## 6. Utilities, Community Facilities & Services

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Community Utilities, Facilities & Services Vision

In 2035, the City has efficient service delivery with low costs to the community, while still providing top notch services and superior quality of life. The City and other local government facilities serve as models for building design, landscaping and sustainability, positively contributing to community character. The schools, parks and public spaces are showcase features of the community. Residents of all ages enjoy year-round access to abundant recreational opportunities, a community center, diverse library resources and quality health care. Community development and infrastructure needs are closely coordinated. Local utilities efficiently serve development within the City through the rehabilitation and maintenance of existing utilities and the maximization of redevelopment and infill development.

Policies

It is the primary goal of the City that future utility and community facilities needs be met. Evansville will also encourage the continued efforts of neighboring communities, the school district, Rock County, and private companies, all of which provide community facilities and utilities which can be used by residents.

The goals and objectives at the end of this chapter are related to actions the City can control. Supporting policies are provided here:

- Pursue shared service opportunities with others when mutually beneficial (i.e. cost savings) to improve the efficiency and quality of utilities and community facilities.
- Provide adequate active and passive recreational opportunities for residents.
- Construct all new public facilities and upgrade existing facilities to be accessible by persons with disabilities.
- Provide schools that are located in a walkable neighborhood.
- Reserve open space and conservation areas for eventual park or other recreational purposes.
- Require annexation into the City as a prerequisite for obtaining City water and sanitary sewer service. Only under extreme circumstances, such as health concerns, where public services are needed and annexation is not legally possible, should the City provide services without annexation. If public services are provided to a user who cannot be annexed at the time of the request for services and it is in the City’s best interest to annex the user eventually, the user should be required to sign an agreement to annex when it is possible and to pay the true cost of providing the public services while not being a resident of the City. (The policy for public water and electricity extension are determined by the utilities in charge of their distribution.)
- Require that developers locate and size public services to serve the entire development area. If a pipe must be oversized to serve an area that is not within the current development, the City should participate in financing the cost of over sizing the pipe. When it is fiscally justified, the City should assess the cost of the oversized utility to properties that benefit from the utility improvement.
- Utilize the Extraterritorial Land Division review authority to ensure that development in the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction is coordinated with the City’s Plans for development.
- Developments should provide on-site storm water control when possible. If on-site storm water control is not possible due to engineering or limited site size, the developer should contribute to a fund for regional storm water detention facilities. Developers who contribute to regional storm water detention should pay the appropriate portion of the cost of the storm water facility upon developing any land that is tributary to the storm water facility.
- Preserve certain lands in their natural state so that future generations may learn from them.
- Locate park and open space throughout the community to ensure all neighborhoods have access to open space.
- Encourage the use of suitable commercial recreational (e.g. movie theaters, bowling alley, laser tag, etc.) facilities in appropriate locations, such as traditional neighborhood activity centers.
- Encourage the involvement of citizens in the planning and improvement of City parks.
- Encourage the use of alternative energy resources and efficiency in all buildings.
Introduction
The City must have a clear understanding of the location, use and capacity of utilities and community facilities and take this information into consideration when planning for the future. This information, coupled with the demographic trends and projections, provides a realistic picture of service supply and demand. The community facilities and utilities discussed in this chapter were carefully considered in the development of the Future Land Use Map.

Wisconsin’s Smart Growth Law includes 14 goals for local comprehensive planning. The goals from the planning law listed below specifically relate to planning for utilities and community facilities in Evansville:

- Promotion of the redevelopment of lands with existing infrastructure and public services and the maintenance and rehabilitation of existing residential, commercial and industrial structures.
- Providing infrastructure and public service and an adequate supply of developable land to meet existing and future market demand for residential, commercial and industrial uses.

Utilities Inventory – Location, Use, Capacity
What follows is a description of existing utilities available within Evansville. This section documents those utilities provided by Evansville and private providers.

Wastewater Collection & Treatment Facility
The Evansville wastewater treatment facility was constructed in 2011 and has a design life of 20 years for a population of approximately 8,000 people. Provided the new users/connections to the wastewater treatment facility do not have high volumes or high strengths, an expansion of the facility will not be needed to increase capacity. However, design issues with the waste water treatment facility related to Evansville’s climate are limiting its efficiency. Budgeting will occur for upgrades or replacement of the plant by 2030.

In general, the existing sewer interceptors are located in the core of the City. The western portion of the existing sewer collection system consists of three interceptors: (1) a single (12-inch or 10-inch diameter) line under West Main Street from Maple Street to Third Street, (2) a single 10-inch line under Liberty Street from South Madison Street to South Fourth Street, and (3) an 18-inch line under part of Water Street, School Street, a portion of South First Street, Highland Street, a portion of South Second Street, Lincoln Street, a greenway between Lincoln Court and South Fifth Street, and Porter Road to the intersection with South Sixth Street. Most of the sewer lines west of Fourth Street are 8-inches in diameter. These interceptors and lines are illustrated on Map 6.1: Sanitary Sewer Service Area.

Some of the primary sewer mains in the older part of the City are in poor condition. Most of these mains were constructed in the 1920s or earlier and are made of clay pipes and brick manholes. As residential development has increased, the city has replaced old, leaking sanitary sewer mains. The City replaced the sewer main under Lincoln Street in 2003. In 2005 and 2007, sewer mains under Main Street (as far west as First Street) were replaced. In 2005, the main interceptors for Main Street from Cemetery Road to Exchange Street and on Exchange Street to Water Street were replaced with a new 15” size to accommodate future growth to the area north of Main Street between Union Street and Countryside Drive. In 2013 Garfield Drive from 3rd Street to Madison Street as well as County M was re-constructed to include new sewer and water lines. The sewer main under W. Liberty Street, 2nd Street and 1st Street are in extremely poor condition and will need replacement sometime in the next five years. In 2015 4th Street from Main Street to Lincoln Street was reconstructed, including water and sewer lines. Prior to any surface pavement rehabilitation or replacement, sanitary sewers should be televised to determine if repairs or replacement is warranted. As of 2015, Evansville has 6 lift stations in the City. These stations have the capacity to serve current and future residential and industrial development in the areas. The general service area is indicated on Map 6.1: Sanitary Sewer Service Area.
Sewer Service Extensions

As indicated on the Map 6.1: Sanitary Sewer Service Area, 3 new lift stations added north of the City could significantly extend the serviceable area. With respect to the south side of the City, the existing sanitary lines in the South Madison Street area are shallow, making gravity extensions impossible. The soils in this area are generally wet making the area marginal for development. The greatest potential for additional sewer expansion is the northern half of the City. To serve areas northeast and northwest of the City, new sewer lift stations and interceptors must be constructed west of Cemetery Road.

Storm Water Management

The City of Evansville has a storm sewer system to collect storm water runoff. The City provides routine maintenance to the storm sewer infrastructure when other improvements are scheduled (e.g. roads, sewers, water, etc.). In the older portions of the City, the storm sewers eventually flow to Allen Creek. In newer developments, greenways, detention and retention facilities are used to control and treat storm water prior to flowing into Allen Creek.

Storm water runoff from undeveloped land south of the current City boundary naturally drains southward to the low area along Allen Creek. Undeveloped land east of the City naturally flows to the drainage swale south of the Stoughton Trailers facility. The runoff from undeveloped land north of the City and east of Hwy 14 drains to Allen Creek. New development planned in this area will impact water levels and quality in Allen Creek as it travels through the City. Therefore, storm water detention and treatment facilities should continue to be required for any new development area. Similarly, if the City allows annexation and development of any land that drains into Lake Leota or Allen Creek north of Lake Leota, detention and treatment facilities should be required, because increased flows of storm water from this area also will impact water quality and levels in Allen Creek as it travels through the City.

Stormwater management is handled well by the City through its subdivision review process. Developers of new subdivisions are required to construct storm water detention and treatment facilities that are sufficient in size and appropriately situated so that the amount of storm water runoff from the area of the proposed subdivision is no greater than occurs in the land’s undeveloped state. In addition, the City encourages the use of open greenways to slow down and absorb storm water rather than using underground storm sewers to move water.

Green infrastructure within the City will also reduce the load on the storm sewer system and improve water quality. Green infrastructure is water management infrastructure that uses natural hydrologic features to manage water. Examples of green infrastructure include rain gardens, bioswales, permeable pavement and the use of native landscaping. These elements can be integrated into road projects and large scale projects, such as in terraces or medians where stormwater is directed, or can be done on a small scale with individual residential properties. Credits from the stormwater utility to individuals and businesses that manage stormwater with green infrastructure on site can help incentivize better and more sustainable water management.

The City has a separate stormwater utility to provide revenue for maintaining and improving existing stormwater infrastructure. Single family residential properties are charged 1ERU (equalized residential unit), while other properties are charged ERUs based on the amount of impervious area on the property. One ERU equals 3000 sq. ft. of impervious surface.

There are increasing concerns about the impact of storm water runoff on the quality of receiving water resources like Lake Leota. Of significant concern is the impact of additional impervious surface area. As development occurs, additional streets, parking areas and buildings are constructed which increase impervious surface. Within a watershed, as impervious surface area increases, area streams are adversely impacted. In fact, relatively low levels of impervious coverage can have a significant impact on the quality of area streams. To mitigate these impacts, the City will pursue:
Watershed Planning
All watershed-planning activities in the City of Evansville should be coordinated with the Rock County Land Conservation Department to identify critical habitats, aquatic corridors and water pollution areas. Impaired streams have been identified in the Department of Natural Resources’ (WDNR) 303(e) list. In July 2004, the City applied to the Department of Natural Resources for two lake planning grants to study the Allen Creek watershed north of Lake Leota to develop strategies for improving the quality of water flowing into the lake.

Land Conservation Techniques.
Land conservation techniques include: cluster and conservation subdivisions, setbacks, buffers, and land acquisition following the development patterns outlined on the Future Land Use Map.

Site & Subdivision Design Techniques
Effective site design techniques encourage the use of natural landscaping, limit impervious surface, enforce setbacks and buffers, and protect natural resources. Subdivision design techniques such as “conservation subdivisions” would require open space areas to retain and absorb storm water.

Storm Water Best Management Practices (BMP)
Storm water best management practices seek to reduce storm water pollutant loads, maintain ground water recharge and quality, protect stream channels and safely maintain the 100-year floodplain. Successful BMP’s include rain gardens, bioswales, rain capture devices, green roofs, ponds, wetlands, infiltration, filtering systems and open drainage channels. Incentives such as impact fees, stormwater fees, and credits for private management increases private management of stormwater, reducing the load on the public storm sewer system and nearby water quality. Map 6.2: Storm water Service Area Map is provided on the previous page.

Erosion and Sediment Control
Typically, erosion and sediment control requirements affect construction sites. Probably one of the most effective techniques is to reduce the time that soil is exposed. As with the other mitigation techniques outlined in this subsection, education will be critical to success. The City’s Erosion Control Ordinance, adopted in 2005, address these concerns for site disturbance over one acre.

Water Supply
The City of Evansville has a water & light utility that was established in 1901. Evansville’s municipal wells draw water from the St. Peter or Cambrian sandstone levels, and this ground water supply is recharged primarily from precipitation from above. The water supply is tested regularly for the presence of a wide variety of compounds.

The City currently operates three wells that have a combined design pumping capacity of 4,600 gallons per minute. Well 1 has a capacity of 400 gpm, Well 2 has a capacity of 2,000 gpm, and Well 3 has a capacity of 2,200 gpm. The storage capacity of the City’s water system is 300,000 gallons of elevated storage consisting of a water tower built in 1990 and repainted and inspected in 2015. 400,000 gallons of storage is in an underground concrete reservoir. Well 2 and 3 have diesel-powered emergency pump so they can provide water supply even in the event of a disruption in the supply of electricity. The average daily usage is about 300,000 gallons of water.

Assuming the current rate of commercial and residential development, the City’s available water storage capacity should be adequate for another 15 to 20 years. It would be preferable to locate any additional water storage for the existing water distribution system on the west side of the City, which would balance water storage within the City. This future water storage would be located at a ground elevation similar to that or above the ground elevation of the existing water tower is approximately an elevation of 928 feet located on the east side of the City.

There is land near CTH C and Evansville Brooklyn Road, just outside the current City limits that will require additional water infrastructure to develop. There is not adequate water pressure due to the land’s elevation. Development in this area (above 980 feet in elevation) likely would require the installation of a booster pump station with auxiliary
power system and an elevated water tower. Northeast of Evanville’s City limits is a large area of land around Territorial Road and County M that will require an elevated water tower for future water service to this area.

Also of concern is the poor condition of the water mains in the oldest portions of the City. The water mains were small when installed and have been narrowed by mineral deposits over the years. Many of these older mains are transite, which becomes very brittle with age. The City replaced the water mains under Lincoln Street in 2003, under Main Street (as far west as First Street) in 2005 and 2007, under Garfield Street in 2013, and 4th Street in 2015. Replacing of mains is planned under South 4th Street, South 2nd Street, Liberty Street and 1st Street in the next 5 years. Replacement of all 4” mains under Roadways is a priority of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

**Electricity**

Electricity is provided locally by the Evansville Water & Light Utility which charges user fees to customers to cover system maintenance, extensions, and upgrades. The electrical system has excess capacity, and could handle at least double the City’s current population. There is the possibility of needing to add an additional transformer bay to the Union Townline Substation within the next 20 years. Evansville Water and Light also buries new primary conductors and utility lines annually, which reduces overall maintenance and the chance of power outages, as well as providing a more attractive streetscape. A new metering system will begin in Evansville in 2015. This system will allow users to view more detailed data regarding their usage and will help to improve Evansville’s sustainability and resiliency by allowing individuals with better decision making in power usage.

**Natural Gas**

WE Energies provides natural gas service to the City of Evansville. This regional company has a long history of supplying safe and reliable service. WE Energies has no immediate plans to expand the type or level of services offered in Evansville. Changes to service are evaluated regularly by WE Energies.

**Alternative Energy**

A local group, the Evansville Initiative, worked with the City, schools and local businesses to encourage the use of alternative energies including wind, solar and geothermal. Because of their effort, the high school built in 2002 is served by an extensive geothermal system resulting in significant reduction in natural gas costs. In 2009 the City was awarded a $50,000 planning grant by the Wisconsin Office of Energy Independence to draft a local 25 x 25 plan to increase the municipal use of renewable energy and renewable fuels by 25% in 2025. The Evansville Initiative was expanded to become the Energy Independence Team, charged with developing the 25 x 25 plan. The plan goal incorporates increased renewable energy use, energy efficiency, and energy conservation activity. Several plan components have been implemented, including installation of LED street lights, construction of a 100 kw wind turbine in 2010, and upgrades to well and lift station pumps.

The Energy Independence Team continues to meet to monitor and champion community-wide alternative energy and conservation efforts. The regionally-known annual Evansville Earth Day Energy Fair builds citizen awareness and engagement.

**Figure 6A: Evansville’s wind turbine.**
Community Facilities Inventory
This portion of the chapter profiles the community facilities available to City residents, including facilities operated by Rock County and private providers.

Park and Recreation Facilities
Evansville adopted an updated Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan in 2013. The plan profiles park space within the City and makes specific recommendations for improvements. The recommendations in that plan should be carried through and the plan should be updated as required to keep the City eligible for state grants.

Leonard-Leota Park is the premier recreation facility in the City and will continue in that capacity over the next 20 years. The City maintains a total of seven parks covering approximately 76 acres. The area of Lake Leota is approximately 38.4 acres. Leonard-Leota Park houses the community pool as well. During the 2014 season, the pool had approximately 11,700-12,200 users.

In 2015, the total area of the City of Evansville was approximately 2,100 acres, so the combined area of the City's existing parks and Lake Leota was 5.4% of the City's area.

One way of measuring the adequacy of a community’s recreational facilities is to determine the number of people they serve or have the capacity to serve. The National Recreation and Park Association recommends a community standard of 10 acres of local recreation land per 1,200 residents.

The current population of Evansville is 5,135 persons (2015 DOA Population Estimate). To meet this standard, the City would need to provide at least 42.79 acres of parkland. The City’s parks currently exceed this amount. By 2035, Evansville’s population is projected to increase to 6,855 residents, which will mean the City would need to provide 57 acres of parkland. City Parks will still exceed the parkland standards. The Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan provides more specific standards of recommended park acreages based on park type (e.g. Community Park, Neighborhood Park, etc.)

Budget constraints will limit the City’s ability to purchase and maintain additional park facilities. Recent park upgrades and dedications have occurred as a result of private donations. By adopting and periodically updating the City of Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan, the City maintains state grant eligibility. Grants, donations, as well as additional funding opportunities identified in the Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan, are encouraged to offset taxpayer demands. The Future Land Use Map presented later in this plan incorporate trails and potential park facilities to address resident needs.

In addition to the public recreation facilities and the facilities provided by the school district, Evansville residents and visitors have access to the Evansville Country Club Golf Course, Creekside Place, Rock County park facilities, WDNR lands, snowmobile trails, and the Ice Age Trail.
### Table 6.1: Park Facilities.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Park Name</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Recreation Activities</th>
<th>Recreation Facilities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brzezinski Park</td>
<td>0.3    acres</td>
<td>Picnicking, playground, general open play space</td>
<td>Picnic table, playground equipment, grill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Street Park</td>
<td>0.6    acres</td>
<td>Baseball, playground, basketball, picnicking, general open play space</td>
<td>Ball field, picnic table, sandbox, basketball standard on a paved playing surface, playground equipment, grill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminary Park</td>
<td>2 acres</td>
<td>Passive recreation and nature study</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countryside Estates Park</td>
<td>3.3    acres</td>
<td>General open play space, picnicking, playground, soccer, baseball</td>
<td>Picnic table, playground equipment, baseball backstop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind Prairie Park</td>
<td>5.4    acres</td>
<td>Passive recreation and nature study</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leonard-Leota Park</td>
<td>40 acres</td>
<td>Fishing, swimming, ice skating, softball, baseball, football, disc golf, basketball, volleyball, tennis, biking, skate board area, cross-country skiing, sledding, horseshoes, shuffleboard, playground, passive recreation, nature study, picnicking</td>
<td>Swimming pool, picnic tables, picnic shelter, lighted ball fields, playground equipment, shuffleboard courts, tennis courts, basketball courts, horseshoe pits, sand volleyball court, grills, bleachers, electric score board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Side Park</td>
<td>25 acres</td>
<td>Picnicking, passive recreation, baseball, softball, soccer</td>
<td>Picnic shelter, restrooms, playground equipment, a ball field, soccer fields</td>
</tr>
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*Source: Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan, Adopted 2013*

To see where these parks are located refer to Map 6.5: Utilities and Community Facilities Map provided in this chapter.

Open space acreage and facilities at the schools augment the City’s park acreage. But these facilities may not be able to meet all the demands of general use by the public. Linear (trail) park facilities, as outlined in the Transportation Element, can also expand recreation choices. The City-owned Bauer House Property on East Main Street is a potential catalyst site for a recreation trail along Allen Creek.

**Communication Facilities**

Access to communication facilities is very important in the modern economy. Several communication companies provide service to Evansville. The quality of communication services depends on the capacity of the lines and towers serving the City. The City might consider investigating opportunities to encourage the establishment of a local telecommunication utility to reduce resident costs and increase access. This operation could also provide improved Internet access and potentially fiber optic access in the City.

**Local and Long Distance Telephone Service**

AT&T is the primary local telephone service provider to Evansville. AT&T offers services and packages that are consistently upgraded to reflect new technologies and services. As needed, AT&T considers upgrades to meet the needs of the growing City and surrounding area population. A variety of national companies provide land-line long distance service to Evansville residents, and many Evansville residents use their cell phones to make long distance calls.

**Internet**

The City of Evansville has a web page at [www.ci.evansville.wi.gov](http://www.ci.evansville.wi.gov), which is used to educate residents about community services and programs. Contact information for elected and appointed officials, as well as meeting agendas and announcements, are posted on the page. Businesses are able to obtain high speed Internet connections through Litewire, Charter Communications and AT&T. Litewire Internet Services, an ISP based in
Evansville offers wireless Internet service for businesses and residences. Charter Communications offers broadband cable modem service for residential and business Internet access. Residents may access the Internet for free at the Eager Free Public Library.

**Newspapers**
The *Evansville Review* is the primary paper serving the City. The City uses this paper, which is published weekly, to post meeting announcements, minutes, and other articles of general interest. This same newspaper also produces *The Trading Post*, a free weekly shopper. Other nearby daily papers include *The Janesville Gazette*, and the *Wisconsin State Journal*.

**Television and Radio**
There are no television or radio stations located in Evansville, but there is one radio station, WWHG FM, licensed in Evansville (the station is located in Janesville). Residents receive radio and television station coverage from Madison, Janesville and other areas of Wisconsin and Illinois. Television services are available from Charter Communications and other providers. These companies offer traditional cable and digital packages. Some residents have also purchased satellites to receive additional channels. Television and radio coverage is expected to continue to meet resident needs over the life of this plan.

**Postal Service**
The City of Evansville has its own postal zip code of 53536. The City post office is located on South First Street. The City has purchased the building housing the post office for a library expansion. The post office will relocate to a larger facility with improved loading and additional parking by the end of 2017. The City is strongly encouraging post office relocation in the downtown area to support community walkability.

**Communication Towers**
The advent of advanced communication technologies, such as cell phones, has greatly increased the need for towers to provide receiving and sending capabilities. The federal government formally recognized this need by the passage of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Under Section 704 of the act, the City has the power to regulate the placement, construction and modification of personal wireless facilities, as long as the rules do not unreasonably discriminate between providers or prohibit service.

Any requests for additional tower facilities will require approval under the City of Evansville Zoning Code. All towers in the City are required to provide for co-location of multiple users on a single tower. Section 64.0404 of 2013 Wisconsin Act 20 regulates placement and regulations for communication towers in Wisconsin.

It is anticipated that in the next 5-10 years that the primary coverage area for wireless service in the City of Evansville will continue to expand North and East. Existing and new water towers provide opportunities for cellular tower installations. The City of Evansville should continue to work with state and regional agencies and cellular carriers to expand coverage offerings in Evansville.

**Cemeteries**
The City of Evansville operates a municipal cemetery, the Maple Hill Cemetery. Located on Cemetery Road in the northeast portion of Evansville [north of USH 14], the Maple Hill Cemetery is about 25 acres in size. The City recently installed a columbarium to offer an additional burial option that conserves land. It is estimated that the cemetery is approximately three-quarters occupied. The City owns approximately 18.5 additional acres adjacent to the cemetery to allow for future expansion.

The St. Paul Catholic Church in Evansville owns and operates the private Holy Cross Cemetery. The cemetery lies partially in Evansville (1.56 acres) and partially in the Town of Union (5.796 acres) and is not yet filled.
Health Care Facilities
There are important health care facilities located in the City of Evansville: Evansville Clinic (A Dean/St. Mary’s Regional Clinic) - 10 N. Water Street, Mercy Evansville Medical Center – 300 Union Street, Evansville Manor Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Facility – 470 Garfield Avenue, and The Heights at Evansville Manor – 201 North Fourth Street.

The Evansville Dean Clinic is affiliated with the Stoughton Hospital, Dean St. Mary’s Hospital in Janesville, and St. Mary’s Hospital in Madison. The Mercy Evansville Clinic is affiliated with Mercy Hospital in Janesville. Evansville also has offices of specialty medical practitioners such as optometrists, dentists, and chiropractors. These clinics and medical offices, along with nearby hospitals in Edgerton, Stoughton, Janesville, Monroe, and Madison, offer Evansville residents easy access to primary and advanced specialty health care facilities.

As the population of the City continues to increase, the need for health care facilities will increase accordingly. This will likely bring additional physicians to the area. While it is not anticipated that a hospital will be established in the City, additional or expanded clinic/center facilities are possible. These facilities should locate in areas of the City identified on the Future Land Use Map that are allocated for mixed use, traditional neighborhood activity centers, have proximity to important roadways and, if possible, be near more dense and senior housing facilities.

Childcare Facilities
Private childcare facilities available to residents in Evansville include:

- Little Tweets Child Care Center – 709 Brown School Road
- Kids Korner – 264 Lincoln Street
- Magic Moments Child Care Center – 112 W. Church Street
- Small Wonders Christian Daycare and Pre-School – 457 W. Main Street
- Wee Ones – 618 Porter Road
- Kids & Kids Bilingual Daycare – 40 Old HWY 92
- Kids Corner SACC – 420 South Fourth Street
- In-home providers

Dozens of additional childcare facilities are available in nearby communities. Many residents who work beyond the City utilize childcare options near their places of employment. Moreover, residents have informal networks of childcare (i.e. family or friends) and some residents provide licensed childcare from their homes. The City has no direct influence over the establishment of new childcare facilities. However, the demand for childcare in Evansville appears to exceed current supply. Furthermore, given the local growth rate, especially in small starter homes (3 bedroom ranches) that are particularly desirable to young couples and families, demand for local daycare likely will continue to be strong. The Evansville Community School District established 4K preschool in coordination with existing childcare providers in the city.

Future childcare facilities should be encouraged to locate near residential neighborhoods and parks.

Evansville Youth Center
As children age, day care is not always the best choice for care. Older students are more independent and often become “latch-key” kids - going home to an empty house for a few hours after school until their parents get home from work. The Evansville Youth Center provides a place for middle school students (grades 5 – 8) to go after school. The location of the Middle School will influence whether the current building used by the Youth Center will be updated or the center will be relocated.

Eager Free Public Library
The Eager Free Public Library is located at 39 West Main Street. The facility has 6,785 square feet of space. A 1996 Library Services and Construction Act Grant and Community Development Block Grant were used to double the library space and to make the facility handicapped accessible.
Between adult and children’s materials, the Eager Free Public Library offers nearly 35,000 items, plus another 150,000 electronic items. The library’s collections are strongest in areas of pre-school children’s materials and adult fiction. It also houses a unique collection of local historical materials, including files on homes, historic families, and the entire run of every Evansville newspaper, many available on microfilm. The library circulates over 80,000 items per year and approximately 20,000 per quarter, and has increased its circulation substantially in recent years.

These increases are expected to continue as the community grows. The library offers high speed Internet access to the public and has a wide variety of programs for infants and pre-schoolers, school-aged children, teens, adults and senior citizens.

While two-thirds of the library’s use is by City residents, other library users are residents of surrounding townships. The actual registered borrowers of the library in 2014 was 7,807 people, according to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

Figure 6C: Eager Free Public Library

A 2015 facilities Space Needs Assessment completed by Himmel and Wilson identifies the need for 15,000 to 16,000 total square feet of library space to meet current and future service expectations to 2035. The City has purchased the building housing the post office that is located south of the library. A library expansion is planned for 2018. Library space needs are based on complex formulas. DPI endorses a worksheet by a nationally known library consultant to calculate space needs. As the population of the service area grows, the need for additional quality space will also increase. When the U.S. Post Office now adjacent to the library relocates, that parcel will provide additional library space in a central community location that would be within easy walking distance for residents and school children. As the Library is a public building on the list of historic landmarks, the only permissible expansion of the library would be toward the rear of the building where the post office is located.

Senior Services
According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 565 people (11.3%) living in the City of Evansville were age 65 or over. Like youth populations, seniors also demand particular services to meet their specific needs.

The Peckham Senior Center at Creekside Place opened in 2011 to provide nutrition services, exercise programs, recreational activities, health care services, and educational seminars on topics of interest to seniors. Creekside Place provides a welcoming, comfortable, and caring environment for seniors, with continuous opportunities for intergenerational activity.

There are also programs through Rock County that provide services and opportunities for older persons living in the City of Evansville. Most notably, the Rock County Health and Human Services Department meets the needs of older adults through the establishment of services in the area of nutrition, transportation, respite care, advocacy, and coordination of services with other public and private agencies.

1 The library is required by law to serve outlying residents and is paid by the county to do so. Accordingly, the library cannot only consider Evansville’s population in space needs assessment, but also the population of surrounding areas included in the library’s service area.

**Evansville Community School District**

The Evansville Community School District is a showcase feature of the City that draws people to the community. The district is known for its:

- Outstanding education quality;
- Challenging curriculum;
- Advanced coursework offerings and student achievement;
- Extensive athletic and co-curricular activities;
- Experienced and educated professional staff; and
- New and recently renovated facilities.

The Evansville Community School District includes portions of the townships of Brooklyn, Center, Janesville, Magnolia, Porter, Rutland and Union. The number of students served by the district remained relatively constant at about 1,200 students during the 1980s. During the 1990s, the number of students increased significantly. In the mid-1990s, the Evansville Community School District completed an expansion of the middle school, high school and grade school. In 2002, the school district completed construction of a new high school facility. In 2015, 1,735 students are enrolled in the district. The district scores a

Residential construction is expected to continue in Evansville and the Town of Union. School District leaders expect current facilities to serve the expected population growth in Evansville over the next 20 years. The current JC McKenna Middle School will need significant upgrades or replacement in the next 20 years. Table 6.2 provides a description of the Evansville Community School District’s enrollment and estimated capacity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Enrollment**</th>
<th>Estimated Capacity*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evansville High School</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>600-700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JC McKenna Middle School</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>500-600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theodore Robinson Intermediate School</td>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>400-500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levi Leonard Elementary School</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>400-500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* School building capacity is a difficult issue to define specifically. The figures provided are rough estimates based on student-teacher ratios, open classrooms, district policies, and other factors. The figures are intended for City use in preparing this Smart Growth Plan. Current estimates should be obtained from the school district.

The district will begin a facilities assessment in 2016 to better understand future space and building needs. The City should work closely with the school district to address concerns with moving a school from its current location or constructing a new school far from walkable neighborhoods. Potential future school sites and land acquisition in proximity to current sites should be discussed frequently. If a new school facility is to be built to accommodate the growing population, the school district should seek a location that is located on a collector street adjacent to residential neighborhoods and parks to accommodate the large number of area students that arrive by bus. The school should also be connected to local sidewalk and trail facilities to accommodate those students that choose to walk or bike to school.

Table 6.3 on the following page provides a historical detail of the school district’s enrollment over the last 20 years.
Wisconsin has a charter schools program and allows enrollment in other districts through an open-enrollment process. In 2015, 59 students attended Evansville schools under open enrollment and 101 students residing in Evansville attended other districts through open enrollment. The majority of out-going students never attended school in Evansville, but instead chose to remain in their previous districts when their families moved to Evansville. The Wisconsin Charter School Program was initiated in the 1993-1994 school year. Students from Evansville may take advantage of the open enrollment program to attend a charter school or the district could decide to start its own charter school to meet the unique needs of a segment of the population.

In the Evansville Community School District, 95% to 96% of the elementary and middle school-age children attend public schools. Approximately .01% of these children attend home schools, and another 2% to 3% attend private schools in nearby communities. None attend charter schools at this time. Of high-school-age children, 96% attend public schools, and nearly all of the remaining children attend private schools in nearby communities. .5% are homeschooled. The school district operates a comprehensive website for those interested in additional information about the schools and programs.

Higher Education
Many outstanding colleges, universities and technical schools are located within a 35-mile radius, which provide education and training for the labor force. The University of Wisconsin-Madison is a world class university with an enrollment of 42,820 students. It is ranked third among all universities in the United States in total expenditures for research and development. It is easily accessible to Evansville by USH 14. Other area colleges include:

- University of Wisconsin-Whitewater - a four-year campus northeast of Evansville;
- University of Wisconsin-Rock County - a two-year campus in Janesville;
- Madison College;
- Edgewood College (in Madison);
- Beloit College - a nationally recognized private liberal arts college; and
- Blackhawk Technical College (in Janesville) - part of the Wisconsin Vocational-Technical school system.

## Table 6.3: Evansville School District Enrollment, 1984-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
<th>Change in Number of Students</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
<th>Change in Number of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1984-85</td>
<td>1,158</td>
<td>(5)</td>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>1,528</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985-86</td>
<td>1,171</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2000-02</td>
<td>1,525</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986-87</td>
<td>1,197</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>1,632</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987-88</td>
<td>1,212</td>
<td>(13)</td>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>1,666</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988-89</td>
<td>1,199</td>
<td>(13)</td>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>1,692</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>1,206</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>1,730</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>1,242</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>1,799</td>
<td>(26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-92</td>
<td>1,254</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>1,825</td>
<td>(95)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-93</td>
<td>1,313</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>1,831</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>1,342</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>1,806</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>1,401</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>1,833</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>1,432</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>1,855</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>1,471</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>1,853</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>1,532</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>1,911</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>1,562</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>1,935</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Evansville Community School District

**Note:** Third Friday of September 2014-15 Count
City Facilities
The City Hall, constructed in 1892, is located at 31 S. Madison Street. City Hall once housed the city jail, and there was a horse barn on the lowest level. The bell that once was in the bell tower was used to call volunteer firefighters to the station. The bell is now on display in front of the Fire District Hall on Water Street.

In a 1997 referendum, voters chose to renovate the existing City Hall. In 2000 and 2001, the City completed a renovation of City Hall that added a new wing for an elevator, new restrooms, and a wheel-chair ramp in the front of the entrance to the new wing. This renovation brought the building into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The total cost of this project was $367,000.

The interior of City hall has been renovated and the exterior was repainted and repaired in 2015. The renovated, ADA accessible meeting room is also used as the Municipal Courtroom since it adjoins the chambers of the Municipal Judge.

There are three Municipal Services Garages. The garage on South Madison Street is for street and sewer, while the two garages on Old 92 are for Water & Light. It is likely that the Municipal Services complex will need to be expanded and improved within the planning horizon of this document. The Evansville Police Station is located next to City Hall on Church Street. The Evansville EMS Department is located across from City Hall on Church Street. The Evansville EMS and Police share a garage on West Church Street next to the Police Station.

The Eager Free Public Library is located at 39 West Main Street. The Evansville Youth Center is located near J.C McKenna Middle School on South First Street.

Community Services Inventory
This portion of the chapter profiles the community services available to City residents and those in the surrounding area, including services provided by Rock County in support of local services.

Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling
The City contracts with an independent service provider to provide residential and institutional waste disposal service and recycling. Businesses independently contract for waste disposal services. The former City Dump on Water Street is now the City Yard Waste and Recycling Center, to which residents may bring tree limbs, leaves and garden debris in the spring, summer and fall. During these months, residents may obtain free composted yard waste and wood chips at this center. In the winter, the City uses this center to store snow removed from City parking lots and streets.

Police Protection
With nine full-time officers, including the police chief, and a number of part-time officers, the City of Evansville Police Department provides the community with 24-hour coverage. Emergency response times range between 2-4 minutes. Non-emergency response times vary depending on the time of day. The department strives to keep two officers on duty at all times. In 2014, the Evansville police department earned accreditation through the 4 year
accreditation process of the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG). This accreditation is prestigious and requires an on-site assessment every three years.

The Rock County Communications Center dispatches the City of Evansville Police Department (including 911 emergency service). The center provides 24-hour dispatching services for all law enforcement, fire and EMS agencies in Rock County, consisting of a population of over 160,000 people spanning an area of 720 square miles. The Rock County Communication Center is the only Public Safety Communication Center in the United States to have achieved its fifth 3-year Accreditation by CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies). This Communication center is the only CALEA accredited center in the State of Wisconsin.

The City of Evansville Police Department has mutual aid/interagency agreements with the state patrol, the Rock County Sheriff’s Office, the Rock County Communications Center and the Town of Union. These agreements allow the City to work jointly with these agencies on a daily basis. The City of Evansville Police Department also has an interagency agreement with the Town of Union for a joint Municipal Court.

The interagency agreement permits the Evansville Police Department to respond to calls to assist the Evansville EMS or the Evansville Community Fire District, issue citations, and investigate incidents anywhere in the Town of Union without prior authorization from Rock County 911 dispatch. The agreement also allows the Evansville Police Department to go anywhere in the Town of Union to investigate incidents and serve citations. The agreement allows Evansville Police Officers to issue citations for traffic offenses anywhere in the Town of Union, which will be processed in the Joint Municipal Court.

The department maintains four police vehicles, an emergency operations trailer, and an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV). The police department annually reviews equipment and vehicle needs as part of the City’s CIP.

The police vehicles are equipped with video cameras and laptop computers that are connected directly to the Rock Country Communications Center and the Department of Transportation through the TRACS system. The police vehicles are also equipped with defibrillator units, which Evansville’s police officers have been trained to use under appropriate circumstances.

The department has an outstanding history of progressive community protection. Residents are aware of the officers and very willing to report incidents. Officers take pride in the community. During the visioning phase of this planning program, residents said this community is safe. This feeling is due in large part to the efforts of the police officers that are both visible and involved in the community. For instance, officers spend significant time in the schools and at school sporting events. Officers also conduct seminars for banks and local businesses (e.g., how to respond to an alarm). The police department also offers a 24 hour drugs/medicine drop off box for unused or outdated drugs and medications. Evansville’s overall crime rate is lower than the overall crime rates of Rock and Dane counties. According to the community survey results, Evansville residents generally feel safe in the City.
Fire Protection
The Evansville Community Fire District is approximately 75 sq. miles in size and serves all of Evansville, nearly all of the Town of Union, and parts of the Towns of Porter, Brooklyn, and Magnolia. The district is a separate governmental agency that has mutual aid agreements with all surrounding districts. These agreements allow firefighters from surrounding districts to assist the Evansville Community Fire District when needed and vice versa.

The Evansville Community Fire District station is located along Water Street. The district relocated to the new building in 2009. The new facility is approximately 18,000 sq ft, in size with 6 apparatus bays (3 drive through bays), sleeping quarters and office space.

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) rates fire protection service for communities across the United States. The rating system scale is out of 10 with 1 being the best. Most insurance underwriters utilize the assigned fire protection rating to calculate residential, commercial and industrial insurance premiums. Fire districts are evaluated on a cyclical basis that is determined by district growth and the size of the population served. The last time the district was rated was more than 10 years ago. The overall district rating was a 7, with a rating of a 5 in the City. The 5 rating in the City is an average rating, and improving this rating probably would require employing at least some full-time professional firefighters. The rating in the City is better than the overall district rating because there is better access to ample water (from hydrants) in the City than there is (from wells, ponds or streams) in the rest of the territory served by the Fire District.

The Evansville Community Fire District annually evaluates the need to expand the size of the department personnel and equipment based on response times, number of annual calls and the area serviced. The district has no immediate plans to expand the number of firefighters. The district currently has a command vehicle, 2 engines, 2 brush trucks, a brush ATV, 2 tankers and a squad car. The district uses a 20-year replacement schedule to replace its engines, pumpers, and tanker trucks. The district is considering a change to a 25-year replacement schedule due to the excellent condition and maintenance of its vehicles.

In the future, there is a potential need for some full-time professional firefighters to work together with the volunteer members of the district. As the City’s population grows towards 6,885 the need for full-time professional firefighters will increase. From an economic development perspective, some businesses might not consider locating a new facility in Evansville unless there are some full-time professional firefighters in the community to protect their businesses. In the meantime, the quality of the Fire District’s services will depend upon its ability to attract, retain and train paid on-call firefighters. Even if the Fire District eventually employs some full-time professional firefighters, paid on-call firefighters will continue to make up the bulk of the force. The City must continue to support the efforts of the Fire District to recruit, retain, and train paid on-call firefighters.

In 2015, the annual operating budget of the Evansville Community Fire District was approximately $400,000. The Fire District uses a Capital Improvement Program to budget for major expenditures. The Fire District allocates the cost of the annual operating and capital budgets, net of anticipated fee revenues and other non-tax sources of funding, to the participating communities based on their share of the equalized assessed value within the Fire District.

The City of Evansville is pleased with the quality of service provided by the Fire District. However, there are tensions between the City and the Fire District that must be addressed to preserve the long-term viability of the City’s participation in the Fire District. For example, the City’s contribution to the Fire District’s annual operating and
capital budgets roughly equals the combined contributions of all of the participating townships. If the City’s representation on the Fire District Board were proportional to its financial contribution, the City would be entitled to appoint three members of the six-member board, instead of the current two members. In addition, the Fire District only pays a water usage rate for the water it takes from fire hydrants in the City. In contrast, water utility customers in the City (and a small number in Union Township) must pay a water usage rate plus a Public Fire Protection (PFP) rate, and the City must pay the portion of the PFP rate that is not billed to the water utility customers. The residents and property owners who are protected by the Fire District but who are not customers of the Evansville water utility receive the benefit of the City’s fire protection infrastructure but pay none of its cost. On the other hand, the Fire District pays the cost of a fire inspector who only inspects property in the City. The City believes the representation on the Fire District Board should better reflect the relative financial contributions of the participating communities and all fire-protection related costs, including infrastructure, should be shared fairly among the participating communities.

**Ambulance Service**
The Evansville Emergency Medical Service (EMS) is a volunteer, municipality-owned ambulance service/provider, engaged in the business of the transport and care of the sick and injured. The Evansville EMS seeks to provide the highest quality of care at the lowest possible cost to the patients and the taxpayers of the City of Evansville and the surrounding townships.

Like the Evansville Community Fire District and the Evansville Police Department, the Evansville EMS is dispatched through the County 911 center located in Janesville. Evansville EMS staff consists of one full time EMS Chief, 8 licensed EMT volunteers and two certified volunteer drivers serving over 7,000 people in Evansville, the Town of Union, Town of Magnolia and parts of the Towns of Porter and Brooklyn.

Evansville EMS has two ambulances, which completes approximately 500 runs a year. The volunteer technicians can be at the garage ready to respond to a call within 4-7 minutes. On-site response times vary by the time of day and location.

Evansville EMS is a City-run service financed through budget allocations from communities covered by the service and user fees. In 2008, Evansville EMS moved to the former Dean Center building at 11 W. Church St., which provided them with much needed space for training, record storage, and other basic activities.

**Utilities and Community Facilities Issues & Concerns**
During development of this plan residents, staff and other stakeholders raised issues and concerns about available utilities and community facilities. What follows is a summary of these issues and concerns. Actions to address these items are provided in the corresponding goals and objectives statements at the end of this chapter.

**Regionalizing Services**
In the wake of Wisconsin’s debate over the future of shared revenue, the City of Evansville understands the need to carefully consider all expenditures. This consideration certainly extends to providing utilities and community facilities for the community. To provide efficient, cost-effective services, the City will consider opportunities to regionalize additional services. Regionalizing services can minimize duplication and promote cost efficiency, which may reduce the tax burden for all residents. Shared service opportunities can also include coordination with the school (e.g. shared maintenance and janitorial staff, shared facilities for community recreation). More information about this important topic is provided in the Intergovernmental Cooperation Element.

One potential opportunity to better share services and service costs with neighboring communities is with respect to park facilities. There is the opportunity for surrounding Towns and the County to contribute to the annual budget for major park facilities like Lake Leota, which is used by Town and County residents, not just City residents.
**Population Growth**

It is clear that continued growth will result in changes to the City’s infrastructure. Improvements such as roads, sewer, water, parks, recreational facilities, and schools all need to be coordinated with the housing decisions and vice versa. The availability of utilities like sewer, water, electricity, and communications services is critical to economic development. The availability of utilities and community facilities dictates where development can occur. Potential improvements documented in this chapter include:

- A new or upgraded sewer treatment plant
- Sewer lift stations
- Sewer interceptors
- Water tower
- Electric substation
- School expansions or new facilities
- Additional EMS, fire, police staff
- New police, fire and EMS facilities
- Additional City Staff
- New parks & trails

These improvements are significant and expensive. Accordingly, their development is of concern to local taxpayers.

**Utilities and Community Facilities Funding Options**

Evansville is constantly seeking opportunities to finance needed utilities and community facilities. There are numerous grant and loan programs that the City may seek to help finance needed improvements. These programs are available through the State of Wisconsin and the Federal Government. What follows is a description of some opportunities available to the City.

**Water and Wastewater Grant and Loan Program**

The USDA Rural Development (Rural Utility Service) has a water and wastewater grant and loan program to assist cities, villages, tribes, sanitary districts, and towns in rural areas with a population up to 10,000. The program provides loans and grants to construct, improve, or modify municipal drinking water and wastewater systems, storm sewers, and solid waste disposal facilities.

**Clean Water Fund Loan Program**

The Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) is one of the subsidized loan programs included in the Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF). The CWFP provides loans to municipalities for wastewater treatment and urban storm water projects. The City used a State Trust Fund Loan with an interest rate subsidized by the Clean Water Fund to finance past projects, and the City intends to explore Clean Water Fund loans to finance replacing sanitary sewer mains in the future.

**Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant Program**

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce administers the Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant Program to provide cities, villages and towns with a population of less than 50,000 and all counties except Milwaukee, Dane, and Waukesha to obtain matching grants for the installation, upgrade or expansion of municipal drinking water and wastewater systems. Successful applications are based on a distress score, documentation of need, ability to repay, matching fund availability, and project readiness. This program may provide needed assistance to pursue water system upgrades. The City obtained CDBG money to pay part of the cost of the addition to the Eager Free Public Library in 1996.

**State Trust Fund Loan Program**

The Board of Commissioners of Public Lands provides this loan program with terms of up to 20 years and deeply discounted interest rates. Loans may be used for a variety of purposes including: road improvements, community
centers/halls, trail development, and property acquisition. The funds available fluctuate annually. The current annual loan limit is $3,000,000. The City of Evansville could utilize these funds for development of additional park facilities.

**Rural Development Community Facility Grants**
The USDA Rural Development also offers grants to communities seeking to build or improve their community buildings (e.g., halls, libraries, community center, and fire departments). These grants are awarded to communities with a population up to 10,000 based on a competitive application process.

**Fire Administration Grants**
The Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) offers over $100,000,000 in annual grant awards to fire departments in six specific areas: training, fitness programs, vehicles, firefighting equipment, and fire prevention programs. Applicants from communities, which serve a population of less than 50,000, must provide a 10% match.

**State Stewardship Fund**
The Stewardship Fund is the State of Wisconsin’s land acquisition program for public outdoor recreation and habitat protection. Administered by the Department of Natural Resources, the fund makes millions of dollars a year available to buy land for parks, trails, habitat areas, hunting grounds, and local parks and for site improvements, like trail building and campgrounds. This fund will be very important to the City going forward.

**City of Evansville Capital Improvements Program**
A Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is a five to six year short-range plan with updates occurring annually. A general CIP includes a community’s capital items such as:

- Park acquisition and improvements
- Public buildings improvements and long term maintenance
- Vehicle or equipment purchase and replacement
- Road, sidewalk, trail and transportation installation, repair or replacement
- Repair or replacement of utilities due to age or service needs

Capital items are generally defined as those items that are expensive (cost $5,000 or more) and will last at least 3 years. Collective replacement or improvement, such as information technology upgrades, combined as an effort to improve a larger or encompassing system would also be considered part of the CIP. The CIP also includes improvement projects necessary for the community’s future with an appropriate timeline matched to funding availability.

The City updates the CIP as it approaches the finalization of the annual budget. The City continually makes a list and obtains or maintains cost estimates for a variety of projects to keep funding options available without large lapses in between capital projects. These projects range from small building improvements to large overhauls of infrastructure within the public right-of-way. As the budget allows these projects are ranked after the order of importance of the projects are assessed by the Municipal Services Committee.

**Utility Districts**
Utility districts provide a variety of public services and improvements including roads, sewers, stormwater, electricity, and water. Evansville currently has electric, water, storm water, and sewer utilities. Utility districts establish a “district fund” to finance district improvements. These funds are obtained through taxation of property within the district. Service costs are covered through direct billings. As such, utility districts are another mechanism to fund needed City improvements. Potential utility districts in Evansville include a telecommunications utility and transportation utility.
Community Facilities, Utilities and Services Goals and Objectives

These community facilities, utilities, and services goals and objectives serve as a way to put the vision statement into action, through a series of to dos. Below are goals and objectives for the Community Facilities, Utilities, and Services Chapter:

Utilities & Community Facilities Goal #1
Provide adequate active and passive recreational opportunities of various kinds accessible to all segments of the population and areas of the City.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supporting Objectives</th>
<th>Champion / Partner</th>
<th>Potential Funding Source</th>
<th>Milestone Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Coordinate with the school district to improve recreation choices, including the shared use of facilities for community benefit (e.g. ball fields, pool, etc.).</td>
<td>Park &amp; Rec., School District, Common Council</td>
<td>City Budget</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. When the City updates the Evansville Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan, update the population projections to reflect those figures provided in this plan, or new figures accepted by the City.</td>
<td>Park Board</td>
<td>City Budget</td>
<td>2018 and 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Consider natural and man-made features, such as Allen Creek and major streets that may act as barriers for certain portions of the population when locating parks. Provide pedestrian access that is separate from vehicular traffic as needed.</td>
<td>Park Board</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Utilities & Community Facilities Goal #2
Ensure that all City development is served by adequate, efficient, cost-effective utilities and community facilities within the City’s capacity to provide such services.

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<tr>
<td>1. Continue to utilize the City of Evansville Capital Improvements Program as a central tool to implement this Comprehensive Plan.</td>
<td>City Administrator, Common Council</td>
<td>City Budget</td>
<td>Annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Educate residents about available community facilities in the area through the City Web Site and articles in the Evansville Review.</td>
<td>City Administrator, Mayor</td>
<td>City Budget</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Continue to communicate with the Evansville Community School District about new development to allow the school district to plan for staff, building additions, and other needs.</td>
<td>City Planner</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Upgrade other utilities located in street rights-of-way when reconstructing streets. The CIP should be used in this capacity as a tool to coordinate improvements.  
   Municipal Services Committee & Water & Light Committee  | City Budget | Continuous

5. Reserve street rights-of-way, parkland and easements in undeveloped areas by amending the Official Map.  
   Municipal Services Department, Community Development Director & City Engineer  | City Budget | Continuous

6. Apply for grants that are available for public facilities improvements.  
   City Administrator & City Engineer  | City Budget | Continuous

7. Pursue opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation to improve efficiencies and reduce costs with respect to garbage collection, road maintenance, equipment purchase and sharing, and snowplowing.  
   Municipal Services Department & E-U Implementation Advisory Committee, Common Council  | NA | Continuous

8. Encourage an improved relationship between the Evansville Community Fire District and Evansville EMS.  
   Common Council, Fire District Board, EMS Coordinator  | NA | 2016

9. The City should work with the Fire District to resolve issues of (a) representation on the board is not proportionate to financial contribution and (b) greater fairness in paying for fire protection infrastructure in the City that is used by the Fire District.  
   Common Council, Mayor, Fire District Board, Town of Union.  | NA | 2016

Utilities & Community Facilities Goal #3
Provide the City staff and infrastructure needed to meet the needs of a growing population.

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<tr>
<td>1. As necessary, hire additional professional staff with particular specialties (e.g. economic development, parks and recreation coordination, appraiser).</td>
<td>City Administrator, Common Council</td>
<td>City Budget</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Utilities & Community Facilities Goal #4

**Provide an efficient, well-maintained system for storm water management.**

<table>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Develop a regional storm water management plan through a cooperative planning process with the Town of Union.</td>
<td>Municipal Services Committee &amp; City Planner</td>
<td>City Budget</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Require drainageways be maintained in their natural state to minimize the need for storm sewers and to reduce flooding.</td>
<td>Municipal Services Committee</td>
<td>Private Development</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Consider opportunities to coordinate with the Town of Union in an effort to establish a joint storm water district.</td>
<td>Municipal Services Committee &amp; E-U Implementation Advisory Comm.</td>
<td>City Budget</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
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</table>

## Utilities & Community Facilities Goal #5

**Maintain a water distribution system that is capable of supplying and distributing potable water within the City.**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Replace water mains that are less than 6” in diameter with larger diameter water mains.</td>
<td>Municipal Services Committee</td>
<td>City Budget &amp; Private Developers</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Utilities & Community Facilities Goal #6

**Maintain a sanitary system that is capable of serving the needs of the growing City population.**

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<tr>
<td>1. Install or allow developers to install infrastructure (e.g., sanitary sewer lift stations and interceptors) as needed to accommodate new development along the northern edge of the City’s new development north toward Madison.</td>
<td>Municipal Services Committee</td>
<td>Private Developers, Special Assessments or Tax Increment</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Complete a facilities assessment study to determine long-term strategy to provide additional treatment capacity (i.e. new treatment plant).

| Municipal Services Committee | City Budget | 2025 |

3. Continue to replace undersized, aged, and damaged sanitary sewer and water mains as necessary.

| Municipal Services Committee | Utility Budgets | Continuous |

4. Delineate and map long-term City service areas

| City Engineer, Plan Commission & Community Development Director | City Budget | Continuous |

Utilities & Community Facilities Goal #7

Provide a model for developers with quality City owned property.

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<tr>
<td>1. Adopt water recycling systems and renewable energy goals for City buildings.</td>
<td>Municipal Services Committee, Common Council, Energy Independence Team</td>
<td></td>
<td>Continuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Use architecture and design for City buildings and sites that respects the historic, natural and cultural character of the community.</td>
<td>Plan Commission, Community Development Director, &amp; Historic Preservation Commission</td>
<td></td>
<td>Continuous</td>
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