

PLAN ELEMENT IV: COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Standards

The City of Rockford's standard requirements for construction and sizing of streets, alleys, public ways, drainage and sewers are included in its Subdivision Regulations, which are contained in Appendix G. (More specific requirements are contained within *Engineering Design Criteria for Public Works Improvements, City of Rockford*, published by the Rockford Department of Public Works. These were last revised in 1997 and are hereby adopted by reference.)

For those facilities not provided by the City of Rockford, i.e., schools and recreational facilities, the City defers to the standards adopted by the Rock River Water Reclamation District, the various school districts present within Rockford's city limits and by the Rockford Park District.

Parks

The Rockford Park District has long been viewed as a major asset to this community for the quality, quantity and variety of facilities they provide. However, the combination of limited financial resources and rapid growth on Rockford's east side have left some gaps in services provided by the District, especially at the neighborhood park level. As we plan for the future, our goal will be to meet Park District standards throughout the City of Rockford. These standards are spelled out under "Levels of Service" below.

- ▶ **Levels of Service** Rockford Park District policy is to provide the full range of open space areas needed to provide and support a diverse recreation program, including but not limited to such facilities as tot lots, paths, neighborhood parks, activity centers, large park areas, and riverfront.
 - ▶ Open Space Standard: The Park District will strive to meet the following standards for parks for all residents of the City of Rockford by 2020.
 - ▶ A minimum of 10 acres of park land for more highly organized recreation activities per 1,000 population (currently, 1,500 acres total).
 - ▶ A minimum of 10 acres of natural park land for passive activities per 1,000 population.
 - ▶ Neighborhood parks located within one-half mile of citizens' homes.
 - ▶ Priority for acquisition and development will be given to (not ranked):
 - ▶ Economically disadvantaged neighborhoods currently underserved.
 - ▶ Rapidly developing neighborhoods with limited available land.
 - ▶ Land for inter-connecting paths, linking activity centers and/or paths.
 - ▶ Riverfront land with focus on the River Cultural Corridor.
 - ▶ Land needed to assure continued growth of major activity centers.
 - ▶ Land needed to round out the completion of an existing park area.
 - ▶ Land for large playfields such as a second Sportscore.
 - ▶ Land which preserves open space for public use, to include, but not be limited to, riverfront land.
 - ▶ Native plantings and landscaping on District properties, especially around detention/retention areas ¼ acre or larger in areas where it does not conflict with other activities on the site.
 - ▶ Support the Greenways Plan.
 - ▶ Additional greenways along the Rock River and its tributaries.
 - ▶ Open and/or green space to link residential areas.
 - ▶ Rockford Park District's suggested standard: That diverse activities be offered proportionally within available resources in each quadrant of the District, and shall include team and individual sports and games; creative art and cultural activities including visual and performing arts; environmental recreation; special events and other programs that offer opportunities to learn and participate in lifelong leisure activities.
 - ▶ Continue to give priority to programs and services

- ▷ That provide opportunities for youth to develop lifelong leisure competency;
 - ▷ For youth, especially ages 5 to 17, with special attention given to activities during non-school hours, weekends and holidays;
 - ▷ That meet the needs of the disadvantaged in all age groups to ensure that everyone will have access to Park District programs;
 - ▷ That provide more active programs for the older adult populations which will grow substantially during the next 5 to 10 years;
 - ▷ That reflect the growing diversity of our population; and
 - ▷ At times and locations that meet the needs of participants.
- ▶ **Provision of services** The City of Rockford will aid in whatever way it can in the provision of recreational services to its citizens. However, this is primarily a responsibility of the Rockford Park District. The one way in which the City can play a role financially is through establishment of impact fees on new development. This possibility should be investigated thoroughly by the City and other jurisdictions within the Rockford Park District. If such fees are imposed, it should be done jointly with all other jurisdictions within the Park District with a reasonably uniform schedule of fees being set within all municipalities and the County.

The other significant role the 2020 Plan can play in ensuring future development of recreational facilities is through the designation of acquisition areas and proposed pathways on the Plan map. The map shows several significant areas for acquisition, primarily in either heavily wooded areas or near a river or creek, and several miles of proposed pathways throughout the community. While there clearly is a need for parks at the neighborhood level in some areas of the City, the Plan map does not extend to that level of detail. The City's primary roles in providing new locations for neighborhood and community parks are financial assistance through the impact fees mentioned above, and working with the Park District staff in finding attainable and workable sites for new parks.

- ▶ **Coordination with other service providers** The staff and elected officials of the City of Rockford will work with the Rockford Park District as they plan for the future development of Rockford's excellent park system. This should involve:
- ▷ Working with the Park District in development of a new Park and Open Space Plan to replace the one done in 1973. Even without the financial difficulties the District now faces, after 30 years, it is more than time to revisit what level of service will be provided to our citizens, and how.
 - ▷ Working with the Park District and other local jurisdictions in establishing an equitable system of impact fees throughout the Rockford Park District.
 - ▷ Continuing to work with the Park District and other transportation providers in creation of new pathways, and maintenance of all existing pathways.

Rockford Public Library

The stated mission of the Rockford Public Library is to "enhance community life and development by informing, educating, entertaining, and providing cultural enrichment to all people of all ages and by continuously collecting information to address the diverse interests of our dynamic community." It currently does this with a variety of programs and facilities.

- ▶ **Levels of service** Rockford Public Library operates six facilities – an 80,000 square-foot main library plus five branches. Future levels of service are being evaluated by the Library now as it works through a long-range facility study. (See below under "Provision of services.") Until that is completed and adopted by the City, the goal will be to maintain the current level of service, at least in terms of the number and location of facilities.
- ▷ The **Main Library** serves as the headquarters of the municipal library system and is an anchor institution for Rockford's downtown River District. It is a remodeled Carnegie building first erected in 1903 and renovated most notably in 1967 and again in 1989. The building is a full service, 80,000 square-foot public library facility offering reference and reader advisory services, a

250,000+ collection of materials, over 20 public Internet/word processing computers, online circulation services, a web-based catalog and literature-based programs for all ages. In addition, Administrative, Collection Management, Information Technology and Maintenance services are also housed in this facility.

- ▷ The **Montague Branch Library** – the only branch library building owned by RPL – was built in 1925 and is located at the corner of South Winnebago and Montague Streets in southwest Rockford. It was totally renovated and expanded in 2001 from 5,000 to 10,000 square feet and is ADA compliant. Its features include a wireless computer environment; and the Constance Lane Community room, which is open to neighborhood groups, churches, literacy tutors and government agencies. The Library is an important, sustaining institution to the southwest side of Rockford. Over the years it has welcomed the Polish, Italian, African American and most recently Hispanic-speaking families that first moved to Rockford's southwest side. The two-story brick building with orange-tiled roof is considered a landmark to residents throughout the entire community because of generational connections to relatives who have assimilated throughout the years into the surrounding community. Services include checkin/out of materials; registration of library cards, reserves, reference/Internet access; word processing; daily delivery to and from other library locations; 24-hour book drop; community bulletin board and programming for both children and adults. Programming and outreach services are a priority at this location. A web-based computer management system supports circulation activity, the library catalog and acquisitions. The collection of materials and programs target families and children. A well-developed collection of Spanish language and multi-media materials are located at this branch.
- ▷ The **Lewis Lemon Branch Library**, located in the Lewis Lemon Global Academy, opened in 1994 as part of a community center concept in collaboration with the school, YMCA and Park District. It is located in west-central Rockford near Central Avenue. There is both a school and public entry. At 2400 square feet, this library is RPL's smallest facility. It houses a collection that targets an African American neighborhood and provides the same types of services as the Montague Branch.
- ▷ Located in northwest Rockford, the **Rockton Centre Branch Library** moved from the back of the mall to a new and more-visible 8,000 square-foot location inside the Rockton Avenue Shopping Centre. Rockton Centre first opened its doors in April 1961 as a storefront in the mall. In 1975, it moved behind the center to a larger facility. The decision in 2000 to move it to the front of the mall resulted in an immediate increase in circulation. The branch's collection focuses on topics and formats appropriate for the older adult. This branch has one of the largest large print book collections in the branches. Free Internet and word processing services are also available at this branch facility.
- ▷ In terms of circulation, the **Northeast Branch Library** is Rockford Public Library's busiest branch. The facility opened at its present 7,200 square-foot location in 1986 near the busy intersection of North Alpine Road and East State Street. With continued growth of the east side, the Library board will be seeking a northeast solution to better serve the eastern part of the city. The collection focuses on a variety of formats and is diverse in topics and formats. The branch features a variety of programs and story times for children. Free Internet and word processing services are also available at this branch facility.
- ▷ Located in southeast Rockford, the **Rock River Branch Library** moved to its present location in 1998 and is the library's largest branch facility in terms of square footage at 10,500 square feet. From 1971 to 1998, the branch was located in the 11th Street Shopping Centre - strip mall across the parking lot from its present location. June 2001 marks the 30th anniversary of the branch library at this shopping center. Rock River Branch Library provides popular materials in a wide variety of topics and formats. This branch specializes in materials for job searches and career development and provides programs and story times for children and adults. Free Internet and word processing services are also available at this branch library.

- ▶ **Provision of services** As mentioned above, the Trustees and staff of Rockford Public Library are currently in the midst of a long-term facility study that will plan for library service development over the next 20 years throughout the City. Under consideration will be a renovation and expansion of the Main downtown library to position the facility for delivering 21st Century Best Practices in Library Service, the development of a major regional facility on the east side and improvements to the Lewis Lemon, Rockton Centre and Rock River Branch facilities. That study should be completed by midyear 2004. Upon its completion, it will be considered as an amendment to this 2020 Plan.
- ▶ **Coordination with other service providers** The Rockford Public Library is a member of the Northern Illinois Library System (NILS), one of twelve regional library systems in Illinois funded by the Illinois State Library. NILS' primary purpose is to provide an informational and technical link for its member libraries. The RPL coordinates its services with those of other providers through its membership in NILS.

Schools

The City of Rockford is served primarily but not exclusively by the Rockford School District. (Small areas of the City are served by the Harlem and Winnebago School Districts.) All are suffering varying degrees of financial difficulties, a not uncommon occurrence in Illinois as a whole. In the case of the Rockford School District, these financial problems are complicated further through frequent changes in leadership and a decade of being under court-ordered mandates.

▶ **Levels of Service/Provision of Services**

As the 2020 Plan is being written, the District is once again changing Superintendents while facing a shortfall of some \$30 million. Rather than offering a formulaic set of standards for local schools, the City supports the following three steps as being valuable in finding a way for the District to work out of its current difficulties so that it can focus on its primary role – providing a first class education for Rockford's young people.

- ▷ Completion of an analysis of School District finances by a group of financial experts from within the local government and business communities. Their task is to make recommendations to the District on how to improve its financial standing. The advantage to this approach is one of having fresh eyes look at the issues involved and recommend solutions.
- ▷ With Rockford College acting as overall coordinator, establish a serious community dialog on our schools, involving the business community, parents, educators, students, other community leaders and citizens. The goal will be to determine directions, goals and purposes for the schools.
- ▷ Creation of a permanent structure to provide for citizen involvement in the District.

▶ **Coordination with other service providers**

Beyond these three activities, the Plan proposes the following strategies for future cooperation between the City of Rockford and the school districts operating within it:

- ▷ Increased cooperation of clearly independent entities – local school districts and the City of Rockford – in the decision-making process. While they may be independent in the sense of having separate taxing authority and governing bodies, they nonetheless are interdependent in the sense that what one does can affect the other, and that what all do affects the community as a whole.
- ▷ As part of this cooperation, regular discussions between the City and schools districts to discuss current needs and issues as well as pending plans and projects. The objective is increased collaboration on joint solutions meeting the widest range of needs.

Water Supply

The City of Rockford has an excellent water supply system. It plays a key role in Rockford's Fire Department having received a "2" ranking from ISO, one of the few departments in Illinois to do so. This plan does not propose any changes in how the water system operates. It does propose the following:

▶ **Levels of service**

- ▶ Maintain an ISO 2 rating for the Water Division while working to achieve a "1" rating. (These ratings are based on three factors – quantity and flow of water, water quality, and pressure.)
- ▶ The Water Division will complete a Strategic Plan by 2005 which will address the issue of levels of service, among other things. That Plan should be adopted as an amendment to the 2020 Plan once it has been completed.
- ▶ Continue to require that all new development within the City of Rockford hook up to City water.
- ▶ Provide access to water service to all existing development within the City by 2020. This does not necessarily mean that everyone would be hooked up to water, but it does mean that water mains would be installed so that everyone would have the option of hooking up.

- ▶ **Provision of services** The City will continue to require developers to install water service within any new developments. Should the City require a main that is larger than what is needed for the specific development in order to ensure adequate service to other properties, the City will pay the difference in cost for the larger service. For example, if a new subdivision only needs 8-inch mains but a 20-inch main is needed to maintain the functionality of the system as a whole, the City would pay the difference between the cost of the 8-inch versus the 20-inch main.

New construction of water mains by the City is programmed through Rockford's Capital Improvements Program (CIP). Generally speaking, water projects are driven by road projects. CIP project selection policies for both transportation and water projects are the same and are listed in the transportation section on page 52. These policies, or some variation on them, should remain in effect for the life of the 2020 Plan.

- ▶ **Coordination with other service providers** The staff of the Rockford Water Division attends regular meetings of the Groundwater Protection Planning Committee, a consortium of local agencies that provide water. Through these meetings, they are able to learn of what other agencies are doing and vice versa. The Division staff will continue to attend these meetings in the future to ensure coordination with other water service providers. This coordination should raise to a higher level after each agency has had the opportunity to enter information about its delivery system in WinGIS, the local geographic information system. This should happen by 2005.

Sanitary Sewer

The Rock River Water Reclamation District (RRWRD) provides sanitary sewer service not only within the City of Rockford, but also throughout most of eastern Winnebago County, with services as far south as the southern part of New Millford and as far north as McCurry Road in the Village of Roscoe. To the east, Reclamation District lines end at the Winnebago/Boone County line in Loves Park and Cherry Valley, but they accept flow from lines located in Boone County.

During the late 1980s and early '90s, the City of Rockford and RRWRD jointly funded several major sanitary sewer projects. These included the Spring Creek Trunk, the North Branch of Keith Creek Trunk, the Kishwaukee Trunk and the Northwest Trunk. These major projects enabled annexation and much of the commercial development that has taken place and is continuing to take place along Perryville Road, Riverside Boulevard, and East State Street east of the Tollway. It should also be noted that there was developer participation and participation by the City of Loves Park in the funding of the Keith Creek sewer. Smaller jointly- funded projects such as the Alma Nelson sewer and the Mack Truck Trunk complimented these four major projects. After the mid 1990s the development of these joint projects slowed considerably, while the Reclamation District focused its efforts within communities to the north.

▶ **Levels of service**

- ▶ Continue to require that all new development within the City of Rockford and its extraterritorial review area hook up to sanitary sewer.

- ▷ Provide access to sanitary sewer for all existing development within the City by 2020. As with water, this does not necessarily mean that everyone would be hooked up to sewer. It does, however, mean that the necessary infrastructure would be installed so that everyone would at least have the option of hooking up.
- ▶ **Provision of services** As the map on page 75 shows, sanitary sewer trunks now serve most of the drainage basins within the City of Rockford and the surrounding area, with some major exceptions. Clockwise from the northeast, these unserved areas include the following basins/sub-basins: West Beaver Creek to the North Branch of Keith Creek; the Blackhawk Trunk; the Airport and portions of the Kishwaukee River and Kilbuck Creek basins to serve the Rockford Global TradePark Industrial Redevelopment area; the Southwest Basin; the Fuller Creek Interceptor to serve the South Branch of Kent Creek; the North Branch of Kent Creek and Mud Creek.

Each of these basins each has a different set of circumstances and development issues associated with it. Providing sewer service to each will need to be considered at some point to enable continued orderly growth and development of the City. However, it is critical that the City evaluate each potential project and determine a priority list of projects to present to the RRWRD. Ideally, the City and the RRWRD will jointly prepare a capital improvement program for sewer construction within the City and its extraterritorial area (1½ miles beyond the corporate limits). The following is a general description of each of these potential sanitary sewer projects.

- ▷ **West Beaver Creek to the North Branch of Keith Creek** This sub-basin is located north of the Kishwaukee Basin and south of the Keith Creek Basin roughly bounded by Spring Brook Road, the Tollway, Rote Road and the Boone County Line (see map) This project would require gravity sewer to the southeast, a pumping station near the Boone County line, and a force main to the North Branch of Keith Creek. The pumping station would be required because this sub-basin drains to Beaver Creek and the Kishwaukee River instead of the Rock River. The majority of this area is planned for residential use, with technology-based industry planned near the Tollway and some commercial at major street intersections. There is no City water currently available within this basin east of the Tollway, and the sanitary sewer is more costly to develop than a typical gravity sewer. There has been one development proposal (eventually turned down by the City) and numerous inquiries about development within this sub-basin, which lies immediately west of several “estate “ type subdivisions along Shaw Road in Boone County.
- ▷ **Blackhawk Trunk Basin** This basin extends east from 20th Street to I-39 and would serve the remaining area south of Jefferson High School to the Kishwaukee Basin, just south of Blackhawk Road. (See map) This area is planned primarily for residential use, although commercial development would be expected near South Alpine and Linden Roads as the number of rooftops increases with the development of this sanitary sewer project. Sanitary sewer costs are high for this project because of the terrain and exposed bedrock. Unfortunately, the benefits of providing this sewer, including payback through connection fees, are considerably reduced by the fact that approximately one-third of this basin was allowed to develop on well and septic, some during the sewer moratorium during the late 1960s but some during the mid 1980s. A major vacant tract was recently annexed with the provision that only the small northerly portion of the tract could develop now while the majority would be required to wait for the first phase of the Blackhawk Trunk.

downstream portion of the Kishwaukee River and Kilbuck Creek basins) This recently created Redevelopment Area includes several potential TIF Districts all with the specific intent of creating jobs through industrial development. Sanitary sewer service is incomplete and not sufficient to allow significant new industrial development. The needed sanitary sewer improvements would provide gravity sewer in these basins and would include a regional pumping station on the Greater Rockford Airport property near Cessna Drive replacing three upstream pumping stations serving the area south of Leonard Road near 11th Street and Falcon Road. These improvements would be critical to attracting industrial development to this Redevelopment Area.

- ▷ **Southwest Basin** South of the Fuller Creek basin, the Southwest Basin is formed by an unnamed creek which enters the Rock River between Rock Creek and Fuller Creek. This basin is downstream from the Reclamation District treatment facilities, so a pumping station and force main would be required along South Main Street. Although much of this basin is planned for light industrial use because of its proximity to the Greater Rockford Airport, it is not likely to develop until the Rockford Global TradePark Redevelopment Area sanitary sewer improvements are made and the TradePark is substantially built-out.
- ▷ **Fuller Creek Interceptor - South Branch of Kent Creek** Because of severe downstream capacity limitations in the South Branch of Kent Creek, Phase 1 of the Fuller Creek Interceptor was designed and constructed in the early 1980s to accommodate much of the Fuller Creek Basin and the upstream portion of the South Branch of Kent Creek. (See map). Phase 2 of this project would require a regional pumping station and force main in the vicinity of Bypass 20 and Kent Creek (south branch). Gravity sewer would serve this basin west and northwesterly from the pumping station. Much of this basin east of Meridian Road was developed on well and septic 40 or more years ago. Small pumping stations along with retrofitted sanitary sewer have provided temporary solutions in some portions of the basin, particularly Park-Er-Woods. The majority of this large basin is located west of Meridian Road and is largely undeveloped. There has been considerable interest in residential development in this area. There is potential for commercial development along West State Street on either side of Meridian Road. There are numerous barriers to annexation by the City, and, coupled with the additional expense of the pumping station/force main and existing development on well and septic, this proposed project requires careful consideration.
- ▷ **North Branch of Kent Creek** This is a large basin that is difficult to serve in a cost-effective manner because the gravity route of the main trunk of this sewer would traverse over one mile of Park District property and about the same distance of undevelopable, City-owned, flood-control property. In addition, the northern sub-basin through Tullocks Woods and Lakewood Subdivision was developed on well and septic 40 years ago and is now in need of expensive sewer retrofit. The southwest sub-basin is the most promising for new development because it does not have parkland or extensive existing development on well and septic. Overall, this basin is almost entirely planned for residential development or future urban development (probably residential), with the exception of the existing Pierce Chemical Company at North Meridian Road near Porter Road.
- ▷ **Mud Creek Basin** This is a very large basin lying northwest of the city limits. Approximately one-third of this basin is located on the Machesny Park side of the Boundary Agreement between the City of Rockford and the Village of Machesny Park. Development on well and septic is minimal, nor has there been a major demand to develop this area up to now. This basin is designated for future urban development to be initiated when the sanitary sewer is programmed. There are two factors, however, which may accelerate this sewer project. First, the Illinois Department of Transportation has programmed major improvements to Illinois 2 from Elmwood Road north over the next few years; this is expected to promote more interest in this land for development. And secondly, the sewer would serve a portion of both Rockford and Machesny Park, facilitating the funding for the sewer project.

A detailed cost-benefit analysis of each of the seven sanitary sewer basins is recommended as a prerequisite to determining priorities for these seven major projects and their sub-components or phases. Once the City has determined what its priorities are, a formal presentation should be made to the Reclamation District to facilitate appropriate programming of these projects and their individual components. However, because of the economic development and industrial job development potential associated with the Global TradePark Redevelopment

Area, the initial phases of this project should be assigned the top priority by the City and the Reclamation District.

- ▶ **Coordination with other service providers** Clearly, the key to success in expanding sanitary sewer service within Rockford is coordination with the Reclamation District by virtue of the fact that the District controls the sewer system. To that end, City staff regularly attends quarterly meetings sponsored by the District to update the various jurisdictions they serve on their plans and activities. It is imperative that the City work with the District in establishing a program for sewer improvements for the next 15-20 years, and that the City do everything in its power to make sure that the District sticks to that program (except for any mutually agreed modifications).

Public Safety

While police and fire stations are obviously physical structures, actually selecting a specific site for any future ones at this time is premature. However, there are some basic factors that need to be considered when the time does come to make a decision about specific locations.

- ▶ **Level of service** Both the Rockford Police Department and the Rockford Fire Department must cope with the realities of serving an ever-expanding geographical area. At the time the original Year 2000 Plan was adopted, the City of Rockford covered roughly 41 square miles; at the time this is being written, this figure has increased by nearly 50% to 60 square miles. Despite the increased coverage required of each department, the Police still operate out of a single facility — the Public Safety Building downtown — while the Fire Department continues to work from 11 stations, albeit some of them in different locations from where they were in 1981.

For the Rockford Police Department, the goal is to maintain current levels of basic service throughout the community, while continuing specialized programs such as community policing. As law enforcement methods evolve over the next 15-20 years, the Police Department will do its utmost to accommodate those methods when they meet local needs. For example, the Police Department could, in conjunction with other City departments, produce general guidelines for achieving crime prevention through environmental design for use by property owners and developers.

For the Rockford Fire Department, service goals are as follows:

- ▷ Maintain a response time of 5 minutes or less for 90% of fire and ambulance calls;
 - ▷ Maintain an ISO-2 rating or better; and
 - ▷ Work to maintain a maximum distance of 1½ miles between any point in the City and the nearest fire station.
- ▶ **Provision of services** Because of the different ways that police and fire services are handled, one constantly patrolling while the other responds to calls from fixed locations, their facility needs differ. However, every effort should be made to combine these services in a single facility if and when satellite police stations become a reality. Such a possibility already exists with the combined fire and police station being proposed for the Rote and North Lyford Road area on the far east side of town. (This may also accommodate an east side training facility for the Fire Department as well as some activities of the Department of Public Works.)

With the County Sheriff's Department moving into the proposed new Winnebago County Justice Center in the near future, the PSB will need substantial repairs and remodeling if it is to continue to serve effectively as the main headquarters of the Rockford Police Department. Should any additional police substations be needed, their location would be based on the following factors:

- ▷ Visibility from and access to main arterial streets;
- ▷ Size of the area to be affected and its relationship to existing facilities;
- ▷ Rate and type of calls for police assistance within an area;

- ▷ Demographics of the area in question, including the number and type of residences; age, income, and employment status of the residents;
- ▷ Types of businesses within the area; and
- ▷ Traffic flow (e.g., how difficult is it to traverse the area).

Areas under consideration for sites by the Police Department include the Airport, East State Street and Mulford Road, Perryville and Olde Creek Roads, South Alpine and Sandy Hollow Roads, North Main Street and West Riverside Boulevard, 3600 West State Street (in front of Concord Commons), as well as the North Lyford Road site.

Because of the need to have fire protection emergency response facilities within certain distances of everyone, the demand for new fire stations will exceed those for police substations. In addition to the east side station mentioned above, gaps in existing services to areas already in the City could result in construction of two new stations on Rockford's southeast side, one in the vicinity of 11th Street between 18th Avenue and Sandy Hollow Road, and one in the vicinity of Jefferson High School. The former would replace Station 7 on Samuelson Road which is severely limited in the area it can readily serve by the presence of the Greater Rockford Airport on its west side, with the Rock River just beyond that. The latter would serve a newly developing area of primarily single-family homes further to the south and east.

Future fire stations may be needed if Rockford develops to the extent shown in this Plan. Specifically, a new station would be needed to the northwest once development goes north of Elmwood Road west of the current city limits. An additional southwest station will be needed as the area inside the US 20 Bypass is filled in, but especially once the City expands outside US 20 in this area. While some of this area could be served by relocating Station 3 from its current site on South Main Street, it would remove an important anchor from that neighborhood while still not providing a long-term solution to the problem of properly serving Rockford's far southwest area. At some point, an additional station will still be needed. Consequently, Station 3 should remain where it is.



- ▶ **Coordination with other service providers** Both the Police and Fire Departments have a longstanding record of working with other organizations in the community to ensure that Rockford residents receive the best service possible. The Police Department works with agencies such as DCFS, Janet Wattles Center, Contact and the Red Cross to provide services where needed. The Department also has special outreach programs, providing officers in schools for the Rockford School District and through its Community Services officers, its Bike Patrol and its RHA Patrol.

The Fire Department participates in MABAS, the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System. Through this system, the Rockford Fire Department will back up other departments within the system when called upon to do so, and vice versa. The Rockford Fire Department also coordinates with other local jurisdictions as operator of the County-wide 9-1-1 system.

Community Facilities Implementation Matrix cont.

Goal	Objective	Action	Who	When
Water Supply Provide Rockford water users with an excellent product (Cont.)	Ensure that all Rockford residents have access to City water by 2020.	Continue to require that all new development be served by City water.	City staff; City Council	Ongoing
		Provide access to water to all existing development by 2020.	City staff; City Council	Ongoing
		Determine where service gaps exist, using GIS.		2004-2005
		Determine types of uses in those areas.		2004-2005
		Estimate cost of providing water service to those areas.		2005
		Prepare program to construct needed mains in those areas. Implement program.		2005-2006 2006-2020

Sanitary Sewer Work with the Rock River Water Reclamation District to ensure excellent service to all Rockford residents.	Ensure that all Rockford residents have access to sanitary sewer by 2020.	Work with the RRWRD to go through the same basic steps as outlined above for water, resulting in a definite plan to provide access to sewer where it does not exist.	City staff (Public Works, Planning and Legal) and RRWRD	Ongoing
	A sanitary sewer CIP for 2005-2020.	Work with the RRWRD to reach agreement on a sewer CIP, including the following basins: West Beaver Creek to North Branch, Keith Creek Blackhawk Trunk Basin Rockford Global TradePark Redevelopment Area Southwest Basin Fuller Creek interceptor - South Branch, Kent Creek North Branch, Kent Creek Mud Creek Basin	City staff (Public Works, Planning and Legal) and RRWRD	Ongoing

Community Facilities Implementation Matrix

Goal	Objective	Action	Who	When
Parks				
In cooperation with the Rockford Park District, work to enhance its historically strong pattern of investments in parks and related recreational facilities.	Assist the Park District in acquisition and development of facilities as appropriate.	Evaluate and, if warranted, establish an impact development fee that would be applied universally throughout the Rockford Park District.	Planning and legal staff of City of Rockford, Rockford Park District, and other general purpose jurisdictions within Park District boundaries.	2004-2006
		Work with the Park District in preparing a new Park and Open Space Plan.	City and Park District Planning staff, with public input.	2004-2006
		Pursue the development of new pathways as funding allows.	Public Works and Park District staff.	Ongoing

Schools

Meet academic standards established by State of Illinois for all students, regardless of the school district they live in.	Ensure that facility needs for each district are met.	Work with each school district that is in Rockford to determine their long-range facility needs.	City and school district staffs.	2-4 years
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Rockford Public Library

Maintain the current level of service in number and location of facilities until 2010.	Plan for the RPL's long-term needs	Complete the long-term facility study that will result in a 20-year plan for library service development.	RPL Trustees and staff; City staff	2004
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Water Supply

Provide Rockford water users with an excellent product.	Maintain at least an ISO 2 rating for the Water Division while working for a "1" ranking.	Complete a Strategic Plan for the Water Division to address levels of service.	Water Division staff w/ input from other City staff as appropriate	2005
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Community Facilities Implementation Matrix

Goal	Objective	Action	Who	When
Public Safety - Police Protect the lives and property of Rockford residents to the fullest extent possible.	Establish one or more branch Police stations over the next 15 years.			
	Work directly with Rockford residents whenever possible to aid in stabilizing neighborhoods.	Participate with Community Development in the "Healthy Neighborhoods" planning program and in implementation of same. Implement a "Crime Prevention through Environmental Design" program	City staff (Interdepartmental team) Police, Building and Community Development staff	Ongoing 1-3 years

Public Safety - Fire Maintain the Fire Department's ISO-2 ranking while working to achieve a "1"	Enable the Fire Department to keep pace with the City's geographic expansion.	Develop a long-range facilities plan for the Department, taking into account associated personnel and equipment costs.	Fire and Community Development staff	1-3 years
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