

Parks Committee Agenda

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2026

Time: 10:30 am

Jefferson County Courthouse

311 South Center Ave., Room C1021

Jefferson, WI 53549

Committee Members: Joan Callan, Walt Christensen, Anthony Gulig, Kirk Lund, Meg Turville-Heitz

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/283062482090246?p=6qxIFOqmHL1pNMYL95>

Meeting ID: 283 062 482 090 246

Passcode: gx996dZ3

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call (establish a quorum)
3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of Parks Committee Minutes for May 28, 2026
6. Communications
7. Public Comment (Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)
8. Presentation by Andy Didion on the Jefferson Community Foundation
9. Discussion and possible action on donation for Terri Tinsley memorial signage at the Jefferson County Dog Park
10. Discussion and possible action on proposed Full Moon Yoga + Sound Program at Korth Park
11. Discussion and possible action on Resolution authorizing the purchase of a Snowmobile Bridge through the Wisconsin Motorized Recreation Aid Program
12. Discussion on the development of a Drone Policy for the Jefferson County Parks
13. Update on Jefferson County Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan
14. Update on Interurban Bike Trail
15. Discussion on Parks 2026 Budget
16. Field Staff Updates
17. Administrative Staff Updates
18. Historic Sites Council Update
19. Discussion on agenda items for the next meeting
20. Discussion and possible action on scheduling site visits as part of an upcoming meeting schedule
21. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2026 Proposed Meeting Schedule (4th Thursday, Monthly)
 - July 23, 2026
 - July 23, 2026 (Brew with a View)
 - August 27th, 2026
 - August 27th, 2026 (Brew with a View)
 - September 24th, 2026
22. Adjourn

A Quorum of any Jefferson County Committee, Board, Commission or other body, including the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors, may be present at this meeting.

Individuals requiring special accommodation for attendance at this meeting should contact the County Administrator 24 hours prior to the meeting at 920-674-7101 so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Parks Committee Minutes

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026

Time: 10:30 am

Jefferson County Courthouse

311 South Center Ave., Room C1021

Jefferson, WI 53549

Committee Members: Joan Callan, Walt Christensen, Anthony Gulig, Kirk Lund, Meg Turville-Heitz

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/join/283062482090246?p=6qxIFOqmHL1pNMYL95>

Meeting ID: 283 062 482 090 246

Passcode: gx996dZ3

1. Call to Order

Wiesmann called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

2. Roll Call (establish a quorum)

Members Present: Callan, Christensen, Gulig, Lund, Turville-Heitz

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Wiesmann, Truman, Klement, Luckey (10:47 am)

Others: James Kukkan - Watertown Daily Times (Remote), Heidi Putnam – Snyder & Associates, Inc

3. Certification of Compliance with the Open Meetings Law

Wiesmann certified compliance

4. Approval of the Agenda

Gulig/Turville-Heitz motion to approve the agenda.

Agenda approved as written

5. Election of Officers – Chair and Vice Chair

Callan/Lund motion to approve Christensen as Chair of the Parks Committee.

Christensen accepts nomination.

Motion passes on a 5/0 vote.

Turville-Heitz/Lund motion to approve Callan as Vice Chair of the Parks Committee.

Callan accepts nomination.

Motion passes on a 5/0 vote.

6. Approval of Parks Committee Minutes for March 26, 2026

Callan/Turville-Heitz motion to approve the Parks Committee for March 26, 2026.

Motion passes 5/0.

7. Communications

Wiesmann introduced “Students spend day giving back at Dorothy Carnes County Park”. An article published in the Daily Jefferson County Union on 5/24/2026.

8. Public Comment (Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time)

No public comment

9. Update on Jefferson County Park and Outdoor Recreation Plan

Putnam shared a PowerPoint presentation representing the process to date. Including, information collected to date via a series of staff/board/committee/public meetings and an on-line survey initiative.

Luckey questioned if the reported data, via the Wisconsin Department of Tourism, could be used as an advertising component and/or an opportunity in addition used in a means to memorialize future planning needs. Christensen questioned the inclusion of text regarding the addition of parkland expansion in the future. No action taken.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Concession Agreement between Jefferson County and The Surf Shack LLC

Wiesmann introduced the programs historical performance and noted that there is a change in the current terms to include the vendor payment change from a strict total sales percentage to a sales percentage after vendor concession sales reach \$3500 collectively.

Lund – questioned:

- hours of operation (how to return equipment after hours)
- third line in the first paragraph on the last page, paragraph 16 – language update: perform the duties of the concessionaire, and
- questioned if there are disability provisions/barriers for disabled persons.

Turville-Heitz/Lund motion of Corp Counsel's review of suggested edits prior to finalizing the contract.

Motion passes 5/0.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Sale of Land to St. Paul's Lutheran Church to Resolve Encroachment

Noted that there is a property boundary dispute (as defined in the parcel map) of ½ acre. The County would like to sell the ½ acre, at the purchase price, not included in the grant funding that was used to purchase the project parcel, to St. Paul's Lutheran Church to clean-up the project area/property line.

Callan/Lund motion to authorize Parks Director/County Administrator to negotiate the sale/QCD with the Church.

Motion passes 5/0.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on 2027 Fee Schedule

Wiesmann noted that the Parks Department collects fees for the following year starting June 1 of the current year and therefore is requesting the Committee approval of the proposed fees (no new fees have been introduced).

Turville-Heitz/Callan motion to adopt the proposed fee schedule.

Motion passes 5/0.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Raffle License Renewal for 50/50 Raffle

Wiesmann noted that the Parks Department seeks authorization to renew the 50/50 raffle license. The department conducts a 50/50 raffle at each of the Brew with a View events.

Lund/Turville-Heitz motion to approve renewal of the raffle license.

14. Discussion on Parks 2026 Budget

Wiesmann noted that project/purchasing progress to date is within budget. He also highlighted that the department is likely to be over and above within the fuel budget.

No action taken.

15. Field Staff Updates

Klement noted:

Carnes North – 20 acres prescribed burn, thistle spraying post burn

Carnes East – clean-up of invasives post burn

Fair Park – 16+ new trees and shrubs planted

Korth, Carnes, Carlin Weld, Welcome Travelers – new trees planted

Korth Memorial Prairie - maintenance/mowing

Marsh Lake Access – parking lot has been installed and landscaping/seeding around the new lot has been completed.

ADA launch/pier has been ordered and will be installed later this summer.

Kanow / HWY 16 Wayside / Cappies Landing / Rock River - parks cleaned after spring flooding and re-opened

Fair Grounds – Bold Corporation volunteer landscape planting

Human Services – Target employee volunteer landscape planting

Radio Telephone Tower(s) – clean-up

Interburan Phase I Bridge – redecking completed

Sheriff's Office – deputy assigned to the department as a Parks compliance liaison

16. Administrative Staff Updates

Truman noted that in addition to supporting the Field Staff (in the above efforts) that she has also been working on:

- Website ADA Compliance
- Website Updates – including 2027 Shelter Rental forms and web pages
- Memorial Donations
 - Glacial River Trail
 - Kiosk
 - Saris Bike (tire) Pump
 - Jefferson County Dog Park
 - Garrett Bench
 - Baitman Bench
 - Brand Memorial Tree
 - Fergusson Memorial Tree

17. Historic Sites Council Update

Wiesmann noted that our Intern has made significant progress Historical Sites Story map, and there will be a presentation at the next Historic Sites Council meeting.

18. Discussion on Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

Interurban Trail Update
Marsh Lake Public Access
BHI Shoreline
Snowmobile Bridge
Korth Yoga
Drone use in Parks
Site Tour

19. Next Scheduled Meetings per the 2026 Proposed Meeting Schedule (4th Thursday, Monthly) @ 10:30 AM

- May 28, 2026 (Brew with a View in the evening)
- June 25, 2026
- June 25, 20206 (Brew with a View in the evening)
- July 23, 2026

20. Adjourn

Gulig/Turville-Heitz motion to adjourn at 11:58 AM.
Motion passes 6/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary S. Truman – Parks, Adv. Program Asst.

**Jefferson County Parks Department
Jefferson County Dog Park – Terri Tinsley Dog Exercise Area
Signage Proposal**

HISTORY

Terri Tinsley was a devoted advocate for dogs and animal welfare. She supported dog rescue efforts throughout Wisconsin and played a supportive role in the creation of the Jefferson County Dog Park. Following her unexpected death in 2003, her husband, Perry, donated funds in her memory that helped expand the Dog Park from approximately 22 acres to 109 acres.

As the Dog Exercise Area was developed, a structure was built at each of the three entrances. Perry Tinsley provided a photo of Terri with Owen, one of her beloved German Shepherd rescues, which became the focal point of the entryways.



Over time, the entrance frames remained in undamaged shape, while the quality of the original picture diminished because of sun and other weather conditions. The frames were subsequently removed from the entrance structures, and the pictures were discarded.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this proposal is to preserve and enhance the original donor recognition associated with the Terri Tinsley Dog Exercise Area through the installation of durable granite memorial plaques that feature an etched version of Terri and Owen originally displayed at the three entrance structures. The project will restore a significant historical feature of the Dog Exercise Area while providing a long-term, low-maintenance solution that can withstand environmental conditions.

BENEFITS TO JEFFERSON COUNTY

The benefits to Jefferson County are numerous. Replacement of the signage:

- Preserves the historical identity of the Terri Tinsley Dog Exercise Area.
- Continues recognition of the original donor whose contributions helped make the expansion possible.
- Restores a feature that was intended to welcome visitors at each entrance.
- Utilizes highly durable granite materials designed for long-term outdoor exposure.
- Requires no financial contribution from Jefferson County other than normal monitoring and upkeep of the area.

- Demonstrates community support and private investment in County park facilities.

PROPOSAL

This proposal is being submitted for consideration to the Jefferson County Parks Department to replace the original pictures with plaques that will provide greater resistance to the elements. The plaques will be reinstalled in the original frames.

Specifications for the replacement plaques have been compiled by The Blocks Watertown Memorial Co. (See attachment #1). Although the quotation contains two options, we have selected option 1 because of timeline and shipping considerations, and familiarity with the work of the supplier.

The ½” thick black granite will be 21 ¾” x 16 ¾” with rounded corners, beveled edges, and four holes with caps for mounting (See attachments #2 and #3).

The white-on-black etching of Terri and Owen (See attachment #4) will be completed by artisan Daniel Atkinson, who did the etching on the K9 Veterans Memorial in Fort Atkinson’s McCoy Park in 2017.

COST

The cost of the three granite plaques will be \$4,320 plus \$1,500 for the etching, with a total project cost of \$5,820.

Fabrication will take place at Dakota Granite, Milbank, SD.

Etching will be completed by Daniel Atkinson at The Blocks Watertown Memorial.

PAYMENT

All costs associated with fabrication and etching of the three granite plaques will be paid by Perry Tinsley and Mabel Schumacher. No funding is being requested from Jefferson County. The County's participation is limited to review, approval, and installation of the plaques in the existing entrance structures. Future County involvement would be limited to normal monitoring and maintenance performed by Park Department staff.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

We respectfully request approval from the Jefferson County Parks Department and any appropriate committees to install three granite memorial plaques within the existing entrance frames of the Terri Tinsley Dog Exercise Area. Approval of this proposal will allow the County to preserve an important element of the Dog Park's history while ensuring long-term durability and continued recognition of the donor whose generosity helped make the park's expansion possible.

REQUEST FOR POTENTIAL FUTURE USE OF PLAQUES

We also understand the desire for the Dog Park to remain vibrant through future improvements and donor-supported enhancements. Should another donor step forward and wish to have naming rights for their donation, we request that Jefferson County arrange for the granite plaques to be preserved. We request that one of the plaques be given to Perry Tinsley as a lasting memento of his wife's legacy.

The second plaque will hopefully remain in a location either in the Dog Park itself or in a Jefferson County building that would preserve the history of the award-winning dog park.

The third plaque might be used in a place that records the history of

Jefferson County, perhaps the Jefferson Historical Museum or the Jefferson Public Library.

SIGNATURES

_____	_____	_____	_____
Perry Tinsley	Date	Mabel Schumacher	Date

Memorials, Memories and More

TO: Mabel Schumacher

FROM: **Chuck Block**

DATE: May 21, 2026

RE: Tinsley Park signage

The following is a breakdown of the prices for the options to have granite plaques created that will attach to the existing signs for Terri Tinsley Dog Park.

Option 1

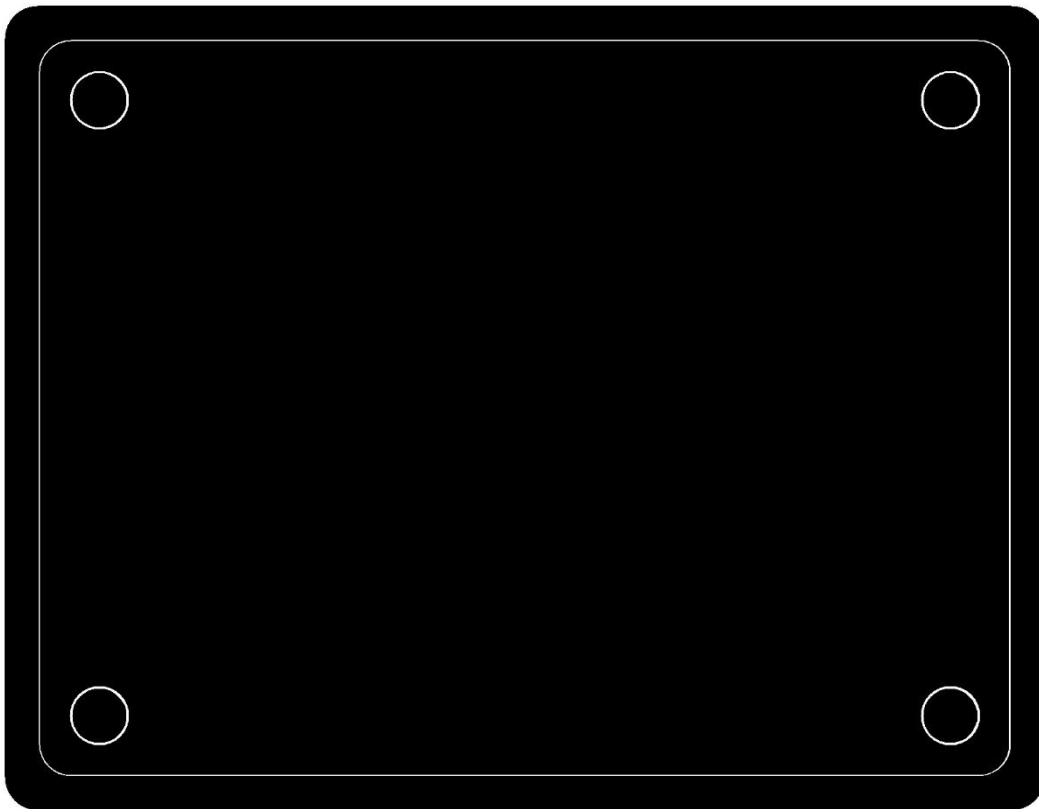
- o 3 black granite plaques made in the U.S. at Dakota Granite measuring 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ " - rounded corners, beveled edges, 4 holes for mounting.
- o Timeframe 2-3 months
- o \$4800 less 10% when ordering multiples = \$4320
- o \$1500 (\$500 each) for etchings

Option 2

- o 3 black granite plaques made overseas measuring 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ " - rounded corners, beveled edges, 4 holes for mounting.
- o Timeframe 5-6 months
- o \$2820 less 10% when ordering multiples = \$2540
- o \$1500 (\$500 each) for etchings

Please let us know what questions you may have at this time or if you are ready to proceed with an order to get the granite into production. Thank you.

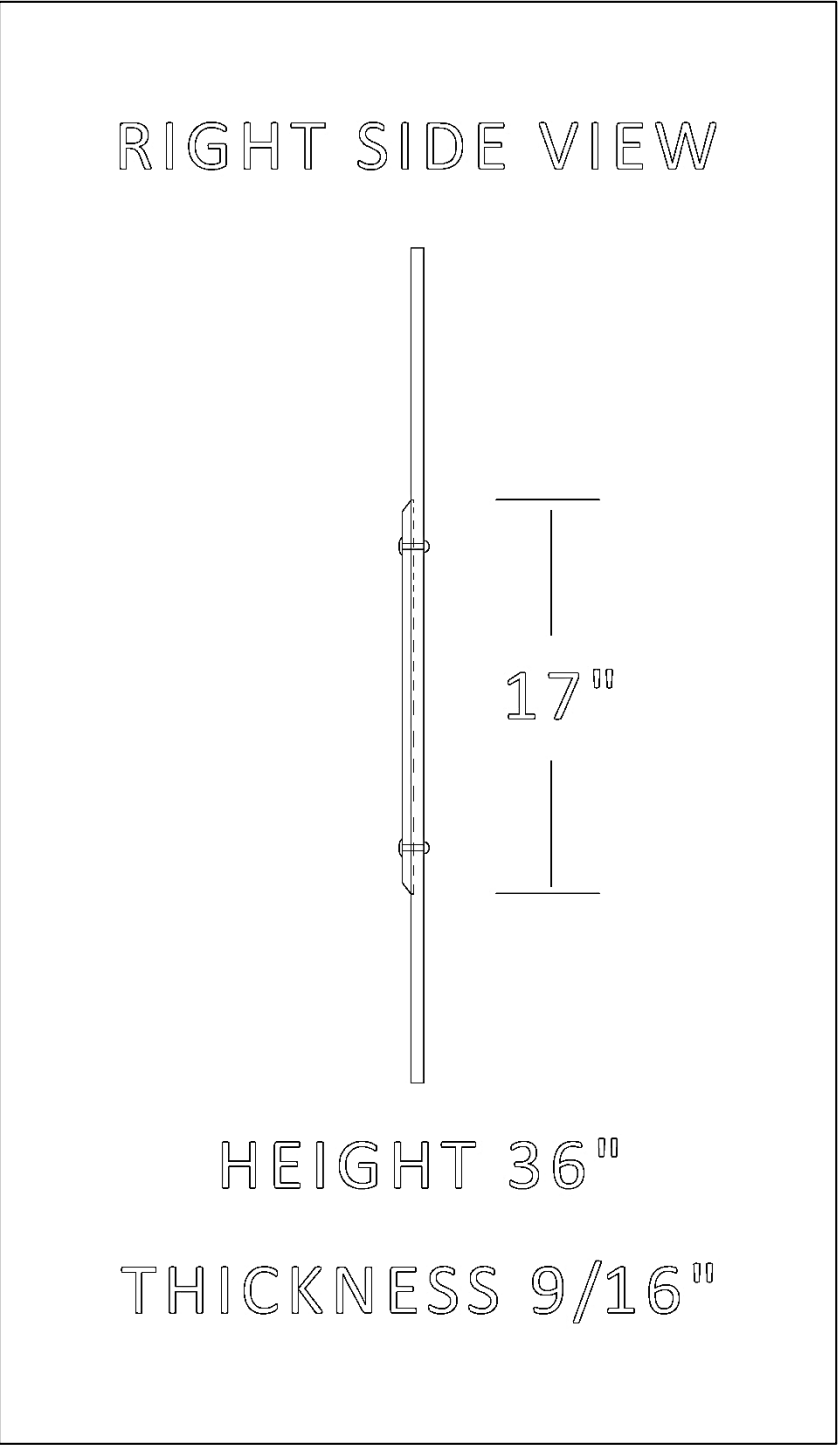
Attachment #2
Plaque Dimensions



$21 \frac{3}{4}'' \times 16 \frac{3}{4}'' \times .5''$
.75" BEVELED EDGE
FOUR .375" HOLES WITH CAPS

Attachment #3

Panel and Plaque 3-D Specifications



Attachment #4
Terri Tinsley and Owen
Rendering by Daniel Atkinson



RESOLUTION NO. 2005-37

WHEREAS, Terri Tinsley was very active in the creation of the Jefferson County Dog Park, creating a web site for fundraising, and spearheading other fundraising efforts, and

WHEREAS, Terri's efforts were instrumental in bringing the Jefferson County Dog Park to reality, and

WHEREAS, Terri's life tragically ended in a car accident shortly after the dog park opened, and

WHEREAS, Terri's husband, Perry Tinsley wishes to make a donation of \$7,193 to the County in her memory, to be used for expansion of the existing dog park, purchase of land or development of a new dog park, or improvement of a dog park, and

WHEREAS, the Parks Committee recommends acceptance of this gift,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board accepts Perry Tinsley's gift in memory of his late wife, Terri, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the County Parks Committee is authorized and directed to use the funds in accordance with Perry Tinsley's offer, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parks Committee shall be vested with the authority and directed to name an existing or expansion area in the current dog park, or a new dog park, in memory of Terri Tinsley.

Fiscal Note: The funds have been deposited with the County Clerk, pending formal acceptance of this gift.

AYES __ (voice vote) _____

NOES _____ (one voice against/Zentner)

ABSENT _____

Requested by
Parks Committee

07-12-05
Addendum to Agenda

Class Overview

Alyssa Beasley, PE, CYT (owner and operator of Celestial Hum, LLC) will facilitate 75 minutes of yoga, meditation, and sound healing for the full moon. 45 minutes will be traditional yoga and the final 30 minutes consist of sound healing and guided meditation. Each class will be themed around reflection, release, and restoration. Participants will be encouraged to explore their breath, explore movement through yoga practice, and become more aligned with their most authentic selves and the land. All sound instruments are quiet and central to the class; the sound will not carry throughout the park. These classes are open to anyone over the age of 14 (with a parent or guardian present), and will be accessible for all-levels.

Dates vary based on the full moon. Dates I have planned are 6/28, 7/29, 8/28, 9/24, 10/25. Start time is ~30 minutes before sunset.

Anticipated attendance is expected from 2-15 people. Students may sign up ahead of time at celestialhum.com, or may drop-in a little bit early.

Fee Structure

To help cover the cost of my planning time, teaching time, instruments, and other business expenditures, I have requested an offering of payment for these services. Due to park policies, Celestial Hum has developed two options – whichever the Park System prefers:

- Option 1: Fixed Fee
 - The cost is \$22 paid directly to my LLC, Celestial Hum. I intend to donate at least 10% of the proceeds back to the park at the end of the season.
- Option 2: Donation-Based
 - An alternate form (as is with other classes I teach in Lake Mills) is to open it up as donation-based only. Pay what you want, if you want to. Similarly, portions of these donations would be donated back to the park.

Park preservation, education, and acknowledgement

Celestial Hum works to acknowledge the land, its guardians, its current caretakers, and hopes to bring awareness of the land's history. Through this, Alyssa will open with a small bit of education regarding the history of the bluffs at Korth Park followed by a land acknowledgement. Alyssa will work with Friends of Korth Park to ensure accuracy. She will ensure all participants follow Leave No Trace best practices. Her mission with classes is to help each participant grow closer to themselves, community, and nature.

Logistics – Reference Map Below

Class will be held at the top of the ridge in the approximate area clouded in yellow. Alyssa will arrive at least 30 minutes prior to class to set up. Set up entails Alyssa's yoga mat and instruments (within a 5'x5' area), flameless candles and camping string lights for ambience (and light once the sun sets), and placing blankets down for students so they know where to place their mats. Typically, each participant will occupy a 4'x6' space.

Students will be instructed to park in the orange area for easy entrance and exit at the end of the evening (and avoid the gate closing).



Alyssa will arrive at least 30 minutes early to choose a spot within the yellow clouded area to ensure minimum disruption for other patrons of the park.

Equipment used:

- Alyssa Only
 - Sound healing instruments, including but not limited to:
 - Tibetan metal sound bowls
 - Crystal bowls
 - Other handheld instruments (Tingshas, shakers, drums, etc.)
 - Wagon for moving equipment
 - Extra yoga props (blocks, blankets, extra mats)
 - Extra bug spray and sunscreen
 - Bluetooth speaker (for music during the yoga flow – the sound will remain local to the participants)
- Participants
 - Yoga mat or towel (and any other comfort items similar to Alyssa's list above)

Safety

Alyssa is a certified yoga teacher, sound healer, is a licensed structural engineer, and holds small group liability insurance through EMPA. She requires all attendees to sign a waiver (see: <https://www.celestialhum.com/waiver>) prior to beginning class. Safety of her students is a top priority.

Alyssa's Bio

Hi - I'm Alyssa - a 200 hour (Yama Yoga) certified yoga instructor, group fitness instructor, and certified sound healer (Angel Light LLC, and Synthesis Sound®). I'm here to help you meet yourself exactly where you are, one breath at a time. With a background in structural engineering and weightlifting, my analytical knowledge of the physical body helps me design classes to explore and elicit different sensations in the body. However, as a former professional actor and singer, my performance background also lends the ability to cultivate the experience with creativity, passion, emotion, and sensitivity.

Sound is where science meets spirit. My day-job of engineering (particularly vibration analysis) affords deep understanding of frequency and resonance. This experience has cultivated my 50/50 scientific and intuitive approach to sound healing.

I use both the analytical and creative parts of my brain to guide you through experiences designed to encourage deep awareness, curiosity, introspection, and contentment. Most classes include meditation and breathwork and are themed for structure. I hope to help you feel fully valid in your experience on this earth.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - _____

Authorizing acceptance of bids for the purchase of a replacement Snowmobile Trail Bridge funded through the Wisconsin Snowmobile Trail Aid Program

Jefferson County Parks works in close partnership with the Jefferson County Snowmobile Alliance, whose member clubs maintain over 229 miles of county snowmobile trails. This long-standing collaboration ensures that the Jefferson County snowmobile trail system remains safe, functional, and accessible for winter recreation. The Jefferson County Parks Department applied for and received funding through Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Snowmobile Trail Aids Program to replace a failing bridge on the County's Corridor 10, near the Intersection of State Hwy 106 and County Highway J. The proposed purchase of the replacement bridge is covered by the Snowmobile Trail program at 100%. Through a formal bid process, XXXX was selected as the lowest qualified bidder at \$XXXXXX. The Jefferson County Parks Committee considered this resolution at its June 24th meeting and recommended forwarding to County Board for approval.

WHEREAS, Jefferson County participates in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Snowmobile Trail Aids Program, which provides 100% reimbursement for eligible trail maintenance and infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Parks Department, in coordination with local snowmobile clubs, has identified the need to replace an existing trail bridge with a new recreational snowmobile bridge to ensure safe and reliable winter trail access; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Parks Department received and reviewed X proposals through a formal RFP process and selected XXXXX as the lowest cost qualified bidder at \$XXXXX; and

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Parks Committee reviewed this proposed purchase at its meeting on June 24, 2026, and voted 5-0 to forward the recommendation to the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors for approval;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Jefferson County Parks Department to enter into a contract with XXX to build and install a recreational snowmobile bridge as approved and fully funded by the Wisconsin DNR Snowmobile Program.

Fiscal Note: This \$XXXXXXXX purchase is covered 100% by the Wisconsin DNR Recreational Snowmobile Trail Aid Program. This is a budget amendment and requires a 2/3 vote of the County Board for approval.

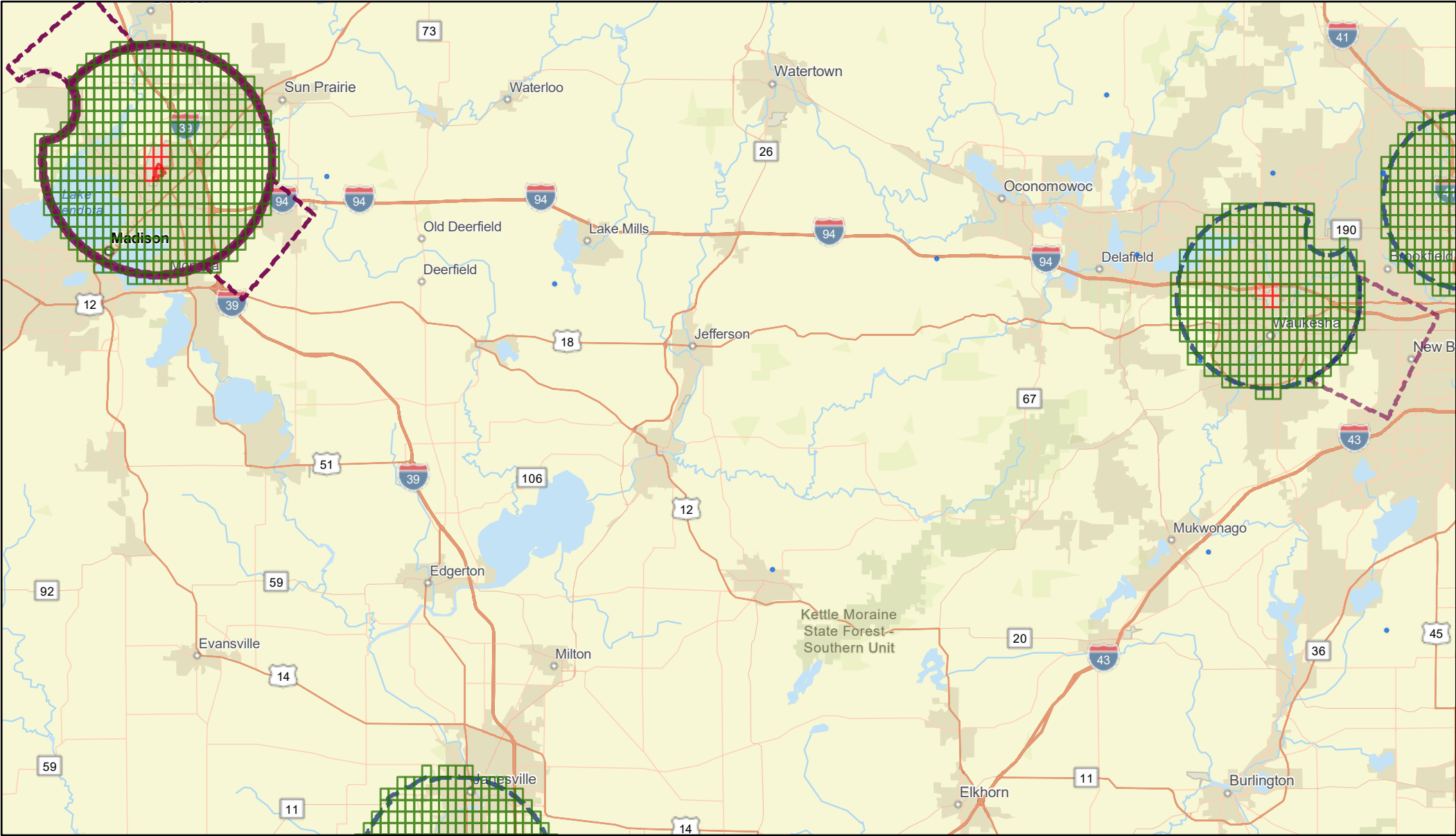
Referred By:
Parks Committee

6-24-2026

REVIEWED: Corporation Counsel: ; Finance Director:

UAS Facility Map

#12



6/23/2026, 11:20:28 AM

Recreational Flyer Fixed Sites

- 1
- 10
- 50



FAA UAS Facility Map Data

[1] LAANC Ready: True

[0] LAANC Ready: False

National Security UAS Flight Restrictions

400' AGL

Class C

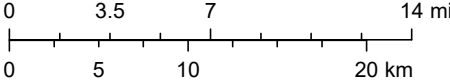
Class D

Class E2

Class E3

Class E4

1:577,791



Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Wisconsin Drone Governance Rules

1. Licensing & Registration Requirements

- FAA Registration Required for all drones over 250 g (0.55 lbs); no separate Wisconsin registration exists.
- Recreational Flyers Must Pass the FAA TRUST Test, a one-time online safety exam.
- Commercial Flyers Must Hold FAA Part 107 Certification, including passing the aeronautical knowledge exam.
- Remote ID Required for nearly all drones since March 2024.

2. Privacy & Neighbor Protections

- Wis. Stat. § 942.10 – Drone Privacy Invasion Prohibits using a drone to photograph, record, or observe a person where they have a *reasonable expectation of privacy*. Violation is a Class A misdemeanor.
- Wis. Stat. § 175.55 – Law Enforcement Warrant Requirement Police must obtain a warrant before using drones for surveillance in private areas. This reinforces strong privacy protections statewide.
- Local Ordinances May Add Privacy Rules (e.g., Hudson, WI mirrors state privacy law).

3. Wildlife & Animal Protection

- Interference with Hunting/Fishing Prohibited Wisconsin law prohibits using drones to interfere with lawful hunting or fishing activities (covered under state hunting-interference statutes referenced in drone law summaries).
- State Parks Ban Drone Use (Wisconsin DNR) Drones are banned in all Wisconsin State Parks, State Forests, and State Natural Areas, except where specifically posted. This protects wildlife from harassment and disturbance.

4. Public Safety: Crowds, Events & Sensitive Areas

- FAA Rules Prohibit Flying Over People not directly participating in the drone operation unless the drone meets strict safety categories. (Federal baseline applies statewide.)
- Wis. Stat. § 114.045 – Critical Infrastructure & Sensitive Sites This consolidated statute prohibits drone operations:
 - Over correctional facilities without authorization.
 - Over school property during school hours or events (2026 update).
 - Over utility facilities, including power plants, substations, and water facilities. Violations can result in forfeitures up to \$5,000.
- Weaponized Drones Prohibited under Wis. Stat. § 941.292, a Class H felony.
- Local Ordinances Regulate Crowds & Events Examples include Green Bay's minimum altitude over public events and Greenfield's restrictions near emergency response activities.

5. Local Control Relevant to Jefferson County Parks

Wisconsin has partial preemption:

- Cities and counties cannot regulate who may operate a drone, but
- They can regulate takeoff and landing on property they own, including parks. This means Jefferson County may create rules governing where drones may launch/land, hours of operation, permit requirements, and no-fly zones over crowds or sensitive habitats.

Summary: How Other Park Systems Regulate Recreational Drone Use

Wisconsin State Parks (DNR)

- Complete ban on recreational drone use in State Parks, Forests, and Natural Areas, except in specifically designated drone zones (rare).
- Purpose: protect wildlife, reduce noise, prevent harassment, and maintain visitor safety.

Municipal & County Park Systems in Wisconsin

Based on statewide municipal ordinance summaries:

- Milwaukee County Parks: Permit required; drones restricted in busy parks and events.
- Madison Parks: More permissive; drones allowed unless posted otherwise, but takeoff/landing restrictions apply.
- Green Bay & Outagamie County: Restrictions on altitude near events and airport-adjacent parks.
- Dane County Parks has one location where “Aeromodeling/Drones” are allowed: Badger Prairie County Park. A Dane County Parks aero modeling permit is required.

National Trends in Park Drone Policies

(General inference based on patterns in the sources)

- Most park systems restrict drones to designated areas or require permits.
- Common reasons: wildlife protection, visitor privacy, noise control, and safety around crowds.
- Sensitive habitats (wetlands, bird nesting areas) are often automatic no-fly zones.

Recommended Policy Considerations for Jefferson County Parks

Based on Wisconsin law and other park systems’ practices, Jefferson County could consider:

- Permit system for recreational and commercial drone use to ensure users are following all permitting and other state statute requirements.
- Designated drone zones away from wildlife habitats and high-use recreation areas.
- Seasonal restrictions during nesting or migration periods.

- No-fly zones over playgrounds, beaches, shelters, and events.
- Clear privacy rules referencing Wis. Stat. § 942.10.
- Launch/landing restrictions to maintain local control without conflicting with FAA airspace authority.
- Signage at park entrances outlining drone rules.
- Recommendation to not ban all drone use in parks and leave some discretion to allow drones for photography

ORG	ORG DESC	ORIGINAL	TRANFRS	REVISED	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE
12801	Parks Department	1,614,158.00	327,290.00	1,941,448.00	501,979.00	121,918.92	1,317,548.62
12808	Glacial Heritage Development	-	14,762.00	14,762.00	-	-	14,762.42
12806	Parks Building	25,489.00	31,418.00	56,907.00	8,241.16	-	48,665.98
12809	Snowmobile Trails	68,820.00	-	68,820.00	55,122.47	-	13,697.53
12810	Bike Trails	-	10,516.00	10,516.00	-	-	10,515.92
12810805	Interurban Bike Trail	-	379,223.00	379,223.00	561,308.48	326,528.30	(508,614.12)
12811	Dog Park	71,564.00	3,178.00	74,741.00	22,515.52	-	52,226.02
12812	Grounds Keeping	-	-	-	21,418.37	-	(21,418.37)
12812	Flood Mitigation Prop Maint	-	30,000.00	30,000.00	-	-	30,000.00
12830	Boat Launches	4,540.00	-	4,540.00	1,489.03	-	3,050.97
TOTAL:		1,784,571.00	796,387.00	2,580,957.00	1,172,074.03	448,447.22	960,434.97

EXPENSES – YTD 06/23/2026

ORG	ORG DESC	ORIGINAL	TRANFRS	REVISED	ACTUALS	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE
12801	Parks Department	(1,391,740.00)	(14,000.00)	(1,405,740.00)	(515,842.67)	-	(889,898.45)
12806	Parks Building	(25,489.00)	-	(25,489.00)	(10,620.55)	-	(14,868.78)
12809	Snowmobile Trails	(68,820.00)	-	(68,820.00)	-	-	(68,820.00)
12810	Bike Trails	-	-	-	-	-	-
12810805	Interurban Bike Trail	-	-	-	(25.00)	-	25.00
12811	Dog Park	(57,000.00)	-	(57,000.00)	(40,439.33)	-	(16,560.67)
12812	Grounds Keeping	-	-	-	(8,470.56)	-	8,470.56
12813	Flood Mitigation Prop Maint	-	-	-	-	-	-
12830	Boat Launches	(4,540.00)	-	(4,540.00)	(1,891.65)	-	(2,648.35)
TOTAL:		(1,547,589.00)	(14,000.00)	(1,561,589.00)	(577,289.76)	-	(984,300.69)

REVENUE – YTD – 6/23/26