

Town of Farmington Parks and Recreation Master Plan



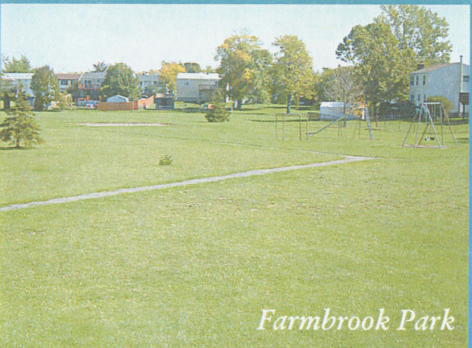
Mertensia Road Park



Farmington Grove Park



Town Hall Park



Farmbrook Park



Meeting House Park

August 8, 2008

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**Town of Farmington
Parks and Recreation
Master Plan**

2008-2013

August 8, 2008

Prepared By:
PASSERO ASSOCIATES
Engineers – Architects

KOTZ AND ASSOCIATES
Land and Recreation Planning and Design

Town of Farmington

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

August 8, 2008

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TOWN OF FARMINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

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Town of Farmington Parks and Recreation Master Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Town of Farmington Parks and Recreation Master Plan Task Force retained the services of Passero Associates in association with Kotz and Associates to prepare a Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

The purposed of this Master Plan is to establish a strategic planning guide for the Town, as it takes measures to improve the parks and recreation programs.

This Master Plan includes the assessment of the Town's six (6) parks (see appendix A). A report on the condition of the facilities and an inventory of the parks is included within the Master Plan. In addition, the Master Plan examined the functions and operations of the Parks and Recreation Department staff and the Department's financial status.

The report recommends, as a first step, that the Town hire a professional firm specializing in administering large scale surveys to determine the Town residents' desire for expanded recreational programs and willingness to pay for these programs.

Recommendations were also made for Farmington to consider partnering with an adjacent Town that has a more established parks and recreation department, in order to provide the Town of Farmington residents with quality recreation programs in an expedited amount of time. The Town should form a committee to explore a partnership with an adjacent town with the goal of working towards an inter-municipal or shared services agreement.

Several specific recommendations were made to improve the Town's existing parks, as well as, cost estimates for these improvements. These recommendations include improving restrooms and park signage, connecting parks to other parks by trails in the Town, and adding amenities for residents to enjoy the natural open space.

The assessment also revealed that a new park in the Town's population center section would be necessary, as the Town is growing quickly, and is predicted to continue to grow, requiring the need for more parkland for recreational purposes.

The Master Plan also addressed potential Town financial resources, specifically the Parks and Recreation Reserve Fund. This report recommends an immediate increase in the per lot fee from \$500 to \$1000 with annual increases there after to sustain the goals and objectives of the Master Plan and to implement identified park projects.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND

The Town of Farmington has experienced an increase in population over the past twenty-seven (27) years. As more land in the Town is developed, and more families and couples move into the Town, the need for more recreational lands and recreational opportunities will be desired and required by the residents.

The Town of Farmington has recognized the need to strategize for the planning and programming to meet the needs for parklands and recreational opportunities for its residents.

B. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Parks and Recreation Master Plan is to obtain input from the Recreation Task Force, comments from Town residents, demographic information, existing information about parks and recreational opportunities within the Town, and to use the information to create a plan for the Town of Farmington to use as a long term workable guide in providing the highest quality parks and recreational opportunities for its residents.

This plan will identify the needs of the Town currently, as well as the needs of the Town in the years to come. The master plan will explain how to prepare for the expansion and growth of the Town's population in terms of parks and recreation, it will provide suggestions for the acquisition of new park lands, the renovation and repairing of old parks, as well as how to gather the funds for these projects.

C. PROCESS

The planning process has involved the gathering and analysis of relevant data through research and interviews, evaluation of the data, and a course of action for addressing immediate and long range objectives. The planning has been a cooperative effort between the Town Parks and Recreation Task Force, Town staff, Town Residents, and the consultant team.

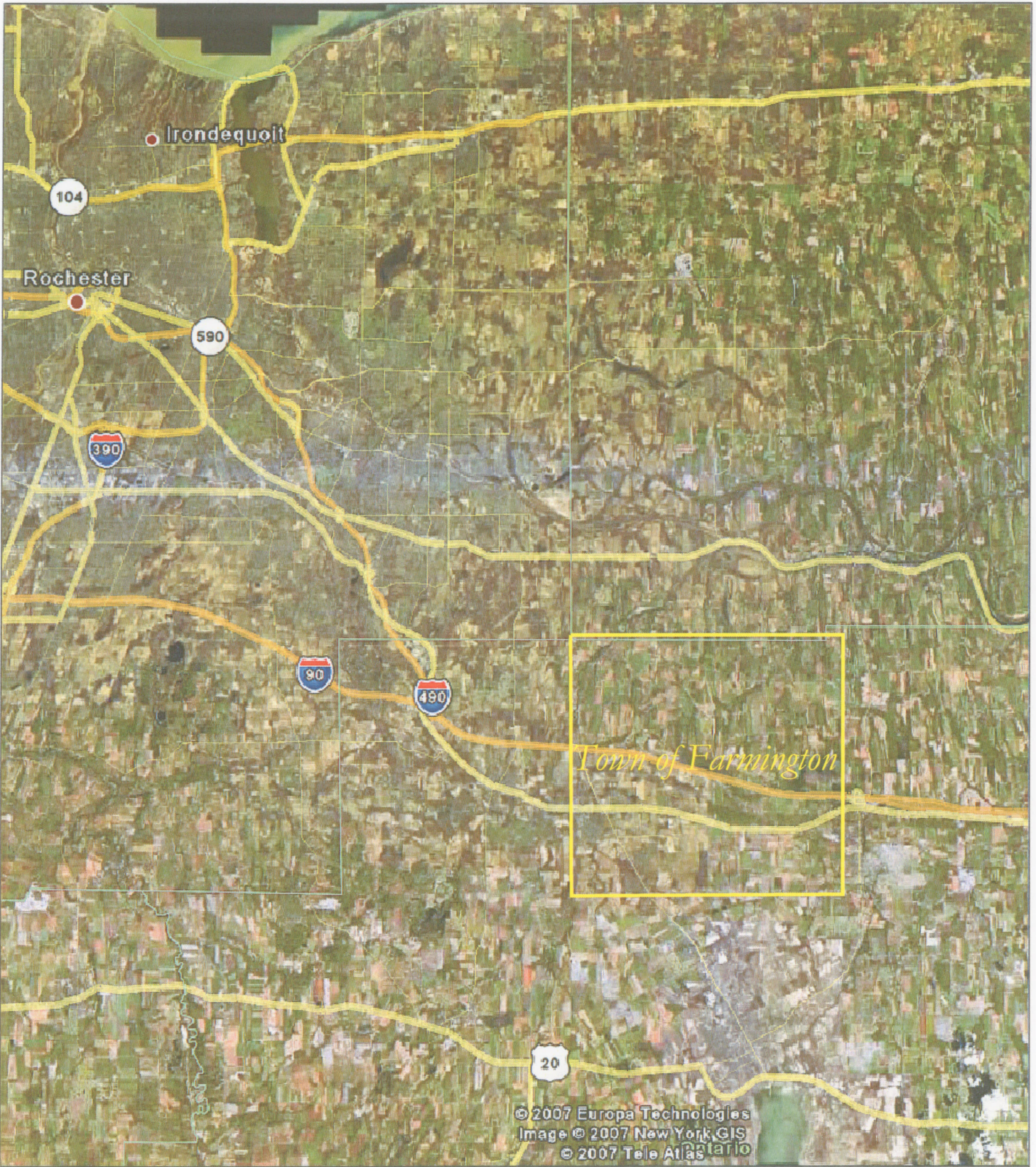
The process provided the opportunity for all interested residents to share information and views on the Town's parks and recreation facilities and programs and to review and discuss the Master Plan at various stages of its development. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan Committee includes:

Michael Casale, Town Board Member, Task Force Chairman
Rosalie Fafinski, Task Force Member
Ted Fafinski, Town Supervisor
Dan Healy, Task Force Member
Peter Ingalsbe, Town Board Member
Bonnie Lew, Task Force Member
Thomas Mandara, Task Force Member
Ed McLaughlin, Town Highway/Parks Superintendent
Timothy Mickelsen, Town Board Member
Mary Richter, Task Force Secretary
Rudolf VanderVelden, Town Board Member
Ron Brand, Director of Planning and Development

This Task Force has met multiple times to discuss the Master Plan, on October 16, 2007; December 3, 2007 and July 28, 2008. A public meeting was held on January 29, 2008 to inform the public of the Master Plan's development and to seek their input. Approximately 40 people attended the meeting. A second public meeting on May 19, 2008 discussed the recommendations of the Task Force and Consultants, with approximately 45-50 of the Town residents in attendance. The Town Board is scheduled to review the final Master Plan document in the fall and take formal action.

D. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Passero Associates and Kotz and Associates, as planning consultants to the Town, acknowledge with appreciation the enthusiastic participation of the Supervisor and members of the Town Board, the Master Plan Task Force, the Recreation Commission, and especially residents of the Town who represent users of recreational opportunities in the Town and those who attended the public meetings for the plan and who provided valuable input to enable this plan to be an effective guide for Farmington to achieve its goals and objectives for parks and recreational opportunities.



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 Designed by Tim Harris

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Town Location Map

Town of Farmington
 Parks and Recreation
 Master Plan

Town Lot <i>N/A</i> , Range <i>N/A</i> , Township <i>N/A</i>	
Town/City <i>Farmington</i> County <i>Ontario</i> , State <i>N.Y.</i>	
Project No. 2007317.01	
Drawing No. P-2	Sheet No. 2 of 9
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Date August, 2008	

CHAPTER 2

DEMAND FOR RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

A. *GENERAL*

Current and potential future demands for recreational lands, facilities, and programs are estimated based on analysis of the various characteristics of the Town's population which influence the desire and ability to participate in specific recreational activities; physical characteristics of the community which affect opportunities for certain recreational activities; the availability of unique or particularly excellent local programs; local, county and state facilities, or other unique influences which enhance interest in those programs; identifiable local and national trends in the popularity of specific recreational activities; and expressed interests in and willingness to support recreational facilities and programs within the community.

B. *PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS WHICH AFFECT DEMAND*

The Town of Farmington is located in the northern part of Ontario County. It is bordered on the north by the Town of Perinton in Monroe County and the Town of Macedon in Wayne County; and the Towns of Victor on the west, Canandaigua on the south, and Manchester on the east. The Town is bisected east - west through its center by the New York State Thruway (I-90) with an exit near its western boundary at New York State Route 332 (Thruway Exit 44) which is the main north - south route through the Town, connecting with New York Route 5 and U. S. Route 20 in the City of Canandaigua, creating a convenient highway access from Rochester and Monroe County to and through Farmington. Approximately one mile south of and generally parallel with the Thruway is New York Route 96 (Thruway Exit 45) from Rochester passes through Victor, and through Farmington to Manchester, where there is also a Thruway exit (Thruway Exit 43 - Manchester).

Commercial and industrial development generally follows the Route 332 corridor with residential concentrations in the south, southwest, and northern parts of the Town. The greatest concentration of residences is in the southwest portion of the Town within the Canandaigua and Victor Central School Districts. Most of the Town is open, agricultural, and woodland with some wetlands. Topography is gently rolling with extensive, generally attractive, drumlins located north of the Thruway.

The Town is mostly attractive for development with good access and large areas of relatively easily developed land. However, much of the Town is rural and lacks the necessary infrastructure for development.

Farmington is served by four school districts, none of which include Farmington in their name nor have a school within the Town. They are the Canandaigua City School

District, Victor, Manchester-Shortsville (Red Jacket), and Palmyra-Macedon Central School Districts.

While the four school districts facilities are located outside the Town boundaries, the Town of Farmington sponsors recreational programs that use Town Park facilities, and private recreational facilities such as the Finger Lakes Gaming and Racetrack. Although many of the sports and other recreational and "community" activities center on schools and some private facilities, most of the recreational offerings to town residents are by diverse entities based outside of the Town, making it difficult to generate a "community" of Farmington.

C. DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AFFECTING DEMAND

General

The current and projected future populations of the Town and the characteristics of those populations, such as ages, levels of education, income, geographic distribution within the Town, and different emphases among the various school districts serving the Town can influence preferences for specific recreational activities and, therefore, facilities to serve those activities and where within the Town they might be located.

Population Growth

Following a relatively high population growth rate from 1960 to 1990, growth from 1990 to 2000 was significantly lower than that of New York State, Ontario County, and neighboring municipalities.

The 2000 U. S. Census estimated the population of Farmington at 10,585, a 1.5 percent increase above the Town's 1990 population of 10,381. Rates of population growth, 1990 to 2000, per U. S. Census:

New York State	5.5%
Ontario County	5.4%
City of Canandaigua	5.0%
Town of Canandaigua	6.8%
Town of Victor	38.7%
Town of Farmington	1.5%

However, from 2000 to 2006, 387 new homes were permitted in Farmington. The average household size in 2000 was 2.73 percent. Assuming continuation of the same rate of decline in household size as in the preceding decade, which appears to reflect trends elsewhere, an average household size for the period 2000 through 2006 of 2.66 is assumed, resulting in an estimated 2007 population of approximately 11,565, or a 9.8 percent growth rate, during that period.

Additional new residential development occurring in the southwestern portion of the Town, within the Canandaigua and Victor School Districts, where infrastructure already exists, will continue to increase the Town's growth rate, as more families will continue to move into the area. The actual rate of development and building may vary depending on

many factors, and does not include apartments and senior living facilities recently constructed in the Town. Assuming the residential development rate and average household size over the next five years (the term of this Master Plan) continue at approximately the 2000 through 2006 rates, approximately 275 new homes might be built with an estimated average household size of 2.63, yielding approximately 725 new residents for an estimated population in 2012 of approximately 12,290, a growth of over 16%.

Age

The age distribution of a town's population is a very important consideration in determining relative demands for specific recreational activities and the facilities to support those activities.

Farmington is following common trends where the numbers and percentages of the Town's youth and young adult populations in relation to its overall population have been declining while its middle age and older populations, representing smaller segments of the population to begin with, are increasing.

Following are the total populations and percentages of the total populations by age groups in Farmington. Note that the age brackets in the two census reports differ so that certain comparisons may not be completely accurate. However, any discrepancy should be insignificant for planning purposes.

<u>Age</u>	<u>2000 Population</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>1990 Population</u>	<u>%</u>
0-4	765	7.2%	0-4	979	9.4%
5-19	2,548	24.1%	5-17	2,360	22.7%
20-24	533	5.0%	18-20	419	4.0%
25-44	3,389	32.0%	21-24	477	4.0%
45-54	1,749	16.5%	25-44	4,045	39.0%
55-59	581	5.5%	45-54	1,033	10.0%
60-64	320	3.0%	55-59	281	2.7%
65-74	428	4.0%	69-64	231	2.2%
75-84	208	2.0%	65-74	338	3.3%
85+	<u>64</u>	0.6%	75-84	178	0.4%
			85+	<u>40</u>	1.7%
<i>Totals</i>	<i>10,585</i>			<i>10,381</i>	

Following are estimated 2006 and 2012 populations assuming an average household size from 2000 to 2006 of 2.66 and an average household size from 2007 to 2012 of 2.63 persons and continuation of the 2000 percentages of the population in the major age brackets.

<u>Age</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>2000 Census</u>	<u>2006 Estimate</u>	<u>2012 Estimate</u>
0-4	7.2%	765	834	886
5-24	29.1%	3,081	3,368	3,579
25-44	32.0%	3,389	3,705	3,937
45-64	25.0%	2,650	2,894	3,076
65+	6.6%	<u>700</u>	<u>763</u>	<u>811</u>
<i>Totals</i>		10,585	11,564	12,289

The population trends in Farmington suggest significant impacts on present and future demands for recreational opportunities, particularly for those facilities which require large areas of developable land and relatively costly development, such as athletic fields, gymnasiums, and arenas favored by the younger ages.

From 1990 to 2000, Farmington experienced both a significant decline in the actual numbers of persons age 24 and under and in the percentage of the Town's population age 24 and under. The age 24 and under population decreased by 389 from 4,235, or 40.8 percent of the Town's 1990 population to 3,846, or 36.3 percent of the Town's 2000 population.

The decline in the younger age groups during the period of low overall growth appears to have enabled the Town and other providers of recreational opportunities such as sports leagues, YMCA, and others to accommodate demands with relatively small investments in facilities and programs. From similar trends elsewhere, it is expected the lower percentages of younger people and higher percentages of older people will continue as the average household size continues to decrease. However, the growth of the Town since 2000 has been in, primarily, single family homes, many of which accommodate families with children.

The 25 to 44 population, which are the principal child bearing years, decreased 656 from 4,045, or 39.0 percent of the Town's population in 1990 to 3,389, or 32.0 percent of the Town's 2000 population. This decline will impact future growth of the younger age group and significant growth as the under 25 reach this age group is not seen other than new residents attracted by the Town's location and new housing.

The 45 and older population of 3,350 in 2000 represents approximately 32 percent of the Town's population, an increase of 59 percent from 1990 during a period of virtually flat growth. The trend is significant in the need to anticipate further growth and to address recreational needs and desires of this segment.

The 45 to 64 old residents are often at their peak income or wealth levels, are recreationally and otherwise active, but typically place the least per capita demands for municipal recreation, having the means and desire to seek their recreation elsewhere. The greatest potential interests might be in programs for fitness and wellness, other "how to" or special interest programs or classes, informal areas in parks for picnics and related activities, and walking and hiking trails.

The 65 and older population, of which there were 700 in 2000, a 26 percent increase from 1990, represent a wide range of interests and capabilities from the very active and well to those with declining physical or social abilities. The interests of the very active and well will, essentially, reflect those of the 45 to 64 age group. Another segment of the 65 and older population retain their social interests with, perhaps, less emphasis on physically challenging activities. Many of these form the market for "senior citizens clubs" or similar which may offer a variety of activities such as card playing, lunches, music, lectures and entertainment, and tours. Farmington has a joint seniors' program with Victor, alternating events between the two towns.

Income

Income is an important influence in the preferences for and ability to participate in recreational activities. Greater income provides for more varied interests and opportunities to pursue recreation elsewhere, generally reducing demands for municipal recreational programs and facilities. Lower incomes generally encourage "close to home" recreation, often as offered by municipal, school, and other publicly available venues.

Farmington had a median household income in 2000, based on the U. S. Census, of \$49,863. That exceeded the New York State median household income of \$43,393 and Ontario County median household income of \$44,579. Significantly, per capita income in Farmington was \$20,756, which was lower than the New York State per capita income of \$23,389 and the Ontario County per capita income of \$26,586.

The lower per capita income appears to reflect the large concentration of persons in the under 45 age group. The age and income levels suggest a relatively high demand for municipal services. It appears the Town should address the desires and needs of its younger and more diverse population.

Education

The level of education attained is a strong influence on the choice and venue of recreational pursuits. Following are the percentages of levels of education attained by persons age 25 and older in 2000 per the U. S. Census.

	<u>Town of Farmington</u>	<u>Ontario County</u>	<u>New York State</u>
High School graduate	32.6%	31.6%	27.8%
Some college or associates degree	33.8%	31.1%	23.0%
Bachelor's degree	16.9%	14.6%	15.6%
Master's, professional, doctorate	8.2%	10.1%	11.8%

A greater percentage of Farmington residents attained each level of education than residents of Ontario County or New York State at large except for levels beyond bachelor's degree. The percentage of the Town's population having graduated high school and attended undergraduate college of 83.3 percent significantly exceeds Ontario County's 77.3 percent and New York State's 67.3 percent although those with postgraduate and professional degrees are less statistically than the other jurisdictions, also including neighboring towns of Canandaigua and Victor.

Public School Enrollments

School enrollments are important as they frequently influence choices of recreational activities such as sports, thereby generating demands for non-school sponsored programs as well as the often costly programs and facilities provided by the schools, towns, and other providers.

Residents of the town, who still attend school, are the main users of recreational equipment and facilities that are provided by the Town, the school, and private organizations. The percentage of the town's population ages 5 to 19 has increased slightly from 1990 to 2000. This increase can be seen in the Victor School District, as its student population increased 2.4% from 2005 to 2006. The Victor School District services a majority of the Town of Farmington, and 66% of the Town's student population.

Following are 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 public school enrollment:

	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>
Canandaigua City School District		
Primary School	840	802
Elementary School	879	894
Middle School	1,025	977
Academy (High School)	<u>1,321</u>	<u>1,353</u>
<i>Totals</i>	4,065	4,026 = 39 less (-0.97%)
<i>Approximately 586 students reside in the Town of Farmington.</i>		

Manchester-Shortsville (Red Jacket) Central School District		
Elementary School	408	415
Middle School	249	216
High School	<u>260</u>	<u>300</u>
<i>Totals</i>	917	931 = 14 more (+1.5%)

This number of students residing in the Town of Farmington was not available at the time this document was printed.

Victor Central School District		
Early Childhood Center	225	242
Primary School	861	874
Intermediate School	901	892
Junior High School	532	569
High School	<u>1,050</u>	<u>1,078</u>
<i>Totals</i>	3,569	3,655 = 86 more (+2.4%)
<i>Approximately 1273 students reside in the Town of Farmington</i>		

Palmyra-Macedon Central School District		
Macedon Elementary	483	462
Palmyra Elementary	453	422
Middle School	532	548
High School	<u>711</u>	<u>705</u>
<i>Totals</i>	2,179	2,137 = 42 less (-2.0%)
<i>Approximately 47 students reside in the Town of Farmington</i>		

Conclusions

Farmington experienced a relatively flat rate of growth from 1990 to 2000. However, since 2000, the Town has experienced a growth rate over seven years of approximately 9.8 percent. At the same time, household sizes have decreased by an estimated two percent and household sizes are expected to continue to decline at approximately the same rate as the population increases from 10,585 in 2000 to an estimated 12,290 by 2012.

The numbers and the percentages of the Town's population age 24 and under declined from 1990 to 2000 while those age 45 and older increased significantly. Each of these occurrences has influences on demands for various forms of recreational opportunities offered by the Town and others.

Income levels of Farmington residents also have influence on the types of recreational opportunities the Town's residents are likely to desire and support. A high median household income appears to be a result of the high percentage of older, typically more affluent and often less demanding of municipal recreational services. However, a relatively low average per capita income suggests a need to address the potentially greater needs of the younger and more diverse residents of the Town.

Farmington has a high level of residents who have graduated high school and have attained at least some level of undergraduate college education, but a lower than average attainment of graduate and professional degrees.

The fact that there are four school districts that serve the Town of Farmington, and the lack of a school building in the Town borders, adds to the division of the Town, making it difficult to create one central community feeling for the residents.

Despite some contradictions, particularly the decline of the youth population, conditions appear to indicate opportunities to reduce or reverse that decline as the Town's population grows and experiences a gradual, but sustained, expansion of demands for most of the types of recreational opportunities typically offered by towns such as Farmington.



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Principal-in-Charge Dan Savage
 Project Manager Dan Savage
 Designed by Tim Harris

Town of Farmington

1000 County Road 8

Farmington, NY 14425

(315) 986-8189

Park Location Map

Town of Farmington
 Parks and Recreation
 Master Plan

Town Lot *N/A*, Range *N/A*, Township *N/A*

Town/City *Farmington* County *Ontario*, State *N.Y.*

Project No.
2007317.01

Drawing No. P-1	Sheet No. 1 of 9
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Scale:
N.T.S

Date
August, 2008

D. DEMAND FOR FACILITIES REQUIRING LARGE DEDICATED SPACES

The Town of Farmington does not have significant dedicated park facilities for recreational activities requiring large developed spaces. Town residents who pursue organized activities such as sports, cultural, and senior citizens' programs depend upon programs and facilities of the Town of Victor, the City of Canandaigua, the Canandaigua City School District, organized sports leagues such as Canandaigua Junior Baseball and others. As these providers of services and facilities, particularly the private and not for profit organizations, appear willing to continue to do so, it also appears that the Town may not duplicate these services and their associated facilities. This plan's analysis of satisfaction of demands assumes that the existing programs will continue to serve Town residents.

Each of the organizations has expressed, more or less, their abilities to serve present demands with current programs and facilities of their own or of the city, school district, town parks and others.

Organized Sports

Organized youth and adult sports complement school athletic programs and most are run by voluntary community based sports organizations. They use facilities of the city, the school district, the Town's parks and, in the case of Canandaigua Junior Baseball, their own facilities. The following are the major sports organizations serving residents of the town, the city, and the Canandaigua School District.

Baseball

Canandaigua Junior Baseball currently owns and maintains seven baseball fields of various sizes at its complex on the northeast side of the city. Participation is "steady" and fluctuates between 450 and 500 children. They also run summer camps and make their facilities available to Special Olympics during September.

The facility, while heavily used, serves current demands and it is anticipated that it will accommodate near future increased demands.

Soccer

Canandaigua Area Soccer League (CASL) offers recreational soccer and travel teams. It uses soccer fields at Baker Park in the City of Canandaigua, the Canandaigua City School District facilities, as well as many of the town parks. They also use Canandaigua City school gymnasiums in the winter. Participation is 750 boys and girls with 575 in the recreational program and 175 in the travel program. Total participation is projected to increase to approximately 825 boys and girls by 2010. Current demand is satisfied by current enrollments with no waiting list. It is anticipated that the new fields to be on line in 2008 at Northeast Park will satisfy the expanded 2010 demands and through the next five years. CASL uses full sized fields as well as junior sized fields for its various age groups.

Men's Softball

There are softball leagues that use the full size baseball field at Mertensia Road Park for senior and little league games.

Frank Baker Junior Football and Cheerleading

This forty year old program has an enrollment of 90 players on four teams and 40 girl cheerleaders. They have no waiting list and they try to accommodate all who are interested. They report that they satisfactorily meet demands. Enrollment is projected to "possibly" increase to 110 players and 60 cheerleaders by 2010. They use the main High School field for games and the High School practice field. Those facilities are considered adequate unless increased school uses reduce availability. The school district does not charge for use of its fields. However, the Junior Football program donates to the school Boosters toward maintenance and improvements.

Youth Lacrosse

This is an instructional league sponsored by the Canandaigua City School District. The league offers two programs. One is an in-house program and the other is a summer travel league. Current enrollment is 120 boys in first to sixth grades and sixty girls in third to sixth grades. Participation is increasing by five to ten per year. They are presently meeting demands and anticipate no difficulty for the future. In addition to using the Canandaigua City High School fields, the program uses the Greater Canandaigua Civic Center rink for indoor box lacrosse during July. That program has a current enrollment of 90 boys in grades three through twelve. That facility is considered very suitable and adequate.

Youth Basketball

Canandaigua Basketball is a fifteen year old program coached by volunteers. It has a total participation of 600 of which 400 are in a K to eighth grade skills program on Saturday mornings from December to February and 200 are in a fourth grade through high school boys' and girls' travel teams program from October to March which play Saturdays and Sundays. They use all school gymnasiums.

Senior Citizens

There is a joint senior citizen program between the Town of Farmington and the Town of Victor. The program is run and organized by volunteers, which hold events for the residents multiple times a month, which include trips to local establishments, as well as events held in either of the two towns.

The County's Office for the Aging offers several programs for senior citizens including health, meals, housing assistance and recreation.

Many factors influence the extent of participation in municipal "seniors" programs. During this planning study, additional input regarding interest in and feasibility of providing space and/or programming for seniors was taken into account when the recommendations for this report were prepared.

Demands Compared to "Standards"

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) has developed "standards" for determining quantities of recreational lands and facilities which "should" be provided by a community. The standards largely serve as the basis for recommendations of the New York Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) but are mostly irrelevant in supporting applications for grants in aid for parkland acquisition and development or other purposes.

The NRPA standards are not relevant to current trends and cannot reflect differences in local demands which are generated by local conditions, interests, trends, and capabilities. The "standards" for the gross areas of parkland and for the facilities requiring the larger dedicated spaces are presented as a reference only. It is not recommended or proposed the "standards" be considered as guidelines for Farmington.

CHAPTER 3

AVAILABILITY OF RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Town of Farmington has facilities and programs that are open for the public to use. These facilities and programs are provided by the Town, Ontario County, local school districts and commercial enterprises. Due to the fact that the Town Recreation Commission is limited in its activities, the Town residents are forced to seek other recreation opportunities in other towns such as Victor and Canandaigua.

The Town contains multiple parks that can support different type of activities from sports to walking trails. Town parks such as Mertensia Road Park offer sports fields and a hiking trail; where Meeting House Park provides a place for picnicking.

The following pages offer a summary of each of the parks in the Town of Farmington in order to determine the state that each park is in, as well as to assist in determining the potential that each park has to be changed to accommodate the need of the residents of the Town. In addition, an infrastructure assessment summary chart of each park is presented in chart form in Appendix A.

- a. Town Parks
- b. Local School Districts
- c. County Facilities
- d. State Facilities
- e. Other Recreational Facilities

TOWN OF FARMINGTON PARKS

Parks Department Facilities and Equipment

The Town of Farmington Parks Department has the following personnel and equipment for parks maintenance purposes, which includes and is not limited to lawn care, drainage utility work, paving, and garbage removal from the parks.

Personnel:

- 1 Superintendent (also the Highway Superintendent)
- 3 Full time employees
- 2 Seasonal Employees (summer help)

Equipment:

- 1 Pick-up truck
- 2 One ton dump trucks
- 3 Mowers
- 1 Tractor
- Various Field Maintenance Equipment





F-90 (NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY)

COUNTY ROAD 8

COLLETT ROAD

APPROXIMATE PARK LOCATION



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Principal-in-Charge Dan Savage
 Project Manager Dan Savage
 Designed by Tim Harris

Town of Farmington
 1000 County Road 8
 Farmington, NY 14425
 (315) 986-8189

Town Hall Park

Town of Farmington
 Parks and Recreation
 Master Plan

Town Lot <u>N/A</u> , Range <u>N/A</u> , Township <u>N/A</u>	
Town/City <u>Farmington</u> County <u>Ontario</u> , State <u>N.Y.</u>	
Project No. 2007317.01	
Drawing No. P-3	Sheet No. 3 of 9
Scale: 1:400	
Date August, 2008	

Town Hall Park

Town Hall Park is the largest of the parks in the Town of Farmington consisting of 26.4 acres. The park is located at the corner of Collett Road and County Road 8, in a rural/residential area. The Town Hall Park is part of the Town Government Complex, which includes Town administrative and public meeting facilities, Town Court, as well as the Town Highway garage and materials storage facility.

The park portion of the complex contains multiple athletic fields and courts, which include storage containers at each softball diamond and a storage container for soccer. There are more than 100 parking spaces for residents using the park, however, there is no lighting in the park for evening sports or for security in parking lots. Many of the stripes defining the parking spaces on the pavement are barely visible.

Signage for the park is acceptable from the north, however, because the sign is situated off the road for a distance, it makes it hard to see from the south as large trees block its location. Sight distance for pulling into and out of the park is excellent, as drivers can see hundreds of feet down the road in either direction.

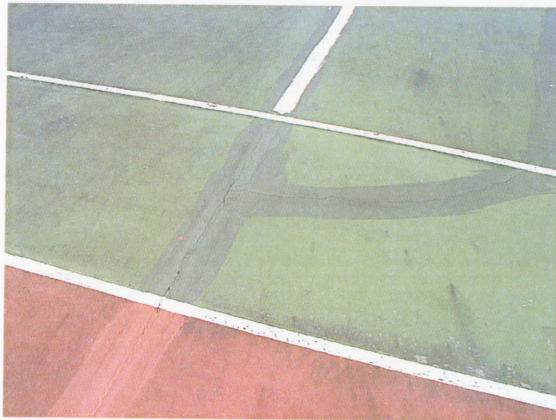
Utilities on the site consist of electric, water and sewer that service the enclosed public restroom and Town Hall building.

The Town is interested in acquiring some land directly west of the park, or to the south of Collett Road to be used for the Department of Public Works, as well as some of the land for parks and recreation.

An inventory of park recreational features includes:

- Multiple picnic tables and 1 Pavilion
- 4 Soccer Nets (stored in the parking lot)
- 1 Basketball Court
- 2 Tennis courts, overlain by a bang board court
- 1 Volleyball net
- 1 Playground for children ages 5-12
- 3 Softball diamonds
- BBQ stand
- Public restrooms with septic, water and electricity (not ADA compliant)
- Soccer and baseball/softball equipment storage boxes







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Principal-in-Charge Dan Savage
 Project Manager Dan Savage
 Designed by Tim Harris

Town of Farmington
 1000 County Road 8
 Farmington, NY 14425
 (315) 986-8189

Pumpkin Hook Park

Town of Farmington
 Parks and Recreation
 Master Plan

Town Lot <u>N/A</u> , Range <u>N/A</u> , Township <u>N/A</u>	
Town/City <u>Farmington</u> County <u>Ontario</u> , State <u>N.Y.</u>	
Project No. 2007317.01	
Drawing No. P-4	Sheet No. 4 of 9
Scale: 1:500	
Date August, 2008	

Pumpkin Hook Park

Pumpkin Hook Park sits on 14.5 acres of land and is located at the northern section of Town along Allen Padgham Road, adjacent to subdivisions, as well as farm lands. The park is zoned as residential suburban. The park is well identified by the sign on Allen Padgham Road, from the east and the west, as both directions have excellent site distance.

The park has a picnic area and bar-b-que stand, with adjacent playground and athletic fields. There is a public restroom with water and septic. The parking lot is partially illuminated, with two security lights near the restroom building. There are 75 paved parking spaces, which are adequately striped.

In the past, the Town has considered acquiring the vacant parcel of land to the west of the park for additional parks space.

An inventory of park recreational features includes:

- 1 Picnic pavilion with BBQ stand and picnic tables
- 1 Baseball field
- 3 Soccer fields (1 large field and 2 small fields)
- 1 Informal volleyball court
- Public Restrooms(not ADA compliant) with septic, water and electricity
- Playground area, equipment for children 2-5 and equipment for children 5-12
- Sledding hill
- Soccer equipment storage boxes





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Principal-in-Charge Dan Savage
 Project Manager Dan Savage
 Designed by Tim Harris

Town of Farmington
 1000 County Road 8
 Farmington, NY 14425

(315) 986-8189

Farmington Grove Park

Town of Farmington
 Parks and Recreation
 Master Plan

Town Lot N/A, Range N/A, Township N/A

Town/City Farmington County Ontario, State N.Y.

Project No.
2007317.01

Drawing No. **P-5** Sheet No. **5 of 9**

Scale:
1:400

Date
August, 2008

Farmington Grove Park

Farmington Grove Park is 9.2 acres in size and is accessed off of Maplewood Drive. The park is zoned as a planned subdivision. It is located in the center of a subdivision west of NYS Route 332 and in the southwest corner of the Town. The park has a sign at the entrance of the park, identifying its location to the residents.

The park contains water and sanitary sewer systems as well as electric for the public restrooms and parking lot lighting. The restroom building also provides for a large overhang that can be used for shade, and is under the surveillance of one security camera.

The park contains multiple athletic courts and fields, a play set for children of various ages, as well as hills for sledding and a bar-b-que stand for cooking. However there are no picnic tables or other places to sit. There is also an area that serves as a basketball court in the warmer seasons.

Parking at the park is paved, and accommodates approximately 30 spaces.

An inventory of park recreational features includes:

- Public Restroom (non ADA compliant) with water, sanitary sewer and electricity
- BBQ stand
- 2 Little League fields
- 1 Tennis court overlain by a bang board court
- 1 Informal volleyball court
- Play set and swings with age appropriate equipment
- Basketball court/ no longer used outdoor ice skating rink
- Hills for winter sledding
- 1 Small pavilion







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 Project Manager Dan Savage
 Designed by Tim Harris

Town of Farmington
 1000 County Road 8
 Farmington, NY 14425
 (315) 986-8189

Farmbrook Park

Town of Farmington
 Parks and Recreation
 Master Plan

Town Lot N/A, Range N/A, Township N/A

Town/City Farmington County Ontario, State N.Y.

Project No.
2007317.01

Drawing No. P-6	Sheet No. 6 of 9
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Scale:
1:400

Date
August, 2008

Farmbrook Park

Farmbrook Park is another Town park that is located within the center of a residential subdivision. The park is situated on 9.6 acres of Planned Development (PD) zoned land with over 700 dwelling units. The park's main entrance is located at the intersection of Farmbrook Drive and Meadowbrook Lane, where there is no sign denoting the park's name.

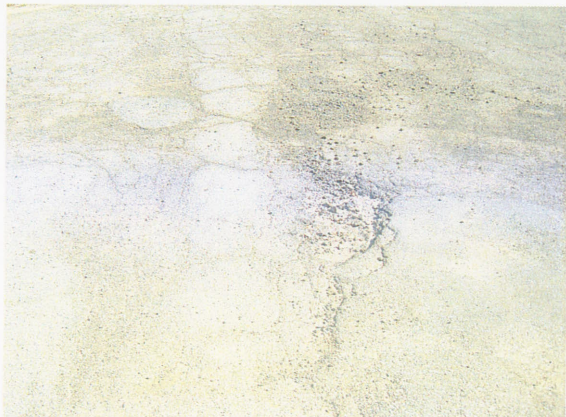
The parking facility is in poor shape. There is no striping to denote parking spaces and there are many potholes and no security lighting for the approximately 30 space parking lot. The park contains one building which doubles as a public restroom and an Ontario County Sheriff substation. This structure is served by public sewer, water and electric utilities.

There is a walking trail through the park which the Town has plans for connecting this park with the abandoned Auburn Branch of the old New York Central Railroad.

An inventory of park recreational facilities include:

- 2 Basketball courts
- 1 Pavilion with no picnic tables
- 1 Softball field
- 1 bench
- 1 Play set with age appropriate equipment for 2-5 and 5-12 year old children
- Public restrooms (not ADA compliant) with water, electric and sewer
- Sheriff Substation (not highly used)
- Walking trail








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Town of Farmington
 1000 County Road 8
 Farmington, NY 14425

Meeting House Park

 Town of Farmington
 Parks and Recreation
 Master Plan

Town Lot <i>N/A</i> , Range <i>N/A</i> , Township <i>N/A</i>	
Town/City <u>Farmington</u> County <u>Ontario</u> , State <u>N.Y.</u>	
Project No. 2007317.01	
Drawing No. P-7	Sheet No. 7 of 9
Scale: 1:400	
Date August, 2008	

Principal-in-Charge Dan Savage
 Project Manager Dan Savage
 Designed by Tim Harris

(315) 986-8189

Meeting House Park

Meeting House Park, a 0.6 acre roadside picnic area, is located in a Rural/Residential area at the corner of County Route 28 and Shortsville Road. The park is in an area zoned agriculture. The park has adequate signage, and one picnic table in the center of multiple pine trees. The park has a small gravel parking lot for about 3 vehicles. There are no restrooms or utilities.





APPROXIMATE PARK LOCATION

MERTENSIA RD

COUNTY ROAD 41



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Principal-in-Charge Dan Savage
 Project Manager Dan Savage
 Designed by Tim Harris

Town of Farmington
 1000 County Road 8
 Farmington, NY 14425
 (315) 986-8189

Mertensia Road Park

Town of Farmington
 Parks and Recreation
 Master Plan

Town Lot N/A, Range N/A, Township N/A

Town/City Farmington County Ontario, State N.Y.

Project No.
2007317.01

Drawing No. **P-8** Sheet No. **8 of 9**

Scale:
1:500

Date
August, 2008

Mertensia Road Park

Mertensia Road Park is accessed off of Mertensia Road. The park is located in a residential area, with a large subdivision directly to the east of the park. The park and the subdivision are linked through a segment of the Auburn Branch Linear Trail, walking trail that winds through the subdivision and ends at the entrance to the park. The 22.4 acre site is still undergoing the final stages of its development, which include striping the parking area, as well as the construction of permanent public restrooms serviced by water and sewer. Part of the 22.4 acres is located in a residential suburban zoned area with part of the park in a 100 year flood plain.

There is a small sign denoting that it is a park, however the size of the sign and its lettering is not adequate. Sight distance at the entrance of the park is adequate from the north and the south.

The park contains parking for 50 or more vehicles, including a small parking area at the trailhead that connects to the Auburn Branch of the New York Central Railroad, a regional trail. Aside from this major trail, is another trail on the site, a Rotary sponsored nature trail in which residents can walk through the forest and view the wildlife, as well as learn about different species of plants that are identified.

The park contains other various courts and athletic fields, as well as an access point for “car-top” boats such as canoes and kayaks.

An inventory of park recreational facilities include:

- 1 Basketball court
- 2 half size soccer fields (or 1 full size)
- 1 full size baseball field
- 2 Tennis courts
- 1 Play set with age appropriate equipment for children 5-12
- 1 mile nature walk/learning trail
- Trail head connecting to the Auburn branch on the New York Central railroad
- A proposed enclosed pavilion with seating for 100 people, a kitchen, and restrooms (including restroom for the Auburn trail users), which is currently out for bid.







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 Project Manager Dan Savage
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Town of Farmington
 1000 County Road 8
 Farmington, NY 14425
 (315) 986-8189

Auburn Branch, NYCRR Linear Trail

Town of Farmington
 Parks and Recreation
 Master Plan

Town Lot N/A, Range N/A, Township N/A

Town/City Farmington County Ontario, State N.Y.

Project No.
2007317.01

Drawing No. **P-9** Sheet No. **9 of 9**

Scale:
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Date
August, 2008

Auburn Branch of the New York Central Railroad

The Auburn Branch of the New York Central Railroad is an old abandoned railroad bed that has become a place for leisure hiking, biking and other trail related activities. The trail is connected to the Lehigh Valley Trail that runs through Victor, Mendon, Rush and Caledonia, to the Genesee Greenway Trail that extends to Allegheny State Park, the trail also has a branch linking to the statewide Erie Canal Corridor Trail. There has been discussion at the Town level of connecting this railroad bed to other trails in the area, to Town Parks such as Farmbrook and Farmington Grove, as well as connecting this regional trail with the City of Canandaigua, and the Finger Lakes Trail network.

LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

Canandaigua City School District

Canandaigua Academy – 435 East Street

- Rectangular Field Surrounded by a Running Track
- 10 Additional Fields, 3 of which are overlaid by Baseball or Softball Fields
- 2 Baseball Fields
- 1 softball Field
- 6 Tennis Courts
- Gymnasium
- Additional Indoor Facilities

Canandaigua Middle School – Evans Field at Fort Hill Ave.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| <u>Evans Field</u> | <u>Middle School</u> |
| 1 Football Field | 2 Soccer Fields |
| 1 Baseball Field | 4 Mini Soccer Fields |
| | 4 Basketball Hoops |
| | 3 Tennis Courts |
| | 1 Softball Field |

Canandaigua Elementary School – 90 West Gibson Street

Canandaigua Primary School – 96 West Gibson Street

(These two schools are on 1 joint campus)

- 1 Small Soccer Field
- 1 Informal Softball Field
- Open Play Fields

Manchester-Shortsville (Red Jacket) Central School District

Elementary, Middle and High Schools – 1506 Route 21

- 2 Football Fields
- 2 Baseball Fields
- 1 Artificial All Weather Track
- 3 Soccer Fields

Victor Central School District

No information was available at the time of this publication.

Palmyra-Macedon Central School District

No information was available at the time of this publication

COUNTY FACILITIES and INFRASTRUCTURE

Atwater Park

- Drinking Fountain
- Benches
- Trash Receptacles

Deep Run Beach

- 8 Picnic Tables
- Restrooms
- Public Swimming

Gannett Hill Park

- Hiking Trails
- Playground
- 3 Softball Diamonds
- Fishing Pond
- Picnic Sites with tables, grills
- 410 Acres of Woods and Open Lands
- Camping

Ontario Beach Park

- Restrooms
- Picnic Tables

Pickle Park (Gorham Street north of the Municipal Building)

- Picnic Tables

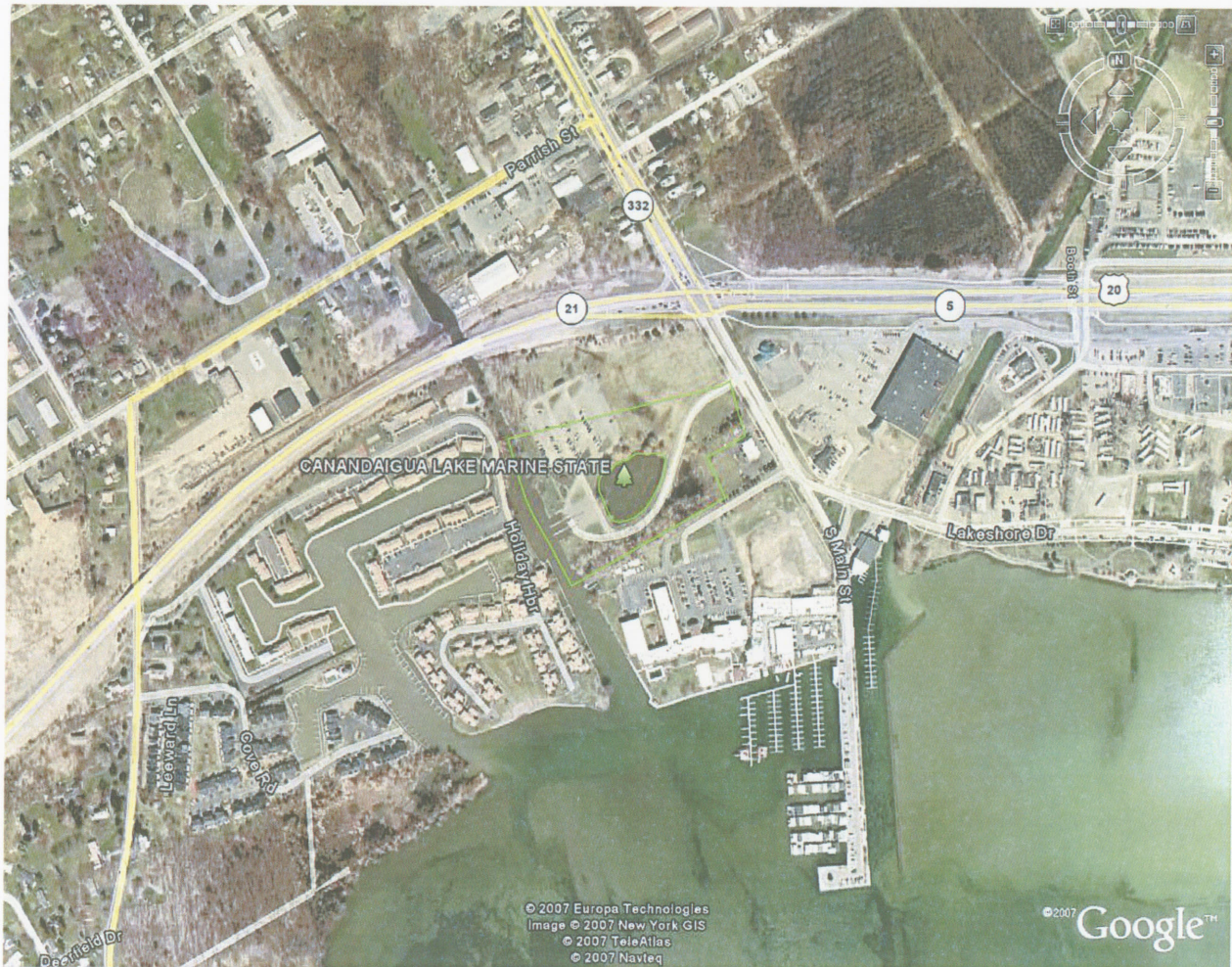
Three Mills Park (Stryer Road in Phelps)

- Fishing
- Hiking

STATE FACILITIES

Canandaigua Lake State Marine Park

620 South Main Street in Canandaigua, is the location of the Lake State Marine Park. This site provides a boat launch, a fishing access to Canandaigua Lake, as well as a picnic area.



Squaw Island

Squaw Island is a small, uninhabited island at the north end of Canandaigua Lake that is classified as a state unique area.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Bristol Mountain Resort

Bristol Mountain Resort provides skiing in the winter and is located at 5662 Rte 64 in the Town of South Bristol.

Bristol Harbour Resort on Canandaigua Lake

5410 Seneca Point Road in Canandaigua is the home of an 18 hole golf course open to the public. The pro shop offers golf packages, as well as golf instruction, frequent player programs, leagues and tournaments. The resort also offers 7 miles of cross country skiing in the winter.

Canandaigua KOA

Campgrounds are located at 5374 Farmington Townline Road, and provide 120 campsites with shower, electricity (65 sites), swimming, fishing, and a laundry station. The campground is open April 1-November 1.

Cobblestone Arts Center

Located on the west side of Route 332, across from the Farmbrook Subdivision, the Cobblestone Arts Center provides such activities as dance lessons for all ages and adult theatre lessons.

Cooper Creek Park

Located at 5041 Shortsville Road in Shortsville, provides guided horseback rides, sleigh rides in wintertime, and also accommodates cross country ski trails.

Club Fitness

At 1740 Route 332 in the Town of Farmington, this facility is opened to residents for membership to their gym.

Eastview Mall

Located in Victor on NYS Route 96, the mall complex provide restaurants, shopping and movie theatres.

Farmington Methodist Church

Located at 5925 County Route 41, they offer pre-teen programs for the community.

Finger Lakes Community College

1 Fitness Center (Weight Lifting and Cardiovascular Workout)
2 Basketball Court
1 Batting Cage
1 Mirrored Dance Area
1 Baseball Diamond
5 Soccer/Lacrosse Fields
4 Tennis Courts
Woodsmen Training Area

Finger Lakes Gaming and Racetrack

On Route 96, the racetrack hosts horse racing from April to November, along with year round video gaming machines and dining facilities.

Glacier Lakes Resort and Indoor Waterworld (Coming 2009)

Proposed 89 acre indoor water park and associated hotels on Route 332.

Jim's Pro Shop

Jim's Pro Shop offers bow hunting and archery classes.

Lehigh Valley RR Historical Society

Located at 8 High Street in Shortsville, this museum and historical society exhibits railroad artifacts, photos, paintings, and Santa train rides and is open May to October on the third Sunday of the month.

Lehigh Valley Snow Riders

The Lehigh Valley Snow Riders is a snowmobile club of 450 riders from several towns, with many of its members residing in the Town of Farmington. It has access to 67 miles of scenic New York State approved trails, several miles of which run in the Town of Farmington, all of which can be accessed at eateries and gas stations throughout the county. Contact information can be found at <http://www.lehighvalleysnowriders.org/>.

Mini Golf and Ice Cream

Located across from the New York State Police Barracks on Route 332.

Roseland Water Park

Roseland Water Park is a summer getaway, located on Muar Lake, north of Routes 5 & 20.

Ravenwood Golf Club

Ravenwood is a public golf course located at 929 Lynaugh Rd. in Victor.

Snap Fitness

In Farmington at 1560 Route 332 is a gym opened for public membership.

Spattball, the Game, Inc.

Located on Fox Road in Farmington, Spattball provides a natural forest setting or a man made court to play paintball.

Victor Farmington Rotary

The Rotary offers activities for residents of the community during Halloween.

Victor Hills Golf Club

Located at 1450 Brace Road in Victor, this golf course, open to the public, offers 63 holes on 550 acres.

Victor Lions Club

1149 Hampton Drive in Victor is the home of the Lions Club, that offers annual Auto Festival at the Farmington Town Hall Park around June.

West Wayne Cinema

Located on Route 31 in West Wayne Plaza in Macedon provides indoor viewing of movies.

Winged Pheasant Golf Links

Winged Pheasant Golf Links is a public course with a 27-hole layout located in Farmington.

Other Recreational activities in the surrounding Towns can be found by going to www.visitfingerlakes.com

The Town of Canandaigua (Ontario County), the City of Canandaigua (Ontario County), the Town of Victor (Ontario County) and the Village of Fairport (Monroe County) are all within a 10 minute drive of Farmington, and offer many recreational and leisure activities.

CHAPTER 4 RECOMMENDATIONS

A. *GENERAL*

The Town of Farmington has reached a juncture where it must decide whether to continue to provide minimal recreational opportunities or to respond to Town residents who have expressed that they expect and are accustomed to having in other communities a reasonable level of park lands, recreational facilities, and professionally run recreational programs. As time passes new families move into the Town from other communities and with that the demand for recreational activities and resources can be expected to increase.

The recommendations of this Master Plan will address the following subjects, all of which have been identified as areas of concern by the residents of the Town at various public meetings:

- Recreational programs and services
- Parks and facilities
- Trails
- Recreational staff
- Recreation Commission
- Survey of residents

B. RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

1. Background

Recreational programs and services within a community may be offered by a wide range of educational, church, not for profit, youth sports leagues, commercial for profit, state, county, and local government organizations.

The Town of Farmington offers minimal recreational programs, which are limited to a summer playground program and special events for certain holidays. The Town provides a modest subsidy to the senior citizens' program. Youth sports are almost entirely run by non-profit leagues or through school districts encompassing more than one town; a factor that makes unifying the Town a difficult task.

Recreational facilities, mainly athletic fields, are spread throughout the Town in its five major parks. Youth and adult recreation leagues rely on fields located at school districts and fields in neighboring towns. These same organizations also use a few makeshift fields at Finger Lakes Gaming and Racetrack, where the future use of the fields is unclear at the time of this publication.

Many Town residents participate or attempt to participate in programs offered by the Town of Victor Parks and Recreation Department. Victor has a high quality professional staff offering over 300 programs to not only Victor residents, but Farmington residents as well. The Town of Victor reports that 18 percent of its participants are Farmington residents. However, Farmington residents must wait a certain time frame allowing Victor residents to have first preference at enrolling in programs, after which, Farmington residents may enroll, and must pay a non-resident surcharge.

2. Optional Actions

- a) Pursue the feasibility of an inter-municipal agreement with a neighboring town to provide recreational services to Farmington residents.

An inter-municipal agreement with a surrounding Town such, as Victor, Manchester or Canandaigua, would provide multiple recreational advantages for the Town of Farmington and its residents.

An agreement with the Town of Victor, would allow Farmington residents to have access to an established recreation staff and facilities to run its recreation programs. Through an inter-municipal agreement, the Town of Farmington residents would be able to have full access to all of the recreation programs offered by Victor. Both Towns residents would be able to sign up for programs at the same time, with no waiting or grace periods, and no surcharges for not being a resident of the Town of Victor. This agreement, however, would require the Town of Farmington to provide its fair share of funding towards such a joint recreation undertaking.

Partnerships with other towns in the area may prove somewhat to be a disadvantage, however, as other towns in the area are not as far along with their recreation programs as Victor. Partnerships with Canandaigua and Manchester could give some immediate returns such as additional facilities to accommodate more recreation programs, however, other start-up costs such as a staff and programming supplies needed to run and teach these programs will need to be spent as these towns are somewhat limited in these areas. Another disadvantage to partnering with a town that is also limited in its recreational offerings is that there is no established and developed recreational programming. It may take years to develop a set of recreational programs and staff that will adequately accommodate the needs of the Town of Farmington, and offer a wide range of programs for all ages.

Conclusion: The Town of Farmington should engage in talks with a town with established recreational programs and staffing with the overall goal of working towards an inter-municipal agreement.

b) Create a full time Farmington Recreation Department

In order for the Town to hire a full time qualified recreation director and assistant with appropriate office space and office facilities to create and establish recreation programs, the Town would need to provide the salary and support the costs associated with hiring a full time recreation director and the initial costs for starting recreation programs from the beginning. Other initial costs would include the building or leasing of space for offices and indoor programs as the Town lacks suitable indoor facilities and has inadequate outdoor facilities, of which some of these inadequacies will be reconciled with the completion of the pavilion at Mertensia Park.

Conclusion: The overall costs for creating a recreation department to be dedicated to only the Town's wants and needs would be significantly more costly than if the Town were to partner with another municipality. This option should be pursued should the Town have sufficient funds and resources.

C. *PARKS AND FACILITIES*

1. Background

The Town of Farmington holds approximately 76 acres of developed park land which when augmented by 31 acres of proposed park land at Auburn Meadows will yield approximately 107 total acres of parks in the Town, or approximately 9 acres per 1,000 population, which is below but close to the NRPA minimum standard of 10 acres per 1,000 population.

The most immediate need for park land is to accommodate 5 rectangular multipurpose athletic fields, totaling no less than 10 total acres, in some part of the Town that will enable restoration of fields at Town Hall and Mertensia Road Parks. The long term advantage of acquiring the fields is for the rotation for on-going maintenance of all fields, to replace the temporary fields at Finger Lakes Gaming and Racetrack, and to serve expanding demand for fields as population in the area grows.

As opportunity arises, the Town should also acquire or secure the right to acquire, at least 25 acres of developable land centrally located in the Town for future park development and, possibly, development of indoor facilities, in order to accommodate future growth to 2013. Town parks and park land acquired should allow residents to participate in active recreational opportunities such as pick-up games and organized sports, but also accommodate those interested in more informal and passive recreation such as picnic areas and areas to sit and enjoy their surroundings.

2. Improvements to existing parks

Parks are public facilities that require constant maintenance and upkeep in order to keep them in a condition to be used and enjoyed by Town residents. It is imperative that these parks are under the supervision of an individual well trained in parks operation and maintenance. The park staff should have sufficient, necessary equipment to maintain these parks. They should enlist the assistance of a professional park planning and design consultant in order to identify specific improvements to be performed to these parks. Planning for improvements to parks for design of new parks by the selected professional should consider improvements to parking, park signage, accessible restroom facilities, playground equipment for all ages that is acceptable by the Consumer Products Safety Commission and the Americans with Disabilities Act, and consider the need and functionality of athletic fields (see Appendix D for Conceptual cost estimates for the following recommendations).

Improvements to existing parks should include the following:

Town Hall Park

- Upgrade playground equipment to conform with ADA regulations
- Upgrade restrooms to conform with ADA regulations
- Install drinking fountains. Ensure these are installed in conformance with ADA regulations
- Re-stripe parking spaces
- Provide security lighting in parking lot
- Rehabilitate and maintain existing fields

Pumpkin Hook Park

- Upgrade playground equipment to conform with ADA regulations
- Upgrade restrooms to conform with ADA regulations
- Install drinking fountains. Ensure these are installed in conformance with ADA regulations
- Provide security lighting in the parking lot
- Investigate the drainage system for the athletic fields, consider replacing underdrains

Farmington Grove Park

- Upgrade playground equipment to conform with ADA regulations
- Upgrade restrooms to conform with ADA regulations
- Install drinking fountains. Ensure these are installed in conformance with ADA regulations
- Provide security system/cameras and security lighting
- Provide picnic tables/benches

Farmbrook Park

- Upgrade playground equipment to conform with ADA regulations
- Upgrade restrooms to conform with ADA regulations
- Install drinking fountains. Ensure these are installed in conformance with ADA regulations
- Full depth reconstruction of parking lot
- Consider security lighting and system/cameras

Meeting House Park

- Continue to maintain park

Mertensia Road Park

- Rehabilitate and maintain existing fields
- Continue the process of approving and constructing pavilion
- Extend the Auburn Branch trail

D. TRAILS

Background

Trails are becoming more prevalent and much more widely used among all ages. As more residents become more active, and more educated and aware of trails, the need for having trails becomes more warranted. Due to this growing popular recreational experience, a volunteer trails committee should be established to oversee the coordination and implementation of the establishment of trails. The trails committee should also be charged with the creation of a long range plan for the acquisition of land and right of way permits and funding for the construction and maintenance of trails. The trails committee should also:

- Encourage local snowmobilers to coordinate with Ontario County and snowmobile clubs in neighboring towns to create snowmobile trails within and through Farmington, connecting to the county-wide network. The snowmobile clubs should secure funds via Ontario County through the New York State Snowmobile Trail Development / Maintenance Program.
- Design, secure grant in aid funds, and develop the Auburn Line Branch Trail from the Victor town line through Farmington to the Canandaigua town line.
- Prepare a master plan as a guide to acquiring, developing and maintaining the trails that will be a part of the Town.

E. RECREATION STAFF

Background

The availability of more recreation programs to the Town residents has become a pressing issue as the Town grows in population. Should the Town decide to not enter into an agreement with another neighboring municipality, then the Town should deliver more recreation programs to the Town residents. Currently the Town recreation staff consists of a part time recreation director who plans summer playground programs, as well as part time seasonal staff who operate these programs. In the future, should the Town expand its recreational offerings on their own, there could be the need for a full time recreation director with an appropriate background and training, as well as the appropriate support staff sufficiently trained.

F. RECREATION COMMISSION

Background

Currently the Town has a recreation commission, whose duties and responsibilities include recreational programming and organization of Town special events. Its duties, powers and responsibilities as defined in the Town Code are not clear, rendering the Commission less meaningful in the Town's progress towards its duties and to provide the Town with adequate year round recreational services.

The Town should:

- Disband the Recreation Commission.
- Establish a Recreation Advisory Board overseen by the Town Board with an appropriate organizational structure, powers, and duties to *advise* the Town Board on administrative, policy, program, funding, budgetary and other appropriate matters.
- Appoint Advisory Board members who are qualified and have sufficient time to devote to Board matters. Recreation Commission members could be considered to sit on the Advisory Board.

The Recreation Advisory Board should have well defined responsibilities, power and duties which can include but are not limited to:

- Advise on policies regarding delivery of recreational services.
- Propose standards for facilities, programs, and finances.
- Identify the recreational needs of the Town as the Town continues to grow.
- Coordinate Town recreational services with that and other providers of recreational services. Such as not-for profit and private recreational providers.
- Make recommendations for capital and operating budget items.
- Assist in selection and development of parks and facilities.
- Coordinate with other Town agencies such as the Town Planning Board and Zoning Board.
- Assist in selection and management of recreation staff.
- Provide the public with information about the Town's parks and recreation programs, including the maintenance and creation of a Town parks website or weekly/monthly recreation bulletin/mailer.
- Work with the trails committee in the acquisition of and funding of parks and trails including the incorporation of parks with trails.

G. SURVEY OF RESIDENTS

Background

As the Town continues to grow, and out grow its current recreational offerings, there is a need to identify the demands for enhanced recreational services within the Town and the extent to which residents are able and willing to support new enhanced services. The Town residents have expressed strong concerns regarding the lack of recreational programs and shortage of facilities to accommodate recreational programs in Farmington.

The town presently has a real estate tax rate of \$1.18 per \$1,000 assessed value. Should the town expand recreational programs and services either by itself or in partnership with another town, it will require a significant increase in the Town's tax rate. Before making specific recommendations for programs, services, and facilities, it is necessary to determine the true extent of interest in expanded recreation and the ability and willingness of Town residents to support expanded recreation through taxes and fees.

It is further important that the Town Board has meaningful programs and facilities documentation to justify its actions as to whether or not to invest further in recreation and facilities in Farmington, making it necessary to obtain the services of a professional firm specializing in administering large scale surveys. This firm and survey should focus on scientifically prepared and conducted survey of Town residents and should be undertaken by a professional firm specializing in such surveys to:

- Define the extent of interest in expanding recreation.
- Determine the priorities and nature of desired expanded recreation.
- Determine the willingness to support recreation and at what various cost thresholds.
- Determine how Town residents would prefer to pay for their recreation programs, including maintaining current recreational offerings, partnering with another municipality, creating more recreation programs of its own.
- Identify acceptance of alternative deliveries of recreation.

CHAPTER 5

FINANCING ACQUISITION, DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

A. LOCAL RESOURCES

Farmington has tools and resources which can help further develop the recommendations of this plan. Often, the local resources can be leveraged with state, federal, and other sources to increase the value of the local investment for land acquisition, facility development, or recreational programs.

Parkland Reserve Fund

The town maintains a Parkland Reserve Fund as allowed under section 277 of the New York State Town Law which imposes an impact fee on new residences in the form of set aside of appropriate land for recreational purposes or, in lieu thereof, a fee to be held in trust for the purposes of acquisition, recreational development, or improvements to public parks.

Farmington assesses a fee of \$500 for each new residential unit. The reserve fund has a current balance of approximately \$205,000. The Town should establish a policy of reviewing the fee periodically and adjusting the fee to reflect increases in the costs of acquiring and developing recreational land and increases in the value of new homes in the Town. Comparisons with nearby towns suggest an increase in the fee can be justified, and it is recommended the Town consider increasing the fee to approximately \$1,000 per residential unit.

The Town should also establish well defined criteria in determining whether a particular parcel of land offered to the town is in the best interests of serving communitywide recreational goals or whether acceptance of the fee would better serve the Town's recreational needs.

Fees and Charges

Revenues from fees for participating in programs and charges for use of facilities can be important sources of financing parks and recreation. Farmington presently does not offer significant programs for which fees can be charged other than its summer playground program. However, if the Town does establish a full time recreation department and offer programs, it should strive to charge fees which reflect the real costs of programs.

Fees for use of facilities should reflect as much as practical the costs of operations and maintenance generated by the use of the facility above its baseline costs.

Real Estate Taxes

In most towns, real estate tax revenues are a major source of funding the costs of maintenance and operations of recreational lands and facilities. Tax revenues can also support bond issues for capital expenses. Farmington's current real estate tax rate is \$1.18 per \$1,000 assessed value. Raising this could assist in increasing funds to allow for the creation of recreation programs and also aid in supporting parks operation and maintenance.

Bonding

Bonds generate immediate financing for capital projects. Bonds may be authorized by a general referendum or may be authorized by a permissive referendum if the referendum is petitioned by the voters.

Bond Anticipation Notes

Bond anticipation notes can be used for short term or "bridge" financing in anticipation of permanent financing through a long term bond issue or grant in aid.

Leases, Permits, and Easements

Each of these offers means for using land or facilities for long or short terms without immediate capital outlay. Leasing may be beneficial for short term use of facilities such as office space or other facilities which are available but not for sale. Permits and easements are particularly effective in securing trail routes.

Special Districts

Special districts may be used to finance improvements which will benefit and be paid for by a special tax on taxpayers of the special district. Park districts are one form of special district. As park districts benefit only their residents, can be exclusionary, and impose an administrative burden on the taxing body, typically the Town, they should neither be necessary nor desired in a town such as Farmington.

Donations

Service clubs, "Friends" of park(s) voluntary organizations, businesses, other interest groups, and individuals can be sources of donations of money, goods, or services for acquiring, developing, maintaining, and sponsoring facilities and programs.

Partnerships

Partnerships with other Towns, other levels of government, school districts, businesses, and other public or private entities are a means of creating facilities or services which may otherwise be beyond the Town's ability to provide. It is important to ensure that there are no potentially conflicting policies or needs which could create future problems.

B. STATE AND FEDERAL RESOURCES

The availability and priorities of projects funded by state and federal grant programs vary from year to year. Following are the most common sources of aid for acquisition of land for parks, trails, and other recreational purposes and for development or improvement of recreational facilities.

Shared Municipal Services Incentive

This New York State Department of State program provides technical assistance and competitive grants to two or more units of local government for projects that will achieve savings and improve municipal efficiency through shared services, cooperative agreements, mergers, consolidations, and dissolutions. Grants of up to \$200,000 per municipality are available. This program may be of value if Farmington pursues shared recreational services with another town.

Small Cities Community Development Block Grant

The Town of Farmington has applied for the CDBG grant in the amount of \$377,000 for improvements to its parks to make them more ADA compliant. The Town will match the grant in the amount of \$254,975. The decision of the awarding of the grant was pending at the printing of this document.

Environmental Protection Fund Parks Program

This New York State OPRHP program is a matching grant program for the acquisition or development of parks and recreational facilities for projects to preserve, rehabilitate or restore lands, waters, or structures for park, recreational, or conservation purposes. Funds may be awarded to municipalities or not-for-profit organizations with an ownership interest for outdoor or indoor projects which reflect the priorities of the New York State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Environmental Protection Fund Acquisition Program

This New York State OPRHP program is a matching grant program for the acquisition of a permanent easement or fee title to lands, waters, or structures for use by all segments of the population for park, recreation, conservation, or preservation purposes where acquisition is of more importance than development.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Program

This programs of the National Park Service is administered in New York by the New York State OPRHP. It is a matching grant program for the acquisition, development, and/or rehabilitation of outdoor park and recreation facilities. Funds are available to municipal public agencies. Funded projects must reflect the priorities established the New York SCORP and be available to the general public.

Recreational Trails Program

This program of the Federal Highway Administration is administered in New York by the New York State Department of Transportation. It is a matching grant program for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, and maintenance of trails and trail related projects. Funds are available to non-profit organizations; municipal, state, and federal agencies, Indian tribal governments, and other public agencies and authorities. Funded projects must be identified in or further a specific goal of the New York SCORP and must be available to the general public.

Snowmobile Trail Grant Program

This New York State OPRHP program allocates funds to local governments that engage in the development and maintenance of snowmobile trails designated as part of the State Snowmobile Trail System. Funding is allocated on a pro-rated basis.

Partners for Wildlife

This U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service program offers grants for improving and protecting fish and wildlife habitats, including such improvements as trails, boardwalks, and overlooks. The program is administered by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service office at Cortland, NY.

Legislative Initiatives

Legislative Initiatives are grant programs for recipients pre-designated by the State Legislature. Projects of local interest are initiated through state legislative representatives. This is an important ongoing source of potential funding

C. NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Trust for Public Land

National not-for-profit organizations with offices in New York which can serve as a land bank to acquire properties on behalf of a community or other public entity and hold. The land in a revolving fund until the sponsoring public entity can purchase the land from Trust for Public Land (TPL). Properties must serve an important community objective which may include environmental, historical, cultural; or recreational purposes.

The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy is an international not-for-profit organization which can serve as a land bank similar to trust for Public Land. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) also purchases and, manages lands with significant environmental value. The Central / Western Chapter of TNC is located in Rochester, NY.

Finger Lakes Land Trust and Genesee Land Trust

They are two not-for-profit land trusts which can assist a town or other agency in acquiring and/or serving as a land bank similar to TPL and TNC to acquire and hold land for subsequent transfer to the town.

Town of Farmington Parks and Recreation Master Plan

APPENDIX

- A. Parks Infrastructure Review Chart*
- B. Park Photographs*
- C. Survey of Parks and Recreation Reserve Fund*
- D. Conceptual Cost Estimates for Park Improvements*

APPENDIX A

*Farmington Parks & Recreation Site
Infrastructure Review Chart*

APPENDIX B

Park Photographs

Town Hall Park



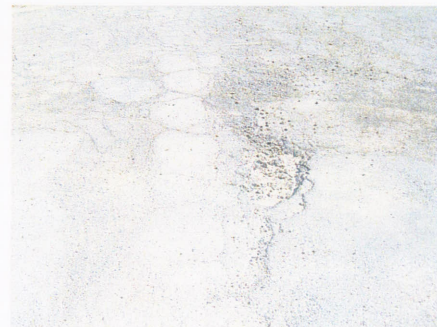
Pumpkin Hook Park



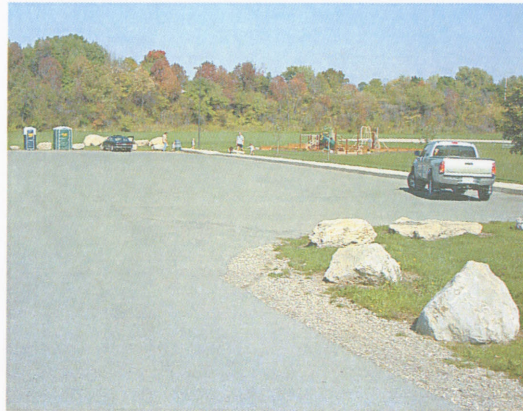
Farmington Grove



Farmbrook Park



Mertensia Road Park



APPENDIX C

Survey of Park and Recreation Reserve Fund

Town of Farmington Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 Survey of Park and Recreation Reserve Funds

Town	Population (2000 Census)	Cost/Lot	Dedicated P&R Fund	Min # of Lots	Waivers	Remarks
Ontario County						
Bristol	2421	\$50 / \$75	No	3 Lots / 2 Lots	No	
Canandaigua	11264 (includes City and Town)	\$500	Yes		Dedicate land	\$3000/lot proposed
E. Bloomfield	3361	\$250	Yes - \$150 of fee	No	Not used yet	
Farmington	10585	\$500	Yes	No	Dedicate land	
Naples	1072	\$150 / \$75	Yes - 10% of fee	5 Lots / 2 Lots	No	
Victor	9977	\$1,000	Yes	No	No	
Others						
Chili	27638	\$1,000	Yes	No	Dedicate land	
Geneseo (Village)	9654	\$200	Yes	No	No	No fees in the Town
Hamlin	9355	\$350	Yes	No	Dedicate land	
Mendon	8370	\$1,000	Yes	No	No	
Parma	14822	\$450	Yes	No	No	
Webster	37926	\$1,000	Yes	No	No	

APPENDIX D

*Conceptual Cost Estimates for Parks
Improvements*

CONCEPTUAL COST ESTIMATES FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Town Hall Park	
Upgrade Payground equipment to conform with ADA regulations	\$15,000
Upgrade restrooms to conform with ADA regulation	\$35,000
Install drinking fountains in accordance with ADA regulations	\$2,500
Re-stripe parking spaces	\$5,000
Provide security lighting in the parking lot	\$5,000
Rehabilitate and maintain existing fields	\$20,000
	\$82,500
Pumpkin Hook Park	
Upgrade Payground equipment to conform with ADA regulations	\$15,000
Upgrade restrooms to conform with ADA regulation	\$35,000
Install drinking fountains in accordance with ADA regulations	\$2,500
Provide security lighting in the parking lot	\$5,000
Investigate the drainge system for the athletic fields, consider replacing underdrains	\$25,000
	\$82,500
Farmington Grove Park	
Upgrade Payground equipment to conform with ADA regulations	\$15,000
Upgrade restrooms to conform with ADA regulation	\$35,000
Install drinking fountains in accordance with ADA regulations	\$2,500
Re-stripe parking spaces	\$5,000
Provide security lighting in the parking lot	\$5,000
Provide security cameras/system	\$5,000
Provide picnic tables/benches	\$2,000
	\$69,500
Farmbrook Park	
Upgrade Payground equipment to conform with ADA regulations	\$15,000
Upgrade restrooms to conform with ADA regulation	\$35,000
Install drinking fountains in accordance with ADA regulations	\$2,500
Full Depth Reconstruction of Parking Lot	\$40,000
Provide security lighting in the parking lot	\$5,000
Provide security cameras/system	\$5,000
Provide picnic tables/benches	\$2,000
	\$104,500
Meeting House Park	
Continue to maintain park	\$0
	\$0
Mertensia Road Park	
Rehabilitate and maintain existing fields	\$20,000
Continue the process of approving and constructing the pavilion	\$500,000
Extend the Auburn Branch Trail	TBD
	\$520,000
Aubuen Branch Linear Trail	
Land Acquisition	\$100,000
Trail Development	\$100,000
	\$200,000

APPENDIX B

Park Photographs

Town Hall Park



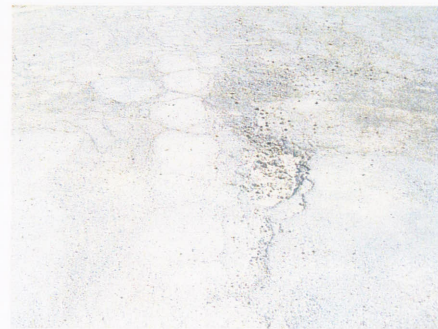
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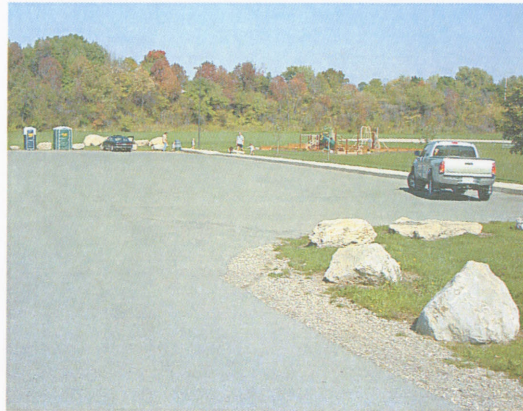
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