

# Town of Buchanan Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Update

*East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission*

*February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



# Agenda

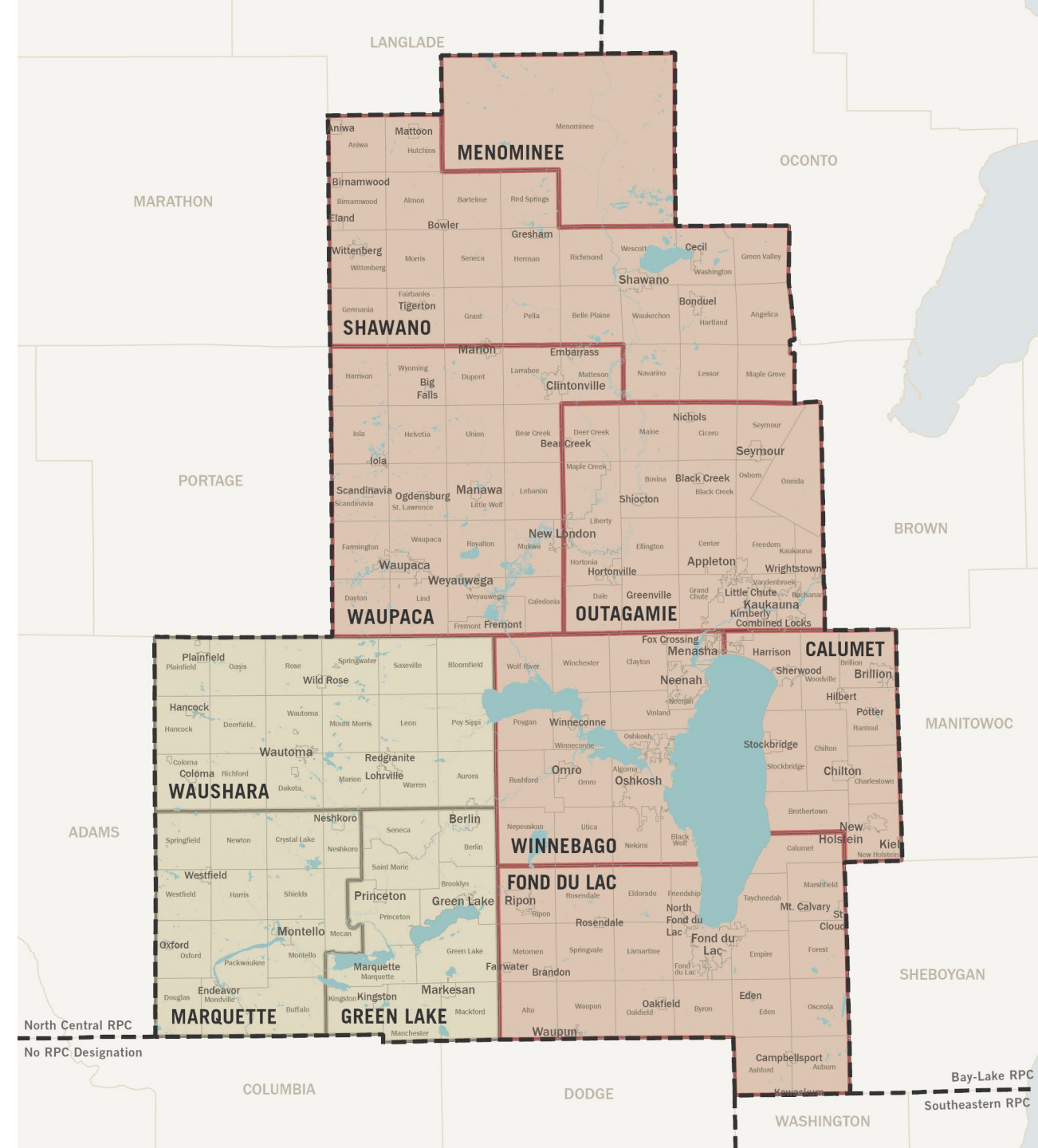
- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Overview**
- 3. Timeline**
- 4. Responsibilities**
- 5. Community Engagement Discussion**
- 6. Next Steps**



# Overview

## Who is ECWRPC?

- ECWRPC was established to serve as a coordinating organization between federal, state, and local governments.
- ECWRPC also provides planning services to individual units of government, including:
  - Transportation Planning
  - Water Quality Management Planning
  - Economic Development Planning
  - Comprehensive Planning
  - Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning



# Town of Buchanan Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

2018 - 2022



## Overview

### What is a CORP?

- ECWRPC assists local communities with their Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) updates to protect, preserve, and enhance the environment now and for future generations.
- They are critical documents that typically include geography, demographics, current conditions inventory, needs assessments for facilities, safe access to park audits, goals, objectives, and a five-year action plan for implementation strategy.



# Overview

## What is a CORP?

- These plans must be completed every five years to be eligible for [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Stewardship grants](#) and other funding.
- Stewardship grants fund local park infrastructure, boat ramp facilities, trails and land purchases for parks.
- The Town has adopted 3 previous CORPs.
  - 2009
  - 2013
  - 2018

## CHAPTER 3: RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

### RECREATIONAL RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

#### Natural Resources

The natural resource base is not only a major determinant of potential physical and economic uses of the land, but it also suggests areas that are prime candidates for parkland and other open space uses. Communities that make public management and preservation of these resources a priority are rewarded with an enhanced quality of life for local residents. Among environmental characteristics well worth protecting for open space are topography; scenic vistas; creeks, rivers and other drainage corridors; floodplains; woodlands; wetlands and soils which are unsuitable for most types of intensive land use development. In many cases, private development of these environmentally sensitive areas is strictly regulated to protect the important environmental benefits they provide. (Map 2)

The Town of Buchanan has a topography which can be described as flat to gently rolling. There are several areas of the Town providing for scenic views of the rolling topography, primarily along the eastern border. Wooded areas of the Town are generally found along the Fox River, Garners Creek, Kankapot Creek and other small creeks and tributaries. These areas also provided for wildlife habitat and contain some of the Town's wetland and floodplain areas. For further detail regarding the natural resources found in the Town of Buchanan, see Map 2.

#### Existing Parks and Facilities

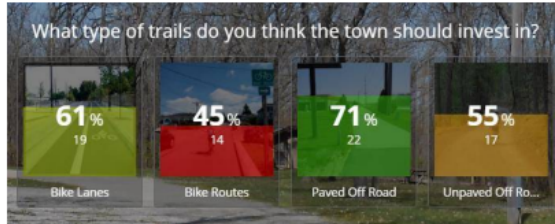
Approximately 67 acres of public parks and 278 special facilities are available to Town of Buchanan residents (Table 4 and Map 1). This acreage includes four parks maintained by the Town of Buchanan or jointly maintained with a neighboring community. School yard acreage comprises about 24.5 acres.

#### Community Parks

**Darboy Community Park.** The 17.6 acres Darboy Community Park was jointly built and is mutually maintained by the Towns of Buchanan and Harrison. Facilities available include wooded trails, asphalt walking trail, soccer fields, two playground areas and two basketball courts. There is also a park shelter that is available to the community that can be rented out. The Towns of Buchanan and Harrison share all costs for park maintenance. This park is also the location for Chickenfest, a large community event held in the summer which includes live music, rides, vendors, games and food.



**Trail Investments should include more Paved Off-Road and Bike Lanes:**

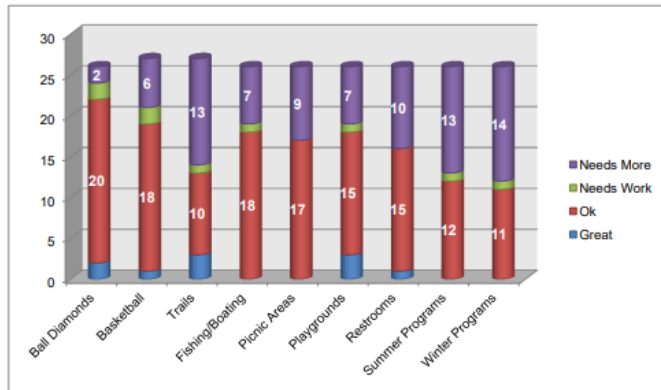


Many comments received stated Emons Road and Eisenhower as well as Railroad Street. More Trails in general was a common statement among survey participants.

**Quality of Current Amenities:**

According to the participants, community members thought trails as well as more programming for summer and winter were needed. The majority felt that all amenities were ok.

Comments: More trails, have restrooms open sooner, need a dog park, more amenities in general, sidewalks for connections. Summer rec items in evenings, parks more equipment, bike trails.



# Overview

## What is a CORP?

- The 2024 Town of Buchanan CORP update will have eight chapters.
  1. Introduction\*
  2. Goals and Objectives\*
  3. Recreational Resources
  4. Recreational Needs
  5. Health Needs Assessment
  6. Recommendations
  7. Action Program
  8. Resolution of Adoption\*



# Timeline

## Important Dates & Deadlines

### In-Person Parks Committee Meetings

- February 2024
- June 2024
- August 2024
- September 2024

### Public Engagement

- April – May 2024

### Final Plan Review and Adoption

- September 2024









# Responsibilities

## ECWRPC

- Complete park inventory and audits
- Create and facilitate community engagement survey
- Complete needs analysis and level of service analysis
- Identify priority projects, improvements, and enhancements
- Update narratives
  - Chapters 2-7

# Responsibilities

## Parks Committee

- Update narratives
  - Chapter 1: Introduction
  - Chapter 2: Goals and Objectives
  - Chapter 8: Resolution of Adoption
- Provide input on community engagement survey
- Guide overall plan development
- Review individual plan chapters



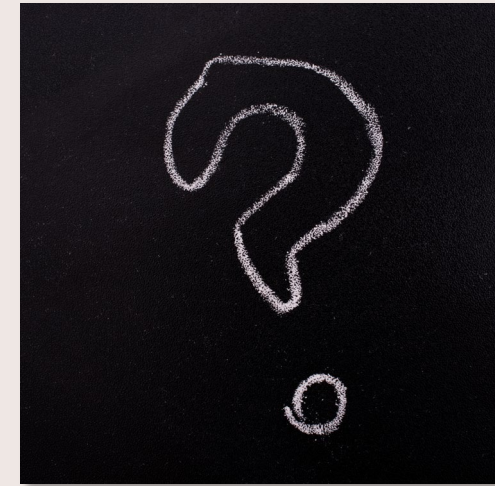
# Community Engagement Discussion



*Traditional Survey*



*Interactive Map*



*In-Person Event*

[Click here for Social Pinpoint](#)

# Next Steps

- Compile demographic and background data
- Conduct park inventory and audits
- Formulate survey questions and discuss Social Pinpoint site





**Questions**



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