

The Master Plan sets forth an agreed-upon “road map” for future recreation facility development and open space acquisition for the Geneva Park District. The recommendations contained within the Master Plan address parks and recreation for both the existing population within the current 18 square mile Park District Boundary, as well as the anticipated 10,000 to 12,000 future residents anticipated from future western growth. The Master Plan’s recommendations reflect a ten year time period, a realistic expectation of when the community will achieve its ultimate build-out population. The Plan is the product of considerable effort on the part of the Park District Board, the Planning Advisory Committee, Park District staff, and Geneva Park District residents.

However, in many ways the planning process for the Geneva Park District Master Plan has just begun. Completion of this Master Plan is only the first step, not the last.

This section briefly highlights several next steps that should be undertaken to begin the process of plan implementation. These include:

- Adopt and use the Master Plan on a day-to-day basis;
- Review financial implications of the Plan’s recommendations;
- Continued utilization of the Capital Improvements Program (CIP);
- Promote cooperation and participation among various agencies, organizations, community groups and individuals;
- Prepare annual goals
- Explore possible funding sources and implementation techniques;
- Enhance public communication; and
- Update the Master Plan on a regular basis.

Adopt and Use the Plan on a Day-to-Day Basis

The Master Plan should serve as a resourceful inventory of all Park District parks and facilities, and become the Geneva Park District’s official guide for park and recreation improvements. It is essential that the Plan be adopted by the Park Board and then be used on a regular basis by Park District staff, and the Master Plan’s recommendations be incorporated into the Park District’s annual budgets.

Financial Implications

The recommendations contained within this Master Plan include the development of parkland, recreation facilities, and the acquisition of open space. The costs associated with these recommendations vary on a project by project basis, as site constraints, economies of scale, timing, and intensity of development can affect the costs of development. Listed below is a review of estimated costs per recommendation, along with low and high costs associated with these facilities. The costs associated with development are based on previous construction and inquiries by the Geneva Park District, along with a review and analysis of recent construction by nearby park districts. This table should be kept current as part of any updates to the Master Plan.

Facility	Possible Cost Range/Facility		Estimated Cost Per Facility
	Low	High	
Park Land (acres)	\$35,000	\$125,000	\$75,000
Backstop	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$3,850
Baseball Field	\$100,000	\$300,000	\$220,000
Outdoor Basketball	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$16,500
Football/Soccer	\$30,000	\$100,000	\$71,500
Ice Skating	\$40,000	\$200,000	132,000
Outdoor Pool Expansion	\$900,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$1,000,000
Peck Farm Unit C	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Peck Farm Unit D	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000
Peck Farm Unit E	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
Peck Farm Unit F	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000
Picnic Area and Shelter	\$20,000	\$100,000	\$66,000
Playground	\$20,000	\$130,000	\$82,500
Recreation Center/Gym	\$7,500,000	\$ 9,500,000	\$8,500,000
Skate Park	\$100,000	\$300,000	\$220,000
Tennis Court	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
Trails - asphalt (mile)	\$65,000	\$85,000	\$85,000
Water Sprayground	\$300,000	\$800,000	\$605,000

*Cost estimates valid until 2006 and do not include inflation.

Capital Improvements Program

The strongest tool for implementing the Master Plan is the Capital Improvements Program. It establishes schedules and priorities for all park improvements and land acquisition within a five-year period. The Park District first prepares a list of all capital improvements that will be required in the next five to ten years, then annually, all projects are reviewed, priorities assigned, cost estimates prepared, and potential funding sources identified.

The Capital Improvements Program typically schedules the implementation of a range of specific projects related to parks and recreation, including soccer fields, ball fields, land acquisition, picnic shelters, shade shelters, playgrounds, gymnasiums, recreation centers, fitness centers and other facilities would all be included in the Capital Improvements Program.

Geneva Park District's financial resources will always be limited and public dollars must be spent wisely. The Capital Improvements Program would allow the Geneva Park District to provide the most desirable public improvements, yet stay within budget constraints.

Promote Cooperation and Participation

The Geneva Park District should assume the leadership role in providing recreational experiences within the community. However, to carry out some of the recommendations set forth in this Master Plan, the Park District will need cooperation from other groups and organizations. In order for the Master Plan to be successful it must be based on a strong partnership between the City, other public agencies, programming affiliates, neighborhood groups and organizations, and the private sector.

The Geneva Park District should be the leader in promoting the cooperation and collaboration needed to implement the new Master Plan. The Park District's "partners" should include:

- Other governmental and service districts, such

as the City of Geneva, Geneva Township, Kane County, School District #304, Kane County Forest Preserve District, Geneva Public Library, and Batavia Park District, etc.;

- Affiliate organizations, such as the Fox Valley Strikers, Geneva Baseball, Tri-City Soccer, Tri-City Youth Football, River Rats Swim Team, Geneva Basketball, Geneva Forum for Arts & Education, RiverPark of Geneva, Geneva Foxes, and Youth Wrestling Club etc.;
- Builders and developers, who will be developing residential areas in the western growth area, will be responsible to donate parkland to the Geneva Park District. More than ever before, developers are recognizing the value of parks and pathways within a development. These recreation amenities add value to neighborhoods and should be encouraged within all new developments.
- Geneva Park District residents should be encouraged to participate in the on-going planning and budgeting process, and all should be given the opportunity to voice their opinions on improvement, development, and acquisition decisions within the community.
- Property owners, who control large tracts of undeveloped land that could be desirable to the Geneva Park District. The Park District should work cooperatively with these property owners to negotiate the purchase of future park sites from willing sellers.

Prepare Annual Goals

The Park District should continue to develop annual goals as part of the implementation for this Master Plan. Each of this Master Plan's recommendations will entail a multi-step process that should be recognized and addressed as part of the Geneva Park District's annual update to the Master Plan. This will serve as implementation "action agenda" which highlights the improvements, developments, studies, workshops and other activities to be undertaken during the next few years. For example, the "action agenda" might consist of:

- A detailed description of the projects and activities to be undertaken;

- The priority of each project or activity;
- An indication of the public and private sector responsibilities for initiating and participating in each activity; and,
- A suggestion of the funding sources and assistance programs that might potentially be available for implementing each project or activity.

In order to remain current, the “action agenda” should be updated once a year as part of the annual update to the Open Space and Recreation Master Plan.

Explore Funding Sources and Implementation Techniques

The recommendations of the plan vary greatly in financial considerations necessary to implement and develop the facilities and park land. While many of the projects and improvements called for in the Master Plan can be implemented through the Park District’s annual budgeting process, several recommendations will require additional funding sources, such as bonding, grants or special technical and/or financial assistance.

The Park District should continue to explore and consider the wide range of local, state and federal resources and programs that may be available to assist in the implementation of the Master Plan’s recommendations.

Enhance Public Communication

The Park District should continue to make the Master Plan available to the community, through the Park District’s website, and at the local library. It is important that all Park District residents, affiliates, property owners, and other organizations be familiar with the Master Plan’s major recommendations and its vision for the future.

The Park District should also consider additional techniques for responding quickly to public questions and concerns regarding planning and development. For example, the Park District might consider a dedicated column in the quarterly program guide or Web page features that focus on frequently raised questions and

concerns regarding planning and development within the Geneva Park District.

Update the Plan on a Regular Basis

It is important to emphasize that the Master Plan is not a static document. If community attitudes change, a new trend in recreation develops or a new issues arise which are beyond the scope of the current Master Plan, the Master Plan should be revised and updated accordingly.

Although a proposal to amend the Master Plan can be brought forth by petition at any time, the Park District should regularly undertake a systematic review of the Master Plan. Annual “housekeeping” is desirable to ensure recreation inventories are current and new facility development is reflected. Ideally, this review should coincide with the preparation of the annual goals and budget, and capital improvement program. In this manner, recommendations or changes relating to capital improvements or other programs can be considered as part of the upcoming commitments for the fiscal year. In addition to regular upkeep, the Park District should initiate a comprehensive review and update of the Master Plan every five to ten years. Routine examination and periodic updates of the Master Plan will help ensure that the planning program remains relevant to community needs and aspirations.

The Geneva Park District should:

- Make available copies of the Master Plan document for public purchase.
- Make an electronic version of the Master Plan available for download from the Park District’s website.
- Provide assistance to the public in explaining the Master Plan and its relationship to the community survey and local issues and trends, as appropriate.
- Assist the Park District Board in the day-to-day administration, interpretation and application of the Plan.
- Maintain a list of current possible amendments, issues or needs which may be a subject of change, addition or deletion from the Master Plan.