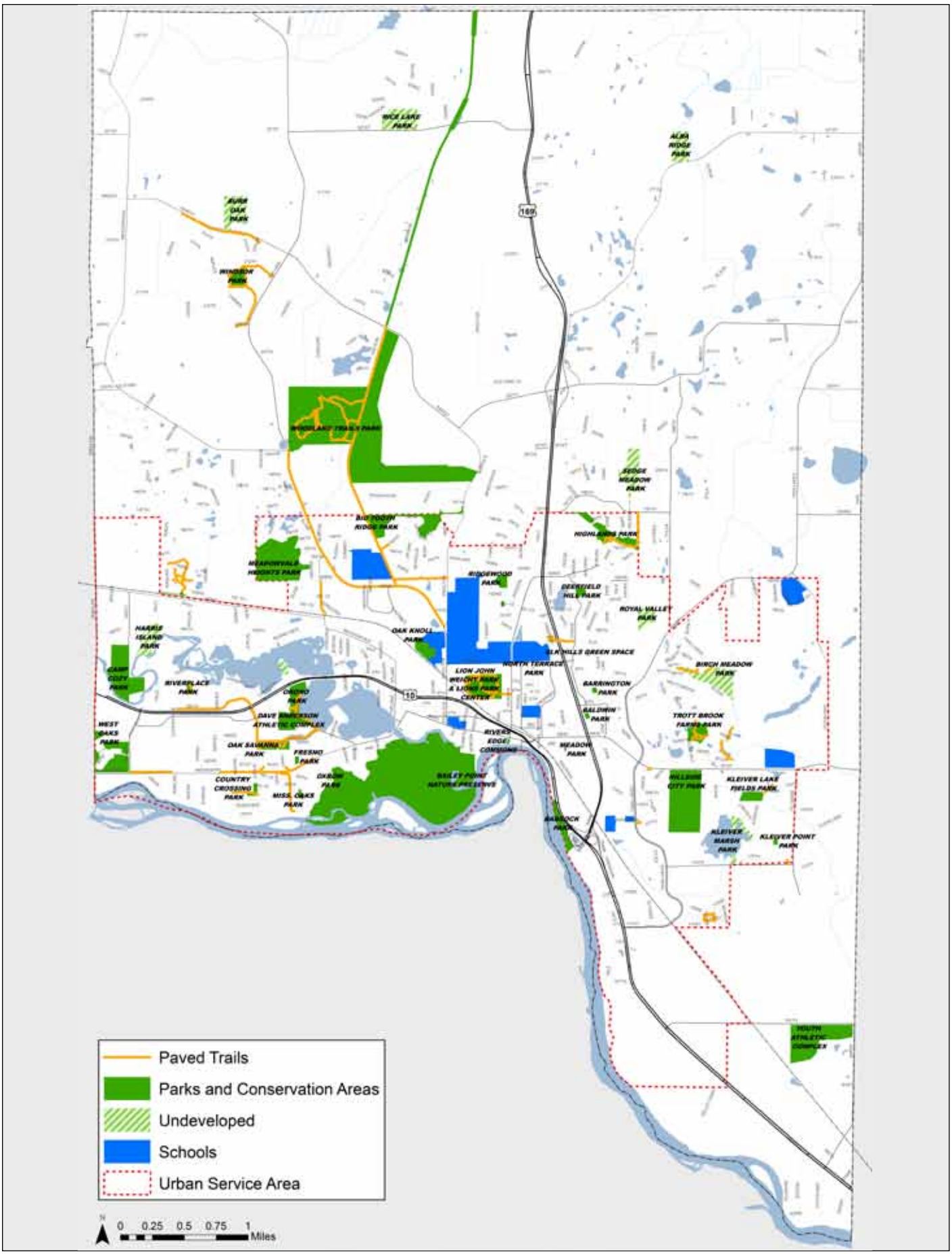
In addition to the Parks and Recreation Commission meetings, an extensive public outreach effort engaged over 850 residents and stakeholders throughout the process. This public outreach process included:

- Partner organization and athletic association focus group held on March 27, 2014.
- Community Open Houses on June 25, 2014, and August 20, 2014.
- The 2014 Parks and Recreation Survey, a statistically valid survey, mailed to 3,100 randomly-selected residents with nearly 400 respondents during the Spring of 2014.
- Online questionnaire in the Summer of 2014 with over 300 participants responding.

Existing Parks and Recreation Highlights

- 44 parks and recreation facilities
- 1,000 acres of park land
- 16 miles of paved trails
- 25 miles of natural surface hiking trails in parks throughout the system
- 8 miles of unpaved mountain bike trails
- Groomed cross country ski trail network
- Biathlon range
- Disc golf course
- 3 outdoor ice hockey rinks
- 2 indoor ice hockey rinks
- 6 open skating ice rinks
- 3 athletic complexes
- 14 ballfields for baseball and softball
- 13 outdoor basketball courts
- 4 full-sized multi-use fields (soccer, football, lacrosse)
- Amphitheater
- Dog park
- Activity Center (55+)
- 2 community recreation buildings
- Signature playground
- A wide variety of annual recreation programs
- A well attended community concert series

Figure 1.1 Existing Parks, Trails, and Recreation System



This page intentionally left blank



Chapter 2
Trends

Trends

The city, recreation, and our environment are ever changing and dynamic. New technologies, trends, cultures, and activities affect new facility and program needs. Elk River must keep pace with these changing needs. By building flexibility into recreation and park facilities, the city will be able to adapt quickly and efficiently to new needs. The following chapter outlines key national and local trends influencing recreation and parks in Elk River.

A Growing Community

Elk River continues to be a growing community. From 1990 to 2010 the population doubled from 11,143 to 22,974.

The city anticipates adding nearly 13,000 more people by 2035, placing additional demands for recreation of all types on the current park system. Further, the existing park amenities have aged and require increasing maintenance, repair and replacement.

Aging and Aging Actively

Baby Boomers (born 1946-1964) represent almost 25% population nationally. In Elk River this demographic, specifically the over-55 population, grew 84% from 2000 to 2010, significantly outpacing growth in the rest of the population (31%).

The Baby Boomers are aging, but are determined not to let it slow them down. Many seek changes in lifestyle to reflect their lack of child-care responsibilities and expanded recreation, educational, and cultural interests. As the nation's largest generation gets older, they are more active with continued participation in social, economic, cultural, recreation, and civic affairs. Elk River will need to provide opportunities, civic participation, social interaction, education, as well as a broad range of active recreation choices.

Increasingly Diverse

Sherburne County as a whole is getting more diverse, and Elk River is no exception. This demographic shift means recreation programming and facilities face changing demands. Unique activities and preferred sports will continue to increase, and along with racial and ethnic diversity comes an increased desire for multi-generational interaction.



Parks and Recreation are Important for Families

Parks and recreation opportunities are important features for families who look for activities and open space close to home to provide enrichment, sports opportunities, child care options, and simply a place to get outside and move. A high percentage of Elk River residents are children and adults 25-55, who are likely to have children at home. A strong parks and recreation system, along with good schools and employment opportunities, is an essential component to attracting and retaining families.

Youth

Children and youth continue to comprise a significant portion of the total population in Elk River. In 2010, over 30% of Elk River's residents were 19 or younger, therefore, it is important to increase access to parks and recreation facilities, as well as engage youth in programming.



Engaging youth in physical activity improves resiliency, teaches healthy habits, and develops self-esteem. Collaboration with other community organizations including schools, youth athletic associations, and non-profits is needed to respond to the recreational needs and interests of youth.

Universal Accessibility

More than ever, people with disabilities are searching for and finding ways to live active and independent lives.

Many parts of parks and recreation are legally mandated to meet accessibility standards, and those that are not legally mandated to do so are also moving towards greater accessibility, with playgrounds, trails, and athletic facilities being adapted to meet the needs of all citizens. Similarly, programming must provide activities for people with various abilities.



Active Living

All age groups are seeing an increase in obesity rates, along with associated health risks, such as high blood pressure and diabetes. As a result, people are paying increased attention to Active Living, which centers around the idea that physical activity can and should be integrated into daily routines.

The resulting demands for parks and recreation include more walking, running, and biking trails, additional senior fitness opportunities, and more ways to integrate the health of the body and mind into everyday lifestyles.

Trails

According to the 2014 Parks and Recreation Survey, over 70% of Elk River residents identify trails as a high priority, which mirrors state and national trends, where trails are consistently at the top of the list of desired amenities.

Trails serve multiple purposes, providing recreation, safe routes for travel, and places for active recreation. Whether they are long, linear trails like the Great Northern Trail, or a walking loop like the trail at Lion John Weicht Park, trails are in high demand.



Non-traditional Sports

Mountain biking, rugby, disc golf, geo-caching, pickleball, and ultimate frisbee are all surging in popularity.

These sports bring more activities to parks and are important for providing program options that appeal to all members of the community. These non-traditional activities are also placing new and different demands on parks and staff and may compete with traditional activities for park resources and space.

Art

Public art is extending beyond fixed objects and building enhancements to include festivals, artists-in-residence, temporary installations, and projects associated with environmental stewardship, education, or social service endeavors.

There is a growing interest among artists and arts organizations to reach audiences outside of traditional venues and increase access to the arts by all people. Non-artists are also recognizing and demanding the value and quality of life improvements that come along with investments in public art.

Communities are incorporating public art—as well as arts and cultural programming —into parks and other public spaces.



Time-Pressed

Households are busier, commutes are long, and schedules are more demanding. Free time is a rare but highly valued commodity for families.

While parents look for programs that can keep kids active and engaged during the summer and after school, they are also less tolerant of programs and practices

that take away from family time on weekends. Adult commuters will need time to get back from work before participating in activities, and scheduling must also reflect that.

Busy schedules also have implications for volunteerism. It is becoming more challenging to recruit new volunteers and those interested are often in need of opportunities with short time commitments or one time events like park clean up days or native planting events.

Fiscal Challenges

For the past 10 years, parks and recreation departments have been asked to do more with less. This has led to creative ways to provide recreation programming, including increases in partnerships, and finding new funding sources.

In many other communities, it has also meant a reduction in staff and resources, leading to deferred maintenance and a halt on park system expansion. Further, the existing park amenities have aged and require increasing maintenance, repair, removal, and replacement.

Parks and Open Space as Economic Drivers

As cities become more strategic with their investments, parks provide opportunities to strengthen economic development and redevelopment because they enrich the quality of life for residents and create value for a community. The 2005 Report on the Economic Value of Open Space found that many types of open spaces from nature preserves to greenways, wetlands, and lakes have a positive effect on nearby property values in the Twin Cities. To increase neighborhood desirability, many new developments include a central green, common natural open space, a trail corridor, or a park.

Sustainability

Sustainability is often described as a three legged stool, held up by environmental, economic, and social elements. Many of the aforementioned trends touch on one or more of the "legs" but for a park system to remain resilient for the long run, it must address all of these issues.

Socially, parks and recreation are striving to be inclusive of all community members. Places and activities that are loved by all of the community are more likely to be protected, preserved, and looked after.

Economically, parks and recreation provide services as a strong value in order to retain and develop funding sources.

Environmentally, parks and recreation allow people to encounter and make connections with the natural world, while also protecting wildlife habitat and native landscapes.





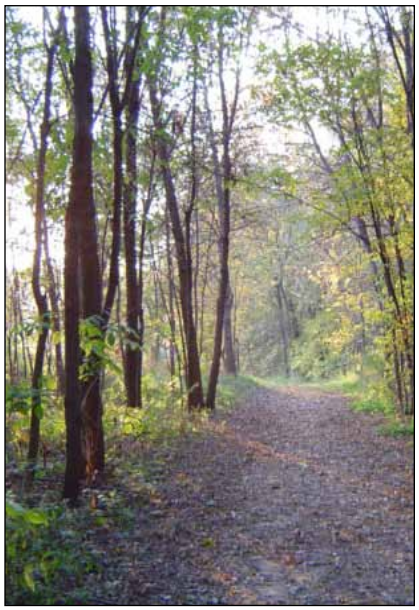




Environmentally Aware

From global concerns over climate change and air pollution to local challenges like invasive species management and watershed protection, people across the nation and in Elk River are increasingly aware of the environment and our impacts on it. At the same time, people are also demanding more natural recreation experiences, such as birdwatching, fishing, hiking, hunting, and nature study. People are also becoming more interested in the environmental and health benefits of local food production.

Parks and recreation can be a showcase for environmental best practices such as on-site stormwater treatment, green buildings, habitat preservation, invasive species management, habitat restoration, and landscape management.



Changing Climate

Recent climate trends have brought warmer winters and more severe weather, all of which can impact winter sports such as skating, skiing, and hockey. Wetter, longer springs have meant fields are not playable until later in the season, and warm summers require additional resources to keep fields watered and in good shape. Climate change also means vegetation change. Plants that cannot survive the coldest Minnesota winters are now persisting, and pests and invasive species that had been kept at bay by the climate are making headway into the state.

Some implications for parks and recreation departments across Minnesota include: increased demand for synthetic turf fields; interest in refrigerated ice rinks; reduction in neighborhood skating rinks; snow making for more consistent cross-country ski conditions; the need for proactive vegetation management plans addressing Emerald Ash Borer; the need to preserve existing natural landscapes; and the need to manage parks and open space for increased biological diversity.



Local Food Production

Interest is growing about where food comes from. Farm-to-Table arrangements such as Community Supported Agriculture and farmers markets are popular and effective ways to support and obtain local foods.

People are also exploring other opportunities related to the production of foods. Foraging and edible landscapes are gaining popularity along with backyard agriculture such as straw bale gardens. At a larger scale, working farms are opening their doors to the public to learn about the food they cultivate. Some housing developments are incorporating agriculture as the centerpiece of the neighborhood. Many parks systems now incorporate rentable community garden spaces into some of their property. The benefits of local food production include support of the local economy, learning about regional foods and seasons, improved access to healthy foods, and reduced reliance on other regions and transportation.

This page intentionally left blank



Chapter 3
Needs Assessment
Where We Are Today

Introduction

A critical evaluation of Elk River's Parks and Recreation System serves as the foundation for this master plan. The needs assessment, which identifies current and future needs and desires, is organized by key topics and includes input results and evaluation and research findings.

The needs assessment process included:

- Evaluation of the entire system of parks, trails, natural and cultural resources, connectivity, programs, and facilities.
- Identification of system-wide needs and opportunities.
- Identification of individual park needs and opportunities.
- Review of recreation program use and delivery.
- Evaluation of current park classification system and standards.
- Evaluation of service areas, future growth, and development needs.
- Comparison of Elk River's park system features and facilities to those of peer communities.
- Comparison of supply and distribution facilities, fields, and courts to accepted national service standards.
- Evaluation of emerging recreation, fiscal, environmental, land development, social and demographic trends influencing Elk River's parks, recreation and trails.

Community Input

Community input has been an essential component of this planning process in order to ensure that future park system investment is relevant to the needs and desires expressed by Elk River residents. Community input was collected to identify community satisfaction with the park system, the level of park and recreation use, opinions on the system's needs, issues, and priorities, and desires for future system development. Input about non-city park and recreation resources available to the community was also included in the analysis. Outreach methods used to collect this data included:

- Focus Group session with other partners and stakeholders (March 27, 2014)
- The 2014 Parks and Recreation Survey (Spring 2014)
- Online community questionnaire (Summer 2014)
- Community Open House to collect input (June 25, 2014)
- Community Open House to affirm community input (August 20, 2014)

Residents and other stakeholders who participated in the planning process provided essential information that will help define Elk River's future parks and recreation system.

2014 Parks and Recreation Survey- Key Findings

Park System Usage

- Over 1/2 of respondents use parks at least once monthly
- Over 90% use parks annually
- Playgrounds are highly used
- Woodland Trails and Orono Park are most visited

High Satisfaction Rate

- 80% of respondents expressed satisfaction with park and recreation offerings as a whole
- 83% are satisfied with overall maintenance and it is a high priority for the future

Strong Support for Trails

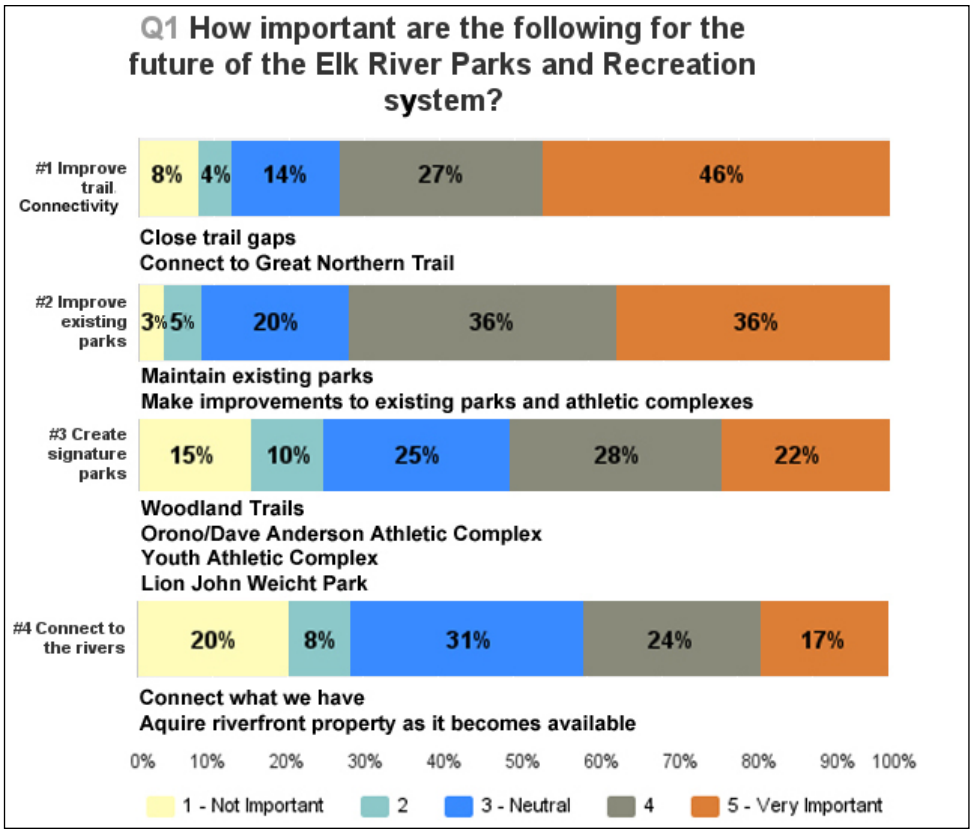
Trail-based activities are the are by far most popular features of the park system

- Residents are satisfied trails, they were also identified as the highest priorities for the future
- Trail improvements/ additions had the highest level of support of any improvement with 58% answering "Great Support"

Community Survey & Questionnaire

As part of the Parks and Recreation master planning process, the city conducted the 2014 Parks and Recreation Survey to find how residents use park today and gauge priorities for the future. The survey also included questions to gauge attitudes towards providing tax money to support improvements to the parks and recreation system. The highlights from the survey results are shown in the sidebar to the left.

In addition, the planning process included an online questionnaire to help determine priority direction for the future. Responses from over 300 participants provided a snapshot of community interest, which is outlined in the accompanying graphic.



Demographics

The demographics of Elk River continue to change, as noted in Chapter 2, and as they change, the parks and recreation system must also change to ensure they continue to meet the needs of residents.

The greatest future needs will be at opposite ends of the age spectrum. As Baby Boomers age, a larger percentage of the community will look for senior recreation. Despite the increase in an older segment of the population, however, Elk River will continue to see growth in the number of families with children. This growth will mean an increase in the number of residents looking for athletic facilities, playgrounds, and youth-focused programming.

Finally, a small but growing minority population in Elk River may bring additional desires and uses to the parks and recreation system.

Peer Communities Assessment

As part of the evaluation process, Elk River's parks and recreation system was compared with parks systems in Cottage Grove, Red Wing, Rosemount, Inver Grove Heights, South St. Paul, Andover, and Shakopee. These peer communities were chosen for their similarities to Elk River including:

- Urban/Rural mix
- Riverfront
- Population (Current and Projected)
- Geographic Size
- Environmental Assets

When compared with other communities, Elk River fares well in terms of the per capita number of total parks, the number of neighborhood parks, and the amount of acreage devoted to parks per capita. The city also offers unique facilities for activities such as mountain biking, biathlon, and high quality cross country skiing that are not found in most of its peer cities.

Conversely, Elk River's paved trail system is smaller than the trail system in many of its peer communities. Elk River also relies much more on the school system for athletic facilities and courts than peer communities.

A chart of the data can be found in Appendix A.

Neighborhood Park Access

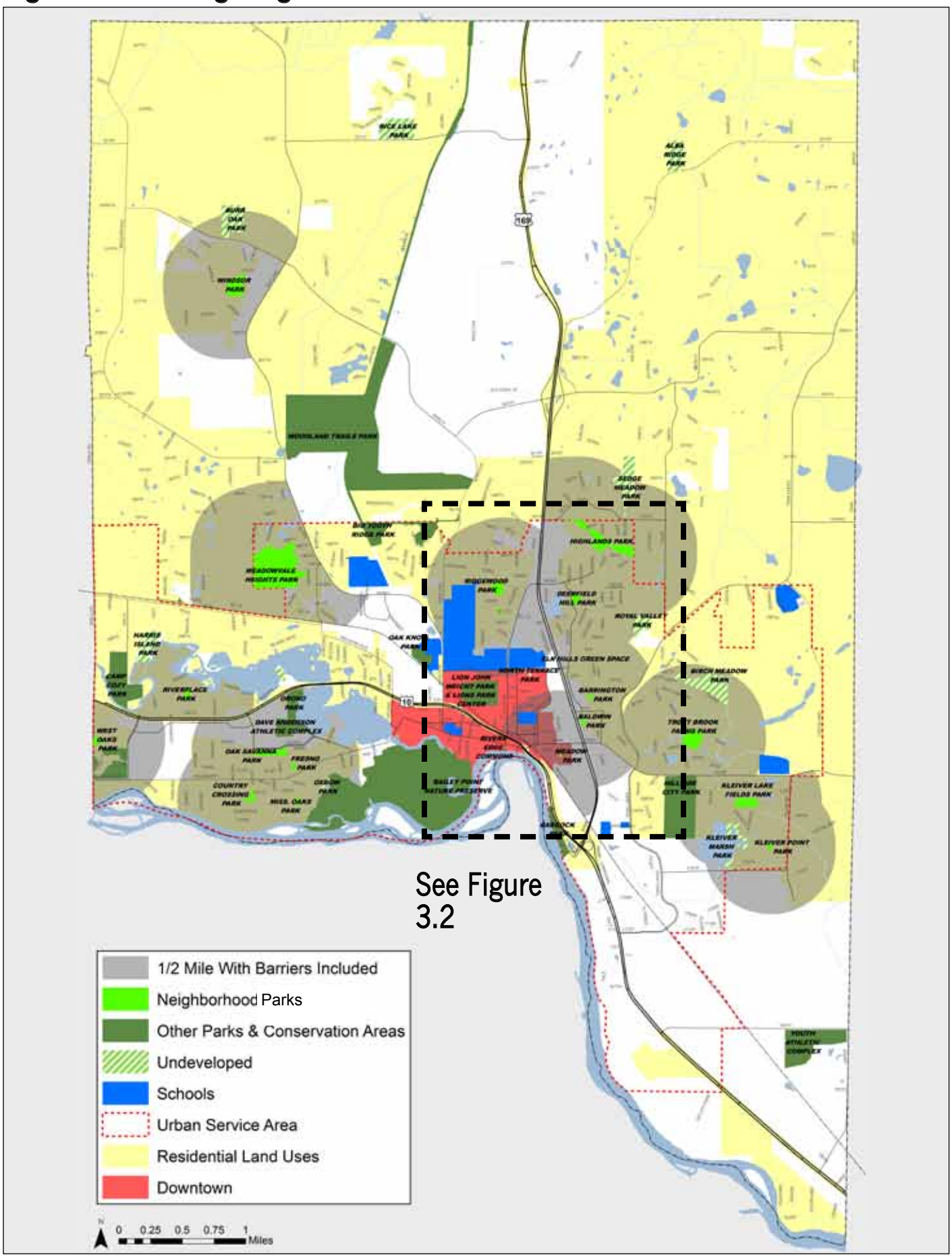
The majority of neighborhood residences within Elk River's urban service area are within a half-mile of either a neighborhood park or a community park with neighborhood park features (such as a playground).

The most significant area lacking access to neighborhood park facilities is between the railroad tracks and the Elk River/Lake Orono. This area is already developed, and there is very limited land available for a neighborhood park.

Access to the neighborhood park facilities in Meadowvale Heights Park and Orono Park could be improved if connectivity across the railroad tracks and across Highway 10 could be improved.

See the Neighborhood Park Access Map on the following page for more detail.

Figure 3.1 Existing Neighborhood Park Access



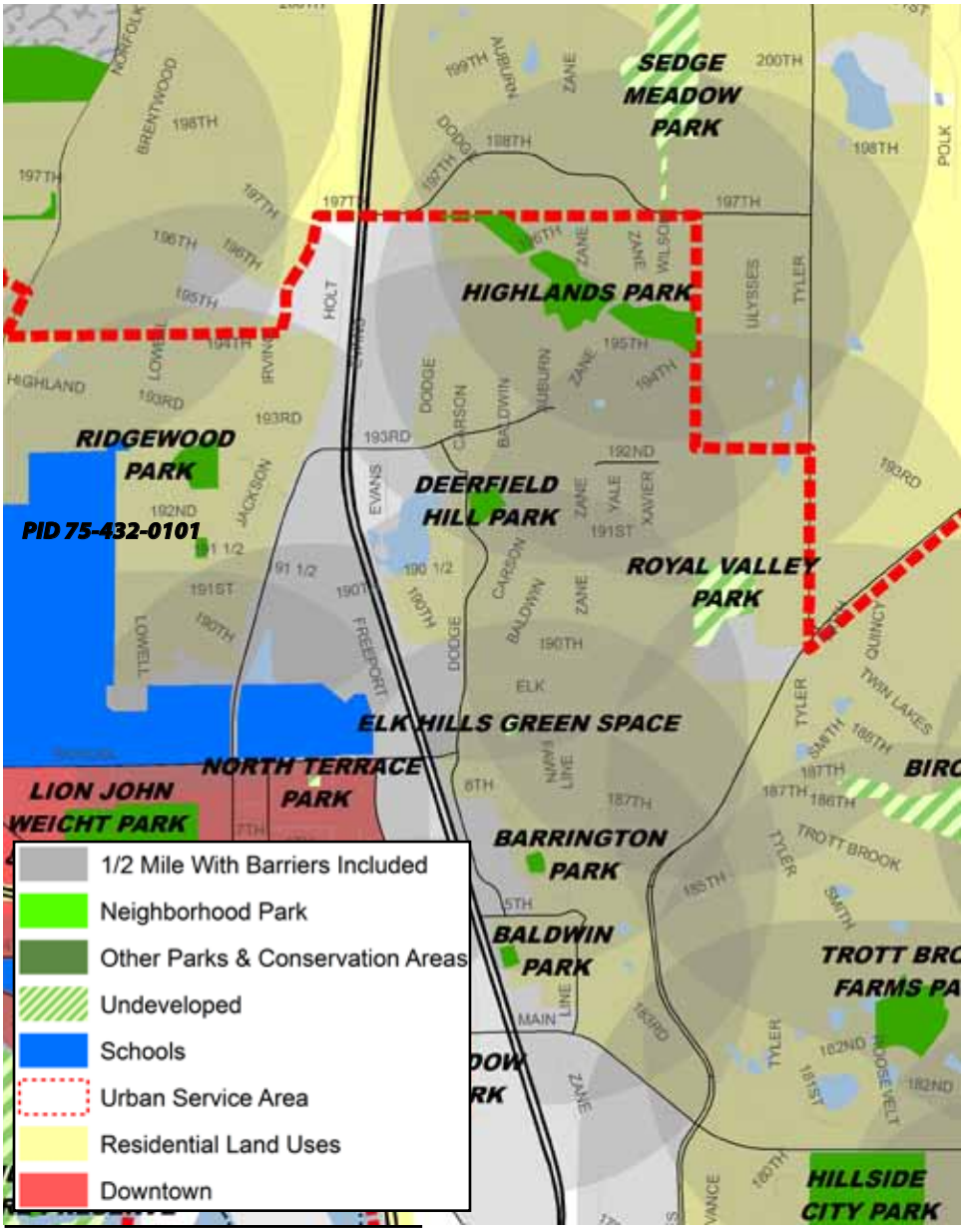
Neighborhood Park Service Area Overlap

Some small parks with overlapping service areas may be redundant. In addition, some of these parks have difficult maintenance access issues, lack real public access, are undeveloped, and/or are prohibitively small for park use. These parks include:

- Baldwin
- Meadow
- North Terrace
- Elk Hills Green Space
- Property south of Ridgewood East on 191 1/2 Avenue (75-432-0101)

These parks may be unnecessary from a system standpoint and could potentially be better used as privately-owned or privately-managed land.

Figure 3.2 Neighborhood Service Area Overlap



New Neighborhood Parks

While the city has adequate park resources to serve residents today, new parks will need to be considered as the community grows. As the community expands north, new types of residential developments are anticipated. Some development will continue according to the large lot pattern found in the northeast part of the city. Other developments, however, will be clustered and have greater density on a portion of the property, or, as in the case of the Gravel Mining District, could have significant development and require new parks.

In general, the larger lot development pattern cannot support neighborhood parks accessible by foot for all residents. Furthermore, many residents already have additional land as part of their private property and may not require nearby neighborhood parks.

On the other hand, residents in the denser, more defined neighborhoods have expressed a desire for neighborhood parks that they can access on foot. Limited numbers of neighborhood parks may be warranted as new neighborhoods outside of the Urban Service Area develop, depending on development patterns and density.

If the land use in the Gravel Mining District is such that park amenities are required, the park classification shall be based on the density of residential development in the district.

Athletics

In order to meet national standards for many athletic facilities, the city relies on the school district's fields, gyms, and tennis courts.

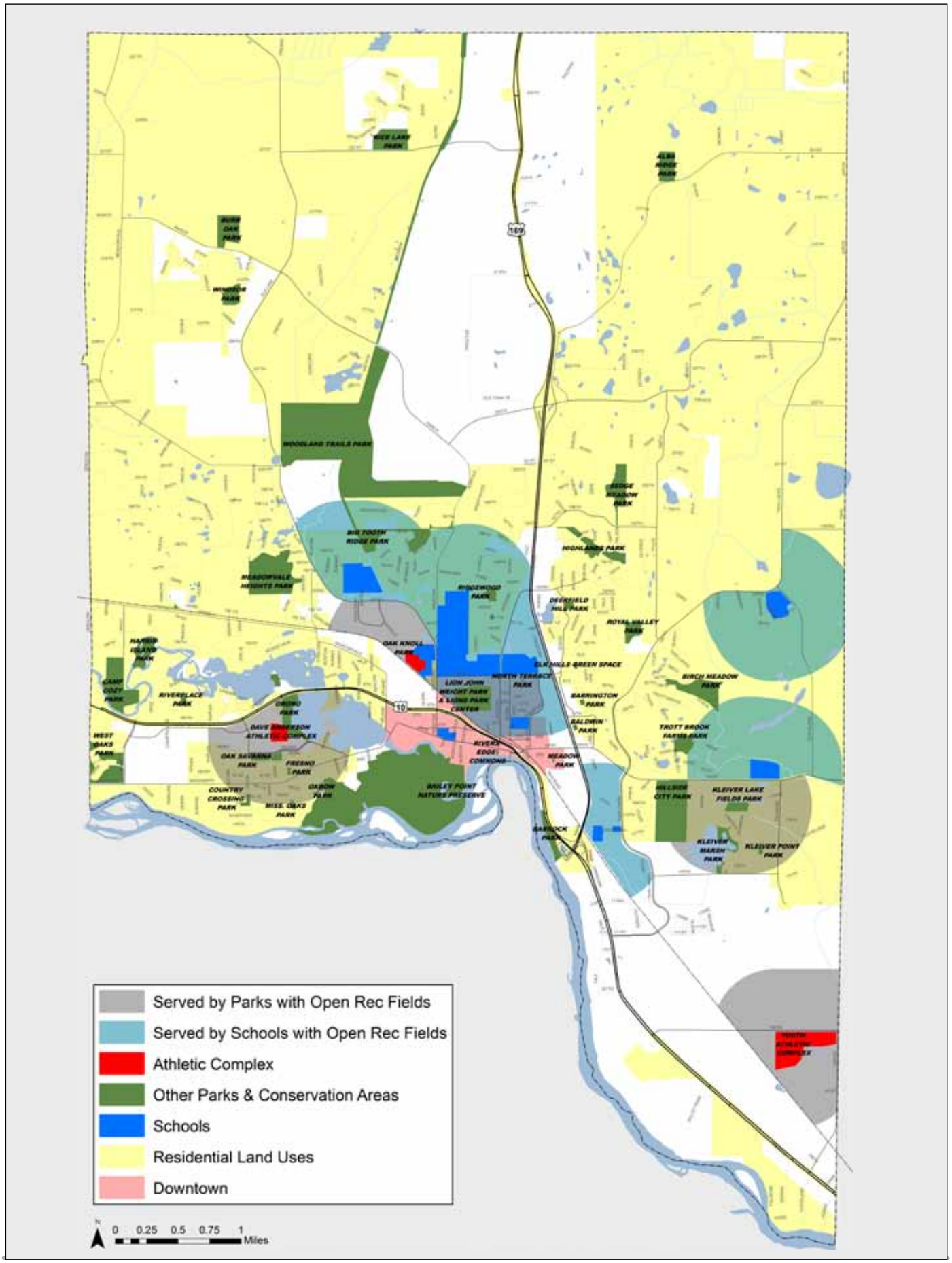
City-owned and operated athletic facilities include:

- Dave Anderson Athletic Complex - adult softball fields/youth football.
- Youth Athletic Complex - youth softball, baseball, and soccer/football/lacrosse fields.
- Oak Knoll Athletic Complex - soccer/football/lacrosse fields, youth baseball fields, and softball fields.
- Elk River Arena - hockey and skating.

In addition to the dedicated athletic facilities, many parks have informal softball and soccer fields, basketball hoops, and ice rinks for pick-up games.

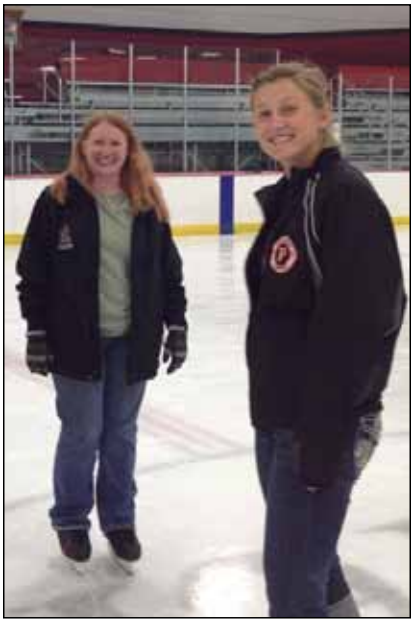
The city's facilities have not kept pace with the city's growth, and the increasing demand for open field space for soccer, lacrosse, and football on these fields has become scarce. Burgeoning youth softball and baseball programs also compete for enough field space to accommodate demand. The shortage of athletic field space is exacerbated when rain, snow, and darkness leave the fields unplayable.

Figure 3.3 Athletic Field Access









The community needs more high-quality athletic facilities, and the city and school district should continue to work together to provide these facilities.

Needs for athletic facilities include:

- Artificial turf fields
- Signature baseball field
- Lighting
- Ice Arena improvements
- Indoor field house

Speciality Recreation

Elk River parks offer facilities for specialty athletics that few other cities offer. The city's high-quality mountain biking, biathlon, and cross country skiing trails are some of the best in the state and are a destination for residents and visitors.

Pinewood Golf Course has historically provided opportunities for affordable golf on a 9-hole executive course. During the master planning process, Pinewood Golf Course was not open to the public. Through the planning process, some residents expressed a strong desire to retain golf as part of the city's recreation offerings. Resident desires to retain the Pinewood Golf Course include: providing an affordable golf option; supporting new golfers with learning course; ensuring family-friendly activities that appeal to all ages.

The community does have an 18-hole course which is open for public use and there are 10 golf courses within 20 minutes of Elk River.

Needs for new speciality recreation include:

- Skate park
- Splash pad
- Pickleball

Community Parks and Signature Parks

Through the public engagement process, residents put an emphasis on "signature" parks. Community members acknowledged that they are willing to drive to larger playgrounds, unique activities, and high quality facilities. Thus, Elk River has an opportunity to build on the success of existing community parks by further enhancing them as 'signature parks'.

Signature parks are community parks with unique high-quality recreation facilities that attract residents from throughout the community and regional visitors. Examples of signature park facilities include athletic fields, a large play ground with custom equipment, Rivers Edge Commons, and Woodland Trails Park. Parks also considered to be signature parks include Lion John Weicht Park, Orono Park, Dave Anderson Athletic Complex, and the Youth Athletic Complex. There may be community parks within the city that are not classified as 'signature'.

As the community continues to grow, additional pressure will be put on community facilities, which may necessitate the creation of additional community parks or expanding and improving existing parks to meet increased demand.

Individual Park Needs

Identified needs for specific parks listed below. This list includes many of the needs identified through the park planning process, but is not exhaustive of all investments needed in the park system.

Youth Athletic Complex (Signature Park)

- Continue to improve as a high-quality youth athletic complex.
- Support amenities including paved parking, restrooms facilities, and concessions.
- Wayfinding, both to and within the park.
- Add playfields to meet growing demand.

Orono Park (Signature Park)

- Continue to improve park with high quality, signature facilities.
- Improve vehicle and pedestrian circulation within the park and trail connections to the park.
- Expand beach and add beach house with concessions and canoe/kayak rental.
- Add speciality facilities such as skate park, pickleball, nature-based play, and splash pad.
- Consider adding a Miracle Field.
- Refurbish picnic shelters.
- Expand off-leash dog area.
- Add basketball court.

Dave Anderson Athletic Complex (Signature Park)

- Upgrade outdated support facilities including concessions, restrooms facilities, trail connections and expanded parking to improve fan/visitor experience.

Lion John Weicht Park (Signature Park)

- Address wetland/water issues and soils issues.
- The amphitheater needs to be removed and possibly rebuilt to address public safety and visibility issues.
- The facilities plan will address building problems and the potential for other uses such as an arena.

Woodland Trails (Signature Park)

- Capitalize on unique assets such as extensive hiking and cross-country ski trail network, natural setting, and connectivity to the Great Northern Trail.
- Protect the park as mining occurs. Guide the development of the mining property to ensure a desirable transition from park to other land uses by buffering the park and trails from adjacent land uses and creating trail links to new land uses.
- Develop a natural resources management plan.
- Continue to maintain prairie areas with prescribed burns.
- Explore potential for being classified a regional park.
- Strengthen synergy between the Great Northern Trail and Woodland Trails.
- Restore central wetland.
- Develop a land preservation or acquisition strategy for identified land north of County Road 33.
- Develop on-going maintenance strategy that ensures high quality park maintenance, quantifies staffing needs, and recognizes current importance of volunteer labor.

Rivers Edge Commons (Signature Park)

- Expand performance area, seating, and river access as opportunities allow.

Hillside Park

- Parking
- Restrooms facilities
- Drinking water
- Bike wash
- Permanent storage facility
- Electricity and water
- Event facility
- Natural resources management plan
- Pedestrian connectivity
- Plan for possible expansion

Babcock Park

- Retain trail connections and boat launch as Highway 10 reconstruction right-of-way shifts.
- Preserve the river frontage
- Preserve the Works Progress Administration (WPA) structures

Barrington Park

- Replace/upgrade play equipment

Birch Meadow Park

- Develop trail connection to the school.

Bailey Point Nature Preserve

- Improve user experience with paved trails
- Improve habitat quality
- Develop a natural resources plan
- Preserve and maintain structure for programmable space and maintenance
- Provide picnic shelter for programs

Houlton Farm

- Natural surface trails
- Parking area







Trails

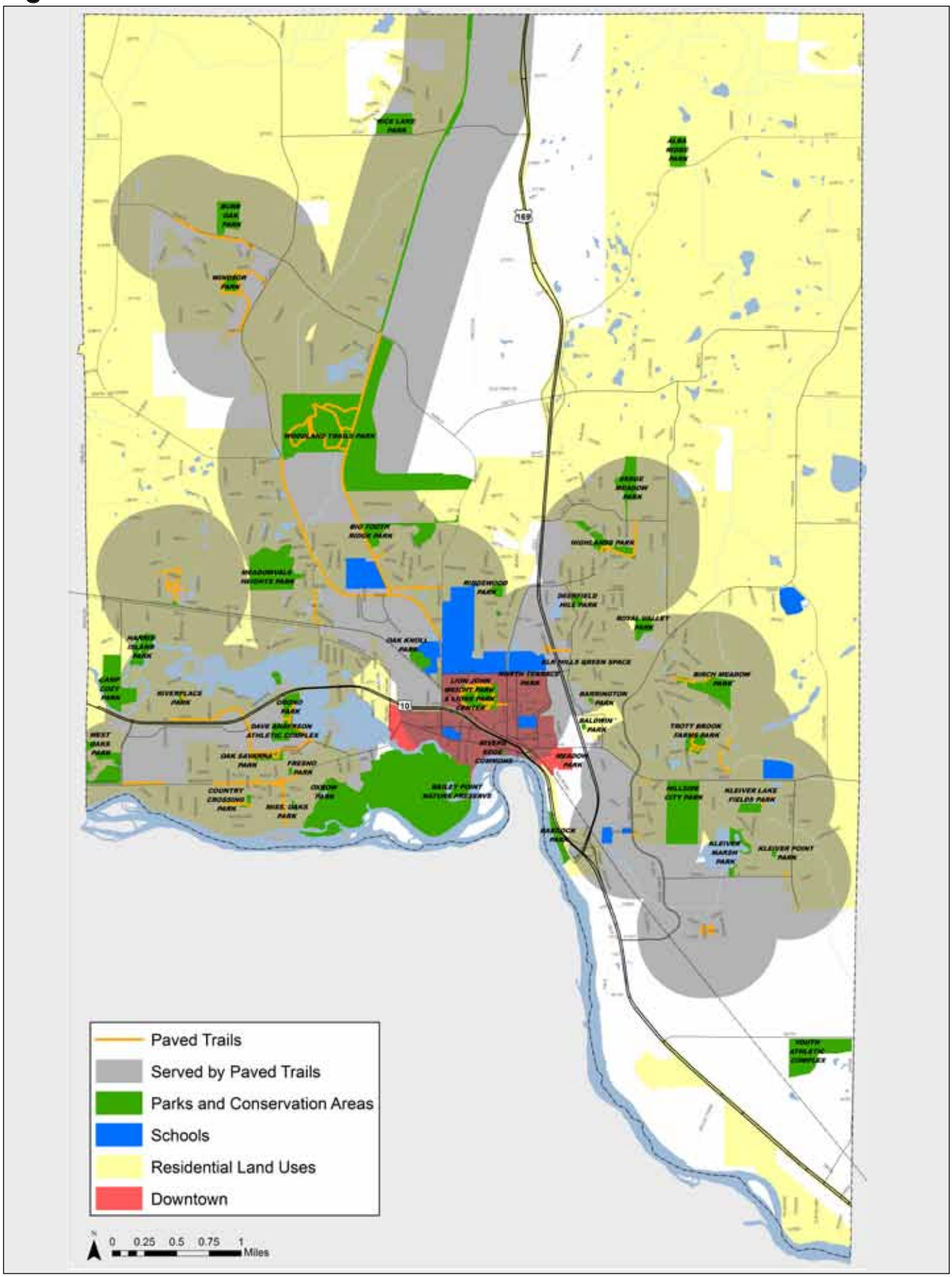
The city provides a range of trail-related recreation experiences on both paved and unpaved trails. Natural surface, trail-based recreation occurs in many parks throughout the system and includes cross country running, mountain biking, hiking, and cross country skiing. Woodland Trails Park has a network of paved and unpaved trails for summer hiking and winter cross country skiing. Hillside park has a network of mountain bike trails. The Great Northern Trail provides a paved recreational spine from Elk River to Livonia Township and is a regional recreation resource. Eventually the Great Northern Trail will extend north through Livonia Township, the City of Zimmerman and beyond. Paved trails and sidewalks along roads and within neighborhoods provide opportunities for non motorized transportation and recreation.

Trails are very popular with Elk River residents. The 2014 City of Elk River Parks and Recreation Survey revealed that 80% of respondents have participated in walking and hiking and 60% have participated in bicycling in the last three years. Residents are satisfied with walking and biking trails and they hold a high priority for the future. 58% of survey respondents would be willing to greatly support additional biking and walking trails through a bond referendum or temporary tax increase.

Figure 3.4 shows that most residents with in the Urban Service Area live within 1/2 mile of a trail. Gaps in the system do exist which limits system usability, particularly to key destinations such as schools, downtown, and the Great Northern Trail. Overall and there is a need for a better connected trail system. Trail needs and issues include (but are not limited to):

- Land preservation or acquisition strategy for identified land north of County Road 33
- Lack of safe trail connections in some locations
    - High traffic and low visibility locations dictate the need for off-street trails.
    - Trail link between along Highway 10 between Upland Avenue NW and Orono Park.
    - Link between Rice Lake Park and the Great Northern Trail on 221st.
    - Connections to the Trout Brook neighborhood.
- Connections to the Great Northern Trail. Notably connections to:
    - Downtown
    - Rice Lake Park on 221st
    - Neighborhoods north of the Urban Service Area
    - Connection between Birch Meadow Park and Twin Lakes School
- Highway 169 is a significant east-west barrier, safe crossings are needed.
- Destinations that would benefit from greater connectivity include schools, downtown, the Elk River, and the Mississippi River.

Figure 3.4 Access to Trails





Natural Areas

Elk River is blessed with an extraordinary natural environment of forest, savanna, prairie, flood plains, and wetland complexes, much of which is publicly accessible as parkland.

The city maintains numerous natural areas as parkland throughout the community. Natural areas provide benefits to the public through the services they provide such as water storage and purification, moderating our environment, and the biodiversity to efficiently cycle nutrients.

These areas are also available for public recreation such as hiking, bird watching, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing. Natural resource parks are assets that provide the city with the type of outdoor character that the city promotes through its ***Powered by Nature*** theme.





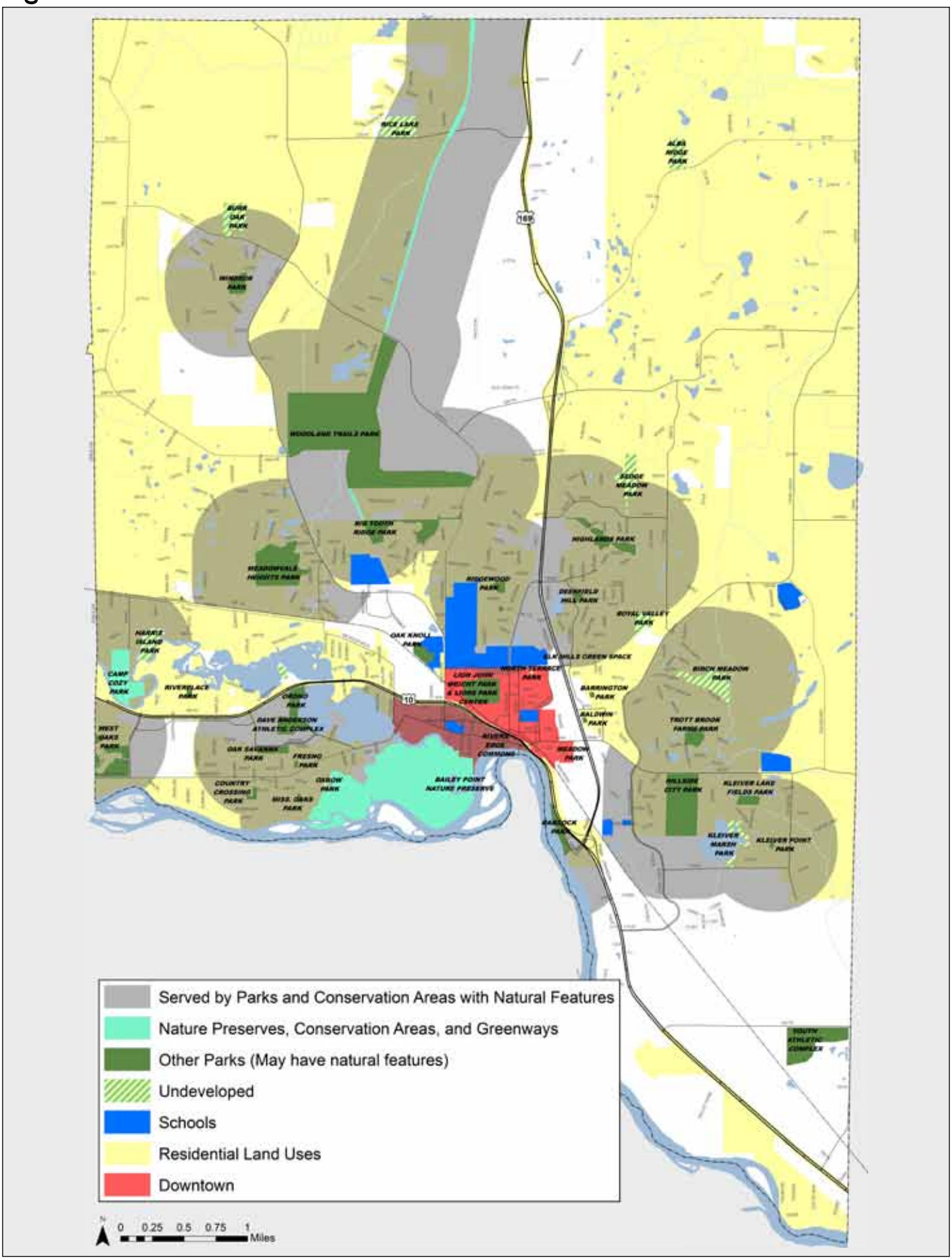
River/Water Access

There are relatively few public access points to the rivers, although the city is at the confluence of the Elk and Mississippi Rivers. Access to the river includes visual connection, or views, as well as places where residents can be near, or 'touch', the river. Creating better connections to the rivers is an important task for the city. Needs and issues related to river access include:

- Lack of public connectivity along the rivers.
- Right-of-way and roadway design constraints that complicate development of a downtown riverfront trail.
- Uncertainty about the long-term future of Babcock Park and the boat launch when Highway 10 is reconstructed.
- Potential for more river-based recreation.
- Connections and future expansions at Rivers Edge Commons.
- Protect Mississippi bluff land in its natural form as public amenity from the FAST subzone (East Elk River Gateway) to the Oliver Kelley Farm.

In addition to river access, there is a need to address perceived and real water quality issues at Lake Orono.

Figure 3.5 Access to Natural Areas





Programs

The city offers a diverse range of programs for residents, and care is taken to provide programs that appeal to people of all ages. Programs are conducted in city parks as well as at the Lion's Park Center, the Y, the Elk River Library, the Activity Center (55+), athletic complexes, and Elk River school facilities.

The Activity Center (55+) has made its home in the former library since 2008. The building functions, but additional space may be required in the future as demand increases. The center is open weekdays during typical business hours and hosts a fitness center, classes, computers, pool tables, small and medium gathering rooms, and a coffee shop. However, the building needs upgrades, to continue as a successful Activity Center (55+). The restrooms are not ADA accessible, the heating system needs updating, and the parking lot is undersized and needs safety enhancements to improve navigation.



The Lions Park Center, which is located at Lion John Weicht Park, is heavily utilized by the community but is in need of significant upgrades, replacement, or relocation because many of the building's components have reached or are reaching the end of their functional life span. There is a desire for larger and more flexible space that could support recreation programming as well as events, banquets, and meetings.

The construction of the Y was accomplished through a partnership between the Y and the city. A key component of this agreement is access to the Y by Elk River residents, which includes discounted family passes and gym use for recreation programs. It is vital that the Parks and Recreation Department continually maximizes the access to the Y by Elk River Residents. The Y facility provides a great opportunity to offer healthy, active programs for the community.

Maintenance



Parks and Facilities

In the community survey, 83% of residents said that they are satisfied with the maintenance of the parks. Maintenance was also recognized as the second highest priority for the future. Residents believe that clean and welcoming parks are important for the community.

In order to protect the investments that have been made in the park facilities and to continue to provide clean and welcoming parks, the city should allocate sufficient financial and staff resources to keep up with maintenance needs. Furthermore, as the city grows and develops more parks, maintenance needs must continue to be supported.

Also, through the Adopt-a-Park program or the city-wide volunteer program, Elk River's Parks and Recreation benefits from the work of hundreds of volunteers at varying levels. While many of our parks rely on individuals or small groups of people taking care of them, Woodland Trails, Hillside City Park, and Bailey Point Nature Preserve all rely heavily on numerous volunteers to maintain them at their current high levels. Efforts should be made to quantify the hours and value of their work and to ensure that volunteer programs are sustained.

Natural Resources

Maintenance of the natural parks must occur in two areas: The first area of maintenance being the care and beauty of the park for human activity, and the second being the active management of the natural parks from the prospective of ecosystem functionality. Within the natural management prospective, great emphasis should be placed upon biodiversity, preservation of high quality natural resources and native landscape features, and establishment of appropriate natural landscapes.

Arts

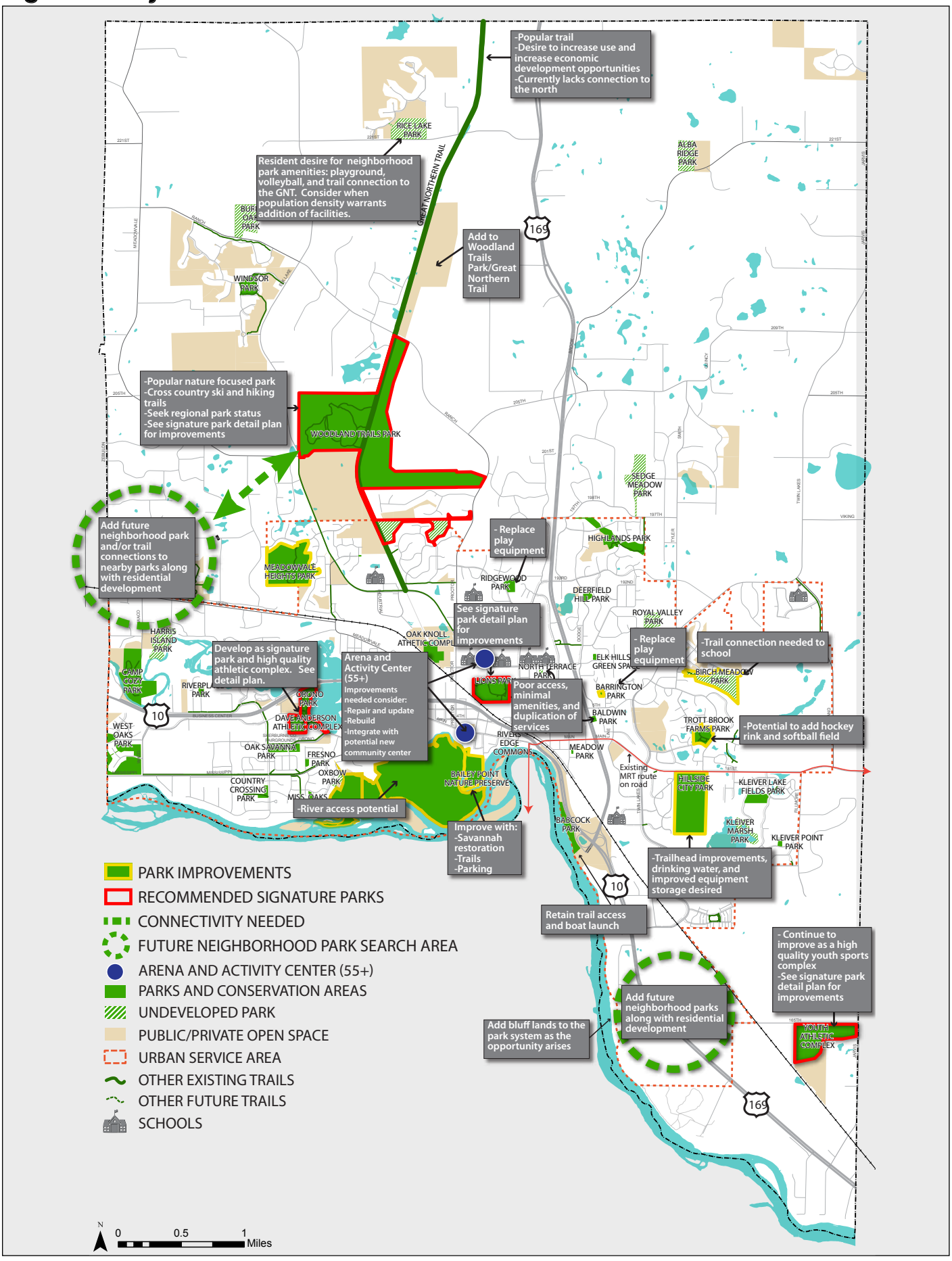
Community interest in the arts is significant and as a result, the city has a plethora of motivated artists and advocates. The City Council expressed an interest in expanding the role of public art in both the park system and throughout the city.

Recently established programs, such as The Riverfront Concert Series and recent art installations, demonstrate the value arts can bring when integrated into the facilities. The Riverfront Concert Series draws thousands of visitors each week. Hillside park is home to 'Tina' a sculpture by Sue Seeger (shown on previous page). This sculpture, the new installation at Handke School also by Sue Seeger, the Ladle sculpture in front of Art Soup by Gene Olson (shown on page 96) highlights the community's cultural strength and adds value to public places.

Incorporating arts into the fabric of the city's infrastructure can also add to the sense of place in Elk River. Integrating art into facilities such as bridges, roads, and buildings beautify the city by enhancing the typically utilitarian things that help the city function.

Additional events such as art fairs, performances, and educational events will help raise awareness and enthusiasm for the arts in Elk River. The arts are further discussed in the Elk River Public Arts Plan.

Figure 3.6 System Needs Assessment



Elk River Parks and Recreation Today

Elk River has a growing and engaging parks and recreation system that meets the needs of many residents and contributes to the character and identity of the community. Neighborhood parks provide opportunity for residents walk, or bike short distances to utilize them. Destination and area-wide parks serve as gathering spots for the entire region and are becoming increasingly popular.

Recreational offerings appeal to community members of all ages. The city is host to many unique recreation opportunities, including outstanding mountain biking and cross country skiing facilities. Active youth athletic associations make good use of the sports facilities and residents recognize the value of good maintenance.

At the same time, Elk River is a growing and changing community. Just as the parks and recreation system of twenty years ago would not adequately serve the community today, new parks and recreation programs and improvements will be needed to serve the community for the next twenty years. Providing safe access to parks and trails, continuing to maintain facilities at a high level, and preserving the lakes, rivers, and other natural features that define the city are all challenges Elk River will need to meet in the future.

What We are Doing Well

- High resident satisfaction.
- Accessible neighborhood parks in the urban service area.
- Clean, safe, well-maintained parks.
- High quality, unique park activities.
- Strong and varied recreation programs.
- Access to natural areas for all residents.

What We Need to Do

- City parks must keep pace with growth in the community.
- Better connect to trails, parks, schools, downtown, and other destinations for walkers and bicyclists.
- More active natural resource management.
- Better integrate arts into the park system.
- Provide more opportunities for access to the Elk River and the Mississippi River.
- Partnerships are good but can be further developed to improve park and recreation offerings for residents.
- Ensure maintenance is sustainable by matching resources with future needs and desires.
- Continue to support volunteer efforts to ensure continuation of volunteer support.



Chapter 4
Tomorrow's Parks
Framework for the Future

Introduction

The findings of the needs assessment show that the City of Elk River is working hard to develop and maintain a great park and recreation system. The community surveys indicate that residents recognize the importance of parks and generally support the current direction the system is going. Finally, the city offers a wide range of recreation opportunities, from day camps for kids to solitary hikes in the woods. Elk River's park system provides places to play, ski, compete, or just sit and watch the river.

Elk River is a growing and changing community, which means the city has to have a plan to ensure that the parks and recreation system continues to meet the needs of its residents in the future. New parks and facilities will be needed, current parks will need upgrades, trail expansion and ongoing maintenance will continue, and programs must adapt to evolving community interests.

Elk River's ***Powered by Nature*** brand is derived in part from the city's connections to the outdoors but also by where the heart is powered by its nature. This plan sets out directions to ensure that ***Powered by Nature*** accurately represents the city and its residents for years to come.

Framework Plan

The Framework Plan is a summary of 'big picture' priorities for the future and establishes the foundation for the master plan recommendations and the development of focus area plans. In addressing the key needs identified in the System Needs Assessment, the Framework Plan consists of six initiatives for the future:

1. Improve Existing Parks and Facilities.
2. Maintain our Park Assets at a High Level.
3. Strengthen Trail Connections.
4. Visually and/or physically connect to the Elk and Mississippi Rivers.
5. Provide Engaging Recreational Programming for the Entire Community.
6. Preserve Natural Resources and Greenways.

Improve Existing Parks and Facilities

The city continues to develop a diverse park system that meets the continually changing needs of the community today. The current park system is also a fantastic base on which to build the park system for the future.

Neighborhood parks should continue to be the parks residents choose for daily use. These parks will continue to need attention and investment as use continues to grow.

Residents have gravitated heavily to the community parks, making them excellent opportunities for further development into destination parks that attract people from the region.

Facilities, buildings, and athletic complexes throughout the system should continue to be updated, and expanded to meet the changing needs of residents. Park facilities need to be evaluated and modified or removed to create a sustainable park system.

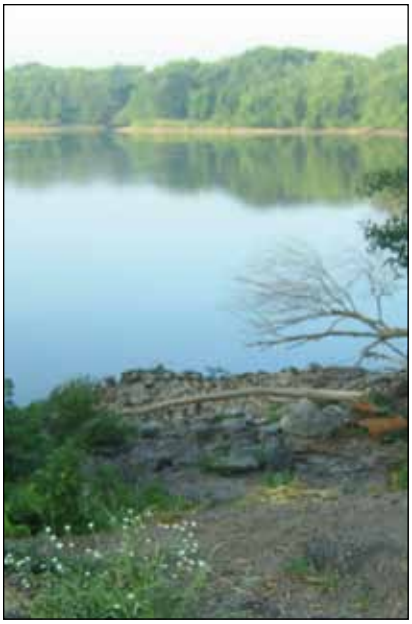


Maintain our Park Assets at a High Level

Park maintenance received high satisfaction marks from the community. As Elk River grows, new parks will need to be developed at the same time that existing facilities will need ongoing upkeep. Since parks represent an investment in the community, maintenance efforts are the best way to protect those investments. Dedicating appropriate resources to park maintenance pays off in the long run by lengthening the life span of capital investments and keeping facilities safe.

Strengthen Trail Connections

Trails are the most desired park feature in Elk River, according to community input. Providing a complete trail network with connections between neighborhoods, schools, downtown, as well as to other parks and the rivers would give people safe routes to significant destinations in the city.



The Great Northern Trail (GNT) acts as a spine through the community, offering cyclist and pedestrian connections from the north end of Elk River through Woodland Trails Park and nearly reaching the core school area. Neighborhoods, particularly those east of Highway 169 would also benefit from better connections the GNT.

Highway 169 is a barrier to trail usage and many residents report having to drive to the GNT. In addition, connecting north to Zimmerman and Princeton would improve the GNT as a regional connector and would elevate it from being a nice community feature to being a vital community and regional asset. The city should consider taking a leadership role in completing this regional paved non-motorized trail.

Connect to the Rivers



The Mississippi River and the Elk River, along with Orono Lake, represent some of the finest natural resources in the city. Residents expressed a strong association with the city's water features and they take advantage of the rivers and the lake for recreation. With fishing at Orono Park, the concert series at Rivers Edge Commons, boating from Babcock Park, and nature walks at Bailey Point Nature Preserve and Camp Cozy, many recreational opportunities exist along the water.

Opportunities exist to strengthen both the physical connections and views to the rivers. Potential trails along the river could significantly strengthen the Mississippi River Trail (a nationally recognized designated bicycle and pedestrian trail that traverses the shores of the Mississippi River in the United States) as well as improve the general trail network in Elk River.

Protecting property along the rivers will also ensure connection for residents for generations to come. In addition to trails, locations that offer river views, such as the Mississippi River Bluff lands in the southern portion of the community should be expanded.

Provide Engaging Programing for the Entire Community

The city offers a wide range of recreation offerings. These programs strengthen community ties, give children and adults activities to keep them engaged, and promote learning and physical activity. The Parks and Recreation Department should continue to build on the current programming of events, senior activities, athletics, and youth-focused camps and classes. As the community grows and changes, it will remain important to fine tune and adapt the program offerings to stay relevant to the community's evolving needs.

Preserve Natural Resources and Greenways

The natural environment remains an important asset to the city and its residents. Working to make sure every resident has close access to open space, natural features, and nature-based recreation will ensure this vital characteristic of the city is preserved for future generations.

Elk River has opportunities now to ensure the natural character is preserved by planning for and protecting habitat and open space before development expands. Conserving natural resources is not a luxury more fully-developed communities enjoy, so foresight is necessary on the part of the city to maintain open space. Once open space is gone it is extremely difficult and costly to bring back.



Chapter 5
How We Get There
Initiatives, Recommendations, & Strategies

Introduction

Building on the city's ***Powered by Nature*** brand, Elk River Parks and Recreation is pursuing a series of initiatives to provide high quality facilities, recreation opportunities, and a diverse park system for residents and visitors. The concept of sustainability, or maintaining environmental, social and economic requirements that meet the needs of present and future generations, is an underlying value that crosses all of the initiatives.

Initiatives

1. **Improve Existing Parks and Facilities**
   The city will continue working with their current inventory of parks and facilities and will look for opportunities to make strategic improvements.
2. **Maintain Park Assets at a High Level**
   The city will protect its investments and recognize the level of effort and resources necessary to keep park and facilities safe and free of deterioration.
3. **Strengthen Trail Connections**
   The city will provide active and independent recreation for all ages with trail features that are highly desired by the community.
4. **Connect to the Rivers**
   The city will capitalize on the unique natural features of the community and provide residents with water based experiences.
5. **Provide Engaging Recreational Programming for the Entire Community**
   The city will strengthen its community ties, provide equitable recreation opportunities, and promote learning and physical activity for residents.
6. **Preserve Natural Resources and Greenways**
   The city will uphold Elk River's natural character and protect the environment for plants, animals, and future generations.

These six initiatives connect to recommendations and associated strategies. Some recommendations and strategies address multiple initiatives.

Recommendations & Strategies

Initiative 1 Improve existing parks and facilities

Residents appreciate the diverse park amenities in the Elk River system. Neighborhood Parks are the building blocks of the park system and provide for everyday use. Neighborhoods in the southern part of the city are well served by these neighborhood parks but they are of varying age and require updates.

Community parks are destinations and serve as gathering and event spaces for residents and visitors. Special use parks provide opportunities for unique, high-quality recreation in a natural setting. Together these park types form a system that contributes to the high quality of life for residents.

The city, Parks and Recreation Department staff, partners, and volunteers have dedicated significant resources, thought, time, and effort into developing the parks. They will continue to act as stewards of the park system, which means they are dedicated to maintaining a healthy system that builds on past successes and manages the parks for the future of the community.

Recommendations

1. **Add new parks along with population growth.**

   Strategies:

   - Expand the Youth Athletic Complex to meet the demand for additional athletic facilities as the population grows.
   - Improve undeveloped parks as community growth creates demand for additional park facilities.







- Add park land along with community development.
  - As development occurs at the conclusion of gravel mining, new parks will be needed to serve new users. Parks and open space can act as an organizing framework and significant amenity for future development. Though the nature of development post-gravel mining has not yet been defined, the following park and open space features should be considered:
    - Greenways that incorporate natural resources, stormwater management, and trails that connect to the Great Northern Trail and Woodland Trails Park.
    - Community recreation and open space resources adjacent to Woodland Trails Park. Consider adding a recreational lake, ideally connected to Woodland Trails Park.
    - Add neighborhood parks and athletic facilities as needed based on expected population and density.
  - In the northern part of the city, retain land for parks in neighborhoods.
  - Provide parks as necessary in the Focused Area Study (FAST) to support new development.
  - Add a neighborhood park and/or improve trail connections to Meadowvale Heights Park, Camp Cozy Park, and Woodland Trails Park from the northwest portion of the urban service area along with development.
  - Consider the Fairgrounds for inclusion in the park system should the land become available.

2. **Focus resources by eliminating duplicated and underutilized park facilities with poor access.**

   Strategies:

- Research park acquisition history, and where allowable, sell, vacate, or partner with neighbors to remove the following parks from the park system:
  - Baldwin
  - North Terrace
  - Meadow
  - Elk Hills Green Space
  - Property south of Ridgewood on 191 ½ Avenue (75-432-0101)

3. **Respond to changing recreation trends.**

   Strategies:

- Meet changing recreation needs by adding key facilities such as a skate park, splash pad, and pickleball courts.
- Complete needed improvements to specific parks. Prioritize improvements based on replacement needs and available funding.
- Provide restroom facilities in all signature parks (Orono Park/Dave Anderson Athletic Complex, Lion John Weicht Park, Woodland Trails

Neighborhood Parks Service Area

In Elk River residential development within the urban service area is at a density that will support a neighborhood park at a 10-minute walking distance, or a half-mile service radius. Most areas are well served. Because the urban service area is largely developed with little vacant land available to create new parks, emphasis will be on improving connectivity to existing parks and providing basic neighborhood park facilities as undeveloped parks become developed.

North of the urban service area residential development is not at a density that supports walking distance neighborhood parks. Larger lots in this area provide for private recreation, or residents can drive to larger, community parks within the urban service area. In some areas cluster developments create neighborhoods that need neighborhood park facilities but may not have the population to justify a neighborhood park. To meet park needs outside of the urban service area the City of Elk River shall:

- Provide high quality, drive-to, 'signature' parks that meet the needs of the entire community within the urban service area.
- Provide non-motorized trail connections between neighborhoods, natural resource areas, parks, and the Great Northern Trail.
- Strategically locate and acquire land for future park development.
- Provide neighborhood parks outside a rate of 1.5 mile service radius, so that most residents live within an easy bike ride or 30 minute walk of neighborhood recreation. These parks will be natural-resource based, be linked by recreational trail systems, and provide minimal facilities such as children's play areas and a mowed flexible field space. Recreation facilities should be developed when 300 or more households within cluster developments or on lots less than 2 acres are located within 1.5 miles of the park.









Park, Youth Athletic Complex).

4. **Continue to provide recreation opportunities that appeal across generations.**

   Strategies:

   - Provide safe, accessible walking, jogging, running, and biking loops within parks and throughout the entire trail network.
   - Continue to provide hiking access to high quality natural areas.
   - Improve access to water-oriented recreation with beaches, docks, boat launches, fishing opportunities, etc.
   - Incorporate fitness opportunities into parental observation areas around playgrounds.
   - Promote activities that can be done with friends and/or family.
   - Explore opportunities to provide affordable golf within the city.

5. **Design for universal accessibility.**

   Strategies:

   - Meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements for buildings and recreational facilities.
   - Consider adding a miracle field to the system.
   - Where feasible, provide accessibility that goes beyond ADA requirements by providing facilities such as accessible beach and boat access, accessible recreational trails, and programs for adaptive recreation.

6. **Increase access to indoor recreation.**

   Strategies:

   - Support the efforts of partners such as the school district, athletic organizations, and others for a field house and/or domed artificial turf fields.
   - Partner with the school district to provide access to indoor gymnasium space.
   - Work with the Y to expand the partnership for indoor aquatics, fitness classes, and recreational sports.
   - Conduct a Comprehensive Recreation Facilities Study to evaluate the Activity Center (55+), the Arena, and Lions Park Center to determine if they should be renovated, replaced on their current site, or consolidated into a centrally located facility.
     - Lion John Weicht Park is a potential location for an Arena.
     - If the Arena is to be relocated, consider the old Arena site for a new

Community Center and Activity Center (+55).

7. **Improve outdoor athletic facilities.**

   Strategies:

- Make improvements to the Youth Athletic Complex, Oak Knoll, and Dave Anderson Athletic Complex.
- Improve partnership with schools to provide access to athletic fields and facilities.
- Provide a high quality destination baseball field. Options include:
  - Improve Hale's Field near Oak Knoll Park (as a city project or in partnership with the school district)
- Support efforts of partners such as the school district, athletic organizations, and others to consider the addition of artificial turf field(s) for uses such as soccer, football, lacrosse, and rugby.

8. **Creating high quality "Signature Parks". Signature parks will be:**

- Woodland Trails
- Orono Park
- Dave Anderson Athletic Complex
- Youth Athletic Complex
- Lion John Weicht Park
- Rivers Edge Commons







Signature Park Concepts

Signature park concepts illustrate desired improvements. They are provided to give a sense of the type, scale, and location of future improvements. Concepts are presented for Woodland Trails, Orono Park, Dave Anderson Athletic Complex, Youth Athletic Complex, Lion John Weicht Park, and Rivers Edge Commons.

Orono Park and Dave Anderson Athletic Complex

Orono Park and Dave Anderson Athletic Complex will build on the current success and momentum as a destination park in Elk River.

- Nature play features and a splash pad will be added next to the existing playground to create a play zone for children of all ages.
- Fitness machines will be nearby for use by parents watching their children.
- Trail loops will connect different features of the park and allow for a strolling experience for park users.
- A skatepark will be constructed at the north end of the park and will connect to the rest of the park by trail.
- Kayak and canoe rentals will allow beachgoers to get out on the water.
- Concessions and flush restrooms will serve Orono Park users and athletes and spectators at Dave Anderson Athletic Complex.
- The off-leash dog area will expand to incorporate more varied open and shaded areas for dogs and owners.
- Parking will be expanded and configured to separate boat and playground uses and to provide additional parking.

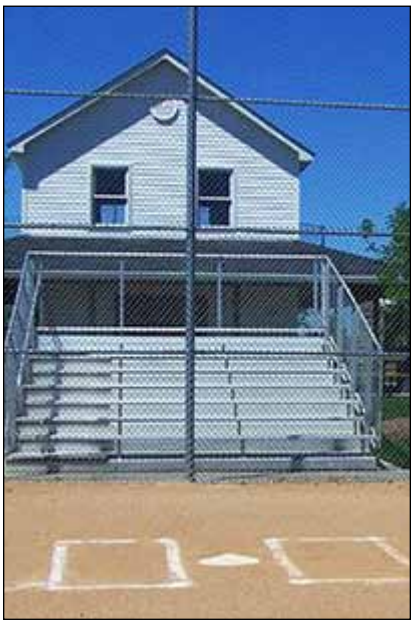
The transition of the existing ball field in the north to a miracle field will welcome people of all abilities to Elk River. Miracle fields are rubber, wheelchair and walker accessible fields. The shorter dimensions of the field will also allow trail loops, which are desired features, throughout the park instead of simply providing out-and-back trails.

The County Fairgrounds play an important role for Orono Park and Dave Anderson Athletic Complex, both as an open space and as parking support for the ballfields. It is an important partnership to the city and future development should consider the potential for shared parking and incorporation of expanded park and recreation opportunities.

Figure 5.1 Signature Park Concept Orono Park/ Dave Anderson Athletic Complex









Youth Athletic Complex (YAC)

The expansion of the YAC will serve the city's athletic facility needs as the population grows. Elk River has already experienced significant population growth since the last ballfields at YAC were built 18 years ago, resulting in increased demand for multi-use and softball fields.

Expansion of the YAC at the current location works well as the city looks to the future. Development of the Focused Area Study area will provide visitors with easily accessible dining, shopping, and recreation options. Anticipated land needed for expansion of the YAC leaves 75-80% of the land to the north for industrial land uses and uses the land furthest from Jarvis Street, which is the least desirable land from a development standpoint. Other benefits of locating the athletic complex next to industrial land uses include parking efficiencies, different use times, which will reduce traffic impacts, and fewer adjacency concerns with crowd noise and lighting.

The YAC plan expands the footprint of the facility. In order to maximize the available multi-use field space, 165th is re-routed to meet Jarvis Street when it extends north. Expansion also improves maintenance for the fields as they can be rotated and rested to prevent overuse. An additional softball pinwheel will provide dedicated facilities for softball and will allow for larger tournaments to be hosted at the YAC. Alternately if Hale's Field will not be upgraded to a destination field, facilities for the different levels of baseball could be built in the north, and the existing south pinwheel could be dedicated to softball.

Support facilities such as expanded paved parking, maintenance sheds, concessions, restrooms with flush toilets, water, batting cages, a storm safe room, loop trails, and playgrounds are provided to improve the players' and spectators' experience.

Figure 5.2 Signature Park Concept Youth Athletic Complex

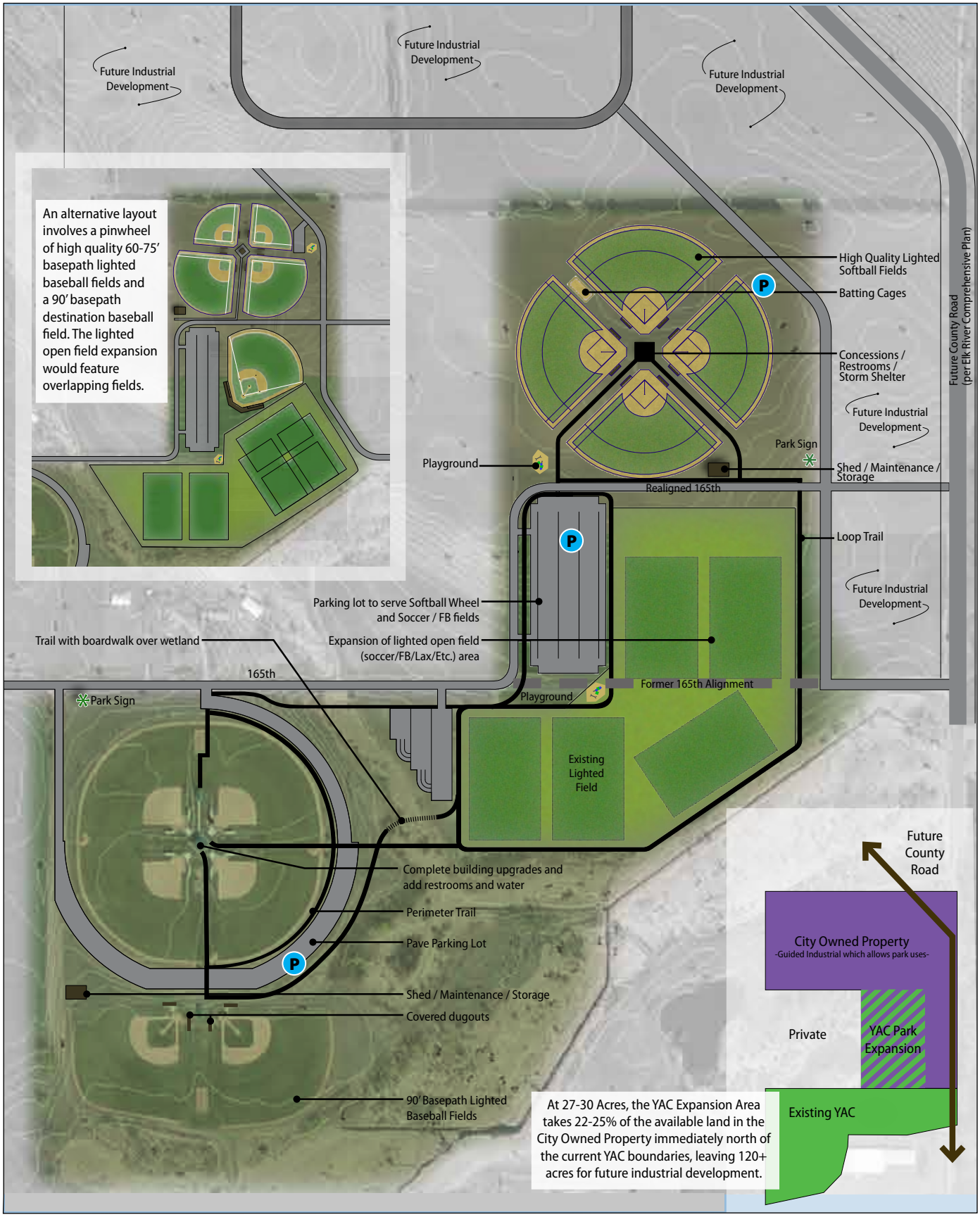
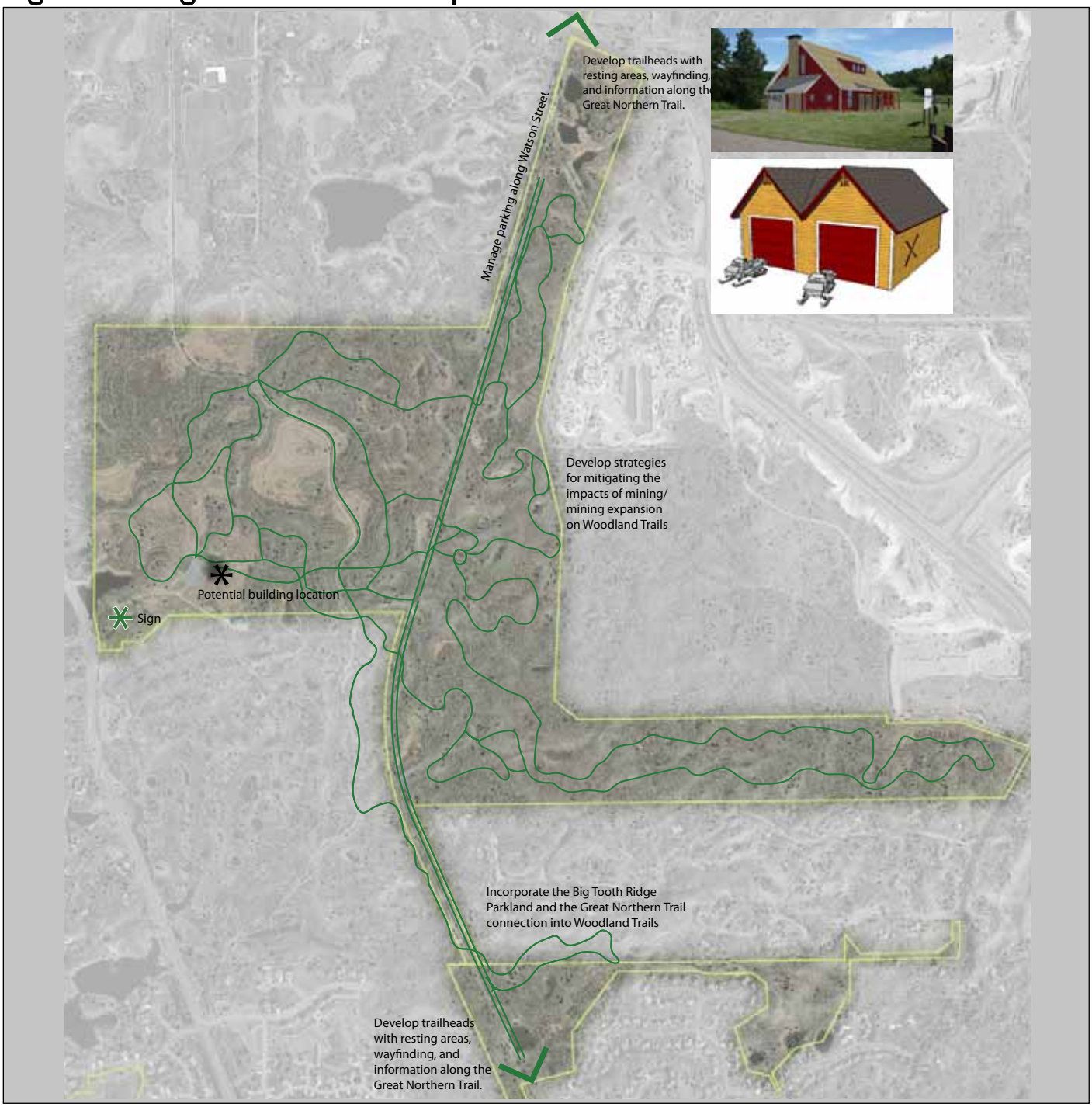


Figure 5.3 Signature Park Concept Woodland Trails



Woodland Trails

Improvements to Woodland Trails will include construction of a small building that will act as a warming house and a location for environmental programs, and a maintenance and storage facility for park equipment. Improved wayfinding at the entrance will welcome regional users arriving from Elk Lake Road or the Great Northern Trail. The park will formally incorporate Big Tooth Ridge, a park that has functioned as an extension of Woodland Trails. As mining gets closer to the park, invasive species removal and prevention continues, and tree diseases are combated, the park needs an in-depth natural resources and forestry plan. After mining concludes, consider integrating additional parkland, a lake feature at the southern end of the mining district, and greenways connecting from future neighborhoods to the park.

With Woodland Trails' unique recreation offerings, significant size, regional trail access, and habitat as part of a bigger unique ecosystem, it is a strong candidate for regional park status through the state.

Figure 5.4 Signature Park Concept Lion John Weicht Park



Lion John Weicht Park

The signature feature of Lion John Weicht Park is Lion's Park Center, the city's center for indoor recreation programs. Today, Lions Park Center is a valuable community resource that does not meet community needs for programs. The city is currently undertaking a comprehensive facilities study to assess Lions Park Center, the Arena, and the Activity Center (55+) and recommending improvements or locations for new facilities. If Lions Park Center remains in its current location, significant upgrades are needed. In addition to building improvements, improving the park's wetland habitat by creating a forebay to improve water quality and decrease dredging needs in the larger pond. By better shaping the wetland features the dry portions of the park can be improved as well, creating distinct uplands and wetlands. Recommended improvements to the uplands include walking trail loops and trail connections to schools and downtown. An "art walk" displaying sculpture and other art would work well as an upgrade to this park. The amphitheater will be relocated and redesigned as an open stage to take advantage of views of the water.

If Lions Park Center is relocated, this park may be considered as a location for other facilities. If no indoor recreation facilities buildings will be located at the park, expansion of the natural areas and walking trails should be considered.



Rivers Edge Commons

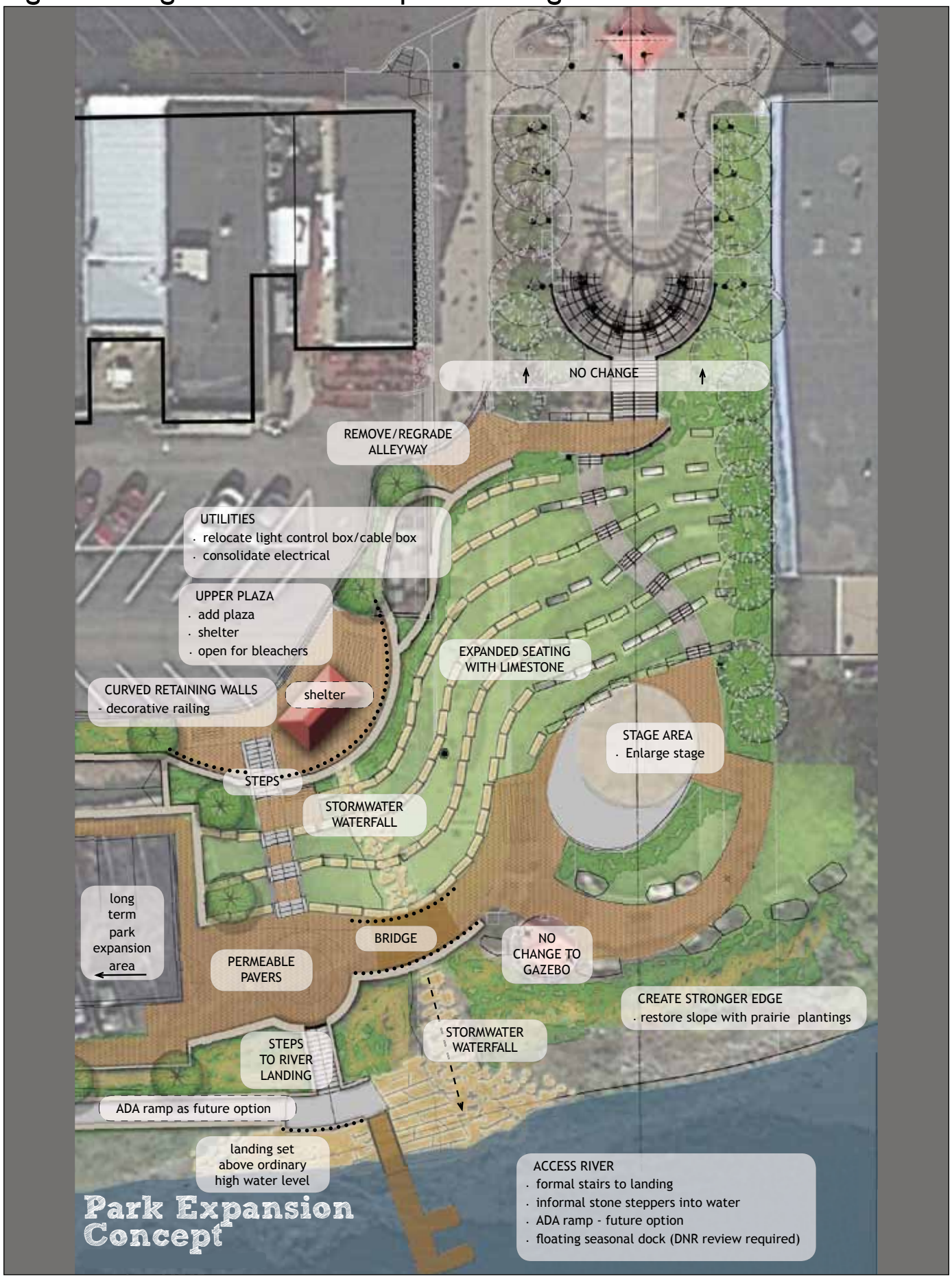
Rivers Edge Commons is located in downtown Elk River at the junction of the Elk River and Mississippi Rivers. The park was constructed in 2007 and features a hillside performance venue and a street level plaza with a popular in-grade fountain that is both a focal point and interactive play element. The park is a successful connection to the river and has strengthened downtown's long term viability. The commons is home to a successful summer concert series, movies in the park, and special events that bring over 20,000 people to downtown annually. The venue's overwhelming popularity has lead to performance seating regularly filling to capacity and beyond.

Recommended improvements include expanding the seating and performance areas to the west, a second upper plaza and shelter, a stormwater waterfall, and an ADA accessible, seasonal dock. Long-term, as opportunities become available, consideration of future expansion should be considered.





Figure 5.5 Signature Park Concept Rivers Edge Commons









Initiative 2 Maintain Our Park Assets at a High Level

Based on survey responses and conversations with Elk River residents, it is clear the maintenance of the city parks is of high quality. From Woodland Trails and Hillside City Park to the Youth Athletic Complex and Bailey Point Nature Preserve, the many hours of volunteer time donated to the city help create a system of quality parks and recreational opportunities that is out of reach many cities of comparable size and population.

It is important to recognize the hard work and resources that go into maintaining high quality athletic facilities, park and trail systems. If the park system grows to the north with new neighborhoods, dedicated resources and staff must grow as well.

Recommendations

1. **Continue to ensure the safety upgrades.**

   Strategies:

   - Annually inspect all parks, buildings, restrooms, picnic shelters, ball fields, courts, outdoor ice rinks, parking lots, trails, etc.
   - Commit to operating budgets that result in well-maintained parks, trails, and facilities. The annual maintenance operating budgets should address natural resource and restoration efforts such as buckthorn removal, prescribed burn program for oak savanna and prairie landscapes, and a park forest management plan.
   - Consider the addition of a certified forester and a horticulturalist to parks professional staff.
   - Develop tiered maintenance level standards for routine maintenance to guide the most intensive maintenance to the least intensive.
   - Annually prepare a five-year Capital Improvement Plan program for all park facilities.

2. **Develop and formalize maintenance priorities.**

   Strategies:

   - Write maintenance priorities and schedules as part of the parks maintenance manual.
   - Develop tiered maintenance level standards for routine maintenance to guide the most intensive maintenance to the least intensive.
   - Retain flexibility needed to respond to changing conditions and maintenance needs.
   - Prioritize snow removal in parks and facilities, and areas which become dangerous without immediate attention.
   - Standardize athletic field maintenance standards.

3. **Reduce on-going maintenance costs over time.**

- Replace outdated park equipment and materials with high-efficiency models and high-quality, low-maintenance materials.
- Use the latest technologies to improve efficiencies and reduce costs.
- Have a plan.

4. **Ensure the cleanliness of parks and park facilities.**

   Strategies:

- Regular garbage collection.
- Cleaning of activity buildings, picnic shelters, and restrooms.
- Removal of graffiti and repair of vandalism as required.
- Response to all emergency problems.
- More seasonal and/or part time temporary staff throughout the year.

5. **Support volunteers.**

   Strategies:

- Designate volunteers allowed to use city equipment.
- Train volunteers to use city equipment.
- Provide equipment, tools, and materials needed for volunteer use.
- Develop a program oriented towards engaging youth volunteers.
- Partner with other community organizations for volunteer events (such as planting, clean up, invasive species removal, natural resource assessment) to raise awareness and recruit new park volunteers.

Initiative 3 Strengthen Trail Connections

Trails are the most desired feature in park systems nationally, and Elk River is no exception. The historic Elk River neighborhoods and commercial areas lack trails, and connecting them can be difficult due to road and right-of-way dimensions, lack of public land ownership, and barriers such as railroads and highways. Development patterns have brought trails to new neighborhoods, but many remain unconnected to the larger trail network.

The Great Northern Trail is a remarkable asset for the community and can become the trail "spine" connecting neighborhoods, schools, parks, and downtown. Trail loops are highly desired in parks as they are an activity for all ages and provide an accessible way to get active.

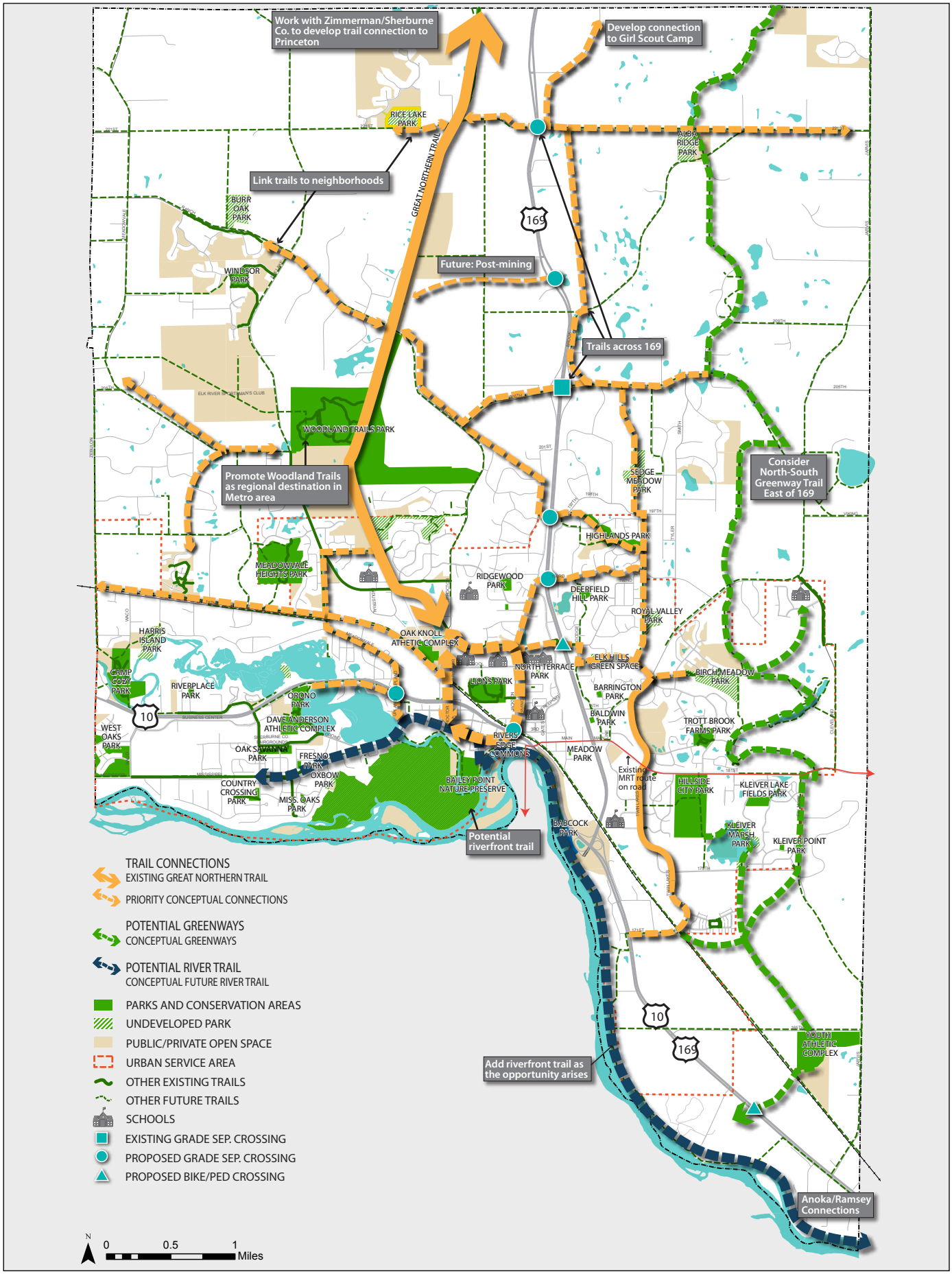
Recommendations

1. **Create a connected trail network by closing gaps between existing trails.**

   Strategies:

   - Provide pedestrian-bike crossings of Highway 169 at one-half to one mile intervals. Provide grade separated crossings where feasible.
   - Create a north/south spine east of Highway 169 from Main Street to 221st that links the Highway 169 crossings. These connections could be completed or supplemented through the linking of the natural greenway system.
   - Close trail gaps linking the pedestrian overpass at 189th Avenue to the school campus complex.
   - Prioritize efforts on closing trail gaps to schools, downtown, transit, and the following parks:
     - Woodland Trails Park
     - Hillside Park
     - Orono Park
     - Dave Anderson Athletic Complex
     - Youth Athletic Complex
     - Lion John Weicht Park
     - River's Edge Commons
   - Provide trail access along south side of Hwy 10 from Proctor to Orono Park when the Hwy 10 bridge is replaced, currently scheduled by MnDOT for 2017. Be sure to include a trail with the new bridge and consider a trail under the bridge to connect both sides of the lake.
   - Link the school complex and Lion John Weicht Park to Main Street on Proctor and/or Jackson.
   - Ensure safe walking and biking routes to schools.
   - Other connections:
     - Twinlakes Estates and Trott Brook Farms neighborhoods to Twin Lakes Elementary
     - Trail in Birch Meadow Park

Figure 5.6 Trail Connectivity









- Trott Brook Trails to Kliever Lake Fields/Marsh
- Utilize Klievers Marsh Park

2. **Make the existing system more usable and improve the user experience.**

   Strategies:

- Add lighting in key areas. Begin with trailheads, parking lots, and high-use commuter corridors.
- Provide safe road crossings.
- Add on-road bike facilities to supplement the trail system where opportunities allow.
- Extend fall, winter, and spring use of trails by plowing designated winter routes and paved trails within parks.
- Improve safety in locations with dangerous conditions due to traffic volumes, truck traffic, curves, topography, speed, or width.
- Develop trail loops in existing neighborhood and community parks.

3. **Improve signage.**

   - Provide standardized wayfinding kiosks at trailheads
   - Provide wayfinding signage; priorities include:
     - Connections to/from the Great Northern Trail.
     - Downtown area.
     - Link between Great Northern Trail and Main Street.

4. **Create Connections to the Great Northern Trail.**

   Strategies:

- Extend the Great Northern Trail to Main Street and the Mississippi River.
  - This may include on- and off-road bicycle facilities, including improved safety measures for on-road bicycling on Main Street.
- Connect the neighborhoods on the east and west side of Highway 169 to the Great Northern Trail.
  - Potential future crossings include 221st Street (future road extension).
  - Future Road Connections through the mining area at 205th and 193rd.
  - Trails on 221st, Ranch Road, Meadowvale and 196th.
- Consider grade-separated crossings, such as the one at 189th, when connecting across significant barriers.
  - Highway 169
  - Highway 10
  - Railroad tracks

5. **Extend the Great Northern Trail north.**

   Strategies:

- Coordinate with Sherburne County, Livonia Township and the Cities of Zimmerman and Princeton to extend the trail north.

- Connect to the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge and the Sand Dunes State Forest.
- Pursue additional regional trail funding by working with Sherburne County and the state on grant opportunities.

6. **Expand the trail system along with community growth.**

   Strategies:

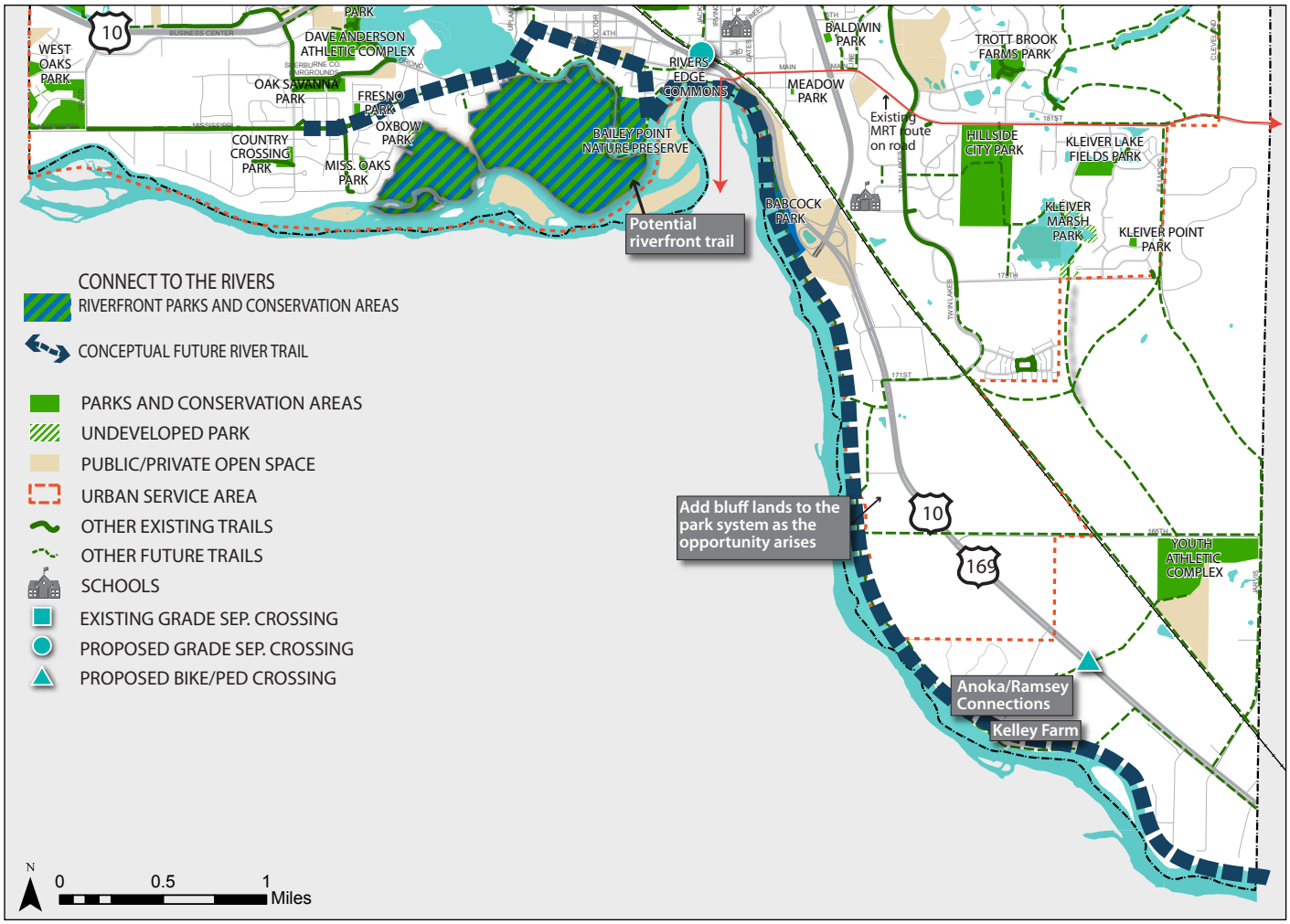
- Create trail extensions shown on Figure 5.6 Trail Connectivity. Identify and update priority projects on an annual basis.
- Install trails in neighborhoods as part of the development process.
- Coordinate new trails with city, county, and state road construction and reconstruction projects.
  - Consider grade-separated crossings at the time of road construction.
  - Build trails and or/sidewalks on all collector and arterial roadways.
    - As collector and arterial roads are constructed or rebuilt, build multi-use trails on both sides of the road where possible. If both sides are not possible, ensure at least one side has a multi-use trail.
    - On rural collector and arterial roads that cannot have trails or sidewalks, provide paved, wide shoulders, ideally 6-10 feet on both sides.
    - On existing collector and arterial roads, prioritize trails or other safety measures in places with low visibility or other dangerous conditions (curves, topographic change, blind entrances, difficult intersections, etc.). Aim for a trail on one side of the street on all collector and arterial roads.
- Where feasible, provide paved trails that create community connections in greenway corridors away from roads.
  - Work towards locating the Mississippi River Trail along the river, as opportunities arise.
  - Capitalize on opportunities to integrate trail connections with natural resource/greenway conservation along with new development, particularly east of Highway 169.
- Develop trail loops in new neighborhoods and community parks.

7. **Promote natural surface hiking, cross country skiing, and mountain biking trail networks in the park system.**

   Strategies:

- Support efforts to develop mountain bike, cross country skiing, hiking, and water trails.
- Continue to develop programming, such as mountain bike and cross country skiing races, that bring people to the trail systems.

Figure 5.7 Connect to the Rivers



Initiative 4 Connect to the Rivers

The Elk and Mississippi Rivers serve as important recreation assets for the community. These assets are from the downtown event space at Rivers Edge Commons Park to the natural experiences at Bailey Point Nature Preserve, the beach at Orono Park, to the boat launch at Babcock. These assets need to be developed further by improving physical access, or places to be near the river, river views, and movement along the rivers and developing additional ways to experience them.

Recommendations

1. **Improve riverfront connectivity.**

   Strategies:

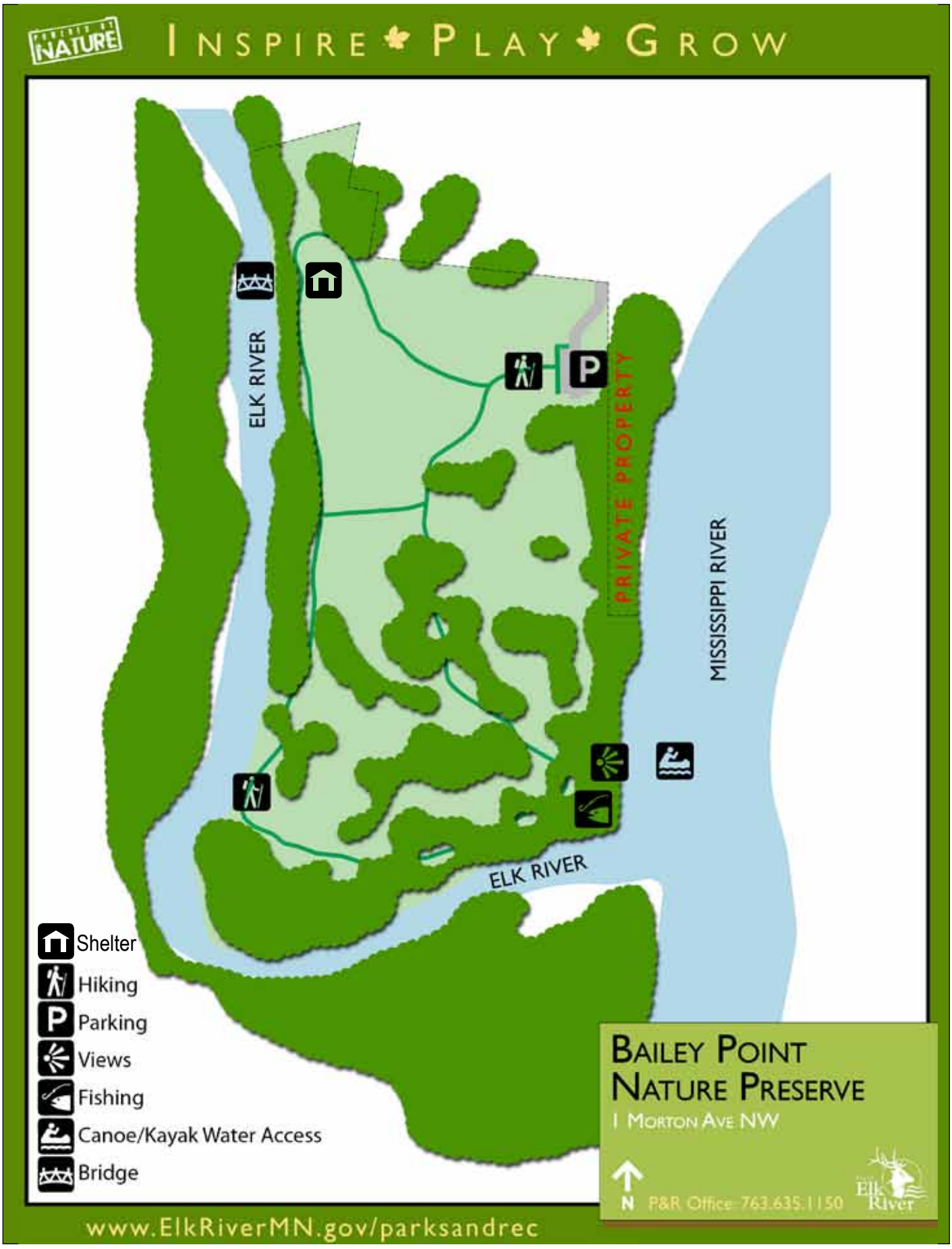
   - As opportunities arise, consider adding riverfront property to the city's park system with priority on properties or easements that allow for linear connections along the river.
   - Maintain a boat launch on the Mississippi and on the Elk River above the dam. If the existing Mississippi River boat launch is removed with future Highway 10 improvements, move to another location.
   - Consider additional "Quiet Craft" launch opportunities.
   - Partner with local businesses, organizations, or schools to provide kayak and canoe rentals at Orono Park and Bailey Point Nature Preserve. Expand to other locations as opportunities allow.
   - Acquire prairie river bluff lands south of the Focus Area Study, sub area East Elk River Gateway, as opportunities arise.
   - Expand Rivers Edge Commons as opportunities allow.

2. **Connect existing riverfront public property with pedestrian and bicycle trails.**

   Strategies:

   - As opportunities arise, extend a connection from Bailey Point Nature Preserve to Babcock Park. Consider:
     - Opportunities along the river's edge.
     - Add on-road bicycle facilities on Angel St., Morton Ave., and Main St.
   - Extend the Riverfront trail in conjunction with development, redevelopment, or other opportunities east from Babcock Park and west from Bailey Point Nature Preserve.

Figure 5.8 Bailey Point Nature Preserve Concept



3. **Develop Houlton Farm Property.**

Strategies:

- Develop hunting rules that allow for trail-based, non-hunting recreation during hunting season.
- A Planning Committee will oversee planning efforts such as a restoration management plan and a hunting plan. The hunting plan needs to be approved by the DNR to ensure the safety of adjacent property owners.
- Provide for passive, natural resource based recreation such as: natural surface walking trails, informal picnicking, shore fishing, cross country skiing, and primitive unpaved parking areas.
- Provide river access with natural surface trail connections to the river.

4. **Improve Bailey Point Nature Preserve.**

Strategies:

- Retain natural character of the Bailey Point Nature Preserve by completing a restoration management plan for the park.
- Utilize Bailey Point Nature Preserve for nature-based recreation programming.
- Allow low-impact, outdoor recreational use and nature observation at Bailey Point Nature Preserve.
- Provide rustic structures (trail barriers, benches, picnic tables, shelter, fishing platforms, boardwalks, bridges, trash/recycling receptacles, and informational kiosks) as identified in the Bailey Point Nature Preserve Master Plan.
- Construct paved trails to follow concept (Figure 5.8).







Initiative 5 Provide Engaging Recreational Programming for the Entire Community

Just as residents may associate emotionally with their neighborhood park, favorite hiking spot, or frequent bike ride, they are just as attached to their classes, farmers market, concerts, sports teams, and recreation program instructors.

Elk River provides a wide selection of offerings to community members ranging from youth and adult athletics, to one-time events, classes, and facility rentals.

Recommendations

1. **Provide high quality, diverse recreation program offerings for all ages**

   Strategies:

   - Provide high quality early childhood recreation programs.
   - Hold multi-age recreation programs so siblings can attend programs at the same time and location.
   - Provide for families with events, drop-in activities, and intergenerational activities.
   - Focus adult programs on fitness and wellness.
   - Increase focus on teen activities. Consider:
     - Developing a volunteer program where teens are offered natural resource based learning experiences which foster land stewardship.
     - Holding an annual special event for grades 9-12 with music and games.
     - Engaging youth in the teen program design to ensure it is relevant, well attended, and high quality.
     - Recruiting a teen to participate on the Parks and Recreation Commission as an advisor or creating a Teen Advisory Board.
     - Foster relationship with baby-boomers and collaborate on activities.
     - Feature youth artists in a concert series.

2. **Expand senior programming as the baby-boomers age.**

   Strategies:

   - Provide low impact opportunities for fitness, health, and wellness.
   - Evaluate need for expansion of programming at the Activity Center (55+).
   - Continue to evaluate Activity Center (55+) financial and use needs to ensure sustainable operation.
   - Develop events and clubs such as bike groups, volunteer opportunities, photography clubs, and social opportunities.
   - Foster relationships with teens and collaborate on activities.

3. **Ensure equitable financial access to recreation programs.**

   Strategies:

   - Continue scholarships for low income residents.
   - Subsidize equipment rentals, where applicable.

Recreation Tiered Pricing

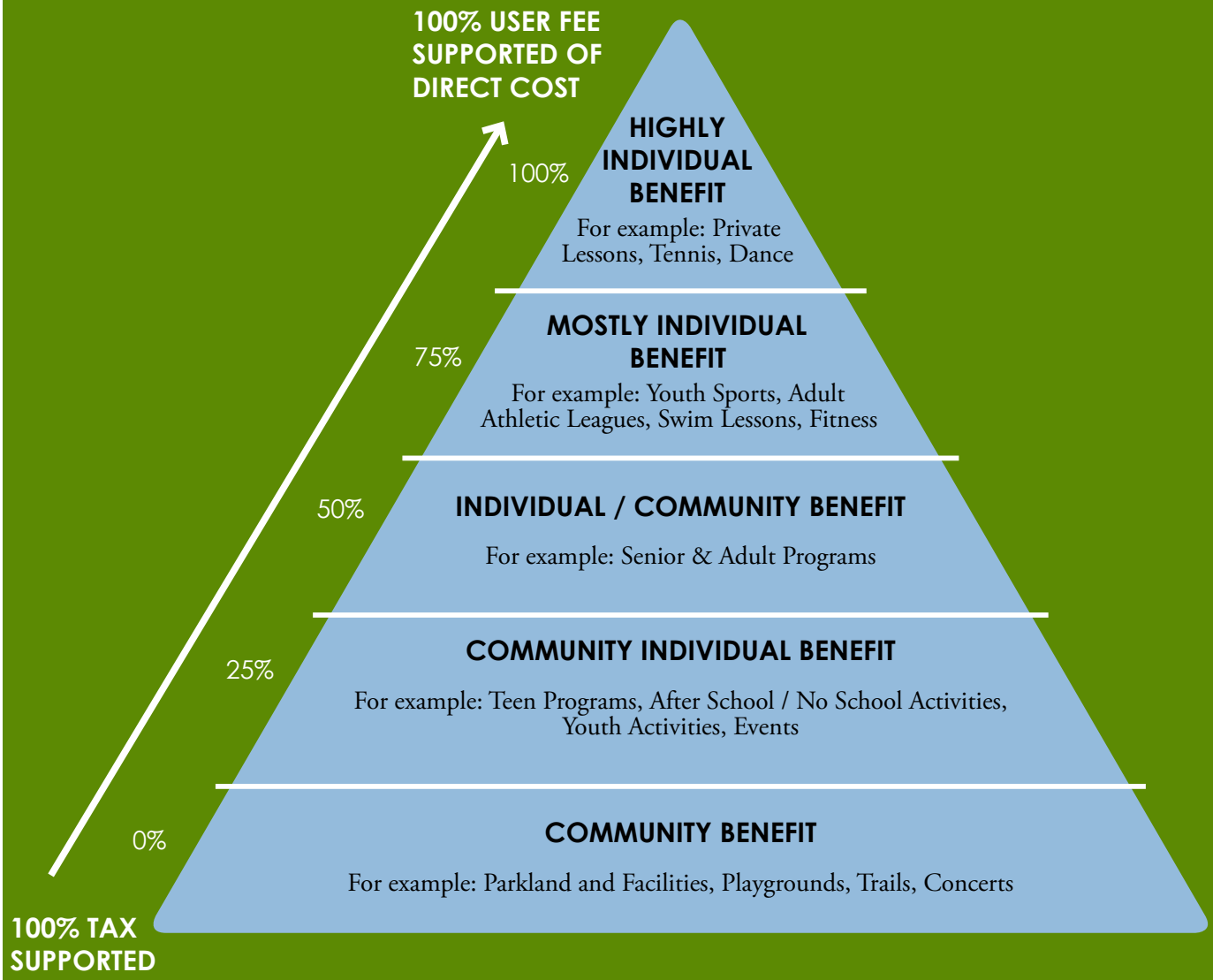
One way to address the stress between the city's need for cost recovery for some of its programs and ensuring that programs are affordable and accessible to all residents is by pricing its programs according to a tiered pricing model.

In this model, programs that benefit the entire community are equally available to everyone and are self-directed would be supported by revenue from the general tax fund, grants, or partnerships.

For programs that benefit both the community and the individual user fees, grants, or sponsorships would cover anywhere from 25% to 100% of the direct costs. Examples of such programs are senior programs, after school programs, and summer camps that require instructors, clean-up, and prep time.

For programs that have a highly individual benefit, such as fitness classes and field trips, user fees may pay for 100% or more of the direct costs.

To assure equal opportunity for low-income users, the Parks and Recreation Department offers scholarships for fee based programs.



- Provide low to no cost options.
- Work with partners to provide affordable access to activities like indoor aquatics or open gym.

4. **Improve indoor facilities to hold programs.**

   Strategies:

- Conduct a Comprehensive Recreation Facilities Study to evaluate the Activity Center (55+), the Arena, Lions Park Center, and the Trott Brook Barn to determine if they should be renovated, replaced on their current site, or consolidated into a centrally-located facility.
  - Consider development of shared Activity Center (55+)/ community center in a shared building.
  - If Lions Park Center is not replaced with a new facility (either in the same or another central location), renovate the building.
- Improve partnership with the Y to better meet city recreation program needs. Specifically:
  - Negotiate for additional swimming passes for Elk River residents.
  - Additional storage.
  - Expanded hours for city use.
  - Stronger city identity.
  - Providing a mechanism for cost recovery when providing city programs at the Y.
- Continue to partner with Community Education indoor programming locations.
- When renovating or creating new indoor program locations, create flexible, adaptable, multi-use spaces and changeable components to adapt with needs and interests.
- Develop spaces that can function for events such as conferences, weddings, receptions, parties, trade shows, and other larger gatherings.

5. **Host community events that facilitate community interaction and foster community pride and identity.**

   Strategies:

- Evolve the Riverfront Concert Series at Rivers Edge Commons to a higher profile community event that becomes a greater economic benefit.
- Continue to support hosting regional and statewide events such as the 2014 Hockey Day Minnesota, in partnership with the school district, and the Northwest Suburban Conference Cross Country Running Championships at the golf course.
- Support family events such as Spooktacular at Halloween and the 4th of July celebration.

6. **Meet changing recreation program trends.**

   Strategies:

- Provide diverse programming platforms (events, clubs, classes, drop-in activities).
- Increase weekend and evening offerings.
- Provide activities that do not require intense scheduling.
- Provide more individual and small-group activity options (in contrast to team sports).
- Increase outdoor, nature-based programming.
- Monitor technological changes and adapt programs (for example: internet based programs, geocaching, Wi-Fi in the parks).
- Survey users to stay abreast of new and local changes in preferences.
- Continue to have staff and commissioners attend conferences and continuing education to learn about new strategies for recreation delivery.

7. **Continue to evaluate recreation programs and adjust program mix based on customer feedback, demand, and trends.**

   Strategies:

- Administer program outcome evaluations.
- Conduct focus groups.
- Periodically review demographics.
- Complete biennial community surveys.
- Develop pricing and cost recovery goals.
- Evaluate and account for staffing needs.
- Solicit feedback from partner organizations and other City departments.
- Continue to foster partnerships.

8. **Continue to work with partners to provide high quality recreation programs and limit program overlap.**

   Strategies:

- Meet annually with other program providers.
  - School District
  - Neighboring Communities
  - Sherburne County
  - The Y
  - Boys and Girls Club
  - Athletic Organizations
  - Arts Organizations
- Continue to partner with other program providers for efficiencies in locations and staff costs.







Initiative 6 Be Stewards for Natural Resources and Greenways

Elk River prides itself on its environmental resources and natural character. Many people choose to live in Elk River because of the access to nature right outside their front door. Fishing, hunting, hiking, biking, and bird watching are just a few of the outdoor activities residents enjoy in the city. To ensure these are maintained for generations to come, efforts should be made to protect the natural resources that define Elk River for so many people.

Recommendations

1. **Protect natural areas in the city**

   Strategies:

- Acquire or protect through land trusts, conservation easements, partnerships etc. areas proposed as greenway corridors and/or land identified as high quality in the Natural Resources Inventory.
- Explore possibility to protect the Gun Club property as a State Scientific Natural Area as opportunities arise.
- Place 50' natural riparian buffers around wetland and lakes on all appropriate public land and parks.
- Reduce impacts of parks and facilities on waterways by implementing best management practices such as:
  - Rain gardens, water retention, and permeable paving.
  - Minimization of chemicals on turf that will run into water.
  - Shoreline restoration and stabilization.
  - Expand wetland capacity.

2. **Maintain high-quality, city-owned natural areas.**

   Strategies:

- Create and implement management plans for parks such as Camp Cozy, Woodland Trails, Big Tooth Ridge, Hillside, Meadowvale Heights, Bailey Point Nature Preserve, Great Northern Trail, and Sedge Meadow.
- Look for opportunities to develop oak savanna and prairie habitat in appropriate parks.
- Continue to restore natural areas and shorelines within parks.
- Remove invasive species; natural resource assessment.

3. **Maintain biodiversity on city-owned parks and open space.**

- Control invasive species such as buckthorn.
- Manage for pests and disease such as Emerald Ash Borer and Oak Wilt.
- Plant natives with high value for wildlife.

4. **Develop environmental greenways**

   Strategies:

   - Preserve greenways identified in the 2004 City of Elk River – Natural Resource Inventory as high-quality natural areas. Incorporate trails into greenways along with new development and as opportunities arise.
   - Utilize the conceptual greenway plan within the Natural Resources Inventory to prioritize resources.

5. **Provide natural experiences in parks.**

   Strategies:

   - Incorporate natural areas (wetlands, prairies, woodlands) into new parks, not as park dedication, especially in the northern part of the city.
   - Consider habitat restoration in parks where feasible.
   - Expand nature-based recreation programming.
   - Implement and demonstrate environmental best practices in parks, including: rain gardens; permeable paving; native plantings; recycling; energy efficient buildings, lighting, and fixtures; LED lighting and solar lighting; green roofs and green walls; and stormwater programs.

6. **Encourage private conservation easements.**

   Strategies:

   - Provide educational information to landowners on ecological and economic benefits and available programs.



Chapter 6
Implementation
Priorities, Toolkit, & Using the Plan

Introduction

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is intended to provide direction for the City Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and city staff to guide them in the big picture decision making that will impact the parks and recreation system. The purpose of Chapter 6, then, is twofold.

First, the chapter presents priorities for the future. These priorities are the visionary and new initiatives that the Parks and Recreation Department will pursue, in collaboration with partners, to meet the present and future needs and desires of the Elk River community.

The second part of the chapter is the Tool Kit. Each tool in the tool kit is intended to act as a guide for evaluating the park system and helping with decision-making both on a system-wide and on a case-by-case basis.

The tool kit includes:

- Parks and Recreation Delivery Guidelines
- Park Classifications and Standards
- Level of Service Analysis
- Funding Sources
- Measuring Progress

Priority Actions and Projects

Priorities are drawn from the recommendations in Chapter 5 and are divided into two categories: momentum projects and vision projects. Momentum projects are short- to mid-term projects that create impact, address immediate needs, and are likely achievable within the current Capital Improvement Plan structure.

Vision projects, on the other hand, are larger, potentially longer-term projects that require additional research and will require finding additional funding sources and partnerships. Together, these two project categories provide a summary list of key actions that will keep Elk River's parks and recreation system relevant long into the future.

Costs presented are estimates in 2015 dollars, based on the information in this system-wide master plan. They are presented to give a general guide to budgeting needed to achieve the recommendations outlined in this plan. It is anticipated that improvements will be phased in over the long term and cost estimates will be refined as individual projects are undertaken.

The priorities are drawn from five of the six topic areas discussed in Chapter 5: improving existing parks, strengthening trail connections, connecting to the rivers, and natural resource stewardship.

The other priority, maintenance, remains an essential component of a great park system. Excellence in this area is, in large part, why residents are so satisfied with Elk River's parks and recreation system today. A challenging question for the future is how to change and further develop the system while properly maintaining and adequately funding it.

These priorities highlight and elevate the very things that make Elk River unique. They build on and celebrate the city's active, nature-based identity, strong community, and dedication to places people love. See the full list of priority actions and projects on the following pages.

Table 6.1 Priorities - Momentum Actions and Projects

Park	Priority Actions	2015 Cost Estimate	
Orono	Skate Park	$400,000	
	Adult Fitness Features	$25,000	
	Splash Pad	$650,000	
	Restrooms	$250,000	
	Parking lot paving (to follow concept plan)	$600,000	
	New and extended trail (to follow concept plan)	$425,000	
Youth Athletic Complex	Restrooms	$200,000	
	Parking Lot Paving	$600,000	
	Finish Building	$75,000	
	Maintenance Shed	$75,000	
	Field Lights – (1-6)	$800,000	
	Playground	$175,000	
	Upgrade Irrigation and Well	$20,000	
	Additional Fencing	$5,000	
Woodland Trails	Maintenance Shed	$100,000	
Neighborhood Parks (various)	On-going, based on amenity life-cycle and replacement needs	Amenity life-cycle replacement costs - TBD based on individual park needs over time	
Bailey Point Nature Preserve	Nature Preserve Improvements (trailhead, parking lot, natural resource restoration, picnicking, signage, boardwalk, bridge, trails, site amenities).	$640,000	
Trails	Trail gaps/neighborhood connections to Great Northern Trail	$3,250,000	
	Complete trail connection between Mississippi River/Main Street and the Great Northern Trail	$1,400,000	
	Sign trail connections as part of the Signage and Wayfinding Plan	Based on signage and wayfinding master plan (currently in process)	
All Parks	Park signage as part of the Signage and Wayfinding Plan	Based on signage and wayfinding master plan (currently in process)	
Buildings	Comprehensive recreation facilities study to evaluate the Activity Center (55+), Arena, Lions Park Center, and the Trott Brook Barn and determine if they should be renovated, replaced on their current site, or consolidated into a centrally located facility		
Oak Knoll	Parking lot upgrades, toilets, lights, bleachers, better back stops	$575,000	

	Responsibility	Initiatives
	Parks and Recreation with Skate Group	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation, Public Works	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation, Public Works	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities, Strengthen Trail Connections, Connect to the Rivers
	Parks and Recreation, Public Works	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation, Public Works	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation with Athletic Groups	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation with Athletic Groups	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation with Athletic Groups	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation with Athletic Groups	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation with Athletic Groups	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation with Athletic Groups	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation with Woodland Trails Volunteers	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities, Strengthen Trail Connections, Preserve Natural Resources and Greenways
	Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities, Strengthen Trail Connections, Connect to the Rivers, Preserve Natural Resources and Greenways
	Public Works, Planning, Parks and Recreation	Strengthen Trail Connections
	Public Works, Planning, Parks and Recreation	Strengthen Trail Connections, Connect to the Rivers
	Public Works, Parks and Recreation	Strengthen Trail Connections
	Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Administration, Parks and Recreation, Planning, Public Works, ISD 728	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation, ISD 728	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities

Table 6.2 Priorities- Vision Actions and Projects

Park	Priority Actions	2015 Cost Estimate	
As Determined by Facilities Study	Turf Multi-Use Field (in conjunction with School District)	Costs to be determined in Facilities Study	
	Fieldhouse (in conjunction with School District)	Costs to be determined in Facilities Study	
	Arena	Costs to be determined in Facilities Study	
	Baseball Town Field (Hale's Field)	Costs to be determined in Facilities Study	
	Community Center/Lions Center Improvements	Costs to be determined in Facilities Study	
Various Locations in the Southern Part of the City	Add bluff lands to the park system along the Mississippi River as opportunities allow	Based on opportunities	
Woodland Trails (items from signature park concept plan not listed under momentum projects)	Woodlands Trails Park - Nature Center/ Chalet	$2,500,000	
	Trailhead improvements, signage, natural resource restoration, site amenities (benches, picnic tables, trash cans, bike racks)	$900,000	
Orono/Dave Anderson Athletic Complex (items from signature park concept plan not listed under momentum projects)	Miracle Field	$250,000	
	Off-leash dog area expansion, natural play area, boat house, pickleball court, basket ball court, sand volleyball, beach expansion, landscaping and site amenities	$450,000	
Youth Athletic Complex Expansion	Expansion per signature park concept plan	$3,000,000	
Lion John Weicht Park (does not include building upgrades, to be determined as part of the Facilities Study)	Improvements per signature park concept plan	$1,250,000	
New neighborhood park development (along with new development, does not include land acquisition)	Urban Service Area (plan assumes 2)	$800,000	
	Rural Service Area (assumes 3)	$600,000	
Trails (does not include land acquisition)	North/South Trail spine east of Highway 169	$1,000,000	
	Ped-bike crossing improvements - Highway 169 (assumes improvements at 5 locations)	$5,000,000	
	Riverfront Trail	$4,000,000	

	Responsibility	Initiatives
	ISD 728, Administration, Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	ISD 728, Administration, Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Administration, Parks and Recreation, ISD 728, Public Works	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	ISD 728, Administration, Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Administration, Parks and Recreation, Planning, Public Works	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Administration, Public Works, Planning, Parks and Recreation	Strengthen Trail Connections, Connect to the Rivers, Preserve Natural Resources and Greenways
	Parks and Recreation with Woodland Trails Volunteers	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities, Strengthen Trail Connections, Preserve Natural Resources and Greenways
	Parks and Recreation with Woodland Trails Volunteers	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities, Strengthen Trail Connections, Preserve Natural Resources and Greenways
	Parks and Recreation with Athletic Groups	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation with Athletic Groups	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation with Athletic Groups	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation, along with new development (FAST area)	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation, add recreation amenities to existing park land along with new development	Improve Existing Parks and Facilities
	Parks and Recreation, Planning, Public Works	Strengthen Trail Connections
	Parks and Recreation, Planning, Public Works, MnDOT	Strengthen Trail Connections
	Parks and Recreation, Planning, Public Works	Strengthen Trail Connections, Connect to the Rivers

Tool Kit

The toolkit contains standards and guidelines to guide evaluation of new projects and initiatives and help with decision making system-wide and on a case by case basis. The toolkit includes:

- Parks and Recreation Delivery Guidelines
- Park Classifications and Standards
- Level of Service Analysis
- Funding Sources
- Measuring Progress

Parks and Recreation Delivery Guidelines

The following guidelines provide direction regarding the public and geographic access to recreation activities within the City of Elk River. The delivery levels range from regional parks to neighborhood scale parks and define the expectations for the quantity and general location of a particular facility. For example, cross country skiing at Woodland Trails and tournaments at the Youth Athletic Complex have a regional draw, while children's play equipment and open grass play space should be accessible at a neighborhood level.

The first consideration when thinking about delivery of parks and recreation activities should always be the need, appropriateness, and current availability of such activities. The second consideration should be the infrastructure needed (field, court, etc.) for the activity to occur. In some cases the physical facilities and programs needed for the activity may be best delivered, modified or created by the city, but in other cases, may be best delivered by service providers alone or in partnership with the city. Examples include the Y and Community Education.

Table 6.3 Parks and Recreation Delivery Guidelines

Delivery Level	Recreation Focus	Facility Examples	Places	Trails	Service Area
Regional Destination	Single Purpose, Group, & Team Recreation	Mountain biking, cross country skiing, biathlon, tournament level athletic complexes	Regional parks, single parks with unique facilities, athletic complexes	Great Northern Trail, Mississippi River Trail, Trails within Regional Parks	City wide and Regional
Community	Family, Youth, Group, & Team Recreation	Destination playgrounds, softball/baseball pinwheels, large group picnic shelters, trails, multi-use fields, swimming, recreation buildings	Signature Parks, Community Parks, Athletic Complexes,	Trails connecting destinations (schools, downtown, rivers, parks), Trails within community Parks	City wide
Neighborhood	Family, Youth, Senior, & Individual Recreation	Children's play equipment, informal turf play space, informal picnicking	Neighborhood Parks	Local, neighborhood trails and sidewalks	Walkable distance, not more than 1/2 mile

Figure 6.1 Park Classifications

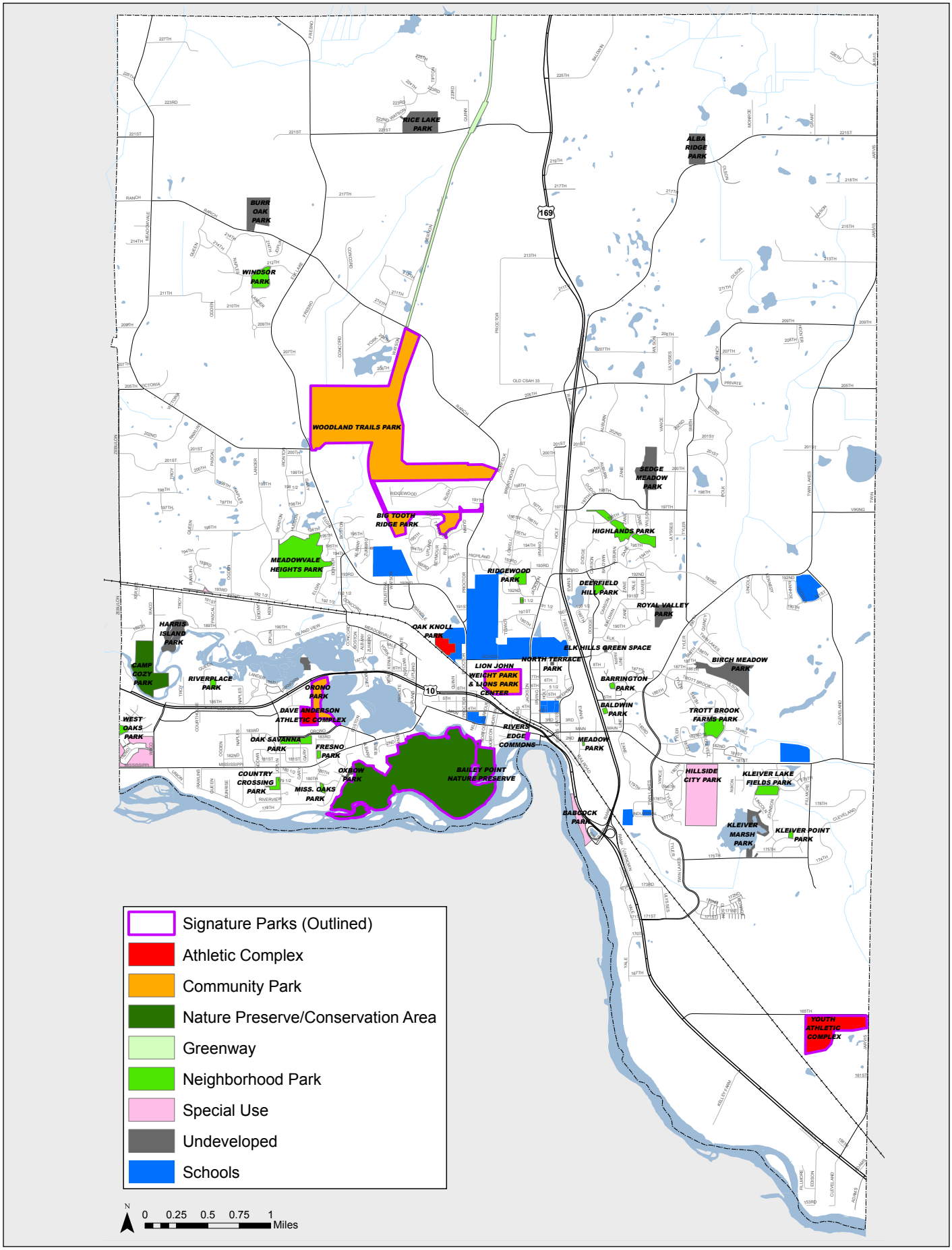


Table 6.4 Park Classifications

Elk River's park system is made up of a variety of parks and open spaces, each with different purposes, characteristics, uses, and ownership. Classifications define and clarify the intended use of each park type and indoor recreation facility and also clarify the area served, access, and typical features of each park type and indoor recreation facility. This table is

Classification	Description	
Neighborhood Park (urban service area)	Primary recreation facility to meet the day-to-day needs of neighborhoods. Provides active recreation and informal gathering spaces for families and groups of neighbors. Fields are sized for practice/youth games.	
Neighborhood Park (outside of urban service area)	Close to home to meet day-to-day needs of residents. Minimal facilities devoted to informal play. Adjacent to natural areas, with trails as appropriate.	
Community Park	Serves broader purpose than neighborhood parks. Focus is on meeting service sector-based recreational needs, as well as preserving unique landscapes and open spaces.	
Athletic Complex	Focused on organized athletic recreation with regulation sized playfields. Meets the athletic needs of varying ages.	
Signature Park	Community parks and athletic complexes with high quality facilities that residents are willing to drive to and attract regional visitors.	
Nature Preserve / Conservation Area	Areas focused on the preservation of natural environments, passive recreation, and ecological education. For some areas, use is dictated by deed restrictions.	
Greenways	These areas serve as linear corridors of natural environment. The Focus is on protecting ecological resources and providing wildlife and trail corridors. Secondary use is for trails, assuming that they can be integrated without compromising the integrity of the natural systems.	
Special Use Facility	A broad range of land and buildings with a primary use such as a nature center, senior center, historic sites, activity center, etc.	
Undeveloped Park	Park land held for future recreation development or future nature preserve.	
Regional Park	Parks and open spaces with a natural resource and larger acreage focus. Classification as a regional park is coordinated through the greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission	

particularly useful when planning for new parks within the community or when contemplating park needs for major redevelopment projects.

Classifications will help guide facility and use plans and are based on national standards from the National Recreation and Parks Association, the American Planning Association, and local conditions.

	Typical Features	Service Area	Access
	Playground, open field, picnic facilities, skating rink, courts	1/2 mile radius, free of major barriers such as waterways or highways	Easily accessible to neighborhood residents by bike or on foot
	open field, small playground or play structure	1- 1/2 mile radius, focus on trail connections to neighborhoods and Great Northern Trail	Easily accessible to residents in the area by bike or automobile
	Large playground, open fields, picnic facilities, trails, parking	Community-wide	Connected to pedestrian/bike networks. Automobile parking provided
	Athletic fields, courts, or rinks, playground, shelter, water, restrooms, parking	Community & Regional Draw	Connected to pedestrian/bike networks. Automobile parking provided
	Large, custom playground, high quality athletic fields, groomed cross country ski trails, restrooms	Community & Regional Draw	Connected to road, pedestrian, and bike networks. Automobile parking provided
	Trails, habitat, interpretation	Community-wide	Centered around natural resources and amenities
	Trails, habitat, interpretation	Community-wide	Centered around natural resources and amenities
	Specific to primary use	Community & Regional Draw	Connected to pedestrian/bike networks. Automobile parking provided
	Undeveloped	Neighborhood/ Community-wide	Connected to pedestrian/bike networks along with development. Consider need for automobile parking at time of recreation development.
	Trails, habitat, interpretation	Community & Regional Draw	Centered around natural resources and amenities. Connected to pedestrian/bike networks. Automobile parking provided

Table 6.5 Level of Service Analysis

Level of service standards identify the minimum level of service required for recreation facilities such as ballfields, courts, etc. The needs are based on the existing population levels, (22,974 in 2010) and projected population (34,890 in 2035). The standards are based on recommendations by the National Recreation and Park Association, an organization of parks and recreation experts and professionals who have examined recreation and athletic facilities throughout the nation, adjusted their findings to account for regional differences, and then provided guidelines based on population.

It is important to remember these standards are minimums and local conditions may necessitate provision of additional facilities. A community may also choose to provide additional fields or facilities based on the desires of that community. A surplus or deficit does not automatically mean the need to remove or add facilities.

Facility	Service Area	No. of Existing City Facilities	No. of Existing School Facilities	Total Number of Existing Facilities	
Playground	1/2 Mile	15	7	22	
Baseball 90'	10-15 Minute travel time	3	7	10	
Softball/Little League 60'	1-2 Miles	11	14	25	
Multi-Purpose Field (Football, Soccer, LAX, Rugby)	1/2 Mile - 1 Mile	4	15	19	
Outdoor Basketball Court	1/2 Mile - 1 Mile	13	16	29	
Indoor Gym Court (Basketball, Volleyball)	10-15 Minute travel time	0	20	20	
Outdoor Track	City-wide	0	1	1	
Outdoor Rink	10-15 Minute travel time	4	2	6	
Indoor Rink	City-wide	2	0	2	
Tennis Court	1 Mile	3	16	19	
Outdoor Volleyball	1-2 Miles	3	0	3	
Pool	City-wide	1- non city Y	0	0*	
Disc Golf	City-wide	1	0	1	

Comparison to these standards can only tell part of the story of the facilities system in Elk River. Other attributes such as quality, size, accessibility, location, age, supporting amenities, and durability can be just as important. The most important considerations when looking at facilities needs to be the local demand, appropriateness, and availability of similar facilities. The standards do provide a good starting point for comparisons but cannot entirely represent the needs of Elk River.

	Facilities Per Pop. Minimum Standard	2010 Facilities Minimum Standard (pop. 22,974)	Current Deficit/ Surplus	2035 Facilities Minimum Standard (pop. 34,890)	2035 Deficit/ Surplus
	1 per 1,000-2,000	12-23	ok to low	18-36	low
	1 per 5,000 to 10,000 (1/3-1/2 should be lit)	3-5	ok to low	3-7	ok to low
	1 per 2,000 to 4,000	6-12	ok to high	9-18	ok
	1 per 4,000 to 8,000	3-6	ok	5-9	low (partner)
	1 per 3,000	8	ok to high	12	ok
	1 per 10,000-20,000 (City only)	1-2	low (partner)	2-4	low (partner)
	1 per 20,000	1	low (partner)	2	low (partner)
	1 per 5,000 to 10,000	3-5	ok	4-7	ok to low
	Dep. on demand				
	1 per 2,000-4,000	6-12	low (partner)	9-18	low (partner)
	1 per 7,500-10,000	2-3	ok	4-5	ok
	1 per 20,000-40,000	1	low (partner)	1	low (partner)
	NA				

Funding Sources

The community invests substantial financial resources to acquire parkland, add park amenities and build facilities. These investments improve the quality of life for residents of all ages and abilities and sets Elk River apart from other communities as a destination community.

Following the substantial initial investment, ongoing revenue streams are required to maintain parks, trails, amenities, and facilities, as well as to provide for future replacement. Two methods are generally utilized to maintain and replace assets, 1) Pay as you go – a savings plan to set aside funds each year to pay for future costs; or 2) One-time bulk infusion, utilizing a large single year levy increase or using the proceeds from a bond sale.

Funding streams are classified as Sustainable – a consistent, long-term active source for funds; or Intermittent – funding sources that are difficult to schedule, may require matching funds and are typically one-time revenues.

It is anticipated that the city will use multiple methods to fund the system. The following sections provide additional information about the types of funding sources identified in Table 6.6. The funding sources are categorized by sustainable and intermittent.

Sustainable

Provides long-term funding over multiple years.

General Fund Tax Levy

The General Fund is typically used to maintain the parks and recreation system. The General Fund is the primary funding source for ongoing maintenance, natural resource management, operations, and minor amenity additions. Most grants also have a matching requirement that is often pledged with general funds.

Dedicated Tax Levy

A dedicated tax levy identifies funds sourced to pay solely for park improvements. By identifying a separate general tax levy line item in addition to normal tax levy line items for core city operations, taxpayer transparency is increased for funds reserved for planned, long-term improvements. This functions as a pay-as-you go approach versus a large one-time infusion of capital. The amount of tax levy dedicated may be included in levy limits if enacted again, whereas debt service tax levy is often outside levy limits.

Bonding

A number of bonding options exist including General Obligation Bonds, Annual Appropriation Bonds, Tax Abatement Bonds, and Revenue Bonds. Bonding provides a large one-time infusion of capital for acquisition, replacement, repair, expansion, or new construction. Bonding allows for current and future residents to pay for park improvements over time which typically correspond to useful life of the asset improvements. General Obligation Bonds provide the lowest interest rate while revenue bonds may be 50-100 basis points higher than a General Obligation pledge. Revenue Bonds need to have sufficient revenue identified for repayment and generally requires a coverage ratio of 105 percent.

Bonds by Referendum

When residents approve bonding authority through a referendum, the city benefits by the lowest available interest rate, an option of a longer repayment term of up to 30 years, as well as the increased transparency. The bonds are counted against a city's net debt limit and the levy to support them is outside of typical legislated levy limits. Property taxes are an authorized means of support for General Obligation Bonds, but do not have to be used if alternative revenue sources are available. For example, rental revenues or local sales tax can be used to pay general obligation bonds and offset some or all of the property taxes that would otherwise be required.

Local Sales Tax Option

Minnesota Statutes 297A.99 provides the authority to levy a local sales tax with special legislation of a dedicated tax. The statute requires that a resolution also be passed by the jurisdiction including, at minimum, information on the proposed tax rate, how the revenues will be used, the total revenue that will be raised before the tax expires and the estimated length of time the tax will be in effect. Once legal authority has been granted, an election must be held prior to a jurisdiction actually levying the sales tax. The election will permit the use of the sales tax for specific capital improvements.

Liquor Store Revenue

The City of Elk River may utilize up to 45% of operating income less budgeted transfers from its municipal liquor stores to fund a Park Improvement Fund. The Park Improvement Fund will be used for further build-out of our current parks, replacement and maintenance of capital assets, and the beautification of city parks.

Franchise Fees

Franchise fees are a charge listed on the monthly bill that customers receive from a utility, such as natural gas, electricity or cable. This can be a flat amount each month or a percentage of the monthly bill. A franchise fee can be implemented with an ordinance which must be approved by the City Council. The City of Elk River currently uses franchise fees for the pavement management program.

Intermittent
Irregular or periodic in occurrence.

State Aid Funds
State aid funds are available for pedestrian and bicycle improvements on state aid streets. This funding source is particularly useful at the time of street construction or re-construction. Elk River should have a process for evaluating needed trail and sidewalk improvements as part of capital improvement projects.

Park and Trail Dedication
Minnesota Statutes allow local governments to require dedication of land or cash in-lieu of land for parks and trails from new subdivisions. The dedication must be reasonable and rationally related to the recreation demand created by the development. It may only be used for new equipment additions, not replacement.

School Districts
The city partners with the local School District, particularly in the use of athletic fields. The continued collaboration between the city and the School District is important in ensuring adequate access to athletic facilities and minimizing overlap in programs. Communication should occur on at least an annual basis about planned projects and additional opportunities to jointly develop open space and public facilities as appropriate.

Partnerships
Elk River has partnerships with both public and private organizations. These relationships have historically led to improvements to city parks and other public facilities. Partnerships will be important for both facilities and programming. Organizations with partner funding can also provide assistance with design, outreach and maintenance. Partnerships and relationships with private entities can also result in easements and use agreements for trails across private land.

Donations
Private donations are another potential funding source. These may be financial donations from individuals or area corporations.

Volunteers
Volunteer efforts of labor from recreation clubs or use agreements related to trail and park maintenance are very successful in Elk River today to help raise awareness.

Grants

Grants are a way to make Elk River's dollars go further. The city has been successful in securing grant funding. Below is a sample of some grant opportunities that may be available along with websites to visit for more information.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

The DNR is one of the most comprehensive resources when it comes to state funding for park and trail programs. They offer a variety of grant programs and technical assistance. Current programs provide assistance for cross country skiing trails, mountain biking trails, horseback riding trails, and recreational trails. Some programs also offer assistance for the development of parks or for trail amenities such as restrooms, lighting, benches, etc. Each of the Minnesota DNR grant programs is unique. The DNR should be consulted before pursuing a grant to clarify funding availability and qualifications.

Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)

Many trail or bikeway improvement projects funded through MnDOT also utilize a portion of federal dollars. Federal highway funding reauthorization may include funding for trail or sidewalk improvement projects under programs such as Safe Routes to School or the Regional Solicitation managed by the Metropolitan Council Transportation Advisory Board.

Clean Water, Land, & Legacy Amendment

In 2008, Minnesota voters approved the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment to the Minnesota State Constitution which increased the general sales and use tax rate by three-eighths of one percent (0.375%) and dedicated the proceeds for the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, the Outdoor Heritage Fund, Clean Water Fund, and Parks and Trails Fund. Elk River Conservation Area was obtained through the Outdoor Heritage Fund.

Foundations & Non-Profits

Some foundations and non-profits fulfill their missions by supporting local projects such as park, trail, and bikeway improvements. The Minnesota Council of Foundations is a great starting point for identifying foundations.

Table 6.6 Funding Sources

The table above identifies the potential funding sources for each of the priorities. Sources are identified as possible, likely, best depending on how well the action and funding source are matched.

Project Type	General Funds	Utility or other Fee	Park Bond Referendum	State Aid Funds	Park/ Trail Dedication	Construction with development	Grants	Partnerships	Donations
New parks	2		3		1		3	3	
Improve parks and facilities	1	3	3		1		3	3	3
Maintain our park assets at a high level	1	3	3					3	3
Strengthen trail connections	2	2	3	2	3	1	2	2	
Connect to the rivers	1		3		1		2	2	3
Provide engaging recreational programming	1	2					2	3	3
Preserve natural resources and greenways	2	3	3	2	1		1	3	3
Create Arts Program	2	2	3				1	2	3
Arts and Cultural Design Elements	1	2	3		1	2	2	3	3

Key

Best Funding Source	Likely Funding Source	Possible Funding Source
1	2	3

Measuring Progress

Routine evaluation of the parks and recreation system is valuable, particularly when justifying requests for funds, facilities, staff time and volunteers.

It is also important to proactively communicate benefits provided by the park and recreation system to ensure elected officials, other decision makers and the public have a thorough understanding of the benefits the system provides and the number of people positively impacted by the parks and recreation system.

Regular evaluations also have the potential for pinpointing which improvements would better serve system users and identifying benchmarks for excellence.

Comprehensive evaluations of parks and recreation systems should include both qualitative and quantitative components. Some qualitative tools, such as surveys, are relatively easy to conduct and are important in gauging satisfactions, trends, and need. Surveys do not tell the entire picture though. The use of quantitative methods, such as counts, are important in capturing the who, what, where, and when of parks and recreation use. Counts are the most beneficial in demonstrating the magnitude of usage. Finally, the evaluation system should also include an analysis of the community's progress on its goals and implementation of its plans. Following are types of quantitative and qualitative data that should be collected as part of a comprehensive evaluation or progress.

> *Quantitative Data*

- Number of recreation activities and participants tracked through registrations.
- Number of events, facility users and participants tracked through reservations, permitting, and through usage requests by associations.
- Number of volunteer participants.
- Number of people using parks, trails, and other facilities through the development of a user count program. This program might be accomplished by counting cars in the parking lot, creating a neighborhood park count volunteer program, or installing new technology to count trail users.
- Number of signature and other park master plans completed.
- Miles of sidewalks/trails completed.
- Park and trail safety – number of accidents, incidents, and crime.
- Evaluation of species diversity, parcel size, and connectivity in our natural resource areas to guide our natural resource management efforts.







> *Qualitative Data*

- Continue city-wide survey on a regular basis and evaluate trends over time.
- Conduct satisfaction surveys of recreation activity participants.
- Create evaluation for associations and other groups who regularly use facilities.
- Interview park users to find out how they got there, why they came, how long they stayed, and the importance of the park's different attributes and facilities. If done regularly this can be informative in terms of trends.
- Conduct focus groups to gather information about park use habits and desires for future park system directions.
- System Analysis.
- Identify progress on marketing plan goals.
- Identify improvements implemented based on individual park master plans.
- Outline steps taken toward implementing system plan recommendations and priorities.
- Evaluate the ability to fund the desired system.
- Summarize the amount of outside funding (partnerships, grants, etc.) secured.
- Identify challenges and what steps have been taken to address them.

> *A Plan that Grows and Changes with the Community*

A great parks and recreation system not only measures progress by assessing community needs and satisfaction but also responds to meet those needs. Recreation is dynamic and evolves rapidly. New recreation activities and equipment emerge (disc golf and the mountain bike are examples), and recreation trends ebb and flow.

Elk River in particular is, and will continue to be, a growing community with new and additional parks and recreation needs. This evolution means flexible and adaptive parks, facilities, and programs are a must. It also means regular Parks and Recreation Master Plan review and refinement based on community feedback.

A periodic review of this plan to make sure that priorities and recommendations are still relevant and that progress is regularly tracked is an essential action. This plan itself will need to be updated from time to time as the city continues to evolve. Through these steps, Elk River will have a park system that meets the needs of the community today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.

This page intentionally left blank

Elk River
Public Arts Plan

Introduction

Public art and architecture says a lot about the city in which it is displayed. Murals may depict an historical event while avant-garde sculptures might indicate a place's openness to new ideas. A crowded art fair says volumes about a community's support for local artists, and a precision marching band may play in support of a local school. Elk River as a community embraces art and artists. The city recognizes the value of compelling public art, the input of creative thinkers, and the contributions they make to Elk River's identity and sense of place.

The Elk River Public Art Plan is for city-owned properties and infrastructure, though it may provide support beyond public areas. It addresses the current arts scene, public art policies, guidance for public art, and initiatives to further develop public art in the city.

Public Art Vision

Visioning Session

On May 5, 2014, members of the Elk River Arts Community, city staff, and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Planning Team met to review opportunities and potential locations and partnerships for public art in the city. Meeting participants also identified goals, strategies, and themes for the public art plan. Members of the Elk River Arts Alliance, the Regional Arts Council, the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Central Minnesota Arts Board, Independent School District 728, the Elk River Economic Development Authority, and various theaters and other performance groups were all in attendance.



Photo from Arts Alliance

Attendees viewed a presentation and participated in discussions of public art opportunities and best practices as they applied to Elk River. They then defined the potential scope, goals, opportunities and approach to public art in the community. The input gathered at this meeting informed the vision for the Elk River Public Art Plan.

The Vision

Public Art should represent Elk River. Its themes, creators, and viewers should come away with a better understanding of what the city is – 'a sense of place.' It should engage residents, businesses, and policymakers in the process. It should fit within the city, whether as a standalone piece or incorporated into buildings and infrastructure, as an integral part of the community. It should be displayed in a city that recognizes and compensates artists for their work. But above all, the art must stir the feelings of those who encounter it, to speak the 'Language of Emotion.'

Public Art Best Practices

When developing a public art program, there are two elements that need to be discussed and defined. One is the role of public art, the other is the role and management of the program to support public art.

Public Art

Successful public art generally meets the following characteristics:

- Is accessible to the public (location and financially)
- Has context specific to the site or community
- Includes community involvement
- Can express community values, enhance the environment, transform a landscape, heighten awareness, or question assumptions





Photo from ArtSoup

Inventory of Public Art in Elk River

- Downtown Murals
- Rivers Edge Commons
  - Etched River
  - Fountain
- Sculptures Downtown
  - Ladle
  - Elk
- "Tina" at Hillside City Park
- Handke School and Pit
- Jackson Avenue Water Tower
- Hwy 10 Memorial
- Independence Day Fireworks
- Historic Markers
- White deer at Handke



Inventory of Public Art Programs and Policies in Elk River

- Art Soup
- Arts Alliance Classes
- Riverfront Concert Series
- Arts In Harmony Art Show
- Christmas Performances
- German Festival
- High School Evening of the Arts

Inventory of Public Art groups & Organizations in and associated with Elk River

- Elk River Arts Alliance
- Regional Arts Council
- Minnesota State Arts Board
- Central Minnesota Arts Board
- ISD 728 Public Schools
- ISD 728 Community Education
- Elk River Economic Development Authority

Types of Public Art

PERMANENT — EPHEMERAL

- MONUMENTS
- ARCHITECTURE
- PAVING
- WALLS
- SCULPTURE
- INFRASTRUCTURE
- LIVING ART
- WATER FEATURES
- "POP-UP" GALLERIES
- PERFORMANCES

Locations for Public Art

PUBLIC — PRIVATE

- SIDEWALK
- GATEWAYS
- PARKS/TRAILS
- PLAZAS
- STREETS
- FESTIVALS
- SCHOOLS
- STOREFRONTS
- INTERIOR BUILDINGS
- TRADITIONAL VENUES

Choosing Public Art

Selecting art by committee has advantages and drawbacks. Art can be an iterative practice that benefits from the critiquing process in which outside opinions help the artist refine and improve her or his work. Without some oversight there is also the potential for art that is unsuitable for a community.

Using a public art selection committee can protect the city as well as the integrity of the public art program provided the committee consists of well-informed members with a wide range of expertise and experience in public art. The committee should be made up of representatives from the public art groups, organizations working in the community, artists living and working in Elk River, Parks and Recreation Commission members, and other stakeholders.

Public Art Programs

As communities grow their public art programs, it is better to move slowly and learn from experience than to take on too much to start. The intent of this plan is to provide the city with options for supporting public art and methods for developing public art at an appropriate speed.

Various communities have employed different programs to develop public art, including:

- A rotating gallery program in which cities first provide a venue for artists to display their work, and then annually add one or two of the most popular pieces to the city's permanent collection
- Arts dedication (similar to park dedication) from any new private development, redevelopment, or public capital or infrastructure investment
- Arts requirement in which any new private development, redevelopment, or public capital or infrastructure investment must incorporate some level of public art
- Public art competitions
- Support or subsidies for locations for artists to do their work
- Support for events (concerts, plays, art fairs)
- Artist in Residence programs
- Facilitating partnerships between artists and corporate patrons
- Pursuing grants
- Facilitating simple permitting for temporary or "pop-up" art opportunities

Locations

The locations identified are places where public art displays would likely be most engaged. In these settings, the art should respond to the context in which it is displayed. Public art, unlike a gallery piece sitting against a blank wall, must fit its setting. This is not to say that public art is not welcome in other locations in the city, nor that every artist's interpretation of what fits a location would be the same, but an artist must be able to answer the question, "how does your art respond to the context and setting in which it will be displayed?"

Downtown

The historic downtown already shows and hosts numerous pieces of public art, from sculptures and murals, to performances and fountains. It is a pedestrian-focused area with public and private facilities. It is also the heart of the community, and an area commonly identified with Elk River.

Public art projects in the downtown area could further enrich the experiences of visitors and locals alike. Opportunities for public art could include functional pedestrian amenities such as benches, lights, planters, and gates or railings. Additional public art could fit into buildings or in storefront windows or facades. Potential points of focus or themes for public art could include the river or the area's history, or art could be created in response to the built form of the district. Art in this location will likely be oriented to the human scale.

Community Gateways

Community gateways create a visitor's first impression of Elk River as they enter the city. These gateways thus serve as the city's welcome, whether it is for a first time visitor or for residents returning home from their daily commutes.

Public art at community gateways must consider the way in which people will interact with it. Someone entering Elk River from the north along Highway169 will likely be traveling at highway speed. Thus, the gateway must be legible from a greater distance and at high speeds. Viewers will not be able to consider the

art for a long time, nor will they notice intricate details. Unlike a downtown piece that can be looked at and explored by a pedestrian, public art at gateways will likely have to make an immediate and strong impression. Art and materials may need to scale up or down to meet the individual location's needs. Coordination with the city's wayfinding plan will also be important for art in these locations.

City Hall

As the official seat of the city's government, an element of professionalism must be considered with regards to public art that is located at City Hall. The amount of space available also narrows the types of artistic interpretation appropriate for this location.

Art in City Hall will likely be visual in nature and should be refined to reflect upon the city as an institution. It should be of a size that it can be located in City Hall without impeding movement or day to day operations. The level of detail should allow the viewer to stop and consider both the message and the craftsmanship of the piece.

Community Parks

Community parks serve as the gathering place for the city. They are often a destination and attract people from all over Elk River and surrounding communities, thus public art in community parks reflects upon the entire community. Community parks have often been developed due to the unique features, uses, history, and landscape of the place. These stories and characteristics can offer artists inspiration when creating art for these locations.

Public art in community parks should build on the character of the individual park in which it is located. As community hubs these parks require art that will engage an audience from across the city. Art should interpret, be inspired by, or otherwise relate to the context and unique characteristics of the park.

Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood parks are the public spaces that define the "finer grain" neighborhoods of Elk River. People claim their neighborhood parks in ways they do not or could not with community or regional parks. These parks are where people develop their personal stories and experiences.

Public art in neighborhood parks should be an opportunity for the neighborhood to put their unique stamp on the facility. Opportunities could include school projects, mobile art making events, murals, or impromptu performances.

Trail Corridors

The Great Northern Trail is the outdoor recreation spine of the community. Visitors and residents alike come to ride or hike the trail. Other trail corridors connect neighborhoods, natural areas, and parks. Many users are walking or bicycling, which means they may not stop for long and pass by areas relatively quickly.

Numerous opportunities exist for art to be incorporated into the wayfinding, infrastructure, and facilities along the trail. Because trails often connect natural areas and community destinations, they could be enhanced by interpretation or telling the stories of these important community locations. Trails and art can create a unique linear set of experiences that captivate viewers by giving them themes and stories to consider with each new encounter.

Examples and Precedents

The images on these two pages display a range of public art. Similar projects may be fitting in Elk River. This set of images should not limit what is considered for public art, but may give an idea of the character and range of scales and mediums that could be used. Examples include sculptures, arts festivals, infrastructure art, temporary installations, musical performances, shelters, artistic park features, and storytelling plays



Bearly About - Lake Oswego, OR



Nest - Ironwood, MI



Stone Slabs and Mounds - Franconia, MN



ArtShanty Project - White Bear Lake, MN



Pathways to Peace - Minneapolis, MN



Daybreak Sculpture/Skate Park - Utah



Fears Erased - Duluth, MN



Gateway to the West - Minneapolis, MN



Dry Stone Construction Demonstration - Minnesota Landscape Arboretum



Growth - Brooklyn Park, MN



Millstream Arts Festival - St. Joseph, MN



Stickworks - Collegeville, MN



Disc Spiral - Minnesota Landscape Arboretum



Edgerton Bridge - Vadnais Heights, MN



Okee Dokee Canoe Trip Concert - Mississippi River



Bench - Spokane, WA



Wetland Overlook - Wilsonville, OR



Chihuly Glass & Bench - Seattle , WA



Granite Falls: Saturday Nights! Community Performance - Granite Falls, MN

Goals and Strategies for Public Art in Elk River

The goals outlined below represent the input from local artists and arts groups in Elk River. They are intentionally open ended so as to be flexible as the city further develops its public art program. Strategies are steps the city or others may undertake to achieve the goals outlined.

Goal: Public art should represent the community and help create a "sense of place"

Strategies:

- Utilize local artists whenever appropriate.
- Incorporate local materials when appropriate.
- Look to characteristics of Elk River for inspiration.
- Incorporate art into the infrastructure of Elk River.
- Set aside a percentage of any infrastructure project for the incorporation of public art.
- Explore alternative infrastructure (rain gardens, unique bridges, streetscapes, etc.) that can incorporate creative elements.
- Facilitate and streamline the process for temporary art installations such as "pop-up" shops, performances, and events.

Goal: Public art should be leveraged for positive economic benefit and development

Strategies:

- Promote Elk River arts outside of the city.
- Facilitate events to attract people to downtown.
- Coordinate with local businesses.
- Facilitate events and programs for the sale of art.
- Develop and promote partnerships with corporate patrons and artists.





Goal: Engage the community in the process of public art

Strategies:

- Include citizen representatives as part of an arts selection committee.
- Allow for programs such as a "People's Choice" for voting on and selecting pieces for the city's permanent collection.
- Engage decision makers in business and government.
- Create an event such as a business/benefactors luncheon or awards program to introduce artists and projects to civic leaders.
- Incorporate artists in other government run public engagement processes.
- Encourage community groups to raise money to purchase and install public art.

Goal: Support public artists

Strategies:

- Maintain and develop arts based programming in recreation, community education, and within the school district to further the development of new and emerging artists.
- Compensate artists for their public art contributions.
- Explore the development of affordable artist space for studios and sale of art.
- Pursue grants to fund public art projects.





Appendix A
Peer Communities Survey

Table A.1 Peer Communities Survey*

	Elk River	Cottage Grove	Red Wing	Rosemount	Inver Grove Heights	South St. Paul	Andover	Shakopee
Population (2010)	22974	34589	16459	21874	33880	20160	30598	37076
Total number of city parks	43	32	37	29	28	15	67	30
Number of community parks	2	5	26	3	2	3	1	5
Number of community playfield parks (sports complexes)	3	3	2	5	1	2	10	5
Number of neighborhood parks	17	21	15	15	13	7	26	18
Number of tot lots or mini-parks		1	2	6	0	3	25	3
Total city parks/parkland acreage	1078	1217	1421	533.74	581	245	569	766
Special use facilities acreage (golf courses, Arenas, community centers, etc.) not covered above.	26	225	413	8	288	12	1	13
Other Parks and Recreation Lands								
School athletic field acreage (under agreement with city or usable by athletics groups)	215	265	0	12	109	3	7	68
Non-city parks & open space acreage (State, regional, County, private with public access). Please list major non-city parks in your community.	0	807	7565	County Park 225	793	45	93	86

Recreation Facilities (available/programmed for public use)	Elk River	Cottage Grove	Red Wing	Rosemount	Inver Grove Heights	South St. Paul	Andover	Shakopee
Miles of paved trails (off-road)	16.3	56	14	38.1	30.8	6	26	15.9
Miles of unpaved trails	8.4	6	16.51	1.8	8	4	1	0
Miles of bike routes (signed)		56	9.6	19	0	4.5	0.75	0
Number of tennis courts	3	11	3	8	12	8	2	23
Number of outdoor basketball courts	13	18		8	6	3	13	13
Number of full/adult indoor basketball/ gymnasium courts. CITY	0	0	INP	2	INP	INP	4	INP
Number of full/adult indoor basketball/ gymnasium courts. SCHOOL	20	10	INP	3	INP	INP	5	INP
Number of outdoor ice rinks	4	7 (+5 more open flooded)	2	6	8	5	12	9
Number of indoor ice rinks	2	3	0	1	2	2	1	1
Number of adult baseball fields	3	5	5	0	2	1	2 (shared w/ youth)	3
Number of youth baseball fields	11	18	7	18	17 (1 dedicated)	6	18	4
Number of adult softball fields	11	4	3	5	16	6	4 (shared w/ youth)	8
Number of youth softball fields	11	16	3	18 (Combined w/ bb)	16 (Shared)	8	9	24

*Data provided by parks and recreation staff in each city. Information is accurate to the level provided by staff. Information not provided denoted by INP.

Peer Communities Survey continued

Recreation Facilities (available/programmed for public use)	Elk River	Cottage Grove	Red Wing	Rosemount	
Number of large adult size soccer/lacrosse/football fields	4	15	1	11	
Number of youth size soccer/ lacrosse/football fields	Shared with adult fields and baseball/softball fields	21	3	6	
Does your city have a senior center? Please indicate the approximate size of the center	Yes	No (Comm. Ed. Does)	No	9000 SF	
Does your city have teen center? Please indicate the approximate size of the center	No	No	No	No	
Does your city have a skate park?	Existing one is out of commission	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Other Recreation Facilities	• Disc Golf • Dog Park • Golf Course* • Splash Pad • Mountain Bike Course	• River Oaks Golf Course • Disc Golf • Bike Park • Dog Park • Fishing Pond • Archery Range • Splash Pad • 2 Scenic Overlooks • Non-profit Nature Center (non-city)	• Disc Golf • 2 Community Gardens • Volleyball Court at Bay Point Park • Sensory Garden at Colvill Park • Colvill Aquatic Center • Horseshoe Pits (2) • Marinas	• 49 Community Garden Plots • Disc Golf	
Presence of Riverfront Parks or Trails	Yes	• Hazel D Moors Park • River Oaks Scenic Overlook • Grey Cloud Dunes Scientific Natural Area	• Bay Point Park • Levee Park • Colvill Park • Riverfront Trail	• Spring Lake Park (Dakota Co.)	

	Inver Grove Heights	South St. Paul	Andover	Shakopee
	12	4	7	1
	Shared with adult fields and baseball/softball fields	Shared with adult fields and baseball/softball fields	Shared with adult fields and baseball/softball fields	Shared with adult fields and baseball/softball fields
	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	Community Center	No	Community Center	Yes
	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
	• Disc Golf • Dog Park • Inverwood Golf Course • Rich Valley Athletic Complex • The Grove Aquatic and Fitness Center	• Kaposia Park 27 Hole Golf Course • Kaposia Landing Dog Park • McMorrow Field Community Garden • Lorraine Park Splash Pad • Northview Park Pool • Public Boat Launch	• Community Gardens	• Sandventure Aquatic Park • Disc Golf • Archery Range • Boat Launch • Dog Park
	• Heritage Village Park • Rock Island Swing Bridge • River Front Park • Mississippi River Regional Trail	• Kaposia Landing • DNR Boat Launch • Mississippi River Regional Trail	• Grow Oak View Park • Strootman Park • River Trails Park • Timber Rivers Park	• Minnesota River Archery Boat Launch • Huber Park • Memorial Park • Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (Not city)

*Data provided by parks and recreation staff in each city. Information is accurate to the level provided by staff. Information not provided denoted by INP.

Peer Communities Survey continued

Recreation Facilities (available/programmed for public use)	Elk River	Cottage Grove	Red Wing	Rosemount	
Presence of Signature Parks	• Dave Anderson Athletic Complex • Orono Park • Youth Athletic Complex • Woodland Trails	• Hamlet Park • Highlands Park • Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park • River Oaks Golf Course	• Barn Bluff – Hiking, rock climbing, views of downtown and the Mississippi River • Memorial Park – Hiking, mountain biking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, disc golf, upper and lower quarries picnic areas, overlook • Central Park – Band shell, balustrade • Colvill Park – Picnic shelters, indoor facility, Colvill Pool, marinas, eagle watching • John Rich – Veteran's memorial, fountain & pergola • Bay Point Park – Picnic shelter, playground, dock, walking path, volleyball court, marinas	• Central Park w/ bandshell and splash pad	
Indoor Facilities	• Arena • Facilities at Lions Park • Senior Center			• Rosemount Community Center • Steeple Center • Family Resource Center	

	Inver Grove Heights	South St. Paul	Andover	Shakopee
	• Rich Valley Athletic Complex • Swing Bridge Park • North Valley and South Valley Parks • Heritage Village Park (future) • Lions Park • Salem Hills Park • Harmon Park	• Kaposia Park • Kaposia Landing • McMorrow Field • Lorraine Park • Northview Park	• Prairie Knoll Park • Sunshine Park • Andover Station North (ASN) • Kelsey Round Lake Park	• Huber Park • MN State Valley Trail • Valleyfair • Canterbury Park • Murphy's Landing • Tahpah Park
	• The Grove Aquatic and Fitness Center • Ice Arena	• Wakota Ice Arena • Central Square Community Center (fitness area, indoor pool, meeting space, gymnastics) • Kaposia Park Pavilion (Enclosed park pavilion building with restrooms, kitchen, hard wood floor)	• Andover Community Center • Ice Arena • Y • Fieldhouse	• Shakopee Community Center and Ice Arena

*Data provided by parks and recreation staff in each city. Information is accurate to the level provided by staff. Information not provided denoted by INP.



Appendix B
Elk River Resident Survey

Elk River Parks and Recreation
COMMUNITY SURVEY

POWERED BY NATURE
INSPIRE • PLAY • GROW

Please take a moment to fill out this survey and drop it in the mail by April 30th. No additional postage is necessary.
Your input is very important and will help guide park and recreation decisions. Thank you for your time.

1. How often do members of your household visit Elk River parks?

- ☐ Every day
- ☐ At least once per week
- ☐ At least once per month
- ☐ 1-11 times per year
- ☐ Never

2. In which Elk River activities have you or members of your household participated in during the past three (3) years? Please check all that apply.

- ☐ Playgrounds
- ☐ Picnicking
- ☐ Swimming
- ☐ Cross-country skiing
- ☐ Ice skating/ Hockey
- ☐ Jogging/ Running
- ☐ Bicycling
- ☐ Mountain biking
- ☐ Visiting nature areas
- ☐ Walking/Hiking
- ☐ Golf
- ☐ Inline skating
- ☐ Tennis
- ☐ Birdwatching
- ☐ Fishing
- ☐ Disc golf
- ☐ Biathlon
- ☐ Indoor court sports (ie. basketball, volleyball)
- ☐ Non-traditional sports (ie. skateboarding, climbing)
- ☐ Informal sports (ie. playing catch, "pick up" sports games, frisbee
- ☐ Organized outdoor programs (ie. nature activities)
- ☐ Outdoor court sports (ie. basketball, sand volleyball)
- ☐ Organized outdoor softball/ baseball
- ☐ Organized outdoor soccer/ football
- ☐ Other: _____

3. Which Elk River Parks and Recreation facilities do members of your household use? Please check all that apply.

- ☐ Oak Knoll Athletic Complex
- ☐ Orono Athletic Complex
- ☐ Youth Athletic Complex (YAC)
- ☐ Boat Launch (Orono/Babcock)
- ☐ Rental Facility (Trott Brook Farms Barn, Lions Park Center
- ☐ Park Shelters (Lions Park, Orono Park)
- ☐ Activity Center 55yrs+
- ☐ School recreation facilities
- ☐ Rivers Edge Commons
- ☐ Elk River Ice Arena
- ☐ Dog Park
- ☐ Fishing Pier
- ☐ Great Northern Trail
- ☐ Hillside City Park
- ☐ Woodland Trails Park
- ☐ Orono Park and/or Beach
- ☐ Orono Park Playground
- ☐ YMCA
- ☐ Other: _____

4. Are there reasons that your household does not use certain Elk River Parks and Recreation programs and facilities?

- ☐ Inadequate transportation
- ☐ Too expensive
- ☐ Not interested in current offerings
- ☐ Not aware they existed
- ☐ Facilities are too far from home
- ☐ Facilities and programs are not available
- ☐ Not enough time to recreate
- ☐ Other reasons: _____

5. What type of outdoor park or recreation facilities do you feel are lacking in Elk River? Please check all that apply.

- ☐ Baseball/Softball fields
- ☐ Picnic areas
- ☐ Children's play areas
- ☐ Soccer/football/ lacrosse fields
- ☐ Natural areas
- ☐ Interpretive/ historic areas
- ☐ Park landscaping
- ☐ Skate park
- ☐ Swimming Pool
- ☐ River access
- ☐ Splash Pad (water play)
- ☐ Bicycling/walking trails
- ☐ Other: _____

6. In which additional indoor recreation activities or facilities would you and/or members of your household be interested?

- ☐ Indoor play equipment
- ☐ Teen center
- ☐ Skate park
- ☐ Climbing wall
- ☐ Fitness center (equipment & aerobics)
- ☐ Racquetball
- ☐ Auditorium
- ☐ Walking/running track
- ☐ Gymnasium (basketball, volleyball, etc.)
- ☐ Indoor tennis
- ☐ Banquet facility
- ☐ Multi-use fieldhouse
- ☐ Other: _____

Elk River Parks and Recreation Department
13065 Orono Parkway
Elk River, MN 55330

PARK AND RECREATION COMMUNITY SURVEY

Dear Elk River resident,

The Elk River Parks and Recreation Department is currently developing a new system master plan. By receiving this survey, you have been selected to participate in our planning efforts. Your completion of this survey is important to this effort. Your comments will be confidential.

Please take a few minutes to complete this survey, fold as per the instructions, tape it shut, and mail it back to us. Postage is prepaid.

We thank you in advance for your help as we plan for the community of Elk River and future park and recreation opportunities!

Sincerely,

Calvin P. Portner
City Administrator

Michael Hecker
Parks and Recreation Director

POWERED BY NATURE
INSPIRE • PLAY • GROW

7. Overall, how satisfied are you with the following elements of the Elk River Parks and Recreation system and what priority does the element hold for your household in the future?

	Current Rating		Priority for Future	
	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	High Priority	Low Priority
Trails (walking and bicycling)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Indoor recreation facilities (gymnasiums, swimming, ice arena, fitness equipment)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Athletic Complexes (Oak Knoll, Orono Athletic Complex, Youth Athletic Complex)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Active Parks (ballfields, soccer, tennis, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Passive Parks (picnic, natural areas, green spaces, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Recreation programs - Ages under 6	☐	☐	☐	☐
Recreation programs - Ages 6 - 12	☐	☐	☐	☐
Recreation programs - Ages 13 - 18	☐	☐	☐	☐
Recreation programs - Ages 19 - 54	☐	☐	☐	☐
Recreation programs - Ages 55+	☐	☐	☐	☐
Park Maintenance	☐	☐	☐	☐
Special events (music and dance performances, festivals, concerts, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐
Communications (recreation brochures, website, park and trail maps, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐

8. Which of the following improvements/additions to the Elk River Parks and Recreation system would you be willing to support? (ie. through a bond referendum -- temporary annual property tax increase)

Great Support	Marginal Support	No Support	
☐	☐	☐	Biking/Walking trails - add to and extend them
☐	☐	☐	Athletic Complexes - make improvements to existing facilities
☐	☐	☐	Community Athletic Facilities - Acquire land
☐	☐	☐	Community Passive Parks - Acquire land
☐	☐	☐	Skateboarding/Climbing - Include more non-traditional recreation
☐	☐	☐	A teen center
☐	☐	☐	An expanded senior activity center
☐	☐	☐	Multi-use fieldhouse
☐	☐	☐	A splash pad/spray park (water play area)
☐	☐	☐	A nature center
☐	☐	☐	Elk River Ice Arena

9. What is your age?

☐ Under 20 ☐ 21-40 ☐ 41-55 ☐ Over 55

10. How many people in the following age categories live in your household? Please fill in the number of people in each age category, including yourself.

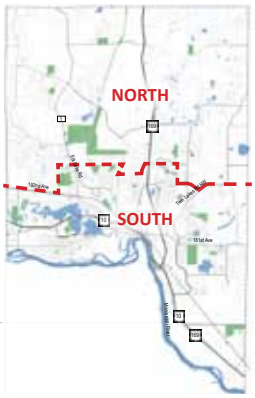
____ 0-5 years ____ 6-11 years ____ 12-19 years ____ 20-29 years

____ 30-39 years ____ 40-49 years ____ 50-64 years ____ 65+ years

11. According to the map to the right, in which half of the city do you reside?

☐ **NORTH** Includes Woodland Trails Park, Alba Ridge Park, Burr Oak Park, Windsor Park

☐ **SOUTH** Includes downtown Elk River, Orono Lake, Meadowwale Heights Park, Hillside City Park, Trottbrook Farms Park



12. We would like your opinion on several issues facing the Elk River Parks and Recreation Department Please read each statement and mark the response that best represents your opinion.

a. Elk River Parks and Recreation should concentrate on improving existing facilities.

☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Not sure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree

b. Elk River should continue to acquire key lands for future park, recreation, and natural resource needs.

☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Not sure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree

c. Elk River Parks and Recreation should continue to expand public access to the riverfront.

☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Not sure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree

d. I am satisfied with the recreation services and facilities that I receive for my tax dollar.

☐ Strongly agree ☐ Agree ☐ Not sure ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly disagree

13. Please list any other Parks and Recreation improvements or additions you would like to see in Elk River or any comments you have related to parks and recreation in Elk River.

You can also send additional comments to: CommunitySurvey@ElkRiverMN.gov

Thank you for your assistance. Please fold with the City's address facing out, tape along the top, and drop the questionnaire in the mail. Please visit www.ElkRiverMN.gov to follow the Parks and Recreation Master Plan process and participate in future community input events!

CITY OF ELK RIVER
13065 ORONO PKWY NW
ELK RIVER MN 55330-9913

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 5001 ELK RIVER, MN

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

Powered by Nature

City of Elk River

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

June 2015

Master Park Plan Categories from 15 different Cities

Mission/Vision

History

Intro/Overview

Inventory/Condition Analysis

Park Classification System

Peer Comparison

Gap Analysis/Needs Assessment

Trends

Surveys/Public Input/Community Engagement

Influences on plan

Framework

Programming

Park Plans

Trail Plan

Park Land Acquisition

Natural Resources

Implementation/Initiatives/Enhancements/

Strategy

Funding

Sustaining/

maintaining the park system

Arts/Cultural Plan

Customer Experience

Marketing/Branding

Request for Action

To
Parks and Recreation Commission

Item Number
10.2

Meeting Date
June 11, 2025

Prepared By
Jeff Shelby, Recreation Manager

Item Description
Playground Plan

Reviewed by
Jeff Shelby
Joe Stremcha

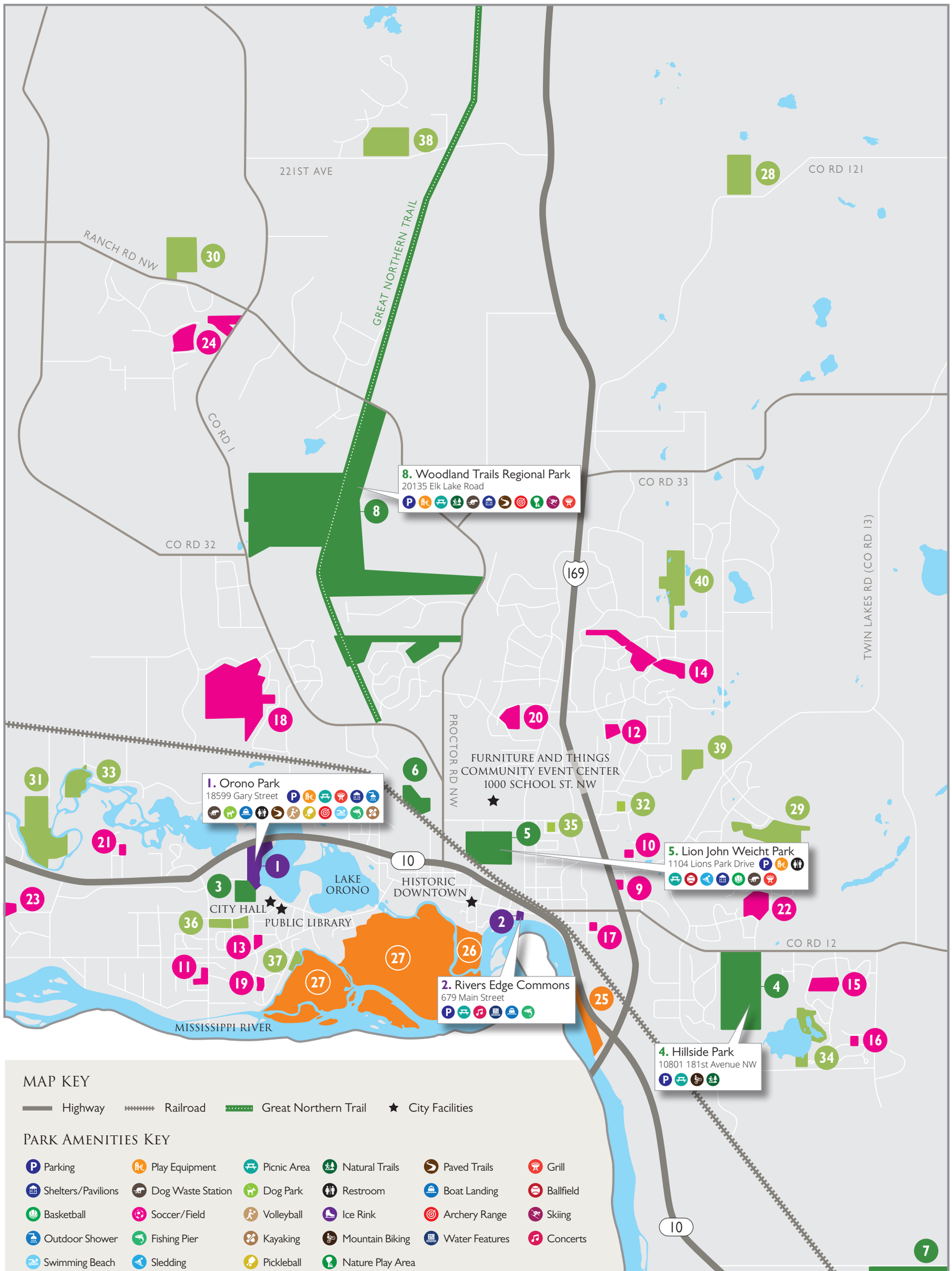
Action Requested
Discuss and create a plan for updating the cities playground amenties.

Background/Discussion
Our playground amenities are beginning to reach the end of their designed lifespans. We currently have 16 parks with playground amenities and half of those are due to be replaced in the next 5 years. A plan is needed to manage this next phase in our parks. Playground amenities will need to be removed as they age out and the commission is asked to help determine a course of action to manage these amenities. Factors that should be considered are cost, changing demographics, need, and future development.

Financial Impact
Funding for the playgrounds will need to be included within the Capital Improvement Plan.

Mission/Policy/Goal
Meet changing needs - agile. Responsible for every dollar - good stewards. Opportunity to live, work, and play.

Attachments
1. Interactive Elk River Park Map 2024_20240209102311102
2. CIP Spreadsheet - PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT
3. Playground Replacement Review



MAP KEY

Highway · Railroad · Great Northern Trail · ★ City Facilities

Park Amenities Key

- Parking
- Play Equipment
- Picnic Area
- Natural Trails
- Paved Trails
- Grill
- Shelters/Pavilions
- Dog Waste Station
- Dog Park
- Restroom
- Boat Landing
- Ballfield
- Basketball
- Soccer/Field
- Volleyball
- Ice Rink
- Archery Range
- Skiing
- Outdoor Shower
- Fishing Pier
- Kayaking
- Mountain Biking
- Water Features
- Concerts
- Swimming Beach
- Sledding
- Pickleball
- Nature Play Area



1,444 ACRES OF PARKS

in Elk River that includes:

30 Developed Parks
(swim. play. discover.)

13 Undeveloped Parks
(no facilities and parking)

3 Conservation/Scenic Areas
(and one nature preserve)

Park Pavilion Rentals There are pavilions available for rent at Lion John Weicht Park, Orono Park, and Woodland Trails Regional Park. Rivers Edge Commons Park (pictured) is available for wedding rentals.

For detailed information and rules on city parks and facilities: ElkRiverMN.gov/parks | 763.635.1150

PARK HOURS

6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Dogs must be leashed at all times, unless in designated areas.

Community Parks

1. Orono Park
   18599 Gary Street
2. Rivers Edge Commons
   679 Main Street

Athletic & Active Recreation

3. Dave Anderson Athletic Complex (DAAC)
   13300 Business Center Drive
4. Hillside Park
   10801 181st Avenue NW
5. Lion John Weicht Park
   1104 Lions Park Drive
6. Oak Knoll Athletic Complex (OKAC)
   999 Proctor Avenue
7. Plants and Things Recreational Complex (PT Complex)
   9950 165th Avenue
8. Woodland Trails Regional Park
   20135 Elk Lake Road

Neighborhood Parks

9. Baldwin Park
   371 Baldwin Avenue
10. Barrington Park
    575 Auburn Place
11. Country Crossings Park
    17970 Joplin Street
12. Deerfield Hill Park
    19210 Carson Street
13. Fresno Park
    18175 Fresno Street
14. Highlands Park
    19555 Auburn Street
15. Kliever Lake Fields
    17950 Johnson Street
16. Kliever Pointe Park
    10100 176th Lane
17. Meadow Park
    235 2nd Street
18. Meadowvale Heights Park
    13170 196th Avenue
19. Mississippi Oaks Park
    17998 Elgin Street
20. Ridgewood East Park
    19251 Highland Road
21. Riverplace Park
    13818 186th Lane
22. Trott Brook Farms Park
    18300 Trott Brook Parkway
23. West Oaks Park
    14375 183rd Avenue
24. Windsor Park
    13444 212th Avenue

Conservation/Scenic Areas

25. Babcock Memorial Rest Area
    17900 Highway 10
26. Bailey Point Nature Preserve
    1 Morton Avenue
27. William H. Houlton Conservation Area
    1801 Main Street NW

Open Space/Undeveloped Parks

28. Alba Ridge Park
    10801 Brook Road
29. Birch Meadow Park
    10500 Twin Lakes Parkway
30. Burr Oak Park
    13585 Ranch Road NW
31. Camp Cozy
    18800 Waco Street
32. Elk Hills Green Space
    220 Elk Hills Drive
33. Harris Island Park
    14151 189th Avenue
34. Kliever Marsh Park
    10375 175th Avenue
35. North Terrace Park
    820 Holt Avenue
36. Oak Savanna Park
    13240 Orono Parkway
37. Oxbow Park
    18039 Concord Street
38. Rice Lake Park
    12451 221st Avenue
39. Royal Valley Park
    10995 190th Avenue
40. Sedge Meadow Park
    11065 197th Avenue

Full Amenities Key Located on Back

City of Elk River
Parks and Recreation

Park Name	Asset Discription	Year Installed	Purchase Price	Replacement Year (Estimated)	Replacement Cost (Estimated)
Country Crossings Park	Playground	2000	$28,205	2025	$150,000
Riverplace Park	Playground	2001	$39,189	2026	$155,250
Fresno Park	Playground	2002	$22,386	2027	$160,684
Mississippi Oaks Park	Playground	2002	$25,893	2027	$160,684
Highlands Park	Playground	2003	$36,240	2028	$166,308
West Oaks Park	Playground	2005	$42,640	2030	$178,183
Windsor Park	Playground	2005	$27,902	2030	$178,183
Kliever Point Park	Playground	2005	$41,380	2030	$178,183
Kliever Lake Fields Park	Playground	2006	$36,999	2031	$184,450
Meadowvale Heights Park	Playground	2008	$60,000	2033	$197,685
Orono Park	Playground	2013	$260,700	2038	***$800,000
Barrington Park	Playground	2017	$96,000	2042	$270,512
Deerfield Hill Park	Playground	2018	$81,500	2043	$280,138
PT Recreation Complex	Playground	2020	$100,000	2045	$300,196
Lions John Weicht Park	Playground	2024	$408,000	2049	$916,303
Trott Brook Farms Park	Playground	2024	$118,033	2049	$269,578

Life expectancy of playground equipment is roughly 25 years
Replacement costs are rough estimates, as noted
Standard replacement cost in 2025 is approximately $150,000
3.5% constant annual inflation is factored into the years going forward to arrrive at approximate future replacement cost

***Because of the complexity of the Orono playground, staff believes it will require a replacement amount exceeding the normal inflationary rate**

Playground Replacement Review

Country Crossings Park

- 17970 Joplin St.
- Playground/Swings
- Basketball Court
- Sledding Hill
- Open Play Area









Riverplace Park

- 13818 186th Lane
- Playground/Swings
- Basketball Court
- Ice Skating
- Paved Trail









Fresno Park

- 18175 Fresno St.
- Playground/Swings
- Open Play Area
- Sandbox







Mississippi Oaks Park

- 17998 Elgin St.
- Playground/Swings
- Ice Skating
- Open Play Area


TRASH



Highlands Park

- 19550 Auburn St.
- Playground/Swings
- Basketball ½ Court
- Pickleball/Tennis
- Open Play Area







West Oaks Park

- 14375 183rd Ave
- Playground
- Park Shelter
- Open Play Area
- Paved Trail







Windsor Park

- 13444 212th Ave
- Playground/Swings
- Gazebo
- Paved Trail







Kliever Pointe Park

- 10100 176th Lane
- Playground/Swing
- Basketball ½ court
- Paved Trail









Kliever Lake Fields Park

- 17950 Johnson St.
- Playground/Swings
- Basketball ½ court
- Climbing Feature
- Open Play Area/Soccer Field
- Paved Trail










MIRACLE

Meadowvale Heights Park

- 13170 196th St.
- Playground
- Boardwalk
- Open Space
- Paved Trail





Orono Park

- 18599 Gary St.
- Playground
- Shelters/Pavilion
- Dog Park
- Pickleball
- Splash Pad
- Volleyball
- Skate Park
- Fishing Pier/Dock




Elk River


POWERED BY
NATURE
INSPIRE • PLAY • GROW




PIRE·PLAY·GROW

Barrington Park

- 575 Auburn Place
- Playground/Swings
- Basketball ½ Court
- Sandbox
- Open Play Area









Deerfield Hill Park.

- 19210 Carson St.
- Playground/Swings
- Basketball ½ court
- Sledding Hill
- Open Play Area









