

Community Facilities

*“Nothing is stronger
than a well-built
community.”*

– Anonymous

The Community Facilities chapter outlines the services provided by the City in the basic infrastructure of water and sewer, public streets, public transit, public library and parks and recreation. It also summarizes the services provided by police, fire and emergency medical response. The chapter also includes those goals and policies related to community facilities.

Guiding Principles:

Marshalltown will focus on:

- Maintaining quality public services in the City – water, sewer, streets, transit, library, airport
- Providing public safety through fire, police and emergency medical response
- Cooperation with the public schools and other institutions to create a well-rounded community
- Healthy, active living



Background

CITY GOVERNMENT

Marshalltown City Hall includes the building at 24 N. Center Street, which houses the Administration, Finance and Human Resources Departments. Connected at 36 N. Center Street in the recently renovated former public library (Historic Carnegie Building) is the Housing & Community Development Department, Public Works, Engineering, Planning and Parks and Recreation.

The **Fire Department** is located at 107 S. 1st Ave. The City of Marshalltown has operated as a full-time career fire department since 1902. The department works with 12 other volunteer departments in Marshall County under 28E agreements. The department has 28 commissioned personnel and one civilian administrative assistant. With 18 firefighter/EMT's on staff the crews are divided into three rotating shifts. Currently the department operates out of a single station with training facilities located at the community college. The City does maintain some land on the south side of town for possible future expansion needs.

The **Marshalltown Police Department** is located at 22 N. Center Street. The MPD is made up of three divisions, the Field Services Division, Administration Division, and the Communication Division. The Field Services Division contains the uniform officers that patrol the City Of Marshalltown. This Division is broken up into three 8.25-hour shifts with approximately 9 to 10 officers, including supervisors, on each shift. Within this Division the department's two K9's are deployed and the department's School Resource Officer. The Administration division contains the 5 detectives, including supervisors, the department's Crime Scene Techniques and the Crime Reduction Officer, who works with landlords on Crime Free Housing initiatives and crime prevention. The department's Record section which includes the parking enforcement employee is also in the Administration Division. The Communication Division is a countywide E911 Communication which employs 13 dispatchers working three 8.25 hour shifts.

Public Works Office is located at 905 E. Main Street with some administrative uses at 36 N. Center Street. The Public Works Department consists of six divisions that provide various services to the community, including maintenance of certain city infrastructures:

- Marshalltown Aviation, Inc.
- Marshalltown Municipal Transit
- Compost Facility
- Engineering
- Sewer Maintenance
- Streets Division
- Utilities Division

The **Marshalltown Water Works Department** is located at 205 E. State Street. The Water Works Department provides water service to residential, commercial and industrial properties throughout the City of Marshalltown. The department is overseen by a three-member board that sets policy and oversees the budget and operations.

The **Water Pollution Control Plant**, located at 1001 Woodland Street, is a state-of-the-art, 13 million gallon per day wastewater treatment facility serving 9,100 homes and businesses. In addition, service is

also provided to JBS Swift & Company, a pork slaughter and processing facility that handles up to 20,000 hogs per day and discharges up to 2 million gallons of wastewater to the City each day.

Sanitary Sewer Collection System: The sanitary sewer collection system transports wastewater to the treatment plant and is maintained by the City Sewer Division, a division of the Public Works Department.

Garbage and Recycling: The Water Pollution Control Department, now a division of Public Works, oversees the garbage and recycling program for the City of Marshalltown. The City utilizes private and independently operated garbage haulers for the collection of garbage and recyclables in accordance with City rules and ordinances.

Parks and Recreation: The park and recreation system is covered in a separate chapter of this plan – Parks, Trails and Open.

The **Marshalltown Public Library** is located at 105 West Boone Street. The Library exists to provide residents of Marshalltown and Marshall County with materials and services that meet their needs for recreation, information, education, and cultural awareness. The library is a department of the City of Marshalltown and is funded primarily by municipal tax dollars. A seven member Board of Library Trustees sets policy and oversees the budget and operations of the library. The Board holds monthly meetings that are open to the public.

SCHOOLS

Marshalltown Community School District is home to one pre-school, six elementary schools, one intermediate school (5th and 6th grades), one middle school (7th and 8th grades) and one high school (9th - 12th grade) in the public school system. Marshalltown is also home to three private schools.



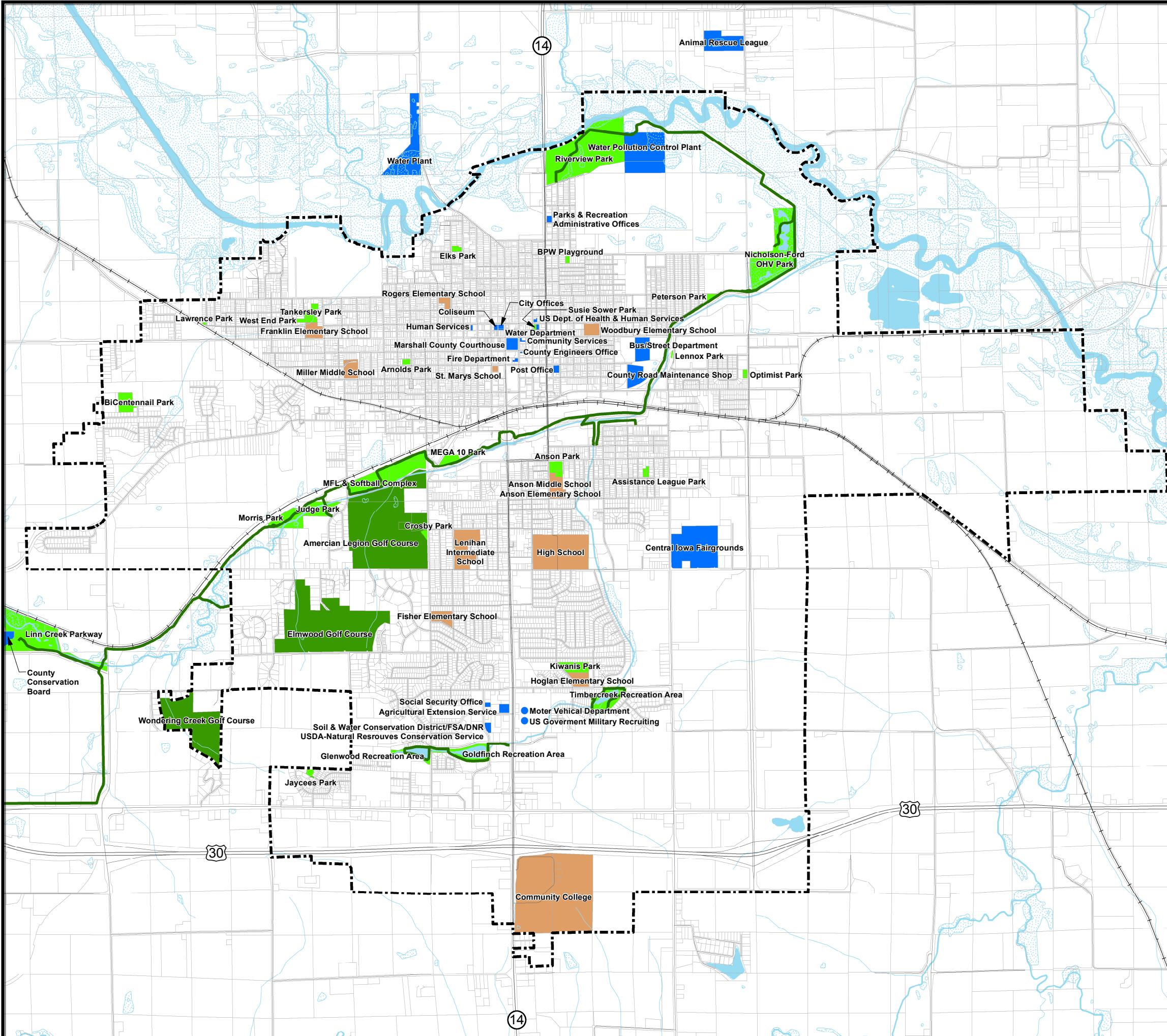
Community Facilities

2012 Comprehensive Plan



0.6 Miles

- City Limit
- Railroad
- Highway
- Local Street
- Bike Path Trails
- Schools
- Public Facilities
- Parks & Recreation Areas
- Golf Courses
- Open Water
- NWI Wetland



August 23, 2012



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Goals

A series of goals and policies were developed, based on information in the Background Report, discussions of community issues, and the consultant's suggestions. The goals are divided into topic sections and are included in appropriate chapters of this Plan. The goals and policies were reviewed and discussed by the Steering Committee and Plan and Zoning Commission, and approved by the City Council.

The “word cloud” to the right is a representation of the words used in the Community Facilities goals and policies – the larger the word, the more often it appears. The full set of goals and policies is attached to this Plan as an appendix.



Community Facilities/Recreation

Goal 1: Promote the creation and use of community facilities for all Marshalltown residents.

Rationale: Facilities serving a variety of legitimate public needs are a hallmark of successful communities and will serve to enhance Marshalltown's quality of life.

Policy 1: Promote the use of all existing athletic and community facilities in a manner that distinguishes them as gathering places for Marshalltown residents and visitors.

Policy 2: Explore and support opportunities for public art and related artist activities within the park system and entire community.

Policy 3: Examine existing facilities for multi-use functions in order to provide facilities for residents changing active lifestyles and cultural needs.

Policy 4: Explore funding for new facilities and the maintenance of existing facilities using creative approaches including public-private partnerships.

Policy 5: Involve the residents of the community in determining the types of youth recreation programs and facilities most needed.

• Preserve and promote a park system and green spaces that enhances the well-being of all

Rationale: Areas for active and passive recreation and green space enjoyment is essential to the community.

Policy 1: Ensure that there is an equitable distribution of parks, green spaces, and trails with a balance of active and passive recreational facilities throughout the City.

Policy 2: Identify areas necessary for addition, expansion or connection of the pedestrian and bike trail network between neighborhoods, schools and community facilities.

Policy 3: Update and replace park equipment and facilities to assure safety and accessibility and to attract users to Marshalltown's park system.

Policy 4: Explore and support funding for implementation of the Linn Creek Riverwalk plan.

Policy 5: Develop Riverview Park with additional recreational amenities, and in the process beautify the north entrance to the community.

Policy 6: Partner with as many community groups and organizations as possible to enhance limited resources and to facilitate a wide array of programs that would not be possible exclusively by the City.

Goal 3: Promote an active and healthy community.

Rationale: Community planning and incorporating healthy community design can have effective benefits to resident's physical and mental health and enhance attractiveness of our workforce.

Policy 1: Continue the development of pedestrian trails and bikeways that meet the recreational needs of citizens, and facilitate biking and walking as a means of transportation.

Policy 2: Continue healthy living initiatives including Pioneering Healthier Communities, Blue Zone Coalition and Project and others aimed at local efforts towards community wellness and health.

Policy 3: Provide convenient access to healthy food for all residents by allowing and encouraging farmers' markets and urban agriculture owned properties such as schoolyards, recreation centers and neighborhood parks.

Policy 4: Explore implementation of sustainability planning efforts through updates to the city ordinances and administrative policies and procedures.