

B. FUTURE LAND USE (CONTINUED)

CHARACTER AREAS

>> PARKS + OPEN SPACE

RECOMMENDED PRIMARY USES:

Parks, playgrounds, athletic facilities, trails, supportive buildings and facilities, waterfront amenities, and large natural areas. It should include official parks as well as those publicly-owned lands that should remain undeveloped.

EXAMPLE AREAS:

Genesee Valley Park, Riverside Cemetery, Troup St Playground, Genesee River Gorge.

GEOGRAPHIC PATTERNS:

Aside from a concentration along the Genesee River corridor, there are no particular patterns in the dispersion of parks and open spaces within the city. Large areas are designated with a green area on the map. Small areas have a park symbol but there is no regulatory or recommendation significance to the distinction.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

These lands are and should remain primarily undeveloped, providing ample natural areas and recreation opportunities that are a respite from the active urban environment. However, it is important that select parks have up-to-date improvements and amenities that enhance the park experience. The City should continue to apply high standards of landscape design and quality architecture for park facilities.

A particular focus of this Character Area is the Genesee River corridor. The Placemaking Plan Map identifies numerous opportunities for improving access to the water's edge, increasing boating opportunities, and enhancing mobility and recreational infrastructure in the corridor, consistent with the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program and ROC the Riverway initiative.

Multi-use trails are a critical element of the city's park landscape. Further expansion of the trail system is a high priority and is outlined below and illustrated on the Placemaking Plan Map. As described in the [Initiative Area 4-Section B, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space](#), it is highly recommended that the City increase its resources dedicated to park design, development, and maintenance. The value of parks, open spaces, and multi-use trails, as well as the potential for more and better facilities, was one of the most common points of feedback throughout the community engagement process.

There are some privately-owned properties within this Character Area. During a zoning code update, these private lands must retain some development rights. However, given their unique natural and geologic setting, especially within the Genesee River Gorge, zoning code provisions should provide protections for adjacent natural features.





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