



PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

1462 STRONGS AVENUE, STEVENS POINT, WI 54481 • PHONE: 715-346-1334 • FAX: 715-346-1677

To: Portage County Board Members
From: Stephen D. Brazzale, Director of Planning and Zoning Department
Prepared By: Jeff Schuler, Senior Planner
Date: March 9, 2007
Re: Portage County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2007 - 2011

You have before you for review and adoption the 2007-2011 update of the Portage County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. As you are aware, Portage County has been planning for parks and recreation since the early 1970's. Outdoor recreation planning is required by the State in order to be eligible to receive grant funding for local needs. Since the adoption of "Portage County Outdoor Recreation - A Comprehensive Plan" in 1971, five updates (1977, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2001) have been drafted and adopted by the County Board. These subsequent "Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan" updates were 5-year plans, and were undertaken to adjust policies and acquisition/improvement priorities as needed, and to continue State and/or Federal funding eligibility.

You now have the 6th update, Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) 2007-2011. Consistent with past practice, the Parks Department requested the assistance of the Planning and Zoning Department in drafting the document. On March 7, 2007 the Planning and Zoning Committee recommended 3-0 (Olson – excused, Potocki – absent) approval of CORP 2007-2011, with this recommendation then forwarded to the Portage County Park Commission. On March 8, 2007 the Park Commission voted 7-0 to recommend approval of CORP to the County Board.

The *Executive Summary* distributed for your review contains the most important information that Portage County will use to guide parks development for the next 5 years (goals and policies for outdoor recreation, and a list of possible acquisition and facility improvements). The full body of the Outdoor Recreation Plan contains: general data on Portage County; a detailed inventory of existing County facilities; and an analysis of needs for these facilities. Also included in the CORP are sections on Town and Village-specific recreation planning. The Town and Village facilities are **not** part of the County parks and recreation program. Portage County has, however, offered to include those communities which do not already have their own State-approved plans. Inclusion of their information in this CORP is simply a courtesy intended to make the Towns and Villages eligible to apply individually for their own recreation projects, without having to draft their own planning document. This does not impact the County's eligibility or ability to secure grant funding for its own projects, and does not obligate Portage County in any way to participate in Town or Village-level recreation planning.

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.