

# CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER - AGENDA ITEM DATA SHEET

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**Agenda Item:** A Resolution Adopting Updated Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan

**Requested & Presented by:** Darcy Perkins, Municipal Services Specialist on behalf of Jodi Mieden, Parks & Recreation Director

**Meeting Date:** Public Works Committee on 11-20-2025

## **Committee Review:**

**Background:** The City of Richland Center's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan provides the strategic framework for maintaining, improving, and expanding the City's parks, trails, and outdoor recreation facilities. Updating the plan every five years is required to remain eligible for Wisconsin DNR Stewardship, LAWCON, and other state and federal recreation grants.

The 2026–2030 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan outlines a forward-looking strategy that responds to changing demographics, evolving recreation trends, and environmental challenges. It reaffirms the City's commitment to:

- Equitable and ADA-accessible recreation spaces for all residents.
- Conservation and protection of environmentally sensitive areas.
- Trail connectivity within the City and to County systems to support alternative transportation and tourism.
- Strategic capital planning, maintenance scheduling, and responsible stewardship of public resources.
- Collaboration with the School District, Richland County, Southwest Partners, civic groups, and the broader community.

The plan highlights major accomplishments since 2021—including new playgrounds, athletic field upgrades, expanded pickleball facilities, refreshed branding, ADA kayak launches, and trailhead improvements—and establishes updated priorities aligned with the latest Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Overall, the updated plan provides a modern roadmap that balances recreation, environmental sustainability, tourism development, and community health while guiding policy decisions and supporting ongoing grant eligibility. It was developed in collaboration with the Park Board, Public Works Committee, and community stakeholders to reflect current needs, future growth, and priority improvement projects.

**Department Recommendation:** Staff recommends adoption of Resolution 2025-\_\_\_ by the Common Council.

**Financial Impact:** No direct expenditure required; Approval maintains grant eligibility and supports future cost-sharing opportunities.

## **Requested Action:**

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Motion to forward Resolution 2025-\_\_\_, regarding updating the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan, to the Park Board for review and recommendation to the Common Council.

**PARK BOARD:** Motion to recommend to the Common Council adoption of Resolution 2025-\_\_\_, regarding updating the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan.

**COUNCIL:** Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-\_\_\_, regarding updating the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan, as presented.

## **Attachment(s):**

- DRAFT\_2026-2030 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan
- Resolution 2025-\_\_\_ A Resolution Adopting Updated Comprehensive Outdoor Recreational Plan